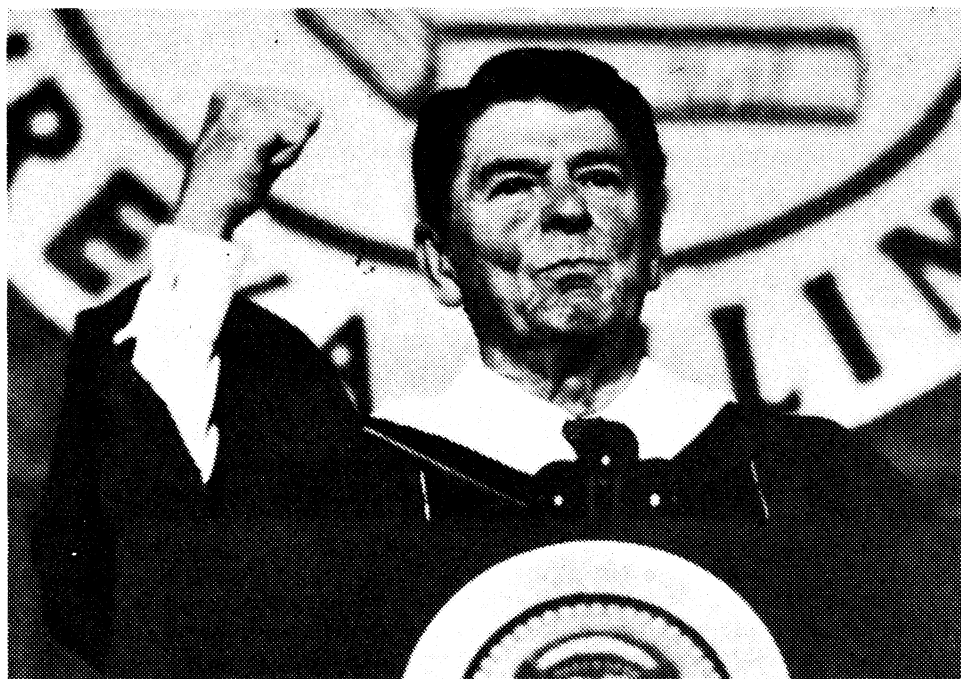


Labor's stake in stopping U.S. war on Argentina



Under cloak of "defending democracy," Reagan is rushing military aid to British invasion force in South Atlantic.

American labor has a huge stake in stopping the war being waged against Argentina over the Malvinas Islands. This is not just the British government's war: the Reagan administration is a full partner to Margaret Thatcher's dirty colonial aggression.

The Pentagon, White House, and State Department have clamped a lid of secrecy on U.S. military involvement in

EDITORIAL

the war against Argentina. Nevertheless, the *Miami Herald* has reported that:

- U.S. spy satellites are providing Britain with top-secret military intelligence on Argentine movements.
- British Vulcan bombers have carried out raids over the Malvinas flying from U.S. airfields on Ascension Island with U.S. fuel.
- The U.S. naval base on that island has become the forward supply point,

training ground, and staging area of the Royal Navy task force.

• Britain requested a KC-135 tanker plane on loan from the United States. "There are unconfirmed reports that more than one was supplied," reports the *Herald*.

• Two E2C U.S. Navy Hawkeye planes recently left the Miami area suddenly, and government spokesmen refused to say where they were going. If the Hawkeyes went to the South Atlantic, their U.S. crews went with them, since British pilots aren't trained for the planes.

Describing this "web of military intrigue," the *Herald's* executive editor, John McMullan, asked the obvious question in a column May 16: "Is Ronald Reagan getting us into [an] undeclared war?"

McMullan reminded readers how the Vietnam War began. "What started as a handful of advisers under Dwight Eisenhower and grew to 16,000 under John Kennedy, became an army of 453,000 under LBJ."

On May 9, *New York Times* columnist James Reston reported Washington is ready "to intervene militarily, if necessary, to avoid destruction of the British navy."

Thatcher and Reagan have cloaked their war in the garb of defending "democracy." On May 19, as her commandos prepared their bloody invasion of Argentine territory, Thatcher piously declared: "It is Britain who stands up for democracy. It is Britain who stands up for the international rule of law."

And she added, "It is Britain that says, 'enough is enough, this must be made to stop.'"

What must be "made to stop" — what is a violation of the international rule of imperialist law — is the idea that people in a semicolonial country can stand up to the richest nations in the world and attempt to reclaim what is rightfully theirs.

The British and U.S. rulers intend to teach working people a lesson in Argentina.

They want the toilers of oppressed nations like Argentina to know that their struggle for freedom from imperialist exploitation and domination will be met with deadly force.

They want working people in the United States and Britain to accept the fact that they are the people who will be imperialism's cannon fodder in these wars. And that the same kind of war will be waged against them at home, to drive down their living standards in order to increase profits.

The naked force Thatcher has unleashed in the South Atlantic is exactly what Reagan would like to send against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean. Faced with opposition in this country, the U.S. rulers have had to begin their war in the region in secret. *But the new Vietnam has begun.*

The U.S. is at war not only in El Salvador. For months U.S.-trained counter-revolutionary bands have launched murderous raids into Nicaragua, taking lives and destroying vital installations. This war has received virtually no coverage in the major media. No Democratic or Republican politician has spoken out against it.

Continued on Page 14

Women trade unionists debate Washington's war policy

BY MARGARET JAYKO

LOS ANGELES — Sharp opposition to Washington's new Vietnam in Central America permeated every aspect of the recent national convention of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW).

Although not originally scheduled for discussion at the convention, U.S. foreign policy turned out to be the central point of debate. This occurred on the initiative of rank-and-file union women who were determined to see CLUW take action against Washington's wars and its attacks on their rights and living standards at home.

Debate at the April 29–May 2 gathering brought out a range of political perspectives. There were delegates who argued for a "strong national defense" against "dictators of the right and left" in Latin America. There were women who wanted CLUW to forthrightly condemn U.S. war operations in that region. And there were those who counterposed a "bilateral nuclear freeze" proposal to union action against U.S. intervention in Central and South America.

In the course of this debate, the convention went on record in support of the June 12 demonstrations called to coincide with the United Nations disarmament session.

Integrally tied to discussion of what CLUW's foreign policy should be was discussion of what stand to take in the 1982 elections.

The debate as a whole showed the big potential for involving union women and men in the fight against U.S. imperialism's wars.

Oppose immigration raids

Opposition to the government's roundup of undocumented workers was also a big topic of discussion (see article on page 7).

A total of 901 people attended all or

part of the CLUW convention. Of these, 577 were delegates and 24 were international guests.

The delegates represented 32 international unions and 35 CLUW chapters. One-third of the participants were Black.

Among the unions that had sizable contingents present were the International Association of Machinists; United Auto Workers; Communications Workers of America; Service Employees International Union; American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; International Ladies' Garment Workers Union; and the American Federation of Teachers.

In addition to the large participation from New York and the West Coast, there were unionists there from Illinois, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Tucson, New Orleans, Arkansas, Birmingham, and the General Motors assembly plant in Oklahoma City.

Foreign policy: women's issue?

Not everyone at the convention thought that the government's foreign policy should be the subject of discussion and debate. Some argued that questions of war and peace were not "women's issues" and therefore not within the parameters of CLUW's purpose and goals.

This came up at the child-care workshop the first day of the convention.

Delegate Carolyn Curtiss, a UAW member from Los Angeles CLUW, pointed out how money that could be used for day care was being poured into the military budget.

Curtiss explained that Washington is using this military might against countries like Cuba, which has established a day-care system that far surpasses anything in the imperialist countries of the world. These remarks were warmly received by many of the women there.

Another woman then reported that the convention resolutions committee had decided that no resolutions about foreign policy would be discussed on the convention floor.

At an Auto Workers caucus meeting later that day, Odessa Komer, a UAW official, said that U.S. intervention in El Salvador is not a women's issue. Komer indicated opposition to bringing this subject to the floor of the convention.

The next morning Ruth Miller, the president of Los Angeles CLUW, said in

Continued on Page 6



Militant/Dee Scalera

Union women picket antilabor Litton Industries during CLUW's recent convention. Antiwar sentiment ran deep among CLUW members.

Latin America protests U.S.-British war

BY FRED MURPHY

The outbreak of war between imperialist Britain — backed by Washington — and semicolonial Argentina has spurred anti-imperialist sentiment throughout Latin America.

Cuba's revolutionary leadership has sought to give voice to, focus, and mobilize this rising hatred for the two imperialist powers that have long dominated the region.

The peoples of Latin America, though divided into nearly two dozen nation-states, share a common history of oppression. These nations threw off Spanish colonial rule in the 19th century. But they soon faced exploitation and, in some cases, outright military occupation by U.S. imperialism. British capital played a special role in the oppression of the peoples of Argentina and Uruguay.

This imperialist domination continues today.

Capitalist governments throughout Latin America have found it necessary to declare their support for Argentina.

"The Reagan administration's 16-month effort to build a broad anti-Communist alliance in the region has been suddenly overshadowed by powerful sentiments of Latin American solidarity and even anti-Americanism," *New York Times* Mexico City correspondent Alan Riding said in a May 15 dispatch. Riding continued:

"Argentina had been Washington's main ally in its campaign to isolate Nicaragua's revolutionary regime and to fight leftist guerrillas elsewhere in Central America. Because of the Falkland crisis, however, Buenos Aires has reportedly decided to withdraw most of its military advisers from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and to suspend its informal cooperation with Washington in the region."

In an effort to further this change in the relationship of forces, which has resulted in new obstacles for the imperialist aggression in Central America, the Cuban government declared in a May Day statement that "this is the hour of Latin American solidarity."

The Nicaraguan government has expressed its support for Argentina in similar terms. A May 6 commentary in the Managua daily *Barricada*, the official newspaper of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), pointed to the need to concretize and broaden the developing solidarity with Argentina:

"Latin American anger at the devious and essentially imperialist position of the United States must not remain at

the level of momentary condemnations. Rather, it calls for concrete action to bring about the necessary overhaul of the inter-American system, making it respond not to the needs of the United States alone but to those of all Americans."

Barricada pointed to the Organization of American States (OAS). Established in 1948 and headquartered in Washington, the OAS includes Latin American and Caribbean nations. But it has been traditionally dominated by the United States, which has used it to further U.S. interests in the area.

"But times have changed," *Barricada* said. "Washington's economic warfare against our peoples, and the wars of extermination it is trying to start in Nicaragua and already has under way in El Salvador and Guatemala, have heightened the awareness of Latin Americans. Washington's position on the Malvinas is only a more concrete expression of the overall contempt in which Reagan holds all our peoples."

Nicaragua has not been alone in questioning the role of the U.S.-imposed system of political and military alliances in Latin America. The Peruvian parliament voted May 5 to urge calling a continental summit conference to set up a Latin American Community of Nations, from which Washington would be excluded. Argentine, Venezuelan, Mexican, and Costa Rican officials have also pointed to the need to reconsider the role of the OAS in light of Reagan's support for extracontinental aggression by Britain.

As the British attack on Argentina has continued, representatives of some Latin American governments have even declared their readiness to aid Buenos Aires militarily. "If any British aggression touches [Argentina's] continental territory," Venezuelan Defense Minister Gen. Bernardo Leal Puchi declared May 8, "there should be no hesitations whatsoever" in aiding Argentina.

"All the countries of Latin America must be ready to intervene from the moment the first British soldier sets foot on American soil," Peruvian War Minister Gen. Luis Cisneros said the same day.

Argentina's battle to uphold its territorial integrity against Britain also evokes sympathy among the oppressed peoples of Asia and Africa, a majority of whom suffered under the yoke of British colonialism until only a few decades ago. The news that British gunboats are off the coast of Argentina, or that a regiment of Gurkhas — the Nepalese tribesmen who have long served as cannon

fodder in Britain's colonial wars — are on their way to the South Atlantic, undoubtedly calls up unpleasant memories among the peoples of former British colonies like India, Malaysia, and Kenya.

Here too the Cuban leadership has sought to foster solidarity with Argentina. In his capacity as chairman of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, Fidel Castro on May 10 called on member nations to help halt "imminent Anglo-American aggression" against Argentina.

The imperialists have a series of interests at stake in the Malvinas Islands. They view the remote site as a strategic outpost near the shipping lanes of the South Atlantic, and as a potential military base for use against revolutionary upheavals in Latin America. They covet the rich petroleum deposits that lie beneath the continental shelf in the region. They want to preserve the opportunity to reap profits from the mineral wealth of the Antarctic.

But beyond these economic and military concerns, the imperialist rulers are not willing to tolerate a semicolonial country forcefully asserting its rights.

If there is one thing the Malvinas crisis has demonstrated, it is that imperialism cannot rely only on subordinate regimes in the semicolonial world

to defend its interests. The crisis has brought to light the underlying weakness of even the most iron-fisted dictatorships in these countries.

Six years of some of the most brutal repression Latin America had ever seen — including the murder and "disappearance" of thousands of working-class militants — failed to break the Argentine proletariat. When in late March this powerful social force threatened to regain the offensive against the employers and their army, the generals were not strong enough for a head-on confrontation.

The junta thought it might avoid making political and economic concessions by acting on one of the longstanding anti-imperialist demands of the Argentine people — restoration of sovereignty over the Malvinas. But the effect of this was to infuse confidence in the workers and open the door for mass mobilizations.

The junta's dilemma points up who the real protagonists in this clash are — the workers and farmers of Argentina on one side, and the imperialist ruling classes on the other. The generals in Buenos Aires have gotten themselves uncomfortably wedged between these two big social forces.

From Intercontinental Press

CISPES to build June 12 march

BY JAN ARAGON

NEW YORK — The national Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) has endorsed the June 12 rally that will take place at the United Nations during the Second Special Session on Disarmament.

This adds another organization to the list of those who are building June 12 as an action against Washington's war in Central America.

On May 11, New York City CISPES met to discuss its role in building June 12. The 60 people at the meeting made June 12 a major focus of activity for New York CISPES, and decided to put the chapter on a mobilization footing between now and then.

A wide range of ideas on what should be done were discussed. A central topic was the relationship between nuclear weapons and the war in Central America. Most people agreed on the need to emphasize the fact that the threat of nuclear war is inherent in conventional warfare. A new generation of nuclear weapons is being developed precisely to wage conventional wars — like what's happening in El Salvador and

Nicaragua today.

Activists at the meeting underlined this by pointing to Britain's threat to use the nuclear weapons at the disposal of its fleet against Argentina.

The majority of participants at the meeting agreed that CISPES should have a strong presence at the action in the form of an anti-intervention contingent.

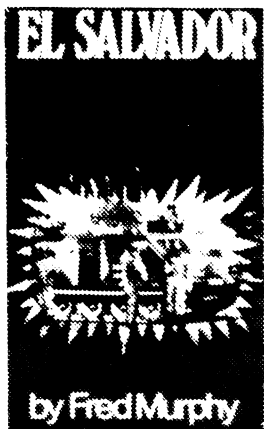
While this would be CISPES's major focus, many felt stress should also be placed on how money is being taken from human needs and poured into the war budget, and that racism and sexism are a fundamental aspect of Washington's foreign and domestic policy.

In addition to holding its own forum, New York CISPES will be raising the issue of U.S. intervention in El Salvador at upcoming meetings in this area where the idea of a freeze on the production and deployment of nuclear weapons by the Soviet Union and the United States is slated to be discussed.

To obtain more information contact New York CISPES at 19 West 21st St., 2nd Floor, New York, New York 10011; phone: (212) 242-1040.

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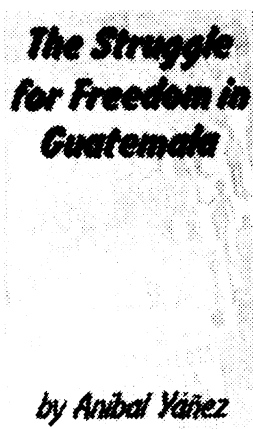
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DOUG JENNESS

Business Manager:

NANCY ROSENSTOCK

Editorial Staff: Connie Allen, Steve Bride, Nelson González, William Gottlieb, Suzanne Haig, Margaret Jayko, George Johnson, Frank Lovell, Harry Ring, Larry Seigle, Stu Singer.

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Angry residents turn out to support rights of Calif. candidate

College trustees again deny leave of absence to Mason

BY DICK ROBERTS

SEASIDE, Calif. — Angry community residents turned out for a May 12 meeting of the Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) Board of Trustees to protest the board's refusal to grant a leave of absence to Mel Mason.

Despite this, Mason's leave was again denied.

Mason, a Black socialist elected in 1980 to the Seaside City Council, had asked for the leave to run for governor of California as an independent, working-class candidate. He is student activities director at MPC, a two-year community college of about 10,000 students.

A picket line and news conference were held by Mason supporters a half-hour prior to the May 12 meeting. Included in the picket line were students and teachers from MPC and residents of Seaside, a mostly Black city outside Monterey.

The picket line reflected broad support for Mason: at MPC, where he has spoken out forcefully against cutbacks and threats to campus unions; and in Seaside, where he has led struggles against race discrimination and cutbacks.

The pickets were also angry about reports in Monterey area newspapers the day before that Mason had been searched May 7 in Detroit by Federal agents who claimed they were "looking for drugs." Mason was in Detroit for a meeting of the National Black Independent Political Party, of which he is a member.

The picket line was joined by Florence Hunter, the only one of the five MPC board members who favors granting Mason the leave. She walked the line once as she headed for the board meeting.

When the board, after a half-hour closed session, opened to the public, its decision was evident: stonewall it.

The 50 people who lined the room were told by board member Russel Hansen that the board had not changed its April 14 decision to refuse Mason's leave. The board would neither answer questions nor permit Mason to speak.

'Censorship of community'

"This is extremely disrespectful to the people who are here," stated Sam Manuel, Seaside coordinator of the Mason campaign. "The board is now extending its censorship to the community here at large."

Manuel asked why the board had destroyed tapes of its meeting in October 1981, where it granted a semester-long leave to another employee, Peggy Stember, so she could take a sailing trip.

The tape was erased the day after Mason filed suit against the board of trustees, charging their refusal to grant him a leave was discrimination.

As soon as Manuel asked about the erased tape, board President Lilyan Eldred declared a recess.

When the meeting resumed, one woman demanded, "If you all gave a leave to a woman for six months, why won't you give this man a leave?"

"If Mr. Mason goes sailing," someone else asked, "will you give him a leave of absence?"

Mason supporter Roberta Frick told MPC President Max Tadlock she was from San Jose, where she wanted to invite Mason to speak. "We can't bring him because he doesn't have a leave of absence," she said. "What other candidate has to ask for a leave of absence?"

"That's a problem I'm not going to debate because it's a legal issue," Tadlock replied.

"It's not a legal issue, it's a moral issue," someone responded.

At this point Mason was finally able

to speak. In a scathing indictment of the board, he charged that Blacks, "including students, faculty, and staff, are under severe attack here."

"A Black instructor in the Ethnic Studies Division," he said, "was denied a sabbatical when other instructors, who are white, were given them."

MPC policies, he went on, are racist. He also charged that MPC "and the [state college] chancellor's office and the state legislators are trying to turn MPC and all the rest of the community colleges into all-white and middle- and upper-class schools."

He cited parking fees and a \$200 tuition for community colleges, "which are supposed to be open and free."

In denying him the leave, he charged, the board is trying to create "an atmosphere of fear and intimidation." He said the board wanted to weaken unions representing teachers and classified employees in order to implement cutbacks and layoffs.

"The board does not want fighting unions up here when that happens," he said. "They want unions filled with fear and intimidated, so they'll be helpless to fight the things that are going to happen."

He called his fight "a union fight, because all of us who have worked up here are in trouble, and our unions are going to have to fight for us. It's going to be critically important to have stronger unions within the next year or two."

"That's why I've said, when you applaud the CSEA [California School Employees Association, Mason's union] and the CTA [California Teachers Association], then you have to stand behind them all the way. Those of us in the community have to fight together with the

unions. The unions and the people in the community are one."

After Mason spoke, the board moved into a smaller room to reconvene. People followed the board in order to hear the remainder of the meeting, but the move to a smaller room — when they could hardly fit into the first one — brought at least one person to the boiling point.

That was a former high school teacher in Monterey who was not a Mason supporter. "I'm even more conservative than you are," Sirrah Harris told the majority board members.

"I'm surprised at you," Harris con-

tinued. "This is not a meeting, when you move to a smaller room deliberately to keep people from attending. I am shocked at this board. I am shocked at you, Max Tadlock, that you would participate in such a gross violation of everybody's democratic rights."

In the middle of Harris's remarks, board President Eldred adjourned the meeting.

On Thursday subpoenas were issued to board members and others for Mason's court suit, which is to be heard at Monterey County Superior Court in Salinas May 21.



Militant/Dick Roberts

Mel Mason, socialist city councilman and independent candidate for California governor, addresses crowd at May 12 meeting of Monterey Peninsula College Board of Trustees.

Antiwar sentiment spurs drive for ballot

BY DICK ROBERTS

LOS ANGELES — The rapidly deepening antiwar, antigovernment sentiment in this country was reflected across California as petitioners gathered 22,000 signatures to put Mel Mason on the ballot.

Two thousand more signatures were collected than had been targeted for the two-week drive.

At an anti-Reagan conference at Stanford University, which attracted more than 3,000 people, Mason's support for the Equal Rights Amendment and abortion rights led many women to sign the petitions.

At a San Francisco shopping center, an older white woman entering a store heard petitioner Judy Stranahan.

"Hold it right there," the shopper said. "I'm against the war in El Salvador."

A young man told Stranahan, "I know Mel Mason. I heard about him when I was in Soledad." (The prison is not far from Seaside.) "We liked what we heard. I'm glad to see he is running for governor."

In Seaside itself there is strong support for getting Mason on the ballot from the Black community and among GIs. Fort Ord, a big Army base, is in Seaside, and Mason has recently been involved in defending a Black GI against racist harassment.

Seaside supporters of Mason have petitioned in Salinas, a predominantly Chicano city 17 miles east of Seaside. "Many farm workers signed when we pointed out the slogan on the leaflet against U.S. intervention in El Salvador," said Janice Lynn.

Four hundred miles to the south, workers were signing Mason petitions in three big aerospace factories in the San Diego area. Bobbie Bagel, who

works at Solar Turbine, explained that first she handed out Mason leaflets to people in the plant she knows. "I told them to take a look at it and we could talk about it at the break."

"It led to lots of discussion," Bagel said, "on everything from taxing the corporations to Argentina. People didn't agree on all the points, but 22 signed the petition."

The Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) is actively supporting Mason's campaign.

YSA organizer Nancy Uhl petitioned door-to-door in the Black community in Pasadena, adjacent to Los Angeles. There was little support for Thomas Bradley, Uhl said. Bradley is the Black mayor of Los Angeles who is the leading Democratic Party contender for the gubernatorial office.

Uhl got 47 signatures and sold seven copies of the *Militant* and five of the *Young Socialist* in a couple of hours of this house-to-house campaigning.

YSA member Marilee Taylor described an experience when she was petitioning in Berkeley.

"I had said how Mason is against the draft and intervention in El Salvador, and stands for women's rights. A young woman stopped and said, 'It sounds good so far. Tell me more.'"

"Mel is a socialist elected official and he is using his office to fight for the needs of working people," Taylor continued. "The woman said, 'Really, can I help with this campaign?'"

That kind of response came on campuses across the state. "Six people have joined the YSA in Los Angeles, mainly because of Mel's campaign," Nancy Uhl told the *Militant*. "They are the most enthusiastic petitioners."

The Mason petitioning campaign is being carried out in two stages. These first 22,000 signatures will be submitted in lieu of paying a filing fee of \$982. In all, however, California requires 113,600 signatures.

A second five-week drive — aiming to collect an additional 160,000 signatures, way over what is legally required — is slated to open June 7.

Why youth are backing Mason campaign

SEASIDE, Calif. — Supporters of Mel Mason have established a Youth for Mel Mason Committee on the Monterey Peninsula College campus. Committee members helped in the petitioning to get Mason on the ballot. They have a campaign table up in the student center almost every day.

"I like some of the things Mason stands for," Tony Chester told the *Militant*. "Especially, he's opposed to the draft, he's for no nuclear bombing, and for the need of education."

Chester said he "joined the team because I feel it will be a great experience."

It's like working with a pioneer. Mason's going to pave the way for future generations.

"I've been petitioning. People are very responsive to what Mason stands for. He's going to take some votes."

Chester didn't think the recent attempt to frame up Mason on drug charges would lose him any support. "To me that means he's making headway."

Tony Carter works in Mason's campaign office. "Students in general support Mel because of what he's done for minorities in Seaside," Carter said. "I'm not a socialist, but I do support his cause."

BY NANCY ROSENSTOCK

For the past eight weeks, socialists have been on a campaign to sell copies of the *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Running alongside this campaign has been a big effort to place socialist candidates on the ballot in the 1982 elections. So far, this effort has been conducted in close to a dozen states, collecting well over 100,000 signatures.

This giant outreach effort has been successful. Literally thousands of people have heard about socialist ideas for the first time during these eight weeks of sales and petitioning.

As the war drive of the United States government deepens, more and more people have become open to reading and finding out about an alternative to the politics of the Democrats and Republicans.

Wherever socialists have gone with papers or petition boards, they have found that the issue people are most concerned about is war.

The undeclared U.S. war against Nicaragua and the freedom fighters in El Salvador, as well as the U.S.-backed British war against Argentina, have deepened concern about the real dangers of nuclear war posed by Washington's "conventional" wars.

Though the total number of papers sold each week in the sales drive is still modest, progress has been made, especially when seen in light of the big petitioning effort that has been carried out simultaneously.

Many branches of the Social-

ist Workers Party found that they could sell a significant number of papers while petitioning. Although they did not reach their sales goal, this is a big accomplishment over previous petition drives.

For example, Boston socialists sold about 50 papers per week during their petition drive, and maintained some of their important plant-gate sales.

One of the central goals of the spring sales drive is to regularize these plant-gate sales. Many areas have begun to do this.

When the *Militant* ran a series on the recent auto contracts, many areas organized sales at auto plants. For some, these sales had not happened for quite a while.

In addition to their weekly sale at McDonnell Douglas, socialists in St. Louis have now regularized a sale at a coal mine in southern Illinois. Their last sale there netted 10 papers.

In Phoenix, socialists have begun selling outside a Motorola plant. Seventeen copies were sold this past week to workers there.

From Los Angeles to Chicago to New York, there has been a warm response to the *Militant* and *PM* among garment workers. Socialists who work in the garment industry in Hoboken, New Jersey, have regularized sales one day a week after they get off work. Five to eight papers are sold this way weekly.

Reports indicate that the *Militant* and *PM* are primarily sold at plant gates on the basis of the papers' antiwar coverage.

Success has also been registered with *PM* sales so far this

spring. Areas in the Southwest report high *PM* sales. The Phoenix SWP branch has sold over 45 *PM*'s for the past four weeks.

For the next three weeks, the central activity of socialists is helping organize co-workers and antiwar activists to participate in the June 12 demonstration at the United Nations, a giant opportunity to say "no" to Washington's wars and its nuclear buildup.

A big discussion and debate is taking place among working people over how to stop Reagan's war drive and the attacks on democratic rights and living standards at home.

The *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* are putting forward the perspective of fighting for a movement that combats the wars being waged by Washington and its imperialist allies today — whether in Nicaragua, El Salvador, or Argentina — and that places the blame for the nuclear threat squarely on the U.S. government.

Getting the socialist press out as widely as possible — to peace activists and to co-workers around the country — is an important part of helping bring the largest number of antiwar fighters possible to the June 12 demonstrations.

The next several weeks of June 12 activity are a chance for all areas to step up sales, and an opportunity for those that have not yet organized to meet their weekly circulation goals to regularize sales.

The sales drive culminates June 12. At the June 12 demonstrations there will be a giant sale of socialist papers and books.

SALES SCOREBOARD

(Militant issue #18, PM issue #9)

Area	Militant Goal/Sold	PM Goal/Sold	Total Goal/Sold	%
Manhattan	135/162	30/56	165/218	132
Portland	70/84	0/0	70/84	120
Twin Cities	135/151	5/2	140/153	109
Milwaukee	90/99	10/10	100/109	109
Seattle	80/80	3/10	83/90	108
Atlanta	100/108	0/0	100/108	108
St. Louis	90/96	0/1	90/97	108
Iron Range	50/53	0/0	50/53	106
Newark	120/127	20/21	140/148	106
Baltimore*	110/113	0/3	110/116	105
Phoenix	90/94	45/47	135/141	104
Indianapolis	75/78	0/0	75/78	104
Salt Lake City	90/88	5/10	95/98	103
Birmingham	90/92	0/0	90/92	102
Denver	80/83	5/3	85/86	101
New Orleans	85/78	0/5	85/83	98
Tucson	30/28	20/16	50/44	88
Tidewater	70/61	0/0	70/61	87
San Antonio	70/48	20/28	90/76	84
Brooklyn	140/105	30/37	170/142	84
Cincinnati	70/56	0/0	70/56	80
Detroit	115/88	5/8	120/96	80
Louisville	80/51	0/0	80/51	64
Houston	50/36	10/2	60/38	63
Lincoln	40/25	0/0	40/25	63
Harrisburg*	50/30	0/0	50/30	60
Charleston	50/29	0/0	50/29	58
Dallas*	25/20	15/1	40/21	53
Kansas City	105/55	5/1	110/56	51
Los Angeles*	140/51	25/24	165/75	45
Boston	140/63	10/2	150/65	43
Chicago	125/45	15/15	140/60	43
Wash., D.C.*	70/28	20/10	90/38	42
Oakland*	60/25	5/0	65/25	38
Piedmont*	85/30	0/0	85/30	35
San Jose*	60/21	20/0	80/21	26
San Diego*	50/14	15/3	65/17	26
Morgantown	90/22	0/0	90/22	24
San Francisco*	100/23	20/6	120/29	24
Schenectady*	90/14	0/0	90/14	16
TOTALS	4,033/2,554	415/321	4,448/2,875	65

Areas not reporting: Albuquerque, Cleveland*, Gary, Miami, Philadelphia*, Pittsburgh*, Price, Toledo.

*Petitioning to put socialist candidates on the ballot.

'Gentrification': landlords' code for murder

BY NELSON BLACKSTOCK

HOBOKEN, N.J. — They call it gentrification. A better name would be murder.

It happened again the morning of April 30. Twelve people — including seven children — died in an early morning fire that engulfed a four-story building here.

"Hell on 14th St." proclaimed the headline on the front page of the *Dispatch*. And hell it was, as mothers flung their babies out windows of the blazing

inferno, hoping someone below would catch them. Women plunged to their deaths. Witnesses said it seemed as if the fire and smoke pushed them off before firemen could get ladders to them.

Medics described the horror as they desperately administered first aid to victims while bodies plummeted to the sidewalk around them.

Five days later a 13th victim, a 20-year-old mother who had lost a son, died from burns over 70 percent of her body. It didn't take long for fire inspectors to

report what everybody already knew: it was arson. A flammable liquid had been poured over a stairway, guaranteeing the building would go up quickly.

The day before the fire the landlord had been fined \$1,000 for failing to install smoke detectors.

In the last four years, 54 have died in such fires here — 27 in the last six months.

Somehow the authorities never manage to get any convictions. But that doesn't mean it's not known who's behind it.

Garment workers in the shops that dot this mile-square city seem to have no doubt who's to blame.

"Everybody knows it's the landlords who are doing it," is what they say.

Some garment workers are friends of families of the victims.

Hoboken is crowded with immigrants. Most come from Puerto Rico or elsewhere in Latin America. El Salvadorans include active supporters of the guerrilla forces there.

Driven here by the ravages of imperialism, in this country they find themselves once again victims of the class responsible for the suffering in their homeland.

As garment workers they toil in a multitude of small shops lodged in the many abandoned factories and warehouses that once formed the economic base of this city, formerly a thriving port. Often they work with no daylight and little ventilation. They draw minimum wages and are subject to frequent layoffs.

They live in old four- or five-story buildings, often several families to an apartment.

This most recent fire struck a building made up of 12 apartments of one room each. The tenants paid \$80 a week.

Not content to collect unconscionable rents, greedy landlords and speculators

are furiously trying to drive out tenants to make way for high-priced condominiums or remodeled apartments. These are eagerly sought by professionals or better-paid workers moving across the river from New York City, itself facing a severe housing shortage.

This process is termed "gentrification." Around the corner from the latest fire a blaze claimed 11 lives last fall. The building is now being converted into a condominium.

Intoxicated by the smell of money, landlords will not stop at burning their own buildings to empty them of unwanted tenants. The message is not lost on others, terrorized by the fate that awaits them if they refuse to get out when the landlord says so.

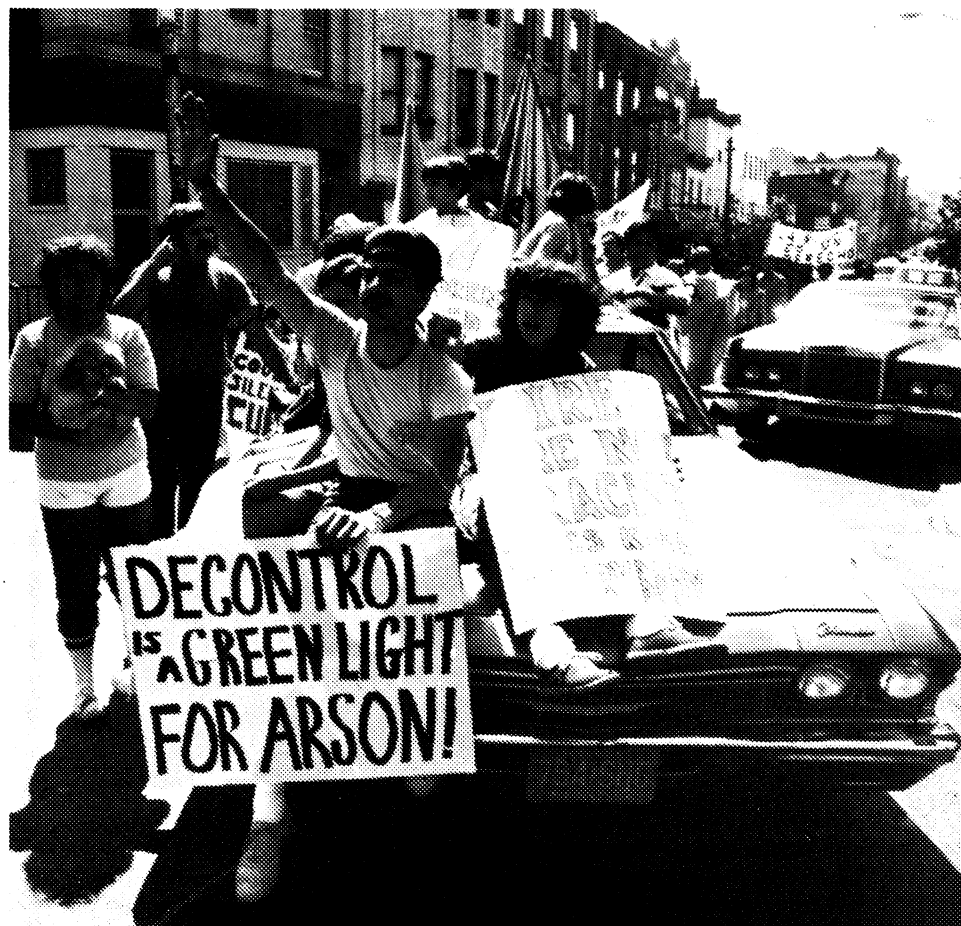
Many say they have trouble sleeping. "Who's going to sleep, knowing our building might be next?" asked one tenant.

As Luis Pérez told the *Dispatch*: "They don't realize what they are doing is not making us want to leave, they are making us want revolution, and that's what is going to happen here if all the deaths of innocent Puerto Ricans continue."

Socialist condemns landlords, City Hall

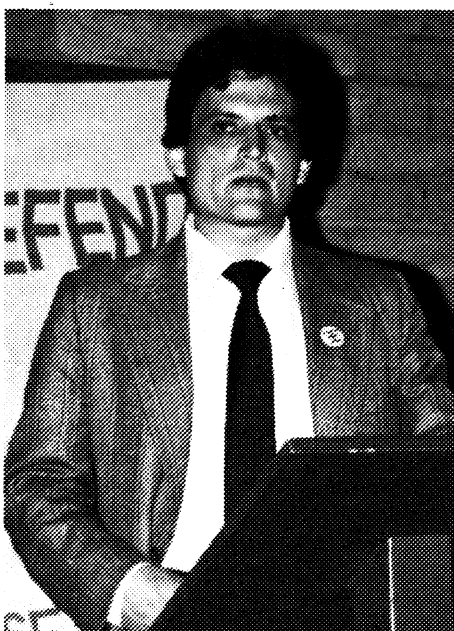
Claire Moriarty, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from New Jersey, called the Hoboken fire "an indictment of the capitalist system. . . . People are driven from their homes to enrich landlords and speculators, who go unpunished for their murder.

"Housing is a basic human right," the socialist said. "It should be taken out of the hands of the big landlords and publicly owned. The billions being spent on the U.S. war budget should be put to use building and upgrading housing."



Militant/Nelson Blackstock

May 15 demonstration of 500 in Hoboken, N.J., protested arson that killed 13, hit City Hall collusion with real estate interests.



Héctor Marroquín

Militant/Bob Cantrick

Tucson rally backs Marroquín, denounces INS raids

BY DAN FEIN

TUCSON, Ariz. — "And if the government tries to force Héctor Marroquín to return to Mexico, I'm sure our congregation will vote to give Héctor sanctuary in our church."

These words by Minister John Fife capture the spirit of militancy and solidarity at the May 11 "Alto a las Deportaciones — Stop the Deportations" rally here. For four years, the government has been trying to deport Marroquín, a leader of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, because of his pro-labor and antiwar views and activities.

John Fife became nationally known earlier this year when he publicly defied the immigration laws by announcing his participation in an "underground railroad" to help Salvadoran refugees escape the terror in their country and come to the U.S. His Southside Presbyterian Church, where the antideportation rally was held, has given sanctuary to many Salvadorans without papers.

The rally came just days after two Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) agents seized Marroquín in Tempe, near Phoenix. The agents held Marroquín for almost an hour, interrogated him, refused to let him call his

lawyer, and made veiled threats to deport him, before finally setting him free.

The 55 people at the rally were a militant answer to this new INS provocation.

The rally hit the massive INS raids conducted under the lying codename "Project Jobs." "Project Jobs," said Marroquín, "is not aimed at providing jobs for unemployed workers — but at intimidating all immigrants and other workers from speaking out and participating in politics."

In particular, Marroquín explained, the government wants to weaken and silence opposition to its war drive. For example, he said, "the government doesn't want Salvadorans telling the truth about what's happening in their country to workers and farmers in this country."

Other speakers at the rally expressed the broad support for Marroquín's case and other battles to stop the deportations.

Lupe Castillo, a leader of the Manzo Area Council, blasted the INS. Manzo plays a leading role in the Southwest in the fight against deportations. The Manzo Area Council was itself a target of FBI repression when agents raided its office and stole files, hoping to find information on undocumented workers who could then be targeted for deportation.

Also speaking were representatives of the NAACP, the National Lawyers Guild, the American Friends Service Committee, the All-Peoples Congress, and the Revolutionary Workers Party of Mexico.

In the coming weeks, Marroquín's tour will take him to Washington, Baltimore, Detroit, Denver, San Antonio, and Dallas. He will also be speaking at a Chicano Student Conference in El Paso, Texas.

Messages in support of Marroquín's case should be sent to Alan Nelson, Commissioner, INS, Washington, D.C. 20536. Copies of messages and contributions to help in this fight should be sent to the Political Rights Defense Fund, Box 649 Cooper Station, New York, New York 10003.

Hear Marroquín on Nat'l Public Radio

While in Tucson, Marroquín taped an interview for "Enfoque Nacional," a Spanish-language program on National Public Radio. The interview will be aired on stations around the country next week. To find out when to hear the Marroquín interview in your area, call your local National Public Radio station.

N.Y. court rules for AP and cops in socialists' libel suit

BY MATTHEW HERRESHOFF

NEW YORK — A state supreme court ruling here has given official blessing to a political police-news media smear job against the Socialist Workers Party.

The SWP was smeared by an Associated Press (AP) story last fall linking the party to the holdup of a Brink's armored car in Rockland County, New York.

In a May 5 ruling, state supreme court Justice Hilda Schwartz dismissed the socialists' \$106 million libel suit against AP and New York City Police Commissioner Robert McGuire.

The slanderous AP story falsely charged that Judith Clark, one of those arrested in the Brink's robbery, "is now a figure in the Socialist Workers Party." At first, AP said the information came from the FBI. In a "corrective" issued the next day, AP said the story came from McGuire. Both the cops and the FBI deny making the statement.

The judge ruled that the false AP story did not slander the SWP. "The statements involved herein," said the judge, "are not defamatory as to plaintiffs."

This ruling coincides with AP's and the cops' main defense — their claim that if the socialists were linked to the Brink's holdup or branded as "terrorists", it's because they are.

In legal papers, the cops charged that "the injuries alleged by the plaintiffs were caused in whole or in part by and arose out of plaintiffs' culpable conduct."

AP, in arguing its defense, charged that the SWP has a "reputation as a secretive, militant, revolutionary, communist organization which espouses the overthrow of the United States government."

As is reported in the April 16 issue of the *Militant*, AP goes to great lengths to smear the SWP as a supporter of "terrorist activities."

In response to these charges, the socialists submitted affidavits by columnist Nat Hentoff, NAACP General Counsel Charles Carter, and antiwar activist Sid Peck rebutting the terrorist smear against the party.

But Justice Schwartz, by dismissing the socialists' lawsuit, lets AP and the cops off the hook for their slander campaign.

"The statements [in the AP story] are not 'of and concerning' the Socialist Workers Party," said Judge Schwartz. "They concern the alleged actions of one who was reported to be a member of the organization."

The judge argues that the false AP story did not "concern" the SWP; rather, it was about the "alleged actions" of Judith Clark, a "reported" member of the SWP.

Therefore, her ruling concludes, since "[a]n organization may not maintain a libel action when it is based solely on statements concerning the organiza-

tion's members," the SWP can't sue.

This line of reasoning ignores the fact that Clark is not a member of the SWP. This argument pretends that the SWP is suing because Clark was libeled by being called a member of the party. The ruling ignores the real reason for the SWP's suit — that the SWP was libeled by being falsely linked to the Brink's holdup.

The AP's story had all the earmarks of a political police disruption operation designed to brand the SWP as "terrorist," and thus weaken the party's ability to win support.

In letting the cops off the hook, Justice Schwartz states that the SWP "conceded" that "the statement was incorrectly attributed to Police Commissioner McGuire." When did the SWP "concede" this? The ruling doesn't say.

AP claims that McGuire made the statement linking Clark to the SWP. McGuire says he didn't. All the SWP ever "conceded" is that one of them must be lying.

The message is clear — as far as the courts, the cops, or the big-business press are concerned, socialists and other working people are fair game for slander. By justifying the smear job against the SWP, the court decision reveals the class bias of American "justice" — against working people and the oppressed, in favor of the bosses and their government.

The decision is part of the government's attempt to justify the witch-hunt and terror campaign they have waged under the pretext of the Brink's holdup.

In ruling that the AP story didn't slander the SWP, Justice Schwartz said that "the statements complained of should be read against the background of their issuance and with respect to the circumstances of their publication."

This statement closely resembles AP's claim that its "actions . . . must be considered in light of the contemporaneous activities of the FBI."

AP points to the arrest of Republic of New Africa leader Fulani Sunni Ali, who was arrested when over 100 cops with helicopters and armored vehicles surrounded a farmhouse in Mississippi. She was charged with involvement in the Brink's robbery. But she was able to prove that she was 2,000 miles away at the time.

AP points to the arrest of Eve Rosahn, who was "indicted for alleged involvement in the robbery, only to have the indictment later dismissed by the District Attorney."

Thus, the smear job against the SWP is justified because the socialists are only one of many victims of this massive political police and news media campaign against the Black movement and the Black community.

This campaign continues to this day. Eve Rosahn and many others face jail for refusing to give evidence to a witch-hunting grand jury.

Terror raids in the Black community under the pretext of the Brink's robbery continue. Recent victims of these raids include Cecil Ferguson, a member of the RNA, and Edward Josephs. Josephs was one of 21 members of the Black Panther Party framed up by the cops in 1969. When the Panther 21 beat the frame-up charges, they earned the undying hatred of the cops.

The *Amsterdam News* described one such raid, on the home of Dr. Kamau Bayete Middleton in Harlem. The front-page story was headlined "FBI Harlem Brink's raid called terror."

And, as revealed in the SWP's lawsuit against the cops and AP, the campaign to use the Brink's robbery to brand opponents of the government as "terrorists" continues, too.

The socialists plan to appeal Justice Schwartz's decision. But their lawsuit has already scored important successes in uncovering the political police-news media smear campaign.

It has begun to unveil how the government collaborates with the big-business press against Blacks, socialists, and other opponents of government policy.

It put these enemies of political rights on notice that the socialists won't stand still when their rights are being stepped on.

And it set an example of how to fight back for other victims of these antidemocratic attacks.

As this lawsuit proceeds, it promises to carry this process even further and to reveal even more facts about the role of the cops and AP in the government's ongoing war against political rights.

2,000 unionists march in Pittsburgh

BY LINDA NORDQUIST

PITTSBURGH — Two thousand chanting, unemployed steelworkers from locals around western Pennsylvania marched from the U.S. Steel headquarters to the State Building demanding jobs, an extension of unemployment benefits to 65 weeks, and a freeze on mortgages and rent and utility increases.

The demonstration was organized by unemployed committees of various United Steelworkers of America locals in the Mon Valley, and endorsed by USWA Districts 15, 19, and 20. The international union contributed 50,000 leaflets.

Leading the march were United Electrical Workers Union (UE) members from American Standard, where they have been on strike seven months. They carried signs that read "UE 610 strikers support laid-off steelworkers."

Rally speakers were rank-and-file steelworkers confronting various economic catastrophes. Pat Turnell of Local 1557 Clairton Works spoke of the difficulty of making ends meet. "I get very

religious when I pay bills, robbing Peter to pay Paul. The government talks about a safety net. Well, that net has been turned upside down and is used as a silk canopy for the rich."

Ellen Mason, wife of a Wheeling Pittsburgh steelworker and mother of three, told of fighting a losing battle to keep their home.

She received shouts of encouragement when she added, "I want to tell our government that us Americans will not be forced into another war to straighten out this economic crisis. Every time they want a war they come to the mills, the mines, and factories and they take the men. Now we're in trouble, and they give us nothing."

Barney Oursler, an organizer of the demonstration from U.S. Steel Irvin Works, summed up the spirit of the rally: "We are here to give the politicians a warning. We are not the criminals; we refuse to be the victims. And to the company spies out there, you can take this message back to the boardrooms: You ain't seen nothing yet."

Trade union women debate Washington's war policy

Continued from Page 1

her opening remarks to the convention that the gathering wouldn't "dwell on international affairs."

But the discussion had already started, even before the convention began.

El Salvador resolutions

There were six presubmitted resolutions that outlined and opposed U.S. intervention in El Salvador. Several others pointed to the war budget as the recipient of the money that was being cut from badly needed social services — cuts that hit women the hardest, particularly Blacks and Latinas.

And right as the convention began, Washington was openly declaring its military and political support for the British colonialist war against Argentina.

Despite the sentiment, CLUW officials put forward a procedural motion which, under the guise of putting "resolutions which particularly affect women" first, would prevent any discussion of Washington's foreign policy from reaching the floor. The motion was passed without discussion.

Union buster

After the Friday afternoon session, convention-goers headed for the hills — Beverly Hills — to picket the headquarters of union-busting Litton Industries.

A top government contractor, Litton has been found guilty by the National Labor Relations Board and the courts of violating federal labor laws in 15 separate cases. Eleven unions have grievances against Litton, and CLUW members picketed to express solidarity with these union brothers and sisters.

The 500 marchers carried signs saying "Stop the Litton lawbreaker," and chants of "We're fired up — can't take no more!" rang out.

On the way back from that spirited protest, a delegate announced that anyone who wanted to discuss El Salvador, and how to get it on the floor of the convention, should come to a meeting at dinner time.

El Salvador meeting

The initiators of the meeting were some leaders of New York City CLUW. They included Ruth Callender, a member of the International Typographical Union; Connie Kopelov of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; and Ann Hoffman of the Communications Workers of America.

About 60 women showed up.

The organizers of the meeting proposed that instead of discussing how to get CLUW to take a clear stand against U.S. intervention in El Salvador, dele-

gates should focus on getting CLUW's endorsement of a "bilateral freeze" on the production and deployment of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union and the United States. The freeze proposal, they argued, should be the basis for CLUW endorsing the June 12 demonstration.

Many at the meeting disagreed with this course. They explained that the fact that the U.S. government is involved in shooting wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua, and threatening to get involved militarily in Argentina, meant that CLUW's focus should be opposition to these new Vietnams, and June 12 should be endorsed on this basis.

Those arguing for the freeze proposal objected to linking Central America to peace actions like June 12. Their freeze perspective represented a dangerous diversion for antiwar unionists. It took the focus off the real danger to peace today — U.S. intervention in Central America — and blamed the Soviet Union as well as the U.S. warmakers for the nuclear buildup that Washington alone is responsible for.

'Guns and Butter'

On Saturday morning the convention resolutions committee brought in a series of resolutions to be discussed. Among them was one entitled "Guns and Butter." None of the El Salvador resolutions were recommended by the committee to come before the convention.

The "Guns and Butter" resolution first discussed some of the cuts in social service programs by the current administration.

Then it went on:

"Whereas we recognize the necessity of maintaining a strong national defense, this by no means implies a desire to give the Pentagon a blank check. Military strength depends on having appropriate weapons, ready manpower, logistical support and intelligent strategy; and

"Whereas the Administration's approach to defense spending promotes waste, not strength; and

"Whereas we believe that indiscriminate military spending will make it impossible for our country to achieve vital social goals: an end to unemployment, quality health care for all, affordable housing, a decent life for senior citizens and a good education for all children;

"Therefore be it resolved that CLUW call upon the members of Congress to use their legislative power to ensure that adequate budgetary provision is made to meet the human needs of the American people, and that they firmly oppose any further efforts to cut funding for the social programs necessary to protect and preserve our most precious national defense resource — the men, women and children of America."

This resolution, accepting the government's framework that a strong military is needed to defend the United States from some external enemy, reflects the viewpoint of the AFL-CIO Executive Council. In reality it was a *prowar* resolution, and was seen that way by many delegates. It was an attempt to derail the antiwar, anticut-backs sentiment into a *prowar* framework.

'Strong national defense'

The appearance of this resolution spurred an even bigger debate at the next meeting of those participants who wanted CLUW to discuss foreign policy.

Mariana Hernández, a Teamster from New Jersey CLUW, proposed that delegates be urged to vote this resolution down and substitute one that called for abolition of U.S. nuclear weapons and support to June 12 as a way to show opposition to U.S. intervention in Central America.

Hernández explained, "The 'strong national defense' and big military

budget that this resolution sanctions are being used today, right now, against the people of El Salvador and Nicaragua."

Hernández further pointed out, "For CLUW to pass such a resolution in the midst of a shooting war could only be interpreted as support for Washington's murderous policies."

Ruth Callender, along with others who had been arguing for a bilateral nuclear freeze, proposed that delegates should be urged to simply amend the resolution. It was proposed to delete the paragraph calling for "a strong national defense" and to add support for a bilateral freeze and the June 12 action.

War vs. human needs

The final plenary session on Sunday focused on two questions:

Do working women have any interests in Washington's wars or military budget?

Should the union movement seek a compromise with the government's war on working people at home and abroad as the only "realistic" solution?

Dolores Huerta, vice-president of the United Farm Workers union had spoken that morning and taken up the plight of Salvadoran refugees in this country. She explained the dangers they faced when deported and urged CLUW members to make known their opposition to the policies of the Salvadoran dictatorship. She explained that this is an issue that women must be concerned with.

Shortly after her well-received speech, the "Guns and Butter" resolution came to the floor.

Ann Hoffman immediately made the motion to delete the paragraph on a "strong national defense" and to add the following:

"Let it be further resolved that CLUW join with millions of Americans to demand an immediate freeze and reversal of the nuclear arms race and the transfer of the military budget to human needs; and

"Be it finally resolved that CLUW support and urge its members to participate in the massive demonstration planned for New York at the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament on Saturday, June 12."

Hoffman's amendment didn't mention war. And in fact, those delegates who supported U.S. intervention in Central America made it clear that they saw the freeze proposal as compatible with Washington's war moves.

'Dictators of right and left'

Evelyn DuBrow, national vice-president and legislative director of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, and a national CLUW vice-president, spoke against deleting the paragraph calling for a "strong national defense."

"First of all, it is in opposition to the AFL-CIO position taken at its convention and taken at the last [AFL-CIO Executive] council meeting. And I think we ought not to be in direct contradiction on that," she said.

DuBrow explained that she didn't see the contradiction between meeting human needs and the kind of U.S. military buildup outlined in the resolution.

She also said that there was no contradiction, either, between supporting a nuclear freeze and supporting a strong national defense.

She warned that if that paragraph were deleted from the resolution, "I think that CLUW would look ridiculous at this time when you have Argentina, when you have El Salvador, when you have Nicaragua, when you have Castro in Cuba — all dictators of the right and the left trying to make hay because in this country people misunderstand what a strong national defense means."



Militant/Dee Scalera

Liberal Democrat Yvonne Burke told CLUW that U.S. needs "effective" war machine.

Callender spoke next. She talked about how peace is women's primary interest and about the destructive capabilities of the U.S. nuclear arsenal. But she failed to address DuBrow's attacks on Nicaragua, Argentina, and Cuba.

Who is responsible for war?

The next delegate to take the floor was Nancy Brown, a member of the International Association of Machinists and Los Angeles CLUW. Brown declared: "There's only one reason for the United States to have military strength, and that is to use it. And right now what the United States government is doing with its military strength is getting us involved in another Vietnam. That's the basic question which is facing working women in this country."

"The United States government will spend \$1.5 trillion on the war budget in the next five years. This resolution would give the green light from working women in this country for the United States government to step up its war in El Salvador and the rest of Central America."

"We should be clear that it is the United States government that is responsible for war, not Cuba, not Nicaragua, and not the people of El Salvador."

Dolores Huerta said this morning that we cannot ignore what is happening in El Salvador. It's a women's issue. There are U.S. warships off the coast of Nicaragua. People are disappearing in El Salvador.

"We as women cannot ignore this. If CLUW had been around during the Vietnam War, we would have opposed that war. We have a chance now to be in the leadership of a movement that's developing against the war in Central America, and we should be."

Brown's remarks were greeted with enthusiastic applause. But there were jeers as well.

'Practicalities'

Pam Starsky, from the American Federation of Teachers in Chicago, responded:

"I do not believe that the United States of America is responsible for war on this globe." That statement brought gasps of disbelief from several delegates. She continued, "And I don't believe that if you have a strong defense you by definition lose everything that is called human and social services."

She went on to discuss the "practicalities" of the matter: "We have never been able to transfer defense money for butter. The issue of guns and butter has always been one that's not exactly realistic. We are asking the Reagan administration to take the money that they are supposed to spend on defense and put it into social programs."

"But sisters and brothers, let us live in reality! There is going to be money spent on defense. It is our job to *modify* the money spent on defense."

The vote was soon taken and the "strong national defense" paragraph was not deleted.

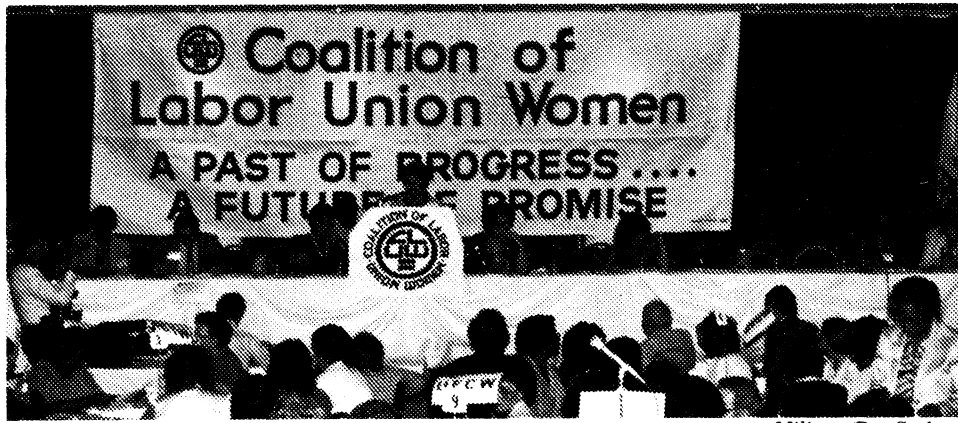
The debate then continued on the
Continued on next page



Militant/Dee Scalera

Machinist Nancy Brown argued CLUW should lead fight against U.S. wars.

Unionists protest immigration raids



CLUW convention sent telegram to Reagan condemning attack on undocumented workers.

LOS ANGELES — The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was conducting its massive national round-up of undocumented workers during the Coalition of Labor Union Women convention held here April 29-May 2. These racist raids were discussed and condemned throughout the course of the convention.

Several of the speakers that addressed the convention denounced the raids and repudiated Reagan's lie that the undocumented are responsible for the skyrocketing unemployment rate.

William Robertson, executive secre-

tary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, scored the "repulsive" actions of the INS in "unilaterally going into plants and factories and picking on Hispanics. The administration is using this as a grandstand play to take away the justifiable criticisms of the high unemployment rate."

Former Congresswoman Yvonne Burke and CLUW President Joyce Miller echoed this theme. Miller pointed out that women are also being made scapegoats for the lack of jobs, citing Reagan's view that if women stayed

home there'd be less unemployment.

At a media workshop on the opening day of the convention, a United Auto Workers (UAW) member from a small plant in St. Charles, Illinois, said that the INS came to her plant and took "some of our people away." She explained that there were a lot of Latino workers at her plant and she solicited ideas on how her local could reach out to these sisters and brothers and show them that "it's not the American people against them. To sit in our plant and watch these people being taken out — it's really hard to take."

Dolores Huerta, vice-president of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW), had been slated to speak on Saturday. She explained why she couldn't make it until Sunday.

"Our union, like many other labor unions, was hit this last week very hard by the Immigration Service with the last deportations. It's very interesting that the Immigration Service only went into those companies where we have labor union contracts.

"Now all over the state of California there are farmworkers . . . that aren't even earning the minimum wage. But they didn't hit any of these growers."

Huerta had spent the weekend trying to locate and get released the UFW members that had been rounded up. She

reported that the UFW was planning on going to court, and that several other unions, like the Molders union, also opposed the roundups.

Huerta explained that it's not Mexican workers who cause unemployment in the United States, but the corporations and the runaway shops.

She also pointed to the poverty of Mexico as the reason that large numbers of Mexican workers seek employment in the United States.

"This country has never given one cent to Mexico for economic development. Isn't that amazing? . . . This country has always had an attitude of exploitation toward Mexico. You know, it's just part of the whole anti-Brown, anti-Black mentality that you exploit people and then you take everything out."

Huerta ended her talk by explaining that among those being deported are refugees from El Salvador.

"They are going to face certain death in their country. We have within our union several people from El Salvador whose relatives have totally disappeared. They were picked up by the military police and they never saw them again. What's going on in that country we also cannot ignore.

"We know that the government of El Salvador is not out there to protect labor unions. It's out there to protect the corporations. We should really make it known that we don't agree with their policies."

When Huerta finished speaking, she got the longest ovation of the entire convention.

The delegates then voted by acclamation to send a telegram to President Reagan and the Justice Department, denouncing the raids. The telegram protested "the brutal treatment and inhuman deportations that are taking place today in our country. . . . We demand that you take immediate action to stop these cruel actions against these innocent workers."

Another indication of the opposition to deporting undocumented workers was the excellent response to the case of Héctor Marroquín, a Mexican-born socialist who is fighting for his right to political asylum in this country.

Eighty people signed a petition demanding his right to stay in the United States, and funds were contributed to his defense effort.

Antiwar forces mobilize for June 12 rally

Continued from Page 16

people should stand unalterably opposed to the use of nuclear weapons."

With regard to the question of U.S. intervention, Weusi explained, "It has to be a front-row issue, a main issue in any talk about nuclear weapons."

Weusi also felt that it was extremely important to make the connection between, on the one hand, the swollen military budget, and on the other, the racist nature of the cutbacks to finance imperialism's wars on the backs of Blacks, Latinos, and all poor people.

"Let's put some teeth, let's put some purpose into the peace movement," said Weusi. "Otherwise a peace movement without these purposes is just another vehicle to bring the Democrats back to the White House."

With these words, Weusi launched into an attack on the Democratic Party.

He warned: "There are certain Democrats that are out of the White House now; they are out of favor. So they need an issue. So since they have no clear answer for Reaganomics, they have got to find another way to manipulate themselves back into the White House. . . .

"So what we are saying is that we don't want this [peace] issue to become just one of those issues that is used to manipulate certain people back into the White House — then we look around and see that the qualitative condition of other people has not been changed.

"As far as we can see, for any kind of direction of the world, the Democrats at this point have no more clearer direction than the Dixiecrats — or the Republicans for that matter."

Weusi ended by urging those in the audience to go into the workshops to discuss and figure out ways to drive the antiwar movement forward and take it into the streets.

The gathering then broke down into a number of workshops to discuss political strategy and concrete tasks. There were workshops organized on labor, women, community, and church; a Latino, Black, and Asian workshop; a student workshop; and others.

The labor workshop was led by Tom Pontolillo, chairman of Local 501 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; Bill Henning, second vice-president, Local 1180 of the Communications Workers of America; and Annette Robinson, a health-care administrator at Cumberland Hospital. Thirty people met to discuss how to reach out and involve the unions in June 12.

Both Pontolillo and Henning emphasized the need to build June 12 in union locals and among co-workers. Henning hit at the Kennedy-Hatfield proposal for a bilateral nuclear freeze, exposing it as a maneuver by Democrats to get elected.

After the workshops, at a final gathering of the conference, Minister Michael Amon Ra from NBUF gave a closing talk.

He thanked the activists who had participated in the conference. He emphasized the important role that the TWPPC was playing in the fight to transform June 12.

He explained, "Because of our involvement in the task of transforming the June 12 demonstration, we have been able to change to some degree — not completely, but to some degree — the complexion, the character of the demonstration."

Continued from Page 6

amendments on a bilateral nuclear freeze and support for June 12. The resolution was voted up, including these two amendments.

'Solidarity II'

The question of whether CLUW members should throw their support to "anti-Reagan" Democrats in the 1982 elections was an important aspect of the discussion on Washington's wars.

On this issue, supporters of a bilateral nuclear freeze and those backing Reagan's war policy in Central America shared a common perspective. They agreed that CLUW should confine its political options to the framework of capitalist two-party politics.

They were all for CLUW supporting "Solidarity II." This is the AFL-CIO officialdom's proposal to mobilize working people on Election Day to vote Democratic Party.

CLUW President Joyce Miller pointed to the 1982 elections as the time when CLUW members should act to show Reagan that they're totally opposed to his policies.

The content of this political approach was made clear by Pam Starsky.

She pleaded: "Be realistic. We are dealing with an administration which is not exactly friendly to our positions. There are ways we can modify what is happening in Congress — with the cur-

"We have been able to include such speakers as brother Guillermo Ungo of the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador. We have been able to include such speakers as sister Isabel Letelier from Chile, brother Carlos Xenon on the Vieques question.

"We have fought to make sure that speaking time be set aside for the American Indian Movement and for other progressive speakers like Reverend Daughtry."

Amon Ra also reported that as a result of this fight the TWPPC contingent will be at the front, just behind the children and international dignitaries, in the march coming from Central Park West, on the day of the June 12 demonstration.

He urged everyone in attendance to come to the next meeting of the TWPPC on May 20 to continue the fight.

Union women debate Washington's war policy

rent administration as well." She went on to say that the way to do that is to go to the polls in November.

The logic of this course would be for CLUW to fight not for what working women need, but for what the rightward-moving capitalist politicians will accept.

'Weapons that make a difference'

The real prowar face of the "anti-Reagan" Democrats was exposed in a pro-militarist speech delivered to the convention by Yvonne Burke, former congresswoman and a prominent liberal. Burke expressed her enthusiasm for Washington's stepped-up efforts to wage conventional warfare in an "effective" manner.

After ridiculing how long it took the British armada to reach the Malvinas Islands, Burke asked, "How would we feel if we had given up every social program in the United States, if we had starved people, if we had allowed children to go without education, and then we looked around and we'd spent the money on the kinds of weapons that are archaic and make no difference whatsoever, except to make a few contractors rich?"

Her support for American military power modern enough to "make a difference" — like the Rapid Deployment Force, perhaps — stood in total contradiction to the interests of working and

oppressed people in this country.

UAW member Jo-Ann Della-Giustina spoke against backing such "anti-Reagan" Democrats under discussion of a resolution which included support for "Solidarity II."

"I think that the focus for our actions that is being proposed here — that of putting our energies into electing Democrats in November — is self-defeating. It's been the strategy we've been following all along. Yet our rights are being more eroded today."

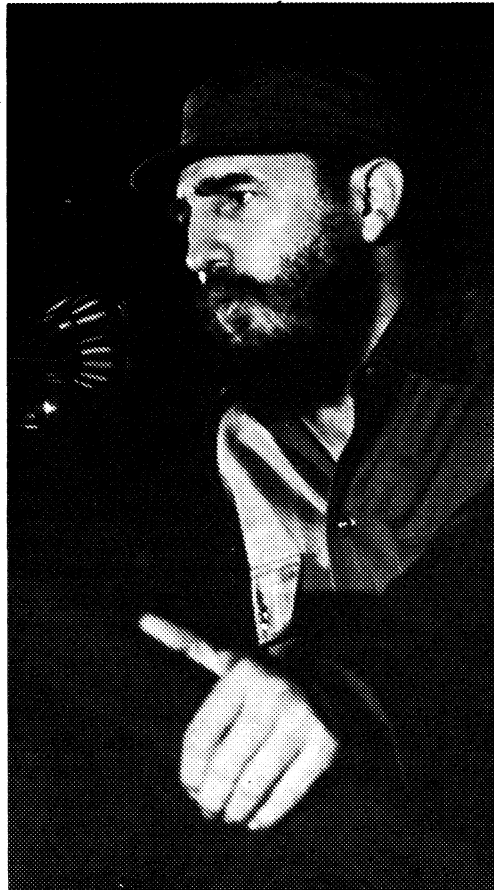
Instead of campaigning for Democrats, Della-Giustina proposed building the June 12 action as an antiwar protest, explaining that a lot of women in her plant were concerned with the U.S. war in Central America.

The convention illustrated the depth of the antiwar ferment in the ranks of the labor movement today. As the bosses' government pushes new imperialist military adventures, working people and women's rights activists want to discuss how to stop these wars.

The CLUW convention showed that union women can be an important force in forming the new antiwar movement that's so desperately needed in this country.

Antiwar workers with a clear class-struggle perspective can play a key role in educating and leading this important battalion into the struggle against imperialist war.

Fidel Castro speaks to revolution



Photos by Prensa Latina

Left: young people at May 1, 1982, March of the Fighting People in Havana. "We're making the revolution for you," said Castro.

The following are major excerpts from a recent speech by Cuban leader Fidel Castro, which we are reprinting in two installments. The speech was given April 4 at the closing session of the Young Communist League. The text is taken from the April 18 English-language *Granma*.

Distinguished Visiting Delegations; Comrade Delegates to the 4th Congress; Cuban Comrades:

As we all know, the 4th Congress ends today, on the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Young Communist League (UJC). While I was formulating some ideas and reviewing notes for this event it occurred to me to look over what I had said 20 years ago, on April 4, 1962, (APPLAUSE) and I really couldn't resist the temptation to recall some of those words and ideas here today; both because of the contrast between the situation prevailing then and now and because of the fact that many aspects of the situation are unchanged.

Twenty years ago I said: "Why are we making a Revolution? Are we making it in our interest? No! We're making the Revolution in your interest. Are we making the Revolution for us? No! We're making the revolution for you. Can we make the Revolution by ourselves? No! But we can make the Revolution with you."

And further on I said: "We have perhaps encountered the hardest, most difficult situations; we have faced that stage of the Revolution when ideas have to blaze a trail through the forest of prejudices, habits, customs and ideas of the old society."

"We have had to do battle with the entire legacy of the past. But we must admit that we were deeply moved, we felt well rewarded when we started to see in you the fruits of the Revolution we are building, when we started to see in this multitude of young people the people of tomorrow, when we started to see in you the image of the future, when we started to see the justice of the course of the Revolution reflected in you."

"We believe in young people . . . believing in young people means an attitude, believing in young people means a way of thinking."

"All the blood that was shed was worthwhile and all the sacrifices that were made, if we can say this: our soci-

ety will be a society without exploiters or exploited, without privilege or discrimination!

"Every citizen will become used to viewing a fellow human being not as an enemy, not as a beast against which he has to protect himself, but as a truly human person, as a brother or sister who can help him in time of trouble; he will not see his fellow as a superior or inferior being, but as an equal; merit will take the place of privilege, for merit will be what distinguishes one citizen from another since merit will be the only rule by which a citizen is judged."

A model young person

"In order to belong to this organization you must give clear and incontrovertible proof of being truly a model young person, a young person truly worthy of being called a Young Communist."

" . . . being a Young Communist does not entail privileges of any kind; on the contrary, it means sacrifice and dedication. . . .

"Nobody is obliged to join the UJC: it is an absolutely free association of revolutionary youth. . . .

" . . . you must have courage to be a Young Communist . . . dedication . . . vocation. . . . If you are a student you must be the very best student; if you are a factory worker you must be a model factory worker; you must set an example as a comrade . . . an example of self-sacrifice and determination, you must set an example at work, in your studies, in sports, and in your relations with other comrades."

"The Young Communist must above all be a modest comrade; modesty is one of the primary virtues of a revolutionary."

"And the Young Communist must also be willing to give his life for the Revolution and for his or her country without hesitating. . . . The character and the concept of a Young Communist must contain all those traits, all those features, all those virtues so that being a Young Communist will truly be the greatest, most significant and notable honor any young person can aspire to."

"It is important for our young people to understand that their work and their example will be useful not only to their own country but also to all the peoples of

Latin America. . . . That is why your mission is so important, for you are not only the standard-bearers of the future, of the most perfect society possible, of Communist society; not only the standard-bearers of the ideas of the future, but also the example . . . the standard-bearers of the ideals of all the youth of Latin America."

To all this we might add that you set the example and are the standard-bearers of the ideals of young people all over the world.

No subterfuge

Even though those words were said as early as the beginning of 1962 we had no qualms about proposing the name "Young Communist League" for the new organization. Even then we were opposed to subterfuge of any kind, since the purpose of the organization was to form Communists.

Twenty years have passed. How different things are now! Now we have a much higher level of education and political culture. Now we can say that our revolutionary process would have been inconceivable, the task and mission of our Party would have been inconceivable without the UJC. Although it is true that, as was said in the Report, no success or progress gives us the right to stop or rest, it is unquestionably correct to say that this organization has played, is playing now and will continue to play an extremely important role.

* * *

I've mentioned several fields in which the Young Communist League is playing an irreplaceable role. Now, let's talk about other fields — for example, defense.

Our young people played a very important role in defense even before the UJC came into being. At Playa Girón, for instance, when they joined the militia, when they became artillerymen, when they took part in the battle against bandits, and so forth, they were already playing a major role. It's precisely our youth that constitutes the source from which we recruit our Revolutionary Armed Forces and our Ministry of the Interior. The immense majority of the officers and fighters in these institutions for the defense of our country and for the defense of our Revolution are

young people. And the youth organizations are very strong in both the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior.

Committees and branches of the UJC are playing a fundamental, indispensable role in those institutions as well as in the political and ideological education of young people before and after they join the armed forces. In that work we have an activity of vital importance to our people, to our society, in which Young Communists are also making an exceptional contribution. This can be seen here in the Congress, in the large number of young members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior who took part.

Role in labor force

Is the work of the UJC limited to the tasks I have just mentioned? No, of course not. There is also something equally fundamental and of vital importance, and that is production and services.

Today, according to statistics, one-third of our labor force is composed of young people. And it's in this field that our youth can offer the most universal of its contributions and where it has a growing participation.

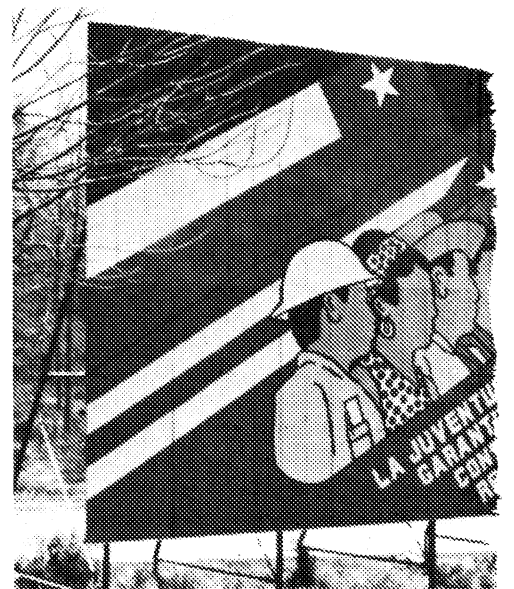
The labor movement spoke very highly of the large number of trade union cadres who are Young Communists. And that is one field in which the UJC can do an extraordinary job.

Our Young Communists are struggling to eradicate extravagance, wastefulness and lack of efficiency and to increase production and productivity. We are aware of the important achievements of the young canecutters, the young member of the Army of Working Youth, the machine operators and the cane harvester operators. We are aware of the efforts they made last year to eradicate sugarcane smut when over 30,000 hectares of land were planted to sugarcane; we are aware of our young people's efforts in construction and other sectors. In other words, our young people and our Young Communists are making an ever greater contribution to production and services. And that is something of vital importance to our country.

Revolutionary consciousness

Can we imagine a more important task? Well, we could say that there is one more important than all the others, and that is the organization's work in developing a revolutionary consciousness among our young people. (APPLAUSE) And that is something vital, absolutely vital, of decisive importance.

The organization plays a vital, decisive role in developing our young people's attitudes toward study and all their other duties, be it in school, in a military unit, in a factory, in a services unit, as teachers, as doctors, as nurses or



Billboard in Santiago reads, "The youth continuity."

ary Cuban youth

intermediate-level hospital technicians. And it is there, in practice, in the everyday struggle, where a really communist consciousness is developed.

New changes can be seen, and we can now really speak of a new attitude, an attitude that is the fruit of these years of work, of the work of our socialist institutions, of our schools of study and work, of our Pioneer organization, of our revolutionary teachers, of our revolutionary schools, of our mass and young people's organizations and of the Young Communist League. Yes, it can really be seen.

The organization's concern to develop young people's consciousness is particularly evident in the unflagging interest it has taken in promoting voluntary work. And that, too, is of vital importance. It is of vital importance because the realities of the construction of socialism oblige us to adopt certain formulas and methods that are not communist, but rather socialist — and you are well aware of the difference between socialism and communism.

There are two formulas: "to each according to his work" and "to each according to his needs." In socialism, every individual is supposed to contribute according to his capacity, and he receives according to his work. In communism, everyone contributes according to his capacity and receives according to his needs.

There were some idealistic moments when we did want to make shortcuts. We had the chance to see the consequences and we were honest enough to recognize our mistakes and rectify them. There's no question about that. And there's no question either that the communist formula is superior to the socialist. Nor is there any question, either, that the dream of Marx, Engels and Lenin was the communist society. Marx himself said that in socialism distribution was still within the narrow confines of bourgeois law.

Clearly, if, for example, there are two longshoremen and one of them can carry more sacks than the other, let's say the second one can carry only half as many as the first, the poor fellow will receive half of what the other one received. But it isn't his fault that he's not the kind of man who can carry 200 sacks instead of 100 and, for all we know, his needs may be the same as the other's or maybe even greater. Thus the socialist kind of distribution is not fair or at least not wholly fair. And we hope that some day the communist society will rectify this injustice.

Linking wages to work norms is naturally a socialist formula. A worker with more ability and more strength — and often the one with strongest determination — can earn more, of course. But there's always an element of imbalance somewhere. Some men have more aptitude for a particular thing, more skill,

more strength, more endurance than others.

We have to resort to material incentives, because it's a strategy inherent in the transition from capitalism to communism; in other words, a need imposed by the socialist stage. I'll never forget how concerned Che was about all these things, his great vocation and dedication and his exemplary attitude in voluntary work. He'd operate a harvester, cut sugarcane, lay bricks or push a hand truck along the docks, because he practiced what he preached and he was always deeply concerned about these questions.

Nevertheless, we've had to adopt a number of specific measures imposed by necessity, by reality. These measures help in many ways, they develop the economy and the development of the economy makes for greater resources, which, in turn, makes for greater possibilities for the development of society and of society's wealth. If there's no wealth there'll be very few things to distribute. That is a reality, and in rectifying its idealistic mistakes the Revolution had the courage to adopt the pertinent measures.

But contradictions do arise. And we must guard against socialist formulas eroding communist consciousness; we must prevent socialist formulas from diverting us from our lofty objectives, our aspirations, our communist dreams. We must prevent ideological indolence and misunderstanding of these truths from diverting us from our goal of developing the communist human being.

If someone works harder so as to earn more, that's a positive attitude and, in a certain sense, it helps and makes for greater production, but it is not a communist attitude. If one works more because one will receive a material incentive, one may be useful and may help to increase production and wealth and contribute to development, but that is not a communist attitude.

Reality imposes its rules and its formulas on society, and it's up to the Party and the UJC to develop consciousness. And, I can assure you that being a Communist will never depend on there being vast wealth to distribute, wealth so vast that there's enough to spare — and I can't imagine such a thing as wealth to spare on a world where the population is multiplying like guinea pigs and the natural resources are finite. No, no one can expect communist consciousness to be based on abundant wealth.

The way I see it, in the development of the communist society wealth and the material base must grow hand in hand with conscience, because it can also happen that as wealth increases conscience diminishes. It is important for young people to give thought to this matter; I'm sure they've already done so and I'm also sure they have wondered about it — for I myself have thought about this and wondered about it often — and I'm convinced that it is not only wealth nor the development of the material base or anything of the kind that is going to contribute to the development of a communist consciousness. Far from it.

There are some countries which are much richer than ours. I shan't make comparisons of any kind, that wouldn't be correct, but we do know of revolutionary countries where conscience was overtaken by wealth, and that can lead to counterrevolutions and things like that. But there may be a great deal of conscience without much wealth.

It's not correct for us to name ourselves, or rather our country, as an example. But I am convinced that in spite of our limited wealth and relatively limited material development, our country has been witness to a vast development of consciousness and that an example of this is found in our people's internationalist spirit. It is very important to understand all these things, be-

cause if we don't understand them we become weaker.

An internationalist consciousness means a complete break with chauvinism, it means combating national egoism, because there isn't an iota of Marxism, Leninism or communism in national egoism.

There have been times when we had to build a road in another county when we were in need of roads in ours, or we built an airport when we ourselves were short of airports. For example, neither Ciego de Avila nor Sancti Spiritus has an airport and yet we have helped to build airports in other countries. Yes, we do make efforts to help other countries and there may be some who wonder why we help others when we are still short of many things. Such an attitude is not a revolutionary attitude but rather one of national egoism.

First of all, internationalism is also a matter of conscience, and it implies doing without many things in order to help

“**A communist consciousness, an internationalist consciousness must be developed. Internationalism is the highest rung of communist consciousness.**”

others who are more in need than us because they are much poorer than us. Of course, there's merit in a poor country's sharing what it has with others, and we, who are an underdeveloped country, share with others some of what we have. I believe that that is a demonstration of internationalist conscience. And I also believe that when internationalist conscience and cooperation cease to exist in the world, the future of the world will be really disastrous.

On other occasions I have spoken of situations affecting the underdeveloped world; for example when I spoke at the founding of the Medical Sciences Detachment. Let us think, for instance, of the situation in Ethiopia, a country with 35 million inhabitants and 125 doctors. I believe it had less doctors than the Isle of Youth. I don't know the exact number of doctors in that municipality, but I do know that many municipalities in our country have more than 125 doctors. So there were fewer doctors in Ethiopia, a country with 35 million inhabitants, than in some of Cuba's municipalities.

If we are incapable of asking our doctors to make an extra effort so we can send ten doctors from a province in Cuba to Ethiopia, or of asking a province to send 20 doctors and another province to send a few others when we know that any province of ours has more, infinitely more doctors than Ethiopia; if we can't ask them to make that extra effort to help us comply with such an elementary duty, then we're really in a bad way.

Well, since an internationalist spirit is to be defended as a principle, I'm convinced that being an internationalist means giving part of what you have and being willing to give it. You must be willing and prepared to give something up in order to do it. Naturally, we would prefer to have even more doctors than we have now, working in the hospitals, making sure that they have their rest period following guard duty, and so on, but part of our medical force is engaged in internationalist missions. Still, we haven't remained idle; all the time we are training legions of new, good doctors.

I said that the principle of internationalism is to be defended for its own sake. Now, let's take a look at the other side of the coin: what would have become of our Revolution and our country without internationalism? (APPLAUSE AND SHOUTS OF "BEING INTERNATIONALIST MEANS SETTLING OUR

DEBT WITH HUMANITY!") How much have we done for others, compared to what others have done for us in so many fields? Hence, the reason for that watchword, to settle our debt with humanity. Beginning with the arms with which we have defended ourselves: how much do you think they're worth? How much is the economic cooperation that is being given us worth?

I don't much like to use this kind of argument because it's not a communist argument. It may be logical, dialectical, but it isn't communist. It does serve, however, to make noninternationalists understand the question a little better; but it's no argument for internationalists.

The argument for internationalists goes like this: help others even if nobody helps us. (APPLAUSE) It's simply a moral duty, a revolutionary duty, a matter of principle, of conscience, even an ideological duty. To contribute to humanity even if humanity has done no-

thing for us. That's what internationalism means! And we must go on developing this internationalist consciousness which has made great progress in our country. I believe there are many examples of it here.

Teachers for Nicaragua

I said that it wasn't wealth alone that created a communist consciousness. Consciousness must be developed by the Party, the Young Communist League and the Revolution itself. And I also said that our modest country had developed a good deal of internationalist consciousness. We're still egoists; we haven't reached the non plus ultra of internationalist consciousness but there's much more egoism in the rest of the world than in us, for I believe that our internationalist consciousness is continuing to develop.

I can give you examples of this. When the call for teachers for Nicaragua was issued I believe that a total of 29,500 teachers answered it, and that was a very difficult job, teaching in the most difficult conditions. And yesterday, when the comrade delegate presented me with an album representing 20-odd albums filled with the signatures of the 92,000 teachers ready to take the place of Francisco de la Concepción, Pedro Pablo Rivera, Bárbaro Rodríguez and Aguedo Morales, who were assassinated while carrying on their duty as teachers in Nicaragua, how would you describe that? (APPLAUSE) Isn't that a demonstration of internationalist consciousness? Could anyone doubt it?

How did this spirit grow? Was it by accident, perhaps? No. It was the Revolution that created this spirit, it was the Party, it was the Young Communist League. Needless to say, wealth had nothing to do with it. It was the result of political work, of ideological work, of revolutionary work, of example. It wasn't necessary to be richer than the United States to have an internationalist consciousness.

A communist consciousness, an internationalist consciousness must be developed; as someone said here — I believe it was Landy [Luis Orlando Domínguez], paraphrasing Che — internationalism is the highest rung of communist consciousness. Che said "the highest rung of the human species." Landy said "the highest rung of communist consciousness."

Continued on next page



Militant/George Johnson

th are the guarantee of revolutionary

Continued from previous page

And this is the truth, because every internationalist is a full-fledged communist. Only a communist can be an internationalist. In fact, we could say that it's impossible to be a communist without being an internationalist. This will give you an idea of how important these questions are in the development of consciousness, of their importance in the development of voluntary work among the youth, bequeathed us as a priceless treasure. (PROLONGED APPLAUSE)

Lust for gain

Mention was made at this Congress of the lust for gain, and I think it was an important thing to do. I mean lust for gain on the part of some professionals, and certain highly telling examples were given, like the case of an engineer, an architect, or whatever, trained by the Revolution, privately practicing his profession and charging exorbitant fees to workers for drawing up simple plans for home repairs.

A citizen comes to the city hall and is asked to present a plan for his house repairs. An urbanization office or what have you, asks for a little plan. The man charges 800, 900, 1000 pesos for drawing up a little plan. That's robbery being committed by a technician trained by the Revolution, who possibly even works in some enterprise or agency here. I think that's prostitution of the whole concept of self-employment. (APPLAUSE)

Prostitutions of this sort have occurred in connection with various initiatives, various measures adopted to meet this or that need, or owing to an effort made to improve services, or to release manpower needed elsewhere — moves that have immediately been seized upon by poor-spirited and selfish individuals to devalue the original idea; and many things have been devalued here, thanks to the collaboration of many people.

It's repugnant to find out about such cases. Earning thousands of pesos in a few days. Any administrator willing to contract for a group of technicians, a group of qualified workers, anybody, earning thousands of pesos is simply a corruptor of others and is himself corrupted. (APPLAUSE)

We even had these cases involving Party members. What are things coming to? On the one hand struggling for higher consciousness and on the other destroying it.

But there's a sort of chain of events here. For if good ideas foster other good

I think no one will be granted permission to carry out these activities any more. Let those who graduated before the Revolution live according to the way they were trained. They haven't particularly incurred any debt. But the standards for those who graduated under the Revolution ought to be different.

Our doctors gave up private practice a long, long time ago. And we have a lot of prestigious doctors who could be earning ten thousand pesos in a capitalist country anywhere and yet here they are, earning a modest socialist salary working for our people. These are good examples. (APPLAUSE) And I think that was in part what Tony [Pérez Herrero] meant when he spoke yesterday on ideological questions, on the need to strengthen our youth so that bourgeois ideology could exert no influence on them.

Because, of course, it goes without saying that under capitalism a prominent person like that earns tons of money. That's why a revolutionary consciousness, a communist consciousness, an internationalist consciousness is so necessary, if one is to work for one's own people for less money, under more modest conditions, under harder conditions. That's the sort of technician, that's the sort of revolutionary, that's the sort of Communist we want to train. (PROLONGED APPLAUSE)

More powerful than money

We don't compete with Yankee imperialism in the matter of money, with the capitalists who have piled up huge wealth exploiting peoples and exploiting workers. They make off with the most talented people everywhere to achieve technological development and technologies of which the underdeveloped countries are deprived. Yes, they have money.

But we have something more powerful than money and that is conscience. (APPLAUSE) That's why the Communist is more powerful than the capitalist, because a Communist isn't for sale, a Communist has a conscience while a capitalist has money, nothing but money, he has no country. His country is where he can make the most money. Capitalism by nature has no country, it goes where it can earn more.

The Communist is basically an internationalist, but also a patriot. He fulfills his internationalist duty wherever necessary, and he fulfills his communist duty towards his own people. That is the kind of person we want to form. The

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We have something more powerful than money and that is conscience. That's why the Communist is more powerful than the capitalist, because a Communist isn't for sale.
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ideas, bad things can foster, on the other hand, other bad things. It's clear that really any technician here who gets a job from the state, who has the chance of using his skills properly, should not be entitled to do such things. That's not a socialist formula for solving the problems.

A socialist formula would be to have People's Power or someone else set up bureaus, or groups or offices of architects, for example, so that they can help a worker who needs to repair his home.

Socialist vs. capitalist formulas

We must search for socialist formulas rather than capitalist formulas to solve problems, because before we even realize it they corrupt us, contaminate us, just as Landy said in yesterday's session concerning the things that contaminate us and contaminate our consciousness.

Virtue must be nourished but vice springs up spontaneously like weeds and grows by itself. We must bear that in mind. If we do otherwise, while nourishing virtue we are simultaneously paving the way for vice. We must use socialist formulas rather than capitalist formulas in all these matters. That's a reality and we mustn't lose sight of it.

young people must undertake this mission, they have an opportunity to form people like that with that kind of conscience.

That is why what was said about the lust for gain was quite right. And it should not be limited merely to professionals, because another initiative around which speculation and profiteering developed was the farmers' markets, you know? It was a capitalist formula because that is a capitalist formula, one that takes into account the fact that there are still many small private farmers, the fact that there had been some under-the-table dealings, and in order to develop production of some things which the state, the big specialized agricultural firms, do not usually produce, or to put more things onto the market, such as the things that were being sold under the table or used for individual consumption, or to get the farmers to work a little harder, such markets were authorized.

Well then, right away a host of middlemen popped up, who didn't produce anything and would buy up and hoard products that in many cases should have been sold to the state for normal distribution. There was one individual who had 50,000 bananas. Imagine, 50,000



Cuban Young Pioneers

Militant/George Johnson

bananas stored away, in a warehouse of a Party member.

So we had a free farmers market. It was a concession we made, to cope with particular problems. We will have to tackle all this in discussions with the farmers to see what measures can be taken. In one year they earned 200 million pesos and paid only 40,000 in taxes.

I think that year's taxes should have been at least 100 million, and since they sell at high prices and earn more than they would by selling to the state, and sometimes things which should have gone to the state end up on the free market, it would be good if that money could go for hospitals, schools, the Pioneers, vacation programs and things like that. (APPLAUSE)

We will allow the free market to continue with strict respect for established regulations, but there will have to be significant taxes.

Here 100 percent of the milk comes from state farms and it is distributed to the people. Practically all. And it's the same with eggs, chicken and pork, nearly all the meat which is distributed to the population and produced efficiently. We don't produce more because we haven't the means. At present we can't produce turkeys to be able to distribute turkeys all over the country, a turkey a week, or what have you, who knows how many would be needed?

So what happens is that somebody sells a turkey at the market for 100 pesos. He has modest quantities of things which the state does not produce on a large scale, not for lack of efficiency but because it lacks the means, because everything it has goes into the production of key foodstuffs which are distributed to the people at low prices and in many cases subsidized.

Socially just distribution

Of course he doesn't sell eggs for 20 centavos because the state sells all the eggs anybody could want for much less. Who knows how much longer some basic products will have to be rationed; we're trying to do away with rationing as much as possible because rationing is a real nuisance, but we'd be in a fine state if we were to distribute meat on a price basis, because this new bourgeoisie would buy it all up and the worker would go without.

If we were to do as is done in some parts of Europe and put meat on the free market at 10 pesos a pound there would be more than enough meat. But such a policy with an essential item would be wrong, and we are seeking socially just distribution. Capitalists solve everything on a price basis, but socialists don't. So when there isn't enough of something there is speculation. Well

then, it's right that the free market should be authorized for certain reasons, in pursuit of certain goals.

But I can't conceive of a real Young Communist, not a professional, a Young Communist, selling chickens at 15 pesos or garlic at a peso and bananas at 80 centavos on the free market. Speculating and bringing bananas from hundreds of kilometers away, imagine! I wonder how many people he bribed along the way to get them here and have a warehouse of bananas. No, the free farmers market is undoubtedly a capitalist method of solving problems.

Well, I hope these problems won't last forever. I hope that this situation will come to an end, with the development of socialist agriculture and of the cooperative farms and the disappearance of this speculative and nonproductive minifundist farming.

'Let's speak frankly'

That's the way things stand. Let's speak frankly. I believe it's much better to speak frankly and let everybody know that we know what's going on and that we don't like it at all. That's the truth. That's no way to develop Communists or communist farmers.

Unfortunately, there's always a shortage of something. Now then, how are we going to solve this problem? The capitalist way? I believe that the solution is to be found in local enterprises, in socialist formulas. It doesn't have to be a question of centralization or national planning, but rather of an initiative of local branches of People's Power — for example, opening a factory to make those closepins or clotheshangers, instead of some character finding out that there are no clotheshangers and deciding to make them himself and sell them in some city corner at a price ten times higher than their real value.

When a person sells chickens for 15 pesos, even if he did raise them, that person is making more money in several weeks by selling a few chickens than a worker makes in a whole year. Really. And that's just plain robbery. If at least this person would stick to selling chickens to other lumpen elements. . . . And that can happen too. A sort of lumpen class grows up, they trade among themselves and charge one another excessive prices. (LAUGHTER)

I'm bringing up these topics here because I believe there's no better place than this Congress of the Young Communist League to talk about them. (APPLAUSE) These things concern us all, because they are capitalist manifestations, bourgeois, antisocialist, anticommunist and anti-internationalist manifestations, and they promote corruption.

Continued on next page

U.S. government: outlaw of seas

BY WILL REISSNER

When Cuban President Fidel Castro spoke before the United Nations in October 1979 as head of the Nonaligned Movement, one of the demands he stated concerned the mineral resources in the world's oceans.

"The existing imbalance in the exploitation of the resources of the sea is abusive. It must be abolished!" Fidel declared.

After more than eight years of negotiations, a comprehensive UN-sponsored Law of the Sea Treaty was adopted on April 30. Out of more than 150 countries that participated in the process of working out the treaty, only four voted against its passage. Washington led the opposition.

The Reagan administration's objections to the new maritime law focused on regulations governing the mining of an estimated 1.5 trillion tons of manganese, cobalt, nickel, and copper scattered on the seabed in potato-sized nuggets. Most of these deposits are located in the Pacific Ocean.

At present, four U.S.-based consortia and a French enterprise have a virtual monopoly on the technology needed to mine these deposits. The Reagan administration's vote to reject the sea law was a vote to preserve that monopoly.

The process of writing an international law of the sea began in 1970, when the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the concept that all resources on the seabed lying outside national limits are the "common heritage of mankind."

Based on that concept, the conference initially decided that seabed mining would be regulated by an International Seabed Authority (ISA), which could require mining companies to sell it the technology needed to exploit the deposits.

In 1980, a compromise version of the treaty was worked out, based on a formula proposed by Henry Kissinger in 1975-1976. Under the Kissinger plan, the four U.S. consortia and the French company would be allowed to mine half the seabed sites, and would sell technology to the ISA to allow it to mine the other half. Acceptance of this plan was already a step back from the original view that minerals on the seabed were the "common heritage of mankind."

But in March 1981, the Reagan administration decided it would not settle for half a loaf. It moved to scuttle the treaty in order to preserve the existing imperialist monopoly.

In response to the Reagan administra-

tion's objections, the semicolonial countries, represented by the Group of 77, (which now numbers 120 member countries), made further concessions that would give the existing U.S. and French consortia a virtual monopoly on all mining for at least 20 years, and perhaps several decades longer.

The Reagan administration, however, was not satisfied. U.S. negotiator James Malone explained that Washington's vote against the treaty was based on three objections: the treaty guaranteed the interests of the four existing U.S. consortia, but did not guarantee that other U.S. corporations would also have access to mining sites; the United States and its imperialist allies would not have veto power over the decisions of the 36-member ISA governing council; and the Reagan administration opposes any mandatory transfers of technology.

Despite the U.S. "no" vote, the treaty will go into effect as soon as 60 countries have ratified it. A signing ceremony has already been scheduled for December in Caracas, Venezuela.

The Reagan administration hopes to get around the treaty's provisions on ocean mining by signing separate treaties with Britain, France, and West Germany. These would establish rules for seabed mining by the imperialists and prevent claim-jumping among the signers. Britain and West Germany both abstained in the vote on the Law of the Sea treaty.

But even if the U.S. government cannot get these other countries to go along with such agreements, and even if the United States never signs the Law of the Sea treaty, U.S. corporations could still monopolize the exploitation of these minerals for the stipulated two decades by operating under "flags of convenience."

The U.S. corporations participating in the existing consortia — Kennecott Copper, United States Steel, Sedco Inc., Standard Oil of Indiana, and Lockheed Systems Co. — could set up "foreign subsidiaries" in one of the signatory countries, and the "subsidiaries" could still take advantage of the monopoly accorded them under the treaty.

There was no dispute over provisions fixing maritime territorial limits at 12 miles; guarantees of unrestricted maritime passage through some 100 straits around the world; provisions granting every coastal country an exclusive fishing zone extending 200 miles from its shores; and giving each country exclusive rights to oil, gas, and other resources for 350 miles from its coast.



Oil production in Gulf of Mexico. Washington cast one of four votes against new sea law treaty on use of mineral resources in world's oceans.

Miami groups denounce Cuba travel ban

BY ANDREA BARON

MIAMI — At a well-attended news conference May 8, Miami-area organizations protested the Reagan administration's recently announced ban on travel to Cuba.

The sponsoring groups included the American Friends Service Committee, Antonio Maceo Brigade, Florida Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, Latin America and Caribbean Solidarity Association, National Committee Against Repressive Legislation, and the Socialist Workers Party.

John Ratliff, president of the Latin America and Caribbean Solidarity Association, explained: "This is an attempt by the administration to restrict our rights here at home so they can be unrestricted in their war policy in the Caribbean. . . . The only possible explanation is that it is afraid for the American people to see Cuba first-hand because the myths upon which its Central American policy is based might be exposed for what they are."

Mary-Alice Waters, national cochairperson of the Socialist Workers Party, spoke, having just returned from a two-week visit to Cuba.

She called the ban "an attempt to convince us that we should be willing to go to war against the people of Grenada,

Nicaragua, El Salvador, and other countries in Central America."

"This travel ban is not an isolated move. It comes in the context of everything that is happening in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. It comes in the framework of the escalating struggles of the people in these countries to throw out brutal dictatorships backed by the U.S.

"The U.S. can't admit that the real source of the problems in Central America is the imperialist policy in the region. They have to find some other explanation. So they point to Cuba as the source of the problems.

"But anyone who goes to Cuba will see for themselves that Cuba is not the source of the problems. Cuba shows the way out of the problems that every country in Latin America and Central America faces.

"The Cuban society provides free health care and free education. The standard of living in Cuba today is higher than in any other country in Latin America, despite the tremendous hardships imposed on Cuba by 24 years of a criminal U.S. blockade.

"That is the truth about Cuba. That is the reality that the Reagan administration is trying to prevent ordinary citizens in the U.S. from seeing, understanding, and telling the American people about."

A statement at the news conference by the Antonio Maceo Brigade explained: "The travel restrictions to Cuba . . . only worsen an already tense situation in our hemisphere.

"Recently, officials of the Cuban government announced their willingness to hold conversations with the United States. The Cuban government has also consistently supported the Mexican proposal for conversations among the countries of the Caribbean, Central America, and the United States. The response of the Reagan administration has been the travel ban, insisting on gunboat diplomacy."

Waters said that her trip to Cuba had confirmed that Cuba wants peace in the Caribbean and Central America.

"They have offered over and over to negotiate, but the U.S. has refused. The U.S. response has been maintaining the blockade and now trying to intensify it with this travel ban."

Waters ended the news conference with a call for continued protest. "We urge the broadest and most united response to this attack on our democratic rights, and to the general campaign of the Reagan administration to prepare the American people for the idea that we should be going to war against our brothers and sisters in Central America and the Caribbean."

Castro speaks to revolutionary Cuban youth

Continued from previous page

But such corruption doesn't develop only in the context of these neocapitalist activities. No! It also develops in the context of purely socialist activities as a result of a lack of control, of weakness, of a lack of strict vigilance.

'Operation Crocodile'

"Operation Crocodile." This had to do with the problem of the queue sharks* and the problem with the administrators and employees who allowed themselves to be bribed. There were even tough guys in the queues. But the curious thing is that since we have made great advances in the quality of women, there were tough guys and tough gals, (LAUGHTER) both kinds, lining up in the queues; they grabbed the first places

*Here Castro refers to people who illegally obtain advance information on when some scarce item is to go on sale at a store. They — or people they hire — then line up at the store and buy as much of the product as can be carted away. This aggravates the shortage of the product so it can be sold at a substantial markup on the black market. — *Militant*

for themselves and divided them up among themselves, so any working woman or housewife there who wasn't willing to pick a fight simply couldn't get an electric fan or things like that.

Why did this happen? The answer is lack of vigilance and controls. Those people had simply taken over control of things.

This all proves that not all lumpen elements left the country from Mariel. Some of them are still here. I knew this, it's nothing new, but now it's clear that we still have lumpen elements here, it's been proved. (APPLAUSE) These characters don't work, they just queue up; they really make a living out of robbing the people. They're thieves, unquestionably, no question that they're thieves. They're full-blooded lumpen elements.

Needless to say, I cannot imagine a Young Communist being mixed up in such activities. A law can legalize robbery, as in the case of a turkey being sold for 50 or 80 pesos or whatever it was, or a head of garlic sold for a peso. But no law can condone immoral conduct. And those things are simply immoral, whether or not the law allows

them. And a Communist, a Young Communist simply has to go without some things the law allows him to have, if he wants his conduct to be a moral, revolutionary, communist conduct.

We are not yet living in a communist society and neither do all our citizens observe a communist conduct. That is true. But a Communist must observe a communist code of morals and a communist code of conduct.

To be continued

NEW!
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speaks to trade unionists on
The U.S. War Drive and the World Economic Crisis
30 pages, \$.75

Available mid-June

From Pathfinder Press, 410 West St.,
New York, New York 10014. Include
\$.75 for postage and handling.

Not so dumb — A stamp company is offering starter kits of "Falkland Islands" stamps for



Harry Ring

\$50 to \$150. An ad explains that since Argentina reclaimed the islands these stamps are no longer being issued and may become collectors' items.

What else is new? — New York transit officials announced that half the city's subway cars and most of its buses would have air conditioning this summer, but that much of the equipment might not work.

Social progress — As a result of recession, a slower rate of inflation and a whisker off your federal income tax, you only have had to work from January 1 to May 5 this year to pay your federal, state, and local taxes. Last year it was May 8, according to one tax research outfit.

Nice try — For some reason a federal court didn't buy it, but Continental Seafoods neatly picked up on the recent Supreme Court dictum that victims of racial discrimination have to prove "deliberate intent" to discriminate. Arguing against a ban on importing contaminated shrimp, Continental argued that fecal material, etc., had not been "intentionally" added.

P.S. — Continental lost the battle, not the war. The contaminated shrimp have been re-ex-

ported to countries with even looser inspection standards.

Explanations dept. — We thought the prez was in top form when he explained to a group of Black Chicago high schoolers that the only reason he ordered tax exemptions for Jim Crow private schools was because he didn't realize there were any.

Nothing better — Anne Goresuch, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, recently declared that reliance on free enterprise was

the best way to protect the environment. Like the company that illegally dumped millions of gallons of toxic waste in the New York-New Jersey area and then collected \$3.5 million in public contracts to clean it up. In one case, the "cleanup" consisted of piping it across the road.

What are the pills? — A company is planning to market "Chug-a-can" candy. Candy pills come packaged in a miniature beer can, complete with pop tops and reasonable facsimile labels.

—CALENDAR—

ALABAMA

Birmingham
Reagan vs. Workers' Rights: Defend Antiwar Unionists. Speakers: Alison Beckley, antiwar and union activist, fired by Lockheed-Georgia; Father Steve Edfors, Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador; others to be announced. Slide show on government war on workers' rights. Sun., May 2-3, 7 p.m. 205 18th St. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (205) 323-3079.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles
American Indians: Their Struggle for Land and Justice. An eyewitness account of the struggle in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Speaker: Russell Means, leader of the American Indian Movement. Traducción al español. Sat., May 22, 7:30 p.m. 2546 W Pico Blvd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (213) 380-9460.

Demonstrate at Fundraising Dinner for Reagan. Mass, peaceful rally for peace, justice, equality, and jobs. Tues., May 25, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Century Plaza Hotel, Century City. Ausp: Greater L.A. Labor-Community Coalition; Federation for Progress. For more information call (213) 462-6243 or 743-8289.

San Diego
Labor Unionists: How Can We Challenge Company Takebacks? Speakers to be announced. Sat., May 22, 7:30 p.m. 1053 15th St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (714) 234-4630.

GEORGIA

Atlanta
Reagan Vs. Workers' Rights. Speakers: Mel Mason, independent candidate for governor of California; Tom Fiske, Lockheed worker, member of International Association of Machinists Lodge 709; Sidney Colbert, shop steward, Teamsters Local 528; Martha Gaines, president, Atlanta ACLU. Sat., May 22, 7:30 p.m. Martin Luther King Community Center, 449 Auburn Ave., Room 252. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

Grenada: Black Revolution in the Caribbean. Two meetings with Dessima Williams, Grenadian ambassador to the OAS. Fri., May 28: 10 a.m., GSU Student Center, Room 463; 7:30 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church, 265 Washington St. Ausp: National Black Independent Political Party; Atlantans Concerned for Latin America; GSU Black Stu-

dent Alliance. For more information call (404) 658-9137 or 627-7560.

INDIANA

Gary
What Strategy for the New Antiwar Movement? Speakers: Bruce Brackney, Gary El Salvador Committee; Jesse Smith, member of Steelworkers Local 1010, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress. Tues., May 25, 7:30 p.m. Indiana University Northwest. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (219) 884-9509.

KENTUCKY

Louisville
Reagan Vs. Workers' Rights: Defend Civil Liberties. Speakers: Jean Savage, member of International Association of Machinists Lodge 709, fired by Lockheed; Adlene Abstain, organizer, Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Anne Braden, civil rights activist; Victor Rubio, representative of El Salvador's Revolutionary Democratic Front; Corbin Seavers, National Black Independent Political Party. Sat., May 22, 7 p.m. reception, 8 p.m. rally. Lampton Baptist Church, 850 S 4th. Donation: \$2.50. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston
Rally in Defense of the Right to Protest. Speakers: Fateh Azzam, Arab-American University Graduates Association; Harris Freeman, fired from McDonnell Douglas for his political ideas; others to be announced. Sat., May 22, 7 p.m. social hour, 8 p.m. rally. Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St. Ausp: PRDF. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

MINNESOTA

Twin Cities
Statewide Campaign Rally and Banquet. Speakers: Kathy Wheeler, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Minnesota; Bill Onasch, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Sat., May 22, 6:30 p.m. refreshments, 7 p.m. banquet, 8 p.m. rally. 508 N Snelling, St. Paul. Donation: \$5 banquet, rally free. Ausp: 1982 Minnesota Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (612) 644-6325 or (218) 749-6327.

MISSOURI

Kansas City
Stop the Deportations! Speakers: Daniel Torres, Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic Affairs; Dennis Goodden, Attorney; representative of Association of Black Social Workers; Michelle Fields, Young Socialist Alliance. Sun., May 23, 8 p.m. 4715-A Troost. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (816) 753-0404.

St. Louis
The Malvinas Islands Crisis: British Hands Off! Speaker: Greg Zensen, Young Socialist Alliance; others to be announced. Sun., May 22, 7:30 p.m. 6223 Delmar. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 725-1570.

NEW JERSEY

Newark
INS Raids: Attack on All Workers. Speakers: Angel Dominguez, Farm Workers Rights Project, ACLU; representative of Socialist Workers Party. Fri., May 21, 7:30 p.m. 11-A Central Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant

Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Manhattan
Puerto Rico and Disarmament, Militarism and the Caribbean. Speaker: Jorge Rodriguez Berouff, professor at the University of Puerto Rico, director of Research Project on Militarism in Puerto Rico. Fri., May 28, 8 p.m. Taller Latinoamericano, 19 W 21st St., 2nd floor. Donation: \$3. For more information call (212) 989-6820 or 741-3131.

OHIO

Cincinnati
Reagan vs. Workers' Rights: Stop Government and Big-Business Attacks on the Labor Movement! Speakers: Al O'Connor, president, International Association of Machinists District 34; Sarah Gardner, president, Cincinnati Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Tim Burke, vice-chair, Hamilton County Democratic Party; Art Slater, education director, Cincinnati NAACP; Jean Savage, member of International Association of Machinists, fired by Lockheed-Georgia. Sun., May 23, 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. rally. IBEW Local 212 Meeting Hall, 1216 E McMillan. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (513) 751-2636.

Cleveland
Reagan Vs. Workers' Rights. An Evening to Protest Witch-hunting in the Workplace. Reception for Barry David, member of International Association of Machinists, fired by McDonnell Douglas. Sat., May 22, 7 p.m. Cleveland State University, 22nd and Euclid, 2nd floor lounge. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (216) 579-9369.

OREGON

Portland
Americas in Transition. Film on U.S. role in Central America, narrated by Ed Asner. Sun., May 23, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

TEXAS

San Antonio
Britain vs. Argentina: Behind the Malvi-

NEW YORK

New York
Rally to Launch Socialist Workers Party Campaign. Grand Opening of New Campaign Headquarters. Speakers: Diane Wang, SWP candidate for governor; Steve Wattenmaker, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Sat., May 22, 6 p.m. reception, 7:30 rally. 79 Leonard St. (off Broadway, five blocks south of Canal). Ausp: New York SWP 1982 Campaign Committee. For more information call (212) 226-8445 or 226-8474.

nas Islands War. Speakers to be announced. Traducción al español. Fri., May 28, 8 p.m. 337 W Josephine St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (512) 736-9218.

VIRGINIA

Newport News
Stop Britain's War on Argentina! Speaker: Kibwe Diarra, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., May 22, 7:30 p.m. 111 28th St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party. For more information call (804) 381-0133.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston
Film. Malcolm X Speaks. Sun., May 23, 7 p.m. 1584-A Washington St. E. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party. For more information call (304) 345-3040.

Disarmament and the New Antiwar Movement: What Strategy is Needed? Speakers to be announced. Sun., June 6, 7 p.m. 1584-A Washington St. E. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party. For more information call (304) 345-3040.

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COLORADO

Denver
Jobs Not War. Socialist Workers Party Campaign Rally. Speakers: Alan Gummerson, SWP candidate for governor; Lois Remple, SWP candidate for lieutenant governor; Eileen Thournir, SWP candidate for U.S. Congress, 1st District. Guest speakers: Robert Cuthbert, ex-GI victimized by army for speaking out against U.S. involvement in El Salvador; Staten Fuller, president of Denver Student Board of Education; Kiko Martinez, activist lawyer fighting frame-up. Sat., May 22, 7 p.m. Executive Tower Inn, 1405 Curtis St. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (303) 534-8954.

Viet vet freed in shooting of foreman

BY JON HILLSON

CHICAGO — Arguing that war-related "delayed stress" caused him to shoot his auto plant foreman, a Black Vietnam veteran won acquittal on attempted murder charges here May 4.

Jearl Wood, a 31-year-old Marine combat veteran, was found not guilty by reason of insanity of all charges stemming from the August 22, 1981, shooting of Cecil Herrell, his foreman at the Chicago Heights stamping plant. Wood turned himself in after the shooting. Foreman Herrell was widely viewed by United Auto Workers union members at the plant as a notorious racist, and was the focus of several union grievances. Herrell had particularly harassed Wood, a fact known by his co-workers.

Wood was fired by Ford from his job after the shooting. Even with the acquittal, he remains jobless.

The jury accepted the defense put forward by Wood's attorneys: that he was suffering from a delayed reaction to combat stress suffered in Vietnam a decade ago.

Wood's case was publicized by a local defense committee in which UAW activists and members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War played an important role.

Barry Romo, a national coordinator of VVAW, told the *Militant* the victory in Cook County Superior Court was a "landmark case in Illinois."

While Judge George Marovich sided with prosecution efforts to keep the "broader issues" of the Vietnam War out of the trial, Romo said, "it was pretty evident the war had a big impact on the jury."

The eight men and four women who acquitted Wood included two Blacks.

Grenada May Day defies U.S. war 'games'

BY BAXTER SMITH

ST. GEORGE'S — Thousands of Grenadian workers and farmers, clad in bright T-shirts of their various unions, marched and rallied here May 1 in the annual commemoration of International Workers Day.

Arriving from each of the six island parishes by car, bus, and truck, the demonstrators assembled outside Otway House and marched to the rally site in Queen's Park. Otway House is the headquarters of the Seamen's and Waterfront Workers Union (SWWU) and is named after George Otway, a founding member of the Grenada Trade Union Council (TUC).

The Bank and General Workers Union copped the prime minister's trophy this year by pulling out the largest percentage of its membership.

Other contingents came from the Commercial and Industrial Workers Union, the Public Workers Union, the Technical and Allied Workers Union, the Grenada Union of Teachers, the Agricultural and General Workers Union, the Taxi Owners and Drivers Association, and the SWWU. All of these unions are affiliates of the TUC.

Contingents also came from the Productive Farmers Union, which is the organization of small- and medium-sized farmers, and from the Cuban construction workers, doctors, and other Cuban personnel here helping in the building of the revolutionary process.

Present at the rally were numerous heads of labor and political organizations from around the Caribbean.

Jeanette Du Bois, the recently-elected president of the TUC, saluted the growth in unionization since the May 13, 1979, revolution.

It is estimated that 80 percent of workers are now unionized, compared to 30 percent prior to the revolution.

In the feature address Prime Minister Maurice Bishop blasted U.S. military maneuvers taking place in the Caribbean. Helicopters and planes from ships some forty miles from here may be seen flying near Grenada, Bishop warned. But if they start any shooting or other fighting, he promised, "we gon' bust

they backsides."

The prime minister also announced the recent passage of three pieces of legislation to benefit workers. These include a new Workmen's Compensation Act, which will increase insurance coverage to workers injured on the job; a law upping the amount of coverage victims of bus accidents receive; and a new Rent Restriction Act.

The new rent law requires all rents to be approved by a board elected of workers and representatives from the mass organizations. Under the provision, renters may be eligible for a rent rollback and are protected against eviction. It also requires landlords to maintain upkeep on properties or have the cost of such upkeep deducted from renters' costs.

How a revolutionary gov't curbs prices

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada — Prices are on everybody's mind, especially working people's. Spiralling inflation and the resultant decline in buying power is a prime misery affecting workers all over the world. But the revolutionary government here, by enforcing a price-control system and by asserting its control over areas of marketing and importing, has helped remove much of the sting Grenadians face.

"This government is consumer-oriented," says Algernon Antoine, who is controller of supplies in the Ministry of Trade. "The consumer comes first."

Evidence of this can be seen by anyone walking into one of the supermarkets around the island. On the wall is a large poster, a government price schedule.

This schedule lists prices for certain foodstuffs, dry goods, garments, drugs, hardware, and other merchandise. Merchants are not allowed to charge more than the price listed. Violators face a fine and/or imprisonment.

Price controls existed here prior to the March 13, 1979, revolution that ousted U.S.-backed despot Eric Gairy.

The New Jewel government has trebled the fines violators pay, and doubled the length of jail terms they face. As a result, according to Antoine, "there have not been too many violators."

Government price-control inspectors monitor businesses to ensure they comply with the regulations. These inspectors are assigned to 10 districts around the island. They are rotated systematically to nip any cozy relations business-



Militant/Flax Hermes
Members of Agricultural and General Workers Union march in St. George's, May 1.

men may try to develop with them.

Antoine explained that there is also a "direct relationship between the people and the price-control system." Consumers sometimes blow the whistle on profiteers.

The printed price schedule generally comes out monthly and there are periodic radio releases alerting the public to a schedule change.

Merchants who cry that their import costs require a price increase must prove this to ministry officials, who check this thoroughly — including with sources in the exporting country — before any change is made.

Some merchants here have been grumbling that the government is exerting too much control over importing and the marketing process.

The Ministry of Trade recently issued a directive requiring licenses for imported items. This will increase the government's knowledge of what items are brought in, at what price, and so forth. Previously, merchants could import almost anything they wanted, and put virtually any price tag on it without being accountable to the government.

Cuthbert Nixon is the imports manager in the Marketing and National Importing Board (MNIB), a state enterprise. He explained in an interview how the government has been able to keep prices low on certain import items by purchasing on yearly contracts and by eliminating the take of middlemen.

Cement, rice, and sugar are presently imported from Cuba, Surinam, and Guyana.

Nixon explained that after the government stepped into the importing

field and eliminated fictitious invoicing, contrived shortages, and other tricks of the trade merchants employ, "the cost of living on this island dropped a hell of a lot."

December 1981 figures show that a 94-pound bag of cement sold in St. Lucia for \$14.30; in St. Kitts for \$18.97; in Dominica for \$22.50; and in Montserrat for \$19.50. In Grenada, a 110-pound bag sold for \$14.30. (All prices are in Eastern Caribbean currency. One EC dollar equals US\$0.38.)

Figures for rice and sugar show equally that, as Nixon described it, Grenada is "way down on the list."

Nixon explained how the government's role in importing has now eliminated shortages through planning. "One or two persons can no longer mess up the whole market," he said, as was possible when the importation of cement, rice, and sugar was in private hands.

The MNIB also has a produce division that buys fruits and vegetables from farmers. This produce is exported or sold in St. George's at prices sometimes one-half or one-third of those found in the privately operated outdoor vegetable stalls and food stores.

Plans are in the works to set up MNIB retail outlets in other parts of the island to sell produce.

The MNIB obtains produce from state and private farms, and cooperatives. Its largest overseas market is Britain.

Although it would be desirable, the MNIB cannot presently handle all the produce farmers grow. But in the meantime it has been advising them about what crops to plant and how much the board can take from them.

To our subscribers

With this issue we have updated our sorting procedure for second-class mailed subscriptions. It is our hope that subscribers will receive the *Militant* faster. Please let us know if this improves delivery time.

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High stakes in California ballot fight

A fight of national importance is under way in California over the right of working people to run for office and participate in politics.

Powerful forces are involved on both sides of this battle.

Mel Mason, a Black city councilman in Seaside, California, and a unionist, is fighting for the right to run for governor as an independent, working-class candidate. His supporters are mobilizing for a massive effort, beginning June 7, to collect 160,000 signatures to place Mason's name on the November ballot.

On the other side of this fight are the businessmen and big landowners — and their representatives in the Democratic and Republican parties — who are trying to make it as difficult as possible for Mason to campaign for office and get on the ballot.

Mason's support is shown by the fact that in a two-week period, 22,000 California residents signed petitions to place his name on the ballot.

The support is broad. Those eager to sign his petitions or otherwise help the campaign have included Blacks, youth, GIs, unionists, Latinos, farm workers, women, students, prisoners, and others.

This backing is particularly strong in Seaside, where two years ago, in a rejection of Democratic Party politics, a significant section of the Black community elected Mason to the city council. Mason is a leader of the Socialist Workers Party.

The support rests on Mason's working-class program:

- End the U.S. war against the people of Nicaragua, El Salvador, and the rest of Central America and the Caribbean. Hands off Argentina. No draft. Free speech for GIs.

- Dismantle the U.S. nuclear and "conventional" arsenal.

- For a crash program to create jobs by eliminating the war budget and using the funds to put people to work building schools, hospitals, and housing.

- Stop the racist, antiunion immigration raids of factories and fields. No to deportations. No to the Simpson-Mazzoli anti-immigrant bill in Congress.

- Restore all cuts in social services and expand these services. For full unemployment benefits at union scale for as long as a worker is jobless. Against all cutbacks in affirmative-action programs. Restore and extend bilingual education programs.

- Stop plant shutdowns and layoffs. Open the books of companies that threaten to close down. Nationalize corporations that refuse to stay open, and place them under the management of a publicly elected board, with workers in the plant having control over job conditions, health, and safety.

- End the water and land ripoff by corporate agribusiness. No to the Peripheral Canal scheme, which would hurt small farmers in California.

- For busing to achieve desegregation. For an end to police brutality. Defend and extend the Voting Rights Act.

- For legal, safe abortion. For ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

- Shut down all nuclear power plants immediately.

This is the kind of program a workers and farmers government would carry out, Mason explains. Instead of putting profits first, as the current capitalist government does, a workers and farmers government would act in the interests of all the oppressed and exploited.

To fight for such a government working people need their own political party, a labor party based on a fighting trade-union movement.

Mason points to the National Black Independent Political Party as an example for the labor movement. This party was formed by activists who came to the conclusion that the Democratic and Republican parties are the enemies of Black people; that Blacks and other working people need a political instrument that is independent of the two-party system and its im-

perialist, capitalist, racist, and sexist policies.

As an elected official Mason has spoken out against U.S. war policy, for Black rights, for the rights of young people. He has used his office to help organize support for striking unionists and to defend Black GIs against racist harassment.

He is helping to organize resistance to cutbacks at Monterey Peninsula College, where he works, and in Seaside.

A coalition of supporters is backing Mason's campaign for governor because he is a positive example of what can be done by a politician who puts the interests of workers and farmers first. His working-class program is setting an example that inspires other fighters.

This example is feared by the employers and their government. To carry out their war in Central America and their war at home against the living standards of working people, they are sharpening their attacks on democratic rights. They want to limit workers' means of fighting back, and try to intimidate militants.

These attacks include the immigration raids that have swept the country and the firing of antiwar unionists in plants with Pentagon contracts.

The attacks directly challenge the right of workers to be involved in politics, in an attempt to intimidate them from seeking an alternative to two-party capitalist rule.

This is the reason for the bipartisan efforts to do away with the Voting Rights Act, to eliminate bilingual ballots, and to stiffen election laws to prevent independent candidates from attaining ballot status.

No Democrat or Republican candidate in California, for example, has to collect 180,000 signatures to get on the ballot. Mel Mason does. Even after collecting the signatures, there will be a battle to win a spot on the ballot. In 1980, California Democratic officials threw the Socialist Workers and Communist parties off the ballot despite their fulfillment of legal requirements.

No Democratic or Republican in California has to fight for a leave of absence from their job to spend full time campaigning. Mel Mason does. The Monterey Peninsula College Board of Trustees has turned down his request for a leave, in flagrant collusion with statewide efforts to block the Mason campaign.

The official harassment of Mason and his supporters is getting federal help. On May 7, when Mason arrived at the Detroit airport to attend a meeting of the National Black Independent Political Party, federal agents searched him for drugs in a calculated frame-up move.

The employers and their two parties have launched their attacks on the Mason campaign because they know the stakes are high. This campaign can inspire those who, in growing numbers, are seeking an alternative to capitalist rule, those who want a government that represents them.

The stakes are also high for working people. The attacks on Mason are attacks on the right of every worker to speak out on foreign and domestic policy, to participate in politics, to run for office. As such, the fight to get Mason on the ballot is a union fight, an antiwar fight, a Black rights fight.

Messages supporting Mason's right to be on the November ballot should be sent to March Fong Eu, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Messages to demand that Mason be granted a leave of absence should be sent to the Board of Trustees, Monterey Peninsula College, 980 Fremont Blvd., Monterey, California 93940.

We urge all *Militant* readers to join this campaign, to come to California in June to help get out the word about the Mason program to millions of Californians and others, to convince them there is a socialist alternative to the capitalists' program of war and unemployment, of racism, sexism, and repression.

underscores the fact that the fight against the nuclear threat can't be separated from the fight against the real wars where Washington and its allies can use nuclear bombs.

The task facing U.S. labor and antiwar activists is to sound the alarm and explain the stakes involved in the wars Reagan has dragged us into in Central America and the South Atlantic. The activities leading up to June 12 provide a good opportunity to explain that the fight for peace in the United States starts with opposition to the wars our government is waging right now.

'We say Malvinas, not Falklands' — Che Guevara

The following is an excerpt from a speech by Che Guevara given in 1961 at a meeting of the Organization of American States. It has been taken from the book *Venceremos! The Speeches and Writings of Che Guevara*.

It is necessary to explain what the Cuban Revolution is, what this special affair is that has made the blood of the empires of the world boil, and has also made the blood of the dispossessed of the world — or at least of this part of the world — boil, but with hope.

It is an agrarian, antifeudal, and anti-imperialist revolution, transformed by its internal evolution and by external aggressions into a socialist revolution, and it so proclaims itself before the Americas; it is a socialist revolution.

It is a socialist revolution that took land from those who had much and gave it to those who worked on that land as hired hands, or distributed it in the form of cooperatives among other groups of persons who had no land to work, not even as hired hands.

It is a revolution that came to power with its own army and on the ruins of the army of oppression; that

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

took possession of this power, looked round about, and undertook systematically to destroy all of the previous forms of the structure maintained by the dictatorship of an exploiting class over the exploited class.

It completely destroyed the army as a caste, as an institution, but not as men, except for the war criminals, who were shot, also in the face of public opinion of the hemisphere, and with a very clear conscience.

It is a revolution that reaffirmed national sovereignty, and for the first time raised the issue, for itself and for all countries of the Americas and for all peoples of the world, of the recovery of territories unjustly occupied by other powers.

It is a revolution with an independent foreign policy; Cuba comes here to this meeting of the American States as one among many Latin American countries; it goes to the meeting of the nonaligned countries as one of their important members; and it sits in on the deliberations of the Socialist countries and these look upon it as a brother.

It is a revolution with humanistic characteristics. It feels solidarity with the oppressed peoples of the world; solidarity, Mr. Chairman, because, as [José] Martí also said, "A true man should feel on his cheek the blow against the cheek of any man." And every time an imperial power enslaves any territory, it is striking a blow at all of the inhabitants of that territory.

That is why we fight, indiscriminately, without asking questions about the political system or the aspirations of countries that are fighting for their independence; we fight for the independence of those countries; we fight for the recovery of occupied territory. We support Panama, that has a strip of its territory occupied by the United States. We say Malvinas Islands, not Falkland Islands, speaking of those that lie south of Argentina, and we say Isla del Cisne [Swan Island] when speaking of the island that the United States snatched away from Honduras and from which vantage point it is committing aggression against us by telegraph and radio.

We fight constantly here in the Americas for the independence of the Guianas and the British West Indies; where we accept the fact of an independent Belize, because Guatemala has already renounced its sovereignty over that part of its territory; and we fight also in Africa, in Asia, anywhere in the world where the powerful oppress the weak, so that the weak may gain their independence, their self-determination, and their right to govern themselves as sovereign states.



Che Guevara

Stop U.S. war against Argentina

Continued from Page 1

Alarmed by the bellicose statements of the Reagan administration, on June 12 thousands of working people will rally for peace and against nuclear weapons in front of the New York headquarters of the United Nations and in other cities.

But for this outcry for peace to be effective, it must focus on the real shooting wars Washington is carrying out.

Press reports say the British armada near the Malvinas is carrying nuclear weapons and is authorized to use them if faced with "grave circumstances." This

Vietnam War veterans will be silent no longer

BY COBEY McCARTHY

A recent article in the *New York Times* reported a story about UN ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick at a meeting of one of the veterans' organizations.

Toward the end of this meeting one of the vets asked our ambassador if the U.S. was getting involved in another Vietnam via El Salvador. Kirkpatrick, like most of our big-business politicians, not only denied the accusation but went out of her way to change the subject.

But the politicians are not the only ones involved in this deception. The major media sources in this country continually tell us that El Salvador is not another

AS I SEE IT

Vietnam and there is no comparison between the two countries.

But unfortunately for our lying politicians and media sources are 3 million Vietnam vets who know the truth. More of us have decided not to remain silent any longer. Not only have we decided to explain what is really happening in El Salvador but also to organize ourselves and others in actions that will prevent another war.

In this way we can show others how the much-publicized land-reform program in El Salvador is the same one that failed in Vietnam. We know that election results can be manipulated by forcing people to the polls with threats of violence. And it doesn't matter who wins, it will still be the military that rules from the background.

We also know that there is no such thing as non-combatant military advisers in the field, and that they are just the first of many more.

We also know what purpose the intelligence destroyers off the coast of Nicaragua serve. We can see that any day now, the Gulf of Fonseca will be realized for what it really is, another Gulf of Tonkin.

Vets can explain fully what further involvement in

this war will lead to. Thousands of lives physically and mentally lost or maimed on both sides. The massive bombing raids that destroy village upon village and scar the land with so many craters that it literally looks like the surface of the moon and becomes useless for farming.

We can also include the widespread corruption, the heroin trade, and hundreds of brothels that plagued Vietnam — provided of course by our government for its own benefit.

You would learn very quickly why there are so many lies about El Salvador, for few Americans would want to recreate another Vietnam after listening to a veteran.

We are going to remind people that all this misery was endured not for democracy, as we were led to believe, but for the profits of our multinational corporations. Today, however, they realize that their lie has been worn too thin. With their twisted logic that "authoritarian" is better than "totalitarian" they are no longer trying to plead for the defense of democracy. Instead, they wave the banner of "national interest" before us.

But too many veterans, who are tired of fighting for Exxon, Lockheed, General Motors, etc., know better. We will explain how "national interest" is just another way to describe the "interest" that the few at the top receive from the profits of war and imperialism.

There is also another issue that we will bring to the front. And that is the problems that confront the veteran. It's something that is just beginning to be examined. But one fact has become very obvious: life has become a tragedy for many of us.

Our unemployment is over 20 percent and it doubles for combat vets. Almost 10 percent of us are in jail or on probation or parole. Drug abuse and alcoholism are widespread. Twenty-five percent of us suffer from "delayed stress syndrome," which causes severe depression, insomnia, marital difficulties, and irrational behavior — which might explain why we have such high divorce and suicide rates.

And now we are finding out that thousands of us

have potential time bombs ticking inside of us due to Agent Orange exposure. This chemical defoliant, which was widely used in Vietnam, lies dormant inside many vets for years before it starts to destroy. It is known to cause genetic breakdowns, which give the children of vets a 30 percent chance of being stillborn or having birth defects.

It causes severe skin rashes, headaches, liver disorders, and cancer. The reality that we now face is that because of Agent Orange, many of us died in Vietnam and we did not even know it.

And what about the thousands of vets whose careers are limited because of less-than-honorable discharges, often given for trivial offenses that are punishable only in the military?

And for those of us that were discharged with honor, so what? The benefits we are entitled to are totally inadequate in today's economic situation. Very few vets ever completed college because the benefits were too small and for too short a time period. What good is a guaranteed home loan for a house when it's priced out of our reach due to inflation? And job preference for veterans in reality just doesn't exist.

The point that we want to make clear is that if we are involved in another war, not only will another country suffer severely, but also another generation of our youth.

This is why veterans are joining and offering leadership to the growing antiwar movement. Actions such as Dewey Canyon IV — where veterans went to Washington in mid-May to demand our rights and oppose new wars — are a big step forward in countering Reagan's war drive.

Unlike the weapons of destruction that we were taught to use, we will fight back with something more effective: the truth. Using this we will become an important part of the antiwar movement. Together we can fight to prevent another war and begin to aid the victims of the last one.

Cobey McCarthy is a Vietnam vet and a laid-off construction worker.

LETTERS

Malvinas

"Questions and Answers on Malvinas Islands" by Larry Seigle (*Militant*: April 30, 1982) and your coverage of this and other international issues leaves many important questions unasked and therefore unanswered. This is unfortunate since the very thing that makes a socialist paper "in the interests of the working class" is critical Marxist analysis of local and international events that helps us to change the world in the direction of socialism.

Being anti-imperialist *per se* does not make one automatically a progressive, radical socialist. Some countries, for example most Latin American countries, support the Argentine government's invasion of the Falkland/Malvinas Islands from a diplomatic viewpoint. This does not make it necessary for the SWP, as a political party, to follow their diplomatic stand rather than taking a theoretical and analytic position.

Since class struggle is our first consideration, the real interest of the working class should be the most important factor in your analysis.

Some areas to be considered in a socialist analysis of this crisis include the motives of the bourgeoisie of Argentina, Britain, and consider the following questions:

Isn't the motive behind Galtieri's move to distract the working class of Argentina from internal problems since the invasion of the islands occurred just a few days after the largest anti-junta demonstration since 1976? And if Argentina is truly anti-imperialist, why does it support counterrevolutionaries in Nicaragua? Wouldn't an Argentinian victory strengthen the right-wing junta rather than Argentinian militants?

Are the increasing pressures on Thatcher coming from a posi-

tive direction, from our socialist point of view? Why is the U.S. so concerned with Britain's claim that they give up their Argentine ally in their own imperialist conquest in Central America?

Of course, we will applaud a blow to British imperialism if it were brought about by revolutionary forces. But would replacing the source of exploitation from Britain to Argentina change the political climate in the direction of socialism?

The *Militant's* method of basing analysis on international relationships rather than considering the domestic social pressure of the countries involved has harmed its understanding of other situations as well.

By supporting the action of dictator Galtieri, you have downplayed the main reason for Galtieri's move, which is to rally the oppressed Argentinian people behind their oppressors through blind nationalism.

Based on our analysis of the social situation in Argentina, we not only don't consider the military dictatorship of this country as an anti-imperialist force, but we evaluate it as an imperialist agent and ally.

A country which is under the economic domination of imperialists cannot politically and militarily fight against imperialism. The national bourgeoisie has been dead in Argentina for a long time. A socialist revolution has not yet occurred in this country.

We condemn the Argentinian regime for creating unemployment, high inflation, (130 percent), and political strangulation regardless of what it has done in the Malvinas/Falkland Islands.

On the other hand, we have condemned, we do condemn, and we will condemn British imperialism for colonizing and exploiting the wealth of people

worldwide. In condemning the party we do not have to necessarily support the other side.

We look forward to more thoughtful analysis in the future and hope that the *Militant* remains a socialist newsweekly in the true interests of the working class.

*Pam Feldman
for the Socialist Independent
Study Group
Bloomington, Indiana*

Wants subscription

A friend came to my section of the prison and brought with him a copy of the *Militant*. I read it and it is the only paper I've ever known to give the facts about the world situation. If it was in any way possible that I could get you to start sending me issues I would be most humbly grateful. I would like to be fully aware of what's going on out there.

*A prisoner
Missouri*

Going home

This is to let you know I will be going home very soon and you can cut off my *Militant* subscription. Needless to say, I really enjoyed reading the newspaper.

Smile and keep up the good work that all of you are doing.

*A prisoner
Pennsylvania*

'Militant' on TV

I have been reading the *Militant* since 1972. I have been aware of the Socialist Workers Party since 1969. I have often wondered why the SWP has not put the Militant Labor Forum on television. Why not put *Intercontinental Press* service and the *Militant* on TV as a video-



text feature or news program?

When I get out of prison I am going to start a Black TV production company, join the National Black Independent Political Party, and bring it to a wider public. I'd like to do the same for the SWP.

*A prisoner
Tennessee*

The 'Militant' special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. To help out, send your contribution to: Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

Poll on abortion

Driving through the West, I heard a TV report on an interesting poll conducted in the state of Montana on abortion rights.

According to the report, 12

percent of those polled said they were against abortion altogether.

There were 43 percent that favored abortion rights in the case of incest, rape, or where the mother's life was endangered.

The largest number, 44 percent, felt the decision should be left to the woman involved and her doctor.

Despite the forces arrayed against this basic right, and the media campaign denying there is such a right, it's still proving difficult to push back consciousness on a woman's right to choose.

*Priscilla March
New York, New York*

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.

Arizona socialist candidate backs copper miners' fight vs. layoffs

BY BILL JUNGERS

PHOENIX — Of Arizona's 25,000 copper workers, 80 percent are laid off or working reduced hours.

Kennecott, the nation's largest copper producer, laid off 1,800 when it closed its Hayden-Ray works May 2. Phelps-Dodge, the second-largest producer, let go 3,200 in Arizona and 600 in New Mexico April 17 when it shut its mines, mills, and smelters.

The companies claim the shutdowns are necessary because of reduced demand for copper and high labor costs.

Rob Roper, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate, recently went to several mining towns to see what copper workers themselves think about the mine closures.

Roper, 27, is a laid-off foundry worker in Tempe. Like many of the miners he talked to, he is a member of the United Steelworkers union.

Roper and a team of supporters visited Morenci, a Phelps-Dodge company town where 3,000 once worked in the large open-pit mine; Ajo, where Phelps-Dodge has a mine; and Hayden, site of a Kennecott mine.

Workers asked Roper what he thought about the Arizona state legislature's recent decision to lower taxes for the copper companies. Roper noted that in addition to demanding tax breaks, the copper companies are asking for relaxation of environmental controls.

"I'm against cutting the taxes of the copper corporations," he said. "And I oppose any easing of pollution restrictions. Far from cutting taxes, I'm for a 100 percent tax on every copper company that pollutes our environment."

Roper pointed out that the Democratic and Republican politicians favor giving the companies pollution breaks, even though a recent study shows that babies born near smelting towns have birth defects at a rate 2.5 times the state and national averages.

Workers told Roper they expect the copper companies to demand concessions from their unions, as has happened in the auto industry.

"The Republicans and Democrats are backing the copper companies' solution to the layoffs," Roper commented. "The companies tell the workers: 'Give us tax

breaks, breathe polluted air, and give us contract concessions. Then *maybe* we'll give you a job.'

"I condemn this blackmail," Roper said. "I say, No tax breaks, vigorously enforce the environmental regulations, and no union contract concessions."

Roper called for opening the books of the copper companies. "Let's see what the real facts are," he said.

"If they won't keep their mines open, they should be nationalized. It's high time we put the needs of working people ahead of corporate profits."

Roper's proposal for nationalization was well received. "I think that's the only solution," a young Chicano worker said. "We're ready for *something*," said another.

Others, not so sure, responded that the idea was interesting, and that they would give it serious thought.

Some workers asked Roper how nationalization would be carried out. An elected public board could manage the mines, he suggested.

Workers in the industry, he continued, should have control over working conditions, health, and safety.

"But the government will never go for that," some of the workers told Roper.

"You're right," Roper replied. "That's why we need a workers and farmers government. The Republicans and Democrats are both just for big business. Dennis DeConcini [the Democratic Party incumbent and Roper's opponent] received campaign contributions from Phelps-Dodge. Now you tell me how in the hell he can be for Phelps-Dodge and for you, too."

"He can't," was the unanimous reply.

"So what I'm saying," Roper continued, "is why can't we in the union movement get together and form our own party — a labor party — and run our own people for office, people we know and trust, on a program that puts the needs of working people first, not big business."

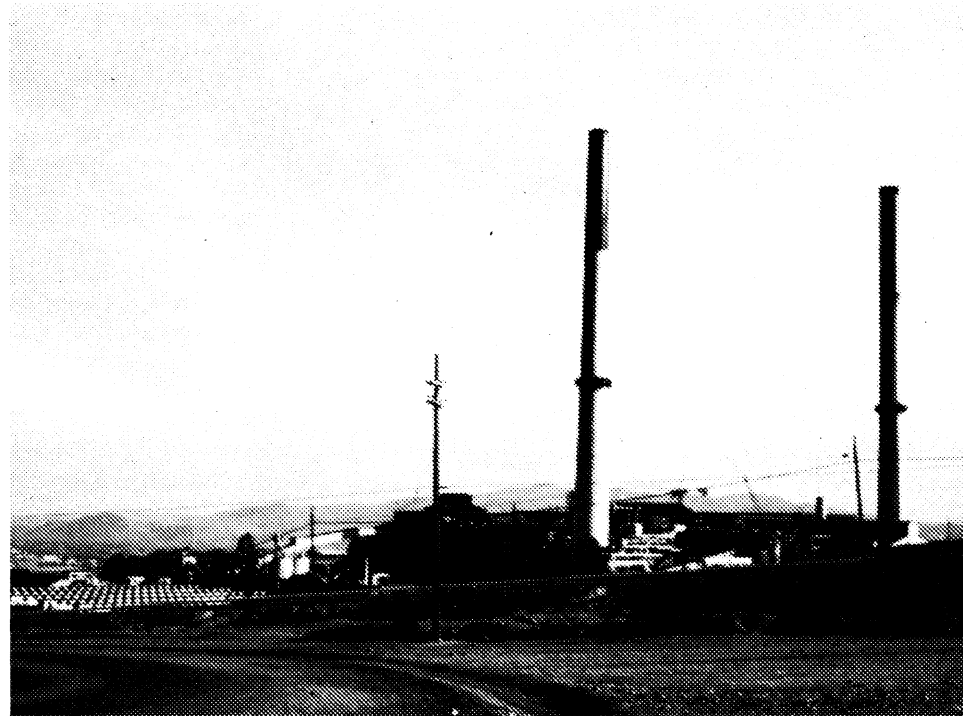
This labor party proposal by Roper met with wide agreement among the workers in Morenci.

Roper was asked to comment on the call by DeConcini for the federal government to buy copper and stockpile it for military use.

He responded: "The government cuts social programs and supports wage cuts while it pours billions into the war budget. They spend our tax money on weapons and aid to dictators in places like El Salvador to kill workers and farmers. I say that money should go to put people to work building things we need."

What we need, he said, is "low-cost housing. We need schools, hospitals, parks, and mass-transit systems. The military budget should be eliminated and used to finance a massive public works program to provide these things."

He added, "We don't need war or nuclear weapons or stockpiles of copper for war. We need jobs."



Shut-down Phelps-Dodge smelter in Morenci, Arizona.

Militant

A Phelps-Dodge company town

BY JIM ALTENBERG

MORENCI, Ariz. — This is a company town. It sits in a desert canyon, surrounded by sagebrush and rock. The giant Morenci mine is right on its edge; the houses and buildings face each other across a deep gulch.

The company store, hospital, and school are in the middle. Every bit of land, every house — everything — is owned by the Phelps-Dodge Co. It is very quiet now, since Phelps-Dodge, or P-D, closed the mine.

Copper miners are among the best-paid workers in Arizona. But Phelps-

Dodge makes sure that it gets those dollars back. There is only one place to shop: Phelps-Dodge Mercantile. Credit is readily granted; it ties the workers to the company.

"They make it real easy," a miner explained. "A guy who's smart will drive to Tucson to buy furniture. But here you just show your company ID and they'll take it out of your check. You pay twice as much."

With the mine shutdown, P-D agreed to cut rents in half and continue to give credit (they cut off credit during the 1980 strike). But when the mine is reopened, workers will have to pay the company back; they will remain in debt for years.

Only P-D can own house in Morenci, and P-D rents only to miners and company officials. When miners are killed in the mine or retire, their homes must be vacated within 30 days, although recently, miners say, the company has been so "lenient" as to allow 60 days.

In Morenci, you're either a miner or from a miner's family, or you're with the company. There is no confusion. This is true of the miners, and also of the mine bosses and their families. Only one woman refused a socialist campaign leaflet, saying, "No thanks, I'm P-D."

There is no doubt about which side the police are on, either. A miner, describing a woman from a local mining family who became a state cop, pointed out, "I don't know what happened to her. She used to be one of us."

Miners and so-called outsiders are routinely harassed by the cops. Meetings of the Steelworkers union used to be held far back in the woods so the cops could not break them up. And while the mine has been organized since 1944, the Steelworkers have no union hall in Phelps-Dodge's town.

Antiwar forces mobilize for June 12

BY NELSON GONZÁLEZ

NEW YORK — "If we really want to talk about disarmament, if we really want to talk about peace, we have to talk about the intervention of the United States in El Salvador. And we have to cry out and say, 'United States out of El Salvador.'"

These words were spoken by Oscar Chacón, a representative of the Farabundo Martí Solidarity Committee, at a conference here on May 15 that drew 200 activists.

The conference was called by the Third World and Progressive People's Coalition (TWPPC). This coalition was formed by Black and other antiwar activists to campaign for turning the June 12 peace and disarmament demonstration called for the United Nations into a massive protest against Washington's war policies, its nuclear buildup, and the social consequences of its war drive for U.S. working people, especially oppressed nationalities.

The demands the TWPPC is using

to build the June 12 action are: "Unconditional U.S. disarmament"; "No U.S. intervention in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean"; "Redirect resources from the military to meet human needs, especially to minority communities hardest hit by the cutbacks."

At the conference a good many of the participants were young people eager to discuss how to build the TWPPC, as well as how to build the largest possible antiwar contingent as part of the fight to make June 12 an antiwar demonstration.

While the majority of people who turned out were white, the significant number of Black and Latino activists on hand were eager to discuss how to get more Black and Latino participation in the TWPPC.

The conference opened with a number of presentations by leading figures in the fight against war.

The first speaker was Dr. Michio Kaku, a physicist from City College and a

prominent figure in the anti-nuclear-weapons struggle.

He explained how the massive nuclear arsenal of U.S. imperialism is held as a club against revolutionary movements in the Third World. "The use of nuclear weapons is like the use of a gun. You don't have to use the gun as a weapon. . . . In threatening the use of the nuclear bomb against Third World countries and demanding that Third World countries back off, this country uses the atomic bomb every day."

Jitu Weusi from the National Black United Front (NBUF) represented Rev. Herbert Daughtry. He began his talk by pointing to the important role that the TWPPC was playing in the fight to push June 12 in an antiwar direction, then explained NBUF's stance.

"Quite naturally we're against these bombs. . . . How these weapons were used to threaten the lives of Third World people in places like Hanoi and South Africa is exactly the reason why we as a

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