

## After June 12: How can we stop the U.S. warmakers?



Israeli bombers rain death and destruction on Beirut, Lebanon.

The following statement was issued by Mel Mason, socialist city councilman in Seaside, California, and independent candidate for governor of California.

The tremendous outpouring for June 12 demonstrates the widespread opposition to war that exists in this country. Hundreds of thousands of us who have thrown ourselves into the struggle against the deadly threat of nuclear war are asking: Where do we go next? How do we wage an effective struggle for peace?

The only possible starting point in charting a course toward peace is to begin with the fact that wars are taking place right now. Wars initiated or actively supported by the government in our country have begun.

President Reagan has given his full support, including military assistance, to the British government's war against Argentina — a war in which hundreds

have already lost their lives. Speaking to the British parliament on June 8, Reagan exclaimed that "On distant islands in the South Atlantic, young men are fighting for Britain. And, yes, voices have been raised protesting their sacrifices for lumps of rock and earth so far away. But those young men aren't fighting for mere real estate.

"They fight for a cause, for the belief that armed aggression must not be allowed to succeed," Reagan hypocritically asserted, "and that people must participate in the decision of government under the rule of law."

Israel, one of Washington's closest allies, is driving deep into Lebanon. The Reagan administration's attitude toward this monstrous war of aggression was made crystal clear when its representative to the United Nations refused to condemn Israel. And Reagan talks about the "rule of law."

Washington is conducting war against Nicaragua. From across the Honduran border, U.S. military advisers and U.S.-financed counterrevolutionaries wage daily raids and battles. Harsh economic measures — especially cruel in light of destructive floods of the past weeks — are part of this effort to try to force the Nicaraguan people into submission.

Already this war is proportionately bigger than the U.S. war in Vietnam in the early 1960s, and it could escalate even more rapidly.

The war against Nicaragua is part of the overall military effort by the U.S. government to halt the extension of the socialist revolution in Central America and the Caribbean. This includes the mounting aid to the bloody dictatorship in El Salvador, which is waging war against the popular liberation fighters there.

It includes the threats against Grenada, where the workers and farmers threw out a hated dictator three years ago, and against revolutionary Cuba, which the warmakers in Washington assert is the "source" of all the "problems" in Central America and the Caribbean.

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## Israeli assault on Lebanon, Syria: an act of murderous aggression

BY ERNEST HARSCH

As the *Militant* goes to press, Israeli ground forces have driven within sight of Lebanon's capital city of Beirut, as the murderous war against the Palestinian and Lebanese people continues to escalate.

The Zionist attacks have also spread to Syria.

In the biggest Israeli-Syrian encounter to date, Israel claimed June 9 that its air force destroyed the Syrian surface-to-air missile system in eastern Lebanon and shot down 22 Syrian planes.

Syrian sources said that Israel also bombed a suburb of Damascus in Syria.

On June 8, Syrian planes met Israeli jets over both Lebanon and northern Israel. Israel claimed that it downed six Syrian planes.

Israel's murderous invasion of Lebanon received aid and comfort on June 8 from Washington. Alone among the members of the United Nations Security Council, the U.S. government vetoed a resolution that threatened Israel with sanctions for refusing to halt its invasion.

On the third day of the invasion, June 8, Israeli tanks and infantry pushed 32 miles into Lebanon, driving northward toward the capital city of Beirut.

The day before, the Zionist army captured Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon, along with several other Palestinian strongholds in the area.

On the coast of Lebanon, several cities, including Sidon and Tyre, came under heavy Israeli bombardment from warships, planes, and artillery.

### 'Human tragedy'

On June 8, the Lebanese representative to the United Nations, Ghassan Tuani, held a press conference at the UN, during that body's Second Special Session on Disarmament.

"The Lebanese Red Cross reports that the Israeli army is shelling and shooting

at civilians, cars, and ambulances of the Red Cross that are transporting blood and medicine to besieged civilians," Tuani said.

"There have been casualties to the Lebanese Red Cross itself. They have been prevented from evacuating the wounded and from taking necessary supplies to the towns and cities. . . . There are thousands of casualties to civilians and they are unable to get to the dead and wounded to know the exact number.

"This is a human tragedy beyond ability to describe."

In light of the massacre in Lebanon, Tuani termed the UN disarmament session "a joke."

"How can you talk about disarmament when three wars are going on?" he asked. "There is a war [in Lebanon]

where people are dying right now."

Iran's foreign minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, was also at the UN attending the disarmament session.

At a news conference, Velayati termed Israel "the usurping racist regime" and "the main source of tension and misery in the area."

Velayati called for a united Islamic front to oppose Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Iranians, he said, "are declaring our preparedness for war against Israel."

Meanwhile, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) charged that the UN "peacekeeping" forces stationed in Lebanon made no effort whatsoever to block the Israeli invasion. PLO leader Yassir Arafat said that the UN forces were in league with the Israelis in an

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## Nonaligned meeting hits war on Argentina

BY MARY-ALICE WATERS

HAVANA — As the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries drew to a close here on June 5, agreement was reached on a strongly

### REPORT FROM HAVANA

worded statement that "deplored the military operations being carried out in the South Atlantic by the powerful military forces of the United Kingdom, supported and assisted by the United States."

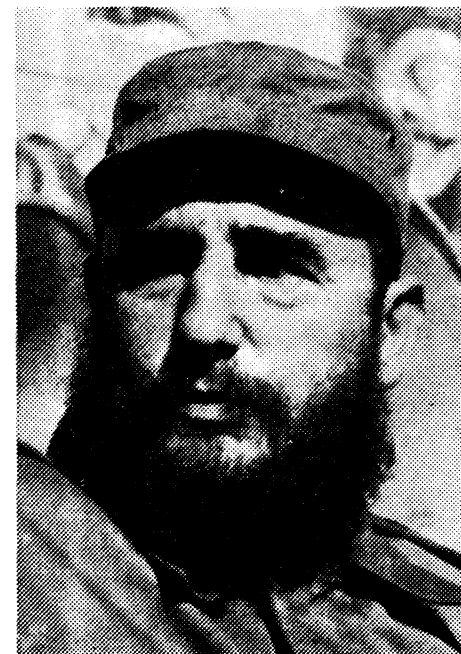
High-level delegations from the governments of more than 90 countries demanded an end to military operations and to "all acts hostile to the Republic of Argentina." Singling out Washington's

role, they demanded "the immediate end of the U.S. support and military assistance" to Britain, while "renewing their support and solidarity with Argentina's struggle to eliminate the colonial presence in the Malvinas Islands."

The final declaration was adopted despite an intense diplomatic effort led by the delegations from Jamaica and a number of other former English colonies that are today part of the British Commonwealth. It constituted a significant blow to the Anglo-U.S. campaign to win support for the brutal imperialist aggression against Argentina.

Since there is every indication that the confrontation over the Malvinas will not end even if the British are successful in militarily retaking the islands, the declaration assumes even greater importance as a stumbling block for the imperialists.

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Fidel Castro

# Nonaligned meeting hits war on Argentina

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The stand taken by the ministerial conference was a victory for the forces within the Nonaligned Movement, led by Cuba, that are waging a struggle to maximize the anti-imperialist unity of the bloc of nations whose populations comprise the majority of humanity.

As Fidel Castro, president of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, explained to the 34th session of the United Nations General Assembly in October 1979, what binds the nonaligned together, what is common to them all, is their condition as oppressed nations suffering from imperialist domination.

Nothing brings this reality home more forcefully than the fate of Argentina. Two months ago its military government was playing a central role in U.S. imperialism's war against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean. Today, that same military junta is being forced to turn to the oppressed and exploited the world over — including Cuba and Nicaragua — appealing for support and solidarity against the powerful Anglo-U.S. military and economic aggression.

Argentine military advisers have been pulled out of Central America, and the Argentine government, which previously was training counterrevolutionary terrorists in Honduras, has now donated 7,000 tons of wheat to flood-ravaged Nicaragua.

The Anglo-U.S. war to seize the Malvinas Islands was the political focus of the week-long conference here in Havana, the high point of which was the address by Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez.

## Argentine minister's address

Costa Méndez, the representative of the Argentine military junta, was forced to emphasize Argentina's common bonds with the other semicolonial countries, and the common interests of the oppressed nations in opposing imperialist banditry. This was the only way that Argentina could successfully appeal for support in the nonaligned movement — a fact that must have been made clear to Costa Méndez shortly after his arrival, when he met with the heads of some of the African delegations. Costa Méndez's uncompromising speech made it nearly impossible for delegations that were resisting adoption of an unequivocal anti-imperialist stand to hide behind the excuse of the Argentine junta's reactionary, proimperialist policies.

After paying tribute to Cuba as "the pride of the Caribbean," and recalling the close economic, political, and cultural links between Cuba and Argentina throughout the history of the two countries, Costa Méndez stated that Argentina stood before the conference of non-aligned countries "confronting quite exceptional circumstances in its life, in order to reaffirm the principles and fundamental aims of this movement."

## 'Colonialism is an act of force'

He traced the history of British colonial possession of the Malvinas, and the acts of aggression against Argentina that preceded the April 2 occupation of the islands by Argentina. Costa Méndez made a stirring appeal to the anticolonialist, anti-imperialist struggles that are the common cause of the peoples of the nonaligned countries:

"Colonialism is an act of force; it is ongoing aggression. It is the opposite of true peace.

"Many peoples, many nations of our movement can testify, often painfully,

to this truth. . . .

"The international community has declared that the maintenance of colonialism is a crime. And this movement, the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, has as one of its historic purposes, one of its fundamental principles, the fight against colonialism, neocolonialism, and all other forms of foreign domination.

"That is why we are here today telling you our truth. . . .

"The struggle against colonial domination continues to unfold, because it has been the peoples' legitimate reaction against the preservation of a system of international relations aimed at perpetuating an illegitimate and unjust status quo that benefits only the colonialist and imperialist powers.

"Force has served to maintain this status quo.

"The great majority of the countries that today form part of this movement gained their independence through struggles similar to the one we are carrying on for the Malvinas today. This was also the way the Argentine Republic and the other countries of America gained our own independence — through a heroic, liberating effort.

"Nor can I fail to recall that nations such as Algeria, India, Cuba, Vietnam, and so many others fought long struggles for their liberation and for their full rights to an independent life.

"It is this struggle as well that the peoples of South Africa are engaged in today against the odious apartheid system.

"The Argentine Republic has always been in solidarity with these principles of the Nonaligned Movement. The Argentine Republic has expressed its total

rejection of the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967. Argentina has recognized the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, independence, and the right to form a sovereign state. . . .

"The struggle of all these peoples has been and is supported by the Nonaligned Movement.

"Might they perhaps have gained independence had they remained submissively respectful of a legal order imposed by the colonialist powers? History answers, and answers roundly: No!"

Costa Méndez's words had the impact intended. They gave a tremendous boost to the fight for unconditional support to Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas, and for its right to defend that sovereignty by any means necessary. This fight was organized by the caucus of Latin American delegations, with Cuba and Nicaragua taking the lead.

As Fidel commented to the Argentine and Cuban press later in the day, following a ceremony in which trade agreements between Argentina and Cuba were renewed, the "statements made by Minister Costa Méndez considerably broadened the support of Third World and nonaligned countries for Argentina."

The extent of the political changes that have already been produced by the imperialist war against Argentina were also noted by Castro in his remarks to the press.

## Rise of nationalist sentiment

"This struggle has given rise to Latin American nationalist and patriotic sentiment such as I have never seen before," Fidel stated.

# Argentina sends flood aid to Nicaragua

BY MICHAEL BAUMANN

MANAGUA — Argentina, itself the victim of an imperialist invasion and economic blockade, has helped set an example internationally by pledging 7,000 tons of wheat to storm-devastated Nicaragua.

"In accordance with the principles of Latin American solidarity, we want the people and government of Nicaragua to know that we will aid you in this emergency, to the extent of our present capabilities," said Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri, head of the Argentine government, in a cable to Managua June 3.

Cuba, Mexico, and Spain are the three other governments that have acted most quickly in response to Nicaragua's appeal for international disaster aid.

At the end of May, the worst rain storm in a century caused some \$200 million in damage to Nicaragua — an amount totaling nearly half the country's yearly income from exports.

Construction workers from Cuba are already at work helping repair and replace major bridges destroyed by the storms. A team of Cuban officials and planners, headed by Vice-premier Raúl Castro, has been touring the country to help the government determine overall losses.

Fidel Castro has personally pledged that Cuba will halt its own construction projects, if necessary, to provide the equipment and trained personnel needed to repair the damage.

Mexico has pledged 175 tons of food and major aid in replanting basic food crops washed out by the rain. The first of a scheduled eight planeloads of food, medicine, and seeds arrived from Mexico June 4. Further shipments are to include 200 tons of a special, fast-growing type of corn, plus 20 tons each of seeds for sesame, rice, and soybeans.

Also on June 4, the first planeload of aid from Spain arrived, bringing seven tons of food, medicine, and blankets. In addition, the International Red Cross has provided 630 tons of food.

All aid sent so far has been put to immediate use. It is, however, a far cry from what is needed. Exact figures are

not yet available, but less than \$500,000 in aid has arrived by the end of May.

The government in the best position to help has done little so far. Total U.S. aid as of June 2 was 40 tons of surplus powdered milk and a miserly \$25,000 in cash. In a public relations gesture, Washington has offered to send its own commission to help assess storm damage.

Commander Tomás Borge pointed out June 4 that if the United States really wanted to help, they could begin by releasing the loans to Nicaragua that the Reagan administration froze last year in an act of economic sabotage against the Sandinista government.

So far, Washington has not even responded to the Nicaraguan government's request that the freeze be lifted on two U.S. loan programs — \$14.7 million in housing aid that could be used to provide temporary shelter for 60,000 flood victims, and \$56 million that could be used to buy food.

Temporary housing is a pressing need, for at present more than 100 of the largest schools in the country are being used to house flood refugees. This makes it impossible for them to be used for normal educational needs.

The storms have "left us poorer" in material goods, Borge said, "but we are still rich in revolutionary dignity." We cannot count solely on international aid to rebuild the country, he added. This is also our own responsibility.

Nicaragua's mass organizations, militia units, and union members are mobilizing each Sunday in volunteer labor projects to repair roads and damaged housing. In the countryside, the Union of Farmers and Ranchers (UNAG) and the Rural Workers Association (ATC) are carrying out an emergency reseeding program.

Longer-term plans for supporting recovery efforts are being spearheaded by the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST), which represents the overwhelming majority of the country's urban workers.

Special "construction banks" are being set up at each CST-organized

"All of Latin Americans have felt the Argentine cause to be our own," Fidel went on. "We have suffered the dead and the fallen in Argentina as if they were our own. Argentina's victory is our victory, and an Argentine defeat would be our defeat. But I am sure it will not be the Argentines who are defeated, even if the aggressors achieve partial success. They have created a very serious conflict, with tremendous, disastrous political implications. In my opinion, Argentine firmness is the key that will decide the victory."

As Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca expressed it in his opening address to the ministerial conference, "The United States' supposed alliance with Latin America against extra-hemispheric attack, the Monroe Doctrine, the Inter-American Mutual Assistance Treaty, and the Organization of American States are dead, awaiting only a funeral oration to be laid away forever."

While the Havana conference discussed at length and adopted positions on struggles going on elsewhere in the world as well, it was this advance of the anti-imperialist struggle throughout all Latin America that more than anything else dominated the deliberations and the mood of the delegates.

Grenada's Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman took note of this fact on the floor of the conference, saying that the Nonaligned Movement is today gaining "new strength and respect." And this is due, he asserted, more than anything else to the political course for the non-aligned being charted under the chairmanship of the revolutionary government of Cuba.

From Intercontinental Press

workplace, to be funded by workers working voluntarily Saturday afternoon and devoting the extra wages to the fund. In addition, the CST has initiated a campaign to have workers donate 2 percent of their wages each month to the national Emergency Relief Fund.

Unions, antiwar groups, church organizations, and individuals in the United States who would like to make clear that the Reagan administration does not speak for them can contribute directly to the disaster fund.

The address is Emergency Relief Fund, Account No. 418-05-1113-2, Banco Nacional de Desarrollo, Managua, Nicaragua.

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Part of crowd at June 6 rally and concert for disarmament. Rev. Jesse Jackson told gathering, "We are not the only nation that ever made an atomic bomb, but we are the only nation that dropped one."

## N.Y. NOW holds forum on women & U.S. wars

BY BARBARA BOWMAN

NEW YORK — Preparations for the June 12 demonstration during the UN Special Session on Disarmament have sparked intense political debate and discussion here. Important new voices were added to this discussion at a June 1 forum titled "Women, Nuclear Disarmament, and U.S. War Drive," sponsored by the program committee of the New York chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Deborah Jamison, coordinator of the Women Against Nuclear Power Task Force of New Jersey NOW, described the awesome U.S. buildup of conventional and nuclear weapons, warning it is not part of an "arms race" with the Soviet Union, but is aimed against the revolutions in Central America and the Caribbean.

Jamison directly linked U.S. military spending to cutbacks in social services, inflation, and unemployment, which disproportionately hurt women.

"All attacks on women's rights, like the defeats of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), attacks on reproductive rights, the gutting of affirmative action; attacks on unions and Blacks, such as the attacks on the Voting Rights Act and on immigrants — these are all part of an overall plan to save a failing economy," Jamison said.

"The offensive is comprehensive and united. Our response also must be comprehensive and united and aimed at the United States government. We must demand no U.S. intervention, no U.S. nuclear weapons, no draft, no cutbacks, no attacks on women, Blacks, and the unions."

A very different perspective was put forward by Denise Fuge, president of NOW-New York.

In her opening remarks to the meeting, Fuge recalled her own earlier involvement in the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War movements. The lessons she had drawn from such involvement is that to be effective in such movements, women had to fight to be in decision-making positions.

She said that today women have only one fight, the fight for ERA ratification. Fuge counterposed this to the struggle against the war policy of Washington.

Women from the Grenadan Women's Organization appealed to North American women to help stop the U.S. government's intervention in their homeland in the Caribbean.

Diane Wang, Socialist Workers candidate for governor of New York, described the gains she had seen women making when she visited Grenada. Wang said, "We have an interest in defending Grenada as a women's revolution."

Esmerelda Brown, a Panamanian

representative of the Women's Division of the United Methodist Church at the UN, said she was attending her first feminist meeting in this country. Brown explained, "The threat for us is not from the Soviet Union, but the United States — in El Salvador, in Guatemala, where all peasants are threatened, and in Nicaragua. We want peace, but, as the Grenadians say, 'Peace with dignity.'"

Barbara Omalati of the Coalition of Concerned Black Women said the necessity of fighting both racism and sexism puts Black feminists in a position to help lead the fight against war.

Commenting on the debate among those who are building the June 12 action, she praised the struggle of the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition (TWPPC) to stamp the demonstration with an antiwar and antiracist character.

"The threat of nuclear war is not the threat of a madman, Reagan . . . but fits into a rational system . . . a system that for 500 years has used military terrorism to conquer the resources of the people of the world," Omalati explained.

"I have noticed the reluctance of many in the peace movement to talk in terms of struggle. They talk of the end of the world, but cannot relate to those struggling to survive day to day."

"The question of peace is not a moral question, it is a political question. Black women cannot rest on just peace. Women of color have taken up arms in Vietnam, Cuba, South Africa, where the threat of nuclear war is real. They are warriors in the peoples' wars and aim to win peace through liberty. The struggle is to build a world where we all will be able to live."

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# 85,000 at Rose Bowl for 'Peace Sunday'

BY JERRY FREIWIRTH

LOS ANGELES — Eighty-five thousand people jam-packed the Rose Bowl June 6 for "Peace Sunday."

Throughout the day, hundreds more arrived at the stadium to take part in the 10-hour disarmament concert/rally that featured some of the nation's top entertainers. The overwhelming majority of the crowd were youth.

The event, which included political speeches as well as music, was sponsored by the Alliance for Survival, Interfaith Committee for the Year of Shalom, Church Women United, Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Los Angeles, and other groups.

Enthusiastic applause greeted Operation PUSH Director Jesse Jackson when he proclaimed, "The peace movement lives again in America."

"We will march until there is no more war and no more weapons," he said. "We're not the only nation that ever made an atomic bomb, but we are the only nation that dropped one."

Petra Kelly, a chairperson of Green Party, a West German political party organized around environmental issues, told the crowd, "You are part of a world movement for peace."

"We have collected three million signatures against the Pershing, Cruise, and ABC missiles in West Germany. Hundreds of thousands plan to demonstrate when Ronald Reagan comes to West Germany on June 10 and 11."

"We are not anti-American," Kelly said. "We are for the other America, the America of César Chávez, the America of Martin Luther King."

Two speakers who captured the mood of the audience were Ed Asner and Ron Kovic. Wild cheers erupted when Asner declared, "I will not be silenced about

the genocide in El Salvador." Asner's TV show, "Lou Grant," was recently canceled following his outspoken statements against the U.S. role in El Salvador.

Kovic, a disabled Vietnam War veteran, told the crowd, "We don't want another Vietnam. The numbers here represent the power to stop a new war."

A number of speakers — including Jane Fonda; Michael Kennedy, son of Robert Kennedy; and Patty Davis, daughter of Ronald Reagan — took the stage to drum up support for the bilateral nuclear freeze initiative that will be on the California ballot in November.

Harold Willens, the California millionaire and former Marine Corps intelligence officer who is statewide coordinator of the initiative, asserted the freeze "is an obvious first step toward the prevention of war."

But pro-freeze materials passed out by the sponsors of Peace Sunday pointed out, "With the freeze, we would still have 30,000 nuclear warheads — enough to kill every Russian 40 times."

Nationally known entertainers at the event included Linda Ronstadt, Jackson Browne, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, David Crosby, Stephen Stills, and Graham Nash.

The audience was made up of many young opponents of U.S. wars — California has one of the highest nonregistration figures for the draft. Yet not one speech dealt with the draft or the U.S.-British war in the Malvinas.

Noted Black performer Gil Scott Heron, an outspoken opponent of nuclear power plants, led the rally in chants of "Shut them down!" Stevie Wonder's performance stole the show. His music and his record of speaking out against racism made him a hero of the crowd.

## Harlem readies for June 12 rally

BY MELVIN CHAPPELL

NEW YORK — As part of the final push to mobilize the Black community for the massive June 12 march and rally, the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP), the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition, and the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament sponsored a speakout at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

Nearly 70 people attended. The event was also endorsed by the National Black Human Rights Coalition and the Patrice Lumumba Coalition.

The June 2 meeting was titled "Down with Militarism!" It was called to focus on the wars that the U.S. government is carrying out right now against people of color in the colonial and semicolonial world. Speakers also blasted the devastating effects that these wars and the U.S. military budget are having on the Black community.

Muntu Matsimela, the northeast regional representative of the NBIPP and a central leader of the National Black Human Rights Coalition, was the moderator. He encouraged all those attending the event to come out on June 12 to denounce U.S. wars and the continuing attacks on the rights of oppressed people.

One of the featured speakers was Leonor Arguélles de Huper, general consul of Nicaragua for the United Nations. The sister explained the long history of U.S. intervention in Central America. She called the fight led by Augusto Sandino against U.S. Marines six decades ago the "first Vietnam" for the U.S. government.

She went on to blast the lies that the U.S. government has been spreading about involvement of Nicaragua in the war in El Salvador. "We are behind them," she said about the fight of the Salvadoran people. "We are supporting them morally and every way that we can." But Huper explained, "revolution is not a commodity that can be exported; revolutions come from within."

Huper received an enthusiastic response. She returned that solidarity by saying, "You can do a lot of things to stop U.S. intervention in Central America."

She went on to express the common need to support the struggles of all the oppressed and exploited: "We are all in it together. Our future is your future. If we don't succeed, you won't succeed. But we are going to succeed!"

The cochairperson of the International Relations Committee of the NBIPP and a leader of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition, Elombe Brath, also spoke in solidarity with the unfolding revolution in Nicaragua.

He also spoke on the U.S. government's participation in nuclear technology trade with the racist regime of South Africa. The fight against nuclear war

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# A lesson from the ERA ratification fight

On June 6 thousands of women and men marched to demand ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Raleigh, North Carolina; Springfield, Illinois; and Tallahassee, Florida. The actions were organized by the National Organization for Women (NOW).

In Springfield, seven women have been fasting for three weeks to protest the refusal of the Illinois state



## WOMEN IN REVOLT Margaret Jayko

legislature to ratify the ERA. Black activist Dick Gregory joined their fast for five days to express his support.

But flouting the will of the majority of American people, the North Carolina state senate, in a bipartisan move, voted June 4 to table the ERA permanently.

The deadline for ERA ratification is June 30. Only 35 of the 38 states necessary have ratified to date.

The decision of the ruling class to kill the ERA is

of a piece with the imperialist wars that Washington is waging or supporting in Central America, the South Atlantic, and the Middle East.

It's part of the war at home against all working people to drive down our standard of living and weaken our ability to fight back. It includes stepped-up attacks against the unions, against Black people and undocumented workers, and against women.

Attempts to silence opponents of imperialist war and austerity are part of this war drive. At the Raleigh protest, cops arrested two ERA demonstrators who were collecting signatures to get Meryl Lynn Farber, the Socialist Workers candidate for Congress, on the ballot.

This was a blatant attempt to prevent the publicizing of the socialist alternative in the elections, which is the only one that includes staunch opposition to U.S. wars abroad and support for abortion rights and the ERA.

At all the June 6 rallies, NOW leaders, as well as the Democrats and Republicans they shared the platforms with, called for "punishing" politicians who helped defeat the ERA by ousting them on Election Day and replacing them with Democratic Party "friends" of women.

But the fact is that it's Democrats and Republicans

alike that have killed the ERA in state after state, year after year.

If anything has been confirmed by the past decade of the ERA fight, it's that *both* parties serve the interests of the tiny minority that profits from women's oppression, and that women's only friends are the *majority* class — working people.

What is needed is to build a powerful women's liberation movement that puts women's interests first, and doesn't subordinate those interests to the fortunes of its "friends" in the Democratic and Republican parties.

A movement that sees its fate totally linked with the struggle of the working class as a whole.

A movement that is foursquare opposed to the new Vietnams that Washington is involved in today.

A movement that can wage a real battle against this government around the burning issues facing women — abortion rights, daycare, jobs and affirmative action, ERA, war, and racism.

A movement that organizes the masses of women who suffer the most from the sexism of this society — Black women, Latino women, and all working women.

Only such a movement, allied with all the victims of Washington's wars at home and abroad, can wage an effective fight to defend women's rights.

# How can we stop warmakers in Washington?

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The fight for peace must begin with a campaign against these shooting wars in which people are dying today because of imperialist aggression.

The biggest danger of nuclear annihilation of humanity comes from the fact that these and other "conventional" wars of extermination against the oppressed and exploited of the world may be escalated by the imperialist warmakers into nuclear war. British naval vessels in the South Atlantic, for example, are carrying nuclear weapons. And the British commanders have orders to use them against Argentina if necessary.

The fight against wars that are taking place right now is an indispensable focus of the struggle to prevent the horror of a nuclear war.

Building on the impetus of the mammoth June 12 demonstration, the forces that want to launch a campaign against the Anglo-American war on Argentina, against the U.S. war in Central America, and against other U.S.-backed wars from the Middle East to southern Africa ought to hold a national conference to discuss and organize such an antiwar campaign.

There are many forces who see the need for campaigning against the specific wars Washington is waging. These include the National Black Independent Political Party, the National Black United Front, and the Third World and Progressive People's Coalition.

There is considerable potential for getting such a campaign underway. Even more than during the Vietnam War, which occurred in a period of relative prosperity, an antiwar campaign today will win support in the labor movement. Every day working people increasingly feel the deepening attacks on their living standards, growing racism, mounting attacks on foreign-born and immigrant workers, attacks on democratic rights and moves to discipline workers on the job and to subordinate their unions even more to the employers.

The same government that has placed an embargo against the people of Nicaragua, Cuba, and Vietnam is also cutting food stamps, social security, and dozens of other social programs at home.

The same government that is helping to crush Argentina's democratic right to sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands is scuttling democratic rights of Blacks, Latinos, and women in this country.

And as the employers' wars abroad escalate, it will be working-class and farm youth who, as in Vietnam, will be sent to fight and die to protect big business interests.

An essential element for mounting an effective antiwar campaign is recognizing that the enemy is at home. The enemy is not our fellow workers in Nicaragua,

Grenada, or Argentina. It is not the people of Cuba or the Palestinians.

The enemy is our employers. It is U.S. Steel, Consolidated Coal Company, Exxon, and the other industrial giants and banks.

Many ruling class politicians try to prevent us from seeing clearly where our class interests lie. They try to cover up their wars and preparations for war by presenting themselves as champions of peace, disarmament, or nuclear freeze.

It is a historically demonstrated fact that the louder they shout for peace, the closer they are to launching war. Senator Kennedy, for example, supports a bilateral freeze on nuclear weapons. Yet, he was one of 50 senators who introduced a resolution in the Senate on the eve of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon calling on the U.S. government to do what was necessary to ensure Israel's qualitative military advantage over all Arab countries put together.

Another one of the fraudulent abstractions used is that the enemy of the people of the world is the nuclear weapons themselves — not the imperialist warmakers.

We are told, in effect, to ignore the reality that there is a capitalist ruling class in this country whose material in-

terests, for markets, raw materials, areas of investment, drive them to make war. And that the nuclear threat stems from these capitalist wars.

In this way, the cause of "peace" is abstracted from those who wage the wars and whose class interests are served by such wars.

They try to get us to turn our rational and justifiable fear of nuclear war into an emotional response, instead of clearly thinking through the real causes of war and organizing a struggle against the real warmakers.

If we were to accept the view that arms, not classes, are the problem, then we would put ourselves in the position of saying that the arms that Argentina is using today to defend itself from imperialist aggression are at least as bad, if not worse, than Anglo-American arms. But this is totally false. The fight for peace and against imperialist war would be *advanced* if the whole royal fleet found a permanent home at the bottom of the South Atlantic.

The Nicaraguans, likewise, would strike a blow for world peace if they were to smash the U.S.-organized counter-revolutionary war against them.

Unfortunately, abstract "peace" formulas have found supporters in the peace movement itself.

## Israel steps up aggression against Lebanon

Continued from Page 1

effort to destroy the Palestinian resistance.

After months of preparations and threats, the Israeli regime launched its massive invasion of Lebanon June 6.

Aiming to strike a major blow against the Palestinian liberation struggle, some 25,000 Israeli troops, scores of jets and helicopters, and more than 250 tanks and armored personnel carriers poured across the border into southern Lebanon.

This criminal invasion is not only a blatant violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, but a provocation against the entire Arab world. It shows, once again, where the real danger of war in the Middle East comes from.

In launching the full-scale invasion, the Israeli regime claimed to have a "limited" objective: to push the Palestinian liberation forces based in Lebanon some 25 miles north of the Israeli border.

But the whole history of Israeli military aggression in the Middle East shows that the Zionist forces will strike as far and as hard as they can. Their ultimate — and futile — goal is to try to break the back of the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their home-

land.

While attacking Palestinian military positions in southern Lebanon, the Israeli invasion is also aimed at terrorizing the civilian population, Palestinian and Lebanese alike.

For two days preceding the invasion, Israeli jets bombarded numerous targets as far north as the Lebanese capital, Beirut. They strafed the Palestinian refugee camps of Shatila, Sabra, and Burj al-Barajneh; the Farkhani section of southern Beirut; and many villages and towns throughout southern Lebanon. Many civilians were killed when a major four-lane highway south of Beirut was bombed June 5.

Altogether, more than 200 Palestinians and Lebanese were killed in these initial bombing raids.

Tel Aviv has received continual encouragement from the Reagan administration. This was despite the White House's claims that it was urging the regime of Menachem Begin to exercise "restraint."

Israel is already the largest recipient of U.S. aid in the world. It receives nearly \$3 billion a year from Washington, about one-third of the Israeli national budget.

On May 25, the Senate Foreign Rela-

This includes some of the organizers of the June 12 protest, who want to concentrate on the "peace" issue but duck the issue of ongoing wars.

What good is a peace movement that doesn't point the finger at the real warmakers and doesn't mobilize against real war? No good at all. The only effective struggle for peace is one that speaks out and acts against war.

In my campaign for governor of California, I am speaking out against Washington's wars and doing whatever possible to help build a movement against them.

I am also explaining that the only way that the imperialist warmakers will ultimately be stopped is if the workers and farmers in this country disarm them and establish their own government. Only then will the threat of nuclear war be eliminated.

The struggle for such a government means that working people will have to make a definitive break from the Democratic and Republican parties — the parties of the employers. We need to form our own party — a labor party that will have its organizational base in the trade unions and that will make the struggle against imperialist war a central part of its platform. That's the way to stop the bomb and those who wield it.

tions Committee voted to increase the amount of grants given to Israel as part of the government's \$1.7 billion Israeli military aid package.

Plans are also under way to supply Israel with 75 U.S. F-16 fighter bombers, worth about \$2.5 billion. This is the largest arms transfer ever arranged between Washington and Tel Aviv.

In May, Adm. Thomas Hayward, the U.S. Navy chief, visited Haifa to observe Israeli naval exercises. He publicly revealed that U.S. and Israeli sailors were training together, and "if the need should arise, could work together," according to a report in the June 5 London *Economist*. Moreover, Hayward said, Washington was carrying out surveillance of Syrian and Libyan naval activities.

Speaking at the United Nations June 6, the PLO's deputy observer, Hassan Abdel Rahman, pointed to this U.S. complicity. Israel's "criminal assault," he said, was being conducted with some of "the most sophisticated U.S. instruments of death."

Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami declared that Washington, by providing Israel with jet fighters and other weapons, "was out to have us massacred."



# 'Village Voice' levels smear attack on June 12 Third World Coalition

BY HARRY RING

For those not fully informed about political developments relating to the June 12 demonstration, it must have been a bit puzzling. For those who recognize the attack, it was a shocker.

We're talking about the *Village Voice* cartoon strip by Jules Feiffer, printed here.

In addition to the *Voice*, this vicious smear attack appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *Miami Herald*, and other papers to which the strip is syndicated.

This racist cartoon is a thinly veiled — and totally baseless — attack on the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition, an important component of the forces building the June 12 action.

The cartoon completely falsifies the program of the coalition and, for good measure, throws in the libelous charge that the coalition is a creature of the FBI and CIA.

The decision of the editors of the *Voice* to publish so scurrilous a cartoon is a mark of the political bankruptcy of those who are determined to impose a "bilateral nuclear freeze" position on the antiwar struggle.

Like many in the officialdom of the June 12 Rally Committee, the editors of the *Voice* are committed to the freeze position and to the Democratic Party politicians whose fortunes that position is designed to advance.

It was because they did not accept this position that the forces represented by the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition had to fight against being excluded from the June 12 Rally Committee.

It was not simply a matter of some established "peace" figures feeling uncomfortable with Blacks, Latinos, and Asians having a voice in the decision-making process. The more basic reason for the attempted exclusion was the *political program* these forces represented.

And it was the high-handed exclusionary efforts (going so far as attempting to "incorporate" the June 12 Rally Committee!) that made necessary the formal organization of the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition.

What is presented in the *Voice* cartoon is a gross travesty of the coalition's program for June 12 and beyond.

The coalition never, at any time, put forward the shopping list of social demands suggested by Feiffer as a pro-

**Feiffer**

A NUCLEAR FREEZE CAMPAIGN IS MEANINGLESS OUTSIDE A PROGRESSIVE POLITICAL CONTEXT.

WE, THE WOMEN AND PEOPLES UNITED FACTIONALIST ALLIANCE, DEMAND THAT THE NUCLEAR FREEZE CAMPAIGN SUPPORT THE FREEDOM STRUGGLES OF ALL THIRD WORLD PEOPLES.

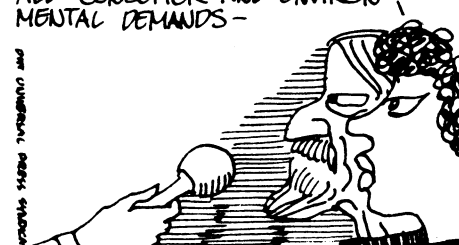
SUPPORT NATIVE-AMERICAN, AFRO-AMERICAN AND HISPANIC-AMERICAN RIGHTS.



SUPPORT THE E.R.A. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, GAY RIGHTS, ABORTION, ALL CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS.

MASS TRANSIT REDISTRIBUTION OF CORPORATE WEALTH. OPEN THE JAILS.

BY THE WAY, WHO FUNDS THE WOMEN AND PEOPLES UNITED FACTIONALIST ALLIANCE?



This cartoon, which initially appeared in the June 1 *New York Village Voice*, is a political frame-up of the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition, one of the builders of the June 12 demonstration.

grammatic basis for building June 12.

The demands advocated by the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition in relation to June 12 are simple, direct, and decidedly relevant.

The coalition favors not a U.S.-Soviet nuclear weapons freeze, but unilateral U.S. disarmament.

And it regards as less than meaningless the idea of advocating "peace" in the abstract while refusing to oppose ongoing wars of aggression carried out or supported by Washington.

The demands of the coalition are featured on a leaflet being circulated to build June 12. The leaflet declares:

"Unconditional U.S. disarmament: Redirect resources from the military to meet human needs, especially in minority communities — hardest hit by the cutbacks.

"No U.S. intervention in Asia, Africa, Middle East, Latin America, Caribbean."

The leaflet explains that the coalition was "created to educate and mobilize our people on the issue of nuclear disarmament, the military buildup, intervention in Third World countries, and the oppression of Third World people in the U.S., and to address these unheard concerns in the disarmament movement.

"We are building not just for June 12, but for a broader movement to link the U.S. military build-up with ending the oppression and exploitation of all peoples."

Hardly a program to win the seal of approval of the FBI and CIA.

But it is a program that has a strong appeal for those who really want to get at the root of the war danger.

That's why it evokes so rapid a response from the "freeze" advocates. They can't tolerate this kind of challenge to their political position.

There is a growing popular realization that the danger of nuclear war is inherent in such aggressions as those initiated by Washington in Central America and the Caribbean, by London and Washington in the South Atlantic, and by Israel in the Mideast.

And there is the further realization that it is those who speak of "winnable" and "protracted" nuclear wars who must be disarmed if humanity is to survive.

The Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition was targeted for a hatchet job precisely because it addresses itself to these issues.

Nor can the coalition be dismissed as some inconsequential group of political "hairsplitters." (If they were, they'd be

ignored, not smeared.)

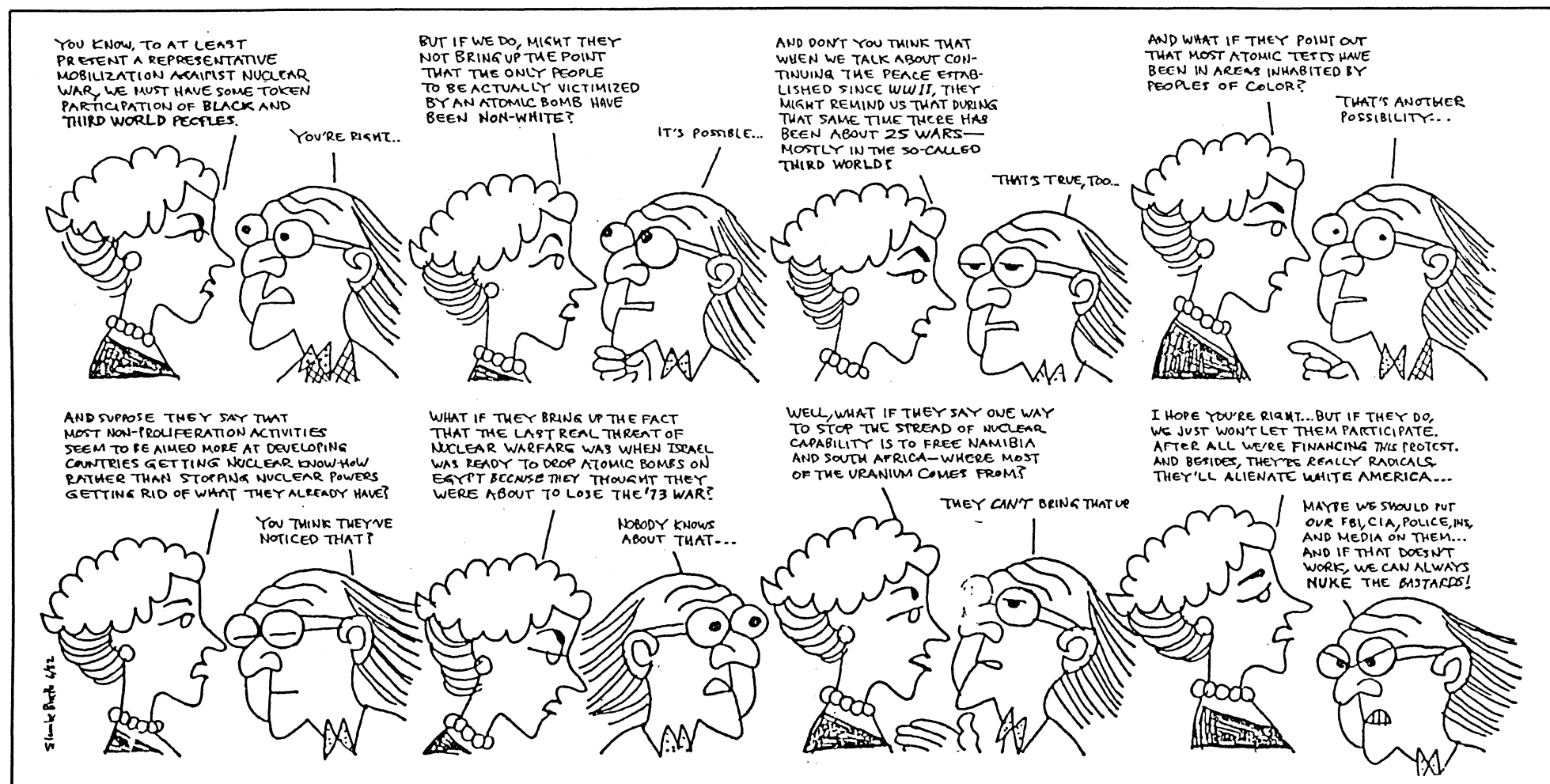
Two of the principal spokespeople for the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition are Rev. Ben Chavis and Rev. Herbert Daughtry.

Chavis, who served over four years in jail as one of the Wilmington Ten, is a leader of the National Black Independent Political Party, a politically significant formation of Blacks who recognize that both Democrats and Republicans must be opposed to win emancipation. Chavis is also deputy director of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice.

Daughtry is the principal leader of the National Black United Front, also an important force in the fight of Black people for civil and human rights. It developed out of the fight against killer cops in Brooklyn and expanded its area of activities, spreading beyond New York in the process.

Commenting on the Feiffer cartoon, Daughtry told the *Militant*: "We must be doing something right. We're inspiring these types of attacks because of our insistence that the issues of no U.S. intervention in the Third World, unilateral disarmament, and redirection of resources from the military to human

Continued on Page 7



This response to the *Village Voice* smear is by Elombe Brath, cochair of the International Relations Committee of the National Black Independent Political Party. Copies were distributed at a meeting of the party and a meeting of the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition.

# Who is aggressor in U.S.-British war against Argentina?

BY ERNEST HARSCH

In London and Washington, government officials and editorial writers have been loudly beating the drums against "aggression" in the South Atlantic.

But their condemnations are not directed at the scores of British ships and planes that have invaded Argentine territory, or at the massive U.S. aid to the invading fleet. Far from it. With an arrogance and hypocrisy typical of colonial overlords, they are accusing the victim of aggression — Argentina — of being the aggressor.

"So far as we are concerned," Sir Anthony Parsons, the British representative to the United Nations, declared May 25, "the outrage was committed by Argentina when, out of a clear blue sky, Argentine forces invaded the Falkland Islands at the beginning of April."

The "Falklands" is the British colonial name for Argentina's Malvinas Islands.

Sir Anthony then went on to profess his government's staunch support for "the right to self-determination" of the 1,800 settlers of British ancestry living on the islands.

## Imperial hypocrisy

Sir Anthony's declarations, like those of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other British officials — not to mention their backers in Washington — reek of hypocrisy.

The government in London is not exactly known for its abhorrence of aggression or support for self-determination.

For centuries Britain ruled over a vast colonial empire encompassing hundreds of millions of people, an empire that was seized and defended through armed might. The words "self-determination" were then rarely heard in Westminster. And when Britain's colonial subjects began to utter that phrase, they were met with British bayonets, bullets, and naval cannon.

In the end, military force was not enough. The mass independence movements that began sweeping the colonial world after the Second World War finally forced the British ruling class to relinquish direct political control over most of its colonies.

Sir Anthony, in his UN speech, had the audacity to point to this as proof of his government's support for self-determination. Since the end of 1960, he declared, "we have brought to sovereign independence and membership of this organization no less than 28 States. We are proud of our record and I think we have every right to be."

London has lost most of its direct colonial possessions. But not all. To this day, it maintains thousands of colonial troops in Northern Ireland against the will of the Irish people and in defiance of the Irish struggle for self-determination and national reunification.

As for Washington, the U.S. rulers have done everything they can to encourage the repeated South African invasions of Angola and the South African occupation of Namibia. Washington has backed to the hilt the Israeli regime's denial of the Palestinians' right to self-determination, and the Zionists' brutal seizure and occupation of Arab territory.

## The real aggressor

Is the case of the British in the Malvinas any different?

When Argentina declared its independence from Spain in 1816, it claimed sovereignty over all of its territory and took control of the Malvinas Islands. But in 1833 a British warship took the islands by force and expelled the Argentine settlers. *That* is aggression.

Argentina — which was itself economically dominated by British capital until after the Second World War — protested the 1833 seizure and attempted for a century and a half to recover the Malvinas. The British simply ignored the Argentine demands for decolonization of the islands, even though most countries in the world recognized Argentina's sovereignty over them. In 1965 a resolution was passed in the United Nations calling on London to negotiate, but the British just stalled. They had no intention of returning the Malvinas.

As justification for their continued colonial rule over the islands, the British imperialists hid behind the desire of the islanders to retain their link with Britain.

But the islanders are not oppressed by Argentina, nor do they face racial or national discrimination. The fact that they were settled there by the British does not change the colonial nature of the British claims.

The real issue of self-determination is Argentina's right to exercise its sovereignty over the islands.

Moreover, the islanders are themselves victims of British imperialism. The land they live on and the sheep they tend are owned by absentee landlords. The Falkland Islands Co. dominates the islands' economy. The islanders generally have a low standard of living, and what few social services they have access to are provided by — Argentina. Under Britain's new racist immigration law, which is aimed at keeping out people of color from other countries in the British Commonwealth, the children of the islanders do not have the right to move to Britain.

Behind all the British government's professions of concern about the islanders lie very real material and political interests.

The waters around the region are thought to contain rich oil deposits, perhaps rivaling those in the North Sea. The imperialists also consider the islands of strategic value, since they are located near the shipping lanes of the South Atlantic and of potential use as a military base for intervention against revolutionary developments in Latin America.

And with Argentina's action in early April to reclaim what is rightfully Argentine territory, another important consideration for the imperialists has been added as well: They want to send a clear message to the people of Argentina, and the rest of the world, that they will not tolerate any semicolonial country acting to assert its rights, and that they are prepared to use the most massive force necessary to prevent it.

## 'Colonialism is an act of force'

Speaking at the United Nations just before Sir Anthony, Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez forcefully answered many of the imperialists' political arguments about the Malvinas conflict.

Calling Britain "the colonial power par excellence," Costa Méndez explained the history of Britain's occupation of the Malvinas. "Colonialism is an act of force and it is permanent aggression."

"The application of the right of self-determination to the case of the Malvinas Islands is a simple travesty," he said. "It is a travesty because it would mean the self-determination of the colonizers, giving them an opportunity to legitimize their illegitimate settlement in a territory that does not belong to them."

Costa Méndez also pointed to the political thrust behind the British inva-



Above, British troops on way to Malvinas. Below, British troops patrol streets of Belfast in Northern Ireland. Thatcher claims she is fighting for self-determination for inhabitants of Malvinas. What about self-determination for Ireland, which has been oppressed by Britain for centuries?

sion: "Great Britain is sending to our coast two-thirds of its fleet with the intention of teaching a lesson to a nation which has dared to disturb the harmony of the old decadent international order and to exhibit before the world one more anachronistic example of colonial domination."

These words were spoken not by a veteran anti-imperialist fighter, but by a representative of a military dictatorship that has brutally defended imperialist interests and detained, killed, and "disappeared" thousands of workers and political activists since it seized power in 1976.

The fact that Costa Méndez has spoken in this way is a reflection of the basic nature of the war over the Malvinas, and of the tremendous political pressures bearing down on the junta from Argentine working people, who have a big stake in driving the imperialists out

of the Malvinas — and the rest of Argentina. Their anti-imperialist struggle threatens the ability of the dictatorship itself to stay in power.

These pressures have compelled the junta to ease up on its repression and to make diplomatic overtures to the Non-aligned Movement, Moscow, and even revolutionary Cuba — forces that it had so vociferously denounced just a few months ago.

So despite the regime's intentions, the character of the struggle for the Malvinas has driven it onto a collision course with its former allies in London and Washington.

That is because the war is one between the Argentine nation as a whole and the mightiest imperialist powers in the world. In this war, working people everywhere should stand on the side of Argentina.

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# British socialist views Grenada's revolution

'Ordinary working people run the economy, government, and all aspects of life'

Pat Kane is a leading member of the International Marxist Group, the British section of the Fourth International. He recently spent five months on the Caribbean island of Grenada, where a mass uprising on March 13, 1979, swept dictator Eric Gairy out of power and installed a new revolutionary government in office.

Kane made two trips to Grenada. His first, at the end of 1981, was as a volunteer electrician to lend his skills to the tasks of economic construction facing the Grenadian people. Following that trip, Kane returned to Grenada as a reporter for *Intercontinental Press*. The following interview on his experiences in Grenada was conducted by Brian Grogan for the British weekly *Socialist Challenge*, sister publication of the *Militant*.

*Question. What have been the main social and economic gains of the revolution?*

*Answer.* The most important difference since the revolution has been the transformation of the people of Grenada. You can't measure this in statistics. Everywhere I went, ordinary working people were running the economy and government ministries, and all aspects of life.

The people are very active and enthusiastic about the developments since the revolution.

Social and economic advances in a developing country are very closely linked. Free milk, education, health care, subsidised school uniforms, new sports facilities and the expansion of culture — all products of the revolution — have to be paid for.

Youth and women who have been among the main beneficiaries can see directly the need to increase economic efficiency — not to make more profit for some multinational company but to extend the services that have been provided by the revolution already.

Imperialism was against any development that benefited Grenadians. Under Gairy, they had a negative growth rate. It took the revolution to even develop a fishing fleet to exploit the rich fishing grounds off Grenada. Previously, a majority of fish eaten was imported from Canada!

There are still capitalists. The Grenadians describe this situation as "a mixed economy, where the state sector is dominant."

Within the economy there is a massive movement towards planning and accountability. Literally thousands of Grenadians participated in the preparations for the budget, and they have just introduced their first one-year plan.

The whole process of economics is demystified, and this attacks one of the fundamental pillars of capital, business secrecy. Every workers' meeting discusses "opening the books" of state and private concerns.

The major difference in Grenada is the government. The Grenadian government rests on the workers and small farmers, and each time there is a conflict of interest, they back the workers.

The government has introduced a whole series of laws to protect workers' rights, introduce maternity leave and equal pay for women. It has legalised trade unions and the right to strike.

## Mass involvement

*Q. How have the masses been involved in the economy?*

A. During December, all the Parish Council and workplace meetings received preliminary reports on the plans for the economy. The government declared 1982 the "Year of Economic Construction." All the mass organisations elected delegates to a conference to discuss the economy. One thousand attended, from a population of only 110,000. There were 27 different workshops.

After the conference, every delegate reported to their organisation. Then, the broader masses were involved through the Parish Councils.

It's estimated that 30,000 people participated, and read the very detailed report. Every suggestion was noted, and integrated into the final budget speech. And the process will continue. Two more huge conferences are being organised this year. The whole island is now full of lay-economists!

One result of the conference was the establishment of a whole series of committees in state workplaces to monitor and control production, and they report to the weekly, and sometimes daily, mass meetings.

The trade unions are actively involved in all aspects of the economy. The Government called on the trade unions to struggle in the private sector to implement the same types of measures. Mass participation and control are the cornerstones of the government's economic strategy.

*Q. Grenada is a tiny country. Why are the U.S. and British governments so hostile?*

A. Grenada is part of the revolutions of the region — Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador — and it points to a different path for English-speaking Caribbeans than neo-colonialism or reformism. That's why the [imperialists] spend millions of dollars on military and naval exercises which are aimed at all the region's revolutions.

Revolutionaries in Grenada are very conscious of these threats, and they are actively engaged in getting solidarity within the imperialist countries. In the U.S., they have close links with the black organisations, and they encourage Grenadians abroad to become politically active.

They have a militia and an army. The militia is made up of volunteers from all walks of life, and they will fight to defend their country. The youth are particularly active in every aspect of the revolution, and they are in the front ranks of the militia and army.

The New Jewel Movement talks about the revolution having three, interrelated but separate pillars: mass participation and democracy, the econo-



Militant/Pat Kane

**Meeting of Grenadian Technical and Allied Workers Union. Unions, as well as other mass organizations, are the vehicles through which Grenadians participate in running their country.**

my, and defence. They take all three very, very seriously.

*Q. The imperialist press talks about Grenada developing into a totalitarian state. What is political life like in Grenada?*

A. Hectic, that's the only way to describe it. Every day there are meetings and rallies, and the radio is constantly providing information and educational material. The press lies about Grenada, just as they lie about Thatcher being a defender of democracy. In Grenada, there are more elections in a week than there are in Britain in a lifetime. Because there is no parliament, where the capitalists can dominate the country, the press claims there is no democracy.

You should go there and see for yourselves. You'll see the involvement of the Grenadian people from the minute you get off the plane. It's a different type of democracy — a democracy, like the Soviets of early revolutionary Russia, which has grown out of a generation of struggle by the Grenadian people.

The ordinary people are active within the unions, women's and youth organisations, and the geographically based Parish Councils. In a village with a total population of only 900, 200 will regularly attend the Council meetings. Every

aspect of running the country is discussed by these different organisations.

*Q. What has been the role of the Cubans?*

A. Without revolutionary Cuba, the Grenadian revolution would not exist. Castro has made it clear that any direct attack by imperialism on what he calls the three giants — Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada — will bring forward solidarity action from Cuba. The imperialists hesitate as much for this as the hostility of their own working class to any military adventures.

The Grenadians have obtained some aid from capitalist countries. But the main aid comes from Cuba. Castro challenged the United States to a campaign of "emulation." He promised that Cuba would send more teachers, more doctors and more unselfish aid than the United States — despite the gargantuan differences in size and economic advance of the two countries. Cuba has won hands down.

Cuba gives aid in every field — and it's freely given.

There's no Cuban banks or factories to exploit profits from the Grenadians. Aid from the imperialists is always used to seek political and economic advantage.

Cuban aid is geared into Grenada's struggle for self-sufficiency. It makes them independent, not dependent.

## 'Village Voice' smear attack

**Continued from Page 5**

needs be addressed by the peace movement."

Other affiliates of the Third World Coalition include the Asian-American Caucus for Disarmament, Asian-Americans for Equality, Black Veterans for Social Justice, Union of Democratic Filipinos, National Black Human Rights Coalition, and South African Military Refugee Aid Fund.

In addition, a number of political organizations are affiliated, including the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

Nor is the demand for unilateral disarmament and opposition to U.S. aggression abroad limited to the coalition. These demands are also advocated by such builders of June 12 as the Afro-American Coordinating Committee, which includes Harlem Fightback, and the recently established Hispanics for Survival and Disarmament.

Over the years, Jules Feiffer has won respect as a partisan of progressive causes. It is a sign of the deepening political pressures at work that he should be party to so shameful an attack on these forces.

Insofar as the *Village Voice*, which made the decision to print the strip, is concerned, it might well consider the maxim on a button Feiffer once designed for the Vietnam-era antiwar movement:

"Enough."

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# 'Why they want to stop my campaign for governor of California'



Militant/Larry Lukeart

Seaside socialist city Councilman Mel Mason, who won suit for leave of absence from his job in order to campaign. Mason says issue is right of working people to run for political office.

A landmark decision was made May 27 in a lawsuit affirming the right of working people to run for office.

Mel Mason, a socialist city councilman from the city of Seaside, is running an independent campaign for governor of California.

In order to campaign full-time, Mason requested a leave of absence from his job. For the last eight years, he has worked as Student Activities Coordinator at Monterey Peninsula College (MPC).

But in a three-to-one vote, the MPC Governing Board twice denied his request for the leave. (The student representative on the board, who is not allowed to vote, asked that it be inserted into the minutes that he supported Mason's leave.)

Mason filed suit against the board in Monterey County Superior Court. Judge John Anton took the case under submission and in a May 27 ruling ordered the board to grant Mason's leave.

The following interview with Mason was conducted prior to the court ruling.

*Question. What do you think was behind the MPC board's denial of your request for a leave of absence?*

*Answer.* I am running a political campaign that is speaking to the interests of working people and small farmers at a time when they are under tremendous attack by the U.S. government. My campaign speaks to the issues that concern them and poses real solutions.

My campaign is also speaking out against U.S. involvement in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and the whole Central American-Caribbean region. I have been denouncing the U.S. government's attacks on the people of Cuba and Grenada.

What the board was attempting to do was to silence my campaign. It was not simply a policy matter that the board was deciding. It was a conscious political decision on the part of the board to stop a worker from running for office.

## Union issue

This is a definite union issue because it involves the question of workers rights. If the California School Employees Association (CSEA), the union I'm a member of, decided they wanted to run one of our union members for political office, according to the board, they would have to ask permission to run.

The board claimed it would be setting a precedent if I were allowed to take time off to run for political office.

But I think the precedent the board is

trying to set is a dangerous one that would go far beyond the workers at Monterey Peninsula College. It could be used by other employers to prevent their workers from running for office.

*Q. How does this fight relate to the Black struggle today?*

A. There is an independent political movement developing among Black people today. This has been expressed by the creation of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP). [Mason is the NBIPP far west regional representative.]

Black people are consciously moving away from the Democratic and Republican parties and are consciously looking for answers to the problems they are confronting. All of the gains that had been won in the 1960s are now under attack — affirmative action, the Voting Rights Act, etc. And all these attacks are happening even though Black people probably have more Black elected officials throughout the country than at any time in history.

By attempting to silence my campaign, the board is also trying to set a precedent for dealing with Black people — to keep Black people from becoming involved in independent political action, not allowing them to run for office.

## 'We recommend a labor party'

*Q. How does your fight for a leave of absence relate to the needs of the labor movement?*

A. The labor movement has to get involved in independent political action. That's an important part of our campaign program. We recommend the creation of an independent labor party, based on the unions, to lead the struggles of working people — struggles against unemployment, plant closures.

Our program calls for a massive public works program designed to build housing, schools, mass transit. These are the ways people can be put to work, along with a shorter workweek with no cut in pay.

The real need for the labor movement at this particular time is to make a break from the Democratic and Republican parties and form our own political party.

Obviously the bosses, and those people who represent the bosses, see this. Therefore, they're going to do anything they can to keep that from happening. One of the ways, of course, is to keep working people from becoming involved in electoral politics and getting out these kinds of ideas.

The board's action in denying my leave is part of that attempt to keep working people from being able to run

for high political office. They want to maintain an elitist political system where only rich people can run for office.

It is also an attempt to make working people believe there is no other way, no other possibilities that exist for the working class in terms of political representation, other than the Democratic and Republican parties.

If I were a Democrat or Republican, I would not have had the problem of getting a leave.

When moves like this are made by bosses, it is aimed at demoralizing workers to the point where they won't want to attempt to run for office. The worker has to decide whether to run for office and give up a job, or not run for office and stay on the job. That's a hell of a situation for a worker to find him or herself in.

## Attacks on Black education

*Q. How does this fight relate to what is happening on the MPC campus?*

A. The context in which the board made its decision is important to note. We have a situation where Blacks who work at MPC are under constant attack.

One woman counselor, who has been working at MPC for some 12 years, has had her job reorganized.

The Ethnic Studies division is currently under attack. There are moves to submerge the Ethnic Studies program into the Social Science division. This means the Ethnic Studies division will cease to exist. This is a program that Blacks in this community struggled hard for in the late 1960s. The Blacks who teach in the program all stand a good chance of losing their jobs.

About the same time the board denied my leave, a Black woman counselor was physically assaulted by the Dean of Students.

We also have the situation where almost weekly we receive "memos of doom" from the business manager of the college telling us how much money we're not getting from the state. One memo told us how we had to tighten our belts and that jobs may have to be reorganized.

At the last negotiations session both the teacher's union, the California Teachers Association, and my union, the CSEA, ended up having to settle for a 4 percent pay increase. This is nothing when you consider the cost of living.

Meanwhile, the president of the college got an \$8,000 yearly raise, compared to the average raise of \$55 per classified employee. The president already makes more money than the governor of California does!

Community colleges in California have up to now been tuition-free colleges. Now we are faced with the possibility of tuition. This is in addition to registration fees, books, and other college costs. This is obviously going to impact on minority students and students from working-class backgrounds.

This will slash the number of minority students on college campuses and will lead to further decimation of the programs on those campuses that were designed to help these students.

*Q. What has been your union's role in the fight for a leave?*

A. The decision to deny me the leave is also an attempt to try to chill the two unions on campus. That is why the CSEA came in on my fight.

As we get closer and closer to layoffs and cutbacks, it's going to be extremely important for employees to look to their unions for defense.

The CSEA decision to get involved in this case showed the other workers that the union is ready to stand up and fight to defend its members, including their right to be politically active.

It was also important for the CSEA to become involved because this is a union

issue — the right of a worker to participate fully in the electoral process.

## Attempted firings

*Q. Have there been attempts to fire you?*

A. Yes. The first four years I worked at MPC, I was under attack all the time. I was accused of attempting to incite Black students on the campus.

But it all centered around my politics — that I was a socialist, a radical, a revolutionary, a Black activist. That was the real problem.

But I was doing my job and they couldn't fire me.

I expect there will be another battle over attempts to fire me. They don't want fighting employees.

They know that all the employees at MPC are looking to this fight we are waging. And if we emerge victorious, it will obviously be an inspiration to the other employees when it comes time for them to fight for a better contract.

They have watched us audaciously sue the college and hold news conferences to explain what we're trying to accomplish with the suit. They know that this suit involves their rights as working people on the job.

*Q. How does your struggle relate to what is happening in Seaside?*

A. For one thing, Black people are not only under attack at MPC. They're under attack in Seaside. For instance, in the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, Black employees — teachers and classified employees — are being laid off.

Four schools in the district will be closed next year. And three of them are in Seaside. When these schools close, an inordinate number of Black employees will be laid off.

Also, the youngsters will be crowded into the schools that will be left open, which are already overcrowded and which are predominantly minority. This is their way to get out of desegregating the schools.

Seaside has the highest unemployment rate of any city in Monterey county. The official unemployment rate is around 14 percent. But living here and being among the people, I would have to say that if you doubled that you would be closer to the truth. Then if you talk about Black youth unemployment, the rate is around 55 to 60 percent.

*Q. As a city councilman, how do you deal with these problems?*

A. At city hall we're faced with budget constraints. There is a possibility that layoffs are going to be coming. At the April 15 council meeting I proposed an emergency ordinance — that in case of layoffs, in each hiring unit the same percentage of minorities and women must remain after layoffs.

Of course, this doesn't mean I favor layoffs, because I'm opposed to them and I would fight to keep any employees from being laid off.

But, if I were outvoted, which often happens, the law I was proposing would ensure we would not lose our affirmative action gains.

When I proposed this ordinance be placed on the next city council agenda, all four of the other council members opposed it. I also made a proposal that we send any question of layoffs to the employees' union.

As a city councilman I have tried to use my office to educate people about the real issues affecting working people in Seaside and throughout the country. I have applauded the 100,000 young people in California who have chosen not to register for the draft.

I've also used my office to assist unions that have been on strike. I've

**Continued on Page 15**



# Big London rally is blow to Thatcher's war

BY BRIAN GROGAN

LONDON — Some 200,000 people demonstrated here June 6 for unilateral British nuclear disarmament and against the siting of U.S. Cruise missiles on British or European soil. This prodigious turnout was a tremendous slap in the face for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her war against Argentina.

All opinion had expected that the "Falkland factor" would completely undermine the mobilization, which was timed to coincide with Reagan's visit to London. Rather, the gratitude expressed to Reagan by Thatcher and her cronies for U.S. support to British aggression against Argentina was matched by the rejection of Reagan by this largely youthful demonstration.

The overwhelming sentiment of these youth was "for peace." Opposition to Thatcher's war was by no means uppermost in people's preoccupation. Nonetheless, there was complete openness to the slogans raised by many forces on the demonstration calling for the withdrawal of the fleet. There was a lot of attention when a large contingent of *Socialist Challenge* supporters marched into the final rally chanting "Malvinas, El Salvador, stop the bosses' war!"

Every featured speaker at the rally took up the need to oppose Thatcher's war. Arthur Scargill, newly elected president of the miners union, called for stepping up the antinuclear campaign through civil disobedience. "If governments are not prepared to take real steps for peace," he declared, "then we in the general peace movement and in the labor movement are prepared to do so."

Scargill went on to attack the way the Tory press is glorifying Thatcher's war against Argentina. He asked, "Who could see nothing obscene in glorifying war and killing while opposing a 7 to 8 percent pay increase for health workers?" A popular slogan on the demonstration favored health workers presently fighting for higher pay against the government. Many chanted, "For peace's sake, stop the war, pay the health workers more."

The leader of the Labor Party's left wing, Tony Benn, concentrated on the war in the Malvinas. He declared, "We have seen the media become the mouthpiece of the military, making money out of bloodshed and drowning out the voices of peace, threatening democracy itself."

The war was also the theme taken up by Marxist historian E. P. Thompson, author of the best-selling antinuclear pamphlet "Protest and Survive," and one of the key figures in the rebirth of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Thompson had already made clear at a major teach-in held three days before the demonstration that in his view, "a peace movement that didn't stand up and fight when a war was taking place was worthless." At the rally he described the Malvinas war as a "text-book case of the process by which the pride of statesmen will lead us into World War III." He congratulated Thatcher for "turning round the situation where Britain, not Argentina, is now the pariah in world opinion."

Thompson went on to expose "the gigantic cover-up of Britain's dirty war." He reported on the cover-up of British operations on the Argentine mainland from bases in Chile, which last week resulted in the blowing up of Argentine Super Etendard planes. He also exposed the way in which the media is using the claim that Argentina had been prepared to use napalm to cover up the real atrocities of the British. The British are using the type of antipersonnel cluster bombs that Washington used in Vietnam. This accounts for the otherwise inexplicable ratio of Argentine to British casualties. Moreover, British forces are using phosphorus bombs, which inflict appalling burns on their victims.

Other speakers included Terry Coven, spokesperson for the U.S. campaign for bilateral freeze on nuclear weapons.

The turnout on this demonstration and the support for other mobilizations planned during Reagan's stay in Britain are a sharp challenge to the cringing support to Thatcher given by Labor's official leaders.



Coal miners' president Arthur Scargill opposed British war in Malvinas, urged support for striking health-care workers.

## 20,000 march against Reagan in Paris

PARIS — More than 20,000 people marched through Paris on June 5 to protest Ronald Reagan's war policies and imperialist pillage. The marchers, who held a rally at the Place de la Bastille, came out in response to a call by a coalition of Latin American support groups, immigrant workers organizations, the anti-apartheid movement, and left political groups including the Revolutionary Communist League (LCR), Workers Struggle (LO), the United Socialist Party (PSU), and several Maoist organizations.

It has been a long time since a militant anti-imperialist demonstration of this size has been seen in the streets of Paris. The reason for the large turnout was the presence of Reagan and Margaret Thatcher at the Versailles summit meeting of the leaders of the seven most powerful imperialist countries. Reagan and Thatcher were seen as symbols of the policy of escalating arms production, genocide in Central America, repression and exploitation, the threat of nuclear annihilation, and the aggression in the South Atlantic.

But the demonstration had to overcome numerous obstacles. As June 5 approached, there was growing pressure on the organizers to cancel the demonstration. In addition, the organizers had to contend with attempts to divert and split the action.

When it became clear that large numbers wanted to mobilize and demonstrate, leaders of the big working-class organizations applied heavy pressure on people not to participate. These reformist leaders claimed that they did not want to cut across the Mitterrand government's freedom of action.

The Socialist-led French Democratic Confederation of Labor (CFDT) and the National Teachers Federation remained silent about the demonstration. The Communist Party and the General Confederation of Labor (CGT), along with the Movement for Peace, supported a call by 100 prominent figures for a national march against "nuclear escalation," but only on June 20 when the summit would be long over and President François Mitterrand would not be embarrassed.

The Socialist Party also applied constant pressure on its supporters not to take part, and SP General Secretary Léonel Jospin made a public statement characterizing the June 5 demonstration as "unilateralist in its aspirations."

Even the Internationalist Communist Party (PCI), a sectarian group led by Pierre Lambert that orients to the SP, added its two cents' worth with a last minute attempt to split the demonstration. This attempt, however, failed. The PCI, which withdrew from sponsorship less than 24 hours before the march,

held its own small demonstration on the morning of June 5.

Given the context of the demonstration — the NATO decision to install 572 U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe, the Reagan administration's support to the armies of El Salvador and Guatemala that are waging war against their own peoples, and the Mitterrand-Mauroy government's ever closer alignment with the broad strategic policies of the Reagan administration — the silence, hesitation, and inactivity by these left forces amounts to complicity.

The people who demonstrated June 5 understood this and pointed the way forward. There were large numbers of immigrant workers. Various Turkish far-left groups had a contingent. Haitians chanted "Reagan — Tonton Macoute," making the point that the dictator in Port-au-Prince is also a creature of Washington.

There were numerous Arab workers who marched behind an immense Palestinian flag, chanting "Begin is a murderer; Reagan and Mitterrand are accomplices." A contingent from the Immigrant Workers House was made up of hundreds of people, since the demonstration coincided with the closing of their own festival.

The contingent from the United Socialist Party also showed they recognized that inaction meant complicity,

and they were open in their disagreement with PSU General Secretary Huguette Bouchardeau's decision to attend the closing banquet of the summit the following day at Versailles.

A joint LO-LCR banner led the large contingents from these organizations. The contingent from the LCR and Revolutionary Communist Youth (JCR) was made up of more than 5,000 people and included numerous delegations from outside the Paris area, giving the demonstration a national character.

The LCR's banners included the slogans "Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador — Sí! Reagan, Thatcher, imperialism — No!" "Reagan means war, Reagan means economic crisis, down with Yankee imperialism," and "From El Salvador to the Malvinas — a single imperialist enemy."

A concluding rally at the Place de la Bastille was hampered by some police provocations. Despite the police attacks, the rally was able to continue and a number of speakers stressed that this demonstration was the beginning of the rebirth of an active and massive anti-imperialist movement in France. Among the speakers was Peruvian national assembly deputy Hugo Blanco, a leader of the Trotskyist movement in that country.

From Intercontinental Press

## 'Imperialist war has begun in Central America, Caribbean'

The following statement was issued by the International Executive Committee of the Fourth International, which met in late May.

An imperialist war against the people of Central America and the Caribbean has begun!

Since the revolutionary overthrow of the hated dictatorships in Nicaragua and Grenada three years ago, led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) and the New Jewel Movement, the workers and peasants of Central America and the Caribbean have been on the march. Each day they are deepening their struggle against the imperialist domination that has brought nothing but decades of misery and suffering.

Faced with the revolutionary advances throughout the region, the U.S. ruling class has no choice but to use its massive military power to protect its imperialist interests.

In El Salvador, the people in arms, led by the Revolutionary Democratic Front-

Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FDR-FMLN), have continued to strengthen their political and military capacities and expand their international diplomatic offensive. Following the electoral farce of March 28, the new government of Alvaro Magaña was put together by the Yankee embassy. The number of massacres and tortures has increased. Even the miserable "land reform" of Duarte has been annulled. The latest batch of officers and special troops trained in the U.S. have returned. The level of U.S. aid has increased to the point where today only three other countries in the world receive more aid than the dictatorship of El Salvador.

In Guatemala, the newly formed unity of the revolutionary forces, and the broadening popular base of anti-imperialist struggle amongst the Indian majority of the Guatemalan people, has been met by the coup of last March that brought to power the military junta headed by General Ríos Montt. While the demagogic declarations about the

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# The Vietnam War: how it started

## Years before U.S. troops landed, there was a U.S. war

BY WILL REISSNER

Today, with the Reagan administration involved in a disguised, but very real war against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean, it is important to remind ourselves of how the U.S. war against the peoples of Indochina developed. There are chilling parallels between Reagan's intervention in El Salvador, his admitted sponsorship of covert actions against Nicaragua, his threats against Cuba and the island of Grenada, and the early stages of the war in Vietnam.

Many people have forgotten how the war in Vietnam began. They remember only the final stages — the hundreds of thousands of U.S. combat troops, the body counts, the massive bombing, the headlines, the mass opposition.

But the U.S. war in Indochina began much earlier, on a much smaller scale. For a quarter century, under six presidents, the aim remained constant: to crush the Vietnamese freedom struggle. Changing levels of U.S. involvement were not due to changes in policy, but rather to the growing strength of the liberation forces and the U.S. antiwar movement.

### Truman backs colonial war

In May 1950, the Truman administration began providing military and economic aid to the French colonial forces battling the guerrillas fighting for Vietnam's independence, the Viet Minh.

From an initial aid package of \$10 million, Washington's support of the French war in Indochina rapidly grew. By 1954, under President Eisenhower, annual U.S. military aid to the French in Vietnam was over \$1 billion, amounting to 78 percent of the French war costs.

On August 4, 1953, Eisenhower explained what he thought the stakes were:

"If Indochina goes, several things happen right away. The Malayan Peninsula [then a British colony] . . . would be scarcely defensible — and tin and tungsten we so greatly value from that area would cease coming. . . .

"All of that weakening position around there is very ominous for the United States, because finally if we lost all that, how would the free world hold the rich empire of Indonesia? So you see, somewhere along the line, this must be blocked. That is what the French are doing."

As the Vietnamese liberation forces grew stronger, Washington urged the French to keep fighting. In Saigon in November 1953, Vice-president Richard Nixon told the French: "It is impossible to lay down arms until victory is completely won. . . . The U.S. would vigorously disapprove any negotiations for peace in Indochina."

But on May 7, 1954, the Viet Minh inflicted a devastating defeat on the French army, capturing the garrison at Dien Bien Phu after a long siege.

### 'Operation Vulture'

During the siege, Eisenhower urged the British to agree to a joint military intervention on the side of the French. Washington also drew up plans to use 200 U.S. bombers against Viet Minh positions around Dien Bien Phu. The plan, code-named Operation Vulture, included use of three tactical atomic bombs, according to Nixon's *Memoirs*.

Ultimately, Eisenhower decided against sending U.S. combat troops to fight with the French, who had already lost 74,000 troops trying to crush the Vietnamese freedom struggle.

The defeat of the French bore out Ho Chi Minh's warning to them in 1946, just before the fighting began: "You will kill ten of our men and we will kill one of yours. In the end it will be you who will tire of it."

When peace negotiations began in Geneva in mid-1954, the Viet Minh held

most of Vietnam, including over half of the south. Viet Minh leaders agreed to a temporary partition prior to elections to reunify the country.

The *Pentagon Papers* show that Eisenhower never intended to permit elections to end the partition. In June 1954, one month before the Geneva accords were signed, the U.S. had already decided to set up a separate state in the south and to begin financing and training an army of up to 234,000 men. This new regime would be headed by Ngo Dinh Diem, who had spent the years of the anticolonial war in the United States and Europe.

Eisenhower later explained that "possibly 80 percent of the population would have voted for the Communist Ho Chi Minh" had the elections been held as stipulated.

Washington also tried to strangle the new government in North Vietnam. At the time of the partition, the Eisenhower administration made it known that it would blacklist any French company that continued to operate in the north.

In the first year of the Diem regime, the U.S. poured in \$214 million in military aid and similar amounts in economic support. Some 1,600 U.S. military personnel, most operating surreptitiously, moved in to set up Diem's new army and police.

### Terror in countryside

Diem unleashed a reign of terror in the countryside to destroy the Vietnamese Communist Party. In the years after 1955, about 90,000 suspected CP members were executed, and up to 100,000 were jailed.

Many militants spent years living in caves and tunnels. In two districts near Saigon, only 6 out of some 1,000 party members survived the 1950s.

In January 1959, the CP leadership decided to take up arms again. The first armed action took place on January 17, 1960, in Ben Tre in the Mekong Delta, signaling the start of the "second resistance."\*

With the renewal of armed resistance in the countryside, the Diem regime, with Washington's backing, began herding peasants into rural concentration camps, called "strategic villages."

At the same time, the number of U.S. military advisers in South Vietnam again rose, to 685, and more military aid was sent by Eisenhower.

President Kennedy took office one year and three days after the Ben Tre action. In his campaign, he had called for a huge increase in U.S. arms spending, claiming a need to catch up with the Soviets.

But Richard Walton points out that "not only was the United States vastly stronger, but its superiority was growing steadily, for the Soviet Union had reduced its military spending."

In addition, there was no "missile gap" — a term popularized by Kennedy in his election campaign. The U.S. had a 3-1 advantage in missiles and a 10-1 advantage in intercontinental bombers.

But Kennedy pressed ahead with his arms plan. As Kennedy aide Theodore Sorensen admits, "In three years Kennedy's buildup of the most powerful military force in human history — the largest and swiftest buildup in this country's peacetime history . . . provided him, as he put it, with a versatile arsenal ranging from the most massive deterrents to the most subtle influences."

Kennedy was particularly keen on "counterinsurgency," that is, fighting guerrilla forces. As planning for the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba was in its final stage, Kennedy was already stepping up

U.S. military operations in Vietnam and Laos.

On March 9, 1961, Kennedy's National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy sent a memo to Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara. Bundy reminded McNamara of "the President's instruction that we make every possible effort to launch guerrilla operations in Viet-minh territory at the earliest possible time," and asked him to "report to the President as soon as feasible your views on what actions might be undertaken in the near future and what steps might be taken to expand operations."

On April 12, 1961, Deputy Presidential Assistant for National Security Walt W. Rostow sent a memo to Kennedy that proposed "introducing into Viet-Nam operation a substantial number of Special Forces types."

The very day this memo was written — just five days before the beginning of the Bay of Pigs invasion — Kennedy was lying to the American people about U.S. involvement against Cuba. At a press conference he flatly stated that "there will not be, under any conditions, an intervention in Cuba by the United States armed forces."

In fact, however, the whole invasion was planned and financed by the U.S. There were U.S. planes flown by Americans. The frogmen who were first ashore in Cuba were Americans. U.S. ships transported the invaders and U.S. naval units backed them up. And Americans were killed in the operations.

Despite the defeat of the Bay of Pigs invasion by the Cuban people, Kennedy continued to step up U.S. involvement in Vietnam. Two weeks after the invasion of Cuba, Kennedy decided to send 400 Special Forces troops, Green Berets, to South Vietnam.

### Giap controlled by Peking?

Roger Hilsman, a Kennedy appointee in the State Department, articulated the administration's line on the struggle in Vietnam. In a 1962 introduction to Viet Minh General Vo Nguyen Giap's *People's War, People's Army*, Hilsman claimed that "General Giap is actually an 'advance man' for Chinese Communist power." In fact, said Hilsman, "he and his doctrines are serving Chinese purposes by accomplishments that could not be brought about by the Chinese or by open and avowed friends of theirs."



U.S. intervention began with decision to provide military and economic aid to French colonial army, shown here surrendering to Vietnamese. In 1954, Washington debated use of tactical nuclear weapons to avert defeat of French garrison at Dien Bien Phu.

The Vietnamese struggle was not indigenous, said Hilsman. "The Communists," he insisted, "have developed a new kind of aggression in which one country sponsors internal war within another." (Emphasis in original.) This is done through "the use of native and imported guerrillas."

This fantastic claim should be familiar to all who have heard Alexander Haig argue that the guerrillas in El Salvador are totally organized, sponsored, and controlled by Cuba and armed by Nicaragua.

### 'Camelot' on the Mekong

According to Hilsman, "the strategic villages," i.e., the rural concentration camps, "are crucial in countering the tactics of General Giap."

Hilsman admits that "when one throws a barbed-wire fence around a village, when one sets up a curfew system and fires upon any moving object outside the fence at that hour, a degree of regimentation is implied."

But not to worry! He notes that "our great-grandfathers did not like to have to ask everyone to be 'inside the stockade at sundown.' They did not like to bring up their children in such an atmosphere — but they built the stockades as a first step toward building a civilization in which stockades would be unnecessary."

By 1962, the Diem regime reported it had built 4,000 strategic villages, containing 39 percent of South Vietnam's population. Some 7,000 more were in the planning stages. Furthermore, the U.S. began spraying chemical defoliants like Agent Orange on the Vietnamese countryside in 1961 in order to destroy crops and woodlands used by guerrilla supporters — i.e., the Vietnamese people.

### Kennedy okays escalation

Despite stepped-up U.S. aid to Diem, the Vietnamese people were on the verge of toppling the dictatorship by late 1961. In response, Kennedy began planning for the massive introduction of U.S. combat troops to turn the tide, although this was hidden from the American people at the time.

A November 8, 1961, memo to Kennedy from Defense Secretary McNamara and his deputy, Roswell Gilpatric, discussed the implications of "the fall of South Vietnam to Communism." It

\*On February 7, 1968, during the NLF's Tet Offensive, the city of Ben Tre became world famous when a U.S. officer told the press that "it became necessary to destroy the town to save it."





**Left: Under President John Kennedy (seen here with Gen. Maxwell Taylor and brother Robert), U.S. troop strength rose from 685 to 16,000. Robert Kennedy assured South Vietnamese dictator Ngo Dinh Diem: "We are going to win in Vietnam. We will remain here until we do." Right: Planting bamboo stakes to fortify a "strategic village." Program was part of U.S. strategy to crush massive support for guerrillas among peasant population.**

pointed out that "the chances are against, probably sharply against, preventing that fall by any measures short of the introduction of U.S. forces on a substantial scale." (Emphasis added.)

The memo called for sending an initial 8,000 U.S. troops under the guise of flood-relief humanitarian help, and pointed out "that the maximum U.S. forces required on the ground in Southeast Asia will not exceed 6 divisions, or about 205,000 men."

That same month, Kennedy received a top-secret message from Gen. Maxwell Taylor on the situation in South Vietnam. Taylor said that sending U.S. ground combat forces was "an essential action" and added that "I do not believe that our program to save South Vietnam will succeed without it."

Kennedy accepted these recommendations, including the guise under which the troops would be sent. On December 14, 1961, Kennedy wrote to Diem that "in response to your request . . . we shall promptly increase our assistance to your defense effort as well as help relieve the destruction of the floods."

With the cover story in place, the number of U.S. troops in South Vietnam rose from 1,364 at the end of 1961 to 9,865 at the end of 1962. And as the McNamara memo shows, Kennedy knew this was only the start of a much larger buildup of U.S. forces.

Despite the addition of these 8,000 U.S. troops, the Diem regime continued to fall apart. Even Joseph Buttinger, once one of Diem's strongest U.S. backers, admitted that by 1962 Diem was a hated man. "Opposed by the intellectuals, despised by the educated middle class, rejected by businessmen, hated by the youth and by all nationalists with political ambitions, and totally lacking in mass support, the Diem government had to rely for its survival on an apparatus of coercion."

Nonetheless, Robert Kennedy, a member of the cabinet as well as the president's brother, went to Saigon in 1962 to assure Diem that "we are going to win in Vietnam; we will remain here until we do win."

During the summer of 1963, South Vietnam's cities were rocked by anti-Diem demonstrations organized by Buddhists. During the demonstrations, eight monks and nuns burned themselves to death to call attention to the repression.

#### The 'domino theory'

Kennedy, however, remained strongly committed to U.S. intervention. On a September 9, 1963, television news show, Kennedy was asked if he agreed with the "domino theory."

"I believe it," Kennedy answered. "China is so large, looms so high just beyond the frontiers, that if South Vietnam went, it would not only give them an improved geographic position for a guerrilla assault on Malaya, but would give the impression that the wave of the future in Southeast Asia was China and the Communists."

Kennedy emphatically rejected the advice of those who said that "they don't like the government in Saigon [and] that

we should withdraw." Instead, said Kennedy, "I think we should stay."

Kennedy realized, however, that Diem would have to go if the situation was to be salvaged. In October, the U.S. ambassador to Saigon and the CIA told "appropriate" generals that Washington would "not thwart a coup," and on November 1, 1963, Diem was overthrown and murdered, three weeks before Kennedy died.

On the very day Kennedy was shot — November 23, 1963 — he admitted that "without the United States, South Vietnam would collapse overnight." By then the number of U.S. troops in the country had grown to 16,000.

Within 48 hours of taking office, Lyndon Johnson announced that U.S. military involvement in South Vietnam would continue.

Another escalation was about to begin. On March 17, 1964, Robert McNamara reported to the National Security Council that South Vietnam was on the "verge of total collapse." He proposed another increase in the number of U.S. troops, additional covert actions against North Vietnam, and a long-term bombing campaign against the north.

Johnson approved all these proposals, carrying out Kennedy's program of doing whatever was needed to prevent a victory by the Vietnamese liberation struggle. The ever-growing U.S. military commitment was determined by the growing strength of the National Liberation Front and the ever-impending collapse of the puppet Saigon regime.

But as we have seen, Washington was

deeply involved in fighting the war in Vietnam long before the first U.S. ground troops were sent in. We should always remember this when looking at the present situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

In Central America, the Reagan administration is already far along the war path followed earlier in Vietnam. U.S. advisers are training and leading the Salvadoran regime's troops. There are nearly 100 U.S. military advisers in Honduras. Washington has admitted it

is funding a covert war against Nicaragua. It constantly threatens Cuba and Grenada through provocative naval maneuvers and practice invasions.

The Reagan administration promises that it has no plans to send any U.S. combat troops to Central America "at this time." We should recall that on October 21, 1964, President Johnson assured us that "we are not about to send American boys nine or ten thousand miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves."

## Forgotten quotations from Kennedy

A persistent myth has developed around the presidency of John Kennedy. If you go back and look at what Kennedy actually said and did during his election campaign and in office, you are struck by the parallels between his speeches and those of Ronald Reagan.

Kennedy and Reagan both campaigned for, and carried out, massive increases in U.S. arms spending. Both claimed, falsely, that the Soviet Union had surpassed the U.S. militarily.

In a campaign speech at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, Kennedy explained why he wanted an arms buildup: "The enemy is the communist system itself — implacable, insatiable, unceasing in its drive for world domination. For this is not a struggle for the supremacy of arms alone — it is also a struggle for supremacy between two conflicting ideologies: freedom under god versus ruthless, godless tyranny."

Kennedy and Reagan both blamed the Cuban revolution for Latin American upheavals. In a Cincinnati campaign speech, Kennedy claimed that Cuba had become "a base from which to carry communist infiltration and subversion throughout the Americas."

Kennedy bemoaned the fact that "we have no Cuban Voice of America broadcasts in Spanish at all," and called for "a major broadcast program for Cuba." Twenty years later, Reagan proposed setting up Radio Martí to beam U.S. propaganda to Cuba.

Kennedy pledged to "end the harassment, which this government has carried on, of liberty-loving anti-Castro forces," saying they "should not be constantly handicapped by our immigration and Justice Department authorities."

Today, Cuban and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary exiles openly train in camps in Florida and California.

## Media admits El Salvador election fraud

BY FRED MURPHY

Two months after the U.S. capitalist news media universally hailed the Salvadoran elections as a stunning defeat for the revolutionary forces and an unprecedented triumph for democracy, the true scope of the fraud perpetrated by Washington and its local puppets has begun to emerge.

On election day, March 28, television screens across the United States portrayed long lines of Salvadoran voters at polling booths, supposedly defying guerrilla threats (even though the revolutionaries had explicitly stated that they would not try to prevent people from voting).

Afterwards, in a typical comment, *Time* magazine reported "the most hopeful news from Central America in a long time: the record turnout of 1.4 million voters, more than double what U.S. officials had predicted." The "fundamental political result," *Time* asserted, was "that leftist guerrillas had been discredited."

Even the radical U.S. weekly *Guardian* deplored the "public relations fiasco" supposedly suffered by the revolutionaries as "stunning numbers of voters poured into polling places" in El Salvador.

Now, however, the *New York Times* itself has admitted that the voter turnout was not what it was cracked up to

be. The June 4 *Times* quoted a forthcoming study by the Central American University in San Salvador that found "serious indications that lead to the confirmed reasonable conclusion that there was massive fraud in the number of voters."

An article by Thomas Sheehan in the June 3 *Times* summarized the study's findings:

"The university researchers argue that the actual number of votes, far from being about 1.5 million [as the regime claimed], could not have exceeded 800,000 and, more likely, was probably about 700,000. . . .

"A simple calculation of the number of available ballot boxes and the time required to vote shows that it was physically impossible for 1.5 million people to have voted legally on March 28.

"The Central Election Board prepared 4,556 ballot boxes, each able to hold 500 ballots, but since at least 30 municipalities did not vote, only 4,021 boxes were actually used. . . .

"The booths remained open for only eight hours on average and in some places did not receive ballots until after midday. At the accelerated rate of two and one-half minutes per vote, the maximum number of votes would be 772,032, or 50 percent fewer than the official final tally. If one uses the Election Board's estimate of three minutes

per vote, the maximum would be 643,360, or 60 percent fewer."

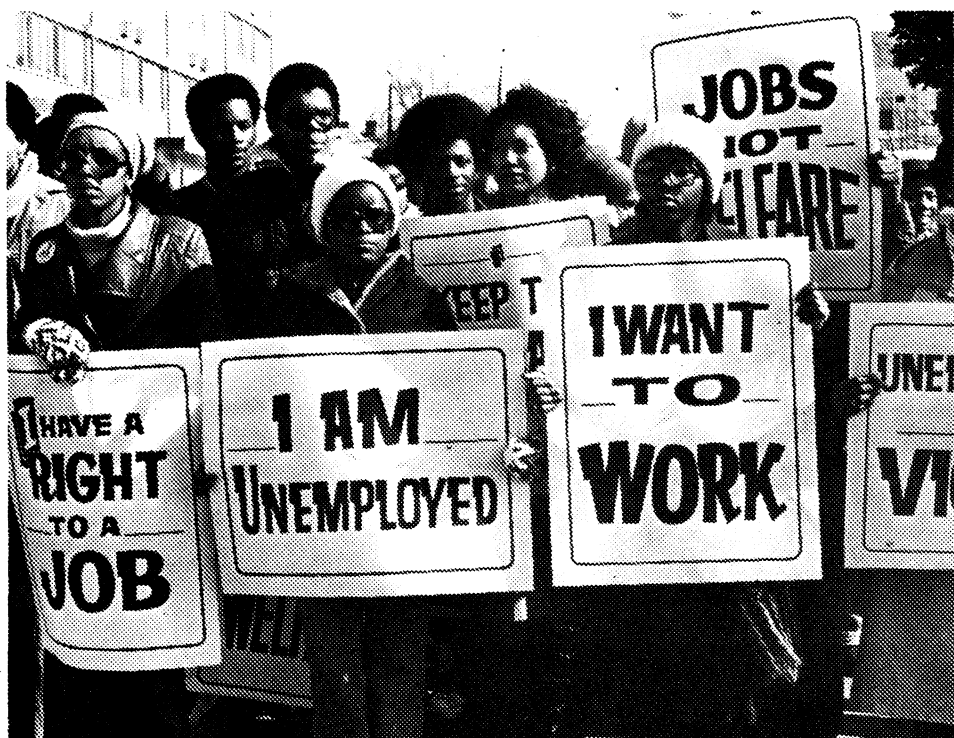
Sheehan also noted that the day after the election, U.S. ambassador to El Salvador Deane Hinton "enjoined leaders of the political parties from discussing electoral fraud" and that "since then a deputy in the Constituent Assembly has publicly referred to 'the pact' agreed upon by the parties not to mention maneuvers to increase the vote."

In the June 4 *Times*, correspondent Raymond Bonner cited a diplomat in San Salvador who "thought ballot boxes had been stuffed." Another source, Bonner reported, "said he thought the results were inflated at the national telecommunications center, which is run by the army and which received the vote tallies from the provinces."

As further details become known and expose just how phony the March 28 elections really were, the Reagan administration will face still greater difficulty in presenting the new regime there in a favorable light.

Subscribe to *Perspectiva Mundial*, biweekly, Spanish-language sister publication of the *Militant*. \$2.50 for 6 issues, \$8 for 6 months, or \$16 for one year. Write to 408 West St., New York, New York 10014.

# Where unemployment comes from and how the labor movement can fight it



Militant/Sid Fine

BY WILLIAM GOTTLIEB

On May 12, pilots for Braniff airlines received an urgent radio message. They were to turn around and, if at all possible, land at Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport.

The pilots had just been fired, literally in midair. So had some 9,000 other Braniff employees, including all unionized workers. Only a handful of management employees were retained.

As such shutdowns and layoffs spread, workers everywhere are asking, Will I be next?

## Unemployment: the real picture

In April the government counted 10.3 million people as unemployed, about the same number as during the Great Depression year of 1938. But the government figure doesn't include some 1.3 million people who have given up looking for work. Nor does it include the 5.8 million people who are working part time, though they want full-time jobs.

Adding these people to the official jobless tally gives us 17.4 million people either fully or partially unemployed.

As is always the case, Blacks and other oppressed nationalities are hit much harder than whites. Among Black teenagers the official joblessness rate is almost 50 percent!

Wage workers aren't the only ones affected by the recession. Family farmers are caught in the worst crisis since the days of the Great Depression. Farm income after expenses has dropped sharply, and thousands of farmers are being forced to sell off their land, machinery, and livestock to meet payments to the banks.

## Three years of recession

The U.S. economy has been in a recession for the last three years, with only a six-month recovery during the second half of 1980. Such a brief movement does not represent a real upturn in the capitalist business cycle. The current slump is the longest since the 1929-33 depression. And there is still no clear indication when the bottom will finally be reached.

This prolonged recession has shown that working people have no effective protection against unemployment.

Government-sponsored unemployment-insurance benefits have proven to be totally inadequate. Of those officially listed as unemployed, only two out of every five are eligible for compensation, since unemployment insurance lasts only six or nine months, depending on the state. Every week, 36,000 more jobless workers lose their benefits.

Moreover, even those who are covered by the program are only partly protected, since unemployment checks usu-

ally cover half their normal wages, often less.

Private unemployment-insurance plans, such as the SUB plans negotiated by the auto and steel unions, have also proven to be inadequate. As under the government-sponsored plan, workers are not protected from long-term unemployment, since benefits run out after a certain period of time. Moreover, this deep and drawn-out recession has exhausted the funds of many of these plans. Five of the largest steel producers have cut off SUB benefits altogether; in auto, SUB payments have been curtailed.

The plight of the jobless is worsened still more by the Reagan-Congress cutbacks of food stamps, welfare, and other social programs.

Increasingly, the kind of utter pauperization associated with depressions of the past is reappearing. In New York, Washington, and many other cities, tens of thousands of people are living in the streets, sleeping on park benches or subway cars, panhandling a few pennies from passers-by to be able to eat.

## Emergency measures

This economic catastrophe calls for emergency measures to protect millions of working people from pauperization. The labor movement should put forward a fighting program that includes:

- Full unemployment compensation at union-scale wages for all the unemployed, including young people who have never had a job, for as long as they are unemployed.
- Banning all forced overtime and reducing the workweek with no reduction in pay in order to spread the available work.
- Stop giveback contracts and "concession bargaining." Experience has shown these don't save jobs; they only increase corporate profits at our expense. For cost-of-living wage increases and escalator clauses in all union contracts, Social Security benefits, and retirement plans, so that workers can protect themselves from the ravages of inflation.
- Open the books of the companies that plead poverty in order to blackmail workers into making concessions.
- Stop plant closings and layoffs. Corporations that refuse to stay open should be nationalized and managed by publicly-elected boards, with job conditions, health, and safety under workers control.
- No cutbacks in affirmative-action programs. Stop discriminatory layoffs that undermine the gains made by women and the oppressed nationalities through such programs.
- An immediate moratorium on mort-

gage foreclosures or evictions of workers who own or rent their homes and of working farmers who own or rent their land. An end to the rent and mortgage system by making all land public property.

- Establish a massive program of public works to build mass transit systems for our cities, low-cost public housing, and thousands of new schools and hospitals.

- Finance these measures through elimination of the war budget and a steep, progressive income tax on corporations and the rich.

## Production for profit

Why are such measures necessary? Wouldn't it be better to focus on bringing about an economic recovery? To understand why this won't work it is necessary to look at the real nature of the crisis that is facing us.

Capitalist production is production for profit. The amount produced is determined not by how much people need, but by how much money can be made by some private capitalist.

When the economy is in an upswing and the market is expanding, the bosses trip all over themselves to buy more plants and hire more workers, hoping to capture the largest possible share of the market and of the profits the workers produce.

But because each capitalist does this on their own, without taking into account the additional production set in motion by the others, soon too much is being produced — not "too much" in the sense that it is more than people need, but rather more than they can afford to buy.

One solution to this problem could be across-the-board wage increases to raise workers' purchasing power. But this would undercut profits — and without profits there is no production under capitalism.

## How a recession happens

Once there is a "surplus" of goods that can't find buyers in a major sector of the economy, this crisis of overproduction tends to feed on itself. Layoffs to reduce production in one industry — say, car manufacturing — soon lead to further cuts in supplying industries, such as steel, and in the transportation and sales network that services the auto industry.

Further layoffs mean further reductions in the purchasing power of working people, i.e. reduced demand, multiplying the effect of the initial oversupply and spreading it throughout the economy.

An oversupply of consumer goods means also that there is an excess of productive capacity — too many factories and raw materials. In a slump, the least profitable plants and mines are shut down permanently, eliminating the surplus productive capacity accumulated during previous booms.

During a recession, economic activity spirals down until the surplus inventories and factories are eliminated. The stage is then set for a new economic expansion (which will itself end in a new bust), but at incredible cost to millions of workers, working farmers, and their families.

## 'Pump priming'

This roller-coaster capitalist business cycle has explosive political implications. Even in the best of times workers know it is only a matter of months, or at most a couple of years, before the economy slumps and layoffs come again. The boom-bust cycle demonstrates that the anarchistic, exploitative capitalist profit system must be replaced with a system where production is planned with the aim of satisfying human needs.

Since the 1930s the federal government has been compelled to try to establish some control over the business cycle.

Through various programs, the government seeks to inject money into the economy during a recession to shore up purchasing power and cut short the downward spiral.

But there is a catch. Capitalism as an economic system *needs* depressions to liquidate "surplus" commodities, factories, and mines.

"Pump priming" to soften the impact of recessions and cut them short actually *worsens* the underlying problem of overproduction.

Over time, successive rescue operations lead to severe inflation and rising interest rates, indicating that the capitalist class is approaching the limit beyond which it cannot push overproduction any further. The only solution is a huge depression to liquidate the accumulated "surplus" goods, factories, and mines.

Pump priming can only put off major economic downturns, but at the price of making them more severe.

## Reactionary policies

This underlying economic reality determines the reactionary policies of both the Democrats and Republicans.

For example, government officials are following a relatively "tight" monetary policy, restricting the growth of the money supply, instead of, in effect, letting the printing presses run in order to pull the economy out of the slump. The rulers fear the more traditional pump-priming approach would lead to explosive inflation, with catastrophic repercussions throughout the economy.

Politicians like Reagan have taken to denouncing high interest rates as responsible for the prolongation of the current recession. But they never explain *why* interest rates are so high — although the answer is obvious.

Interest rates are high because the Wall Street loan sharks feel any investment at this juncture is a risky proposition. Despite three years of recession, not nearly enough surplus goods and factories have been liquidated to set the stage for a new and broad expansion of the economy, as opposed to a weak and inflationary recovery.

## Military budget

Under the current conditions of scarce credit and high interest rates, the huge military buildup is an extremely destabilizing factor. The government can still borrow money to pay for the Pentagon budget. But when Washington borrows \$100 billion a year or more, and the supply of credit is limited, that means that somebody gets squeezed out. Many workers, working farmers, and small businessmen can't borrow at all. The reduction in borrowing leads to fewer purchases of commodities and thus to even higher unemployment.

For these reasons, it is utopian to try to "fix" the U.S. economy so it won't have recessions or depressions. The present slump doesn't mean capitalism isn't working right: massive unemployment and recessions are an inescapable part of the way capitalism works.

Neither President Reagan nor the Democratic and Republican politicians in Congress are offering a program of full unemployment compensation, shortening the workweek, launching a massive public works program, and the other measures outlined above. That's because the U.S. government is beholden to the banks and big business: in a conflict between profits and people, people lose.

## Workers and farmers gov't

To implement an emergency program that can protect working people from the economic catastrophe that faces us, we need a government of, by, and for working people — a workers and farmers government.

Continued on Page 13



# Why Pentagon wants to streamline your mind

## Fired antiwar unionist describes gov't assault on workers' rights



Harris Freeman

Militant/Kelley Lawrence

The following is taken from a speech by Harris Freeman, who was fired from McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis for his political views. Freeman is a member of International Association of Machinists Lodge 837B. He is also a member of the Socialist Workers Party

Big business and the U.S. government are out to streamline your mind — to limit what you read, to make you think twice about what you say, and to limit your right to know. Why?

Today, the U.S. government is at war. And we have a government-inspired disinformation campaign to convince us that our military is unprepared, defense spending is too low; that we have too few nuclear warheads, soldiers and battleships; and that the dominoes are falling in our own "backyard" of Central America. Terrorists and spies are popping up everywhere because internal security operations are collapsing.

Fueled by the reality of U.S. involvement in Central America, and by the nuclear war such such involvement

could threaten, millions of Americans are engaged in a public dialogue on how to fight the government's war policies.

Polls and surveys show 89 percent of Americans opposed to U.S. troops being sent to El Salvador under any condition. Yet the undeclared war our government is fighting in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala continues to escalate. Massive U.S. aid is going to the British war on Argentina. The American people sense this deeply.

The potential and scope of antiwar sentiment will be seen on June 12, outside the United Nations in New York. Literally hundreds of thousands of unionists, Blacks, Latinos, and other working people will gather to say no to the wars Washington is dragging us into.

The government is especially anxious to keep those workers who build the bombs, nuclear submarines, and fighter jets out of any antiwar movement. One of the crudest campaigns against democratic and union rights is taking place in the war industries of this country.

### Strange things began happening

About the time El Salvador and the nuclear arms debate took center stage, strange things began happening in war plants. Shiny, slick new posters appeared on company bulletin boards reminding us to be security conscious. At McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis, every union member, over 11,000 of us, received copies of the company's new security handbook, titled "Counter Intelligence Awareness Briefing." The cover is an enlarged fingerprint.

The content warns workers to be tight-lipped about their job. They advise us not to even tell people where we work. They explain you never know who is a Russian spy. It could be a co-worker or a neighbor or maybe someone you meet at a PTA meeting.

Well, has the campaign brought any results? Did they find anyone stealing blueprints, secret weapons, or new industrial secrets?

The Pentagon found none of this, but they did get some results. They did find some unionists, dozens of them, who were in their opinion security risks.

They were opponents of nuclear arms or outspoken supporters of the air controllers. Some were involved in fights to improve conditions on the shop floor. Others opposed U.S. involvement in El Salvador. One of them even traveled to Cuba — a sure-fire security risk. Many were radically minded unionists and socialists, members of the SWP or Young Socialist Alliance.

Peter Fisher was a pipefitter and union activist at General Dynamics shipyard in Connecticut, where they build the Trident submarine. He spoke against nuclear arms at a rally sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee.

The government took away his security clearance and threatened his job. It took him a year and a half to win back his clearance.

### Company hit lists

In January 1981 the Lockheed-Georgia company fired 15 members of the Machinists union, Lodge 709. Most of them were members of the SWP and YSA. Routine firing, said management; false statements on their job applications.

Through legal action, the fired unionists forced Lockheed to make public 60 pages of secret company security memos. They showed that Lockheed security officers compiled a hit list of union members who were suspected of being "subversive." They looked for union members with strong opinions on union rights.

Last September, my boss approached me and two co-workers at McDonnell. He gave us a five-page security questionnaire to fill out. The company demanded we go immediately to the security office and get fingerprinted. When we asked for some reasons for this, we were told to comply or be fired.

After meetings with company security, phone calls to the Pentagon, and lots of red tape, they told us that information had come to their attention that called into question our loyalty and security clearance.

Workers in the war industry are now becoming acquainted with DISCO, an

acronym that sounds harmless enough. But DISCO — the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office — is not harmless.

Its computer files on defense workers with security clearances is of Orwellian proportions. DISCO subjects 10 million workers and their families to security screening. Their computer contains information in personal history, union activity, political views, and affiliations of millions of workers. They get their information from company private eyes, cops, the FBI, and other political police agencies.

Maybe you are a union activist or marched in defense of Black rights or against U.S. intervention in El Salvador. If you did this and your factory has a Pentagon contract, there is a good chance your name is in the computer. They routinely keep records on what you read, what magazines you subscribe to, your attendance at union meetings, and your political affiliations.

They routinely violate your constitutional rights, your privacy, national labor legislation, and in effect tear up your union contract — all in the name of "national security."

### Who the targets are

The target of the Pentagon's national security program is not just a few union members who belong to groups that the government labels as "subversive." Any worker can be fingered by a company spy in a union meeting or on the job. Anyone the company doesn't like can be labeled a security risk.

The goal is to drive opponents of government and corporate policy out of the plants, intimidate workers from participating in their unions, and reverse the growing antiwar sentiment in the war industries. The logic is to extend this to other industries. And in previous times of war, this is exactly what the government has done.

The response that I have gotten from my fellow workers and other unionists has convinced me they have not achieved their aims. The firings of myself and other trade unionists and the response we have gotten have confirmed to me what I have thought for a long time — the 1980s will not be a repeat of the McCarthy era of the 1950s.

Our union filed a grievance charging the company with harassment. They saw it as a contract issue that threatened the collective bargaining agreement.

Union brothers and sisters began approaching us with stories of how company security went after them or their friends.

A shop steward, an activist in the movement for Black rights, asked us how he could get his files from the Pentagon. He was sure they spied on him and other Black workers at McDonnell.

Young workers approached us and told us they thought the company was after us because we were antiwar. One union brother even explained how he quit his job at McDonnell because he hated making weapons of destruction, but finally came back because he couldn't find another job. People were glad to see us fighting back.

I hope you will join this nationwide labor campaign against company and government attacks on the political rights of labor. The Political Rights Defense Fund and its efforts need your support.

Raise this issue at your union meeting or political or civic organization. Your help will be crucial in stopping this antilabor campaign and defending the labor movement.

### You can help

To aid the fight against attacks on labor's political rights, contact the Political Rights Defense Fund, P.O. Box 649, Cooper Station, New York, New York 10003.

## Calif. union files suit against INS raids

BY HAYDEN PERRY

OAKLAND, Calif. — Local 164 of the International Molders and Allied Workers Union has filed suit against the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for violation of civil rights, violation of equal protection of the law, and for discriminatory practices against one class of people.

This action was announced by Ignacio de la Fuente, business agent of the union, at a recent meeting held by the Héctor Marroquín Defense Committee to protest the deportation raids of the INS. The meeting was held in the Oakland Chicano community at the La Fonda Restaurant, which had recently been

raided and had several employees abducted by *la migra*.

Brother Fuente pointed out that INS agents look only for brown-skinned workers when they raid a plant. He said the union's lawsuit is demanding not only damages and lost wages for workers who have been arrested, but also an injunction to halt the whole discriminatory drive.

The immigration raids are a threat to all unions, Fuente said. You can't organize a plant when workers are fearful of being arrested and deported at any moment. The best union militants are likely to be the first targets of INS sweeps.

## The fight against unemployment

Continued from Page 12

Such a government would place the interests of Braniff workers ahead of those of the bankers. It would eliminate the Pentagon's war budget, freeing up those resources for socially useful purposes. It would outlaw race and sex discrimination — and make it stick. It would guarantee working farmers that neither the bankers nor absentee owners could take away their land.

Implementation of such a program would point the way toward a complete reorganization of the U.S. economy to replace the anarchistic system of production for profit with a planned economy designed to meet human needs.

This kind of government can't be gotten by supporting the Democratic or Republican parties. To fight for our own government, working people need our own party, a labor party based on the unions that would rally around it Blacks, Latinos, women, and farmers — all of the exploited and oppressed.

This is the perspective being put forward in the 1982 elections by the candidates of the Socialist Workers Party and by the independent campaign for governor of California of Seaside City Council member Mel Mason.

We urge you to support them and help take this message to working people throughout the United States.

The featured speaker of the meeting was Héctor Marroquín, who is the victim of a five-year campaign by the INS to deport him for his political beliefs. A leader of the Socialist Workers Party, Marroquín said FBI and CIA files were started on him when he was 16 and a student activist in Mexico.

The ruling class is alarmed when workers anywhere in Latin America fight for their rights, Marroquín declared. Their intervention in El Salvador indicates how far they will go. Latin Americans in the United States have been the first to protest U.S. intervention in Central America. The deportation raids are intended in part to silence those protests, Marroquín said. In response, workers must demand a halt to "Project Jobs" and an end to intervention in Central America.

Another speaker was Constantino Donatien, representing the Haitian Cultural Center in San Francisco. He told of the ruthless regime of the Duvalier family, which drives people to flee Haiti to save their lives. In one case, he said, forty pregnant women crowded into leaky boats to reach a land where their children might have a chance to live.

Donatien also called for the defeat of the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill now before Congress. This bill would impose the most onerous restrictions on the foreign born, and force every worker to carry a national identity card, he said.

Carlos Fuertas of the League of United Latin American Citizens also spoke.

## ERA demonstrators concerned on war

War was a big issue on people's minds as thousands rallied for the Equal Rights Amendment June 6. Actions took place in Tallahassee, Florida, Oklahoma City; Springfield, Illinois, and Raleigh, North Carolina. Supporters of the *Militant* sold 259 papers at the four rallies.

*Militant* saleswoman Sara Jean Johnston from Atlanta reports that at the Tallahassee action "we were the only ones raising the war issue."

Atlanta socialists sold T-shirts with the slogan "ERA yes! Draft No!" produced by the Young Socialist Alliance. Each person who bought a T-shirt also received a copy of the *Militant*. Thirty-two T-shirts were sold.

"The attraction to the shirts was because of the question of war," reports Johnston. "People saw the defeat of the ERA tied in with the government's war drive." Women were eager to get information on transportation to the huge peace rally in New York on June 12.

Rally participants were also receptive to the defense efforts on behalf of antiwar unionists who have been spied on and fired by the Defense Investigative Service and Lockheed-Georgia. Seventy people signed a petition on their behalf.

## St. Louis peace rally

Nearly 2,000 people participated in a disarmament rally in St. Louis on June 5. The main chant at the rally was "No more guns, no more war, U.S. out of El Salvador."

Socialists sold 50 *Militants* and 14 copies of the *Young Socialist* and reported a lot of interest among the crowd in pamphlets on Cuba and Nicaragua.

Over 100 signatures were obtained on petitions in defense of fired antiwar unionists at the McDonnell Douglas aircraft plant in St. Louis, and 1,000 leaflets announcing a rally in defense of political rights were distributed.

## New York sales brisk

As preparations for the demonstration on June 12 gear up, New York socialists are finding increased receptivity to the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Despite rainy weather over the June 5 weekend, socialists in Manhattan sold 50 *Militants* and 73 copies of *Perspectiva Mundial*. Forty-five *PMs* were sold at a socialist campaign street rally in the heart of an Argentine and Colombian community in Queens, and an additional 26 *PMs* were sold at the annual Puerto Rican Day Pa-

rade on Sunday, June 6. *PM's* opposition to the U.S.-British war on Argentina was a key factor in these sales.

At a meeting of Manhattan socialists on the evening of June 6, participants enthusiastically approved goals of 225 *Militants* and 100 *PMs* for the week, which is double their weekly goal.

## Phoenix sales win friends

Supporters of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* in Phoenix report that two readers have now joined them in their effort to circulate the socialist press.

A laid-off shop steward from the Inspiration copper mine in Globe, Arizona, took five copies of the *Militant* to sell to his friends.

In South Phoenix, a Chicano who owns a small TV repair business has asked for five *PMs* to sell from his shop.

If you would like to help get out the *Militant* and *PM*, contact the nearest branch of the Socialist Workers Party or chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance (see directory on page 21), or write to us at 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

SANDY SHERMAN

### Militant Tote Bag

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## SALES SCOREBOARD

(Militant issue #21, PM issue #10)				
Area	Militant Goal/Sold	PM Goal/Sold	Total Goal/Sold	%
Dallas*	25/59	15/1	40/60	150
Phoenix	90/110	45/56	135/166	123
St. Louis	90/104	0/0	90/104	116
Portland	40/41	0/0	40/41	103
Birmingham	90/92	0/0	90/92	102
Baltimore	110/109	0/2	110/111	101
Lincoln	40/40	0/0	40/40	100
Tucson	30/24	20/19	50/43	86
Schnectady	90/76	0/0	90/76	84
Louisville	80/67	0/0	80/67	84
Iron Range	50/37	0/0	50/37	74
Price	45/31	5/4	50/35	70
Manhattan	135/80	30/30	165/110	67
Denver	80/42	5/5	85/47	55
Tidewater	70/38	0/0	70/38	54
Salt Lake City	90/44	5/0	95/44	46
Toledo	50/22	0/1	50/23	46
Wash., D.C.	70/33	20/6	90/39	43
Atlanta	100/42	0/0	100/42	42
Houston*	50/21	10/4	60/25	42
Oakland	60/25	5/0	65/25	38
Los Angeles	140/41	25/22	165/63	38
San Diego	40/12	5/5	45/17	38
Kansas City	105/27	5/8	110/35	32
Seattle	80/24	3/1	83/25	30
Cincinnati	70/21	0/0	70/21	30
San Antonio*	35/12	15/3	50/15	30
Boston	140/40	10/2	150/42	28
Chicago	125/27	15/9	140/36	26
Detroit	115/30	5/0	120/30	25
Milwaukee	90/24	10/1	100/25	25
Philadelphia	140/33	15/3	155/36	23
Piedmont*	85/18	0/0	85/18	21
Miami	60/12	10/0	70/12	17
San Francisco	100/18	20/1	120/19	16
TOTALS	3,935/1,476	398/183	4,333/1,659	38

Areas not reporting: Albuquerque, Brooklyn, Charleston, Cleveland, Gary, Harrisburg, Indianapolis, Morgantown, New Orleans\*, Newark, Pittsburgh, San Jose, Twin Cities.  
\*Petitioning to put socialist candidates on the ballot.

# A demonstration aimed at the wrong target

BY NORTON SANDLER

NEW YORK — The Spring 1982 issue of the *New York Mobilizer*, the publication of the New York Mobilization for Survival, contains an article by long-time pacifist leader David Dellinger, entitled "June 14: A Special Day in Spring." The article motivates participation in protests on that date at the United Nations missions of the United States, France, Britain, China, and the Soviet Union.

These five have been picked as targets because they are the largest producers of nuclear weapons in the world.

No doubt many who participate in that protest will be doing so out of a strong desire to stop wars. And to march against the U.S., British, and French missions would be an appropriate way of registering opposition to imperialist war, including the threat of nuclear war.

The British government, with the backing of Washington and Paris, is presently waging a war against Argentina. Washington is waging a war against Nicaragua and backing the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

And the French imperialists have nearly 30,000 troops in Africa to maintain regimes friendly to their interests. France has recently beefed up its military force in the Caribbean to protect its colonial possessions there.

The wars waged by these powers to defend the interests of big business and bankers contain the possibility of escalating into nuclear war.

Protests, however, directed at the Soviet Union and China are aimed at the wrong target. They are not aimed at the

force that in our epoch is the real cause of war — the imperialist drive for profits. Such protests only help the real war-makers to get off the hook, and serve to fuel the anticommunist demagoguery they use to justify their wars.

The movie *Reds* dramatically depicts how from the earliest days of the Soviet state it has had to defend itself from imperialist threats. The movie shows the military intervention by the imperialist countries — including France, Britain, and the United States — which was aimed at overturning the state property, economic planning, and monopoly of foreign trade established by the workers and peasants as a result of the October 1917 revolution.

The imperialist governments have from that time to today remained hostile to the new social system brought about as a result of the 1917 revolution. And this threat has made it necessary for the Soviet Union to devote vast re-

sources to defend itself from imperialist attack.

It is only the capacity of the USSR to defend itself, including the development of nuclear weapons, that prevents the imperialist powers from attempting to reestablish capitalism there today.

Likewise, Washington poured gigantic resources into trying to prevent the victory of the Chinese revolution. In spite of detente, it maintains a hostile attitude to the new property forms that have been established there. If the Chinese people were unable to defend themselves, there is no question that the imperialists would probe the possibility of reestablishing capitalism there as well.

The imperialist governments continue to probe the possibility of forcibly reestablishing capitalism in all countries where it has been overturned, from Vietnam and Cuba to Eastern Europe. They do everything possible to prevent these workers' conquests from spread-

ing to other countries. That is why they are not idly standing by waiting for capitalism to be overturned in Nicaragua, Grenada, El Salvador, and Guatemala, but are militarily and politically mobilizing to prevent it.

Both Democratic and Republican officials tell us that the expenditures for the military are necessary for defense against the Soviet Union. But that myth is a cover-up for Washington's real policy of brutal aggression.

The massive military might of the United States, France, and Britain is aimed at preventing the workers and peasants of the world, the overwhelming majority of humanity, from breaking free of their domination.

Protests at the Soviet and Chinese missions not only will do nothing to help build the kind of movement necessary to stop imperialist aggression, but help to undermine the development of such a movement.

## \$50,000 fund launched for Mason campaign

OAKLAND — Barry Sheppard, director of the Mel Mason for Governor Campaign, has announced the launching of a special \$50,000 drive from now through Labor Day to finance stepped-up campaigning by the independent candidate for governor of California.

In a ruling May 28 by Superior Court Judge John Anton, Mason won the right to campaign full time. Mason had sued his employer, Monterey Peninsula College, for its refusal to grant him a leave of absence.

Mason, a socialist city councilman in Seaside, is now free to carry his campaign full time to workers and farmers throughout the state. Campaign staffers plan California-wide touring by Mason after June 12, when the candidate and his supporters will participate in the disarmament and antiwar demonstration.

Additionally, supporters are in the

midst of a massive effort to gather 180,000 signatures throughout the state by July 11 to place Mason's name on the November ballot.

Robin Maisel, an activist and chief attorney in the campaign, said Mason anticipates efforts to keep him off the ballot by state officials who wish to maintain the ballot monopoly of the Democratic and Republican parties.

For this reason, Mason petitioners plan to gather tens of thousands more signatures than the 113,000 required by law for independent candidates. (Democratic and Republican candidates have to submit only 60 signatures.)

The campaign has earmarked \$25,000 of the fund for the huge petitioning effort, to cover costs of printing petitions, petitioners' expenses, publicity materials, and initial legal costs.

The rest of the special "victory and fightback" fund, as Mason has termed

it, will be used to finance the candidate's travel and per diem expenses, and the printing of new literature.

Please fill out the coupon below. Make checks payable to the Mel Mason for Governor Campaign.

Mail to the Mel Mason for Governor Campaign, 2864 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, California 94609.

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Mail to the *Militant*, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.



# Ga. Teamsters defend socialist workers

## SWP campaign chairman fired on eve of testifying about harassment

BY MICHAEL GILLESPIE

ATLANTA — Socialist Workers 1982 Campaign Chairman Garrett Brown was summarily fired from his job May 24 on the eve of his scheduled testimony about harassment of campaign supporters in a current state of Georgia lawsuit against the SWP's 1981 campaign committee.

Brown, a forklift operator at Oxford Chemicals Inc.'s Camblee plant, was fired 10 minutes before the end of his work shift for alleged violations of safety rules. The firing follows a six-month company harassment campaign, which included slapping Brown with seven disciplinary "warning letters."

Teamsters Local 528, which represents Oxford's 100 production workers, has filed a grievance demanding Brown's reinstatement because the discharge violated the contract and was a direct reprisal for Brown's union activities and socialist political opinions.

Maceo Dixon, the SWP candidate for Georgia governor, also works at the plant and has been issued several warning letters recently as well. Both Brown and Dixon have been active in building the union and fighting widespread safety and health hazards at the chemical plant.

The political character of Brown's firing and Dixon's harassment is widely recognized in the plant. Twenty-five percent of the production workers signed a petition against company harassment of the two socialists the day before Brown's firing.

On May 25 Brown gave a two-and-a-half-hour deposition on his firing and the harassment of many other socialist campaign supporters and contributors to Assistant State's Attorney Patrick McKee.

In October 1981, the state of Georgia sued the Socialist Workers 1981 Campaign Committee. The state demanded the committee turn over the names, addresses, and employers of its campaign contributors in the 1981 elections for Atlanta mayor and city council.

The campaign committee, represented by an attorney from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), has refused to turn over lists of contributors because of four decades of documented harassment by government agencies and employers against socialist campaign supporters.

This documented harassment was the basis of a January 1979 federal district court decision in Washington, D.C., exempting all SWP campaign committees from disclosure of contributors' identities in all federal elections.

Numerous state courts or campaign finance commissions — including Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ohio — have granted socialist campaign committees similar exemptions for state and local elections.

The Georgia State Campaign and Fi-

nancial Disclosure Commission actually denied the Socialist Workers campaign committees such an exemption in 1977, but it took no action until October 1981. SWP campaign reports were filed without contributors' names in 1977 and 1978, at a time of extensive publicity about FBI crimes and illegal government spying.

On May 21, the ACLU and the Socialist Workers 1982 Campaign Committee gave McKee over 800 pages of FBI files, court documents, and other exhibits detailing government and employer harassment and reprisals in Georgia and nationally.

These reprisals include loss of jobs, loss of residence, physical violence and threats, illegal spying, break-ins and wiretaps, and harassing visits by FBI agents to relatives, employers, friends, landlords, and political associates.

In Atlanta, officials and supporters of the Socialist Workers 1982 Campaign Committee have been subjected to an apparently systematic campaign of harassing phone calls, damage to their automobiles, and tampering with mail.

Democratic Mayor Andrew Young and Atlanta police have known about this campaign since February, but have

done nothing to investigate or halt it.

Also deposed by McKee on May 25 were Andrée Kahlmorgan, the 1981 SWP candidate for mayor, and Sidney Hunter, SWP candidate for city council. Kahlmorgan was herself fired from two jobs during the course of her campaign.

At a press conference immediately before the May 25 depositions, the SWP 1982 candidate for secretary of state, Tom Fiske, explained the reasons behind the state's lawsuit to reporters from five radio and one television station.

"This lawsuit by the state of Georgia is part of dozens of political and physical attacks launched against the Socialist Workers Party here and across the country in recent months, from shooting up our campaign headquarters to the attempted drug frame-up of SWP leader and independent candidate for California governor, Mel Mason.

"These attacks are part of the bipartisan general offensive against the democratic rights of working people at a time of war — U.S. war in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and the South Atlantic, and war against workers and farmers at home," Fiske declared.

"This suit, which is without any legal



Militant/Andrée Kahlmorgan  
**Maceo Dixon, socialist candidate for governor of Georgia.**

basis, is simply an effort to tie up our committee's resources at a time when growing numbers of Georgia's workers and farmers are looking for an alternative to the Democrats' and Republicans' war drive and austerity plan.

"Our campaign sets an example for the labor movement of independent political action, and that's why we have been singled out for attack," Fiske concluded.

## 2,750 sign for Mason at Rose Bowl

BY DICK ROBERTS

LOS ANGELES — More than 2,750 people at the gigantic Peace Sunday rally here June 6 signed petitions to put independent gubernatorial candidate Mel Mason on the California ballot for November.

Mason's antiwar, antidraft, and anti-nuke stands were highly popular to the throngs of young people attending the Rose Bowl rally and rock concert.

Their signatures provided an inspiring lift-off to a five-week, statewide petitioning drive. Petitioners across California are aiming at collecting 180,000 signatures to qualify Mason for the November ballot.

"It is the easiest petitioning I've ever done," one Mason supporter told the *Militant*. "People look at Mel's leaflets and see 'No Draft.' They say, 'I don't want to be drafted,' and they sign. One said, 'This guy's got to get on the ballot.'"

"I found that there was a lot of interest once you started talking about the draft, and about Mason's opposition to the British-U.S. invasion of the Malvinas," another petitioner said.

"A lot of people signed simply because they believe an independent has the democratic right to be on the ballot," still another petitioner remarked.

Many GIs signed Mason's petitions. "I'm for anybody who's against the war," one of a bunch of sailors said.

The Peace Sunday petitioning launched the second phase of Mason's petitioning in California. In the first phase, 22,000 signatures were collected in lieu of a \$982 filing fee.

The launching of the new petitioning drive was marked by 115 Mason supporters at a rally at the First Unitarian Church June 5. There the Mason campaign attorney, Robin Maisel, hammered away at the electoral obstacles independent working-class candidates face:

"In this state Democratic and Republican candidates need only 100 signatures," Maisel said. "Independent candidates are required to get 113,000 signatures."

"A structure of laws has been built up over years to deprive working people of electoral rights."

He continued, "The right to vote did not exist for most people in this country until very recently."

Maisel traced the fight for the right to vote from the first period of U.S. history, when only propertied white males had voting rights.

"We are the inheritors of a 200-year-old fight for the right to vote," Maisel said.

He explained that the Mason for Governor Campaign plans to hand in 180,000 signatures, well over the legal requirement, but that these petitions might be rejected. In 1980, Democratic Party Secretary of State March Fong Eu

ruled the Socialist Workers and Communist parties off the ballot.

"We are going to take up this fight in the streets, where we'll be getting the signatures, and in the courts as well," Maisel said.

The Los Angeles rally raised \$2,300 for the ballot fight.

Other speakers at the rally included Mel Mason, Edgar Walker of the United Paper Workers union, Ollie Bivens of California Youth for Mel Mason, and Ysidro Leyva, a national coordinator of the campaign of Rosario Ybarra de Piedra, the Revolutionary Workers Party candidate for president of Mexico.

BY OLLIE BIVENS

LOS ANGELES — Mel Mason was enthusiastically received when he delivered a hard-hitting attack on the rulers of this country at Crenshaw High School June 7.

In two morning classes, Mason talked with 90 students at the overwhelmingly Black school. Nineteen students signed up to support his independent campaign for governor.

Mason denounced the U.S. war drive that increasingly threatens Blacks and other young people. He explained that Los Angeles's Black Democratic Party mayor, Tom Bradley, "is doing nothing to stop the war drive because he represents the ruling rich."

"Bradley is what his first name implies," Mason said. "His police department is used against Blacks. That department does not represent Blacks."

Mason explained that the civil rights movement got derailed into the Democratic Party.

"Every one of us is still under attack because the enemy is still there," he said.

One student asked Mason if he says the same thing to whites. "I always speak the same," he answered. "I tell the truth to whoever I'm speaking to."

"I understand why you ask this question. When Black Democrats speak in front of an all-Black audience, they show up in a dashiki and a big Afro wig. But when they speak before the Chamber of Commerce, they're mild-mannered and wear a Brooks Brothers suit."

A teacher of one of the classes told Mason, "I may not agree with all of what you say, but if there's one thing I do agree on, it's what you say about Bradley."

## Mason: 'Why they want to stop my campaign'

Continued from Page 8

worked to get low-income housing for senior citizens. And to help Black people organize against police brutality.

Right now I'm using my office to provide support for a Black GI at Fort Ord, Anthony Bass, who is being railroaded. Anthony was attacked by 10 white racists. In the process of defending himself he was charged with assaulting 3 of those 10 GIs.

On May 4, Anthony was sentenced to one year at hard labor after a two-day court martial. The jury consisted in its overwhelming majority of high-ranking army officers. All of the white soldiers involved have been discharged from the army, in other words, set free, while Anthony is being sent to Leavenworth prison.

I have been explaining that as

workers and as Black workers, we have a stake in what happens to working-class GIs and Blacks who are in the military. As Anthony Bass said, he did not go into the army to fight in El Salvador. He joined the army to look for a better economic life. So we have a stake in what happens to these GIs and when they come under attack by the military — whether it's around the question of democratic rights or whether it's racism.

*Q. How does your fight for a leave of absence relate to your attempts to get on the ballot?*

*A. We look at the board's decision to deny my leave as the first shot in what we anticipate will be a volley of shots. The same forces who do not want me*

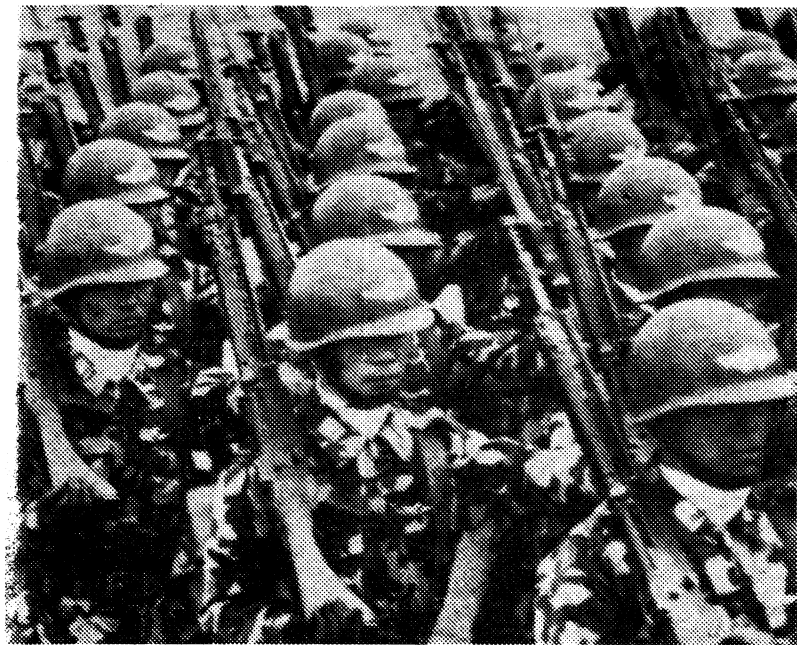
campaigning full-time do not want me on the ballot.

We are required to collect more than 113,000 signatures in order to get on the ballot. The Democrats and Republicans only have to collect 60!

Then even after we collect many more signatures than required, there is still no guarantee we will be on the ballot. There are all kinds of tricks and technicalities they will try to use. We know we will have a fight to get on the ballot.

They were hoping, I'm sure, that the board's decision would solve the problem of trying to rule us off the ballot. If they could have stopped the campaign at this point it would have served their interests very well.

But we will not be stopped. We will continue the fight until we are victorious.



# Japan's arms buildup: imperialist cop of Far Eastern world

A special 'Militant' interview

The Asian-American Caucus for Disarmament is one of several groups in New York City preparing for the June 12 antiwar march at the United Nations during the Second Special Session on Disarmament. On May 8 the caucus sponsored a forum. One of the featured speakers was Muto Ichiyo, director of the Pacific-Asia Resources Center, which publishes *AMPO: Japan-Asia Quarterly Review*.<sup>\*</sup> This Tokyo-based journal carries extensive coverage on political developments in Asia.

The day after the forum Muto gave Diane Wang the following interview on the militarization drive in Japan.

*Question. What is behind the current rearmament of Japan?*

*Answer.* Rearmament was done throughout the post-World War II years, but there is something special since 1978. Basically there are two factors at work.

One, Japan has become a big economic power, placing second in GNP next to the United States. Japan hopes to have its own imperialist superstructure, especially military, commensurate to the economic power it has.

But there is another factor, which is almost as important: American policy. The United States hopes to supplement its declining economy by strengthening its military structure all over the world, in order to basically continue control of the most vulnerable parts of its empire — Central America, South Africa, the Middle East, the Philippines, and Korea — all over.

But since this is happening because of the decline of American hegemony in general, it therefore has to force other countries to share what the Americans call the "military burden." That applies to Japan.

Therefore in 1978 the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty set up a joint security consultative council, where the uniformed officers and military leaders of both countries discuss their joint operational plans vis-à-vis a possible emergency situation in the Far East.

## Revolution in Korea

*Q. What would they consider an "emergency"?*

A. In the first place, it means suppression of possible revolutionary situations in the Korean peninsula.

In May 1980, some 800,000 Kwangju citizens made their historic uprising, spontaneously arming themselves. Out of the blood of the Kwangju citizens came the present regime. And this suppression by the Chun Doo Hwan regime was possible only with the strong backing of Gen. John Wickham, the head of the joint military command, without whose permission the South Korean army cannot mobilize its units. Because of Wickham's support, crack paratroopers were sent into the city and they brutally attacked the people.

After Kwangju the Koreans drew lessons. There have been many statements

that redefine the role of America in Korea. And in March some Korean groups set fire to the U.S. cultural center in Pusan.

Korea is a very sensitive part of the world, in a sphere of gravity of the United States, Japan, the Soviet Union, and China. The country is partitioned into two parts, and the Korean people have a deep desire to unify their country.

So any "emergency" that might arise would involve not only the Korean peninsula, but would have an impact on the whole area.

This would involve not just American interests, but also Japanese interests. The Japanese economic presence in South Korea is very heavy, and political involvement of Japan is also very close behind the new dictatorial regime.

Another aspect is that in the global American strategy the U.S. government has meted out a new role to the Japanese military. The American design is to transfer a part of its military forces stationed in Asia to the Middle East or Europe when crises happen in those areas. The Japanese role is to cover such U.S. operations.

It is very difficult to describe that strategy to the Japanese people as something to defend Japan or even Japanese imperialism, let alone the Japanese people.

## Armed struggle in Philippines

*Q. What is the concern for the Philippines?*

A. In the Philippines the armed struggle for national liberation has become the most advanced in all of Asia. The struggle of the Filipino people centering upon the New People's Army [MPA] seems to have reached such a stage that the Ferdinand Marcos government, backed by the United States, has started building strategic hamlets in Mindanao, according to recent reports.

The Moro army, which is a Muslim armed struggle, is also very advanced.

Some in the Philippines are anticipating American military intervention when their struggle reaches a certain stage.

Since the security treaty covers the Philippines, Japanese involvement is again automatic. Of course, Japanese capital is already there. It is very active in free trade zones, in investment in different enterprises, and in public investments. There is government money in the construction of dams, roads, ports, and free trade zones themselves.

But I expect that in the Philippines it will be mainly the Americans who try to control the situation in a bloody way. U.S. Vice-president George Bush went to the Philippines last year and made a statement praising Marcos for his great respect for parliamentary democracy and praising what is called normalization. Military aid to the Marcos government has been increased greatly since Carter's time.

So it is in this context that the militarization is proceeding.

## Japanese antiwar movement

*Q. What is the state of the antiwar movement in Japan?*

A. For many years we have had a very strong antiwar, peace movement. There is a history of it. The most recent explosion of antiwar, peace sentiment was during the Vietnam War. Many people — not only in traditional peace movements, but also a new radical wing — protested, particularly against the Japanese government's involvement on the side of the United States.

But after that came a downturn of the movement in general, although young workers did form antiwar youth committees. And there were committees for the farmers against the Narita [New Tokyo International] Airport, and numerous community groups fighting against nuclear power plants, or reckless "development" projects — all these gathered strength. So it is not correct to say that everything vanished.

More recently, however, Kwangju, as well as the case of Korean opposition leader Kim Dae Jung, came as a great stimulus to the Japanese people. The Kim Dae Jung case was not just a matter of one Korean politician, because of the circumstances. He was kidnapped from a Japanese hotel in 1973 by KCIA agents. Therefore the government had to say something.

The arrest of Kim Dae Jung and the

fear of a death sentence for him became a big political issue. The public reaction was also very strong. For some months all over Japan there were campaigns to help Kim Dae Jung and also to support the Kwangju uprising. A tremendous number of people donated money, and there were hunger strikes everywhere from 1980 through 1981.

Along with this, the rapid militarization caused alarm among different sectors of people, women in particular. A very active movement was started by women, getting thousands of women together to oppose war preparations.

The traditional peace movements and Sohyo — the biggest trade union federation, with 4.5 million members — felt they should also do something. So in March, in the context of the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament — and also receiving great stimulus from the European movement — a mobilization was made in Hiroshima.

In Japan the Liberal Democrats talk about "integrated security." But to call their strategy the means of defending the Japanese people is a fraud. I think that if this fraud is exposed we can have the same kind of movement as they have had in Europe.

# Iranian student fights to stay in United States

BY KAREN KOPPERUD

On May 12 the Board of Immigration Appeals in Falls Church, Virginia, heard the appeal of Mojgan Hariri-Vijeh. Hariri-Vijeh is a 20-year-old Iranian student at Morgan State University in Baltimore. Deportation proceedings were begun against her by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) just 19 days after she joined the Young Socialist Alliance in February 1981.

Hariri-Vijeh was denied the right to present her defense — that she was singled out for deportation because of her political views — when her case was brought before Immigration Judge Joan Arrowsmith last year. The May 12 hearing was the first step in appealing that ruling.

The INS prosecutor urged the appeal be rejected on the grounds that their district directors have the right to initiate deportations against anyone they choose, at their own discretion and without review. He went further, claiming legal blessing for such INS deportation proceedings even if initiated for unconstitutional reasons.

In addition, he asserted that Hariri-Vijeh's case was not unusual. "We deport hundreds of people like this all the time," he told the three board members.

Shelley Davis, Hariri-Vijeh's attorney, was given 15 minutes to argue for the appeal. In front of a hearing room packed with supporters, she explained that the deportation order was a clear case of political victimization.

She pointed to legal rulings directing immigration judges and boards to stop INS officials from using unconstitution-

al selective prosecution. She outlined the four-decade-long illegal campaign by the INS to single out supporters of the Socialist Workers Party and YSA for harassment and deportation.

Davis urged the board to overturn the decision of the district director and to renew Hariri-Vijeh's student visa to finish her education.

Outside the hearing room, John Studer, executive director of the Political Rights Defense Fund, which is organizing public protest on behalf of Hariri-Vijeh's appeal, addressed supporters.

"The INS's idea of what is 'routine' should chill the blood of anyone who values democratic rights," he explained.

"The INS 'routinely' condemns Haitians to death on the high seas. They 'routinely' send Salvadorans back to torture and execution.

"Their activities include things like 'Project Jobs' — armed police sweeping through shops, factories, schools, and public streets indiscriminately arresting thousands of people.

"Their purpose is to frighten working people into submitting to war and worsening living and working conditions. That is why they are trying to silence outspoken antiwar activists like Hariri-Vijeh.

"We don't know how long it will be before the board rules," he continued. "But we can have an impact if we can get out the facts about this case and explain its importance."

Messages demanding that the INS drop its deportation proceedings and renew Hariri-Vijeh's student visa should be sent to: Commissioner, INS, Washington, D.C. 10536.

<sup>\*</sup>Subscriptions are \$12 a year, available from the Pacific-Asia Resources Center, P.O. Box 5250, Tokyo Int., Japan.



# Pa. union victorious in 205-day strike; givebacks rejected

## Company concedes, 22 to get hearing

BY LISA KANNENBURG

PITTSBURGH — Strikers at American Standard Corporation's Westinghouse Air Brake and Union Switch and Signal (WABCO) plants have scored an impressive victory after a record 205 days on the picket line.

On Monday, May 24, members of United Electrical Workers (UE) Local 610 voted 2,602 to 347 to accept a tentative agreement reached May 3.

The three-week delay in ratification of the contract was caused by American Standard's adamant refusal to provide a fair hearing for 22 workers fired for alleged picket-line violence.

Striking workers correctly assessed the company's position as a last-ditch effort to break 610's unity and rallied in support of the 22. On May 9 the members voted to continue the strike until the company agreed to fair hearings for the fired strikers.

In the week following this vote, American Standard tried to whip up a back-to-work movement among the strike-weary workers, placing ads in Pittsburgh newspapers urging strikers to press the local's leaders for an immediate vote on the tentative agreement. The Pittsburgh media jumped in, fanning the controversy through TV interviews and radio talk shows.

In spite of this pressure, the strikers held firm, and on May 21 American Standard capitulated. The union won all its demands, including the right to select arbitrators for any cases not settled through union-company negotiations.

### History of strike

The battle of the 22 was a fitting conclusion to a remarkable struggle that began November 1 when Local 610 voted to strike rather than accept the package of concessions demanded by American Standard.

In negotiations preceding the strike, the original package of 52 takeaways had been whittled down to 10. Remaining concessions included drastic reductions in the earnings of pieceworkers, serious inroads in basic seniority rights, elimination of the right to strike on certain grievances, and erosion of protection from on-the-job harassment. To cap the package, the company proposed a three-year freeze on wages.

American Standard's attack on Local 610 occurred in the context of the ongoing assault by corporations on the organized strength of union workers. Auto workers, rubber workers, truckers, workers in all industries are facing similar takeaway demands by the corporations in this time of capitalist crisis.

But two factors made the WABCO situation unique. First, while other corporations wrung concessions from workers by crying poverty and threatening bankruptcy, American Standard can make no such claims. WABCO commands a dominating position in the railroad equipment industry and has consistently posted whopping profits.

Secondly, while leaders of other unions jumped on the company bandwagon and sold concessions to workers as the only option, UE 610 leaders — backed by the rank and file — chose to resist the attack.

Within a week rank-and-file committees had organized an effective strike apparatus that supported 3,700 workers and their families throughout the seven-month struggle. They organized tight, tough picket lines and kept them strong through the worst winter in recent memory.

They ran 24-hour strike kitchens in the local halls and provided free groceries weekly to the pickets. They

arranged health care and solved emergency problems of individual strikers. They solicited support from other unions, raising more than \$128,000 through plant-gate collections and local contributions.

Time and again the workers of Pittsburgh dug into their pockets. One local alone, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) Local 601 at the Westinghouse East Pittsburgh plant, contributed \$45,000 to the strike through regular payday collections.

### Labor solidarity crucial

This strong support from other workers was absolutely critical to the success of the strike.

By January, striking had become a way of life for Local 610 members. Negotiations had become predictable. The company would talk for a few days, raising hopes of an imminent settlement, and then suddenly break off, hoping to demoralize the strikers.

At the same time, American Standard kept up a heavy barrage of propaganda to workers' homes. The essential point of each "Dear fellow employee" letter was always the same: the company demands were harmless and reasonable, while the union leadership was protracting the struggle for reasons known only to themselves.

The company's attempts to drive a wedge between the leadership and the rank and file failed. Time after time the ranks rallied to support and urge on the negotiating committee. Many of the company's propaganda letters were returned unopened. Many more died in the burn barrels on the picket lines.

By spring, strikers trying to survive in depression-era Pittsburgh were hurting. But so was American Standard. Railroads and transit systems across the country and around the world were clamoring for spare parts. Customers with contracts on the book threatened lawsuits. But most of all, the huge conglomerate's first-quarter earnings for 1982 had taken a nosedive, down to 25 cents a share from 1981's \$1.37.

### Militant rally

In mid-March the company staged another of its now-routine walkouts from the negotiating sessions. Workers responded with a militant, highly publicized rally at American Standard's downtown Pittsburgh offices, demanding that the company return to the table and negotiate a decent contract.

On March 30, the company caved in and started talking seriously. Round-the-clock negotiations, punctuated by more demonstrations of the workers' militancy, yielded a contract on May 3.

In the end, American Standard fell far short of its ambitious goals. The company won a limited speedup of workers at the WABCO plants, but all their other proposed takeaways were scrapped or modified beyond recognition.

The strikers won wage and benefit increases totaling \$3.17 over the three-year contract.

American Standard's plans to bust UE Local 610 has backfired. Long, cold hours on the picket line in the dead of winter, swapping survival tips over coffee and kielbasa in the union hall, splitting a six-pack six ways, and singing over and over again the chorus of "Solidarity Forever" — these experiences and many more have forged in Local 610 a rare strength, unity, and pride.

The strikers expect the struggle to continue when they're back on the job, and are fully prepared to keep on fighting.



American Standard (WABCO) strikers hung tough, backed corporation down. Militant

## Fourth International on Central America struggle

Continued from Page 9

necessity for Christian love and "civil peace" have multiplied, they have served only as cover for the resumption of imperialist aid. With this support, General Rios Montt is carrying out new and even more brutal massacres in the rural areas, especially against the Quiche Indian people, and stepping up his military offensive against the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG).

While the revolutionary forces of El Salvador and Guatemala are today fighting to overthrow bloody proimperialist dictatorships, the workers and peasants of Nicaragua and Grenada are mobilizing to fight to the last drop of blood to defend their revolutionary governments and the social, economic, and political advances they have achieved over the last three years.

As the May Day celebration in Managua proclaimed, "We will defend the revolution, building socialism." Faced with these new advances, imperialist aggression against Nicaragua has already reached a qualitatively new level. Daily battles are now being fought with imperialist-armed counterrevolutionary units operating out of bases on two fronts: Honduras and Costa Rica.

A counterrevolutionary government-in-exile is being put together, trying to establish itself on Nicaraguan territory, where it can "legitimately" call for open imperialist intervention.

Economic strangulation and sabotage, diplomatic isolation — all weapons are being used to try to weaken and divide the Nicaraguan people and bring down the first workers and peasants government in Central America, which is moving to abolish capitalist exploitation and oppression in Nicaragua.

In Grenada, a similar process is unfolding as the working people of that island nation deepen their economic and social gains.

Destabilization efforts and other counterrevolutionary operations, financed and directed by various imperialist interests, have been accompanied by massive naval maneuvers in the Caribbean, carrying out simulated landings on Grenada. In fact, the last months have seen a total of four naval maneuvers involving all the principal imperialist powers of NATO. Their goal has been not only intimidation but a dress rehearsal for a blockade and landings wherever in the region imperialism decides to strike.

The problem for Washington is clear. Behind El Salvador and Guatemala, Nicaragua and Grenada, stands Cuba.

Imperialism's military escalation is aimed at crushing the rise of revolutionary struggles throughout the region. Today it is the Salvadoran people who are suffering the harshest imperialist aggression in the region. But the ultimate

objective must be the Cuban workers state, because imperialism knows that Cuba will support the struggles of the people of Central America and the Caribbean to the end. While the Cuban revolution lives, the current reactionary offensive cannot triumph.

The war which is today being waged by Anglo-American imperialism against Argentina is intimately tied to the imperialist offensive in Central America. It too is intended to intimidate the working people of Latin America and teach them that they dare not assert the right to control their own lands, their own resources, their own destinies.

The Anglo-American imperialist aggression against Argentina, and its consequences throughout Latin America, has created difficulties for the war plans of the imperialists and their allies in the region. But the certainty of a larger and more direct Yankee intervention in Central America and the Caribbean has not changed.

U.S. imperialism will not renounce the use of a single weapon in its arsenal for blocking the extension of the socialist revolution in what it considers to be its own "backyard."

We are living through a decisive moment.

We must fight to prevent the imperialists' war drive from achieving its objectives.

The revolutionaries of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Grenada, and Cuba have not retreated a single step. On the contrary, each day their authority with the people and their capacity to take initiatives on all fronts increases. New revolutionary victories, new workers states are being born in Central America and the Caribbean.

United, fighting international solidarity with this forward march of the revolution will play a decisive role in the struggles that are coming. Our brothers and sisters on the front lines of battle in Central America and the Caribbean are fighting in the interests of working people the world over. Our struggle is one!

The solidarity committees must be strengthened. The World Front in Solidarity with the Salvadoran People, formed in March in Mexico City, shows the road to follow for the coordination of solidarity work.

The mobilization of the broadest forces in action against the escalating imperialist war moves in Central America and the Caribbean must be a central task.

The Fourth International commits its entire forces to continue and deepen this solidarity work.

No imperialist intervention!

International solidarity with the people of Central America and the Caribbean!

# Revolutionary youth leader: 'The enemy is here at home'

Verónica Cruz, 23, is a member of the National Committee of the Young Socialist Alliance and the New York Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress in District 19. Below are excerpts from her remarks at the May 22 New York socialist campaign rally.

When I was growing up in the South Bronx, we used to call the area that I lived in Vietnam. At that time we thought it was funny. But it's not funny anymore. I guess we called it Vietnam because we couldn't believe that this bombed-out area that we lived in was part of the richest city and the richest country in the world.

In March there was an article in the *Amsterdam News*, and the headline stated, "Starvation in East Harlem." The article said that hundreds of people in Spanish Harlem were starving.

In New York City 60,000 people aged 14 to 21 cannot read beyond the sixth-grade level. Unemployment in New York City for teenagers 16 to 19 is 30 percent — that's three out of every 10. For Black youth it's over 50 percent. Countless numbers of young people are being denied the opportunity to read, to go to school, to eat, or even to hold a decent job.

What the rulers of this country offer us instead is corruption, disease, drugs. After they deny us our rights, they try and tell us that we have to go to war and fight for them.

They tell us that there's some communists over there that are trying to take over El Salvador.

So they ask thousands of young men to go and stop by their nearest post office and sign their lives over on the dotted line. Well, more than a half-million of those people — including members of the YSA — said, "Hell no, we won't go."

Reagan and Haig try to fool us into thinking that our enemy is somewhere south of the border; that we have to try and stop him before he comes here. But we know he's not.

We know that the victory of the Salvadoran people is a victory for the people of Harlem. It's a victory for the people of the South Bronx, and it's a victory for us.

We know where our enemy is. The starving people in the barrios of Harlem know who their enemy is and where he's at. The young people who try so hard to make it and don't, they know where their enemy's at.

It is the ruling rich and their henchmen, the Democrats and Republicans, who close down factories, schools, and hospitals. It is the capitalist system that pushes us into wars to protect "America's" business interests.

We're also beginning to know who our friends are. Our inspiration comes from the people of Grenada, the youth there. Our courage comes from the courageous people of Cuba. Our example is the fighters of El Salvador, who won't quit, and the people in Villa Sin Miedo, Puerto Rico.

We have examples here, too. In New York City we have the Black students of Medgar Evers College, who won't budge an inch in their fight against cutbacks. We have the half-million people who said, "Hell no, we won't go." And we have the many activists in the National Black Independent Political Party. We salute these young people and all other people who are struggling against those who oppress us.

The Young Socialist Alliance salutes the example of internationalism that Cuban, Nicaraguan, and Grenadian youth have shown the world. We strive to match their example. Our first job as internationalists is to build an antiwar movement that will keep the U.S. off the backs of revolutions in Central America and the Caribbean and allow them to take care of their own business.

The most important way we can help the revolutions in Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada is to build the struggle in *this* country for socialism — for a different future for youth, one with *real* education

and jobs where we can fulfill our potential.

This capitalist system cannot offer that future, and the Democrats and Republicans, who front for the bosses, can't run this country in our interests. We need a government of workers and farmers. A government that will put our needs before the profits of big business and that will work toward a socialist society.

The Young Socialist Alliance is taking that movement for that kind of a society into the unions, the Black and Latino communities, and onto the high school and college campuses. Join us.



Militant/Duane Stilwell

Verónica Cruz, Young Socialist Alliance leader and Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress, speaking at New York City campaign rally.

## 'There can be no peace while oppression exists'

Continued from Page 24

ately need political education. We need it. We desperately need political organization. We need it. And I would suggest that in the white community there is a need for political education, there is a need for political organization.

The future of our peoples will be determined by how hard we work: together, not separate and apart. Let the truth of our ideology, the simple truth, be borne out in the response of our people.

I am optimistic, because somewhere a long time ago a revolutionary wrote that the spirit of the people is always stronger than the oppressor's technology. I'm concerned about what is going on in the Malvinas because it is the loss of human life. Because those who have plotted those wars never shed a drop of blood. But I believe that no matter how many bombs are dropped on the Malvinas, the people struggling will overcome.

What we must do is take care of our responsibilities here, because Britain would not have dropped one bomb, Britain would not have moved one soldier on the Malvinas if it had not been for the unqualified support from the United States of America.

Just as that Vulcan bomber flew from Ascension Island to bomb the Malvinas, that Vulcan bomber could have flown to Angola, Mozambique, or anywhere else in the Third World. So we must be clear on the international contradictions and our mutual responsibilities.

So in closing I want to say that we've got a lot of hard work to do. But we should celebrate that we at least have the opportunity to do the hard work. That's why I think our slogans are very important. We don't have fascism here yet. But if we let it come, then we will not have the opportunity to do the hard work.

### Let us create victories

While we have the opportunity to do the hard work, let us do it together. Let us create victories as a result of our struggle, as a result of our participation in independent, principled, and progressive politics.

And let us give the victims of oppression, the victims of racism, a new hope and a new legacy for the rest of the world to see and be proud of.

I, as a minister, want to say that I believe that the Lord is on the side of what's right. And I don't know how many church members you have, but I would suggest that you take this campaign into these churches. Because there are a lot of people being confused about patriotism. Church folks ought not to have to wait till Billy Graham says peace before they get involved in the peace struggle. They need political education just as well as workers in the factories.

And I just want to close with that

point. We must reach the masses of those who are suffering with the alternative. The alternative must not just be kept in-house. It must go out to the masses.

And if we do that, we will win, we will be victorious.

Venceremos!

Viva la revolución!

## Voting rights leader is arrested in N.C.

BY MERYL LYNN FARBER

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Rev. James E. Orange, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-Violent Change Inc. in Atlanta, was arrested in Williamston, North Carolina, June 5 on charges stemming from a 1973 civil rights protest.

The arrest occurred after a demonstration that was part of the 2,000-mile march for extension of the Voting Rights Act. Orange is a leader in the movement to win extension of the act.

In 1973 Orange was convicted by a Chowan County Superior Court in North Carolina of failure to disperse when ordered to do so by a law enforcement officer, during a civil rights protest.

After his conviction in absentia, Orange immediately turned himself over to the Atlanta police. But North Carolina never attempted to extradite him, so he assumed the case had been dropped.

Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), told an Atlanta press conference that Orange's arrest occurred two days after marchers picketed the Raleigh, North Carolina, offices of Senator Jesse Helms. Helms is opposed to renewing the Voting Rights Acts.

"This is clearly persecution," Lowery said. "Only when we called attention to the underrepresentation of Blacks [in elected office] in North Carolina did they choose to persecute Orange."

The SCLC plans legal action to win the release of Orange.

## Sick of capitalism? . . . Join the Young Socialist Alliance!

If you bought this paper, you probably are one of the millions of people in this country who don't like the government's war threats in Central America and the Caribbean.

And you're probably not too thrilled with the budget cuts, rising unemployment, and increasing attacks on the rights of unionists, Blacks, Latinos, and women.

In that respect, you have a lot more in common with the workers and farmers in the world than with the fat cats in the White House, Wall Street, and the Pentagon who run this country through the Democratic and Republican parties.

The Young Socialist Alliance is active in the struggle against U.S. intervention in El Salvador, against racist attacks, in defense of unions and women's rights.

The YSA has a unique contribution to make to these struggles. We explain that *capitalism* is the source of our problems. We advocate a government that acts in the interests of the *majority* — a workers and farmers government.

With a government that's on our side, we can construct a socialist society based on human needs.

The YSA is a national organization of young workers, students and unemployed youth that brings these revolutionary ideas to the thousands of young people who are eager to hear them.

We are part of an international movement of young people who have a realistic alternative to the barbarism of capitalism.

Joining the YSA is the best thing a young person can do with their life.

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# New York socialist candidates declare: 'Not one penny or person for U.S. wars'

## Spirited Manhattan rally opens fighting campaign against bosses' attacks

BY GEORGE JOHNSON

NEW YORK — The Socialist Workers 1982 New York campaign got off to an impressive start in this city at a rally May 22.

More than 200 campaign supporters and well-wishers assembled in the sparkling new campaign offices at 79 Leonard Street in Lower Manhattan. They included garment, transit, and oil workers. There were members of the National Organization for Women, the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, and the Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos. Many people were attending their first socialist rally.

Heading the program were Steve Wattenmaker, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate; Diane Wang, the party's gubernatorial nominee; and Verónica Cruz, SWP candidate for Congress in the 19th Congressional District.

Special guest speakers included Rev. Ben Chavis, well-known Black rights leader; Gregory Pardlo, president of Local 238, Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO); a representative of Casa Nicaragua; and Ponce Laspina, a leader of the Puerto Rican Proindependence Unitary Committee.

The meeting was bilingual, and translation between English and Spanish was provided.

### Opposition to imperialist war

Opposition to imperialist war and the need to build a massive antiwar movement among U.S. workers was a central theme of the gathering, which took place under a huge banner reading, "Not One Penny, Not One Person for Washington's Wars."

Many of the participants were active builders of antiwar contingents for the June 12 rally at the United Nations coinciding with the second special session on disarmament.

Senatorial candidate Wattenmaker was the first speaker. He is a rail worker who has helped organize demonstrations against rail cutbacks and was an antiwar leader while in the army during the Vietnam War.

He began by assailing the U.S. government's support to Britain in its colonialist war against Argentina. This comes on top of the undeclared war Washington is already waging against Nicaragua, and its intervention against revolutionary struggles by workers and farmers in El Salvador and Guatemala, he said.

The U.S. government, he noted, "is supplying Britain with fuel and bases at Ascension Island, spy information from satellites, radar, and KC135 refueling tankers flown by U.S. crews."

Britain and the United States are waging this war, he went on, "not to punish 'aggression' as they hypocritically claim, but to warn the Argentine, British and Irish workers, not to get out of line."

The warning is also meant for American workers, he said, who in their own interests should oppose these reactionary wars and the means by which they are fought: "advisers, aid, the U.S. conventional and nuclear arsenal, the draft, the military budget."

### Social needs, not war

Dismantling Washington's war machine, he pointed out, would make funds available for a massive public works program to build and rebuild schools, housing, transportation, and hospitals.

"Instead of making contract concessions," he went on, "our unions should be fighting for a shorter workweek with no pay cut. And they should be fighting for extensions of social welfare prog-

rams, such as medical care and unemployment."

But to do this, he said, the labor movement would have to stop supporting Democratic and Republican politicians, "who are just as responsible for the cutbacks and takeaways as Reagan."

Wattenmaker was introduced by Peter Thierjung, SWP candidate for lieutenant governor, who cochaired the rally. Thierjung is a sheet metal worker in Scotia.

The other cochair was Tom Pontolillo, who is chairman of Division 501 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Pontolillo introduced Ben Chavis to a standing ovation from the crowd.

The applause was deserved. Chavis was framed up and sent to prison in North Carolina as one of the Wilmington 10 for civil rights activities.

Chavis spoke on the struggle against racism and war, linking this to the need to organize the masses of victims of capitalist society. (See his speech on page 24.)

Verónica Cruz, SWP candidate for the 19th Congressional District, followed Chavis (see her speech on facing page).

### Puerto Rican struggle

Then came Ponce Laspina, who told how the police of the U.S. colonial administration in Puerto Rico have "created a small Vietnam" in destroying Villa Sin Miedo (Town Without Fear), a settlement founded by homeless people on government land in 1980. The 200 families living there are once again homeless, he said, and 11 compañeros are in jail.

He appealed for clothing and medical supplies. At the end of his talk, the crowd broke into chants calling for independence for Puerto Rico.

The next speaker, from Casa Nicaragua, brought greetings. His country, he said, is undergoing an imperialist blockade and a U.S.-sponsored border war with counterrevolutionary exiles in Honduras.

"We must have solidarity of peoples who are fighting imperialist threats," he said. "We must prevent more Vietnam-type wars. We must stop the sending of American workers to fight other peoples. We must fight the imperialists with international solidarity."

After he finished, two other SWP candidates were introduced: Susan Jacobson, a garment worker running in the 14th Congressional District, and Eva Chertov, a transit worker — the first woman electrician hired by the transit authority since World War II — and an antiwar activist, for Congress from the South Bronx (21st Congressional District).

### PATCO

Then, after the crowd chanted "PATCO, PATCO," Gregory Pardlo spoke. Introduced as "one of the people first targeted by the ruling class for its war on American workers," he said he was proud of the fight put up by the air traffic controllers. He felt like a boxer, he said, who tells the announcer: "Yes, Howard, it was a great fight, and yes, I definitely want a rematch."

Pardlo described where the air controllers' fight stands today and took up some of the lessons of their battle.

"Our only possible hope," he said, "is independent political action. I was not allowed before to take part in partisan politics, but I can now."

"I wholeheartedly support these candidates of the Socialist Workers Party, and I hope to be with you again and again if you'll ask me."

He got an open invitation in the form of a standing ovation.



Militant photos by Lou Howort

Socialist candidates Diane Wang, for governor of New York, and Steve Wattenmaker, for U.S. Senate.

Mohammed Oliver, chairperson of the New York SWP campaign, spoke next.

"There is massive sentiment against the wars abroad and against the anti-worker offensive at home," he said. "But that's not enough. It must be organized, it must be channeled. It must be directed squarely against the U.S. government."

### Attacks on democratic rights

He said attacks on workers' democratic rights were necessary for the ruling class if it is to carry out its wars and its offensive against workers' wages and working conditions.

Anti-immigrant raids were part of what he called "an attempt to militarize the workplace." To this, he said, must be added firings of antiwar unionists in war industries, and deportation proceedings against undocumented workers.

Oliver appealed for funds for the campaign. In response \$8,600 was donated, including \$328.29 from eight Brooklyn garment workers.

The final speaker was Diane Wang, who is SWP candidate for governor. Wang is a garment worker and a member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, and is active in the Asian American Caucus for Disarmament, an antiwar group. She has also helped build actions in defense of revolutionary Vietnam and Kampuchea.

### Crisis in New York

Wang detailed much of the human cost in New York City of the current capitalist crisis: The median income per family in the city is \$23,000, but Black families take home half that, and Latinos even less.

The crisis is also hard on farmers in New York, she said. "Of 5,000 farms in this state, one third will go under in the next three years."

To end these mortgage foreclosures, she said, the land should be turned into public property, so that farmers could stay on the land as long as they wish without fear of loss to the banks.

Wang pointed out that the government we have now represents the ruling rich, the exploiters of labor, and passes laws that are in their interests, not ours.

"Like the antilabor Taylor Law in New York state," she said, "and a lot more, like tax breaks for segregated schools, anti-abortion laws, and laws to bring back the death penalty. But legislation in the interests of working people they won't pass — like the Equal Rights Amendment."

### Workers and farmers government

Wang and the other SWP candidates call for a workers and farmers govern-

ment to replace the present one.

She pointed to revolutionary Cuba and Grenada, both of which she has visited, as examples of what a government based on and responsible to workers and farmers can accomplish.

"In Cuba, I saw no one pounding the streets looking for work," she said. "Everyone has a job. Moreover, they've uprooted racism there; the government made that a priority."

Cuba, she continued, "has more doctors per person than New York City. And tiny Cuba has sent more doctors to help in Africa and Latin America than the United States and Europe combined."

In Grenada, she said, women are now guaranteed equal wages. "And they get two months maternity leave, and a guaranteed job to come back to after their children are born."

### Labor party

To get a workers and farmers government, she went on, "we need a labor party, based on a fighting trade union movement. A movement that puts disarming the U.S. warmakers at the top of its agenda and ending its counterrevolutionary wars against working people like ourselves in El Salvador, Argentina, Nicaragua, Cuba, Iran, Vietnam, Grenada, Guatemala. A movement that fights the employers' demands for concessions."

She pledged an active campaign for a labor party "that would fight for a workers and farmers government and the socialist reorganization of the United States to make human needs, not profits and war, the central aim of society."

She urged those who agreed with that perspective to join the SWP or the YSA in order to become a more effective part of the fight for humanity's future.

### From Pathfinder Nicaragua: An introduction to the Sandinista Revolution

By Arnold Weissberg. Managua correspondent for *Intercontinental Press*.

A clearly written description of pre-revolutionary Nicaragua, the insurrection, the far-reaching social measures taken by the Sandinista government and the U.S. government's response.

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**No worse than a bad cold** — “Yes, radiation in large doses is carcinogenic and mutagenic, but not very.” — Dr. Edward



**Harry Ring**

Webster, an alleged physicist at Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Just have another drink** — In the event of a nuclear altercation, Commander-in-Chief Reagan, plus relatives and aides will take off in a jumbo jet which will then serve as the nation's command center. There are a few bugs in the plan. Like, an atomic blast will probably knock out the plane's communication system. Also, after a few days, it will run out of gas.

**Knuckleheads** — “Isn't it odd . . . some people still haven't figured out this president wants to preserve peace?” — Vice-president Bush.

**Delicate stomach** — James Challenger, an executive job hunter, also advises on how to fire subordinates. Like, “The best time to fire someone is on a Friday . . . you don't have to sit and worry about it all weekend. We had one man who fired an employee on Christmas Eve because the boss didn't want to ruin his own Christmas day by worrying about what he was going to have to do.”

**“Us”?** — Economic recovery “will be long, slow and gradual, which is probably best for us all in the long run.” James Evans,

chairman, Union Pacific.

**Morality dep't** — We reported that the director of education for the Los Angeles Catholic diocese had pocketed a half million as author and consultant for a textbook firm whose books dominate the district. When the local hierarchy learned about this, they responded firmly. They demanded 2 percent of the company's take for the district.

**The march of science** — Interested parties are studying a “magnetic levitation” train that could transport customers from

L.A. to Vegas at 250 miles per hour.

**A real deal** — The starting price for a Rolls Royce is now up to \$109,000. But that includes a leather-bound booklet of advice for the chauffeur.

**Lose a few, win a few** — “For houses between \$200,000 and \$700,000, it's kind of slow. . . . For properties over \$700,000, it's terrific.” A real estate broker commenting on conditions in plush Greenwich, Conn.

## —CALENDAR—

### CALIFORNIA

#### Bay Area

**The Fight for Democratic Rights: Open the Ballot to Working People.** Speakers: Mel Mason, independent candidate for governor of California; Karen Wald, Cuban Resource Group; Lou Hedgecock, vice-president, Hayward Unified Teachers Association; Walter Johnson, president, Department Store Employees Local 1100; David Wald, Peace and Freedom Party candidate for U.S. Senate; Patterson Wiman, California Teachers Association State Council representative in Vallejo. Organizations for identification only. Sun., June 13, 5 p.m. reception, 6:30 p.m. rally. Tulip Jones Women's Club, Bay Rd. between Oakwood and Dumbarton, E Palo Alto. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign Committee. For more information call (415) 763-3729, (415) 824-1992, or (408) 998-4007.

#### Oakland

**Why Democrats and Republicans Can't Achieve Women's Equality.** Speaker: Mary Lou Montauk. Tues., June 15, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. class. 2864 Telegraph Ave. Donation requested. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign Committee. For more information call (415) 763-3729.

**Young Workers, Students, Unemployed: Is Socialism the Answer to the Crisis We Face?** Speaker: Hattie McCutcheon. Thurs., June 17, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. class. 2864 Telegraph Ave. Donation requested. Ausp: Youth for Mel Mason. For more information call (415) 763-3729.

### INDIANA

#### Indianapolis

**Socialist Workers Campaign Rally.** Speakers: Beth Julien, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate; Dave Ellis, SWP candidate for 10th Congressional District; Reja-E Busailah, Palestinian leader; Bill Scanlon, Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers; Steve Licht, Irish activist; Craig Honts, SWP candidate for U.S. Congress, recently returned from Cuba; Pablo Cruz, activist in Puerto Rican independence movement; Billy Jones, president, Stonekey Tenants and Taxpayers Association. Sun., June 20, 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. rally. Sheraton Inn, 28th and Meridian St. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party Campaign Committee. For more information call (317) 283-6149.

### KENTUCKY

#### Louisville

**Film: Ecocide: A Strategy of War.** Speakers: David Welters, Socialist Workers Party; others. Sun., June 27, 7:30 p.m. 809 E Broadway. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### Boston

**Defend Democratic Rights: Protest Ban on Travel to Cuba.** Speakers: representative of Venceremos Brigade; Chris Gavreau, Socialist Workers Party; others to be announced. Sun., June 20, 7:30 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

### MISSOURI

#### St. Louis

**In Defense of Labor's Democratic Rights.** Speakers: Leonard Robinson, international representative, United Auto Workers Region 5; Carlos Welty, Missouri vice-president, American Agriculture Movement; Dr. James

De Clue, president, St. Louis NAACP; John Studer, executive director, Political Rights Defense Fund. Sat., June 19, 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. rally. Bel Air West, 4630 Lindell Blvd. Donation: \$3. Ausp: PRDF. For more information call (314) 725-1570.

### NEW MEXICO

#### Albuquerque

**June 12 Rally and Festival for Peace.** To coincide with United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament and the demonstration in New York. Sat., June 12. Car caravan begins 11 a.m. from Tigeux Park. Rally 2 p.m., Tigeux Park. Ausp: June 12 Rally Committee. For more information call (505) 345-4809.

### NEW YORK

#### Bronx

**United Assembly to Elect a United Committee for Puerto Rican Independence in the United States.** Speakers: Irving Flores, Puerto Rican nationalist hero; others. Cultural activity. Sat., June 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hostos College, Combo Room, 475 Grand Concourse. For more information call (212) 893-3802 or 538-6512.

#### Brooklyn

**Israel's War Against Lebanon.** Speaker: Zehdi Terzi, Palestine Liberation Organization representative to United Nations; Eva Chertov, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Congress; others. Fri., June 18, 7:30 p.m. Arab Social Club, 89 Atlantic Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445 or (212) 852-7922.

#### Manhattan

**Rally to Support Villa Sin Miedo.** Speakers: Ada Rivera, a leader of Villa Sin Miedo; Irving Flores, nationalist hero, representing National United Committee for the Independence of Puerto Rico; Digna Sánchez, Puerto Rican Socialist Party; representative of Steering Committee for Puerto Rican Independentista Unity. Slides of Villa Sin Miedo and cultural presentation. Fri., June 11, 6:30 p.m.

El Caney, 170 E. 116th St. Voluntary donation. Ausp: Steering Committee for Puerto Rican Independentista Unity, New York Committee to Support Villa Sin Miedo. For more information call (212) 893-3802.

**Demonstration to Mark 29th Anniversary of the Execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.** Fri., June 18, 12 noon to 2 p.m. U.S. Courthouse, Foley Square. Ausp: National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case. For more information call (212) 228-4500.

**Nicaraguan Women in the Revolution.** Seminar and slide show. Sat., June 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 777 UN Plaza. Donation: \$5. Ausp: Casa Nicaragua.

**The Women's Movement at the Crossroads.** A speakout: panel to be announced. Sat., June 26, 8 p.m. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

### Schenectady

**Socialist Workers Campaign Open House.** Meet Peter Thierjung, SWP candidate for lieutenant governor, and Patricia Mayberry, SWP candidate for 23rd Congressional District. Wed., June 16, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. 323 State St. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (518) 374-1494.

### OREGON

#### Portland

**Film: Ecocide — A Strategy of War.** Speakers: to be announced. Sun., June 13, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Philadelphia

**U.S.-backed Wars Around the World: the Caribbean, Malvinas, and Lebanon.** Speakers: Jack McKinney, columnist for Philadelphia Daily News, just returned from

assignment in Nicaragua; Mike Finley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress. Sat., June 19, 7 p.m. 5811 N Broad St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 927-4747.

### TEXAS

#### San Antonio

**Socialism: What It Is and How to Fight for It.** Two classes: “The Socialist Approach to War,” Sun., June 13; “What Is Marxism?” Sun., June 20. 1 p.m. 337 E Josephine St. Ausp: Socialist Workers 1982 Texas Campaign. For more information call (512) 736-9218.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

**After June 12: Which Way Forward in the Fight Against War Today?** Speakers: Glenn White, Socialist Workers candidate for mayor; James Early, Line of March; Malik Edwards, D.C. Freeze Campaign; others. Traducción al español. Fri., June 18, 7:30 p.m. 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

**Films: Americas in Transition and From the Ashes: Nicaragua Today.** Two showings of both films: Fri., June 18, 7:30 p.m., George Washington University, Marvin Center Ballroom, 21st and H St. NW; Sat., June 19, 7:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Church, 16th and Newton St. NW. Donation: \$3. Ausp: D.C. NICA. For more information call (202) 966-8248.

### WISCONSIN

#### Milwaukee

**Jobs Not War! Socialist Workers Campaign Rally.** Speakers: Peter Seidman, SWP candidate for governor; Cheryl Hidalgo, SWP candidate for 5th Congressional District. Sun., June 27, 6:30 reception, 7:30 rally. VIP Lounge, 4704 W North Ave. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Wisconsin Socialist Workers 1982 Campaign Committee. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

## Harlem readies for June 12 march

Continued from Page 3

should be tied to the African liberation struggle in Namibia and South Africa, he explained. One of the reasons Washington maintains its close support for South Africa is the vast amount of natural resources in Namibia, including uranium.

A free Namibia, Brath explained, will not export this uranium for the imperialists to build weapons of destruction.

Brath also documented that during the 1973 war between Israel and Egypt, Israel was prepared to use nuclear weapons on African and Arab countries.

The national coordinator of the National Black United Front, Jitu Weusi, laid out the history of the formation of the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition (TWPPC).

The TWPPC was formed in March following the exclusion from the June 12 Rally Committee of forces that wanted the June 12 demonstration to be against U.S. intervention in the Third World and racist oppression here at home, as well as against the bomb. The

TWPPC has sought to draw together all the antiwar and antiracist forces who are mobilizing for June 12.

He went on to say that the formation of the TWPPC and the unity of the forces within it has been valuable. After the June 12 action there will still be a need to continue to raise the issues of no U.S. intervention in the Third World, he

added, and “we will have a lot to say about the future actions that will take place.”

Other speakers at the event included Rev. Ben Chavis of the NBIPP, Yuri Kochiyama of the TWPPC and the Asian-American Caucus for Disarmament, and Rev. Calvin Butts of the Abyssinian Baptist Church.

## Mich. socialists certified for ballot

BY BILL ARTH

**DETROIT** — The Socialist Workers Party was certified for the November ballot May 27 by the state Board of Canvassers.

This year will be the first time since 1976 that a workers party has been on the ballot in a Michigan general election.

A 1976 law, Public Act 94, was used to keep the SWP and parties other than the Democrats and Republicans off the ballot in that year and since. On March 1, in response to an SWP suit, the law was declared unconstitutional.

On May 3, SWP supporters filed peti-

tions signed by more than 25,000 Michigan voters — far more than the 18,000 required — to place the party on the ballot.

The SWP is running Tim Craine for governor; Elizabeth Ziers for lieutenant governor; Susan Apstein for Congress in the 16th District; and Steve Beumer for U.S. Senate.

In addition, Mark Moldwin is running for Detroit School Board on the SWP ticket.

The Tisch Independent Citizens Party and the Workers League Party were also certified for the November ballot by the board.



# 'The Atomic Cafe': somber, uproarious

*The Atomic Cafe*, produced and edited by Jaype Loader, Kevin Rafferty, and Pierce Rafferty.

By Mark Schneider

The wonder of this film is that it went into production five years ago, long before the current wave of antiwar protests. Kevin and Pierce Rafferty, along with Jayne Loader, have produced a black humor documentary on Washington's nuclear war drive that is simultaneously political, somber, and uproarious.

*The Atomic Cafe* does its damage to the warmakers by hanging them with their own rope. It is a well-done, edited pastiche of prowar propaganda films and vintage newsreels juxtaposed with powerful footage from Hiroshima and Nagasaki after the atomic destruction.

The film succeeds because of the tremendous growth of antiwar sentiment since the cold war atmosphere of the 1950s.

## FILM REVIEW

Government lying and propaganda, once taken seriously by millions, is hilarious to watch today. But the contemporary viewer, who can easily spot the fraudulence of the past, is inescapably made aware that the government still functions on the same level of deceit.

Nothing is mystified or raised to obscure levels here. We see how the U.S. government developed the bomb and used it first. We see the gloating by Democratic and Republican politicians and generals over the fact that *only* Washington had the bomb. There is a particularly threatening speech by then-Congressman Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, later a liberal Democratic senator, calling on the Army to use the atomic bomb on China during the Korean War. The film does not explain the point, but only the fact that the Soviet Union also had the bomb by then deterred the Pentagon from such action.

We were also shown the interconnection between

the anticommunist witch-hunt of the 1950s and the development of the nuclear buildup. Threatening propaganda films like those described by George Orwell in 1984 depict hordes of faceless Soviet army troops and giant mailed fists trampling individual liberty and "The American Way of Life" underfoot.

The cynical complicity of scientists and ministers with the politicians and generals is not omitted either. A parade of religious figures of varying denominations douse the bomb with holy water as part of the crusade against atheistic communism. Then there are the scientists and their experiments. First they expose pigs to radiation, which produces grisly sores. Then we see residents of the Bikini Atoll in the Pacific who have "accidentally" been exposed to the deadly rays. American GIs also were exposed to radiation doses for the "benefit of science."

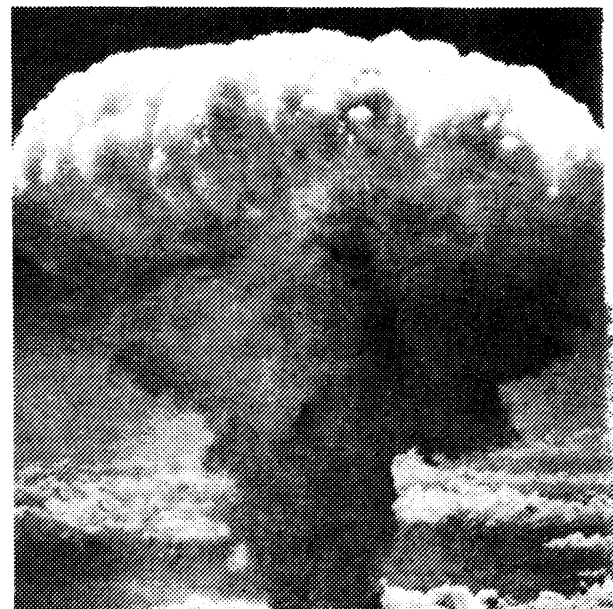
The film's humor is poker-faced. The organizers of the nuclear madness play out their roles unselfconsciously. The audience is left gasping incredulously, laughing in horror.

For example, there is the commanding officer explaining to his troops, who are about to march into a mushroom cloud in the American desert: "There's nothing to worry about. If you become sterile you will probably receive a lethal dose so you won't survive anyway." The camera then turns to two GIs who exchange puzzled glances.

There is no narrator to tell us, but many of these GIs did suffer radiation poisoning and developed cancer 20 years later. The Veterans Administration denied them benefits because the statute of limitations had run out on their claims. This is the stuff of life that made "Catch 22" and "Dr. Strangelove" into catchwords of our culture.

The cold war atmosphere of the 1950s demanded a scapegoat for the Soviet Union's development of the bomb. The hysterical climate in which Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were framed up and executed is starkly presented. A graphic description of their electrocution reveals the common emotional core of sadism and vengeance that links capital punishment and nuclear warfare.

Once the Soviet Union developed the bomb, the



U.S. ruling class launched the macabre "civil defense" hoax, which purports to convince the American people that nuclear war is survivable. Unpleasant, perhaps, but nothing to cause undue alarm. *The Atomic Cafe* excoriates this deception without a word of editorializing. The central motif of the government propaganda ploy depicts a skeptical innocent — child, soldier, voter — being reassured by a knowing authority figure — adult, officer, politician — that there is really nothing to worry about.

"Remember boys and girls, when you see the flash, all you have to do is 'duck and cover,'" a civil defense film wisely explains. And so we see Johnny and Sally dutifully crouching against a wall, or a typical American family on a picnic throwing their lunch to the winds and diving beneath a tablecloth for protection while a harmonious, reassuring song is sung in the background.

Then, without a word, the scene shifts to Hiroshima.

The point could not be made more profoundly.

## Nebraska meeting protests nuclear waste shipment

BY DUNCAN WILLIAMS

LINCOLN, Neb. — A public meeting of 120 people here on May 15 heard powerful condemnations of proposed rail shipments of nuclear waste through this city.

The meeting was originally scheduled as a debate, but representatives of the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and General Electric, who want to ship the waste, refused to attend.

The utility's plans to ship spent fuel from its Cooper nuclear station, 45 miles southeast of here, came to light in February, when an employee of the Burlington Northern railroad discovered a letter detailing the plan and made it public.

The May 15 meeting, though boycotted by the NPPD and GE, was endorsed by the Lincoln Coalition of Rail Crafts, several individual local rail unions, and a number of community associations.

Moderated by state Senator Steven Fowler, the panel included Jeff Hamill, representing the Safe Energy and Full Employment Committee of the United Transportation Union Local 305; Fred Millar of the Environmental Policy Institute in Washington, D.C.; and Dr. John Hansen of the Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Hamill pointed out that the proposed shipments directly concern the switchers, conductors, and engineers in the UTU, as well as clerks, carmen, and

other rail workers. He noted that the casks to be used to ship the spent fuel are not safe even by the government's own standards; for example, a collision at a speed as low as 12.5 miles per hour could result in a burst cask.

The Safe Energy Committee, he said, planned to continue "to bring this information to the attention of the public, to raise a public outcry, and to educate ourselves and others on this issue." UTU Local 305 has already taken a stand against nuclear power and weapons.

Fred Millar discussed the federal government's grossly inadequate control of shipments of hazardous materials. For the 260,000 railroad tank cars used to ship dangerous substances, the U.S.

government has exactly 16 inspectors. For the 412,800 tanker trucks, there are only nine inspectors.

"The medical community in Lincoln is not prepared in the least to deal with any kind of radiation accident," was the opinion of Dr. John Hansen.

The meeting, which was attended by a large number of rail workers and several older residents of the city, had a serious tone. In the discussion, one man said he was not worried for himself, but for his two-year-old granddaughter, who lives near the railroad tracks. Others asked questions about the liability of the corporations and utilities in the event of an accident.

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**ARIZONA:** Phoenix: SWP, YSA, 611 E. Indian School. Zip: 85012. Tel: (602) 274-7399. Tucson: SWP, P.O. Box 2585. Zip: 85702. Tel: (602) 622-3880 or 882-4304.

**CALIFORNIA:** Los Angeles: SWP, YSA, 2546 W. Pico Blvd. Zip: 90006. Tel: (213) 380-9460. Oakland: SWP, YSA, 2864 Telegraph Ave. Zip: 94609. Tel: (415) 763-3792. San Diego: SWP, YSA, 1053 15th St. Zip: 92101. Tel: (714) 234-4630. San Francisco: SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 824-1992. San Jose: SWP, YSA, 46½ Race St. Zip: 95126. Tel: (408) 998-4007.

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**FLORIDA:** Miami: SWP, YSA, 1237 NW 119th St., North Miami. Zip: 33167. Tel: (305) 769-3478.

**GEORGIA:** Atlanta: SWP, YSA, 504 Flat Shoals Ave. SE. Zip: 30316. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

**ILLINOIS:** Chicago: SWP, YSA, 434 S. Wabash, Room 700. Zip: 60605. Tel: (312) 939-0737.

**INDIANA:** Bloomington: YSA, Activities Desk, Indiana Memorial Union. Zip: 47405. Gary: SWP, YSA, 3883 Broadway. Zip: 46409.

Tel: (219) 884-9509. Indianapolis: SWP, YSA, 4850 N. College. Zip: 46205. Tel: (317) 283-6149.

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**MASSACHUSETTS:** Boston: SWP, YSA, 510 Commonwealth Ave., 4th Floor. Zip: 02215. Tel: (617) 262-4621.

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**RHODE ISLAND:** Providence: YSA, P.O. Box 261, Annex Station. Zip: 02901.

**TEXAS:** Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Tel: (512) 452-3923. Dallas: SWP, YSA, 2817 Live Oak. Zip: 75204. Tel: (214) 826-4711. Houston: SWP, YSA, 6333 Gulf Freeway, Room 222. Zip: 77023. Tel: (713) 924-4056. San Antonio: SWP, YSA, 337 W. Josephine. Zip: 78212. Tel: (512) 736-9218.

**UTAH:** Price: SWP, YSA, 23 S. Carbon Ave., Suite 19. P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. Salt Lake City: SWP, YSA, 677 S. 7th East, 2nd Floor. Zip: 84102. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

**VIRGINIA:** Tidewater Area (Newport News): SWP, YSA, 111 28th St. Zip: 23607. Tel: (804) 380-0133.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.:** SWP, YSA, 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699. Baltimore-Washington District: 3106 Mt. Pleasant St., NW., Washington, D.C. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7021.

**WASHINGTON:** Seattle: SWP, YSA, 4868 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Charleston: SWP, YSA, 1584 A Washington St. East. Zip: 25311. Tel: (304) 345-3040. Morgantown: SWP, YSA, 957 S. University Ave. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

**WISCONSIN:** Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 4707 W. Lisbon Ave. Zip: 53208. Tel: (414) 445-2076.

# Will a nuclear 'freeze' help bring peace?

What is the road to peace and to freedom from the fear of nuclear annihilation?

This question is very much on the minds of the multitudes demonstrating June 12, as well as the millions more Americans whose antiwar sentiment they represent.

Two general answers have been advanced.

One is the proposal that the movement focus on demanding that the United States and the Soviet Union negotiate an agreement to freeze their nuclear stockpiles.

An opposing point of view, put forward in the June 12 coalition by the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition, is that the movement should demand unilateral U.S. nuclear disarmament and actively oppose ongoing wars of aggression by Washington and its allies.

We believe only this second approach points us toward the road to peace.

The argument has been raised that you can be for both. That is, you can actively oppose Washington's war drive and, as part of that effort, press for the nuclear freeze — that a freeze is at least a step in the right direction.

We think this is a bad mistake. Certainly, if Washington feels constrained to slow down the rate of its nuclear buildup, or even curtail it, no rational person will object. But even if that is accomplished, the danger of war and its ever-implicit threat of the use of nuclear weapons would not be diminished by one iota.

Regardless of the intention of some of its supporters, the nuclear freeze proposal is an obstacle to the fight against war and the nuclear threat. It's an obstacle because it creates a smokescreen which makes it more difficult for people to see clearly where the source of the war danger lies.

Consider the best known of the freeze proposals, the proposition that has been placed on the California ballot for the November voting.

That proposition declares:

"The people of the state of California, recognizing that the safety and security of the United States must be paramount in the concerns of the American people, and further recognizing that our national security is reduced, not increased, by the growing danger of nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union, which will result in millions of deaths of people in California and throughout the nation, do hereby urge that the government of the United States propose to the government of the Soviet Union that both countries agree to immediately halt testing, production and further deployment of all nuclear weapons, missiles and delivery systems in a way that can be checked and verified by both sides."

Some may regard this wording as simply a clever ploy to win the votes of those who believe American "safety and security" must be protected from an alleged Soviet threat but recognize the deadly danger of the bomb.

But the fact remains that the assertion of a Soviet "threat" is false. Saying so is not simply a moral matter. It's a question of accurately stating what the real source of the war danger is.

The United States is not threatened by a conjured Soviet intent to destroy this country.

But the entire world is threatened by Washington's wars and its use of the bomb as nuclear blackmail against all humanity.

That's the hard fact. Wars, the threat of bigger ones, and the prospect of nuclear annihilation will not be eliminated until the imperialist warmakers in Washington — along with their imperialist allies in Western Europe and Japan — are disarmed by the working people in these countries.

It is a costly diversion from this inescapable reality to focus people on a debate over whether the nuclear stockpile — whose overkill capacity is in the

thousands — should be "frozen" or, as Reagan suggests with cheap demagoguery, "reduced."

Such a debate is a bit like the carnival shill who holds the crowd's attention with a well-delivered spiel while his pickpocket accomplices deftly do their job.

One need not be a supporter of Kremlin policies at home or abroad to recognize the objective reality that the USSR is not the threat to world peace. Moscow does not, like the United States government, have bases and troops strung around the globe. It has reiterated that it will never be the first to use nuclear weapons. It has declared its willingness to negotiate an agreement with the United States for a freeze or rollback of nuclear and conventional forces.

The fact is that the Soviet nuclear force was developed in self-defense against the U.S. threat — a threat the Soviet people have lived with ever since the U.S. "demonstration" bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Washington's record is the opposite. It dropped the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It has threatened more than a dozen times to use the bomb against other nations. It brazenly insists on its right to first use of the bomb. It talks of "winnable" and "protracted" nuclear wars.

It is building its conventional and nuclear stockpiles at a nightmarish rate and is devising new plans to deploy them around the world in the most rapid possible order.

And none of this is based on its lying claim that it must prepare for a High Noon confrontation with the Soviet Union.

No. All of this is a continuing escalation of the aggression Washington has committed, is now committing, and plans to commit in the days ahead.

It is Washington that is pressing the savage war against the liberation movement of the Salvadoran people, that arms and trains and provides "advisers" for the counterrevolutionary forces waging a war against revolutionary Nicaragua along its borders.

All of these wars have had a common purpose, to try to roll back popular revolution and make the world "safe" for capitalist profits.

It is Washington that gives military and political support to the British aggression against Argentina in the Malvinas Islands and that arms Begin's bandits in Israel for their criminal aggression in the Mideast.

The threat of a nuclear eruption is lodged in every one of these cases of aggression. So long as such wars continue, the danger that the Washington-led forces will resort to atomic weapons increases.

Yet, though their hands drip blood, these politicians all speak piously of their desire for "peace" and "disarmament." And they don't just talk. They even "negotiate."

It's worth recalling that the first Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement with the Soviet Union (SALT I), was negotiated and signed at the height of the U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

Two-gun Reagan says he's not willing to sign SALT II, but he says Washington is abiding by its terms.

SALT I and II are variations of the freeze proposition. Does anyone concerned about the threat of nuclear Armageddon sleep better because SALT I was signed and SALT II is assertedly being observed? Is the world one inch closer to peace?

Perhaps the best indication of the fraudulent character of the bilateral freeze proposition is that it's a central political talking point for Democrats like Senator Edward Kennedy and California's Governor Edmund Brown.

Both are strong partisans of a big buildup of conventional arms. Both are supporters of the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean. They back the British aggression, as well as that of the Israeli government.

Clearly, these very conscious capitalist politicians don't consider advocacy of nuclear freeze negotiations incompatible with their support to the U.S. war drive.

To the contrary, they see their support for the nuclear freeze as an effective way of catching votes and, at the same time, a means of diverting people's attention from Washington's war crimes. The very fact that such politicians embrace the freeze proposal should be reason enough to subject it to close scrutiny.

The political stakes are enormous for the warmakers, as well as for the antiwar forces. Every trick in the book can and will be used to try to divert, dissipate and thus defeat this emerging new antiwar movement. To give any credence to such false proposals as the freeze can only contribute toward covering up those who talk "peace" while waging war.

To make such a mistake is particularly costly at this historic moment when the prospects are so great for building an unprecedented mass movement against war and the nuclear threat.

# Fidel Castro on where real threat to world peace lies

The following are excerpts from a July 26, 1978, speech by Cuban leader Fidel Castro. It is taken from *Fidel Castro Speeches* (Pathfinder Press, paper \$7.95, 410 West St., New York, New York 10014).

Since realities cannot be overlooked, it must be said that humanity faces serious problems today. First of all, there is the vital matter of overcoming the risks of nuclear warfare.

The progressive and revolutionary forces are not the ones that have created this dreadful and dangerous situation. Vladimir Ilyich Lenin launched the slogan of peace and coexistence among all nations at the time of the birth of the first socialist state. [Applause].

Socialism, whose basic economic objective is the development of the productive forces and the equitable distribution of the fruits of labor, has absolutely no need for wars, for carving up the world, or for arms buildup. The planned development of the economy and basic human requirements in no way necessitate

## LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

the investment of infinite human and material resources in a sterile arms race.

The first socialist state did not declare war on nations with different social systems; the imperialist powers were the ones that decided to use intervention and blockade to do away with the first workers' and peasants' state and, at the same time, crush the revolutionary movement throughout the world.

This policy produced fascism and World War II. The crusade against the Soviet Union waged by Hitler's Germany, armed with the collaboration of the other imperialist powers, cost the first socialist state the lives of 20 million of its finest sons and daughters. The peoples of the imperialist countries also had to pay a high price for their governments' rash anticommunist, profascist adventurism.

Can anyone deny these historic truths? Can anyone hide the fact that the capitalist countries were basically responsible for the outbreak of that war? Who can forget that it was socialism that kept fascism from gaining control of the world?

What country but the United States, virtually replacing Hitler's Germany, started a crusade of anti-communism and counterrevolution in the world? What other country is a real threat to world peace? Who practices a policy of force? Who has spread military bases all over the world? Who promotes the arms race? Who needs the military industry to handle internal economic problems and satisfy powerful monopoly interests?

Those who blame the socialist countries for their defense programs forget the lesson of fascism and the historic truth that it is imperialism, through its aggression, blockades, and threats, that has forced our countries to invest considerable resources in military expenses completely foreign to the needs and objectives of the socialist system. [Applause].

As a principle, we Marxist-Leninists know that social change cannot be imposed from abroad; nor can it be prevented when the people decide to obtain it by any means necessary. The socialist peoples do not try to export revolution. No one exported socialism to the Soviet Union, and no one exported socialism to Cuba. Since the birth of socialism, only the imperialist countries have tried to export their system — capitalism, reaction, counterrevolution, and fascism.

What interest can humanity have in the arms race? Why waste on arms what people need in food, housing, health care, education, and recreation?

Each year, hundreds of billions of dollars are spent on military hardware. Mountains of deadly weapons are stockpiled every year before the horrified eyes of a world with mountains of problems.

It is clear that there is only one final solution for this tragedy: humanity must go beyond its capitalist and imperialist phase, and social justice and cooperation must be developed on a world scale. But this is a task for the people of each country.

The peoples have the duty to struggle for peace and, at the same time, for social change. Will we let threats intimidate us? No, because we are optimists and because we know, as Karl Marx taught us, that the oppressed have nothing to lose but their chains. [Applause].



U.S. troops with nuclear missile



# 'Free Wayne Cryts or Little Rock here we come'

BY JODY CURRAN

PUXICO, Mo. — As we approached the office of the American Agriculture Movement here, we spotted a tractor parked in front. On one window was painted "Free Wayne Cryts, Jail Judge Baker." Another win-

## UNION TALK

dow read, "Free Wayne or Little Rock Here We Come."

The signs refer to a local farmer who made national news last year when he reclaimed his soybeans from a bankrupt grain elevator in southeast Missouri. Standard practice cases like this is for the banks to consider the beans part of the assets of the bankrupt elevator. The farmer must then stand last in line until all the elevator's creditors are paid off — a lengthy process that often causes farmers to lose their farms.

Wayne Cryts was jailed in Russellville, Arkansas, April 28 for refusing to turn in the names of those who helped him remove his soy beans. He was released June 1.

A defense fund was set up in Puxico to raise support and money for Cryts's fight.

One farmer told us that if it weren't planting time we'd see hundreds of farmers in Little Rock protesting Cryts's jailing. A letter was received from a 74-year-old man who said he'd be willing to serve 30 days of the farmer's time if he could.

The farmers explained to us their problems in terms we could understand. They told us it takes one-and-a-half pounds of cotton to make a pair of jeans. Farmers receive 75 cents for that cotton.

A leaflet they put out says, "There is 17 cents worth of corn flakes in a box of corn flakes. The manufacturer spends 30 cents for advertising to sell it to your kids on TV. Can your kids eat TV commercials?"

After spending an hour and a half at the American

Agriculture Movement office, we pledged to help give labor support for the Cryts defense case in St. Louis. We recalled how the farmers helped the striking coal miners in 1978 and the striking air controllers last year.

Now it's time for us as unionists to help the farmer — those that we share a common struggle with against the banks and corporations.

You can send letters of support and contributions to the Wayne Cryts Defense Fund, Puxico State Bank, Puxico, Missouri 63960.

As we left Puxico we saw several cars and trucks decorated with yellow ribbons, a reminder that small farmers — and workers — are held hostage by those who rule this country.

Jody Curran is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate in Missouri. She is an active member of the International Association of Machinists, Lodge 837 B.

## LETTERS

### Landlord arson

I am writing these few lines because I would like to subscribe to the *Militant* if possible. You see, I happened to get my hands on the May 28 issue here in Attica prison school library. I read a lot on what is happening in the outside world, and what is happening right here in Attica, New York, and New York City.

I read the article on the April 30 fire in Hoboken, which killed 12 people. That involves me and my people, Puerto Ricans, but this is not just taking place in Hoboken or other big cities like New York. This is happening everywhere we live in this country. They burn us out where we live.

They still do not put in their pigeon brains that we are strong people and we are born struggling. This doesn't make us stop struggling, it just makes more hatred for their society that we are forced to live in. They don't know our day will come.

I am thanking you in advance, and hope to receive my subscription to the *Militant* soon.

A prisoner  
Attica, New York

### Deportations

Three hundred Chicanos and Mexicanos marched through downtown Denver to the Federal Courthouse on May 5, the first day of the Cinco de Mayo festival, to protest the racist roundup of undocumented workers by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

Marchers carried handmade banners and signs demanding an end to the deportations and protesting the death of José Morales. "Wanted: U.S. Immigration for the murder of José Morales," read one sign.

Morales was a 17-year-old Mexican killed April 30 as a direct result of an INS raid on a poultry farm in Boulder, Colorado, where he worked. Fleeing from the INS officials, he ran into the path of a truck loaded with cement, was thrown 22 feet, and died instantly. The youth had come from Mexico only two months ago and was working at the \$3.50-an-hour job to help pay for medical treatment for his ailing mother in Chihuahua, Mexico.

One of the speakers who addressed the crowd at the Federal Courthouse was Francisco "Kiko" Martinez, an activist lawyer who is fighting a frame-up on terrorist charges. He denounced the U.S. government's attempt to use the issue of immigrants "to divide our nation."

"We are all brothers and sisters, the people of Colorado and

the people of Mexico," he said.

A statement passed out at the rally by various organizations involved in the demonstration stated:

"We also want to state that we will keep our focus on the root of the problem and not get caught up in blaming the problem on others, like the Cubans or Vietnamese peoples. We intend to point out the root of the problem — the U.S. economic crisis, here and abroad.

Maureen McDougall  
Denver, Colorado

### Militant helps explain

On the edge of Ft. Monroe (a military post) in Hampton stands the Chamberlin Hotel overlooking the Chesapeake Bay. With its traditional Georgian style architecture, the hotel recalls the "good ole' days" of the Old Dominion when Virginia gentlemen in white suits leisurely sipped on sour mash while discussing how to effectively obstruct the rights of Black workers and sabotage the struggle by super-exploited southern workers for better working conditions and union protection.

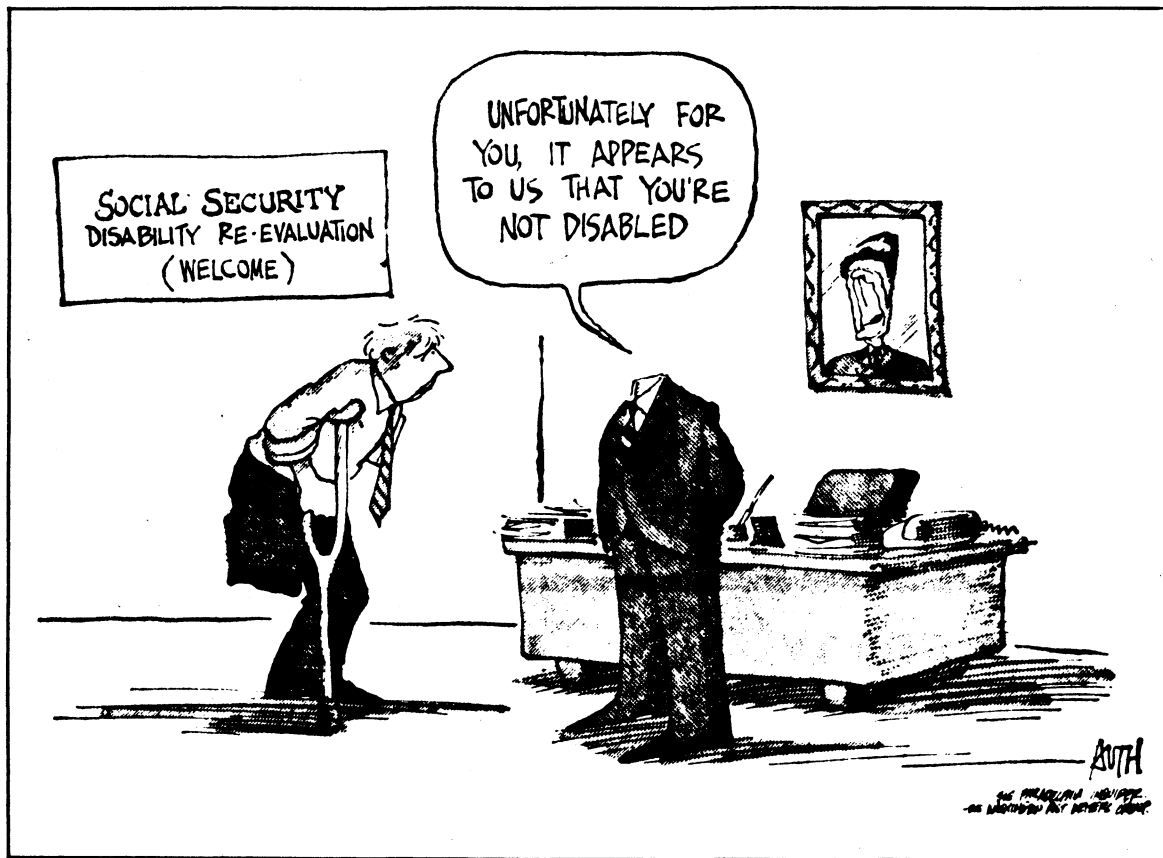
Today amid the presence of army brass and upper-class pursuers of fine dining and other pleasures, the *Militant* has been well received by the restaurant and hotel workers, most of whom are fighting hard to make it on their minimum wage paychecks.

During the past months, these workers have bought 16 copies of the *Militant* and 5 copies of the *Young Socialist* newspaper.

The kitchen has over the past few months become a center of political discussions on everything from the fight against racism in the United States, what is happening in Central America and Cuba, the upcoming June 12 demonstration in New York, and the current war in the Malvinas.

One issue was bought by an Iranian waiter who said he was real impressed by the *Militant's* coverage on Iran. There was a discussion among workers over whether Iranian workers should be sent back to Iran. The *Militant* issue featuring a statement by Mel Mason denouncing the recent immigration raids and explaining who is really responsible for taking jobs away from American workers was quite useful. One worker read the article over and has become a regular reader of the *Militant*.

Craig McKissic  
Miguel Zárate  
Newport News, Virginia



### Writers union

Delegates from several locals met over the weekend of May 29 to prepare for the founding convention that will establish a writers union in the United States; such unions already exist in Canada as well as Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries. Held in Princeton, New Jersey, this meeting of the Organizing Committee for a National Writers Union (OCNWU) set about discussing the deplorable conditions currently prevailing in the publishing industry and how writers can fight back.

As with workers in other industries, writers — cultural workers — are being pressed by the capitalist campaign of roll-back and giveback. Especially hard hit are new, struggling writers, poets, minority, and women writers.

If the writers union is successful, it could well be the most significant development on the American literary scene in almost 50 years; it will be the first time since the 1930s that a militant group of writers has been formed to fight for writers' benefits and for the craft itself against a rising tide of commercialism and the decline of "intellectual writing."

What sets OCNWU apart from its predecessors and such present-day groups as the Authors Guild is OCNWU's insistence upon the writer as worker, as employee. As far as the Authors Guild and the Internal Revenue Service are concerned, writers are independent contractors who deal in services and finished goods. This view overlooks the position of the

writer vis-a-vis the reading public and the publishing industry, which is becoming increasingly dominated by conglomerates, with a resultant decline in literary quality.

There was some heated debate on two points on the agenda. One dealt with the organizing of unpublished and "marginally" published writers.

The second area of debate revolved around a resolution of support for the June 12 actions. Some delegates felt that it was premature for any such endorsement, given that the union still did not exist. Others felt that any political resolution of this type would alienate some of the writers which the union sought to recruit, and that the union should stick to "writer related" issues.

The resolution of support was defeated, but this vote seemed to reflect a concern that the union be established first and that a procedure for determining political resolutions be set up. Several delegates and a number of locals (most notably New York City and Santa Cruz) reported support for June 12 and intentions to be present.

Anyone wishing to contact the Organizing Committee can do so at: OCNWU, 7 West 95th St., New York, New York 10025.

Peter Krala  
New Haven, Connecticut

### Spanish ballot

The *San Jose Mercury News* recently had some interesting articles. One showed that racism is constitutional. It reported that the U.S. attorney in San

Francisco is trying to find "illegal aliens" by seeing who asked for ballot information in Spanish while registering to vote.

There was a small article about a vote at nearby Stanford University, sponsored by the Stanford Progressive Alliance. Students voted 2,761 to 479 that both the United States and the USSR should halt construction of nuclear weapons. Significantly, the spokesman for the alliance stated that "the tide is turning against Reaganism." He said nothing about the leadership of the Soviet Union.

One suggestion I have for an article is to show the fraud of the tax cuts for the working class. All of my friends here complained in February and March when they figured their forms. Now that many have gotten their returns, have a reporter make an informal survey. I, for example, made one-and-a-half times what I had the year before (somehow I managed to stay employed the whole time). Yet my tax return is only half as much.

Let's stop the war drive!  
Nevin Snider  
San Jose, California

### Request the Militant

I am presently confined in the Clinton Correction Facility (hellhole for the poor, jobless, disenfranchised, and revolutionaries).

The purpose for this letter is to request the *Militant* and that I be allowed to join you in order to help with the class struggle from within here.

A prisoner  
Dannemora, New York

## Black leader: 'There can be no peace as long as there is oppression'

The following are major excerpts from a speech given by Rev. Ben Chavis, deputy director of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice. As one of the Wilmington Ten defendants, Chavis spent four-and-a-half years in jail in Raleigh, North Carolina. The speech was given at a May 22 rally in New York City sponsored by the New York Socialist Workers Party 1982 Campaign Committee.

On behalf of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice, I bring you greetings.

I believe in independent politics and I know you do. And that's why I'm here. I hope that the candidates that you are announcing tonight will take substantial votes away from the capitalist parties, and give people a visible and viable alternative to transform New York, to transform the United States of America.

We must fight — now more than ever — against racism. Too often racism gets even into the progressive movement.

We're working real hard now to make sure that Third World peoples play an active leadership role and participatory role in the June 12 rally and demonstration calling for nuclear disarmament. And I want to share with you, as I'm sure you're aware, that it's been a struggle. The peace movement, unfortunately, is still characteristically racist.

There can be no peace in the world as long as there is oppression. As I listen to some of the establishment peace organizations, they want peace with imperialism. This is antithetical; it cannot happen. And those of us who have been the victims of racism, the victims of capitalism, the victims of imperialism — we must say "no" to that kind of fantasy.

### Real cause of peace

We must also advance the real cause of peace, which is to eliminate and to dissolve the real imperialists, the real racists.

I agree that what is going on now in the Malvinas in the South Atlantic is but a prelude to a very desperate attempt by the NATO alliance to recapture not only the Malvinas, but Argentina, South America, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the rest of the world.

NATO really stands for the North Atlantic Thieves Organization. And for those of us who live in the arch-thieving nation, the United States of America — the onus is on us.

The best form of solidarity we can give the brothers and sisters who are engaging the enemy in southern Africa and other places is to take care of business in the United States of America.

### Organize the masses

It's just not good enough to be in the struggle to struggle. We must be in the struggle to win victories. And victories only come when we have the capacity and the ability to organize our people — to organize the masses of the victims of capitalism, the masses of the victims of racism, the masses of the victims of imperialism. Then we will have victory for us all.

We must not let Ronald Reagan be comfortable. We must not let Alexander Haig be comfortable. We must organize this year more than we've organized in the last 10.

Mass-based organization is a necessity. It's just not good enough to have small rap sessions with folks who are al-

ready convinced. We must go out in the ghettos and the barrios and the boondocks where people have not yet quite been convinced of the contradictions of the capitalist system. We must do the convincing in the interests of radical social transformation.

Time, I believe, is on our side if we organize, if we agitate. The June 12 mobilization must not stop on June 12, but must mark the beginning of a whole series of serious actions to destabilize and to dismantle the system that we all know so very well.

I and others of the National Black Independent Political Party have been working hard to build the Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition. And I want to share with you that it is a good experience to see brothers and sisters from the Black community, from the Latino community, from the Asian community, from the Native American community, the progressives, really join hands and struggle together and pose the progressive alternative.

### Rhetoric of nuclear freeze

We must not get caught up in the rhetoric of the nuclear freeze movement. I don't hear any rhetoric about freezing racism, freezing exploitation, freezing Wall Street, or freezing the Pentagon.

No, we must push for full disarmament. And believe me, as I'm sure you know, there will never by any true disarmament until we make the United States of America take the first step. Because history — and nothing else but history — has shown that this nation not only has the proclivity, but has the history of dropping atomic weapons on human beings. No other nation has that proclivity or that history.

And those of us who are workers — our tax dollars go into the national coffers, to the war machine. We must say "no" to this.

When I was in prison, back in 1972 when they had the first African Libera-



Militant/Duane Stilwell

Rev. Ben Chavis: "For those of us living in the arch-thieving nation, the United States, the onus is on us."

tion Day in Washington on May 22, one of the things that we had observed was that the prisoners were the prison workers. The prison did not operate without prison labor.

And so on May 22, 1972, we advanced a bold proposition, even inside a maximum security prison, that we would not work for a system that was against our survival and our own interests, even though that system gave us food three times a day, gave us raggedy clothes, gave us rat-infested conditions to live in, and told us we were their property.

We decided not to work and the system almost came apart that day.

We must call, I believe, for some national strikes — not in the interests of losing our jobs, but in the interests of maintaining our jobs under a just and humane system. We must not work for a

system that is inhumane and that is diametrically opposed to the survival of our own peoples here in the United States and around the world, particularly the Third World.

I just don't think that Reagan and Haig and those they represent have fully taken into account the level of contradiction and the heightening of awareness of people who live in the United States, particularly in the cities, who are on the verge of not only what happened in the '60s but something much more cataclysmic.

We must not allow the victims of oppression to internalize their oppression. We must find constructive ways to let the rage in our community be channeled to the real enemies.

In the Black community we desper-

Continued on Page 18

## Abortion rights march set for July 17

BY BETSY SOARES

PHILADELPHIA — In January 1973 women in this country won the right to legalized abortion. Now, nearly 10 years later, that right is being threatened.

As Washington carries out its wars against the peoples of Central America and against workers in this country, it is also aiming fire at the right of women to legalized abortion.

In response to this attack, supporters of reproductive rights have called for a march and rally to demand that abortion be kept safe and legal. The demonstration will take place July 17 outside of the National "Right to Life" Committee's national convention, in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

A coalition of women's rights organizations have been working together since November to plan this counter-demonstration against the antiabortion "right to life" group.

A press conference and a religious service will take place on July 16 around the theme "In support of Women's Lives: Abortion Rights Action."

A march and rally will take place on Saturday, July 17, in Cooper River Park, across from the convention site. The demonstration is scheduled to assemble at 11 a.m.

Jean Hunt, one of the organizers of

the action, told the *Militant*: "This demonstration comes at a time when a lot of people in this country are looking for a way to protest the moves of right-wing groups like the 'right to life' committee, and the antiwoman policies of the Reagan administration. There's a high level of anger, and people want to do something. The demand of this demonstration is not just a question of keeping abortion legal.

"Already, safe abortions are out of reach for many Black and Latino women, for poor women, teenagers, and many rural women. We're demanding that abortions should be safe and legal, and that they should be funded and accessible to all women."

The three main sponsors of the action are: the National Organization for Women, through its Mid-Atlantic Regional Council; the Reproductive Rights National Network; and the National Women's Health Care Network.

Endorsers for July 17 already include the Abortion Rights Mobilization, the Abortion Federation, Planned Parenthood, the U.S. Student Association, the Workers Rights Law Project of Philadelphia, and many others.

More endorsements are expected to come in, including from unions and women's caucuses.

Speakers at the rally will present a range of political perspectives. The program will address not only the right to abortion, but will also take a strong position against the racist nature of the attacks on women of the oppressed nationalities, the impact of the cutbacks of Medicaid funding for abortion, and the economics of the attacks on reproductive rights.

The rally includes a speakout, where women will share their experiences before abortion was legalized, as well as a program of live music.

The demonstration is being built up and down the East Coast, with buses and transportation already organized from Chicago, Maryland, Virginia, Indianapolis, Vermont, New Hampshire, Washington, D.C., Boston, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Maine, New Jersey and New York.

Special attention should be paid to involving trade unions, chapters of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, and Black and Latino groups.

For more information, contact: In Support of Women's Lives, 1220 Samson St., 7th floor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107. Or phone (215) 629-2860. T-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, and leaflets are available on request.