

New FBI guidelines to target socialists

BY HARRY RING

The FBI is rewriting its guidelines in order to resume its "investigation" of the Socialist Workers Party and to also victimize the National Lawyers Guild and other organizations.

This was made plain at a June 24 hearing of the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism.

The session featured testimony by FBI Director William Webster. It opened with a statement by Senator Jeremiah Denton specifically naming the SWP, the Lawyers Guild, and others.

Denton, the Alabama right-winger who chairs the subcommittee, said, "The Socialist Workers Party, the Progressive Labor Party, the Weather Underground Organization, and the May 19th Communist Organization clearly oppose our democratic ideals."

He further alleged that the Weather Underground and "groups associated with" it have support from "ideological allies" such as the National Lawyers Guild.

The guild, Denton charged, provides "logistical support to Soviet- and Cuban-backed terrorists."

Both the SWP and the guild are pursuing lawsuits against the FBI and other government agencies because of their illegal spying and disruption.

The SWP lawsuit, filed in 1973, is a landmark case. The suit demands strong court orders forbidding the government from further harassment of the socialists because of their ideas and actions.

A three-month trial in federal court concluded in June 1981. Final briefs will be submitted by July 31 by the socialists and by government defendants. Then the case will be in the hands of presiding Judge Thomas Griesa.

1976 termination of investigation

In 1976, the Justice Department announced that the FBI was terminating its decades-long "investigation" of the SWP. In the 1981 trial proceedings, government attorneys insisted that this announced decision remained in effect.

In the trial, it was established that, after more than 40 years of intense surveillance of the SWP, the government had not produced a shred of evidence of any kind of illegal activity by the party. In light of this incontrovertible fact, it's clear that the move to resume "investigation" of the party is for the purpose of political victimization, not "law enforcement."

And the fact that the move is made as the final legal papers are being filed in the suit against the government underlines that it is determined to escalate its witch-hunt regardless of court rulings.

In his Senate testimony, FBI chief Webster announced that new guidelines will be issued.

These guidelines — supposedly intended to curb abuses of political rights by the FBI — were adopted in 1976 in the wake of the Watergate and Cointelpro revelations.

Watergate confirmed that under the Nixon administration antiwar, Black rights, and other political activists were targeted for illegal entries, wiretapping,

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20,000 march in Israel against Begin's war

Unprecedented rally hears appeal from Palestinian



Refugees leave Beirut as Israel tanks move in. Brutality of invasion has deeply shaken working people in Israel.

Defeat of Equal Rights Amendment and fight for women's liberation

With the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), women and the entire working class have been dealt a blow.

The text of the ERA simply states: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

The refusal of those who rule to allow 53 percent of the population equality under the law is a telling commentary on the capitalist society we live in.

This is the richest and most powerful

to undercut support for women's equality, and to try to deal a death blow to the struggle of women for their liberation.

This move will strengthen the hand of the ruling class in its war on working peoples' rights and living standards, and weaken labor's ability to respond in a united way. It will encourage the employers to step up their attacks on Blacks and Latinos as well.

The ruling class hopes to use this defeat to demoralize and push women back and to deepen divisions within the working class along sex lines.

It gives the bosses yet another green light to scuttle affirmative action programs, increase harassment of women on the job, and deepen exploitation of women workers, thereby worsening the working conditions of all workers.

The heaviest burden will fall — as always — on the most oppressed women: Blacks and Latinas.

For over a decade, women fought to win ERA ratification.

Why did that fight fail?

Phyllis Schlafly, head of a right-wing group called "Stop-ERA," claimed the defeat showed the ERA didn't "have enough support of the American people to be in the Constitution."

But the latest Harris survey shows 73 percent of the American people — men and women — favor the ERA. Sixty-nine percent of those polled believe the ERA would mean "women will have better job opportunities" and "employers will no longer be allowed to pay women less than men for the same work."

The labor movement and the Black community, in particular, were firm supporters of ERA.

Some columnists have contended that the ERA defeat was due to the insistence of feminists on "tarring" the ERA

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BY MICHEL WARSCHAWSKI

JERUSALEM — For the first time in its history, Israel has gone to war without any consensus among the Jewish population. Also for the first time, opposition is being expressed during the war itself.

This was shown most dramatically by the June 26 demonstration in Tel Aviv, which drew between 15,000 and 20,000 people, according to both the Zionist press and the organizers of the action.

From the first days of the war in Lebanon, there have been dozens of initiatives against the Israeli aggression — many organized by the Committee Against the War in Lebanon.

A petition published in the daily *Ha'aretz*, demanding an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon, received the support of 5,000 people, including some famous Zionist personalities.

The decision of the Committee Against the War in Lebanon to organize a mass rally in the center of Tel Aviv was to be a test of the depths of the antiwar sentiment among the Jewish population.

How many people would respond to the June 26 rally called by the committee?

During leaflet distribution and other preparations, it was clear that opposition to the war was growing rapidly, and the number of personalities agreeing to speak at the rally and give their sponsorship was promising. Also promising was the decision in some kibbutzim (Zionist agricultural settlements) to send delegations to the rally and the advertisement of one of them, Kerem Shalom, published in *Ha'aretz* in support of the demonstration.

However, everyone, including the organizers of the rally, was surprised by the large number of demonstrators who came out to express their opposition to the war in Lebanon. The number cannot be explained only by the gigantic organizational effort made by the groups and individuals composing the Committee Against the War in Lebanon.

Among the demonstrators were veteran anti-Zionist activists side-by-side with members of Beit Hashita, one of the oldest kibbutzim. Arab militants of the Communist Party marched along with leaders of the Peace Now movement, who came despite the official stand of their movement, which opposed antiwar actions while the military operations were going on.

The placards that were brought spontaneously by the demonstrators were often more radical than the slogans that were on the platform and in the official demonstration call. Demonstrators, for example, expressed solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), something the organizers of the demonstration decided not to raise officially.

The speakers on the platform came out very strongly against the war and the Israeli government. All of them expressed their unambiguous rejection of the idea that one has to keep quiet as long as the cannons are firing.

Reserve Gen. Mati Peled, writer Dan Meron, historian Ygal Eilon, and even

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Protest grows against Israeli aggression

BY HARRY RING

JUNE 30 — The Israeli government announced today that the tour of duty for conscripted combat soldiers would be extended three months. This underlined the determination of the Begin regime to press ahead with its murderous aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

The extent of the opposition to this latest Zionist aggression — in Israel and here in the United States — is unprecedented.

In addition to the remarkable antiwar demonstration in Tel Aviv (see special report, page 1), Israeli army officers have publicly demonstrated against the war. Reports confirm they speak for large numbers of the Israeli combat soldiers. One demonstrating soldier-dissenter asserted he spoke for 90 percent of the troops of Lebanon.

Even Begin's "loyal opposition" in the Israeli parliament offered a warning.

Labor Alignment leader Shimon Peres publicly told Begin:

"War in our day is war that is photo-

graphed. In the battlefield are not only tanks but television cameras, the eye of the entire world, and pictures are stronger than words."

Thirty officers, commissioned and noncommissioned, on leave from duty in Lebanon, demonstrated at Begin's office June 28 to protest the pending invasion of west Beirut.

And a correspondent for the Jerusalem *Post* reported from Beirut that "thousands of Israeli troops who bear eyewitness to events no longer believe the army spokesmen."

What these soldiers have seen is truly horrifying. More than a week ago, Lebanese police estimated that there were as many as 10,000 civilians dead and 17,000 wounded in Beirut alone.

A good share of that blood is on the hands of the United States government, which arms and finances the Begin regime and which shares its reactionary war aims.

U.S. officials confirmed yesterday that Washington had provided Israel with the cluster bombs that they have

admitted to using in Lebanon.

Each of these bomb canisters contains 650 "bomblets," which explode over an area some 400 feet in diameter.

The U.S. officials said use of the cluster bombs seemed to violate a 1978 agreement by Israel not to use them unless they were in combat with two or more "Arab states." The officials were skeptical that President Reagan or Congress would do anything about this.

Not that Washington is unaware of the growing sentiment against the all-too-naked Israeli aggression. A common speculation is that one reason Haig was dumped as secretary of state was because of his public posture on the Israeli position. Haig wanted to openly associate the administration with Begin's war to a greater extent than was considered politically judicious.

There are several reasons why Reagan would like to drape a fig leaf over Washington's sanction for what Israel is doing. In addition to public feeling in this country, there are the difficulties the situation creates for Arab regimes

that cling to the U.S. coattail.

An adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak issued a warning to Washington on this.

"It will be extremely difficult," he said, "for any government in the region to conduct a policy that is friendly to the United States because the majority of the people of any Arab country, with no exception, have the impression that the Israeli operation had the United States' blessing."

20,000 march

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the speaker from a kibbutz on the Lebanese border clearly denounced the war, its aims, its methods, and the lies used by the government and the official opposition to justify the criminal adventure in Lebanon.

It is significant that the strong speech of a young Palestinian from the Galilee was loudly hailed, including his appeal to recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Two speeches were particularly noted by the Israeli media. One was the moving accusation of Raja Harnick, the mother of a major killed at the head of his unit. The other was the announcement of a petition already signed by almost 100 soldiers in a tank regiment, which called for an end to the wall of silence that covers up the criminal and suicidal policy of Menachem Begin and Ariel Sharon.

The unprecedented success of this rally led Peace Now to send a message during the demonstration itself. The message announced that Peace Now had decided to organize its own demonstration on July 3.

FBI guidelines target socialists

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political smears, and a host of other illegal acts.

Further revelations confirmed that such practices were not limited to the Nixon administration, and that at least since the days of Roosevelt the FBI and other secret police agencies have persistently violated the constitutional rights of those they arbitrarily brand "subversive."

Combating 'terrorism'

With the legally undefinable term "subversive" now widely discredited, the political police are seeking sanction for their activity in the name of combating "terrorism."

The target remains the same: freedom of speech.

At the Senate hearing, Webster questioned "whether words, unaccompanied by conduct, can be the subject of an investigation."

"I believe," he answered, "the guidelines give us broad discretion in these matters, and that advocacy of criminal violence is not immune from investigation."

The question, of course, is what constitutes "advocacy of criminal violence," and who will the FBI go after for allegedly engaging in such advocacy?

Webster carefully skirted this question. But subcommittee chairman Denton let it all hang out.

Declaring the FBI a bulwark against the threat of "ever-increasing terrorist activity," Denton said:

"When I speak of a threat, I do not mean just that an organization is, or is about to be, engaged in violent criminal activity.

"I believe that many share the view that the support groups that produce propaganda, disinformation, or 'legal assistance' may be even more dangerous than those who actually throw the bombs."

There you have it. Ideas are more dangerous than bombs and should be targeted by the FBI despite the First Amendment guarantee of the right to advocate ideas without interference.

Nor is it simply revolutionary ideas the senator is concerned about, although the Constitution clearly protects these ideas.

Denton's threats

What kind of organization does Denton see as more dangerous than terrorist bombs?

"The organizations of which I speak," the senator explained, "may present themselves as seeking the same goals as other, legitimate organizations committed to and working for higher goals.

"We know that, in the past, movements such as that to support the republican government during the Spanish Civil War, the neutralism movement prior to World War II, and the movement against the war in Vietnam were exploited in exactly that way."

In the future, Denton continued, there may be the same problem in relation to such issues as nuclear power, racism, and opposition to U.S. intervention

abroad.

Such "nefarious" groups, the senator advised, might even "exploit organizations" committed to such issues as "prison reform" and "a nuclear weapons freeze."

This should not be dismissed as the frothings of a right-wing kook. Denton is chairman of the Senate subcommittee. And more importantly, the hearing was obviously staged in full cooperation with the FBI to help clear the way for its escalation of secret police spying and disruption.

'Times' ad hits U.S. aid to Israel

Full-page ads have appeared in the June 20 and 27 *New York Times* condemning the Israeli aggression in Lebanon and Washington's role in backing it.

Describing the carnage being carried out by Israeli troops in Lebanon, the ad states, "As Americans we are particularly anguished by the knowledge that this wanton destruction has been inflicted by aircraft, missiles, and advanced armament supplied by the United States government. . . . Menachem Begin's invasion has been made possible by the support of the United States government.

"We condemn this aggression. We decry the inhuman assault upon the civilian population. We declare that such State terrorism, sustained by sophisticated and deadly technology, may exact a terrible human toll among Palestinians and Lebanese but will never extirpate their national aspirations.

"We appeal to all people to affirm that the national rights of the Palestinians are central and indispensable to any resolution of the endemic state of conflict which exists between Israel and the Palestinian people.

"Everyone concerned with social justice, national self-determination for all peoples and removal of the causes of war

must make their voices heard in opposition to this brutal, long term aggression against an entire people."

Sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee in Defense of the Palestinian and Lebanese People, the ad was signed by more than 200 people, including Sen. James Abourezk and Rep. Peter McCloskey; Rev. Jesse Jackson, Julian Bond, and Rev. Joseph Lowery; Rabbis Everett Gendler and Alfred Lillienthal; Bishop Jesse DeWitt; Ed Sadlowski; Barry Commoner; peace activists Norma Becker and Dave Dellinger; and a host of professors and writers.

PRDF makes appeal

The Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF) has sent an emergency fund appeal to over 4,500 supporters of civil liberties. PRDF was formed in 1973 to gain support and raise funds for the Socialist Workers Party lawsuit against government spying.

The PRDF appeal explains in light of the new proposal on FBI guidelines, "The SWP lawsuit is a crucial case for the broad reaffirmation of constitutional protection for free speech and unfettered exercise of political rights."

Funds to aid the lawsuit can be sent to PRDF, Box 649, Cooper Station, New York, New York, 10003.



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Pittsburgh steelworkers protesting layoffs, unemployment cutbacks.

Firms use guns and dogs on Indiana strikers

BY DAVID CAHALANE

INDIANAPOLIS — Armed company guards and attack dogs have been set upon strikers in two Indiana cities, prompting a united fight against union busting in this state.

The strikers — furniture workers in Jasper and steel and electrical workers in Richmond — have stood their ground and won important solidarity.

In Richmond, members of United Steelworkers Local 5163 struck Staco Corp. 11 months ago. They were followed by 200 members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2043, who struck PRC Recording Co. in May. Workers at both plants are fighting to defend their wages and their unions.

PRC Recording Co. has hired scabs and a private "security" outfit, Command Investigations Bureau, which has earned a vicious reputation in other Indiana strikes.

On June 12, 4,000 unionists and other supporters marched and rallied in Richmond, located in eastern Indiana near the Ohio border. Richmond workers and residents were joined by striking furniture workers from Jasper, in southern Indiana, along with unionists from throughout Indiana and parts of Ohio.

In a brazen attempt to break up the solidarity rally outside the PRC plant, company guards fired shots at a car, wounding a strike supporter.

At the rally, James Bryant, president of the Wayne County Central Labor Council, warned that "the actions of these companies are waking the sleeping giant that is the labor movement."

He described how local residents have begun to support the strikes. "It didn't reflect kindly on the company when they brought in a private police force with guard dogs to use against other members of our community. People began to realize, 'Hey this could happen to me.'"

Three days after the rally, 25 strikers were arrested outside the PRC plant, as some 200 workers tried to block scabs from entering the plant. Since then, police blockades have been used to aid company guards in escorting scabs to work.

On June 19, a solidarity march and rally was organized by the Indiana AFL-CIO for 180 furniture workers at Indiana Desk Co. in Jasper, on strike since March. More than 1,000 unionists, representing 196 local unions from 14 states, were there.

As marchers passed the Indiana Desk Co. plant they chanted, "Fort Scab!"

The plant itself had been transformed into an armed fortress by the company. Large wooden pallets were stacked 10 feet high in front of the plant. Armed guards with attack dogs could be seen behind them. The company has hired the same union-busting security force being used in Richmond.

There is a growing employer offensive

aimed at breaking unions in Indiana. As in many southern states, Jasper has been kept largely nonunion. Only about 11 percent of the 9,000 factory jobs in the entire country are unionized.

Indiana Desk Co. wants to take total control over how piecework wages are set, and to assume control over insurance and pension funds.

The national AFL-CIO has authorized a nationwide boycott of Indiana Desk Co. products.

Speaking to the June 19 rally, a representative from striking electrical workers in Richmond pointed to the national trend since Reagan fired striking air controllers. "That opened the door for the National Association of Manufacturers and others to tell companies everywhere 'It can be done,'" he said. "We will show them we will not stand by and watch it done."

United Furniture Workers of America Southern Vice-president Willie Rudd remarked: "Because Mr. Reagan is in the White House, the company thought they could divide and conquer. They never thought a busload of Black furniture workers from Memphis, Tennessee, would be here. The Black people and the brown people will support you until hell freezes over."

The entire crowd erupted in cheers as he shouted, "Don't let the goons, don't let the dogs, don't let the hired guns or the mayor or the chief of police turn you around."

The president of District 11 of the United Mine Workers of America, Larry Reynolds, underscored the power workers have to defeat the employers' greed. "Organized labor has fueled the greatest economic engine this world has ever known, and by god we can shut it down too! Labor unions are here to stay. If not, we will return to that sad chapter in American history when human beings were considered of less importance than the capital equipment necessary to create a product."

With a cold determination, he continued: "We realize that while they may own that damn factory, they do not as yet, nor will they ever, own us. The forces of antiunionism are on the attack. To them we say, Never again! We did not ask for, nor are we responsible for the problems of 1982."

"Our enemies should make no mistake. We will use every tactic, every influence, every fiber in our being to see that the great crusade for human decency does not end."

The mood of the rally was captured in the words of a member of the Furniture Workers negotiating team:

"When we're on the picket line, the goons like to push us around. They like to show off their guns, and their attack dogs. But they're hiding today because they're scared. The day is going to come when the union busters are going to be busted, and the security guards will be walking on the unemployment line."

Bosses' takebacks: how far, how deep?

Many admit union-busting their goal

BY GEORGE JOHNSON

The war-austerity policy of the U.S. employers and their government is claiming a lot of victims — abroad, in the wars Washington is waging or supporting, and here at home.

The extent of the damage on part of the home front — the scope of concessions unions have made to the bosses in wages, benefits, and working conditions — is becoming clearer.

For workers, it is a grim picture.

Of executives at 419 unionized large corporations polled by *Business Week*, 26 percent have gotten concessions.

The most heavily unionized corporations in this poll have been the "most aggressive in initiating such negotiations." Half have asked for concessions, and one-third have already gotten them.

Wage increases for the first quarter of 1982 averaged 2.2 percent, well behind inflation, as opposed to 9 percent in 1981.

In addition to the national concessions that have been reported in auto, trucking, and rubber, and those demanded in steel, there have been givebacks in airlines, rail, construction, meat processing, farm implements, public employees, and more.

Concessions at the local level have also been extensive. "Concessions have been granted by workers in hundreds of smaller companies," *Business Week* reports. "Every industrial town in the recession-scarred Midwest probably has some company, large or small, where workers have agreed to accept cutbacks to save their jobs or even to prevent bankruptcy."

The employers' demand for concessions is worldwide. Concessions have already been made by unions in Japan, Britain, Holland, Belgium, and West Germany. They are being demanded in Italy, Sweden, and Australia. In France a wage freeze is being imposed.

Not only wages and benefits are being taken up; takebacks on work rules are no less eagerly sought by the bosses. This has led to more hazardous working conditions and speedup. While no figures are yet available, it is clear that almost every local auto union has been targeted, as well as locals in other industries.

In this campaign, the employers are using the recently negotiated national auto contracts, which allow the corporations to pit union locals against each other to see who'll sacrifice the most.

For nonunion workers, there are also no overall figures, but concessions have been extensive there, too. Wage cuts have been imposed on white-collar workers in the auto and airlines industries. In electronics, both wage cuts and longer workweeks have been imposed at a number of companies in the Silicon Valley in California.

Worse is to come, if the bosses have their way. A "steel bargainer" quoted by *Iron Age* says the steel corporations "would have been better off" if the General Motors takeback contract hadn't been signed. It didn't go far enough: the concessions were too "temporary and conditional."

"What the steel companies want," *Iron Age* reports, "is a long term change in their wage formula. The companies would like very much to get rid of the cost of living provision."

Especially threatened are unions in weakly organized industries. About a third of the executives polled by *Business Week* in such industries "would like to see their companies pursue an aggressive policy . . . even to the point of eliminating the union" rather than give even cosmetic job-security "guarantees."

There is a campaign by employers in the big corporations to further the "rip-

ple" effect of concessions by pressuring suppliers and unions. General Motors Chairman Roger Smith, for instance, has offered "words of wisdom" about the need for "competitive prices" to Lloyd McBride, president of the United Steelworkers.

GM is also restructuring its bidding procedures for parts and materials, a cost-cutting measure that will further pressure suppliers to cut wages.

Ward's Auto World reports that among auto parts suppliers, "more than 200 of some 1,500 bargaining units covered by UAW [United Auto Workers] contracts already have asked for concessions, and about half have been granted."

Kelsey-Hayes, a major auto parts supplier, alone got giveback contracts at four midwest plants this spring, one of which didn't just freeze wages, but cut them.

And what are the bosses prepared to give up, in return? Nothing.

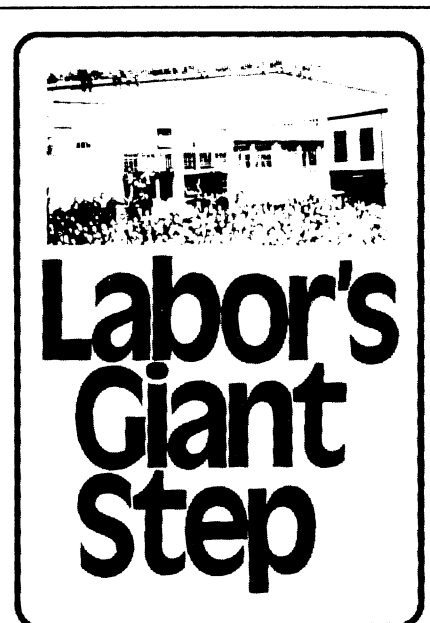
The *Business Week* poll asked if the industrialists were willing to trade job security for concessions. Almost half — 47 percent — gave an outright "no." Slightly fewer — 42 percent — said "yes" but only without ironclad guarantees: in other words, so long as they are unenforceable. Only 2 percent said "yes."

Further, *Business Week* reports, many businesses — 19 percent — admit (not to their employees, of course) that "although we don't need concessions, we are taking advantage of the bargaining climate to ask for them."

What *Business Week's* editors see emerging is a "new structure of labor-management cooperation that could increase efficiency," for which a "cooperative" attitude by union officials is necessary.

The bosses are pushing as far and fast as they can to drive down workers' wages, social benefits, and working conditions. They aim to weaken and, if they can, crush the unions.

How far they are determined to go was shown in the air traffic controllers' strike. This union-busting by the government, without a murmur of protest by Democratic or Republican "friends of labor," was a clear signal of what the bosses and their government intend.



By Art Preis

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Gov't steps up attacks on abortion rights

Nuns defend women's right to choose; CLUW endorses July 17



Militant/Mike Skinner

Since abortion was legalized, abortion-related deaths have decreased by 73 percent.

BY MARGARET JAYKO

Pennsylvania Governor Thornburgh signed into law this month an extremely restrictive anti-abortion bill.

The bill forces a 24-hour waiting period on women seeking abortions, and requires parental consent for teenage women who want to terminate their pregnancies.

Last December Thornburgh had vetoed a similar measure, saying that he had not given up his "personal opposition to abortion on demand," but he thought the bill had provisions that wouldn't survive a constitutional challenge. Thornburgh said the new measure had been "tailored" to overcome his previous objections.

On June 14, abortion rights supporters protested outside Thornburgh's house. A statement by Pennsylvanians for the Right to a Private Life explained, "The tone and tenor of the law is still the same — it is designed to harass women who are contemplating abortion and to impede those who provide abortion."

This new law follows by a couple of weeks Rhode Island's passage of two anti-abortion measures. One would force women to notify their husbands that they plan to have an abortion. The other requires parental consent for minors, as well as stipulating that doctors must first tell women the "possible consequences" of an abortion — a transparent attempt to intimidate those seeking the operation.

High Court to 'review' abortion

The U.S. Supreme Court has announced that it will review the constitutionality of restrictive abortion laws in Virginia, Missouri, and Ohio, which contain many of the same provisions as the Pennsylvania and Rhode Island laws. One additional restriction that the court will rule on is whether the state can force women to be hospitalized for abortions performed after the third month of pregnancy.

The Supreme Court has already upheld two restrictions on abortion, ruling that the government doesn't have to fund abortions for poor women, and that teenagers seeking abortions may have to notify their parents if the court doesn't consider them "mature."

The purpose of the current multi-faceted onslaught against abortion rights is threefold:

- To severely curtail — and pave the way for reversing — the 1973 Supreme Court ruling legalizing abortion by giving parents, husbands, and the state the "right" to control women's bodies;
- To exclude whole categories of women — poor women, especially Blacks and Latinas, and young women — from exercising their constitutional right to obtain legal abortions, because they can't pay or are minors;
- To discourage women from seeking abortions by making them as difficult

and costly as possible.

In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services will be "reviewing" the regulations governing the use of federal funds for sterilizations, whose passage represented an important victory in the fight to protect Black, Puerto Rican, Chicana, and Native American women, in particular, from forced sterilizations.

Legal abortion saves lives

Since abortion was legalized in 1973, abortion-related deaths in this country decreased by 73 percent.

This fact reveals the simple truth that legalized abortion saves women's lives — thousands of them.

The right of women to control their own bodies is a life — and death — question for women. And this is especially true for Black and Latina women, who die in disproportionately large numbers when abortion is illegal.

The depth and reactionary character of the campaign to overturn legal abortion was dramatically shown in California.

In a sensationalist media hype, the California district attorney's office claimed that 17,000 aborted fetuses had been found in the backyard of Melvin Weisberg, a former medical laboratory operator in Woodland Hills. This fantastic figure was reported on May 26.

Earlier, in a February 26 story in the *Los Angeles Times*, officials claimed they found 2,000 fetuses at Weisberg's house.

When the number suddenly jumped to 17,000, anti-abortion forces in California announced their intention to conduct a "memorial service" for the fetuses.

These moves are designed to bolster the myth that legalized abortion is mass murder and that women seeking abortions, and their doctors, are cold-blooded killers.

The White House directly endorsed this effort.

In a letter to the secretary of the California Pro Life Medical Association, Reagan said, "Your decision to hold a memorial service for these children is most fitting and proper." He ended with a call for "something" to be done to prevent abortions.

A judge has temporarily blocked the release of the fetuses to the right-wing-ers.

California Attorney General and Republican candidate for governor of California, George Deukmejian, recently ruled that California doctors can be prosecuted for aborting "viable" fetuses. His office says it is now examining the fetuses to see if they can get a criminal prosecution of some doctors going.

Meanwhile in Chicago, the Pro Life Action League hired a private detective to track down and harass a woman who wanted her pregnant 11-year-old daughter to have an abortion.

When they failed to dissuade the mother, they sent pickets to a Chicago

hospital hoping to see the girl entering so they could try to "persuade" her to have a baby.

Nuns support the right to choose

All these attacks on reproductive rights — which will come under even sharper attack with the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment — have prompted more and more concern about defending these rights.

The Board of the National Coalition of American Nuns issued a statement announcing its opposition to a proposed constitutional amendment outlawing abortion that the Catholic Bishops conference had recently endorsed.

The statement said, "While we continue to oppose abortion, in principal and in practice, we are likewise convinced that the responsibility for decisions in this regard resides primarily with those who are directly and personally involved."

The coalition said that it opposed any moves to "make murderers" out of women who choose abortion.

The statement also said, "It is paradoxical to us that the same leaders who are currently demanding that women bring their babies to term are simultaneously voting to cut off food stamps, child nutrition programs, and related benefits essential for the health and well-being of our children."

Sister Donna Quinn of Chicago, president of the organization, said, "We're against any bill or amendment about it, and consider it a matter of conscientious moral choice for women to make."

Referring to the 1973 Supreme Court decision, Quinn said, "There are instances when women have to choose to follow the Supreme Court. It gives them leeway."

Quinn said that the bishops and others seem to be trying "to make the choice and the decision for women. Is it another putdown of women?"

"To legislate morality about when life begins is ridiculous," she said. "No one can truly define when life begins. Even moral theologians won't touch it. What makes Senator Helms think he can?" Senator Jesse Helms, Republican from North Carolina, is the author of an anti-abortion bill.

According to the *New York Times*, the nuns' statement is "believed to be the

first time a group of Catholics institutionally related to the church has diverged from the bishops' view that the Supreme Court decision must be overturned."

The statement by the nuns is a reflection of the majority sentiment in this country in support of legalized abortion, including among Catholics.

CLUW supports abortion rights

Some in the union movement, as well, have begun to speak out in defense of a woman's right to abortion.

The recent convention of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) passed a strongly-worded resolution against any attempts to limit the right of women to choose whether and when to have children. Attacks on abortion rights place a special burden on working women, whose ability to control their reproductive capacities is critical to holding a job.

Both the American Federation of Teachers and the United Electrical Workers adopted resolutions in defense of abortion rights at their conventions last year.

CLUW and District 1199 of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees have endorsed a July 17 abortion rights march and rally, which is slated for Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

The protest will take place outside of the national convention of the misnamed "Right-to-Lifers."

It is being organized by a coalition of women's rights groups and others from all over the Northeast.

The slogan of the action is "keep abortion safe, legal and available to all," i.e., for "abortions not limited by age, race or economic status."

This action shows the potential for stepping up abortion rights activity in the face of government attacks on that right.

Supporters of women's rights can use this opportunity to reach out to unionists, the Black and Latino communities, and antiwar activists to make this a powerful answer to those who want to push women — and all working people — back.

For more information on the July 17 "In Support of Women's Lives" action, call (215) 629-2860.

Chinese garment workers hold rally

BY DIANE WANG

NEW YORK — "We are one!" declared a garment workers' rally held here June 24 by International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) Local 23-25. The crowd, estimated at 7,000 by police, was made up mostly of Chinese women.

Signs in Chinese, Spanish, and English urged: "Garment workers — let's defend ourselves! Support the union contract!" and "We defend our rights!" A banner at the front read, "Working together — Union of all nations, all races, all creeds — Local 23-25 ILGWU."

The union called the rally to demand that bosses sign a contract recently negotiated between the union and major garment manufacturing firms. Some 600 small shops, members of the Chinese Contractors Association, have refused to sign. A large portion of Local 23-25's 28,000 members work in these small shops.

The contract includes a \$1.10 hourly wage increase over three years, a possible cost-of-living increase (depending on inflation rates), one more paid holiday each year, and paid bereavement leave. The contract maintains a 35-hour workweek.

Leading up to the rally, Local 23-25 leafleted heavily and posted signs throughout Chinatown. "The employers

of the shops in our community are refusing to sign a contract with our Union — with us!" the leaflet said.

It concluded, "We, garment workers of this community, must stick together and follow our union leadership or we may lose not only these wages and benefits, but our hopes for the future."

The union also sent a letter to its members explaining that if the bosses continued refusing to sign, a strike might be necessary. It said, "The full strength of our international union with over 300,000 members in the United States, including 100,000 members in New York, is being mobilized to help you in this fight."

The union asked members to sign up for a Committee to Defend the Union Contract. According to the union newspaper, 5,000 members did sign.

The rally was addressed by Jay Mazur, manager (president) of Local 23-25; Sol Chaiken, international president of the ILGWU; and Harry Van Arsdale, head of the New York City Central Labor Council. Several Chinese shop representatives and Local 23-25 Education Director Kathy Andrade also spoke.

Union leaders urged members to go back from the rally and demand that their bosses sign the contract. The *New York Daily News* claimed that the contractors are now expected to approve the agreement.

Socialists to host educational conference



1978 socialist conference. This year the annual conference will feature classes on Marxism, in English and Spanish, as well as presentations on bosses' offensive against U.S. workers, revolutions around world, plight of farmers, and building a revolutionary party in the U.S.

BY STEVE CLARK

A Socialist Educational and Activists Conference will be held July 31–August 7 in Oberlin, Ohio. It is sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

The weeklong conference will feature six major talks, a wide range of educational classes, workshops, national meetings of socialist workers in various industries and unions, a public rally, and other events.

The six talks, scheduled so that all conference participants can attend, will cover:

- The wars being carried out by Washington and its allies, from Central America to Lebanon, the nuclear threat to humanity posed by these war policies, and how working people can effectively fight back.

- The Cuban revolution and how the socialist revolution — led by revolutionary workers parties such as the Cuban Communist Party, Nicaraguan FSLN, and Grenada's New Jewel Movement — is being extended in this hemisphere.

- The workers states and lessons of the struggle for workers democracy in Poland.

- Where the bosses' offensive against working people here at home stands, and the situation inside the U.S. labor

movement and its perspectives for moving forward.

- How family farmers are suffering from the economic crisis, and the working-class program for solving their problems.

- What revolutionary Marxists should be doing today to build the kind of party that can help chart the way forward in struggle around these issues.

A central core of the class series will be presented in both English and Spanish by students from the spring and summer session of the SWP's national leadership school. These will include an in-depth, five-part series on the *Communist Manifesto*, the political program of the world's first communist party, drafted by Marx and Engels in 1847–1848.

Students from the school will also give a three-class series on Marx and Engels's writings on the peasantry. It will focus on how landowning peasants developed out of feudal society and were transformed into debt slaves by capitalism, the role of the peasants in the 1848 revolutions in France and Germany, and how the founders of communism developed a strategic approach for the working class toward forging an alliance with the rural toilers in the revolutionary struggle.

In addition to these and other classes organized by students at the school, another two-part series will be presented in both English and Spanish. This will center on Marx and Engels's participation in the 1848–1849 revolution in Germany and the political conclusions they drew from this experience.

There will be many other classes, as well: on the farm question in the United States; a five-part series on the early history of the SWP dealing with discussions on the labor party, activity in the unemployed movement, and other topics; the materialist view of "IQ" testing and its racist and class-biased uses; the development and application of the theory of the workers and farmers government; and others dealing with specific aspects of the labor movement, Black struggle, and fight for women's emancipation.

In addition, there will be a range of classes on revolutionary struggles and political developments around the world — Central America and the Caribbean, Indochina, Canada and Quebec, the Mideast, and elsewhere.

Hundreds of participants in the conference will be socialists working in industries such as coal mining, steel, rail, auto, garment, aerospace, oil-chemical, and others. Members of the unions in these industries will hold meetings during the conference to plan how to respond to the crises of war and recession facing their unions and all U.S. working people.

If you would like to attend, contact the SWP branch or YSA chapter located nearest you, listed on page 13. Or write SWP National Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

U.S. aids rightists

While the U.S. government has contributed the insultingly small amount of \$25,000 to Nicaragua's flood relief efforts, it is preparing to pour millions more into the counterrevolutionary campaign to topple the Sandinista government.

On June 23, the Reagan administration asked Congress to approve the allocation of \$5.1 million to opponents of the Nicaraguan government within Nicaragua.

"The \$5.1 million of assistance that we intend to provide represents more than just financial support of private sector activities," said Otto Reich, an official of the U.S. government's Agency for International Development.

"It is also a symbol of political and moral support that is invaluable to the large number of Nicaraguans who look to the United States for assurance that they are not alone."

U.S. escalates pressure on Nicaragua

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA — As Nicaragua approaches the third anniversary of its triumph over ex-dictator Anastasio Somoza, there is no rest for its soldiers or civilians. All are mobilized to stand firm against a more formidable enemy — U.S. imperialism.

The Reagan administration, and the Carter administration before it, never liked the fact that their puppet Somoza was forced to flee to Miami. The workers and peasants, under the leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), have dramatically improved their lives through agrarian reform, nationalizations, literacy and health brigades, and more. The U.S. rulers have come to despise this revolution.

In fact, they do a lot more than despise it. They have launched a secret war against it. But the major press, radio, and television in the United States are maintaining a virtual news blackout on this undeclared war, just as they did in the early days of U.S. intervention in Vietnam.

But for Nicaraguans, it is as plain as the light of day. Men, women, and children die every week, especially on the northern border. And to stop even greater numbers from dying, the country has been mobilized in a military "state of emergency" since March 15.

Now, Washington has been emboldened by two recent setbacks for working people: the British defeat of Argentina in the Malvinas Islands and the major blow to the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon. The fear here is that now Washington's hand is freer to further escalate this war against Nicaragua.

Adding to Nicaragua's problems is the fact that in late May, Hurricane Albert devastated the western half of the country, producing an even greater shortage in housing than existed previously. Shortages in food and a rise in unemployment are expected in the not-too-distant future.

These difficulties provide an added encouragement for the U.S. government to step up the level of attacks qualitatively.

They are already using an extensive arsenal: 4,000 to 5,000 paid Somozaist ex-National Guardsmen in Honduras; warships stationed in Nicaragua's territorial waters; counterrevolutionary radio stations based in Honduras and Costa Rica; and former opponents of Somoza who have now become open enemies of the revolution, such as ex-Commander Edén Pastora and mil-

lionaire businessman Alfonso Robelo.

On top of this, the imperialists are using financial pressures against Nicaragua.

Military aggression

On March 25, 10 days after the state of emergency was declared in Nicaragua, Commander Daniel Ortega addressed the United Nations Security Council, explaining that the U.S. war against his country was not just imminent, but had actually begun:

- Sixty-seven Nicaraguans had already been killed and 20 wounded by Somoza's bands operating out of Honduras.

- Somoza's counterrevolutionaries were being trained in Florida.

- Military exercises were taking place under the auspices of the U.S. Army Southern Command in the Panama Canal Zone.

- Seventy-two U.S. military advisers were stationed in Honduras.

- The U.S.S. *Caron*, equipped with sophisticated electronic espionage equipment, was stationed in the Gulf of Fonseca, and as acknowledged by Washington, carried out surveillance tasks.

Since Ortega's protest at the UN Security Council, U.S.-backed military attacks have continued and occur several times a week. At least 70 clashes have taken place this year.

The *Caron* has been replaced by the heavily armed U.S.S. *Trippe*, which recently dispatched an armed helicopter that flew so close to a Nicaraguan patrol boat that the boat was forced to fire warning shots.

Attacks from airwaves

A more recent, less direct weapon of the counterrevolutionaries is the use of radio and television from Honduras and Costa Rica to destabilize the revolution by disinforming the public. Counterrevolutionary radio stations are located in both countries, while the transmitters of Honduras's Channel 5 have been strengthened to the point that its broadcasts now reach the outskirts of Managua.

Another major voice of the counterrevolution is industrialist Alfonso Robelo, who announced June 16 at the luxurious Panama Hilton that his Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN) is joining forces with Edén Pastora. Pastora himself recently hopped a jet for Strasbourg, France, where he urged the European parliament to cut off emergency flood aid to Nicaragua.

The U.S. rulers have no mercy — not even for the 60,000 flood victims who were left homeless.

If they did they would respond to Nicaragua's request for the freeze on two U.S. loans to be lifted. One, for \$56 million, could be used to buy U.S. surplus food. The other, for \$14.7 million, was earmarked for housing.

The fact is that with the exception of Mexico, Sweden, and France, precious little aid has come from the capitalist world.

Nor will the International Monetary Fund bring any relief for Nicaragua. One of the terms of an IMF loan would be to freeze the workers' salaries and otherwise punish the working class — something this government is not going to be mandated to do.

A disaster that aided imperialism

The rains of late May struck at the heart of Nicaragua's economy — its agriculture and its infrastructure.

Commander Humberto Ortega, assessing the problems facing the revolution, pointed out that on the day of the triumph over Somoza, "we inherited 79 years of imperialist domination — underdevelopment, illiteracy, poverty — that's what capitalism left us, just in this century. Added to that were the devastating effects of the [1972] earthquake, the destruction by the war of liberation, and the recent disaster produced by the rains. These are the concrete problems we face and will have to live with for many years," he said.

While immediate use is made of the flood aid that is coming in — \$31 million from the Soviet Union and tremendous assistance from revolutionary Cuba — the mass organizations are mobilizing vast layers of the population to trench-digging, cleanup, and medical brigades, volunteering their labor to put their country back together, and discussing exactly how to do it.

The Nicaraguan people, who carried out one of the most heroic battles in Latin American history, deserve the support of working people the world over.

Commander Carlos Muñoz, appealing to governments and workers' organizations throughout the world for aid, pointed out, "We are the voice of the exploited and the oppressed of America. We are the hope of the continent. We will move forward because we are the foremost example of dignity in America, and this honor we will not trade for the greatest treasure in the world."

From Intercontinental Press

Sales of 'Militant' show political gains

Greater potential exists to win new readers of revolutionary press

BY NANCY ROSENSTOCK

This spring U.S. workers were confronted with the outburst of new wars in the Malvinas Islands and in Lebanon, with stepped up military intervention in Central America, and with a big increase in Washington's buildup of nuclear and conventional weapons.

Nor was there a letup at home — cutbacks in social services increased; more concessions were wrung from unionists, the attacks on Black and women's rights continued to escalate.

This double-barreled offensive by the minority that rules this country fueled both confusion and resistance. It deepened political discussion and debate.

It was in this context that members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance carried out a 12-week campaign to circulate the *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Where we made progress

Our sales campaign registered progress in using the *Militant* and *PM* to participate in the discussion and debates taking place.

The sales at the massive peace demonstrations were a high point of the spring drive. Socialists carried out one of the largest sales efforts in recent years, reaching over 5,000 people with the revolutionary press.

In the period leading up to June 12, the *Militant* and *PM* focused on getting out the facts about Washington's hidden wars in Central America; explaining how the fight against nuclear weapons is totally connected to such ongoing wars; and the need for peace activists to build a movement that can stay the hand of the warmongers in Washington, who do threaten the survival of humanity.

Getting out this perspective to growing layers of people became a major axis of our participation in building June 12.

The socialist view won support along the way.

New supporter in Nebraska

Doug Lee-Regier, a carpenter from Omaha, Nebraska, is one example. He bought a copy of the *Militant* at a gay rights demonstration in Lincoln, Nebraska, in mid-May. The issue contained an article by Larry Seigle that took up why the proposal for a bilateral nuclear freeze, supported by some peace groups, is an obstacle to focusing the antiwar struggle on the real enemy — Washington — and on the real wars it is waging.

Lee-Regier decided he agreed with Seigle's article. A few weeks later he took part in a peace demonstration in Omaha, bringing a banner that read "U.S. Out of El Salvador."

Lee-Regier also found out about the socialist campaign of Joe Swanson for governor of Nebraska through the *Militant*. He is now a campaign supporter.

Socialists in the New York-New Jersey area found a similar response to the *Militant*'s coverage of the antiwar question. One subscriber from northern New Jersey asked for an extra copy of the issue with the Seigle article to convince a friend who was supporting the bilateral nuclear freeze.

A high school student who bought the paper at June 12 decided to begin attending classes sponsored by the Manhattan YSA.

The *Militant* and *PM* were also present at many other anti-Reagan and peace demonstrations, protests against deportation raids, actions for the Equal Rights Amendment, and protests of Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

Farmers were introduced to the *Militant*. Fifteen farmers bought copies at a recent Des Moines farmers conference on war and nuclear weapons.

In several areas we made progress with plant gate sales.

In Baltimore, socialists sold 17 percent of their papers at plant gates or other industrial sites. Extensive sales were organized each week of the drive to workers in rail, garment, steel, as well as at machine shops and other places.

Sales were often used to build *Militant* forums in Baltimore. For example, one week leaflets for a forum on the socialist view of plant closings were distributed along with selling the *Militant*. Salm Kolis, the sales director for the SWP, explained that this helped in two ways. It spurred discussions with workers and showed there was an organization associated with the paper and a place to go to find out more information.

When the *Militant* ran several articles on the auto contract, the Baltimore socialists went to a nearby General Motors plant. Workers were interested in discussing their contract and how to fight the concessions, but they were also quite concerned about the U.S.-British war against Argentina.

Mitchel Rosenberg, the SWP candidate for the Indiana House of Representatives, found a similar response when he sold at U.S. Steel Gary Works, where he is employed. An article in the *Militant* on the local steel elections spurred sales. What Rosenberg found was not only interest in the steel elections but also big interest in discussing the war going on against Argentina and the involvement of the U.S.

Socialists in St. Louis also made big progress in reaching industrial workers with the *Militant*. Twenty-one percent of the papers they sold over the 12-week drive were at plant gates or to co-workers in industry.

Salvador guerrillas capture army chief

BY FRED MURPHY

"If the weather improves we will be able to meet with journalists in Perquin on Saturday," Salvadoran Vice-minister of Defense Col. Francisco Adolfo Castillo confidently told a news conference in San Salvador June 17. For nearly two weeks thousands of the Salvadoran army's U.S.-trained troops had been trying to retake the town of Perquin in northern Morazán Province from the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). The FMLN overran the army garrison in Perquin on June 5.

Within hours of his news conference, Colonel Castillo's helicopter was downed by the FMLN in Morazán. The Defense Ministry announced the presumed death of its vice-minister on June 18, but two days later the FMLN's Radio Venceremos announced that Castillo had been taken prisoner. Another top officer, Morazán provincial commander Col. Salvador Beltrán Luna, was killed when the helicopter was shot down.

The loss of the two colonels was the most stinging of a series of military blows the Salvadoran government forces have been dealt by the FMLN since the beginning of June.

The rebels' offensive in northern Morazán came in response to a major antiguerrilla operation launched by the regime at the end of May in Chalatenango Province. More than 3,000 troops — spearheaded by the Ramón Belloso Battalion, a 960-man unit just back from training by U.S. Green Berets at Fort Bragg, North Carolina — were thrown into the regime's highly publicized effort to drive the FMLN out of Chalatenango. "We're taking the war to them," a U.S. adviser who had trained Montagnard tribesmen in Vietnam boasted to the *Washington Post*.

Despite the scope of the government offensive, the June 28 *Newsweek* reported, "After a long week of bloody and inconclusive fighting, the exhausted army withdrew" from Chalatenango.



Over 5,000 people were introduced to a socialist perspective through the *Militant* and *PM* at the June 12 peace demonstration. This represents a big step in beginning to clarify issues in fight against war.

Their sales at McDonnell Douglas, where SWP candidate for U.S. Senate Jody Curran is under investigation by the company and government for her political views, have become a regular part of their weekly sales. A number of people have become regular buyers and now have their money ready as soon as the sales team arrives.

Southern Illinois coal miners are also quite interested in the *Militant*. A regular sale at one mine nets an average of 10 papers per week.

Jasper, Alabama, is a small coal mining community north of Birmingham. On a regular basis this spring, socialists sold 20-30 copies of the *Militant* in about

Continued on Page 12

"Observers said that the army's sweep accomplished very little because many rebels simply fled across the border. 'The boys flooded back in from Honduras two days after the army left,' said one."

As in previous operations of this kind, the army's main victims have been civilians. Radio Venceremos reported the death of some 600 persons, including unarmed women and children, near the FMLN's Los Amates base.

In response to the FMLN's seizure of Perquin and other rebel attacks in Morazán Province, the regime rushed to that region even more troops than it had deployed in Chalatenango. Some reports said as much as one-third of the Salvadoran armed forces was committed to the battle.

An FMLN communiqué reported June 12 that in the first six days of fighting, the government had suffered 176 casualties. Many of these came when army units moving between the towns of Torola and San Fernando were ambushed by the FMLN on June 10. The towns are located a few miles west of Perquin and have been the focus of much of the fighting.

On June 18 a special Radio Venceremos broadcast announced that the FMLN had routed 250 government commandos from their base at San Fernando and taken the town. A June 18 dispatch from San Salvador to the *Washington Post* said the fighting in northern Morazán "has developed into the toughest battle of the war, and accounts by both sides indicate it is not going well for the government."

The FMLN has also stepped up its military activity in other parts of the country. "Throughout eastern El Salvador, numerous skirmishes continue," a dispatch in the June 20-21 *Le Monde* reported. The Paris daily continued:

Even before nightfall, the guerrillas are practically the masters of the main highways and control the vehicles at certain points. . . .

To the east of San Salvador, the guerrillas regularly attack the cities of San Vicente, Usulután, and San Miguel, sending in commando units from their camps on the sides of the nearby volcanoes.

The June 6 *Washington Post* reported that as a result of the failure of the army's Chalatenango offensive, "the mood of optimism around the U.S. Embassy . . . has turned to frustration and worry that no one wants to express on the record."

The latest setbacks can only bring a further decline in confidence among the ranks of the Salvadoran army. According to the June 17 *Miami Herald*, "a Western diplomat in close contact with the Salvadoran military said he received reports that some government soldiers were fleeing from the rebels [in Morazán], leaving their weapons behind." The reported death of Colonel Castillo, *Le Monde* said June 20-21, "dealt a blow to the morale of the troops fighting in Morazán, according to statements by the soldiers themselves."

The continuing inability of the Salvadoran armed forces to register gains against the insurgents increases the possibility that the Reagan administration will decide to defy deepgoing domestic opposition and commit U.S. forces directly in El Salvador. On June 24, CBS News and the *New York Times* reported the presence of U.S. military advisers in a combat zone along the Lempa River in eastern El Salvador — something that is supposed to be barred, according to Washington's public policy stance. The Pentagon issued a denial of the reports the same day. In its June 25 article on these developments, the *Washington Post* included the following ominous paragraph:

"The Pentagon said that as of March 31 the Army had 7,862 officers and troops in Panama, a likely jumping-off point if the administration should decide to increase U.S. military participation in El Salvador."

From Intercontinental Press



Ed Asner

Militant Harry Ring

Asner backs Mel Mason's right to spot on California ballot

Support grows as state threatens challenge to petitions

BY PATTI HIYAMA

LOS ANGELES — Ed Asner, star of the now-canceled "Lou Grant" TV show and president of the Screen Actors Guild, has endorsed Mel Mason's right to be placed on the California ballot in November.

Mason is a socialist city councilman from Seaside who is running for governor as an independent.

His supporters are currently petition-

ing to collect over 180,000 signatures to place his name on the ballot. The required number is 113,610.

As of June 27, 145,167 signatures had been collected.

The central focus of Mason's campaign has been opposition to the U.S. government's war policy, especially in propping up the military dictatorship in El Salvador, organizing counterrevolutionary attacks on Nicaragua, and threatening

the rest of the Central American-Caribbean region.

Asner also has been an outspoken opponent of U.S. intervention in El Salvador. He is the founder of Medical Aid to El Salvador, which has raised tens of thousands of dollars to buy medical supplies for distribution by the rebels of the Revolutionary Democratic Front to the people of El Salvador.

As a result of his stand on El Salvador, he charges that his popular television show was canceled by CBS.

The Mason campaign faces a big battle to win ballot status. In spite of compliance with California's restrictive election laws, Mason and his supporters are running into bipartisan efforts to interfere with the democratic right of a worker to run for office.

Already, the Los Angeles Registrar Recorder's Office has declared that only 39 percent of the signatures collected so far are valid. The San Jose Registrar Recorder's Office gave petitioners a 30 percent validity rate, while the Alameda Registrar Recorder's Office, only 60 miles away, has declared a 67 percent validity rate for petitions collected there.

This wide disparity in validity rates indicates the arbitrariness of the rulings, which are based on political considerations rather than on any true validity rates.

In addition to Asner, victims of the McCarthy era of the 1950s have endorsed Mason's right to appear on the ballot. These include Albert Maltz, who was one of the Hollywood Ten, screenwriters who refused to name names at the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings and were blacklisted. John Randolph, an actor who was blacklisted during the 1950s, has also endorsed Mason's right to ballot status.

Anthony Russo, who was tried for releasing the Pentagon Papers to the public and is a member of the U.S.-Vietnam Friendship Association, has spoken publicly as a supporter of Mason's campaign, and as an endorser of his right to be on the ballot. Richard Powell of the Screen Writers Guild, known for his civil liberties and antiwar positions, has endorsed Mason's right to appear on the ballot.

Prominent Black Democrat Julian Bond, state legislator from Georgia, has added his name to the list, as has Black California state Assemblywoman Maxine Waters.

Mel Mason's support for the Professional Air Traffic Controllers strike has led to the endorsement of both his right to appear on the ballot and his campaign itself by Charles Sheehan, past president of the Los Angeles PATCO Local 593.

Edgar Walker, who led a struggle by Black workers against racism at the Crown Zellerbach paper plant, has spoken at a campaign rally in support of Mason's candidacy as well as his right to ballot status.

Sheila Wyllie, chair of the Kern County Peace and Freedom Party, and David Wyllie of the Socialist Party are helping to organize a petitioning team in Bakersfield, the biggest city in the southern San Joaquin Valley area.

Messages protesting attempts by the state of California to keep independent candidate Mel Mason's name off the November ballot should be sent to March Fong Eu, Secretary of State, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

Copies should be sent to the Mel Mason for Governor Campaign, 2864 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, California 94609.

Subscribe to the 'Militant'

N.C. gov't escalates ballot battle, arrests two socialist petitioners

BY MADELINE LANE

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — An important battle is being waged by the Socialist Workers Party for ballot status in the state of North Carolina. State officials are doing everything possible — from disqualifying signatures on nominating petitions to arresting socialist campaigners — in an effort to keep the SWP off the ballot.

In 1980 the SWP waged a successful fight to obtain ballot status. The state legislature then passed a new, restrictive ballot law, known as the "automatic party switch" law, making it virtually impossible for any new party to achieve ballot status.

This law abrogated the rights of petition signers by switching their party affiliation when they signed to place a new party on the ballot.

This undemocratic law was struck down in federal court on April 30 as a result of a lawsuit filed by the SWP. Winning this court battle opened the way for the socialists to fight to get on the 1982 ballot.

Over the past few weeks supporters of Meryl Lynn Farber, SWP candidate for Congress in the 5th Congressional District hit the streets and collected over 14,000 signatures of North Carolina citizens who want to see the Socialist Workers Party on the ballot. This far surpasses the 5,000 required by the state.

But most county election boards are simply disqualifying thousands of names on Farber's petitions, claiming they are not registered voters. SWP campaign supporters, in random checks, have found a number of such "unregistered" names to be registered after all.

The most blatant attempt to stop the SWP from conducting petitioning and campaign activities occurred at a June 6 march and rally for the Equal Rights Amendment at the state capitol.

Campaign supporters were prohibited by Raleigh police from petitioning or distributing leaflets in a 30-block area of downtown Raleigh. While discussing the petitioning ban with the ERA rally organizers, campaigners Jeff Miller and Steve Craine were arrested, handcuffed, and jailed on the trumped-up charge of "disrupting a picket."

In a statement released to the press the following week, candidate Meryl Lynn Farber blasted these arrests:

"The unlawful arrest of my supporters is in step with the many unconstitutional obstacles placed in the path of my campaign by the Democratic and Republican parties. They have used every means to keep the SWP off the ballot. Now they have resorted to physical intimidation and arrest, again in violation of the law.

"The Socialist Workers Party is getting on the ballot to offer an alternative. I call for: U.S. hands off Argentina; U.S. withdrawal from El Salvador; an end to the U.S. war against Nicaragua; unilateral U.S. nuclear disarmament; dismantling the Pentagon's war budget; and an

end to Reagan's war on union, Black, and women's rights."

In addition to trying to keep a working-class alternative off the ballot, the state is also "purging" from voting lists anyone who didn't vote in the last presidential election.

The state has also arrested Blacks recently who were registering people to vote.

These young Blacks and other North Carolina working people are more and more open to alternatives to the Democratic and Republican candidates. The two capitalist parties fear this development and are determined to maintain their political stranglehold. This is why they claim that thousands of the 14,000 people who want to see an antiwar, socialist worker on the ballot are not "bona fide" voters.

Prominent political activists and others around the state have become part of

the fight for the SWP's right to ballot status. They have signed a statement calling on the state Board of Elections to place the SWP on the ballot.

Some of the signers include, Chuck Eppinette, member of the North Carolina National Lawyers Guild; David Garrow, assistant professor of Political Science at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Jim Grant, Commission for Racial Justice; Earl Jones, chairman of the Legal Redress Committee of the Greensboro NAACP; Rev. Leon White from Raleigh; Rev. Howard Wiley from Winston-Salem; and others.

On June 29 the 14,000 signatures for Farber are to be filed in Raleigh.

A victory in this fight would be a big step forward for working people, farmers, Blacks, and women in North Carolina. It will strengthen future fights for independent political action in the state

Socialists take on Jane Byrne in Chicago mayoral campaign

BY JON HILLSON

CHICAGO — Backers of Ed Warren's socialist campaign for mayor of Chicago hit the streets here June 26, launching a four-week drive to collect 35,000 signatures to put him on the ballot.

The mayoral election isn't until April 1983, but it's already gained big headlines in the city. Democratic Mayor Jane Byrne's chief rival so far is Cook County State's Attorney Richard M. Daley, son of longtime machine boss Richard J. Daley.

Warren, a laid-off garment worker, puts the blame for Chicago's 200,000 unemployed — many of them steelworkers — on the policies followed by Byrne and the Democratic and Republican parties.

In addition to unemployment, recent federal cuts have deprived an additional 120,000 people here of medical care.

And in May, in their cynically named "Operation Jobs," federal agents raided many shops here, claiming they were looking for undocumented workers stealing jobs from U.S. citizens. Warren was an eyewitness to one such raid in the garment shop where he worked.

Far from being designed to provide jobs, he says, the raids were an outright attempt to intimidate Latino and other workers. "No worker can feel safe when immigration stormtroopers trample on human rights, raid factories and shops, deport people, break up families, and ruin lives," he says.

Neither Mayor Byrne nor her opponent Daley offer any solution to the crisis facing working people in this city.

Warren's campaign proposes total elimination of the war budget. The billions of dollars wasted on bombs, missiles and conventional weapons could instead be used to launch a crash pro-

gram of public works to build housing, schools, and transportation. This would provide jobs for all the unemployed, Warren explains.

But the only jobs that Byrne, Daley and the other Democrats and Republicans are offering "are jobs as cannon fodder for military aggression against working people in Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Cuba," he says.

"We've got no fight with people struggling anywhere to be free of tyranny and U.S. domination," Warren explains.

"The real fight is against the criminal system of private profit, which is driving us into wars abroad and financing them off the backs of working people here at home.

"We need a government in Washington and in City Hall that sides with working people: not a big-business government, but a workers and farmers government."

The Warren campaign points out that the first step to fighting for such a government is to break with the Democrats and Republicans and form a labor party. This party, based on the trade unions, would challenge the candidates of the bosses, and defend the interests of working people.

Warren cites the positive example of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP), which is building itself on the basis of "what Malcolm X taught us, that the Democrats and Republicans are a 'two-headed monster' and have always 'sold us out.'"

To find out more about the campaign and the events planned in the June 26-July 24 petitioning drive, or to volunteer to help, contact: Socialist Workers 1983 Mayoral Campaign, 434 S. Wabash, Room 700, Chicago 60605. Telephone: (312) 939-0737.

PLO speaker at UN assails U.S.-Israeli invasion of Lebanon

On Friday June 18, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin addressed the United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament.

As Begin approached the podium, a walkout of delegates from many Third World countries took place. They joined others who had boycotted the session to protest the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Begin's speech was a belligerent justification for the Lebanon invasion. "Self-defense," Begin stated, "is a most sacred right and duty of man. . . . As long as tyranny is armed, liberty must have and develop weapons for its defense."

In reference to growing antiwar sentiment and opposition to the war in Lebanon, Begin commented that "pacifism is a beautiful idea, but if it confronts aggressive totalitarianism it is the greatest provocation inviting attack, subjugation, and destruction. . . .

"In the seventies and the eighties," he continued, "the disastrous unilateral pacifism found its expression in a famous, perhaps infamous, slogan: 'Better red than dead.' Foolish words. The true command is neither dead nor red, but alive and free!"

The big-business press in this country gave Begin's speech and his visit to the White House a big fanfare. Little was said, however, about the condemnation of this "man of peace" by the Palestine Liberation Organization's permanent observer to the UN, Zehdi Labib Terzi, who addressed the special disarmament session the same day that Begin spoke. We are printing major excerpts from Terzi's remarks below.

The walkout this morning of almost two thirds of the members speaks much louder than any other form of expression — the walkout when a criminal terrorist came to this rostrum to speak of hypocrisy and teach us something about the Bible. Israel and the Zionist movement and their supporters should learn by this act of solidarity with the Palestinian people and the Lebanese people and other Arab peoples and with all peoples who are fighting for their dignity and their rights.

A final solution

Israel's latest in the series of acts of aggression had an unashamedly declared aim: to eradicate the Palestinians — genocide. The aim of the latest act of aggression is put into force — a "final solution." That expression has rung in our ears. We have still in our memories a similar "final solution." The Herut — Begin's gang — and the Stern — Shamir's gang — are parties akin to the Nazi and fascist parties.¹

They are not only akin to the Nazis in their philosophy, they are very much akin in their behavior and method of operation. Under the misnomer "security," the neofascists carry out their aggression and military expansionism, they violate the territorial integrity of the states around them, they occupy and annex, and they reap the fruits of their aggression; and, what is more, and this is

1. The Herut is a right-wing political party in Israel, formed in 1948 by Menachem Begin and other veterans of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, an underground Jewish terrorist organization that helped drive Palestinians out of their homeland.

Today, the Herut is part of the Likud, a coalition of rightist parties in the Israeli legislature. The Likud has been in power since 1977.

The Stern Group is an organization that came out of a split from the Irgun led by Avraham Stern. The group engaged in bombings, killings, and terrorist attacks. Yitzhak Shamir is the Israeli foreign minister.

really saddening, they are even rewarded.

Here let us reflect for a moment. Were the neofascists rewarded after the fact, after committing the crime, after invading the sovereign territory of other countries or were they encouraged, maybe pushed, to commit those acts of aggression and state terrorism?

The Department of State in Washington tells us and makes no secret of its knowledge that Israel had such a plan for more than a year, but instead of deterring or discouraging — I would have wished to say prohibiting or stopping — the carrying out of the plan, the government of the United States proceeded lavishly to donate to Tel Aviv billions of dollars' worth of weapons, most advanced and sophisticated weapons. The government of the United States, as a sign of encouragement, even signed an agreement — something called an agreement of mutual understanding.

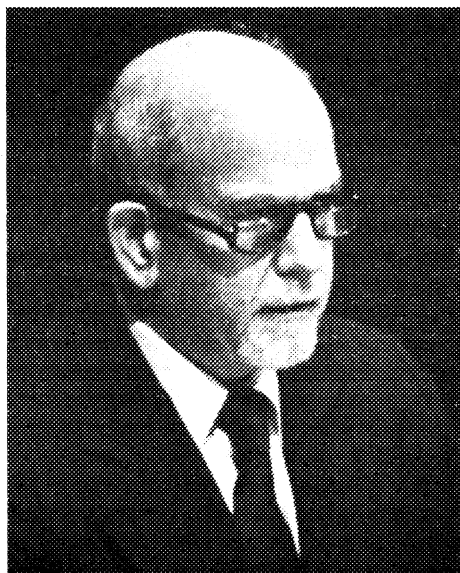
Yesterday we were reminded of the plea of His Holiness Pope Paul VI in this hall 17 years ago. We were reminded that His Holiness had said: "If you want to be brothers, let the arms fall from your hands."

His Holiness never meant that those arms should be donated to others so that they could drop cluster bombs and fragmentation bombs on innocent civilians.

The government of the United States asserted that Israel was more than a friend; it was an ally, a strategic ally. All this encouragement came at a time when the administration knew about the Israeli plan and the preparations for the invasion and for the massacres. Yet the Assembly was told that the Washington administration was opposed to aggression and that the Washington administration was faithful to its commitment to the charter of the United Nations. How unbelievable, when one of the first aims and principles of the charter is to suppress aggression, and one of the first principles of the policy of the United States is to foment and finance aggression.

Tel Aviv, as supported by the Washington administration, wants to prevent the return of the territory now in Israeli hands — in Lebanon — to the *status quo before the war*. Israel wants to dominate a clearly defined territory, a part of the sovereign territory of Lebanon. The pretext is security of the state. Do we have to recall Hitler's claims on Poland and the myth of the Polish threat to the security of the Reich?

Another declared aim or demand of Israel vis-à-vis the Lebanese is an agreement calling for the withdrawal of all foreign armies from the soil of Lebanon. There is only one foreign army on the soil of Lebanon and that is the occupation army of Menachem Begin, the almost 100,000 Israeli troops that have invaded Lebanon. That is the army that



Zehdi Labib Terzi, permanent observer of the PLO to the UN.



Tens of thousands of homeless Palestinians and Lebanese are result of Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

should immediately, unconditionally, and totally withdraw from Lebanese territory. This was stated in a resolution unanimously passed by the Security Council.

Here it is clear that Israel will not be satisfied with forcing an agreement akin to other agreements, but is also interfering in the internal affairs of the sovereign state of Lebanon. Whatever armies are in Lebanon, apart from the occupation army of Tel Aviv, are not foreign occupation forces; they are friendly brotherly forces invited by Lebanon, by the legitimate and constitutional government of Lebanon. This action was even agreed to by the League of Arab States.

A third demand, as reported, was the establishment of a new order in Lebanon as part of any final settlement, a new order. This expression reminds those of my age of the New Order of the Third Reich, of the Final Solution. Now where are we heading?

Disarmament

This is a special session on disarmament and when one speaks of disarmament, one does not speak about the tools of death and the instruments of destruction, but about the men and women who manipulate innocent lives and promote their own aims.

A pistol or a dagger, a cluster bomb or a home-made Molotov cocktail are lethal, but such tools can and must be judged by the purpose for which they are utilized.

A cluster or fragmentation bomb dropped on a refugee camp and killing innocent children should be condemned and banned. A dagger, a small machine-gun or even a heavier gun in the hands of a people fighting for its liberation, for its survival, for regaining its rights should be made accessible and should be guaranteed.

The Zionist policy, since its inception, has been built on the principle of force and therefore of arms. Jabotinsky, one of the founding fathers, talks of the iron-fist policy, which would characterize the nature of the envisaged state. We have discussed at length in this body and other international bodies the effects on human life that the iron-fist policy has had, but let us be reminded now of the character of Israel, an entity which has 30 per cent of its prime age population in uniform full time and the remainder capable of being mobilized rapidly from the reserves.

Perhaps this is not impressive to you. But if we were to apply those same percentage figures to the population of the United States, we would reach the figures of 13 million United States citizens continuously under arms and 60 million more as reservists. I think that would alarm most of the world.

The Zionist state — that little state that they talk of — must be committed to the use of force since it has at least 3,500 tanks, 8,000 armoured vehicles, 622 combat aircraft, 1,900 pieces of artillery, three submarines, two corvettes and over 25 rocket-firing patrol boats. In the year 1982, it expects to raise military expenditure by at least 40 per cent

and possibly more to accelerate its campaign of extermination against the Palestinian people.

Let us be reminded now that there is not one country in the world today which spends a greater percentage of its gross national product on the military than Israel, which spends something like 40 or 45 per cent. Its *per capita* expenditure is the second highest in the world. Its external debt — a country with almost 4 million people — due to military expenditure alone exceeds \$16 billion.

Economic crisis in Israel

Israel has very little to offer a peace-loving world. These past few years have seen numerous wars, both international and civil and the consolidation of military states. During this time the Zionist entity has found it important to increase taxation on its population and to exploit the Palestinians under occupation. To man their garrison they have had to maintain economic policies which result not only in extraordinary high unemployment rates but also inflation rates of up to 200 percent per year.

Despite massive emigration from Israel the unemployment rate rose from 1,500 per day in 1979 to almost 11,500 in 1981. Understandably however, an estimated 300,000 Israeli citizens work in war-related industries — 300,000 in a country of almost 4 million. To contend with this, Israel has to face two options and both have to be pursued simultaneously. The first is to increase the repression and exploitation of the people and lands occupied by force in 1967 — and those people are my brothers, the Palestinians under occupation.

The other option is to escalate arms sales abroad. Israel began this policy in a small way in 1973 and by 1977 it was exporting \$200 million worth of arms per year and by 1981 over \$1.25 billion worth, and they estimate that next year's figure will be \$2 billion.

And they still speak about the ploughshare and the sword. I do not know where to draw the line of difference here. Israel has become the seventh largest arms exporter in the world.

Mr. Avraham Asheri, who is the director-general of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, said on April 13 that a new industrial plan for consolidating control over the West Bank and Gaza is under way. There is already a garrison full of Zionist fanatics who, as armed civilians, indiscriminately murder large numbers of Palestinians, take the lands belonging to the Palestinians, and continue to confiscate such lands in ever increasing areas in order to provide space for factories which will be used for the production of sophisticated electronics for export.

The surveillance device used to capture the Black freedom fighter in South Africa is being produced in the Holy Land of Palestine under occupation. We ask how this can promote a peaceful world? We ask how it is that in the Negev, in occupied Palestinian territory, the nuclear experiments are carried out and, once those little missiles and those little bombs are produced, the ex-

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Mujahedeen escalates anti-Iran campaign

BY NELSON GONZÁLEZ

On June 12 one million people came out in a massive demonstration repudiating the Reagan administration's war policies.

Hundreds of thousands of people carried signs protesting nuclear weapons, the massive arms buildup, and the resulting deep cuts in vital social services.

Although there were not many signs directly related to the U.S. war in Central America, it was clear from the enthusiastic response which antiwar contingents and speakers received that most participants were opposed to U.S. intervention. The U.S. backed invasion of Lebanon was also not very popular among demonstrators.

In contrast to the sentiments of the majority of the marchers, there was a contingent that sought to take the focus off U.S. imperialism and its war policies.

This contingent focused its participation in the march on attacking the Iranian revolution. It was organized by the supporters of the People's Mujahedeen Organization of Iran and other opponents of the Iranian revolution.

In what was a well-planned intervention, they mobilized hundreds of supporters, passed out thousands of leaflets, sold newspapers, and organized a number of contingents with numerous banners. Under the cover of defending democratic rights in Iran, the actual political axis of their intervention was to convince those participating in the peace march to support the overthrow of the Khomeini regime in Iran — currently one of U.S. imperialism's major objectives in the Middle East.

Their literature presented one common analysis: since the shah was over-

thrown and the Ayatollah Khomeini took power, everything has gotten worse in Iran.

Khomeini equals Hitler?

Some of the literature went so far as to compare the Ayatollah Khomeini to Hitler.

The weekly newspaper of the Mujahedeen in Britain passed out to the demonstrators featured an article explaining how, like Hitler during World War II, Khomeini has hypnotized children to go and fight in the Iran-Iraq war. "During the final months of the Second World War, a large number of Hitler Youth, with their blind dedication to their fuhrer, went to the fronts as the last reserves and subsequently lost their lives. An identical situation today exists for the Iranian children," the paper says.

The Iraqi invasion of Iran, supported by the U.S. government, is turned on its head. Instead, Iran becomes the aggressor and the Iranian soldiers nothing more than blind stormtroopers for a fascist despot.

Other literature flatly stated, without any explanation, that the Iran-Iraq war is a conspiracy of the Khomeini regime together with the "superpowers" and Israel as part of a plot to crush all the oppressed people of the region.

This alleged Iran-Israel plot flies in the face of the reality of the Iranian revolution and its deep solidarity with the Palestinian masses.

One of the first foreign policy moves made by the victorious Iranian revolution was to immediately recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), and give them the former Israeli embassy in Tehran. Yassir Arafat, the

leader of the PLO, was given a hero's welcome in Iran after the revolution; whereas under the shah, he would have been shot on sight.

Iran is currently the only government in the Middle East that is sending troops to Lebanon to help the PLO. The current government's foreign policy also includes recognition of the Salvadoran rebels and the governments of Cuba and Nicaragua. Both political relations and oil have been cut off to Israel and South Africa.

Counterrevolutionary campaign

Nevertheless, the Mujahedeen and the National Council of Resistance (NCR — a bloc it formed with Bani Sadr, ex-president of Iran) is waging a war against the Iranian revolution. They attempt to dress this war up as part of the anti-imperialist struggles such as those being waged by Salvadorans, Palestinians, Guatemalans, and others.

The Mujahedeen propaganda effort in this country did not just begin at the June 12 demonstration. It represents a sustained effort by these forces that began by intervening in Central America solidarity groups. Its object is to divert antiwar forces from building a movement clearly directed at the crimes of U.S. imperialism.

Not one banner and not one sign in any of the contingents the Mujahedeen organized at the June 12 demonstration expressed solidarity with the Palestinians or called for U.S. imperialism to get out of Central America.

As this bears out, their campaign has nothing to do with democratic rights or the fight against imperialist war. On the contrary, the forces that make up the NCR along with other counterrevolutionary forces are responsible for carrying out a sustained, murderous bombing and sabotage campaign in Iran against the elected government of the Iranian people and in opposition to the overwhelming majority of the workers and peasants.

Because of their previous reputation on the left, the Mujahedeen and similar organizations are providing imperialism with "radical" cover for its political, economic, and military campaign to overturn the Iranian revolution.

Washington's goals

Why does Washington want to overthrow the current Iranian regime?

As a result of the Iranian revolution,

45,000 U.S. embassy and military personnel were kicked out of Iran. Iran no longer serves as an outpost for imperialism aimed at the heart of the developing Arab revolution.

The revolution and the extensive mass mobilizations of the workers and peasants forced the government that came to power to grant many democratic rights and social measures. It placed the masses in a more favorable position to defend and extend such gains. Workers took the opportunity presented by the revolution to form workers councils to continue the fight for decent wages and working conditions.

The revolution also created more favorable conditions for the peasantry, oppressed nationalities, and women to carry their struggles forward.

From the revolution in 1979 to today it has been the massive mobilization of the Iranian people which has wrenched concessions from their government and demanded a policy of opposition to imperialism.

This continued vitality of the Iranian revolution — and the example it provides in the Middle East — is what Washington fears and wants to stop at all costs.

The Iranian revolution is not dead. The only thing that has died in Iran has been the revolutionary perspective of some middle class elements such as the Mujahedeen. Because of their lack of roots and confidence in the workers and farmers of Iran, they have recoiled from the power of the masses and have instead joined the camp of the counterrevolution.

Not all Iranians marching in the June 12 demonstration agree with the perspective of the Mujahedeen. Prorevolution Iranians marched with their Palestinian sisters and brothers, chanting such slogans as "Today Iran, Tomorrow Palestine!"

Antiwar forces must be on guard against the efforts of groups like the Mujahedeen, who dress their calls for counterrevolution in anti-imperialist rhetoric. They, along with other forces who attempt to take the focus off U.S. imperialism as the source of war, must be rejected.

Campaign for jailed Iranian socialists

Representatives of the Revolutionary Workers Party (HKE) of Iran have been informed by an official of the Tehran Revolutionary Prosecutors Office that a trial may be held on the cases of HKE leaders Bahram Ali Atai and Bagher Falsafi and on the legality of the HKE's weekly paper, *Kargar*.

Atai and Falsafi are partisans of the Iranian revolution. Atai was arrested as a result of an interview published in *Kargar* where he exposed prison abuses he had witnessed during a previous jailing.

Falsafi, responsible for printing *Kargar*, was arrested as a result of a crackdown by officials against newspapers. On March 26, the prosecutors office ordered publication of *Kargar* suspended.

Such attacks on democratic rights of working-class organizations and publications weakens the defense of the Iranian revolution against imperialism, the HKE has explained.

Efforts by those who support the Iranian revolution and oppose imperialism's attacks on it can help to obtain the release of Atai and Falsafi. Telegrams such as the following should be sent to Hojatolislam Mousavi Tabrizi, Prosecutor General, Islamic Revolutionary Courts, Tehran, Iran. Send copies to Jomhuri-e Eslami, Tehran, Iran:

"As a supporter of the Iranian revolution and an opponent of imperialist threats against it, I urge you to release the anti-Shah, anti-imperialist fighters Bahram Ali Atai and Mohammed Bagher Falsafi, who are being held without charges at Evin Prison in Tehran."



Militant/Suzanne Haig

Mujahedeen used June 12 peace demonstration to try and win support for imperialist-backed campaign against Iranian revolution.

PLO condemns aggression in Lebanon

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perimentation station is in the Kalahari Desert, in occupied Namibia? Cannot one see how these are connected, how these are linked?

Conventional arms murder too

Let me remind you that more acts of genocide in recent years are attributable to conventional, even primitive, arms than to nuclear arms, and so it is with this aspect that disarmament activity must first be concerned.

The Palestinian people knows what it means to be repressed, to be murdered, to be exiled, to be tortured. The Israelis are the masters of repression, murder, expulsion, and torture. The world has rarely seen the like of such a horrifying state, which more and more resembles Nazi Germany. The Zionist state aims not only to violate human rights, but actually to eliminate in its entirety one of the world's peoples, the Palestinian people.

Who can fail to see the hypocrisy in Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon's radio announcement on IDF Radio on March 7, 1982, when he declared that Israel had "reached a state of affairs where . . . [it would] stop and check the arms race. We have no intention to add, in the 80s, even a single tank, even a

single gun, or even a single aircraft."

That statement came two months before the Reagan administration awarded its Zionist protégé 75 additional advanced F-16 fighter bombers. Now we can understand why Sharon said he would not produce them: he is getting them free, with American taxpayers' money.

PLO is the Palestinian people

The junta in Tel Aviv tells us clearly that the aim is to eradicate the PLO. And here let me make it clear that, in order to eradicate the PLO, Israel will have to eliminate or exterminate the Palestinian people, because the PLO is the Palestinian people, and what the international community has to deal with is the future of the Palestinian people.

The core of the conflict, as this assembly has repeatedly asserted, is the question of Palestine and the future of the Palestinian people. The presence of us Palestinians in Lebanon is not by our choice. It is a result of the brutalities and atrocities that forced us to seek refuge in the brotherly state of Lebanon.

Our presence and our activities in Lebanon are regulated by treaties ratified by the Lebanese parliament. We are committed to honor those treaties,

and only the legitimate constitutional authorities in Lebanon can address this issue with the Palestinian Liberation Organization — and no one else.

In addition to the bilateral treaties, the Palestine Liberation Organization honors its commitments to the decisions of the Arab summit meetings — and particularly those decisions relevant to our temporary presence in Lebanon. Temporary, I say, because we are there temporarily until we return to our homes and property in Palestine.

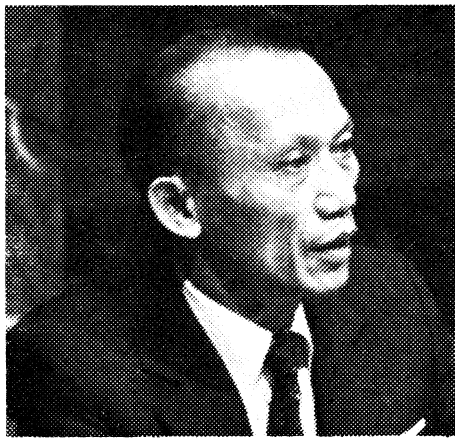
I declare here that the Palestinian people will not consent to an accommodation. We shall resist any and all attempts to eradicate our people. We shall fight by all means to guarantee our survival. The rights of self-defense and survival are inalienable and sacred and apply to all peoples — not only states, but peoples — without selectivity or discrimination.

Letter from Arafat

A preliminary assessment of damages resulting from the Israeli holocaust in the year 1982 — more than 40 years after the Nazi holocaust — was reported to the secretary-general, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, in a letter dated June 16 from PLO Chairman Yassir Arafat.

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U.S. intensifies anti-Vietnam offensive



United Nations

At U.N. disarmament session, Vo Dong Giang of Vietnam (left) took up charges made by Ieng Sary (right), who spoke for Pol Pot forces.

BY SUZANNE HAIG

Over the past several weeks, Washington has stepped up its campaign against Vietnam and Kampuchea.

The U.S. Defense Department charged that Vietnamese ships fired upon the U.S. Navy destroyer *Turner Joy* and three other U.S. warships June 20 as they were passing through the South China Sea, 70 miles off Vietnam's coast, on the way to a U.S. naval base in the Philippines.

The shooting stopped, supposedly, when one of the U.S. ships fired at the top of one of the Vietnamese vessels.

The Vietnam News Agency immediately branded the story a "fabrication" and the U.S. charges "groundless."

The agency statement explained that the only Vietnamese vessels in the area were fishing boats. Their weapons "are intended for self-defense only," the statement said, "and cannot be used to attack U.S. destroyers." Nor was the Vietnamese navy anywhere near the area.

This is not the first time such a charge has been made by Washington. In the summer of 1964, the Lyndon Johnson administration falsely accused North Vietnamese patrol boats of firing on the same *Turner Joy* and another destroyer as they were entering the Gulf of Tonkin off North Vietnam.

This incident was used as the pretext to escalate U.S. military intervention in Vietnam.

On June 22, two days after Washington's phony charges, rightist forces that are attempting to overthrow the current government of Kampuchea announced the formation of a so-called coalition government.

These forces — whose continued existence depends upon the aid they receive from Washington and Peking — consist of the remnants of the Pol Pot regime, which murdered several million people during its reign of terror in Kampuchea between 1975 and 1979; Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who was overthrown in 1970 in Kampuchea; and his former prime minister, Son Sann.

According to their declaration, the purpose of the new formation is "to mobilize all efforts in the common struggle to liberate Kampuchea from the Vietnamese aggressors" and to overthrow the Kampuchean regime of Heng Samrin.

In 1979, Vietnamese troops and Kampuchean workers and peasants ousted the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Vietnamese troops and advisers are still there helping to defend the new government and rebuild the devastated country.

Forcing the Vietnamese to withdraw these troops is at the center of the current imperialist campaign against the Vietnamese revolution.

The immediate purpose of the "coalition government" was pointed out by the main Hanoi daily, *Nhan Dan*, as a move by Washington and Peking "to give a new mask to the Pol Pot . . . genocidal clique in an attempt to [continue] occupying the seat of Kampuchea at the United Nations and other international bodies, and to use them for continued interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs."

The action comes at a time when "more governments are fed up with the presence of the genocidal gang at the United Nations," *Nhan Dan* stated.

A vote on whether "Democratic Kampuchea" — as the Pol Pot forces call themselves — will keep the Kampuchean seat at the UN, will take place in September.

In preparation for this vote, Washington is moving to build up maximum support for Pol Pot.

But legitimizing Pol Pot is not an easy task. As *Nhan Dan* stated, pointing to the many achievements under the Heng Samrin regime, "Facts in the past three years testified to the steady advance of the Kampuchean revolution and the ignominious failure of counterrevolutionary forces."

The imperialist campaign being waged against Vietnam and Kampuchea was reflected in several speeches at the UN Second Special Session on Disarmament.

Ieng Sary, a leftover from the Pol Pot government who calls himself vice-

prime minister of Democratic Kampuchea, went before the disarmament session on June 16 to launch a tirade against Vietnam, the Kampuchean government, and the Soviet Union.

This butcher had the audacity to say that it is Vietnam and the new Kampuchean government that have "sown death and devastation throughout the country."

Vo Dong Giang, vice-minister of foreign affairs of Vietnam, answered these charges. Referring to Vietnam's military and economic aid to Kampuchea, he said that Washington and Peking were attempting "to mobilize world public opinion in order to discredit an act of justice and of good conscience undertaken by Vietnam toward Kampuchea."

Washington, he said, hopes to "stem the renaissance and development of the Kampuchean people" under the current government, and aims "to wage wars by proxy through the use of Southeast Asian countries in the area, in order to have a free reign in other parts of Asia and the world."

Among the Southeast Asian countries Washington relies upon is the dictatorship in Thailand. The U.S. has several military bases there, and the regime allows Pol Pot's forces to use the country as a military base from which to conduct their raids on Vietnam and Kampuchea.

Giang pointed out that Washington was the "troublemaker and war-monger," not only in Southeast Asia but around the world.

The U.S. wants to militarily intervene "anywhere in the world which they consider relevant to the vital interests of their country, from the Indian Ocean

and the Persian Gulf to Central America and the Caribbean."

"During the past days," Giang continued, referring to the importance of protests against war and nuclear weapons, "hundreds of millions of people on all continents have raised their voices as one in order to stay the hands of the warmongers. . . . They are making history. . . . The United States cannot continue to ignore this vital and pressing demand of all mankind."

Soubanh Srithirath, UN ambassador from the Lao People's Democratic Republic, took up the charges made at the session by Ieng Sary and President Reagan: that the Soviet Union and the Laotian and Vietnamese governments were using chemical warfare in Kampuchea and Laos.

Stating that a special UN committee had failed to substantiate these charges, he pointed out: "Chemical weapons were used by the U.S. Army in Indochina in its war of aggression. Thousands of American soldiers were contaminated and still suffer the painful consequences of it."

"In order to prove their innocence to American public opinion and divert the attention of world public opinion, the U.S. government has not hesitated to concoct fables about the alleged chemical war in Kampuchea and Laos."

As the date for the UN vote draws near, the campaign of lies and slander against Vietnam by the Reagan administration and the big-business press can be expected to be stepped up in an attempt to turn U.S. public opinion toward support for Washington's continued aggression in Southeast Asia.

Right-wing Vietnamese organize in the U.S.

BY SANDI SHERMAN

Opponents of Washington's war in El Salvador and its continuing efforts to destabilize and crush the revolutionary governments in Nicaragua, Cuba and Grenada, will probably not be surprised to learn that counterrevolutionary Vietnamese have begun to organize in the United States, with the expressed aim of overthrowing the Vietnamese workers state.

Organized in a group calling itself the Committee for Support for the Resistance in Vietnam, these right-wing Vietnamese have begun to hold rallies in California and other areas.

According to an article in the June 3 *New York Times* by Wayne King, 2,500 Vietnamese, including some "300 men whose khaki uniforms were described by a rally organizer as belonging to 'overseas forces in the Bay Area,'" rallied in San Jose, California recently.

Another rally was held in Anaheim, California, on April 17, attended by 3,000 people, including the former South Vietnamese Vice-president Nguyen Cao Ky, who now lives in Orange County.

Rallies have also taken place in Denver, Houston, Dallas, and Washington, D.C. According to the *Times*, the organizer's aim is to raise money and recruit volunteers for "guerrilla resistance to the Communist government in Vietnam."

The organization of an army of counterrevolutionary Vietnamese is not an isolated action. It comes at a time when Washington is desperately trying to stem the tide of revolutionary struggles from Central America to the Middle East. And it complements a pattern of intimidation and violence by organized groups of reactionary Vietnamese against those Vietnamese who disagree with their views that has emerged over the past few years.

In May of this year, some 60 right-wing Vietnamese attempted a violent disruption of a meeting in New York City organized to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the liberation of Vietnam. At least three people were injured by the right-wingers, and the United

Nations ambassadors from Vietnam and Laos were prevented from speaking at the meeting due to the disruption.

In July of 1981, Lam Trong Duong, a Vietnamese activist in San Francisco, was murdered. A group calling itself the Anti-Communist Viets Organization claimed responsibility for the slaying. In a letter mailed to the Associated Press in New York, ACVO accused Duong of being a "Vietnamese Communist agent infiltrating into the U.S. since 1971." Despite this letter, and other evidence, police in San Francisco maintain that the motive for the killing was personal.

It is unclear whether military training of right-wing Vietnamese is going on in the United States today. However, the record of the U.S. government in dealing with right-wing exile organiza-

tions like this has become well known.

Last year the media disclosed that training camps for counterrevolutionary exiles from Cuba and Nicaragua were operating in Florida and California with the stated purpose of training a fighting force to overthrow the revolutionary governments in Cuba and Nicaragua.

These camps are operating in clear violation of U.S. law. And the government and its police have allowed Cuban right-wing terrorist groups like Alpha 66 and Omega 7 to operate with impunity.

U.S. imperialism's hostility to the Vietnamese revolution, its efforts to starve the Vietnamese people with an economic blockade, and its continued support for the murderous Pol Pot forces overthrown in 1979 in Kampuchea, embolden and sanction efforts such as those by these right-wing Vietnamese.

Campaign launched to oust Pol Pot forces from the United Nations

The National Committee to Oust Pol Pot from the United Nations has launched a campaign in preparation for the UN vote in September on whether Pol Pot will continue occupying the Kampuchea seat.

The organization is circulating a petition which states:

"The Pol Pot regime, which was overthrown in January 1979, was responsible for the death of some 2 to 3 million Kampucheans. The survivors of that holocaust hate the Pol Pot murderers and fear their return.

"United States support in the United Nations of these deposed terrorists, while other governments furnish them with arms, prolongs the suffering of Kampuchea, endangers its fragile recovery and risks wider wars.

"We, the undersigned, demand that the Reagan administration end its support for the Pol Pot clique and vote against seating it when the issue comes up for a vote in the United Nations in September. We urge all member states of the United Nations to vote likewise."

The group, which was initiated by the Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, plans to hold a demonstration and picket line at the United Nations when the vote comes up in September.

Sponsors for the campaign include: Association of Vietnamese Patriots; Prof. Ed Cooperman, director, U.S. Committee for Scientific Cooperation with Vietnam; George Davis, author, *Coming Home*; Dave Dellinger, anti-Vietnam War movement leader; Tod Ensign, director, Citizen Soldier; Prof. Richard Falk; Harlem Fight Back; Don Luce, Coordinator, Southeast Asia Resource Center; Sister Lupo, codirector, Clergy and Laity Concerned; Tony Russo, Pentagon Papers codefendant; Morton Sobell; Socialist Workers Party; U.S. Peace Council; Vietnam-U.S. Friendship Committee, San Francisco; Workers World Party.

To obtain petitions or for more information, write: National Committee to Oust Pol Pot from the United Nations, 135 West 4th Street, New York, New York 10012 or call (212) 624-8173.

'Yellow rain' and the CIA

The agency's role in the Vietnam poison-gas tale

BY STEVE BRIDE

To this point, public skepticism of the U.S. charge that Vietnam wages chemical war has been based mainly on a healthy tendency to doubt anything Washington says.

Now there is more to go on.

Evidence shows the U.S. case against Vietnam is an elaborate fiction, concocted at the highest levels of the State Department and played out by a cast of agents and friends of the CIA.

The intended victims of this frame-up are the Vietnamese and American peoples. Washington is using the claim that Vietnam bombs Laos and Kampuchea with poisonous chemicals — "yellow rain":

- To attempt to economically, politically, and militarily isolate the Vietnamese revolution — "bleed it white," as one U.S. official put it.

- As a pretext to stock up on chemical weapons.

The frame-up begins

The yellow rain charge was brought to public notice last September, when Secretary of State Alexander Haig announced he had "physical evidence" that Vietnam was gassing its Indochinese opponents.

This evidence turned out to be a leaf and stem from Kampuchea. Washington said it was full of mycotoxins from the *fusarium* fungus, the poison it claimed the Vietnamese were dropping from planes.

The leaf and stem turned out to have come from U.S.-backed guerrillas of the Khmer Rouge. Before being thrown out in 1979 by Vietnamese troops and local insurgents, the Khmer Rouge ruled Kampuchea for four years. During this time, they were responsible for some 3 million deaths. So their leaf and stem was not taken very seriously outside Washington.

Two months later, the State Department tried again. On November 10, it told a Senate subcommittee it had three more "samples." One was from the Khmer Rouge; another from *Soldier of Fortune*, a magazine for mercenaries. ("What company is the department keeping?" the *New York Times* wondered aloud.)

The third sample came from members of the Hmong tribe in Laos. Along with the Khmer Rouge, the role of the Hmong points most directly to a CIA hand in the yellow rain fabrication. We shall return to them shortly.

Back at the subcommittee, Richard Burt of the State Department tried to drum up interest with a tale of someone

who, while bringing a water sample with mycotoxins in it back from Laos, spilled some on himself. The fellow, said Burt, "arrived in Thailand gravely ill."

Smoking guns

It was about this time that scientists who knew a good deal about mycotoxins observed that, if Vietnam was in fact conducting chemical warfare, it had made a poor choice of weapons.

Regarding Burt's spill story, Dr. Matthew Meselson of Harvard University pointed out that several gallons of such a sample would have to be drunk to have any serious effect. Another way, suggested scientist Tony Rose of Bath University, would be to eat mycotoxins regularly for weeks.

Since then, the State Department has released what it claims are analyses of other evidence, particularly blood samples. Twice it has collected its "findings" into reports, each of which was billed in advance as "the smoking gun."

As set forth in the reports, the department's case rests on three points:

- The testimony of the Hmong and Khmer Rouge.

- The work of Dr. Amos Townsend, who spends time in exile camps in Thailand and provided most of the later samples.

- The word of an alleged defector from the Laotian air force.

We will take these one at a time.

The CIA's secret army

At the March 22 release of the department's first report, Richard Burt maintained that the Hmong who say they have been gassed "could not plausibly have fabricated their stories."

Since the days of the Indochina War, the Hmong in Laos have been largely occupied with two trades: growing heroin poppies and fighting for the CIA.

A Hmong mercenary army was recruited and trained by the CIA. It was commanded by Gen. Vang Pao, who ran a heroin processing plant in Long Cheng, then CIA headquarters in northern Laos. Vang Pao now resides in the United States.

Since the victory of the Pathet Lao insurgents in 1975, the CIA has led its Hmong mercenaries on numerous raids inside Laos. The U.S. government itself admitted this in 1981. Today, Hmong villages and exile camps crawl with intelligence agents.

The dubious doctor

Dr. Amos Townsend stepped into the spotlight May 13, when the State Department published volume two of its yellow rain anthology. Townsend, it was learned, had been getting most of the testimony and blood samples out of the Hmong and Khmer Rouge. The May 14 *New York Times* described him as a "private American physician."

Townsend is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel. He worked on chemical-biological warfare at Fort Detrick, Maryland, where many of the yellow rain samples are said to be analyzed.

Townsend now works for the International Rescue Committee (IRC), which sent him to Thailand to see what he could do with the poison gas stories.

The IRC was set up with CIA support after the Second World War, ostensibly for humanitarian ends. Among its humanitarian efforts was a campaign in the late 1950s to promote the image of South Vietnamese dictator Ngo Dinh Diem in the United States.

IRC members met frequently with Diem and Edward Lansdale, CIA station man in Saigon, to discuss how to sell Diem to the American people. The IRC public relations head contracted to represent Diem for \$3,000 a month plus expenses. Another IRC employee did similar work for Chiang Kai-shek, the late dictator of Taiwan.

In 1974, IRC Director Leo Cherne

served on the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Subsequent IRC charities included the Khmer Rouge, to whom it tried to have food and medical aid to Kampuchea diverted in 1980. For this, the IRC was condemned by relief agencies active in that country.

Clearly, then, Townsend has some explaining to do about what his organization is up to now in Southeast Asia.

The unlikely defector

The *Economist* — one of the more prestigious mouthpieces of the British ruling class — thought the March 22 State Department report "a verbose collection of miscellaneous information, little of it new, laced with largely irrelevant charts, maps and tables."

The *Economist* noted, though, that "the most convincing piece of evidence is the report of a Laotian air force pilot who said he was on chemical-dropping duty for two years before he defected."

The Laotian's name is Touy Manikham. He claims he gassed Hmong villages for the Pathet Lao government from 1976 to 1978.

Touy Manikham was trained at a U.S. Air Force base in Thailand in 1969. He was assigned to CIA headquarters at Long Cheng and flew for Vang Pao for five years.

When Laos was liberated in May 1975, Touy was captured. His tale is that he was released in 1976 by the Pathet Lao and volunteered for the poison gas missions.

Now, it assumes a high degree of gullibility on the part of the Pathet Lao to suppose they would hand over such a politically sensitive task to someone who they knew had worked for six years for the CIA.

More probable is that Touy bolted — or was pulled — from Laos and fed this story by his former employers.

Hit squad to Laos

What may become the most damning evidence of conspiracy is that offered by Scott Barnes, one of a six-member team sent by the CIA into Laos last year.

Barnes told *Covert Action Information Bulletin* that the team went in along with 30 Hmong to bring out an earlier CIA group, which had been captured. If the group could not be rescued, they were to be assassinated.

Barnes believes the first group had been seeding Laos with samples of mycotoxins. "It was right in that area," he told *Covert Action*, "about which Haig himself made the accusation last year."

This belief was strengthened, he said, when he returned from his (failed) mission and delivered several coded messages to Vang Pao. Asked what was in the messages, Vang Pao replied: "I don't know anything, you don't know anything. . . . All we need is to prove that the Soviets are gassing my people."

A second member of Barnes's team later phoned *Covert Action* and confirmed his story regarding their mission.

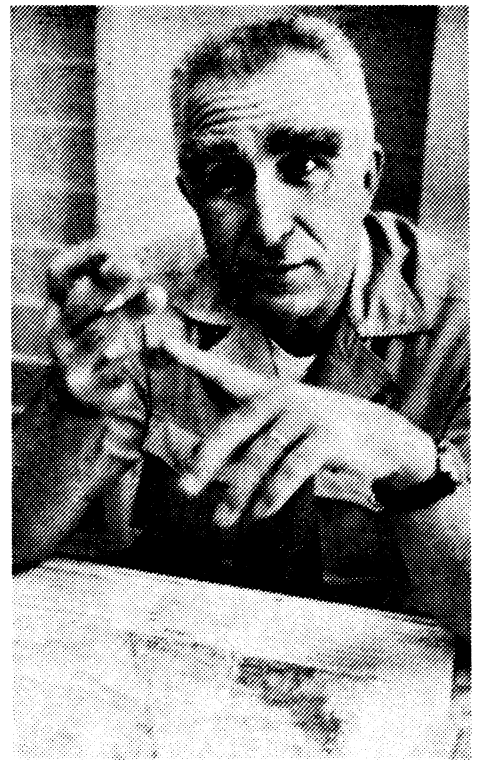
Encouraging editorials

Among the big-business media in the United States, the yellow rain show has played to mixed reviews.

The *Wall Street Journal* has been enthusiastic. The Khmer Rouge's leaf and stem was enough to convince them Washington was telling the truth.

Others — notably the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* — have been more reserved.

After reading the State Department's March 22 report, the *Post* asserted it did not doubt that chemical weapons — probably supplied by the Soviet Union — were being used in Southeast Asia. "Our doubts," its editorial continued, "— and exasperation — concern the inadequate and accident-prone manner in which the government has marshaled and displayed its evidence."



Dr. Amos Townsend, who supplied testimony and blood samples to back State Department charge that Vietnam wages chemical war. His "humanitarian" organization has longstanding association with U.S. intelligence.

Much of the editorializing has been in this helpful vein: pointing out flaws in the U.S. case and suggesting they be corrected.

One such lapse was the casualty figure cited in the report — 6,504 dead in Laos — which struck *Time* magazine as "peculiarly exact."

Another gap the *Post* saw was that "no physical evidence — weapons shells, photographs, chemical samples — has been found." Look for the State Department to produce a "weapons shell" covered with mycotoxins in the near future.

War policy

The yellow rain scare serves several useful purposes within the Reagan administration's overall militarization policy.

- The administration wants to increase its ability to wage so-called conventional wars. Chemical weapons are part of its "conventional" arsenal. Washington has used them before — namely, in Vietnam — to its advantage. It wants to use them again.

Thus, for the first time in 13 years, the 1983 military budget includes an allocation — \$54 million — for chemical weapons. This, as part of a five-year, \$8 billion program.

- The administration is currently engaged in one war in the semicolonial world, in Central America. It is looking to involve itself in others.

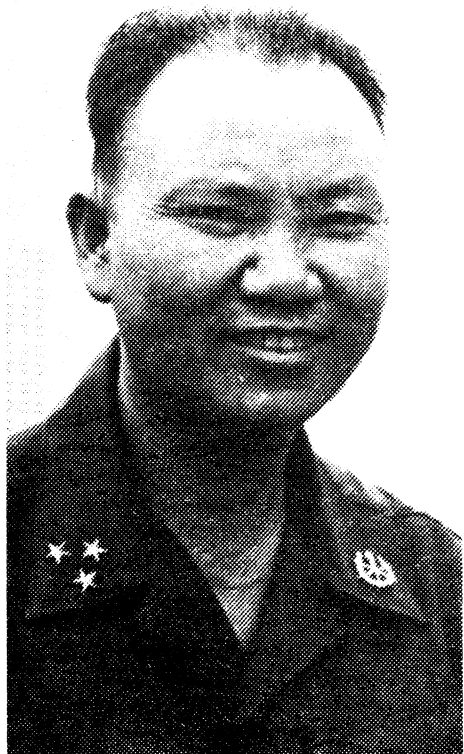
Working people in the United States are opposed to such involvement; part of this opposition is a growing sympathy for the struggles of the semicolonial countries. It would help erode this sympathy if Americans believed the last U.S. opponent of this type was now exterminating people.

- Vietnam has been a particular thorn in Washington's side: for the inspiration it provides to the semicolonial world; for the defeats it has inflicted on U.S. imperialism; and for its own ongoing revolution.

Washington has never forgotten this, and has never stopped looking for ways to isolate Vietnam's socialist revolution and bring suffering on its people. The yellow rain campaign is one means toward this end.

The poison gas charge thus fits into a pattern of arguments Washington has fashioned to justify its war policy. The charge is based on conspiracy and deceit. The other arguments can hardly be made of better stuff.

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.



Gen. Vang Pao, exiled leader of CIA's mercenary army of Hmong tribespeople in Laos. Hmong have been a major source of poison-gas reports.

Despite all he's done for them — "It really gets to him. He's genuinely upset that peo-



Harry Ring

ple think he's a racist. He's genuinely upset that people think he's anti-elderly." — an aid to President Reagan.

Philosophical — "Let's hope for a cool summer." — New York Transit Authority chief John Simpson confirming that the air conditioning won't be working on most city subway cars and buses.

What else is new? — WASHINGTON (AP) — For the average American family, higher Social Security taxes and inflation will more than offset the 10 percent income tax cut scheduled July 1. . . . The only taxpayers certain to wind up with a real tax cut are those making

\$100,000 a year or more, treasury officials said.

Jam session — Lt. Col. John Alexander, a Pentagon official, carries a pocket-size generator which jams the Extremely Low Frequency signals which he says are beamed by the Russians to scramble your brain signals. Other Pentagon officials, unequipped with the protective device, are apparently simply making do.

Holding the line — It's simply not true that prices just keep

going up. Tiffany notes that its gold and diamond necklace has remained at \$73,000 for some time now.

See, Reaganomics works — According to required financial disclosures, the members of the Reagan cabinet averaged a minimum of \$400,000 in outside income last year. Plus the \$69,000 salary contributed by taxpayers.

March of science — The *New York Times* found that economists and other "social

scientists" — capitalist ones, that is — are discouraged over their failure to solve big social and economic problems. Especially since they have such a clear grasp of the problems. Like Nobel prize economist Herbert Simon who explains that property is essentially a state of mind.

Thought for the week — "This recession has been a beneficial thing and a cleansing thing for the society." — Edward DeVos, finance chairman of the Republican party.

CALENDAR

CALIFORNIA

Oakland

The Fight for Independent Black Political Action. Speaker: Juan Real, Thur., July 8, 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) 763-3792.

San Jose

The Combined Character of the Coming American Revolution: A Class on the Black Struggle. Speaker: Clifton DeBerry, chairman, San Jose Mel Mason for Governor Campaign. Wed., July 7, 7:30 p.m. 46½ Race St. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

Nuclear Weapons and the Bilateral Freeze. Speaker: Fred Halstead, author of *Out Now: A Participant's Account of the American Movement Against the Vietnam War*. Sat., July 3, 7:30 p.m. 46½ Race St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

Seaside

The Growing Antiwar Movement: How to Stop Nuclear Weapons and War. Speaker: Fred Halstead, author of *Out Now: A Participant's Account of the American Movement Against the Vietnam War*. Fri., July 9, 7 p.m. 1043-A Broadway. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Youth for Mel Mason. For more information call (408) 394-1855.

MISSOURI

Kansas City

No Draft, No War. Slideshow: If It Is a Job Why Can't You Quit. Speaker: Jon Hall, coordinator, American Friends Service Committee to Oppose the Draft. Sun., July 11, 7:30 p.m. 4715-A Troost. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call: (816) 753-0404.

St. Louis

Antiwar Activists Discuss How to Stop Reagan's Wars and Nuclear Buildup. Speakers: Bob Corbett, professor, Webster College, Rose Feurer, Democratic Socialists of America; Mike McIntyre, St. Louis CARD; Jody Curran, Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., July 10, 7:30 p.m. 6223 Delmar Blvd. (near Skinker). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum and YSA. For more information call (314) 725-1570.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

Women's Rights Under Attack — How to Fight Back. Speakers to be announced. Fri., July 9, 7:30 p.m. 11-A Central Ave. (near Broad St.). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Schenectady

An Evening in Defense of Women's Rights. Film: *How We Won the Vote*. Panel discussion to follow. Sat., July 10, 7:30 p.m. 323 State St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (518) 374-1494.

OHIO

Cincinnati

Crisis in Middle East: Israel's War on Lebanon. Speakers: Hassan Hammami, Cincinnati representative of American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee; Joyce Asfour, coordinator, Cincinnati Palestinian Human Rights Campaign; Michael Italie,

Young Socialist Alliance. Sun., July 11, 7:30 p.m., 2531 Gilbert. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 751-2636.

OREGON

Portland

Stop U.S.-Israeli War in Lebanon. Speakers: Ron Richards, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor; others. Sun., July 11, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh

The Attack on Abortion. Speaker: Katherine Sojourner, Socialist Workers Party candidate for lieutenant governor. Fri., July 9, 8 p.m. 1102 E Carson St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

The Crisis in the Middle East. Speaker to

be announced. Fri., July 16, 8 p.m. 1102 E Carson St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

Meet the Socialist Workers Candidates.

Speakers: Deann Rathbun, candidate for Congress, Young Socialist Alliance; Mark Zola, candidate for governor. Sat., July 17, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Charleroi Library, 638 Fallowfield, Charleroi. Ausp: Pennsylvania Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

Southern Africa. Speakers: Al Duncan, Socialist Workers Party; South African student; others. Fri., July 23, 8 p.m. 1102 E Carson St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

Picnic to Meet the Socialist Candidates.

Food, sports, entertainment. Sat., July 24, 12 noon to 10 p.m. South Park, Sevens Pavilion off Corrigan Rd. Donation: \$5 adults, \$2.50 children and unemployed. Ausp: Pennsylvania

nia Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

VIRGINIA

Newport News

Socialists and the Fight Against War. Two classes: Defending the Third World Against Imperialism, 1 p.m.; Blacks, Women, and Trade Unionists in the Fight Against War, 3:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Forum: What is the Soviet Union? Is the Soviet Union a Threat to Peace? 7:30 p.m., followed by party. Sat., July 10, 111 28th St. Donation: classes, \$1.50 each; forum, \$2, dinner, \$3. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (804) 380-0133.

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

March for Justice: One Year After the Murder of Ernest Lacy. Fri., July 9, 5 p.m. 23rd St. and Wisconsin. Ausp: Coalition for Justice for Ernie Lacy. For more information call (414) 372-8299, or 445-5816.

Sales of 'Militant' show political gains

Continued from Page 6

one hour. They found that miners in Jasper were quite concerned about the U.S. government's involvement in Central America and its backing of the British invasion of the Malvinas.

'Perspectiva Mundial'

Progress was also made this spring in sales of *PM*.

PM accounted for 11 percent of the total sales this spring. This is an increase from 8 percent during last fall's subscription drive.

The Phoenix branch led the way in *PM* sales, selling over 35 copies each week of the drive.

Socialists in Tucson found they could often sell more *PMs* than *Militants*. They organized *PM* sales teams to South Tucson, a predominantly Spanish speaking area with large numbers of workers from El Salvador and other Central American nations.

Socialists in Gary organized teams to East Chicago, Indiana, to sell *PM*. Many Chicano steelworkers live and shop there.

Socialist garment workers in Hoboken, New Jersey, have regularized a weekly sale at an area bank where many workers go to cash their checks. These sales average about 10 papers per week, including about 4 copies of *PM*.

Socialists who work in the garment shops at Bush Terminal in Brooklyn have also regularized *PM* sales. They often combine their sales with a campaign table.

Long way to go

Though political progress was registered in sales this spring, the figures were uneven and indicate that we still have a long way to go.

The national goal for the drive was to sell 4,500 papers per week. The only week that we made or surpassed the goal was the week of the June 12 protests, when we topped the goal, selling 5,706 papers.

The average weekly sales for the *Militant* were 2,539; for *PM* 302, bringing

the total average weekly sales to 2,842, or 63 percent.

Running simultaneous to the sales drive was a big effort to put socialist candidates on the ballot. This was conducted in well over 20 states, collecting more than 200,000 signatures.

During the sales drive, on the average 19 percent of SWP branches were involved in this petitioning effort. Their petitioning made it impossible to meet their weekly sales goal.

This had an effect on our ability to meet the national goal, but we also found that while petitioning, we could sell a considerable number of *Militant's*. This was a step forward over previous petitioning drives.

The petitioning effort, however, is not the only reason we fell short this spring.

When sales were not consistently organized, circulation did not meet the potential that exists at plant gates, on the job, or at political events.

Many areas found that they just simply did not organize effectively enough to meet all the political opportunities to reach new people with the *Militant* and *PM*.

Not all SWP branches were able to organize regular sales and campaign days for Saturday.

The Phoenix branch raised its weekly goal from 95 to 135, including 45 *PMs*. They made their goal every week of the drive.

Phoenix socialists made sure the revolutionary press was brought to important events like antideportation actions and to copper mining communities hard hit by layoffs. They also organized regular Saturday sales.

Sales boosted confidence

Sheila Ostrow, organizer of the St. Louis SWP, pointed out that a well-organized sales campaign, far from taxing the resources of St. Louis socialists, gave a lift to all other areas of their work.

"We are now more convinced than ever that we have to get out regularly in

the streets of St. Louis with our ideas," reports Ostrow. "We became more visible and met more people. The response we got, particularly at plant gates, boosted our confidence.

"We are now using the summer to explore new sales places and find even more people that we can reach with our ideas," explained Ostrow.

During the course of the spring, thousands of people were introduced to the socialist perspective for the first time through our sales effort.

Thousands more received a piece of socialist campaign literature during the ballot drives.

These results lay an important foundation from which we can move forward in a bigger way this fall to build the circulation of our press.

Socialists and the Fight Against Anti-Semitism

By Peter Seidman

An answer to the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League's attacks on left opponents of Zionism, including a chapter on the little-known record of the U.S. government in closing the door to Jewish refugees from Nazi terror. 32 pp., 60 cents

Israel: A Colonial-Settler State?

By Maxime Rodinson

128 pp., paper \$3.95

Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. Write for a free catalog.

'The Vulture': Israelis grow weary of waging war

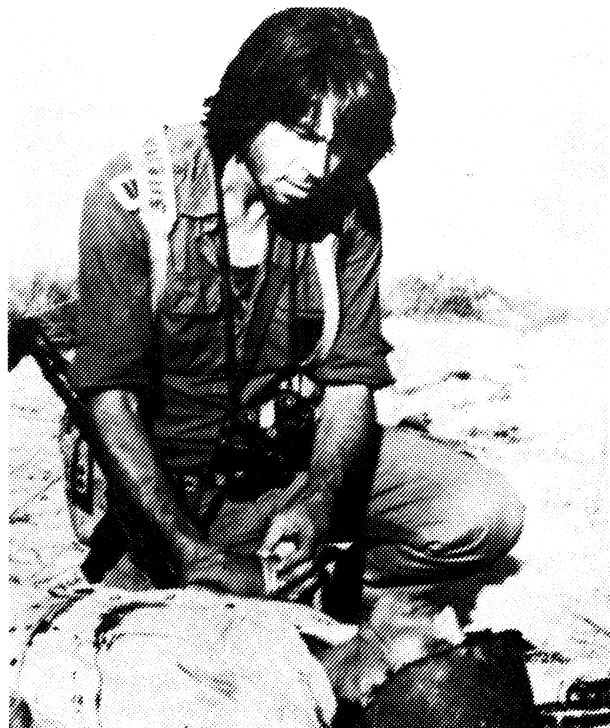
The Vulture. An Israeli film with English subtitles. Written and directed by Yaky Yosha from the novel *The Last Jew* by Yoram Kaniuk.

BY PAUL SIEGEL

The Vulture is of great interest both as a film and as a social document of present-day Israel.

The reviewers of the *New York Times* and the *New York Village Voice* saw it as concerned only with a single soldier's problems of adjustment after war. But in reality it is expressive of the war weariness of the

FILM REVIEW



Boaz (Shraga Harpaz) takes a watch off dead Arab soldier.

Israeli people, which is giving rise to growing antiwar protests.

It springs from the same current of feeling as that recently voiced by the Israeli writer Amos Elon, who spoke of the "schmaltzy sentimentality of the Begin regime, killing who knows how many civilians in Lebanon . . . [while] congratulating itself daily on its enormous moral values."

The film's expression of pacifist sentiments caused the government to censor it for Israeli audiences. Any questioning of the spurious moralism of the Zionist establishment is too much for the regime.

The story of *The Vulture* is that of Boaz, a young reserve officer just back from the 1973 Yom Kippur war. The father of Boaz's dead friend Menachem asks him how his son died in battle. In reality, Menachem had died when he went on a one-man binge, attacking Arabs after the declaration of the cease-fire. But Boaz is unable to bring himself to tell the truth. Instead, he invents a tale of heroism of how Menachem died saving his life.

The bereaved father had found life meaningless after the death of his only son. When the Chief Rabbi of Israel had issued a statement hailing the young men who had died in battle, the father removed from his door the scroll of the Torah which Orthodox Jews keep there. He could no longer accept the words of the Israeli military, civil, and religious establishment.

After all, as is stated at one point in the film, the Israeli people had been told time and again that peace and security would soon be theirs, but all they can see ahead of them is an unending succession of wars. But Boaz now gives Menachem's father the consolation that the Chief Rabbi was unable to give him.

Boaz plagiarizes a poem and states that he found it on the dead body of Menachem. The father, a school-teacher who had been distressed by the lack of sensitivity of his son, receives it as evidence of hidden depths in Menachem. It becomes the basis of a myth he builds up about his dead son that sustains him.

The father now has Boaz gather memorabilia concerning Menachem to make a memorial album. This

memorial album is as fraudulent as Boaz's tale of heroism and the poem.

Boaz's reputation as a maker of beautiful memorial albums spreads, and soon he finds himself engaged in a flourishing business in which he has the help of two young women. One is the former girl friend of Menachem and the other a worker in the Defense Ministry, who has the job of dealing with distressed veterans and civilian survivors of dead soldiers. Boaz has affairs with both.

These three young people, it is implied, typify a whole sector of the younger Jewish generation, alienated, confused, and aimlessly drifting.

Boaz loathes himself as a vulture preying on dead soldiers, but we perceive that he is not the only vulture.

In one key scene at a memorial service for kibbutz members who died in battle, an officer comes bounding up to the platform, apologizes that the busy chief of staff could not be there as a speaker, utters a few words of praise for the heroism and sacrifice of the dead, then dashes back to his military vehicle, no doubt to go to another memorial service to make the same set speech. The bewildered young men sent to their deaths have been transformed into national heroes by the same process of myth-making as that in which Boaz engaged.

In the final scene Boaz is addressing a platoon of conscripted soldiers before they go out on a mission. He is toughly cynical, telling them that all they have been told about war is false. Distributing paper and pencils, he informs them that they have three minutes in which to write poems which may serve as mementos for those close to them.

The film is punctuated by wry, bitter songs about a soldier returning from battle, disoriented and unable to come to grips with his feelings. Boaz's words in the final scene are followed by the most bitter, most explicitly antiwar song of all, which has acquired a new intensity from all which has gone before. This song, it is suggested, is the true message of the soldiers departing for battle — if only the survivors will hear it.

PLO speaker denounces U.S.-Israeli aggression

Continued from Page 9

With your permission, Mr. President, I shall read out parts of that letter.

"Thirty thousand Lebanese have been killed; 10,000 have been lost; 800,000 have become refugees; 14 refugee camps have been levelled; Tyre, Sidon and Nabatiyeh. Apart from the destruction of thousands of Lebanese villages and towns, we would cite the disruption of the lives, and interference with the vital needs, of the citizens: the destruction of hospitals, schools, water outlets and electricity supply.

"We appeal to the United Nations to call a halt to this fascist criminal invasion, and for a complete, immediate, and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces in accordance with Security Coun-

cil resolution 509 (1982).

"I call on the United Nations to send, as a matter of urgency, a high-level international mission to investigate the crimes committed by the fascist forces of the Israeli invaders, who are continuing to commit these crimes. The world should know the horrors of the crimes that have been and still are being committed in Lebanon against the Lebanese and the Palestinians. This enemy, despite the declaration of a cease-fire, continues to carry out military operations, and its forces continue to make incursions into Lebanese territory. Beirut and even the Presidential Palace have been besieged by them."

Despite all the news we hear about a cease-fire, fighting, shelling, including

shelling by warships, and bombing are still continuing in Beirut and areas of south Lebanon. The siege of Beirut is becoming more and more severe and the battle more and more fierce. This is an omen that this might lead to a massacre. I appeal to the Assembly for immediate action to be taken to stop this onslaught. However, on our side we are determined to survive and to defend our rights and our children. We shall never allow the aggressors to reap the fruits of their aggression.

The Palestine Liberation Organization, which has been invited here as the representative of the Palestinian people, has accepted and agreed to implement the resolutions of the United Nations relating to the question of Palestine. To

our mind, this is the only road to peace.

On March 20, 1977, our National Council affirmed "The right of the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in all international conferences, forums and efforts concerned with the Palestine question and with the Arab-Zionist conflict, on an independent and equal footing, with the aim of achieving our inalienable national rights as recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in 1974, particularly in resolution 3236 (XXIX)."

This is an appeal to the international community and, at the same time, a challenge to those who obstruct sincere endeavors for peace.

If it is peace the assembly is after, then this is the time to take a stand.

—IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP—

Where to find the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, and socialist books and pamphlets

ALABAMA: Birmingham: SWP, YSA, 205 18th St. S. Zip: 35233. Tel: (205) 323-3079.

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.

COLORADO: Denver: SWP, YSA, 126 W 12th Ave. Zip: 80204. Tel: (303) 534-8954.

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.

IOWA: Cedar Falls: YSA, c/o Jim Sprall, 803 W. 11th St. Zip: 50613. Des Moines: YSA, P.O. Box 1165, Zip: 50311.

KENTUCKY: Louisville: SWP, YSA, 809 E. Broadway. Zip: 40204. Tel: (502) 587-8418.

LOUISIANA: New Orleans: SWP, YSA, 3207 Dublin St. Zip: 70118. Tel: (504) 486-8048.

MARYLAND: Baltimore: SWP, YSA, 2913 Greenmount Ave. Zip: 21218. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston: SWP, YSA, 510 Commonwealth Ave., 4th Floor. Zip: 02215. Tel: (617) 262-4621.

MICHIGAN: Detroit: SWP, YSA, 6404 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 875-5322.

MINNESOTA: Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, 1012 2nd Ave. South, Virginia, Minn. Send mail to P.O. Box 1287. Zip: 55792. Tel: (218) 749-6327. Twin Cities: SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI: Kansas City: SWP, YSA, 4715A Troost. Zip: 64110. Tel: (816) 753-0404.

St. Louis: SWP, YSA, 6223 Delmar Blvd. Zip: 63130. Tel: (314) 725-1570.

NEBRASKA: Lincoln: YSA, P.O. Box 30209. Zip: 68503. Tel: (402) 475-2255.

NEW JERSEY: Newark: SWP, YSA, 11-A Central Ave. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-

3341.

NEW MEXICO: Albuquerque: SWP, YSA, 1417 Central Ave. NE. Zip: 87106. Tel: (505) 842-0954.

NEW YORK: Capital District (Schenectady): SWP, YSA, 323 State St. Zip: 12305. Tel: (518) 374-1494. New York, Brooklyn: SWP, YSA, 335 Atlantic Ave. Zip: 11201. Tel: (212) 852-7922. New York, Manhattan: SWP, YSA, 79 Leonard. Zip: 10013. Tel: (212) 226-8445. New York: City-wide SWP, YSA, 79 Leonard. Zip: 10013. Tel: (212) 925-1668.

NORTH CAROLINA: Piedmont: SWP, YSA, 216 E. 6th St., Winston-Salem. Zip: 27101. Tel: (919) 723-3419.

OHIO: Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 2531 Gilbert Ave. Zip: 45206. Tel: (513) 751-2636. Cleveland: SWP, YSA, 2230 Superior. Zip: 44114. Tel: (216) 579-9369. Toledo: SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

OREGON: Portland: SWP, YSA, 711 NW Everett. Zip: 97209. Tel: (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA: Edinboro: YSA, Edinboro State College. Zip: 16444. Tel: (814) 734-4415. Harrisburg: SWP, YSA, 803 N. 2nd St. Zip: 17102. Tel: (717) 234-5052. Philadelphia: SWP, YSA, 5811 N. Broad St. Zip: 19141. Tel: (215) 927-4747 or 927-4748. Pittsburgh: SWP, YSA, 1102 E. Carson St. Zip: 15203. Tel: (412) 488-7000. State College: YSA, P.O. Box 464, Bellefonte. Zip: 16823. Tel: (814) 238-3296.

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.

Justice Dept. begins draft indictments

On June 30 Benjamin Sasway, 21, of San Diego was indicted by the Justice Department for refusing to register for the draft. He faces a maximum five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted.

When asked why he had not registered, Sasway told the media he did not want to be drafted and end up in El Salvador or Nicaragua. "I must stand against the kind of military misdirection that involved us in Vietnam," he declared. "I must defend vital human rights. . . . I cannot act against my conscience."

Sasway's conscience is shared by hundreds of thousands of young men who have refused to register because they don't want to fight Washington's new Vietnam in Central America. The decision to begin prosecution of these youths is another step toward forcing the American people to accept the idea of U.S. intervention in countries like El Salvador or Nicaragua.

Washington is making its moves on the draft out of weakness, not strength. The millions of dollars it has

given the Salvadoran dictatorship have not been enough to halt the advance of the workers and peasants there, who want to get U.S. imperialism off their backs.

CIA-trained counterrevolutionaries operating against Nicaragua have been unable to uproot the revolutionary government in that country. And the U.S. government can rely less and less on allies in other Latin American countries to help it suppress the advance of the socialist revolution.

Washington needs the ability to use its own troops, to draft young U.S. workers as cannon fodder for its new wars.

A serious campaign to oppose draft prosecutions and conscription must begin where Benjamin Sasway begins: he — and many others like him — don't want to fight a new Vietnam. Opponents of the draft can win broad support for the struggle to defend Sasway and other antiwar fighters by linking opposition to the draft to the battle to stop Washington's deepening intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.

Defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment

Continued from Page 1

with "radical" issues like abortion rights, thus "alienating" potential ERA supporters.

But polls show that a majority of the American people favor legalized abortion.

It's *impossible* in fact, to separate the fight for equal rights from the fight for abortion rights. The right of women to control their own bodies, to decide whether and when to have children, is the most fundamental step toward women being able to achieve full liberation.

The idea that abortion rights should be dropped as a central issue for the women's rights struggle, originated with capitalist politicians, who contended that women would never get enough legislators to vote for the ERA if they championed abortion rights as well.

The leadership of the National Organization for Women (NOW), the organization most associated with efforts to ratify the ERA, adopted this approach. This led in practice to severely *weakening* the fight for the ERA. The government was able to make big strides forward in curbing legal abortion without meeting much resistance, and in killing the ERA at the same time.

Former president James Carter dealt a blow to the ERA when he proposed, in February of 1980, that draft registration be reinstituted for men and women, with the phony claim that this would be a step toward women's equality.

Carter's aim was not simply to hurt the ERA's chances of passage by equating it with drafting women. He also was looking to increase dwindling public support for the imperialist military and its wars by making the army seem like just an "equal opportunity employer."

The leadership of NOW fell right into Carter's trap and declared that they agreed — "fairness" demanded that if men were to be drafted, women should go also. They took this damaging position even further to the right when they argued in a court case *in favor of the draft for men and women* because it would make the army more "effective."

This endorsement of the imperialist war policy dealt perhaps the final blow to the ERA and completely disoriented a section of the women's movement.

It also made it easier for the U.S. government to pursue registration and the draft by muddying the issues involved.

Draft registration and conscription into Washington's army are a *violation of everyone's rights*. Registration and the draft are part of Washington's preparations for expanding U.S. intervention in El Salvador, and its covert war against revolutionary Nicaragua.

The fight for equal rights has nothing to do with fighting to be part of their imperialist aggression. The job of the U.S. military is to defend the private profit system against millions of oppressed and exploited people around the world — including in the United States. That's why any serious movement for women's equality must include opposition to the draft and the wars that Washington is waging.

It comes as no surprise that the Democratic Party, at its recent convention in Philadelphia, blamed the Republicans for the defeat of the ERA.

This charge ignores certain salient facts, like the eight unratified states that are totally dominated by Democrats.

A large number of "pro-ERA" candidates from both

parties took money from ERA supporters, only to turn around and vote against the ERA once elected.

The ERA's defeat was clearly organized as a *bipartisan* effort by both the Democratic and Republican parties, which are simply the instruments through which the capitalists rule.

The move to kill the ERA was one reflection of the general shift to the right in ruling-class politics. What is commonly called "Reaganism" is actually a drive by the ruling class to reverse the economic crisis it faces by dividing and pushing back the working class at home and abroad.

Their move to the right has been accompanied by an appeal to working people that times are tough and we all have to sacrifice.

Misleaders of the labor movement have gone along with this line, agreeing to major concessions by the unions and telling workers their interests lie with helping the employers make higher profits.

This class-collaborationist approach has also been followed by the leadership of the National Organization for Women.

Based on a strategy of trying to convince the employers that equality is in *their* interests, of trying to convince capitalist politicians that women *are* "responsible," the NOW leaders more and more tailored their demands to fit the needs of the ruling class.

This capitulation in the face of ruling class pressure went hand in hand with deepening NOW's orientation to the Democratic and Republican parties, and subordinating the fight for women's rights increasingly to fund-raising and electoral activity on behalf of the capitalist candidates.

A new and different kind of women's liberation movement is needed.

Its program, strategy, and tactics must derive from the needs and interests of women, not from ruling-class dictates.

Where will the leadership come from to build such a movement?

It will come from the women who have the most to gain from the fight for women's equality — Black women, Latinas, and all working women. These women have no interest in subordinating the fight for dignity and equality to the capitalists.

And these are the women who will best be able to help the women's movement — and the labor movement — see that the road forward lies not through the Democratic and Republican parties, but *against* them and the class they represent.

We need a government of the workers and farmers that will champion the struggles of all the oppressed and exploited, including women.

Thus, the road forward for women is connected to the fight for a party that can lead the way in getting us such a government.

The unions are the biggest organizations that working people have in this country. A labor party, based on a revitalized trade union movement, would be a major step forward for the women's liberation struggle.

The capitalists hope that by killing the ERA, they can crush the centuries-old struggle of women against their oppression.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

As more and more women draw the lessons from this defeat, and what it reveals about the class-divided nature of this society, they will be among the most militant fighters for charting a political course independent of the capitalist class.

Antimilitarism and the fight against capitalism

As millions of people are becoming more concerned about Washington's bloody wars and the threat of nuclear annihilation, everyone from Reagan to Kennedy has a "peace" proposal.

Talk of peace in the abstract is designed to confuse those who are trying to figure out what is the real source of war.

Revolutionary socialists have an important contribution to make in clarifying this discussion and putting it in the framework of the real struggle that is going on in the world today between imperialism and revolutions like those in Nicaragua, El Salvador, or Iran.

War and "armed peace" — as the revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg put it — are an integral part of capitalism. It stems from the need of the capitalists to use violence to defend their exploitation of working people. As the challenge to this exploitation grows, the capitalists have to continue escalating their wars and their arms build-up, nuclear and conventional.

This is not a new question. When Europe was preparing for World War I, Luxemburg argued that the disarmament issue could not be isolated from the struggle against colonialism and the fight against capitalism.

Below are excerpts from an article by Luxemburg printed in July 1911. It is available in *Rosa Luxemburg Speaks*, \$7.95, from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, New York 10014.

What is our task in the question of peace? It does not consist merely in vigorously demonstrating at all times the love of peace of the social democrats; but first and foremost our task is to make clear to the masses of people the nature of militarism and sharply and clearly to bring out the differences in principle between the standpoint of the social democrats and that of the bourgeois peace enthusiasts.

Wherein does this difference lie?

Our very points of departure are diametrically opposed: the friends of peace in bourgeois circles believe that world peace and disarmament can be realized

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

within the framework of the present social order, whereas we, who base ourselves on the materialistic conception of history and on scientific socialism, are convinced that militarism can only be abolished from the world with the destruction of the capitalist class state.

The bourgeois friends of peace are endeavoring — and from their point of view this is perfectly logical and explicable — to invent all sorts of "practical" projects for gradually restraining militarism, and are naturally inclined to consider every outward apparent sign of a tendency toward peace as the genuine article, to take every expression of the ruling diplomacy in this vein at its word, to exaggerate it into a basis for earnest activity.

The social democrats, on the other hand, must consider it their duty in this matter, just as in all matters of social criticism, to expose the bourgeois attempts to restrain militarism as pitiful half measures, and the expressions of such sentiments on the part of the governing circles as diplomatic make-believe, and to oppose the bourgeois claims and pretences with the ruthless analysis of capitalist reality.

From this same standpoint the tasks of the social democrats with regard to the declarations of the kind made by the British government can only be to show up the idea of a partial limitation of armaments, in all its impracticability, as a half measure, and to endeavor to make it clear to the people that militarism is closely linked up with colonial politics, with tariff politics, and with international politics, and that therefore the present nations, if they really seriously and honestly wish to call a halt on competitive armaments, would have to begin by disarming in the commercial political field, give up colonial predatory campaigns and the international politics of spheres of influence in all parts of the world — in a word, in their foreign as well as in their domestic politics would have to do the exact contrary of everything which the nature of the present politics of a capitalist class state demands.

And thus would be clearly explained what constitutes the kernel of the social democratic conception, that militarism in both its forms — as war and as armed peace — is a legitimate child, a logical result of capitalism, which can only be overcome with the destruction of capitalism, and that hence whoever honestly desires world peace and liberation from the tremendous burden of armaments must also desire socialism.

How the U.S. government sold us an atomic bomb

BY KARA OBRADOVIĆ

What do you do when a nuclear bomb goes off? "Duck and cover!" advises "Bert the Turtle" in the movie *Atomic Cafe*. Apparently, children in the 1950s spent a lot of time under their desks or beds, or covering up with raincoats and tablecloths on command. "Duck and cover," Bert sings as he disappears into his shell. It's fine for Bert. Reptiles do have a better chance for life after a nuclear blast than mammals do. I missed out on all of this. So did the mostly high-school-age crowd in the theater where I saw the movie. We thought it was hilarious — and ludicrous. "Did people really believe this stuff?" someone gasped. *Atomic Cafe* is a collection of old Army training and civil defense films, commercials, and songs, and radio

AS I SEE IT

and TV interviews. They depict the U.S. propaganda campaign designed to sell the American public on the harmlessness of nuclear war, and on the glory and necessity of developing the world's first and foremost nuclear arsenal. Hundreds of films have been included to show what it took to force the U.S. population into quiescence as Washington built up the biggest threat yet to human existence. The difference in consciousness today is obvious. The U.S. government would still advise us to duck and cover our heads, not to ask questions or protest. But even junior high school students today are more aware of the dangers of radiation than TV commentators apparently were in the 1950s. So today's campaign is more slick. We hear about "winnable" nuclear war. And the "first-strike capability." *Atomic Cafe* shows how in the 1950s civil defense films warned of the need to wash thoroughly after a thermonuclear blast. Commercials advertised the

latest in bomb shelters. It all reminded me of an old Gil Scott-Heron song that has a line about circling the wagons to prevent nuclear attack. An Army training film prepares GIs to march by the hundreds into the blast area immediately after a nuclear explosion. They are cautioned not to look directly into the flash, and to wear their radiation badges. "Finally," says the commander, "if you receive enough radiation to cause sterility or severe sickness, you'll be killed by the blast, flying debris, or heat anyway." He winds up, "Don't worry about yourselves," as two GIs exchange uneasy glances. Decades later, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled not to hear the suit against the Army brought by GIs who did what they were told at places like Desert Rock, Nevada in 1954. Some of them are still alive — with cancer. The creators of *Atomic Cafe* didn't plan to make an antinuke film. Kevin and Pierce Rafferty teamed up with Jayne Loader to do a study on propaganda. It seems that militarism was the main theme they encountered. The *New York Times* reports that they were "overwhelmed with World War I and II newsreels, propaganda films on Japanese and Germans, along with films on nuclear bombs, the Soviets and the cold war." They were shocked at the unscientific dribble about nukes in these films. *Atomic Cafe* was not meant to be an exposé. "Our whole approach was to go for material that was public," says Kevin Pierce, "not to reveal things the government wanted hidden but to show things the government wanted shown to the people at the time." In fact, the more you know and fear about nuclear power, the more you will appreciate the movie. Many of the people in the New York audience I was part of guffawed and rolled in their seats in laughter. People applauded the scene where a young Richard Nixon gets put down by Khrushchev in a TV spot. People reacted with shock in other parts. The movie opens with the devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, along with the U.S. government's

explanation that this heinous act was carried out to "shorten the war." Just before seeing the movie, I had heard Dr. Michio Kaku explain to a meeting of New York antiwar activists that the two bombs were dropped on Japan eight days apart because our government had two types of release mechanisms they wanted to test. On human guinea pigs. There's an Army clip of the evacuation of the Bikini islanders to make way for a bomb test. The Army weatherman can't tell which way the wind blows; the islanders, victimized by a naïveté they share with the U.S. public, and by Army arrogance, are caught in radioactive fallout. Why didn't the U.S. seek out some unpopulated island? The question hangs in midair as we watch Army doctors examine radiation burns on skin, melted eyes, and people's hair falling out. The pop jingles and commercials interspersed with the newsreels are an eery counterpoint to the horrible facts of radiation sickness. The filmmakers *do* let the government give the lie to its own propaganda campaign. In the course of letting the government tell on itself, the cold war is put into context. When the USSR tests the hydrogen bomb, the tone of blithe adventurism changes. The PR was all upbeat as Japanese and Pacific islanders were bombed into oblivion made in the USA. Suddenly, with trepidation, TV and radio report that the United States no longer has the monopoly on nuclear destruction. The Soviets become the number one enemy. Someone must be victimized for their breakthrough. And since Washington couldn't make war on the USSR, it did so instead on communists and others opposed to war in the United States. We witness the railroading of the Rosenbergs. And demonstrations demanding their release. Alger Hiss's prosecutors digging around pumpkins. Joseph McCarthy before the Senate — and Reagan and Nixon making their careers.

LETTERS

Revolutionary radio

I would like to know if a brief rundown of shortwave radio stations such as Radio Venceremos, Farabundo Martí, and Radio Free Grenada would be of interest. I very much enjoy Harry Ring's column. I also praise "Our Revolutionary Heritage" and "Learning About Socialism" (especially Lenin, Marx, and Engels). Keep up the great coverage of what the revolutionary struggles are winning. Bruce Johnston Schenectady, New York

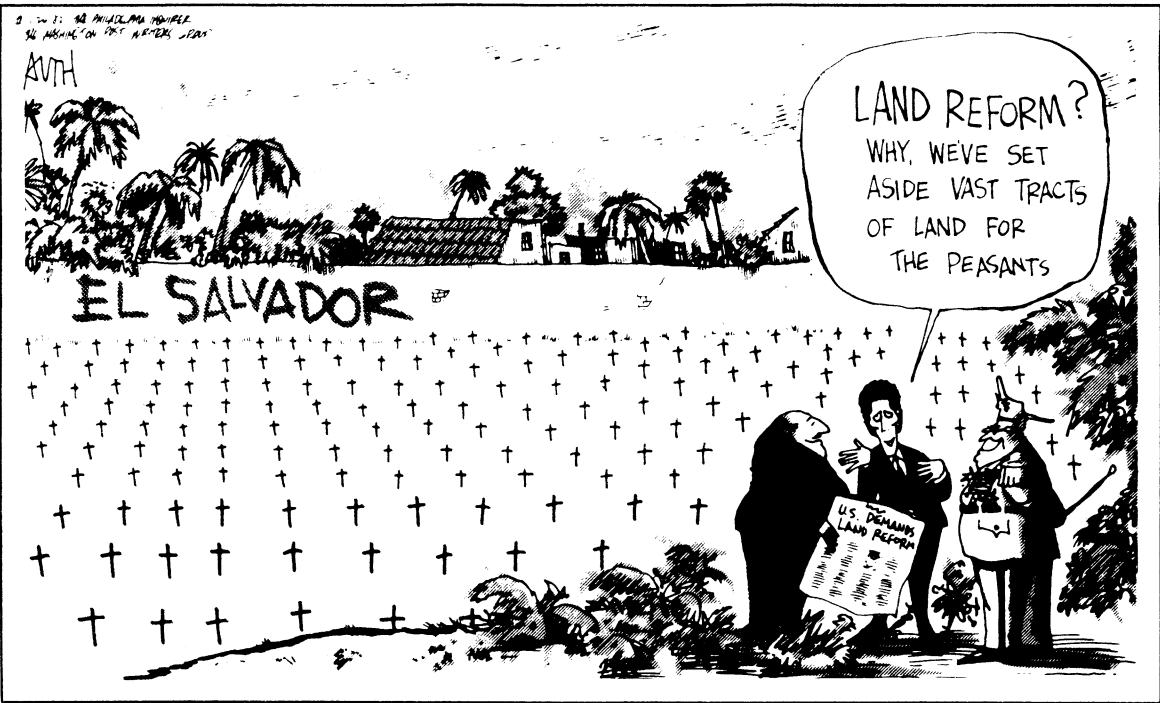
[In Reply] Radio Venceremos from El Salvador's FMLN transmits on two frequencies near 7000 kHz. Because of the conditions under which they are working, the signal is not nearly as strong as that of major international broadcasters, making reception on an inexpensive set difficult. Since last March, the transmissions have been jammed very frequently. Press reports indicate the jamming is coming from U.S. warships stationed in the Gulf of Fonseca. Due to the jamming, Radio Venceremos changes frequencies often. In recent weeks it has been on 6.952. The best reception is at night. Below is information on shortwave stations in Eastern Daylight Time.

Time	meter band	kHz
Radio Havana		
(English)		
2:50-3:40pm	16	17750
	25	11725
7:00-10:50pm	25	11930
7:00-12midnight	25	11725
9:30-12:30pm	25	11760
12:30-2:00am	31	9525
Voice of Nicaragua		
8:00-1:00am	49	5950

Radio Free Grenada		
5:30-8:00pm	15	15045
Radio Venceremos		
8:00am	40	7000
8:00pm	40	7000
10:30pm	40	7000

Klan in Vermont

On May 30, 400 people gathered on the Common of Brattleboro, Vermont, to protest the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan had announced earlier in the week that it was coming to Brattleboro to spread its message of hate and to recruit new members. Twenty Klansmen showed up, protected by a line of state police dressed in riot gear. Other police, also in riot gear, wandered through the crowd carrying long night sticks. For 1½ hours the protesters drowned out the racist ramblings of Bill Wilkinson, the Imperial Wizard of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The protesters were mostly young and almost all white. The Klan finally drove off, protected by the police, with shouts of, "Don't come back!" filling the air. This was the second public rally the Klan has held in Vermont. The first was in Wilmington, 20 miles away, two weeks earlier. That appearance had sparked anti-Klan rallies in Wilmington, Bennington, Burlington, and other cities across the state. The Klan said they came to Vermont to expose the "communists" who were duping Vermonters into voting for the nuclear freeze proposals passed by virtually all Vermont town meetings. But the numerous rallies across the state have sent a loud message that Vermont isn't buying the Klan's line. Michael Kozak Albany, New York



Thanks

I want to take this time to thank you again for continuing to send me the paper. Again thank you for seeing that I and others are able to read the news of the world without it's being slanted toward the so-called democratic ideal which as we all know means something only to those in power. John Alexander Ypsilanti, Michigan

U.S. & Vietnam

I was very pleased to see the article by Will Reissner on how the U.S. got involved in Vietnam in the June 18 issue. At the June 12 disarmament demonstration at the U.S.-Canadian border, I had some experience which drove home the continuing impact of the Vietnam War on people's thinking in the U.S. I thought *Militant* readers might find one of them interesting. I talked with a man wearing a

T-shirt with a map of Vietnam with a red circle around it and a line running through it. The slogan was "No More Vietnams." A veteran's group had put it out as well as a similar shirt which featured a map of Central America instead of Vietnam. But he really made me think when he described a T-shirt put out by a group of Vietnam vets. At the top it reads "Participant in the U.S.-Southeast Asia conflict 1961-1975." Underneath are maps of the U.S. and Southeast Asia and at the bottom the words: "Second place." This can only mean that many Vietnam vets identify with the fact that U.S. imperialism lost in its attempt to defeat the Vietnamese Revolution. The more I thought about it the better it made me feel. Beverly Bernardo Vancouver, Canada

Stalinist invention?

In the *Militant* of May 28 there was an interesting trans-

lation of Fidel Castro's speech to Cuban youth that raises some important questions. I have to admit that I am confused. Castro quotes Karl Marx as to the continuation of capitalist economic laws under socialism. I think this is accurate. However, the speaker (Castro) counterposes two general political principles. One is the principle that distribution of goods is "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs." He counterposes to this the formula "to each according to his work." Is not this later idea a Stalinist invention and a distortion of Marxian socialism? Ronald A. Sims Worthington, Ohio

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Please indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

Black transit worker is murdered in Brooklyn lynch-mob assault

BY RAÚL GONZALEZ

At 12:10 a.m. the morning of June 22, a racist lynch mob of 10 to 20 white youths pulled Black transit worker William Turks from his car and beat him to death. "If they had had a rope," one transit worker said later, "they would have lynched him."

Turks and two other Black transit workers had just completed their 4 p.m. to midnight shift at the Coney Island Car Maintenance shop (a subway car

repair facility) in the Sheepshead Bay section of Brooklyn when they stopped at the Ave. X Bagel Shop five blocks from the yard.

As Turks and the two other workers, Dennis Dixon and Donald Cooper, left the store, a small group of white youths began shouting, "Get out of here, Niggers" and threatening them. The three men got into their car and began to drive away when the motor stalled. When Dixon got out to check under the hood,

one of the youths ran up and hit him in the head with a beer bottle. Dixon was knocked down and the youths began to beat him.

It was then that a mob of whites ran out of a school yard across the street, and chanting "Niggers get out" dragged Turks from the car and into the intersection of Avenue X and East First Street. There they beat him with bottles, pipes, and fists.

Both Dixon and Cooper broke away from the racist lynch mob. Running in opposite directions, one flagged down an ambulance while the other stopped a police car.

When the cops arrived, the racist mob scattered. William Turks died three hours later in the operating room, his skull crushed.

Although the New York media has presented the attack as an isolated incident, the area in which the attack occurred has been the scene of repeated racist violence over the last several months. At James Madison High School a fight broke out between several white and Black students. For days afterwards Black students had to walk through a literal gauntlet of bat and bottle wielding racist thugs to get to school.

One Black youth, Victor Moses, while on his way to take a civil service exam at the school, was hospitalized after being beaten with bats and a lead pipe by a racist gang.

A couple of months ago another Black man, Frank Tyrell, was attacked by racist scum in front of the same store. He was struck in the back of the head and was in a coma for several days.

Yet, not until the lynching of William

Turks was a single arrest made in connection with any of these incidents. As of this writing, the cops have arrested five suspects in the attack on Turks.

The mother of an arrested suspect gave the justification for this latest crime. She told the *New York Times* that she could understand why the killing happened. Blacks, she said, are coming into the neighborhood and committing crimes. "There are lots of incidents happening with the colored," she said. "This is what riled up these boys."

The campaigning of Mayor Koch and other candidates for governor on the "crime issue" has been a thinly veiled excuse for attacking the democratic rights of the working class and in particular for racist attacks on the Latino and Black communities.

This has directly encouraged racist attacks.

Reverend Craig of the National Congress of Black Clergy, at a press conference held June 25, stated that the major blame for Willie Turks's murder "must go to Reagan, Thatcher, Begin, and Koch," who on the local and international level had created a situation in which racist violence is encouraged.

A wake was held for Turks in the suburban community of Inwood, New York not far from where he had lived. It is a well integrated area of quiet streets and large lawns.

Although there was no publicity on the wake, word spread quickly and between 200 and 300 people attended. Union officers from Transport Workers Union (TWU) Local 100, which Turks was a member of, attended. Several of his co-workers came, including Eva Chertov, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress and member of the TWU. During the wake, a van with several white youths in it drove by and one of them shouted out, "Hey, Niggers."

Plans are under way for protest actions. Several activities have occurred already, organized by the Congress of Racial Equality. The National Black United Front (NBUF), an organization which was formed in response to a racist cop killing, has called a mass protest rally for June 29 at the House of the Lord Church in Brooklyn. Confirmed speakers include Herbert Daughtry of NBUF, Assemblyman Al Vann, and Joe Mashariki of the Black Veterans for Social Justice. TWU Local 100 has been invited to send a speaker.

Raúl Gonzalez is a member of TWU Local 100 and was formerly assigned to the Coney Island yard.

Call for rally against killing



Militant photos by Lou Howort

Job Mashariki (left) of Black Veterans for Social Justice and Rev. Herbert Daughtry, chairman of National Black United Front, have joined in call for a July 18 demonstration on Avenue X in Brooklyn to protest racist murder of William Turks. Call was made at June 29 rally in Brooklyn.

Transit unionists don green ribbon to protest slaying of co-worker

William Turks had been working for the New York City Transit Authority for about a month when he was murdered. He was a member of Local 100 of the Transport Workers Union (TWU) and his death sparked widespread discussion and action among transit workers.

Within two days TWUers in several parts of the system were wearing green ribbons, as many had done for the Black victims of the Atlanta killings last year. The most common sentiment among Turks's co-workers was shock and anger.

I visited the Coney Island yard the day after Turks's murder and spoke with workers there.

"This is a racist neighborhood," one Black worker told me. "I don't even like to go out to cash my check. They don't say nothing to you. But you can feel the hairs on the back of your neck." He and several other Black and Latino workers told me they were afraid to walk in this section of Brooklyn; that fear of racist violence had become a part of their lives.

The same man told me that white workers who live in the neighborhood said the cops were going door to door asking to speak to people's sons.

"But they're polite, man. You know, they go up and knock on the door and ask the people real nice, 'Can we speak to your son please?' And the people say, 'No, he's on vacation in Sicily.' So the cops just say, 'Oh, well we'll come back

later then, thank you.'

"Man, what is that? Remember when they went looking for that sister up in Harlem [Joanne Chesimard]? They came kicking in people's doors with machine guns and bazookas."

Other transit workers pointed to the deepening of racism in recent years. "As times get harder," one Black worker told me, "politicians start beating those racist drums to keep people's minds off who is really responsible."

Many other transit workers thought Mayor Edward Koch was partly responsible for Turks's death. "He's a hypocrite," a young Black worker said. "After whipping up racist sentiments and something like this happens, then he goes to the hospital and says how bad he feels."

I asked several workers at the Coney Island yard what they thought should happen now. The general sentiment was that the union should initiate some action which would make a strong statement in opposition to racism.

One young Black woman told me, "they could get together with some of the Black groups and hold a press conference or hold a meeting." She felt strongly that the union should do something. Most other transit workers felt the same.

At a union meeting on June 24 one of the union vice-presidents announced that they were authorizing shop-gate collections for the Turks family. The

union issued a statement denouncing the attack. "But it was too weak," one worker said. "It didn't even mention racism."

Young Black workers are the angriest. They point out that the racists were cowards, and that Turks's arm was in a cast when he was killed. They would like to see a demonstration, a meeting in the Black community that would be a show of force. They would like to see the union involved.

—RAÚL GONZALEZ

'Koch is responsible,' say socialists

The following statement was released by Diane Wang, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of New York, and Eva Chertov, SWP Congressional candidate and a member of Transport Workers Union Local 100.

We join with thousands of other working people in this city in expressing our outrage and disgust at the racist murder of William Turks by a lynch mob of white bigots in Brooklyn on June 22.

Mayor Koch is just as responsible for the murder of William Turks as those who crushed his skull. Koch, and the other Democratic and Republican party politicians who run this city, are responsible for creating a climate in which

racist violence has become common.

The responsibility for the murder of William Turks rests not only with the city government but with the federal government and its racist wars abroad and against working people here at home. Cutbacks in social services, attacks on affirmative action, the scuttling of school desegregation, union-busting, the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment, the raids and deportations of undocumented workers — these attacks hit the Black and Latino communities first and hit them the hardest.

The trade unions should join with the Black and Latino communities in demanding that all of the racist murderers of Williams Turks be brought to justice.