

Immigration cops step up moves against Marroquin

Political asylum fight reaches critical stage

BY NANCY COLE

Rebuffing humanitarian pleas, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has revoked Héctor Marroquin's 30-day "voluntary departure" privilege.

If the U.S. Supreme Court decides that it will not hear his appeal, Marroquin will be liable to immediate arrest. He could then be dumped at some undisclosed destination in Mexico. A decision by the Supreme Court is scheduled to be made public on June 20.

If Marroquin leaves the country before the court's decision is announced, however, his six-year legal fight is over — even if the justices choose to hear his appeal — because he would no longer be resident in the United States.

Thus, the INS is vindictively forcing Marroquin to gamble on the Supreme Court.

Under the "voluntary departure" status, a person subject to a deportation order has a set period of time to get out of the United

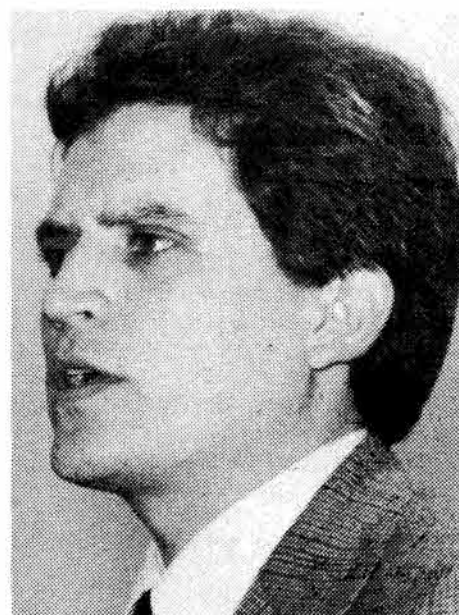
States before being subject to INS arrest. This means they can choose what country they will go to. On June 13, the INS informed Marroquin that his 30-day grace period was no longer in effect. They claim it had expired 30 days after he appealed to the federal courts. So Marroquin is being penalized for pursuing his plea for political asylum in the federal courts.

Emergency response needed

The Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF), which organizes Marroquin's defense, is calling for an emergency phone calling and telegram campaign to pressure the INS to back off from this latest move in its vendetta against Marroquin.

Revealing the cold-blooded nature of its campaign, the INS even refused Marroquin's request for 72 hours to leave the country on his own should the Supreme Court rule against him on June 20. The INS

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Héctor Marroquin

Militant/Lou Howort

El Salvador: U.S.-backed military tries Vietnam-style 'pacification'

BY STEVE WATTENMAKER

More than 4,500 Salvadoran army troops have massed in San Vicente and Usulután provinces for the beginning of a major offensive against the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). The operation, copied from tactics used by the U.S. army in Vietnam, is intended to "pacify" the countryside by concentrating murderous repression primarily against the civilian population.

Fighting has also intensified in Nicaragua over the past several weeks. U.S.-backed counterrevolutionaries have launched a series of attacks near the towns of Jalapa and Teotecacinte on Nicaragua's northern border. While in each instance the *contras* have been driven back, the Honduran army is starting to play a direct role in the fighting.

As a result, Nicaraguan officials have warned that open warfare between Nicaragua and Honduras is becoming a serious possibility.

Every step Washington takes to escalate U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and El Salvador brings U.S. working people closer to the nightmare of a full-scale Vietnam war in Central America.

Vietnam model

The first phase of the Salvadoran army operation in San Vicente and Usulután, U.S. advisers explained, is designed as a major military sweep to defeat the guerrillas in the two provinces. It is code named "Operation Well-Being."

Then, say the advisers, who modeled the offensive on the Coordinated Regional Development Strategy (CORDS) used by

Washington in Vietnam, the army will follow the military action with "civic action."

During the Vietnam War, CORDS' real aim was to herd Vietnamese peasants into concentration camps called "strategic hamlets" and assassinate thousands of civilians suspected of National Liberation Front sympathies.

Washington propagandists called this "winning the hearts and minds" of the Vietnamese people.

The offensive in El Salvador has a similar objective. No doubt some U.S. dollars will be spent on public works projects, but the heart of the operation will be a military reign of terror designed to disrupt material support for the FMLN in the two provinces.

Radio Venceremos, operated by the FMLN in El Salvador, reported over the weekend of June 11 that the Salvadoran military had already begun the operation by bombing the civilian population on the slopes of the Chinchontepec volcano.

The Salvadoran Army is finding their offensive tough going, however.

Radio Venceremos reported that the FMLN had routed the army's crack Atlacatl Brigade during three days of fighting near Cerro El Fuego in Morazán province. During the battle for the area, which began June 9, rebel forces inflicted 80 casualties on the government troops and damaged a Huey helicopter.

Honduras backs contras

Meanwhile, Nicaraguan government officials have reported that the Honduran army has moved from providing logistical support for CIA-backed *contras* to "virtual joint operations."

Capt. Roberto Sánchez, a spokesman for the Defense Ministry, explained the change in Honduran Army tactics:

"In the past," Sánchez told the *New York Times*, "the Hondurans would fire a few shells to cover the retreat of the *contras*. Now they are using heavy mortars to soften up our positions for ground attacks. They have moved army units very close to the border and are engaged in virtual joint op-

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Black activist acquitted in Louisville frame-up trial

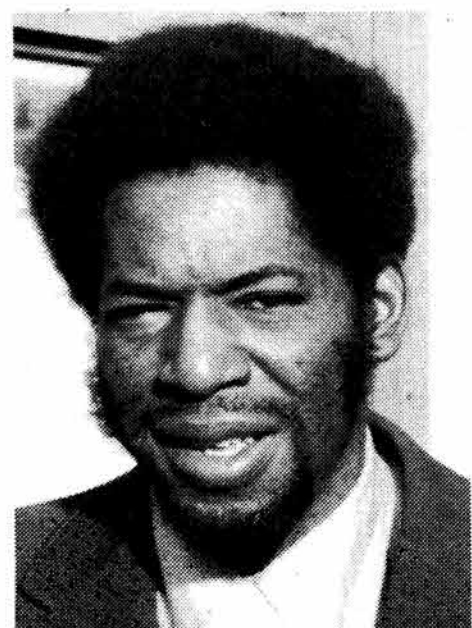
BY CHUCK PETRIN
AND ARLENE RUBINSTEIN

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — A state circuit court jury found Al Horsley innocent June 14 of kidnapping and robbery charges. The verdict marked a clear defeat for the government, which had tried to convict the 41-year-old Black worker and community activist for a crime he did not commit.

Horsley has long been a victim of police harassment because of his political activity. As a member of the United Auto Workers, he was an active participant in the Black Workers Caucus when he worked at International Harvester. He is also an anti-Klan activist and a fighter against home foreclosures. His acquittal was seen as a big victory by civil rights forces here.

Horsley was arrested last January by city police while delivering leaflets for a march and rally commemorating Dr. Martin

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Al Horsley

Militant

Abortion victory: its meaning for women

The Supreme Court's June 15 decision striking down restrictions on abortion is a major victory in the ongoing fight to defend and extend abortion rights.

By a 6 to 3 vote, the court explicitly reaffirmed its 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, which declared abortion legal. The Court again ruled "that the right of privacy, grounded in the concept of personal liberty

EDITORIAL

guaranteed by the Constitution, encompasses a woman's right to decide whether to terminate her pregnancy."

The court declared unconstitutional many aspects of antiabortion laws in Missouri, Virginia, and Akron, Ohio.

• The Akron and Missouri laws, which said that all abortions performed in the 4th through 6th months of pregnancy must take place in a hospital, were invalidated.

Given the high costs of hospitalization, and the small number of hospitals willing to perform abortions, the court found that these statutes "imposed a heavy, and unnecessary, burden on women's access to a relatively inexpensive, otherwise accessible, and safe abortion procedure."

The court did uphold, however, the Virginia law requiring clinics that perform these second-trimester abortions to be licensed as hospitals. It also upheld the conviction of a Virginia doctor who performed a second trimester abortion in a clinic.

• The court rejected the so-called informed consent laws, pointing out that they are "designed not to inform the woman's consent but rather to persuade her to withhold it altogether" and to convince her that "abortion is a particularly dangerous procedure."

• The court also said that states cannot make women wait 24 hours after signing a consent form to get their abortion.

• While the court opposed forcing all minors to get their parents' permission to have an abortion, it did uphold its own 1979 decision which said that "immature" minors must get the agreement of their parents or a judge. This restricts the right to abortion for young women.

(Also left standing is the Court's support for the racist, class-biased Hyde Amendment, which bans federal funding for abortions.)

Sandra O'Connor, whose appointment to the Supreme Court was supposed to be an advance for women, wrote the dissenting opinion. She argued that the fate of the fetus is more important than the life of the pregnant woman. She rejected the entire idea of a woman's right to legal abortion.

Given the sustained, bipartisan campaign against abortion rights in the last 10 years, many women breathed a sigh of relief when they heard the Supreme Court decision.

The democratic right of women to abortion is a fundamental one. Without control over her body, a woman has no control over her life.

The legalization of abortion has significantly contributed to the advances along the road to equality that women have made in the last 10 years. It has dramatically affected the way women view themselves. It has helped inspire women to expand their horizons to fight further — for the right to be coal miners and steelworkers, for the right to legal equality within the Constitu-

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SELLING OUR PRESS AT THE PLANT GATE

BY ROBERT BUSCH

ST. LOUIS — Supporters of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* here have organized plant-gate sales in four areas: the auto industry, war industry plants, the garment district, and the steel mills and coal mines across the river in Illinois.

We've sold our press at the Ford plant in Hazelwood, the Chrysler plant in Fenton, the General Motors plant in St. Louis, and Moog Automotive, a parts manufacturer where the union recently won a militant strike. We look forward to getting the *Militant* out at the new GM plant in Wentzville when it opens later this year.

Articles about the recent United Auto Workers (UAW) convention were well-received on these sales. We feel that those front and back page *Militant* articles helped create a friendly response to our press. The 27 papers we sold last month placed our socialist view-

point in the middle of discussions going on inside these plants.

At the Ford plant, one worker stopped his car, walked over to us, and said, "You all are really serious about El Salvador, aren't you?" He told us to "keep it up."

The main war production plant in St. Louis is McDonnell Douglas, which employs over 20,000 people. There are four plant gates here located in at least three different local townships. The company cops have worked with county cops to try to prevent us from selling the *Militant*. Two socialists were ticketed last March for "soliciting without a license" in the city of Berkeley, Missouri. We've taken the case to court with the support of the local ACLU chapter.

Meanwhile, our sales teams have had to move to the other gates where they've never sold before. Rather than being a discouragement, the experience has

boosted our confidence. Without yet establishing any regularity selling to these other sections of the work force, and in spite of company harassment, we've sold three papers each of the last couple of weeks.

In the garment district we've been able to sell both inside and outside the shops. One downtown building houses several union shops. Here most of the work force arrives by bus or walks by us on the sidewalk. This gives us a chance to talk to a large number of workers, most of whom are women, Blacks, and foreign-born.

Inside one shop organized by the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, a co-worker was impressed that her socialist friends got up at 4 a.m. to sell their paper at an auto plant before coming in to work. She then decided to buy one herself.

By far our best sale in numbers, nearly a third of our industrial site

sales, come from the Granite City Steel plant in Granite City, Illinois. The good response started about the time the Basic Steel Industry Conference concessions contract was signed by union leaders over objections from rank-and-file steelworkers. We found workers were, and still are, very angry. One older white worker told us, "You won't believe what's going on in there! It's hell," he said, referring to the company's attempt to rewrite the work rules as a result of the new contract.

At Exxon's Monterey coal mine in Albers, Illinois, *Militant* sales-people hear shouts, both pro and con, about our presence there. On one afternoon, we first dodged a beer can, then had a carload of Black workers from East St. Louis, Illinois, salute us with clenched fists.

Socialist coal miners report that sales of the *Militant* outside the mine carry over into lively discus-

sions underground. One night, a worker initiated a debate with a coworker who is a socialist — the entire section joined in an intense discussion of political issues that lasted over two hours.

We took a trial and error approach to sales of the *Militant* at plant gates. After four months we've been able to regularize 10 of these sales, with nearly 100 percent participation by members of the Socialist Workers Party.

But we also want to explore the large chemical and rail industries here, and organize sales in the furniture industry. We've found we can't cover all our bases with just one sale each week.

So, now we're starting to tap the enthusiasm here for reaching out to workers at plants where we ourselves aren't working. We're organizing volunteers for an additional plant-gate sale each week. If this keeps up, we may be able to increase our plant-gate presence considerably over the summer.

Black activist acquitted in Louisville frame-up

Continued from front page

Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. According to the cops, Horsley had been "positively identified" as the suspect in an unsolved crime. He was indicted on February 8 on first-degree kidnapping and robbery charges, which carry a maximum penalty of 40 years.

Horsley spent more than a month in jail before friends and political supporters were able to raise the \$20,000 property bond needed for his release.

Frame up

The two-day trial that opened June 13 demonstrated beyond any doubt that the entire case against Horsley was a frame-up.

Carolyn Pierce, the state's star witness, testified that on the morning of December 30, 1982, she was stopped in downtown Louisville by a Black man, forced into her car, driven to an all-white neighborhood, and robbed of some money and jewelry.

Pierce testified that within an hour after the kidnapping took place, she gave a detailed description to the cops of the person who allegedly attacked her. That description did not fit Al Horsley.

According to Pierce, a bank teller who said she had been trained to make careful observations of people, the person who kidnapped and robbed her was clean-shaven. She told the jury she was "absolutely certain about that." Horsley, however, wears both a moustache and a beard.

What came to light at the trial was that the cops and government knew all along that her description did not fit Horsley. They claimed Horsley became the prime suspect on the basis that they had received a report on December 29 — the day before the alleged incident — from the chief

of security at the Federal Reserve Bank that Horsley had created an "incident" there.

Horsley had gone to the bank to file a complaint. Such complaints, it was learned, are routinely reported to the police and photos taken of the customers.

Detective Rogers testified that when he put together a "photo pack" containing five mug shots, including Horsley's, for Pierce to look at, he completely ignored Pierce's original description.

In addition to proving that Horsley did not match the description of the kidnapping and robbery suspect, defense attorney John Michael Brown was able to show through witnesses:

- that Horsley was home with his mother and sister at the time the kidnapping incident was supposed to be taking place;

- that Horsley spent the remainder of that day visiting various government agencies in Louisville regarding his home foreclosure;

- that Horsley suffers from epilepsy, which affects his speech and coordination, and which requires heavy doses of medication, indicating he would be physically incapable of committing the crime he was charged with. Horsley has not driven a car for several years.

In short, the government had no case. However, because of Horsley's record of activism in Louisville, standing up for his rights and the rights of all working people, the government chose to prosecute him.

Racist character assassination

In the end, with his case in a shambles, State Prosecutor Thomas Wine relied on class and race prejudice and attempted character assassination of Horsley to try to

get a conviction.

He argued that "Carolyn Pierce told you she identified 'the whole man' and that's what you have to consider. A man who has been unemployed for seven years. A man who lost his home. A man who has been fighting futile battles with government agencies all over the city. A man so desperate he would kidnap and rob to get a little money."

Wine even implied Horsley faked epileptic seizures when "convenient" and used exaggerated claims of illness to obtain drugs.

But the jury didn't buy it. Throughout Al Horsley's fight he has not been alone.

Since his arrest on January 8, 1983, political activists who had met Horsley, worked with him and had grown to respect him, rallied to his defense. These individuals and organizations formed a committee on his behalf to get out the facts on his case, mobilize public support, and raise the necessary funds.

The Al Horsley Defense Committee organized an impressive presence at the trial.

As the jury was being selected, supporters began to assemble on the third floor of the Hall of Justice.

Rev. William H. Bell, of the Calvary Baptist Church, the oldest Black church in Louisville, greeted each supporter as they arrived. Rev. Bell, a leader of the Al Horsley Defense Committee, had opened the doors of Calvary to Horsley's supporters from the start.

Supporters overflow courtroom

Many present throughout the trial had been in the front lines of other battles for social justice in this city: Herman Dozier of the Southern Christian Leadership Confer-

ence; Ira Neal, an activist in the Parkland Alliance, a community group in Horsley's neighborhood fighting for city redevelopment funds; activists in the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression; members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

On the day the trial opened a news conference was held that was attended by Anne Braden, long-time civil rights activist, and Rev. Ron Robinson of the Shawnee Presbyterian Church.

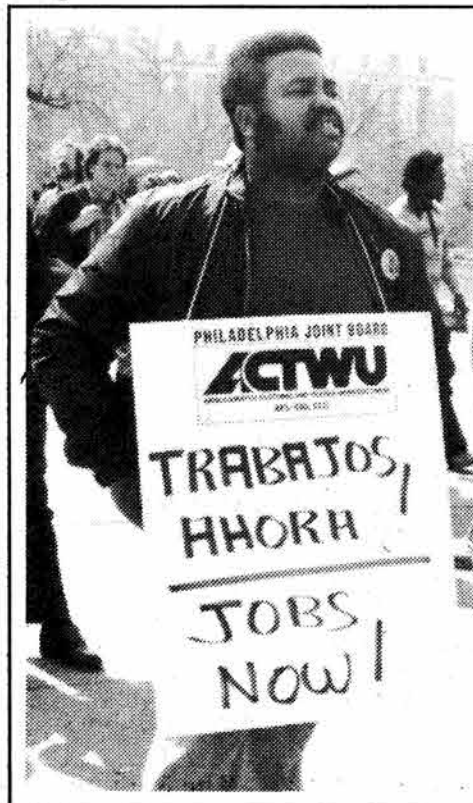
Members of the Al Horsley Defense Committee brought his case to working people in Louisville through a campaign of distributing thousands of fact-sheets and circulating petitions over the past six months.

The petition effort met a warm response. During each mobilization, supporters met many people who knew Horsley, from former coworkers at International Harvester, to old friends and political acquaintances.

Through this campaign broad support was won for the case. Additional endorsers of the Horsley Defense Committee include Joe Booker, president of United Auto Workers Local 817 and Lyman P. Johnson, Black educator and civil rights leader.

After the trial, Horsley and his supporters gathered on the courthouse steps, where he thanked everyone for their support. "I really appreciate everyone coming out," he said. "It really had an impact. It doesn't fit to say someone with as much support as I have was just a desperate man."

Members of the Al Horsley Defense Committee will be holding a victory party Saturday, June 18, to celebrate. Plans for a citywide public meeting to draw the lessons of the case are also in the works.



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Baltimore rally builds August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, freedom

BY LEE ANDERSON

BALTIMORE — At a rally here June 9 to build participation in the August 27 march on Washington, 300 people heard speakers urging action for jobs and social justice and against the U.S. war policies in Central America.

The rally was one of a series of meetings in eastern and southern cities visited by national leaders of the August 27 demonstration.

The demonstration has been endorsed by a wide array of civil rights, labor, religious, women's rights, antiwar, and other groups and individuals. The march's goals and tradition are expressed in its title: the 20th Anniversary Mobilization for Jobs, Peace, and Freedom.

The march takes place 20 years after the massive 1963 March on Washington led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Standing ovations were given to a representative of AMNLAE, the Nicaraguan women's organization, who is touring the United States to explain the gains women have made in the Nicaraguan revolution, and a spokesperson for the African National Congress, the main group leading the national liberation struggle in apartheid South Africa.

A number of officials and members from United Steelworkers of America locals

2609 and 2610 at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point mill were on hand, as were leaders and members from locals of the International Association of Machinists and the Hospital and Health Care Workers District 1199-E.

The audience at the rally, which was held at the Bethel AME Church, was predominantly Black.

Dr. Michael Kamara of the Baltimore NAACP said, "We live in a period of increased militarism [in which] war is fought to protect a fictitious national interest that reflects the financial empire and financial tycoons of this country."

The manifestations of this, he said, are wars in "Korea, Vietnam, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and soon, South Africa."

This is also "a period of increased military spending, and increased social neglect," he said.

D.C. Congressman Walter Fauntroy said, "Rather than sending arms to El Salvador, we ought to be sending development aid to Zimbabwe, so Robert Mugabe can build some roads from the Cumbia mines to the sea." He added that the situation resulting from U.S. foreign policy "has become a nightmare for the people of Central America, Africa, and the Middle

East."

Ken Morgan, interim convenor of the Baltimore coalition, said that "August 28, 1963 [the massive March on Washington], marked one of the most significant dates in the history of the civil rights movement, indeed, in the history of the human rights movement."

But despite the gains that march helped to generate, he went on, "new assaults are being waged on the Black community" and on women and workers in general. Morgan is a leader of the local chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party

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Immigration cops threaten Marroquin

Continued from front page

said it will consider nothing until after the high court makes its decision known. By then, of course, it could be too late for Marroquin if the INS decides to arrest and forcibly deport him.

The INS is also well aware that Marroquin applied for permanent residence in this country some time ago on the basis that he is married to a U.S. citizen.

But the INS and the U.S. government now aim not just to deport the socialist Marroquin, but to punish him as cruelly as possible in the process.

A feature article on Marroquin in the June 12 Fort Worth, Texas, *Star-Telegram* offered insight into the latest INS action. The article quotes Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), which has spoken out against political repression in Latin America and for the right to political asylum here.

"I think a tremendous injustice is being done to [Marroquin]," Birns said, adding that INS officials have told him they are under White House orders to deport Marroquin. "Too often, at the behest of the White House, a political test is administered to determine who can stay and who is deported."

The political use of immigration laws is at the heart of Marroquin's fight. This is why he has won such broad support from unionists, civil libertarians, Black and Latino groups, and organizations and individuals concerned with the rights and lives

of political refugees.

What has been standard procedure since the inception of the INS is becoming more widely recognized as the political weapon it is, as thousands of Salvadorans, Haitians, Guatemalans, and others are deported to near certain imprisonment or death in countries ruled by U.S.-backed dictatorships.

Marroquin's battle for political asylum challenges this policy.

Marroquin's story

As a young student in Monterrey, Mexico, Marroquin was framed up on charges of terrorism by Mexican police, who were cooperating with the FBI in this country. Fearing he would end up gunned down by the cops or "disappeared," as several of his friends were, Marroquin fled to the United States nine years ago. In Houston, as an undocumented worker, he helped organize a union where he worked. He joined the Young Socialist Alliance and Socialist Workers Party. In 1977 he was arrested by the INS.

Then began his long fight for political asylum.

"Marroquin has admitted from his own mouth that he is a Marxist. . . . The U.S. doesn't grant asylum to those kinds of people," the INS prosecuting attorney candidly admitted during his hearing in 1979.

Marroquin was turned down at every INS level of appeal. He then took his case against deportation to federal court. A three-judge appeals panel ruled this January that he hadn't presented enough evidence to prove he would be persecuted if deported to Mexico. Marroquin then asked the Supreme Court to hear his appeal. Well-known constitutional attorney Leonard Boudin, along with PRDF lawyers Margaret Winter and Shelley Davis, are representing Marroquin before the Supreme Court.

The evidence in his favor is voluminous. And human rights groups confirm the danger for political activists in Mexico.

According to the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram*, "Amnesty International and the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a liberal research group that monitors U.S.-Latin American relations, cite irregular procedures for arrest, detention and trial, torture, deaths in custody, disappearances of political activists, and 'many cases' of political

activists convicted on trumped-up criminal charges based on confessions obtained under torture or during long incarceration."

COHA director Larry Birns says Marroquin "would be a marked man if he were forcibly sent back."

But such facts have little import for INS officials who play such useful accompaniment to the U.S. government's war in Central America and the one against workers here at home.

The new moves against Marroquin call for stepped-up protests from the many supporters his case has won inside and outside the United States.

New support

Telegrams demanding political asylum for Marroquin were recently sent to INS Commissioner Alan Nelson from the Canadian Labor Congress; the Ontario Federation of Labor; and from Bob Rae, the leader of the New Democratic Party in Ontario's parliament.

His case is supported by members of the U.S. Congress, including Ronald Dellums, Esteban Torres, Katie Hall, John Conyers, and Walter Fauntroy.

U.S. labor support has come from the National Education Association; Anthony Mazzocchi, Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers; Leon Lynch, vice-president of United Steelworkers; Ray Majerus, secretary-treasurer of United Auto Workers; and William Lucy, secretary of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and president of Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

Many prominent individuals have lent their support, including Ed Asner, Angela Davis, Michael Harrington, Gloria Steinem, and Daniel and Philip Berrigan.

Organizations in support include National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, National Lawyers Guild, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Emergency calls and telegrams protesting the latest INS moves should be directed to Alan Nelson, Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Washington, D.C. 20536. (202) 633-1900.

Copies of telegrams, requests for more information, and tax-deductible contributions should be sent to PRDF, P.O. Box 649, Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003.



Militant/Roberto Kopeck
Nicaraguan representative Ivón Siú. Meeting gave her standing ovation.

Political asylum plea backed by labor in Canada

BY NANCY COLE

The Canadian Labor Congress, counterpart to the AFL-CIO in Canada, telegraphed the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) June 9 expressing support for Héctor Marroquin's request for political asylum. This was followed by a telegram to the INS from the Ontario Federation of Labor.

Marroquin's case got a supportive response from participants in regional conferences of the National Organization for Women (NOW) held over the June 4-5 weekend. At the Northeast NOW meeting, around 50 women signed a petition demanding political asylum for Marroquin; at the Midwest conference, 30 women signed.

Signers of cards endorsing Marroquin's fight included NOW National Board members Denise Fuge, Christine Torracca, Lenore Simon, and Kate Wulf. Also endorsing were Minnesota NOW Director Marilyn Augst, New York (Manhattan) NOW President Barbara Rochman, Bronx Household Technicians President Geraldine Miller, former New York NOW President Carole DeSaram, and Elizabeth Debold, vice-president of programs for New York City NOW.

The Harrisburg chapter of NOW recently endorsed Marroquin's fight and decided to send a protest letter to the INS.

Supporters of Marroquin's fight are continuing to circulate petitions among their coworkers. The PRDF office, which is

coordinating Marroquin's support, reports receiving petitions recently from members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1048 at an RCA plant and from the International Union of Electrical Workers Local 847 at Regency Electronics, both in Indianapolis. Twelve people signed a petition circulated at a Teamsters Local 391 meeting in North Carolina. At the meeting of the Monterey Area Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union Local 483 last month in California, 10 people signed a petition.

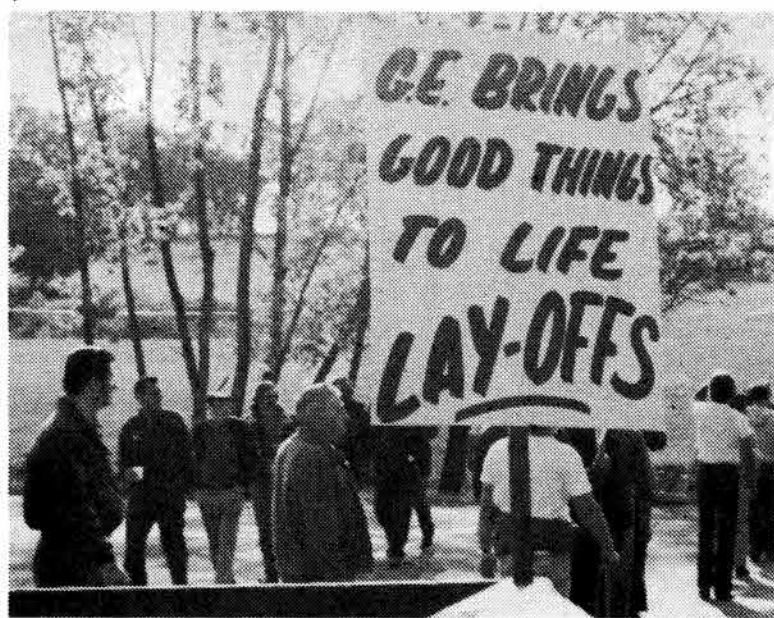
On June 7, the Department of Political and Human Rights of the United Methodist Church hosted a luncheon for Marroquin in Washington, D.C. Those in attendance included representatives from Amnesty International, American Civil Liberties Union Political Asylum Project, United Nations High Commission on Refugees, Council on Hemispheric Affairs, and League of United Latin American Citizens.

Also attending were Fritz Longchamp and Sue Sullivan, codirectors of the Haitian Refugee Project, and Odette Taverna, director of the Congress Task Force of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship and the Philippine Solidarity Network.

Protest messages to the INS were recently sent from Msgr. Charles Rice of Pittsburgh, the Nicaraguan Solidarity Committee in Minneapolis, and John Riordan, president of American Federation of Government Employees Local 3369 in New York City.



Militant/Lou Howort
Marroquin (right) won new support last month from workers at Brooklyn Navy Yard



Schenectady picket line. GE has laid off 2,000 union workers there in past year.

Schenectady strike protests job combinations by GE

BY MIKE FITZSIMMONS
AND CRICKET DADIAN

SCHENECTADY — More than 6,000 electrical workers at the General Electric Co. here struck for five days beginning

midnight June 1.

The production workers, represented by International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) Local 301, were protesting the company's combining of jobs from

two or more classifications.

The union leadership is currently negotiating these job combinations, and says that if the company does not compromise, the union will strike again.

About 1,500 pickets closed off all gates at the main plant in Schenectady, as well as gates at GE's facilities at Nott Street, Rotterdam, and Niskayuna. Only a handful of nonunion employees made it through the lines.

The GE plant makes large steam turbines, generators, and motors.

The strikers were concerned about GE's many attacks on their union in recent years. GE has laid off 2,000 union employees in the past year and more than 7,000 in the last five years.

In general, the workers who have not been laid off have been forced to do more jobs at a faster rate.

The leadership of Local 301 sent a bulletin to the membership to prepare for the strike. It explained that job combinations are just another form of layoff and weaken the union by encouraging "arguments within our ranks over job skills."

Some of the slogans on signs carried by pickets were, "GE brings good things to life — layoffs," and "Our jobs mean Schenectady's future."

Unions campaign against Litton union-busting

BY GEORGE JOHNSON

A number of unions are campaigning jointly against the union-busting tactics of Litton Industries.

Litton is a highly diversified corporation. Only 20 percent of Litton's 75,000 workers are in unions, and those who are belong to dozens of different unions.

But a multiunion coalition is seeking to have Litton considered a single employer by the National Labor Relations Board in the many labor-law violations with which the corporation is charged. The NLRB treats each Litton division, subsidiary, or plant as a separate employer.

This means, according to the United Electrical Workers Union publication *UE News*, "Every time Litton breaks the law at a different plant, it gets treated as a first-time offender and is let off easy."

But, the union paper points out, Litton has a single corporate labor relations department and policy — aimed at weakening the unions and keeping them from organizing the other 80 percent of Litton workers.

"Since 1963," *UE News* reports, "Litton has repeatedly violated labor laws and the rights of its employees in 14 different unions at 24 different locations in 17 states."

Illegal antilabor acts have been confirmed by the NLRB in 24 cases of 43 filed against Litton between 1963 and 1981.

UE News says Litton's anti-union policies follow the same pattern throughout the conglomerate, and include: refusal to abide by a negotiated contract; decertification attempts; spying on, harassing, and firing union activists; hiring of scabs; and closing plants if workers vote for union representation.

Litton manufactures microwave ovens, machine tools, office furniture, and weapons systems — it is the nation's 11th largest military contractor, and derives more than 25 percent of its profits from war production.

Recent labor rallies against Litton have been held at the corporation's Beverly Hills headquarters and in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Palo Alto, California. The unions involved include UE, Teamsters, Longshoremen, Machinists, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), and others.

Baltimore rally builds August 27 demonstration

Continued from Page 3
(NBIPP).

Congressman Parren Mitchell, a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, said, "The source of the problem now is the federal government; it's not some beer-bellied sheriff in Mississippi." Nor is it, he went on, "his deputy sheriff, who's just aching to bash in the head of some Black person. It's the attorney general who is my enemy, the attorney general who is out to destroy affirmative action."

Sheryl Waynewright, vice-president of Nine-to-Five National Association of Working Women, explained the effects of the assaults by the government on women workers.

Henry Koellein, president of the Metro AFL-CIO, said labor, women's groups, civil rights groups, and environmentalists "should all unite to respond to these problems."

He added, "The enemy of civil rights is an enemy of working people, an enemy of women's groups, an enemy of senior citizens."

Several unions, he reported, had decided to hire buses for the march. Later, the rally learned that District 1199-E of the Hospital and Health Care Workers had itself committed 10 buses from Baltimore and had donated office space and telephones to the local coalition.

Mankekola Mahlangu-Ngcobo of the African National Congress (ANC) said, "When you march on Washington, don't think only of the United States, but think about the Middle East, think about Central America, and think about us in southern Africa."

Ngcobo said peace cannot be spoken of without opposing South Africa's attempts to destabilize the governments of Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, or without opposing apartheid. Earlier that day, three

ANC members, political prisoners of the apartheid regime, had been executed.

Ivón Siú from Nicaragua, who is director of international relations for AMNLAE, said, "Tonight, when I walked into this place, I was filled with a feeling that I was among brothers and sisters."

We "are all fighting the same cause, in the tradition of Martin Luther King," she said. "And you, and we, and all the oppressed of the world are called upon to carry on that example."

Nicaragua is free, she continued, "and it began to be free on July 19, 1979. We are

free, and we struggle against racism, against colonialism, and every form of oppression. We struggle for the rights of the people of Namibia, of Grenada, of El Salvador, and Guatemala."

Because of their aspirations for peace and freedom, Siú explained, "the people of Nicaragua are being attacked politically, economically, and militarily. And our people are being attacked using money of the North American people. It was that money that should have been used to create more jobs, to create better conditions for the poor of this country, that is being used

to attack my people and destroy the children of Nicaragua."

As was the case with some of the other speeches, Siú was interrupted repeatedly by applause. She explained, "Our people, who have struggled many years, have now tasted freedom. And because they have tasted freedom, they will never let it be taken away from them again. And that is precisely what bothers President Reagan."

Donna Brazile, national mobilization director for August 27, reported that march co-chairs Coretta Scott King and Joseph Lowery were speaking at meetings in Atlanta and Montgomery that night.

NOW, Puerto Rican leaders back D.C. march

BY BETSY SOARES

PHILADELPHIA — About 300 people attended a rally June 10 at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church sponsored by the local coalition for the August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom.

The Philadelphia rally was chaired by Rev. Lorenzo Sheppard, one of the local coalition leaders.

Speakers included Cleveland Robinson, vice-president of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and secretary-treasurer of District 65, United Auto Workers; Coretta Scott King; Juan González of the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights; Judy Goldsmith, president, National Organization for Women (NOW); Henry Nicholas, national president of Hospital and Health Care Workers 1199; Asia Bennett of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC); and Rev. Horace Means, president of the Philadelphia chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Juan González spoke of the importance

of Puerto Ricans and other Latinos participating in the August 27 march. "Fifty million Hispanics in this country were awakened and inspired by Martin Luther King. The coalition of Blacks, Latinos, women and labor today shows the growing strength of a progressive movement in this country. You can be sure that thousands of Puerto Ricans will march August 27."

Speaking to the need of women to participate in the march, Judy Goldsmith of NOW told the crowd: "Because women come in all colors, we cannot win equality for women unless we win it for all women. We will not divide ourselves."

Goldsmith went on: "We are determined to use the power of the alliance for August 27. We are together, united, and we will have peace, jobs, and freedom."

The crowd cheered as Nicholas pledged \$10,000 for the march from his union, and said 1199 staff members would be assigned to work full time on the August 27 mobilization.

[At a well-attended news conference in New York City, Nicholas delivered a check for \$10,000 to King, and announced that 1199 staffers would work on the march in 15 cities. The union has also paid for 150 buses, plus 40 in Philadelphia, for transportation to Washington, and has donated office space and telephones in several cities.]

A reception prior to the rally was attended by more than 100 supporters from 30 or more organizations. On hand were two City Council members and Wilson Goode, Democratic Party candidate for mayor. Goode said he would lead the Philadelphia contingent in Washington August 27.

Two days after the rally, on June 12, more than 75 people attended a Philadelphia coalition meeting for the march. Rep-

resentatives attended the meeting from Teamsters Local 513, postal workers unions, Central Labor Council, Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, 1199-C, and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Also attending were members of SCLC, NAACP, NOW, SANE, Puerto Rican Alliance, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, National Black Independent Political Party, Socialist Workers Party, Farm Labor Organizing Committee, Young Socialist Alliance, and others.

A labor outreach committee sent a letter to 250 unions urging support for the march. It was signed by Nicholas and representatives of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, AFSCME, Upholsterers' Union, and the Federation of Telephone Workers of Pennsylvania.

The labor committee is also organizing leafleting at plant gates in the area.

The June 12 coalition meeting was also told of the endorsement of the march by Philadelphia Black Methodist preachers, who will send buses from their churches.

Machinists urged to march Aug. 27

A letter urging members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) to participate in the August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom has been sent by IAM President William Winpisinger to IAM locals, where it is being read at membership meetings.

Winpisinger wrote, "The time has come for labor and all of labor's friends to come together. . . . Twenty years have passed [since the 1963 March on Washington] and the issues of jobs, peace and freedom are still before us."

The letter, dated May 17, states: "I am

issuing a call to all members of Local and District Lodges, employed and unemployed, to join with us in this historic event, particularly those lodges that are within 500 miles of Washington, D.C."

Participating lodges "must bear all expenses for travelling to and from Washington, D.C. It is suggested, however, that you coordinate your activity with other labor organizations, or Religious, Human Rights or Student groups within your area to minimize the cost to the Local or District Lodges."

Actions slated for West Coast

Two West Coast demonstrations are planned as part of the 20th Anniversary Mobilization. On August 27, the same day as the march on Washington, a march to the Civic Center will take place in San Francisco.

Earlier, on August 14, a rally is to be held in the Los Angeles Coliseum.



Maurice Bishop addressing June 5 Hunter College rally

Militant/Lou Howort

El Salvador: military attempts 'pacification'

Continued from front page
erations with the contras."

Sánchez said the Sandinista troops were "at a disadvantage" because they could not attack the mortar emplacements inside Honduras. Any such attack, he said "could be used as an excuse to allow Honduras to declare war against us."

Nicaragua's Interior Minister Tomás Borge said the Honduran Army's growing participation in the contra attacks has increased "the danger of confrontation with Honduras, which is not what we want."

"I hope this does not come about in the days ahead," Borge said, "but unfortunately there is no logical reason to think it will not."

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto told a rally in Managua June 10 that "this is a situation that threatens to become a war, an armed confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua."

Not only is Washington encouraging the Honduran government to step up its provocations against Nicaragua, but it is using Honduran territory as a major military staging area in the region.

- The Honduran government agreed at the end of May to allow U.S. Green Berets to train Salvadoran soldiers at a base near Puerto Castilla on Honduras' Caribbean coast.

- More than 50 U.S. military technicians are operating a new radar facility near the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa. This powerful installation can scan nearly all of Central America.

- The U.S. Corps of Engineers is enlarging the Honduran military air field at Comayagua. In exchange the U.S. Air Force will have the right to use the base. The Pentagon is paying for the \$13 million modernization.

- The Pentagon is conducting a "high priority" study of building six additional military air fields in the country.

U.S. combat troops?

Against the backdrop of Washington's deepening intervention in El Salvador and Nicaragua, top U.S. military officials con-

tinued to publicly float the possibility of sending U.S. combat troops into the region.

In a May 22 interview with the *Miami Herald*, Gen. Wallace Nutting, until recently head of the Pentagon's Southern Command based in Panama, said he thought the door should be left open to sending U.S. troops to El Salvador.

"I support the President's declaration that U.S. combat forces ought not to be involved," he began. But he immediately added, "There has been a lot of discussion since [Reagan's April 27 policy speech on Central America] that if this is of such great interest to us, shouldn't we as a last resort consider the introduction of U.S. combat forces?"

Almost identical comments were made by retiring army chief of staff Gen. Edward Meyer at a June 9 breakfast meeting with reporters.

"There should be no uncertainty in the minds of those involved that whatever is necessary, if that poses a threat to us, we are willing to do," Meyer said.

And, in fact, sending combat troops would be "an option that would have to be considered" if the Salvadoran regime's military position continued to deteriorate after elections currently scheduled in El Salvador for December, he said.

CIA sabotage plot in Nicaragua

BY MICHAEL BAUMANN

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Further evidence of CIA efforts to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolution through sabotage and assassination came to light in a news conference here with Sandinista Army Lt. Jorge Roustán.

During the course of several months, Roustán pretended to have been recruited to a CIA operation aimed at setting up counterrevolutionary commando teams, with the aid of leaders of the right-wing Democratic Conservative Party (PCD).

Actually, he was working for Nicaraguan State Security.

Roustán's testimony comes on top of that by Marlene Moncada, a Nicaraguan diplomatic employee who was instructed by the CIA to poison Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

The testimony of Moncada, who was also working for State Security, was backed up by a videotape of a meeting with a CIA official acting under the cover of a diplomatic post here, a poisoned bottle of brandy, coded messages, and numerous other items of CIA-provided equipment.

The truth of Roustán's account has been confirmed by PCD youth leader Mario Castillo, currently in prison, and by the actions of PCD adviser Carlos Rodolfo Icaza.

Castillo confessed that the main economic targets of the commandos would be food warehouses, production facilities,

Grenada's prime minister reports U.S. trip a success

BY MALIK MIAH

UNITED NATIONS — On June 9 Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada held a press conference here to announce the outcome of his 10-day goodwill visit to the United States.

The revolutionary leader stated that overall the visit had met the main objectives of meeting a cross-section of American people to explain the Grenadian revolution and to begin a top-level dialogue with the Reagan administration.

He defended the right of his small Caribbean island of 110,000 to have relations with whomever it wanted; and pointed to the recently revealed plot of the CIA to overthrow the Surinamese government as further proof of how Washington moves against governments that it doesn't approve of.

Bishop expressed strong support for the African National Congress (ANC), the main national liberation organization fighting the racist apartheid regime of South Africa. That morning three ANC members were hanged by the U.S.-backed white minority government.

Bishop also answered questions concerning Grenada's economy, elections, planned constitution, democratic rights, and its international airport, which Reagan says is the proof of Grenada's hostility to Washington.

Bishop announced that one result of his visit was the positive response the Grenada Ministry of Tourism received from some 450 travel agents, travel writers, and tour operators who attended a reception it held.

Prime Minister Bishop's trip to the United States was in response to an invitation made by TransAfrica, an Afro-American foreign affairs lobby group based in Washington, D.C., and the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC).

At this and a second, smaller press gathering later in the day, Bishop expressed special appreciation for the role Black Congressmen George Crockett, John Conyers, Ronald Dellums and Mervyn Dymally played in pressuring the State Department to grant him a visa.

Bishop told the press that he and other leaders of Grenada came to the United States with three objectives in mind: "to deepen and further develop closer people-to-people contacts with Grenadian and Caribbean nationals living in the United States, with the Afro-American communi-

ty, and with our many friends and supporters here; to speak to different strata and sectors of the American society with the hope of providing a better understanding of the Grenadian revolution"; and lastly, "to initiate dialogue with officials of the U.S. administration with a view towards normalizing relations between our two governments."

"I am pleased to announce," Bishop said, "that all our objectives have been achieved."

At present, the U.S. government refuses to recognize Grenada's ambassador to the United States.

Initially, Bishop explained, the Reagan administration only offered a secondary official to meet with him and his delegation. The Grenadians turned it down as inappropriate.

Finally on June 7 the White House proposed that William Clarke, Reagan's National Security Council advisor, and Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam meet with Bishop and Grenada's Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman.

Bishop said that meeting "constituted a useful first step between our governments."

This beginning of a dialogue, Bishop said, did not mean "the threat has been entirely removed" of a CIA-coordinated invasion of the island. But, he added, it is possible the time-table for such an attack had been pushed back by the discussions.

Bishop and Whiteman met with more than 40 members of the Council on Foreign Affairs; more than 20 members of the House of Representatives; and with Sen. Lowell Weicker, who held a news conference to announce his intention to visit Grenada and bring a team to study the potential of U.S. investments in the island.

The Grenadian prime minister spoke before 1,200 at the TransAfrica annual dinner; to a breakfast organized by the CBC; before the Detroit City Council; to a session of the Organization of American States (OAS); and met with the secretary general of the United Nations, Javier de Cuellar, and the secretary general of the OAS, Alejandro Orfila.

Bishop took special note at the news conference of "the thousands who enthusiastically received us at a very successful rally at New York's Hunter College." That rally, held June 5, attracted 2,500 people, with hundreds more turned away at the door.

In his concluding remarks, Bishop made an appeal for the "American people to visit Grenada, to experience the beauty of our land, to witness the progress of our revolution, and to enjoy the warmth and friendliness of our people."

Correction

Early issues of last week's *Militant* contained two typesetting-machine errors in the article on Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's speech at Hunter College in New York.

The correct version of the paragraphs with the errors is as follows:

Bishop described the intensive educational process going on all over the island, including worker educational programs on the job and night schools throughout the country. This involves 72 centers that hold classes two nights a week for three hours each. Those who participate include agricultural, clerical and factory workers as well as unemployed youth.

Moreover Grenada's relations with Cuba flow from "our admiration and respect for the internationalism and achievements of the Cuban revolution."

"Cuba was the first revolution in this hemisphere. If there was no Cuban revolution, there could have been no Grenadian revolution," Bishop proclaimed.

Nicaragua: An introduction to the Sandinista Revolution

By Arnold Weissberg, Managua correspondent for *Intercontinental Press*.

A clearly written description of pre-revolutionary Nicaragua, the insurrection, the far-reaching social measures taken by the Sandinista government and the U.S. government's response.

48 pp., \$.95. Add \$.75 for postage. Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014.

Nat'l Black unionists' meeting discusses Chicago elections

BY CRAIG LANDBERG
AND JIM LITTLE

CHICAGO — The 12th annual convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) took place here May 26-30. Over 1,000 delegates and observers representing dozens of international and national unions in 26 chapters were in attendance. The largest delegations came from New York and Chicago — mainly public service and hospital workers, as well as industrial workers. Most delegates were lower-level officials.

Half the delegates were women. They had participated in the CBTU's women's conference on the first day of the convention where the special problems facing women workers, especially Black women, had been discussed. That discussion centered on affirmative action in hiring and the demand for equal pay for equal work. There was also some discussion on problems women face inside the labor movement — particularly the one of not being fully represented in top leadership bodies.

The CBTU, which was formed in 1972, is primarily composed of Black union officials from the different national and international unions. Although formed over a political difference with the AFL-CIO top officialdom during the 1972 presidential election (most top Black officials backed Democrat George McGovern), the CBTU's stated objective is to increase the influence and strength of Blacks inside the organized labor movement.

The impact of the government's bipartisan policies upon Blacks and how Black workers in particular should participate in electoral politics were the two main topics of discussion at the convention.

There was also some discussion and opposition to the U.S. role in Central America, especially its support to the right-wing government in El Salvador, and to Washington's support to the racist apartheid regime of South Africa.

William Lucy, president of the CBTU and the international secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, said in his opening remarks that Blacks had suffered greatly from Reagan's political and economic policies. That's why, he explained, the "business of '84 is to get Reagan off our backs."

That goal, he said, was the number one task facing Blacks and labor. He made no mention of the discussions currently being held by a number of Black Democratic Party leaders, including Jesse Jackson of Operation PUSH, about running a Black presidential candidate in the 1984 Democratic Party presidential primaries.

Lucy specifically pointed to the election of Harold Washington as mayor of Chicago as showing the potential political power of Blacks. He said Blacks and labor must use that clout to get rid of Reagan and push forward their own interests. Lucy's speech set the framework for the discussion at the convention. Guest speakers included two members of the Congressional Black Caucus and Mayor Washington. All talked about the importance of Blacks and labor actively participating in Democratic Party politics.

Charles Hayes, the CBTU's executive vice-president and an international vice-president of the United Food and Commercial Workers union, used the convention to win support for his recently announced candidacy for Congress in Harold Washington's now-vacated 1st Congressional District seat. A special election is scheduled for August 23.

Hayes told the convention in his speech that he was running for Congress as a trade unionist. He argued that Congress needed a worker in office to continue the fight for jobs, justice, and peace.

Washington, who introduced Hayes to the meeting, referred to Hayes as the best person to take his former seat.

Lucy and other CBTU leaders also pointed to Hayes' candidacy as an example for labor and Blacks to advance their interests today against Reagan's policies.

The convention then passed a special resolution backing Hayes' candidacy. The resolution urged "all members to go back

to their locals and International Union to encourage them to endorse and contribute to Charles Hayes' candidacy."

Another resolution adopted made a special point about how important it is for the CBTU to back labor candidates for office.

Everyone the *Militant* talked to considered the Hayes candidacy as a step forward for the labor and Black movements. Even though Hayes is running as a Democrat, people said he was running as an "in-

dependent" and against the "establishment" in the Democratic Party — just as Harold Washington did.

Hayes was not the only 1st Congressional District candidate at the convention. Ed Warren, a former steel and garment worker, was there. Warren is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress. He and his campaign supporters distributed literature to the delegates.

Continued on Page 17



Militant
William Lucy, president of Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

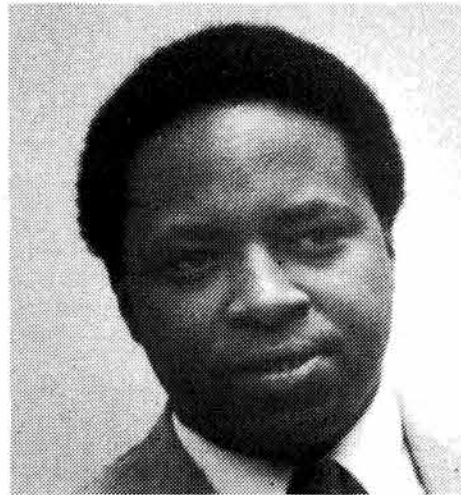
Socialist Workers Party candidate wins spot on ballot in Chicago congressional race

BY HOLLY HARKNESS

CHICAGO — Ed Warren, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the 1st District of Illinois, will be on the ballot in the August 23 special election to fill the seat vacated by Harold Washington after he was elected mayor of Chicago in April.

On June 6 Warren's campaign committee turned in over 15,000 signatures — well over the 9,692 signatures required by law — to the State Board of Elections in Springfield, Illinois, the state's capital. These signatures were collected in less than three weeks.

Because Warren's petitions were not challenged within five days after they were filed, he will be officially certified June 16. Warren will be on the ballot as an independent.



Militant/Harry Ring
Socialist candidate Ed Warren

Inquiry urged in murder of garment union organizer

BY RICK BERMAN

CHICAGO — Union organizer and Mexican-American community leader Rudy Lozano was shot to death in his home here on June 8. A member of Mayor Harold Washington's transition team, Lozano was 32.

Lozano's family as well as political and union activists who were close to him are calling it a political assassination.

Lozano was Mid-West director of organizing for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU), and was well known for defending the rights of undocumented workers from Mexico and Latin America.

In response to massive immigration raids of factories last year, misnamed "Project Jobs," Lozano initiated a labor-community protest demonstration here. He was also part of the defense effort for a local Mexican-American community activist who faces deportation or federal prosecution on trumped-up charges of allegedly registering noncitizens to vote.

Lozano also mobilized support for workers at the Del Rey tortilla company. Del Rey workers have been trying to win recognition for the ILGWU in their nonunion plant. But the bosses called in the immigration cops to deport union supporters. An active boycott of Del Rey has won support in the labor movement and in the Latino community.

Lozano spoke out strongly against U.S. intervention into El Salvador and Central America.

He was a supporter of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance \$70 million lawsuit against government spying. And last year he spoke at a rally sponsored by the Political Rights Defense Fund in Gary, Indiana. He was also a featured speaker at the recent national convention of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

As part of the wing of the local Democratic Party led by Mayor Washington, Lozano ran for city council and lost by 37 votes.

At the time of his death he was on leave from his ILGWU post so he could work on the Chicago staff building the August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom.

Lozano's political and union activity taken together with unusual circumstances around the murder has led a group of activists from the Pilsen and Little Village neighborhoods, the Mexican-American community where Lozano lived and was active, to call for an independent investigation into his killing.

On the morning of his death Lozano was in his kitchen when someone he apparently knew came to the door and asked to use the bathroom. A few minutes later the assassin came out of the bathroom and pumped three bullets into Lozano.

When a fire department emergency medical team arrived on the scene, cops prevented them from giving Lozano medical aid for 20 minutes, according to a report on the local CBS T.V. station. When the medics finally got to Lozano he was dead.

Protest and memorial meetings have mushroomed in the last week. There were two community meetings in the Pilsen and Little Village area.

A victory parade for Harold Washington marched through the Black community on June 11 with 10,000 people marching behind a Mexican flag with Lozano's picture on it.

A June 13 march to Lozano's funeral drew 2,500 people.

The march included large numbers of Blacks as well as Latinos. Many unionists were there, and an Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers banner was carried in the crowd.

Mayor Washington attended the funeral as did many other political figures including Democrats Charles Hayes and Lu Palmer and Socialist Workers Party leader Ed Warren, a laid-off garment worker. Warren, Hayes, and Palmer are among the candidates in a special election for Congress in the 1st District.

"I knew and respected Rudy Lozano," said Ed Warren in a statement released to the press. "I knew him as a leader of my union, the ILGWU, and as a fighter in progressive social struggles."

"I wholeheartedly support the idea of an independent investigation into his murder organized by unions, and Latino and Black community activists. Whoever was behind this assassination must be found and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

"Unfair state election laws forced me to seek ballot status as an independent," Warren explained.

"The law allowed so little time for working class parties to petition to place their name on the ballot that I had no choice."

"However, my campaign supporters and I petitioned in the 1st Congressional District on a socialist platform. The overwhelmingly positive response shows the greater openness to working-class solutions to the capitalist crisis."

"Central to my program is the proposal that Blacks and labor break from the two-party system and form their own parties. An independent Black party or a labor party could fight uncompromisingly against racism, sexism, unemployment, and U.S. intervention in El Salvador and Nicaragua. These new parties could be a powerful voice for all the oppressed in this country — women, Blacks, Latinos, undocumented workers — as well as other workers."

"The massive organizing effort behind the election of Harold Washington showed that Blacks, Latinos, and labor can unite as allies. This will be seen again on August 27 in Washington, D.C., when we will march for jobs, justice, and peace."

"Our common interests are fundamentally different from the rich corporate owners who run this country and the Democratic and Republican parties. We need our own political party that can fight for a workers and farmers government to bring about the changes we need."

Warren, former Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Chicago, will face the winners of the Democratic and Republican party primaries on July 26. Among the Democratic Party contenders in the race are radio announcer and journalist Lu Palmer; Charles Hayes, vice-president of the United Food and Commercial Workers; and several prominent Black elected officials from the Chicago area.

Forging a Black-Latino-Labor Alliance

A Socialist View of the Chicago Election

A Socialist view of the Chicago Election. By Jon Hillson, Malik Miah, and Mac Warren; 75 cents. Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please include 75 cents for postage and handling. Available at bookstores listed on page 19.

New pamphlet from Pathfinder

Behind Thatcher reelection in Britain

BY BRIAN GROGAN

LONDON — Margaret Thatcher's victory in the British general election and her winning a parliamentary mandate for five more years for her government is a bitter blow to working people in Britain and throughout the world.

Her victory will embolden the bosses' attacks on the working class and strengthen Reagan and the international imperialist counteroffensive. It will undermine the confidence of more backward workers that it is possible to defend their rights against Thatcher's vicious assaults.

Thatcher was backed by every serious bourgeois force. She had the backing of the bosses' organizations, the banks, the Confederation of British Industry, and the Institute of Directors. The boards of 21 top British companies signed a much publicized statement calling for her return to power. And of course she had the near unanimous backing of the bourgeois press.

Ronald Reagan managed to give her an electoral plug in a thinly disguised statement issued at the Williamsburg imperialist economic summit. Even the Japanese bourgeoisie poked its nose into the campaign in the shape of a threat by Datsun not to set up a car factory in Britain if Labor was returned to office.

Thatcher's plans for working people

Thatcher chose not to fight the election on her record, which has been disastrous.

Instead she concentrated on exposing the contradictions in the Labor leadership and its program and on a campaign of red-baiting. Nonetheless, through a series of leaks, some of her precise plans became known:

- Increase unemployment beyond the present real 4.5 million to 6 million.
- Privatize large sectors of the nationalized industries, including British Telecom and parts of British Leyland.
- Push ahead the destruction of welfare services and introduce a two-tier health system, with decent medical care only for those who can pay.
- Introduce further draconian antiunion legislation, including provisions to weaken the links between the unions and the Labor Party.
- Dramatically increase police powers and step up the repression of Black people.
- Install cruise missiles, strengthen Britain's ties with NATO, and back Reagan's counteroffensive, especially in Central America.

A Thatcher 'landslide'?

Thatcher achieved a 144-seat majority in the House of Commons. Yet the remarkable fact is that such a majority was gained on the basis of a 2 percent fall in the percentage that she polled compared to the last election, and a much greater fall in the actual proportion of the electorate voting for her. She was elected on a mere 43 percent of those voting (31 percent of the electorate). Her Conservative Party, known as the Tories, actually got the smallest vote this century for any government achieving an overall majority.

Labor's defeat is severe and should not be minimized. But the attempt by bourgeois commentators to characterize it in historic proportions is misplaced.

Comparisons with previous low points of Labor support in 1931 or 1922 are his-

torically inaccurate. Despite its low overall poll of 28 percent, Labor maintained its position in the industrial heartlands of Britain and therefore returned 206 members to parliament. By contrast, in 1931 Labor received 31 percent of the poll, but coming on the back of the defeat of the 1926 general strike and a deepgoing split in its ranks, it achieved only 52 seats, losing ground among industrial workers.

Continuing class polarization

In essence, the 1983 election still shows a continuing polarization of British society. Scotland and Wales voted massively for Labor. The Tories were virtually wiped out in these heavily industrial areas. The northern and western Midlands industrial region remained solidly Labor, as did the working-class areas of London. Moreover, although the solid Labor vote was smaller this time, all reports indicate that this vote was more committed and the campaign activists more enthusiastic than any time since the 1945 Labor landslide.

Black people voted massively for Labor. Seventy-one percent of Black people in London voted Labor.

But outshining all this and crystallizing a new situation in British politics was the success of the fighters for a united Ireland in the Northern Six Counties of Ireland. Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Fein, was elected by a 6,000-vote majority. Overall, Sinn Fein polled 90,000 votes, making them the majority party of the nationalist working class in Northern Ireland.

So, despite all the vain hopes of the bourgeoisie and the Tory press, Labor remains the mass party of the British working class and is still capable of reasserting its full position by the time of the next election.

The electoral showing of the so-called Alliance parties does not change this judgment. The Alliance was a bloc between the Liberal Party and the Social Democratic Party (SDP, a split-off from the Labor Party). This bloc polled 6.5 million votes, or 26 percent of the electorate. But this resulted in a mere 22 seats in Parliament. The SDP in particular, despite taking votes from Labor, lost all but 6 of the 29 seats that it previously occupied.

Why Labor lost

Any explanation for Labor's defeat must begin with the war in the South Atlantic last year. Britain's victory over Argentina in the Malvinas was not just a defeat for the Argentinian working class but a defeat for British workers too. Up to that time Thatcher was trailing Labor in the opinion polls. But her chauvinistic campaign allowed her to galvanize behind her leadership the middle layers who were wavering in the face of the assault she had unleashed. The Labor leadership, far from opposing Thatcher, tried to present its own chauvinist case for victory over Argentina.

The truth is that Thatcher's assaults on the rights and living standards of the working class over the last five years have been achieved with the acquiescence of the right-wing Labor and trade-union leadership. There have been victories against Thatcher and the bosses, but such victories have been gained despite the sabotage of the right-wing leaders. What is worse is that on many occasions these leaders have intervened to grab defeat from the jaws of victory. Most important, they have totally failed to support the fightback against unemployment, let alone provide a perspective to mobilize the anger and opposition of the working class to the mass unemployment policies of the Thatcher government.

Behind all this the working-class vanguard has been striving to forge a more adequate leadership for the Labor Party and the unions. A number of left victories have been scored in various unions. And the Labor Party swung decisively to the left at its conference in October 1980. As a result, the manifesto presented by the Labor Party in these elections reflected the policies pioneered by left-wing leader Tony Benn and other activists. Yet the leadership team, elected by the parliamentary caucus of the Labor Party, which is not accountable to the ranks of the party, remained dominated by the old, failed work-horses of the right.

The Labor manifesto pledged to reduce

unemployment below 1 million in five years. It pledged unilateral disarmament and withdrawal from the European Economic Community. It promised to nationalize more sections of British industry and impose planning on others. "To make British industry work for Britain, rather than Britain work for British industry."

It committed itself to furthering women's rights and to weakening the racist immigration laws.

Faced with such a program, the Tories launched a massive red-baiting campaign on the basis of the biggest advertising budget ever seen in British elections.

The big-business media waded in with the dirtiest press campaign perhaps of all time. It politically utilized the opinion polls to do as much damage to Labor as possible. It highlighted findings damaging to Labor and hid those that would reinforce it.

All the polls greatly exaggerated Thatcher's support and talked up the support for the Alliance.

This by itself, of course, could not have led to the dire Labor results.

Right-wingers sabotage Labor

Top labor leaders openly and cold-bloodedly sabotaged Labor's campaign. Denis Healey, Labor's main public spokesperson in the campaign, led the pack. In the middle of the campaign, he took it upon himself to denounce the manifesto commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Equally, on the economic issues. Despite Labor Party policy, the Labor leaders interpreted the manifesto as requiring wage restraints under a Labor government — the issue which turned working-class opinion against the last Labor government in 1979.

The manifesto included proposals to transfer resources away from the military and into job-creation, and measures attacking some of the privileges of the rich.

In the hands of the right-wing Labor leadership, however, even these mild reforms were dropped in favor of the ridiculous suggestion that the future Labor government would borrow its way out of the economic crisis. This is especially laughable to working people since it was the intervention of the International Monetary Fund in bailing the British economy out during the last Labor government which signalled the Labor government's turn to a ferocious assault on the living standards of the working class in 1976.

Of course, such sabotage was not some aberration. For the past two years and more, workers have been opening their daily paper or turning on the television to see some right-wing Labor leader denouncing the policies of the Labor Party, or charging that it had been taken over by "extremists."

"The Labor Party is sick," intoned Labor leader Peter Shaw. "It is time to act against the conspiracy."

James Callaghan, ex-Labor prime minister, agreed and added, "I want the Labor Party to win the next election, but not the Labor Party as it has come to look in recent months."

Every single one of the right-wing leaders joined in on this, so much so that they organized a witch-hunt against "Trotskyists" inside the party and succeeded in expelling the editorial board of the left-wing newspaper *Militant*.

The right wing predictably is arguing that it was the "extreme policies" that accounted for Labor's defeat. The situation in the Labor movement is such that the left trend, however, is unlikely to be reversed. Unfortunately, the fact that the main left leader, Tony Benn, failed to win a parliamentary seat will prevent this situation from being consolidated in the leadership of the Labor Party.

The direction of the class struggle will reinforce the weight of the left. This election was called at the time thought most favorable for Thatcher. The economic situation is showing a slight upturn, and inflation is at its lowest level in 15 years. But the illusion created in the minds of many people that the worst was over will soon be shattered as Thatcher goes for deeper assaults on the wages and conditions of British working people. Already there is a majority against Thatcher. This is bound to increase.



During the last four years of recession, British industry has seen sharp productivity increases. But this has primarily been the result of mass unemployment and large-scale bankruptcies — which in turn have been used as a battering ram to force massive changes in working practices leading to speedups and a marked increase in the rate of exploitation.

During this time average real wages, however, have actually increased by 16 percent over the rate of inflation. This, incidentally, is one of the reasons why a layer of skilled workers voted for Thatcher.

But the historic crisis of British capitalism means that these economic gains have been nowhere near sufficient to meet the increase in imperialist competition. No longer can the ruling class allow any significant layer of workers to raise their standard of living, and still more shopfloor rights need to be overturned. This demands the shackling of the unions and the destruction of the shopfloor organization of the working class.

Workers will fight back

A fightback against such an assault on a broad scale is guaranteed given the continuing organizational strength of the working class.

Immediately after the election, Arthur Scargill, militant mine union leader, reflected this pressure of his base. "In order to resist this government," he pronounced to rapturous applause from miners, "we should undoubtedly need to take extraparlimentary action and that includes the possibility of political strikes to prevent the massacre of our health, education, housing, and social services."

A couple of months prior to the election, rail workers rejected one of the most right-wing trade union leaders and replaced him with a left leader. The sacked general secretary, Sidney Weighell, had been the one who had campaigned for the resolution at the Labor Party conference demanding the witch-hunt of left-wingers.

Then, just one day before the election, tele-communication workers in their conference kicked out for the first time the right-wing executive committee and replaced it with one dominated by the left. It had been the representative of this union on the Labor Party National Executive Committee, John Goulding, who had masterminded the day-to-day tactics of the witch-hunt.

So the perspective of the Labor movement activists is to place their fight over the next period in the framework of preparing for an all-out confrontation with this government with the aim of replacing it before its five years is up. Of course in the short run the Tory victory will have a depressing effect on such struggles.

This fightback perspective will be aided by the deepening of the mass campaigning for nuclear disarmament. The activity of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will now increase as the date for the siting of cruise missiles approaches. This campaign will help deepen the anti-imperialist consciousness of the working class, especially as the fight against the missiles intermeshes with Reagan's war in Central America, where Thatcher is a strong supporter of Reagan's policies.

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Garment worker runs for mayor in Phoenix

BY AMY BELVIN

PHOENIX — During a lunch break at the garment shop where he works, Socialist Workers Party candidate Barry Fatland discussed with coworkers his reasons for running for mayor here.

Fatland read a statement in both English and Spanish, and answered questions.

The shop where Fatland works makes canvas covers for war equipment. Fatland's campaign stresses opposition to U.S. war in Central America.

"We know the war drive is forcing down our living standards at home and increasing the chances that our children will be drafted to die in another Vietnam. My campaign will help organize against these attacks on us," Fatland told coworkers.

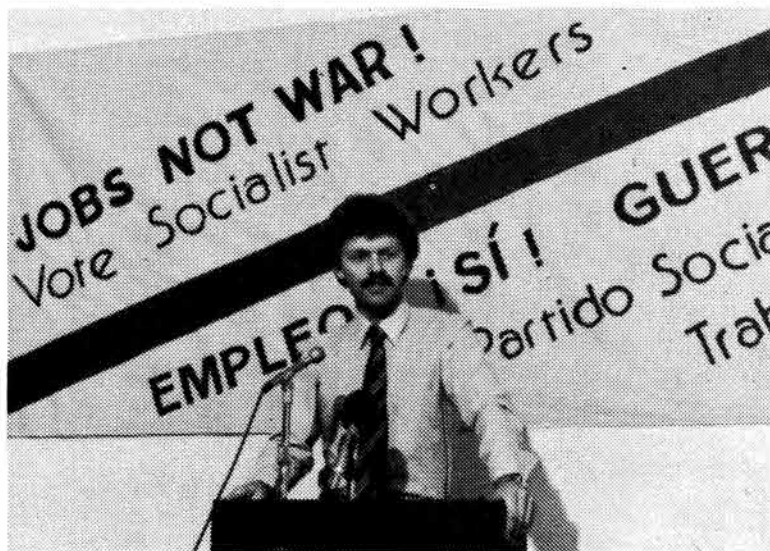
After he spoke, many of Fatland's coworkers offered to help in the campaign.

Fatland had announced his candidacy earlier in the week on May 12 at a news conference attended by the major Phoenix media. He also appeared live on the noon news of Channel 5 and was interviewed by Channel 33, a Spanish-language TV station.

With low wages, antiunion right-to-work laws, and tremendous tax breaks, Phoenix offers a good climate for big-business profits. Working people here, Fatland charged, suffer serious attacks on their standard of living and rights. He listed some of them:

"The Phoenix school board shut down three high schools and laid off more than 200 teachers in the past year.

"A huge nuclear plant — Palo



Barry Fatland, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Phoenix.

Verde — is about to go on line a few miles from Phoenix.

"The Immigration and Naturalization Service has stepped up harassment and attempted deportation of Latino workers, who make up about a third of the work force here.

"The local county health-care service recently cut off all low-income patients, and the city bus system is completely inadequate."

He is running for mayor, he said, "because I think socialism is an idea whose time has not only come, but is long overdue."

Harrisburg socialist wins ballot status

BY CLEMENS BAK

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Socialist Workers Party candidate Doug Cooper is on the ballot for City Council in this Central Pennsylvania city. Cooper, a 27-

year-old garment worker, was required to gather 175 signatures; on May 26, the socialist campaign filed over 500 signatures.

A highlight of the petitioning campaign was a victory affirming the right to petition on a public sidewalk in front of the Harrisburg Weis supermarket. For over two years, Weis management has harassed socialist campaigners. They have argued that prohibiting activities in front of their store is a national policy, probably intended to keep union organizers away.

On May 7, two Cooper supporters attempted to petition there. They were immediately confronted by the manager, who told them they would be arrested if they did not leave. Cooper attended the May 10 City Council meeting, spelled out the First Amendment violations going on at Weis, and asked for assistance from the city. A Black city councilman, Calvin Gilchrist, commented that he too was interested in this question, as Weis has forced Democratic Party

campaigners to leave the sidewalk as well.

On May 21, armed with a written opinion from the city clearly stating that any attempt to prohibit petitioning activity was improper, Cooper and another campaign supporter returned to Weis. The manager called the police, who strongly suggested the campaigners leave.

A few days later, a news conference was held by the socialist candidate on the market sidewalk. Supporters petitioned among passersby.

Two police lieutenants were sent by the mayor's office to the news conference and went inside the store to inform Weis management that the activity going on outside was protected by the law.

Meanwhile, Cooper and another campaigner were petitioning on the sidewalk and talking to shoppers about the socialist campaign. Over and over, in full TV camera view, people signed the petition, often commenting that what the Weis management had tried to do was an "outrage."

One of the TV stations summed it up that evening with these words: "A victory for civil liberties was won in Harrisburg today."

Campaign rally in New Orleans

BY RUSS PANECKI

NEW ORLEANS — A well-attended campaign rally here May 14 heard Socialist Workers Party candidates Michele Smith and Nels J'Anthony and other speakers representing a broad spectrum of social movements.

Smith is a member of Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers (OCAW) Local 4-522 at the Tenneco refinery at Chalmette. She is

running for governor.

J'Anthony, who works at the Shell refinery in Norco, is running for State Senate from the 7th District. He is a member of OCAW Local 4-475.

Also speaking at the rally, the theme of which was "Jobs, not war," were Rev. Jerome Owens, president of the New Orleans chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and a representative of the Mid City Area Council; Joey Romano, a gay rights activist and member of the Lavender Left; Laura Carnes, a Tenneco refinery worker and local leader of the Young Socialist Alliance who recently won her job back after a sexist firing; Kamau Odinga, a Black rights activist; and José Marcos, a Salvadoran active in solidarity work.

J'Anthony attacked the war waged by the U.S. government against the workers and peasants of Central America and the Caribbean, and pointed to bipartisan support for that war.

He contrasted the situation of the workers and peasants in El Salvador with that of their brothers and sisters in Nicaragua.

"Under imperialist domination and capitalist rule" he said, "El Salvador is a country of right-wing death squads, no academic freedom, illegalization of trade unions, and massacres that target everyone."

Nicaragua, where the tyrannical Somoza regime has been replaced by a government of workers and farmers, he said, "is an example for all people who are under Uncle Sam's thumb."

Reverend Owens said the people of Central America should have the right to manage their own affairs and the U.S. should help them with food, education, and medical supplies, and not give the dictatorships there military aid.

3,000 protest New York Shoreham nuclear plant

BY STEPHEN BRIDE

SHOREHAM, N.Y. — Close to 3,000 demonstrators rallied on the shores of the Long Island Sound here June 4 to demand that the Shoreham nuclear power plant not be started up.

The \$3.1 billion plant, located just up the beach from the rally site, was slated to come on line this November — 10 years late and 10 times over budget. Its fate is now in question, however, because nobody has come up with a plan to evacuate the area if something goes wrong with the reactor.

"After months of studies, they've concluded what we knew all along," Leon Campo, a legislative lobbyist against Shoreham, told the crowd. "Long Island cannot be evacuated in the event of a nuclear disruption."

United Auto Workers District 65, which is on record against the plant, was represented on the platform by its Long Island director, Tom Acosta. Commenting on a recent request by Shoreham's owners, the Long Island Lighting Co. (LILCO), for a 56 percent rate hike over three years to cover the reactor's operating costs, he declared, "Working people must not be made to pay for this ill-fated venture."

Acosta then urged those in attendance to "join with your brothers and sisters from around the country on August 27 in Washington, D.C., to march for jobs, peace, and freedom."

Leon Campo blamed Washington for keeping the Shoreham project alive. "We have a national government," he said, "that is working not for the people, but for the utility monopolies; that is working to badger local government into submission."

Local government's opposition to Shoreham was voiced at the rally by Wayne Prospect of the Suffolk County Legislature. By his count, 17 of the 18 members of that body oppose the plant, as does County Executive Peter Cohalan. A

message from Cohalan was read to the gathering by Campo.

Demonstration organizers estimated that half the protesters were from Suffolk County, where opposition to the plant runs at about 70 percent. The rally was opened by two local high school students, who led the crowd in chants of "Shut it down," which they said were directed at President Reagan and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

While speakers unanimously condemned the pronuclear policies of the Reagan administration, the attitude toward Cuomo was ambivalent.

Campo denounced a task force appointment by Cuomo to study the Shoreham matter, noting that almost everybody on it favors nuclear power. Others seemed to

think Cuomo could be persuaded. As one speaker put it, "He has said he would never compromise on questions of principle. He must be made to see that the principle of life is at stake here."

Earlier, under pressure from area residents, Cuomo ordered the state to reject an evacuation plan drawn up by LILCO. He added, though, that he would "cooperate in any way possible" with efforts to put together a better one.

It was pointed out several times during the rally that both New York senators, Democrat Patrick Moynihan and Republican Alfonse D'Amato, are for starting up Shoreham.

The afternoon also had a decided antiwar tone: A set by Puerto Rican folksinger Roy

Brown included a song describing the suffering of Nicaraguans under the Somoza regime. Following this, a local representative of the Stop Shoreham Campaign invited the crowd to attend an upcoming July 2 demonstration in Washington to oppose U.S. intervention in Central America.

Other rally speakers included physicist Michio Kaku; environmental activist Barry Commoner; and Nora Bredes, executive coordinator of the Shoreham Opponents Coalition in Suffolk County.

The rally was preceded by a five-mile march — past the plant entrance, through a quiet residential district to the shoreline. Homeowners — some holding antinuclear signs — watched from their lawns and porches as demonstrators filed by.

N.Y. rally backs Irish political prisoner

BY MARC LICHTMAN

NEW YORK — A rally to support Nicky Kelly, an Irish political activist framed up on charges of robbing a mail train, took place here June 10. Kelly, a member of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, is serving a 12-year prison term in Portlaine Prison outside Dublin.

Three days before the rally, Kelly ended a 37-day hunger strike demanding his release. In the week before he ended his fast the Irish Labor Party announced its support for his release, and Kelly authorized his attorney to take his case before the European Commission on Human Rights.

Bernadette Devlin McAliskey was to have been the featured speaker at the rally, which was sponsored by the Free Nicky Kelly Coalition. But the U.S. State Department denied her a visa. Instead, the audience of 100 people heard a taped telephone message from her.

McAliskey stated that "we are reasona-

bly hopeful that some progress will be made on Nicky Kelly's case," and she urged people to keep up pressure on the Dublin government to secure his release.

Philadelphia Daily News columnist Jack McKinney told the audience of his association with Kelly while Kelly was in the United States.

After Kelly's arrest in 1976, he was subjected to two days of severe brutality and then signed a confession dictated to him by police officers. Solely on the basis of that statement, Nicky Kelly was convicted and sentenced to 12 years by a special juryless court.

Before the sentence was handed down, Kelly fled Ireland and came to the United States. But when two others who had been found guilty with him had their convictions overturned, Kelly returned to Ireland to file an appeal of his conviction.

His appeal was turned down on a technicality and he was sent to prison despite the

fact that the Irish Republican Army, with which Kelly has no connection, had publicly acknowledged its responsibility for the train robbery for which he was convicted.

McKinney told the crowd that when Kelly stayed with him before returning to Ireland, he was suffering from continuous headaches and could sleep no more than two hours a night as a result of the torture.

Pat Maloney, a New York priest who was arrested under the Special Powers Act while visiting his family in Ireland, recounted his experiences with nonjury courts like the one that convicted Kelly.

Elizabeth O'Hara, whose brother Patsy died in the H-Block hunger strike two years ago, thanked the audience for their support in that hunger strike and during Kelly's fast. Earlier in the day O'Hara spoke to about 25 members of the Transport Workers Union during their lunch break at a subway repair shop.

Miami socialists vow rightist threats won't deter them

MIAMI — Two firebombs exploded at the Miami Militant Labor Bookstore at 1:30 a.m. June 13.

The unknown assailant or assailants smashed a window and destroyed shelving in the bookstore with a chunk of concrete before throwing the bombs. The bombs, beer bottles filled with flammable liquid, missed the broken window and burned on the sidewalk.

North Miami police are investigating.

The bookstore, which also houses the offices of the Miami Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, has received threats from individuals identifying themselves as Ku Klux Klan members and as right-wing Cuban terrorists. The phone threats have increased over the past months.

The SWP and YSA have been active in opposing the racist, antilabor, and war policies of the U.S. government.

Ever since Reagan's April 27 war speech to Congress, right-wing Cuban and Nicaraguan terrorists have stepped up activities in Miami. On April 30, a news conference opposing U.S. intervention in Central America, sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Solidarity Association, was broken up by armed thugs.

On May 20, a motorist in the Little Havana section of Miami who gave "thumbs down" to Reagan was beaten up by supporters of Alpha 66, a terrorist group, during the Cuban rightists' celebration of Reagan's visit that day. Also on that day City Manager Howard Gary, who is Black, received physical threats and demands for his ouster when he called Reagan a racist.

One week later on May 27 a powerful bomb exploded at the Continental Bank, whose directors have publicly supported dialogue with Cuba.

On June 3, the SWP received an obscene, threatening letter. The authors claimed to be from a small group of right-wing Cubans working at the Coral Way garage of Dade County Metrobus.

The letter said, "you will not be able to

operate here in Miami for long."

Harvey McArthur, Miami SWP organizer, was threatened by several individuals at Coral Way June 2. McArthur works for Metrobus.

"I was delivering an engine to the Coral Way garage when I was greeted by a noisy group of six or seven people," he reported. "They denounced me for being a communist and a friend of Fidel Castro. They threatened to castrate and hang me."

"A foreman suggested they call up Alpha 66 and put out a contract on me."

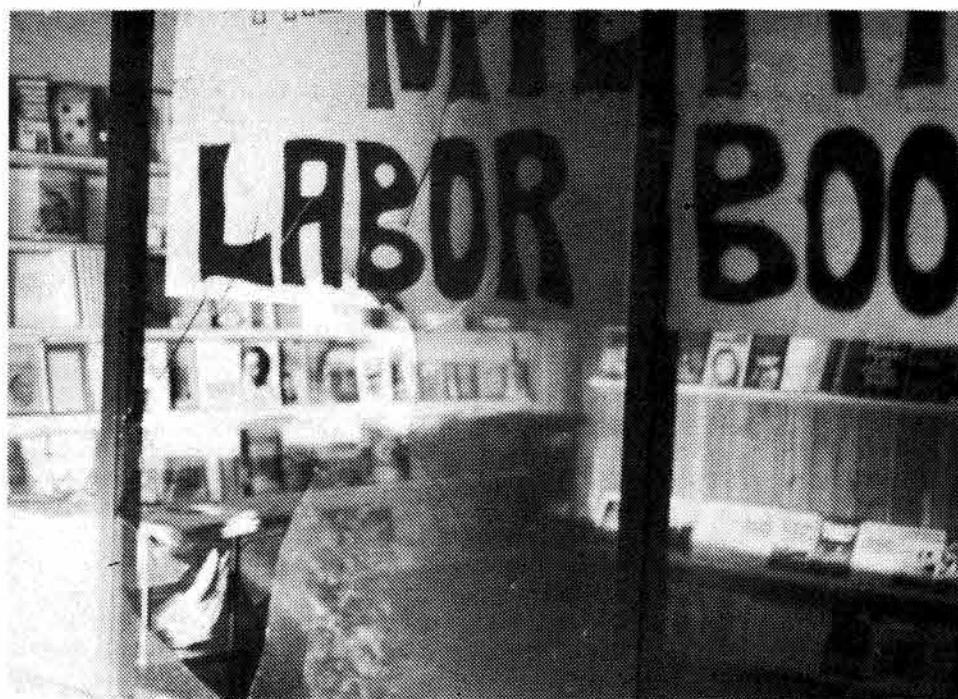
"I reported this to my union, the Transport Workers Union. They immediately called up company officials and demanded that they stop this harassment. The next day, when I delivered a truckload of parts to Coral Way, the right wingers did not say a word and other workers, including Cubans, were very friendly."

Claude Rolfe, president of TWU Local 29, released a statement opposing these attacks, explaining why the union had intervened, and the importance of free speech and debate for the labor movement.

"The SWP is not backing down in face of these attacks," McArthur declared. "Now we are helping build the August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom. We are already working with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, National Organization for Women, Transport Workers Union, and other labor, antiwar, and church leaders on this march."

"The public forum that was scheduled to be held at the Militant Labor Bookstore June 17 will occur. The topic is 'Women of the Americas: Their Struggle for Liberation.' Opponents of these terror attacks are urged to attend and show solidarity."

Messages demanding that the government stop the rightist attacks and find and prosecute those responsible for the June 13 attack should be sent to: North Miami Mayor Marco Loffredo, Jr., City Hall, 776 Northeast 125 St., North Miami, Florida 33161; and to Dade County Mayor Steven Clark, 73 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33128.



Militant
Smashed window of Miami Militant Labor Bookstore. Right-wing Cuban and Nicaraguan terrorists have been emboldened by war-mongering in Washington.

N.Y. electrical workers resist union-busting

BY LARRY ROSS

NEW YORK — Eagle Electric is an electrical-parts manufacturing company based in Long Island City. Eagle employs over 1,700 workers who are organized by United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 365. The company also has plants and distribution centers throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Costa Rica, Jamaica, the Philippines, and other countries.

Eagle is in the midst of a drive to weaken the union. Through a deliberate policy of harassment; attacks on working conditions; and contract violations, including arbitrary firings, they are seeking to discipline the work force. Workers are seeking ways to resist this attack.

The company pays production workers using a combination of a low hourly wage — \$4 to \$5 an hour — and piecework. The piecework system is a way of forcing workers to speed up production. In addition, Eagle uses piecework to discipline workers. Workers who are put on the most difficult machine with the most unrealistic quotas are badgered about failing to meet rate and often threatened with suspension or firings.

The company tries to keep as large a part of the work force as possible under the worst conditions. They do this through a system that exploits racial, national, and sexual divisions among the work force. The most difficult and demanding jobs are given to women, foreign-born workers, and Blacks. Women and foreign-born workers, many Spanish speaking, are a majority of the workers at Eagle.

Particularly onerous is Eagle's abuse of the 30-day probationary period, during which workers are not yet in the union. Nearly a third of the workers, about 600, are new hires. Eagle dismisses probationary workers on the flimsiest of reasons. Often as many as half, or more, of the probationary workers in a department will be fired by the company, often on the 28th or 29th day of their probation. The company then hires new workers at the low starting wage. This allows Eagle to reap enormous profits from probationary workers while undermining the union by maintaining a large number of workers who do not have union protection.

Recently production workers in the fuse department stopped work to protest company abuse of the piecework system. The workers demanded more mechanics to keep their machines running. Because of frequent breakdowns, wages from piecework were being sharply reduced.

Many workers have voiced dissatisfaction with the cost-of-living-allowance (COLA) benefits. New hires are particularly hard hit by a giveback forced on the union during the 1983 contract negotiations. New hires get less COLA than other workers get. One new hire simply asked a question about COLA benefits. The company initiated an investigation of his application. Eagle fired him for standing up for his rights, under the pretext of charging he had lied on his application.

Eagle has a policy of selectively firing workers. The company attempts to keep employees living in fear by holding the sword of firings, for whatever reason, over their heads.

These firings often meet with resistance. Three workers — Steve Beren, Alan Grady, and Dave Prince — were recently fired for their union and political activities under the pretext of falsifying their applications.

All three have filed grievances, as well as complaints with the National Labor Relations Board, charging Eagle with breaking its contract with UAW Local 365. The contract between Eagle and the UAW prohibits discrimination or reprisals against workers for any reason.

Alan Grady, in addition, is a disabled Vietnam-era veteran. Grady was fired on charges of lying on his application about his disability, although he had already passed his probation when the company learned of his disability. Eagle refused, in a meeting with the union, to even consider giving him another job classification, a past practice in the plant, and instead fired him.

Grady, Beren, and Prince are opponents of the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean and supporters of the antiwar stand adopted by the recent UAW international convention in Dallas, Texas, which Beren attended. They have urged participation in the march for peace, jobs, and freedom scheduled for Washington on August 27.

They were also actively involved in organizing support for a campaign to win political asylum for Héctor Marroquín. Marroquín was well received by Eagle workers who met him on a shift change in May. They saw his fight as their fight at a time when the rights of foreign-born workers and all workers are under attack by the corporations and the government.

A probationary worker who expressed interest in Marroquín's fight was also recently fired and is seeking to win back her job.

The offensive against workers' rights by Eagle has provoked a widening discussion about how to fight back on the job as well as about other political and social questions. A number of workers, by going to their stewards and fighting through their union, have been able to stay the hand of the company and prevent firing attempts. This will be an ongoing fight as workers seek more and more to utilize their combined strength through the union to protect and advance their interests.

Anti-immigrant bill: behind myths on amnesty plan

BY HARRY RING

The *Militant* reported on Senate approval May 18 of the Simpson-Mazzoli anti-immigrant bill. The measure makes the status of undocumented workers here even more precarious by making it an offense for employers to "knowingly" hire them. It is slated to be acted on by the House in early July.

Our June 3 report was written before the actual text of the Senate-approved bill was available. The text includes significant reactionary features beyond those we reported. Among these are:

- The legal appeal process for those ordered excluded or deported or denied political asylum is "streamlined." Instead of going first to a federal circuit judge and then to the federal court of appeals, such appeals will go directly to the court of appeals.

- Those who apply for amnesty to stay as legal residents must each pay a \$100 application fee.

- Amnesty is granted — at the "discretion" of the attorney general — to those who can prove they have been here since

before Jan. 1, 1977. Denial of amnesty is final and cannot be appealed to the courts.

- Anyone with a record of a single felony conviction, or three misdemeanors, will be denied amnesty.

- Amnesty will be denied to anyone who has "assisted in the persecution of any person or persons on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion." That could cover opponents of white racism, anticapitalists, or, simply, union militants.

- All of the restrictions and catches directed against those seeking permanent residence apply to those who arrived here before Jan. 1, 1980, and are seeking temporary resident status.

- Further, applicants for temporary residence must demonstrate they can speak English or are "satisfactorily pursuing a course of study" approved by the attorney general.

- The statute declares it the sense of Congress that "the English language is the official language of the United States." This is aimed at undermining multilingual education and balloting and is intended to be generally prejudicial to the rights of oppressed nationalities.

- The bill provides harsh criminal penalties for those who help an undocumented person come here, "transport" them within the country, or "harbor" them. That could include a relative who gives someone a place to sleep. The penalty is up to \$10,000 fine and five years in jail for each undocumented immigrant assisted. This proviso specifically does not apply to employers who hire undocumented workers.

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Labor news

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One year after invasion of Lebanon: U.S. & Israel head for new Mideast war

Imperialists try to split Palestine Liberation Organization

BY DAVID FRANKEL

One year after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Middle East is headed for still another Arab-Israeli war. The political campaign to prepare the next war is already under way. It includes scare stories about Soviet missiles and military advisers in Syria. Also involved is the propaganda hailing the so-called troop withdrawal agreement between Israel and the Israeli-installed government in Lebanon, propaganda that portrays opponents of an Israeli-dominated Lebanon as obstacles to peace.

Another part of this political campaign is the ongoing attempt by the imperialists to sow division and distrust among all those forces standing up against their domination of the Middle East. U.S. and Israeli rulers want to break the alliance between Syria and the Soviet Union and to encourage divisions between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the various Arab regimes.

At the same time, the imperialists are trying to split the PLO itself. Disputes within the PLO, involving longstanding differences, are being played up in the media. This is part of the attempt to discredit and divide the Palestinian liberation movement.

Israeli war aims

Both the movement toward a new war in the Middle East and the pressures on the PLO stem from the same imperialist offensive — an offensive that reached a high point with the Israeli invasion of Lebanon on June 6, 1982.

Taking off from the opportunity provided by the Camp David treaty with Egypt, the Israeli rulers hoped to crush the PLO. The Palestinian national liberation struggle has been the main stumbling block for Washington and Tel Aviv in the Middle East. There is no compromise that could satisfy the demands of the Palestinian masses and leave Israel intact. Moreover, by refusing to abandon their struggle, the Palestinians have made it impossible for most Arab governments to risk a deal with Israel.

Success in destroying the PLO in Lebanon, the Israelis calculated, would deal a devastating blow to the liberation struggle of the Palestinians in the Arab territories grabbed by Israel in 1967, and would open the way to establishing a rightist government in Lebanon that would agree to an Israeli-imposed treaty.

Destruction of the PLO would also open the way for King Hussein of Jordan to enter negotiations with Israel. Ultimately, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin aims to

force Syria as well to sign a Camp David-type treaty recognizing Israel and leaving it in possession of the territories it has gobbled up.

Along the way to his dream of a Middle East dominated by an Israeli-U.S. "strategic consensus," Begin is also considering the possibilities of keeping a piece of southern Lebanon to add to Israel's rapidly growing collection of Arab territory.

These were the objectives that the Israeli ruling class had in mind when it invaded Lebanon last year in a move that it had been building up to ever since the outline of the Camp David treaty was agreed to in 1978. But most of these objectives remain unfulfilled. The Israeli rulers intend to attain their aims by a new war.

A history of aggression

Nobody can say whether the next Arab-Israeli war will be provoked by Israel in a month or a year, or whether the pretext will be found in Lebanon or in the Golan Heights. But the Israeli rulers know that they are in a far stronger position than the Arabs militarily, and they are itching to use their military superiority to attain the political advances that have so far eluded them. How successful they will be is another question.

Israel has been on the military offensive in the Middle East ever since it was established in 1948. In the 1948 war, Israeli forces drove more than 700,000 Palestinian Arabs from their homes. The Israeli state expanded on all fronts. In 1956 Israel launched an attack on Egypt and grabbed the Sinai Peninsula. In 1967 it again attacked its Arab neighbors, seizing territory from Egypt, Syria, and Jordan. In 1973 it defeated an attempt by Egypt and Syria to win back their territory. In 1982, it invaded Lebanon.

Repeated wars and military attacks, however, have failed to crush the resistance of the Arab masses, especially the Palestinians. Not even the savage massacre in West Beirut was able to do that.

This brings us to the other side of Israel's drive toward war. Its growing military power notwithstanding, Israel is a deeply divided society, and its militarism stems from weakness as well as strength.

Deepening class polarization

While Begin has been rushing ahead with the de facto annexation of the occupied territories, confiscating more Arab land and expanding the Zionist settlements on the stolen acreage, he has been unable to break the resistance of the 1.3 million Palestinians in these areas.

According to a secret Israeli report disclosed by the BBC June 2, since the war in Lebanon protests against the occupation in the West Bank and Gaza have increased 69 percent.

Even worse from the point of view of the Israeli capitalists, the national liberation struggle in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip has begun to win more and more support and solidarity among the 600,000 Palestinian Arabs living inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

The impact of the world economic crisis on Israel, and the country's growing international isolation, have combined with the tenacious resistance put up by the Palestinian people to push forward the class struggle inside Israel. The deep national division between Palestinians and Jews in Israel is now accompanied by a more and more evident class polarization in the society as a whole.

Israeli workers today are confronted with a perspective of endless war, economic hardship — including an inflation rate of more than 130 percent — and increasing attacks on democratic rights. At the same time, the liberal veneer that used to coat the reactionary content of Zionism has largely worn off. The dominant ideology by which Israel justifies its oppression of the Palestinians is increasingly taking the form of a swinish right-wing nationalism that is alienating a significant sector of the Jewish population. Amos Elon, a prominent Israeli intellectual and journalist, summed up this point in the February 4 issue of the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* by saying, "we are progressing toward apartheid."

Basic problems not solved

By invading Lebanon last year, the Israeli ruling class did not solve any of the basic problems that it faces. More than ever before, world attention and sympathy was focused on the PLO and the liberation struggle that it leads. Furthermore, the issue of Palestinian national rights and a Palestinian homeland emerged as a central issue in the Middle East for Israeli workers as well. The Lebanon War was the first since 1948 in which the Palestinians were seen by all as a central combatant.

And the fight put up by the Palestinians under the leadership of the PLO has made no small impact inside Israel. Nearly 500 Israeli soldiers have died as a result of Begin's "Peace for Galilee" operation, compared to 983 in Israel's 1967 war against the combined armies of Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. Another 600 Israeli soldiers have been permanently disabled over the past year.

Instead of uniting Israeli society, the war in Lebanon divided it even further. Big antiwar demonstrations took place during the siege of West Beirut, and others have continued, demanding the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Referring to the U.S.-sponsored agreement on Israeli-Lebanese relations worked out in May, Labor Party politician Michael Bar Zohar complained, "No paragraph in the agreement can erase the new divisions in our society."

Internationally, the siege of West Beirut and then the barbaric massacre of Palestinian civilians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps opened the eyes of millions to the real character of the Israeli state. Instead of solving the problem of Israel's international isolation, the war in Lebanon deepened it.

Big blows to Palestinians

Nevertheless, the Israeli rulers are continuing to push ahead on the course that was marked by the invasion of Lebanon. Although they failed to put the PLO out of action, overwhelmingly superior Israeli forces — both in numbers and firepower — dealt a substantial military defeat to the Palestinian liberation struggle last year.

Thousands of Palestinians were killed and wounded by Israeli military operations in Lebanon and by the Israeli-organized massacre in West Beirut. Some 15,000 Palestinians have been rounded up and are being held without charge in Israeli concentration camps. The PLO has been driven underground in most of Lebanon. Its leadership was forced out of Beirut and must now operate largely out of Syrian-controlled areas.

On top of these blows to the Palestinian struggle, there is an ongoing attempt to disperse and demoralize the Palestinian population. Dozens of Palestinians have been kidnapped and murdered by the rightist gangs armed and financed by Israel. Palestinian civilians continue to be arrested and carted off to concentration camps by Israeli occupation forces.

Meanwhile, Israeli settlers in the West Bank have more and more turned to the methods of terror being used by Begin in Lebanon. Kidnappings, beatings, shootings, and outright murder are being used by these fascist goons against an unarmed civilian population. An increasingly vocal and sizable segment of the Zionist settlers and their supporters in government are calling for the expulsion of several hundred thousand Palestinians as a means of breaking the resistance to Israeli colonization.

But such decisive steps could only be carried out in the context of a new Middle Eastern war. As far as the Israeli rulers are concerned, a new war is necessary precisely because the last one failed to accomplish their objective of finally breaking the resistance of the Palestinian people.

Even in Lebanon, where the Israeli government came the closest to accomplishing its aims, resistance continues. The authority of the rightist government installed under the guns of Israeli tanks hardly extends beyond the boundaries of Beirut. A general strike called to protest the anniversary of the Israeli invasion June 6 shut down the Muslim areas of Beirut along with Sidon and Tyre — the chief cities of southern Lebanon, both under Israeli occupation. The strike had this effect despite the fact that Israeli occupation forces arrested more than 200 people in the days leading up to it, accusing them of collaboration with the resistance.

While Beirut has been turned into an anchorage for the U.S. 6th Fleet and a base for U.S., French, Italian, and British ground troops, the imperialists have a long way to go before they turn Lebanon into a stable proimperialist enclave. This requires first of all the withdrawal of Syrian forces



PLO fighters in Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon. Above, PLO leader Yassir Arafat. Imperialists want to split and destroy the Palestinian movement. Big part of that effort is slander campaign painting Arafat as "sell-out" to U.S. and Israel.



Left, West Beirut after Israeli bombing. Above, protest in Israel against government's atrocities. Lebanon war deepened class divisions in Israel. Tel Aviv will pay even higher political price at home for next war against Arab people.

and the elimination of the PLO. Washington, which stood behind Begin's invasion of Lebanon, is continuing to back his course toward a new war. Immediately after the U.S.-sponsored agreement between the Israeli and Lebanese governments was reached in May, President Reagan announced plans to go ahead with the sale of 75 F-16 fighter planes to Israel.

Shortly before the agreement, a U.S. official was quoted in the April issue of *The Middle East* magazine as saying: "The Syrian troops will be out of Lebanon in six months. Either they will go in an orderly manner, or they will be carried out in Red Cross ambulances."

As the *London Times* commented June 1, Washington "has given the kind of signals which Israel has in the past interpreted as a green light for decisive military action."

Along with the direct military pressure being brought to bear against the PLO, Washington has orchestrated a political campaign against it. The Reagan plan, put forward in September, immediately after the PLO was forced to withdraw from West Beirut, demanded that the PLO abdicate its position as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and drop its struggle for an independent Palestinian state.

Virtually all sections of the PLO rejected these demands. Nevertheless, the imperialist media repeatedly claimed that various Palestinian leaders — PLO Chairman Yassir Arafat in particular — had secretly agreed to the Reagan plan, were about to agree to it, wanted to agree to it, were maneuvering in order to agree to it, etc. All the "inside dope" turned out to be false. The purpose was to sow distrust within the PLO and to attempt to split it.

Pressure from Arab regimes

Imperialist pressure against the PLO has also been exerted through various Arab regimes. Thus, after talks between Arafat and King Hussein broke off in mid-April, the Jordanian regime began tightening restrictions on residents of the West Bank who want to travel through Jordan or study or work there.

As one Palestinian journalist explained: "The Jordanians want to force either the PLO to make a deal, or the people on the West Bank to make a deal."

Another form of pressure has come from the more radical Arab regimes. The Baathist regimes in Iraq and Syria, and the Libyan government, all espouse an Arab nationalist ideology. Each of them claims to be acting in the interests not just of their own countries, but also of the Arab world as a whole. They attempt to claim leadership of Arab nationalist forces outside of their own countries on that basis.

The Nasser regime, which came to power in Egypt in the early 1950s, was the first example of such an Arab nationalist government which sought — and really did command — a mass following in the Arab world as a whole. The PLO was first set up in 1965 as a result of an initiative by Nasser, who intended to use the issue of Pales-

tine to advance his own political standing in the Arab world.

But following Nasser's disastrous showing in the June 1967 Mideast War, an independent mass movement developed among the Palestinian people. The Palestinian guerrilla organizations gained such authority that they were able to take over the PLO and turn it into a genuinely independent Palestinian organization, instead of an appendage of the Egyptian propaganda machine.

There is a fundamental class difference between any capitalist government — even one of a radical nationalist character that comes into sharp conflict with imperialism — and the PLO. The latter is not a bourgeois formation acting on behalf of a class of exploiters, but a revolutionary nationalist movement based on the Palestinian masses.

Continuing fight for independence

A permanent part of the PLO's struggle is its fight to maintain its organizational unity and political independence in the face of maneuvers and pressures from the various bourgeois nationalist Arab regimes as well as from imperialism. The Iraqi, Libyan, and Syrian governments are all able to intervene directly in the PLO through Palestinian organizations that support their policies and perspectives. The Iranian government has also been trying to organize a following among Palestinians and in the Arab world as a whole around its pan-Islamic perspective.

One result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the military defeat inflicted on the PLO has been to intensify the pressures coming from the Arab regimes, especially Syria. The PLO's loss of its base in Beirut and its areas of open operation in southern Lebanon have left it much more vulnerable to Syrian pressure.

It is in this context of the imperialist offensive and of pressure from various Arab regimes that the current factional struggle in Fatah — the largest by far of the guerrilla organizations making up the PLO — must be seen. The Syrian regime in particular is intervening in hopes of gaining

leverage within the PLO and restricting its independence.

Real differences within Fatah and the PLO as a whole certainly do exist. There has never been any secret about that. The existence of such differences is natural in an organization engaged in struggle and confronting real pressures and obstacles. It is inevitable and necessary that political questions and organizational problems will be debated within the Palestinian movement.

Whatever one's opinion of the particular points of view that are expressed by various fighters within the PLO, however, it is clear to its serious defenders that any move toward splitting the PLO poses a danger to the Palestinian movement.

Charges against Arafat

It is precisely in hopes of encouraging such a split that the imperialists have been making such a big deal about the conflicts in the PLO, featuring big headlines in their press, circulating all the accusations and rumors they can find, and making it appear as if the PLO is being torn apart.

The version that appears in the imperialist press is based on the accusation that PLO Chairman Yassir Arafat is in the process of abandoning the struggle for an independent Palestinian state, that his perspective now is to seek a compromise with imperialism based on the Reagan plan.

Such charges are manufactured anew at each stage in the unfolding events. Arafat, according to hundreds of articles that appeared in the imperialist press earlier this year, was planning to sign away the PLO's claim to represent the Palestinian people and its demand for an independent Palestinian state in negotiations with King Hussein. The fact that Arafat did no such thing hasn't stopped the imperialist media for one moment.

Thus, just the fact that Arafat agreed to negotiate at all with King Hussein is now presented as proof of his intentions to sell out the Palestinian struggle. But the abstract principle of "no negotiations" is not a revolutionary precept. There are no serious national liberation struggles where the relationship of forces is such that

negotiations are never necessary.

Similarly, Arafat is accused in the imperialist media of abandoning the perspective of armed struggle — at the same time, of course, that he continues to be vilified as a "terrorist." But the fact is that the level of sustained military activity by the PLO against Israeli forces has probably never been higher except during the first months of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Fatah leader Abu Jihad estimated in late May that his forces had carried out some 350 operations in the previous three months. These have been exacting a heavy toll on the Israeli army in Lebanon.

Still another claim bruited about in the imperialist media is that Arafat is planning to withdraw PLO forces from eastern Lebanon. Here again, no evidence is offered.

Those who oppose the attempts to split the PLO may well have different views on various issues that are raised within it. But all serious defenders of the PLO have rejected the imperialists' slander campaign and are opposed to any Syrian attempts to dictate the PLO's decisions.

Need for unity

According to the May 27 issue of the Palestinian weekly *Al Fajr*, those who have challenged Arafat "published a statement in Damascus, May 23, demanding reforms within the ranks of Fatah and refusing to relinquish their positions. Their demands included the return of all Palestinian fighters from exile to positions in the front lines; preparation of a military strategy for all Palestinian forces of which *al-Asifa* (Fatah's military wing) will be the nucleus; formation of a committee to administer the finances within Fatah organization, and a call for holding an extraordinary conference to deal with all problems."

According to *Al Fajr*, "PLO factions outside Fatah are working hard behind the scenes to resolve differences in Fatah. Leaders in the PLO's largest faction expressed gratitude at the actions of leadership of the other two main factions — the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]."

"DFLP leader Nayef Hawatmeh, in a Damascus press conference, May 23, and in response to a question about the mutiny, called for unity of the PLO and Fatah. He supported democratic reforms within the PLO and resistance factions, particularly to remove 'bureaucratic elements in the military' which are an 'obstacle to the revolutionary march' and inefficient militarily. He repeated, however, that any reforms should only be executed within a united Fatah and a united PLO."

"In the occupied territories leading personalities lined up to condemn attempts to divide Fatah and the PLO."

Similarly, in an interview with the United Arab Emirates newspaper *Al Khalij*, reported by Reuters June 3, Fatah leader Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) said of the revolt within Fatah: "I say again that all the demands are legitimate. Yet to go about it like this, especially at this particular time, is to fall into the designs of our enemies."

From *Intercontinental Press*

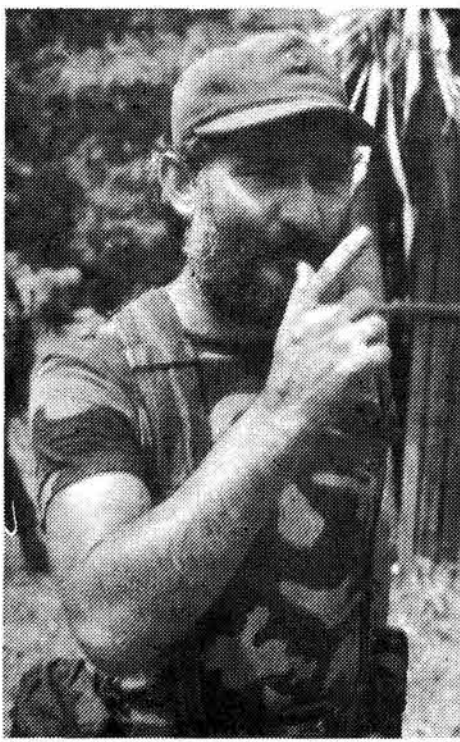
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By David Frankel and Will Reissner. The articles in this pamphlet explain the nature of Israel as a colonial-settler state, the character and history of the Palestinian struggle for self-determination, and the Marxist attitude toward the Palestine Liberation Organization. 46 pages, \$1.25.

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Turncoat Edén Pastora's supporters lobbied Washington not to cut off aid to CIA-backed invasion of Nicaragua.

Pastora forms open bloc with Somozaists against Nicaragua

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Costa Rica, Nicaragua's neighbor to the south, has become the second staging ground for the U.S.-organized war against the Sandinista revolution.

It was announced in the United States May 30 that Costa Rican civil guard forces have begun training at the U.S. Army's School of the Americas in Panama. And counterrevolutionaries based in Costa Rica have already opened a "southern front," beginning in mid-April.

Among the leaders of this military operation are ex-Sandinista Edén Pastora, millionaire and ex-Nicaraguan junta member Alfonso Robelo, and Brooklyn Rivera, a former leader of Nicaragua's Miskito Indians.

The three claim to be revolutionaries, based on the fact they all played some role

in bringing down the Somoza dictatorship.

Pastora in particular, in the year following his open break with the Sandinista leadership in March 1982, had sought to present himself internationally as a "more democratic alternative" to the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN). One, moreover, not tainted by any connection to the Somozaist National Guard.

He charged that other Sandinista leaders had turned the country over to Cuban-style "communism." He pledged to drive the Cubans out and return to the original Sandinista program, which in his version no longer includes such topics as anti-imperialism or land reform. And, he claimed, he would never collaborate with the National Guard.

But when Pastora, Robelo, and Rivera, along with several notorious right-wingers, banded together in the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE), their actions proved no different from those carried out by the ex-National Guardsmen operating out of Honduras under the name Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN).

In fact, there are increasing indications of collaboration between the two groups. After Robelo met with U.S. Undersecretary of State Thomas Enders in Washington April 29, White House spokesman Allan Romberg explained that Robelo had discussed Nicaraguans' "response to the FDN-ARDE group."

Robelo, when asked by reporters how he viewed the FDN, referred to them as "valiant patriots who are fighting for freedom." The April 29 *New York Times* quoted him as saying, "We cannot consider the F.D.N. our enemies."

The April 30 *Washington Post* reported that Robelo and Pastora no longer oppose CIA funding to the FDN, and a dispatch in the May 15 *Post* explained why: "Pastora has . . . begun receiving U.S. assistance through FDN supplies."

Nicaragua's head of State Security, Commander Lenin Cerna, explained the FDN-ARDE alliance this way in an interview with *Barricada Internacional* May 16: Pastora, as well as Robelo, has faced reality, Cerna said. "They have to survive and the only thing that can sustain them is precisely the CIA."

And the CIA, Cerna continued, "began to pressure them to ally with the Somozaists, independently of their personal ambitions."

"The revolution is consolidating more and more, and this forces Robelo and Pastora to negotiate with the CIA concerning their participation with the National Guardsmen."

Concretely this means ARDE's activities mirror those carried out by the FDN in the north. For example, some of the actions carried out by Pastora's group last month consisted of:

- Trying to ambush the car carrying the Sandinista regional secretary to May Day festivities in the southeast province of Río

San Juan — an action that did not succeed.

- Destroying a \$1 million boat given to peasants on Lake Nicaragua's Solentiname Island by trade unionists in West Germany.

- Killing 11 peasants in one attack, all members of the militia or mass organizations, and threatening some 20 families who do not support ARDE's actions.

Most of the attacks organized out of Costa Rica have taken place in Río San Juan, an extremely isolated area abandoned by the Somoza dictatorship.

Unlike the northern frontier, Río San Juan provides no mountains for the counterrevolutionaries to hide in.

Because of these unfavorable geographic conditions, the ARDE forces are trying to move northeast into the town of Nueva Guinea, where they hope to take the only highway in the region. To do this means acquiring a broad base of support to feed and protect them, which they do not have.

One of the counterrevolution's supporters who was working on building these contacts over the last three months, a Spanish priest by the name of Timoteo Merino, was recently expelled from Nicaragua.

Costa Rica, which formerly enjoyed the nickname "Switzerland of Central America," has been far from impartial in aiding the counterrevolution.

While Nicaraguans estimate counterrevolutionaries in the south to be between 500 and 700, Costa Rican officials say the figure is 1,200. Yet they have expelled only three from their territory.

Sandinista leaders have provided the Costa Rican government with ample proof of the existence of at least 12 counterrevolutionary camps, along with their exact location. Yet none have been broken up.

Instead, the Costa Rican civil guard captured two Sandinista soldiers, claiming they had stepped onto Costa Rican territory, and held them for over a week.

Some Costa Rican peasants captured by the Sandinistas have reported they were offered as much as 5,000 colones [US\$1 = 40 colones] to fight for the ARDE.

Some prisoners have said their orders in Costa Rica were to kill Cuban, Soviet, and Bulgarian communists. When they crossed the border, they found the killing was indiscriminate.

While casualty figures in the north are still much higher (at least 600 Nicaraguans killed since January), the number of those killed or wounded in the south is mounting steadily.

On June 4 two battalions of Sandinista Youth members who had been fighting first in the north and then in the south returned to Managua, 38 fewer in number.

One professor at the National University here told the *Militant* her classes had been cancelled all week. As the "news poured in of different student leaders killed in combat," she explained, the outraged campus could not carry on with classes as usual.

Salvadoran garment worker speaks in southern U.S.

BY SUSIE WINSTEN

ATLANTA — Sonia Galán, a leader of the National Federation of Salvadoran Workers' Unions (FENASTRAS), was warmly received when she spoke before unions and civil rights organizations during a tour of Alabama and Georgia May 20-25.

The International Molders' and Allied Workers' Union Local 256 in Birmingham organized a special meeting to hear Galán. It was attended by 40 workers — almost a third of the membership. Local 256 has been on strike against the concession demands of Thomas Foundries for over a month.

In her presentation, Galán detailed the wholesale assault by the Salvadoran dictatorship against working people. Wages have been frozen since 1980. Unions are outlawed, while torture is legal. Strikes have been broken by government troops and many union leaders tortured, murdered or imprisoned. In spite of this, tens of thousands of unionists have participated in strikes in the past year.

Sonia Galán was herself a victim of the government's repression. A 25-year-old sewing machine operator, she helped form a garment workers union (CIRCASA) while working at a North American-owned Levi factory in San Salvador. In a subsequent strike she was elected to the negotiating committee. Because of this, Galán was repeatedly fired from her job and her life was threatened by the National Guard, forcing her to leave El Salvador in 1981.

"Military aid, which comes from the taxes of American workers and from the cuts in social programs, is being sent by the U.S. government to exterminate the people of El Salvador," Galán explained to the Molders. "It's the children of poor and working people in the United States, not the children of the rich, who will be sent to fight and die if your government invades my country."

She went on to explain that those fighting the dictatorship have proposed an unconditional dialogue with the Salvadoran government to achieve a political solution to the conflict. "But the first person to oppose this," she added, "was President Reagan."

"If it weren't for U.S. aid to the dictatorship, we would have found a solution already and would no longer be at war. And that is why we need worldwide solidarity, but particularly from working people in the United States. Through the pressure you can put on the U.S. government, you can influence foreign policy, demand an end to military aid and freedom for political prisoners, and insist that human rights in El Salvador be respected."

After the meeting, unionists lined up to sign a petition to free imprisoned Salvadoran union leaders. Several asked what more they could do to help.

Galán also received an enthusiastic reception at a Columbus, Georgia, member-

ship meeting of Local 1855 of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU). Nick Builder, manager of ACTWU's Central Alabama-Georgia Joint Board, introduced her.

"Sonia Galán has come here to tell us about the conditions working people in her country face," he explained, "and to urge opposition to U.S. intervention in her country."

Builder added that Galán's employer at the unorganized Los Angeles garment shop where she worked wouldn't even give her a few days off so she could make this tour. But, he said, "when given the choice between keeping her job and coming here to speak in defense of her union brothers and sisters in El Salvador, she chose the latter. And that makes Sonia Galán a real union person."

The 30 ACTWU members present contributed generously in a collection. Several spoke to Galán after the meeting to express their concern for her personal safety and for that of her family still in El Salvador.

Galán also spoke before International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 528 and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1644, both in Atlanta. The AFSCME Executive Board pledged a contribution to the work of FENASTRAS.

The Atlanta chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party hosted a solidarity meeting for the Salvadoran unionist at which representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the American Indian Movement gave greetings. Galán also addressed the local membership meeting of Operation Push. After her presentation, a PUSH leader gave an appeal for funds. He noted that the government still seeks to divide English-speaking Black people from Spanish-speaking Brown people and that PUSH is very concerned about the growing U.S. war danger in Central America.

Two prominent churches in the Black community — St. Joseph's Baptist in Birmingham and Ebenezer Baptist in Atlanta — were the sites for public meetings at which Galán spoke.

In his welcoming remarks, Ebenezer's associate pastor, Rev. Timothy McDonald, pointed to Martin Luther King's opposition to the Vietnam War. He expressed his confidence that if King were alive, he would be present at meetings such as that one to express his opposition to a new Vietnam in El Salvador.

The sponsors of Galán's Alabama-Georgia tour included: Nick Builder; William Patterson, international representative, ACTWU; Rev. Fred Taylor, director, Chapters and Affiliates, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); Rev. Abraham Woods, president, Birmingham SCLC; Father Jerry Conroy, Glenmary Mission; Jorge Lara-Braud, director, Theology and Culture, Presbyterian Center; Birmingham Committee in Solidarity with Central America; and Atlanta Committee on Latin America.

Protests erupt in Costa Rica over high utility rates

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — As the Costa Rican government collaborates more openly with Washington's accelerating war in Central America, it is coming under increasing fire at home for placing the burden of the economic crisis on the shoulders of those least able to pay.

Barricades went up in 36 neighborhoods, mostly in the capital of San José, June 7, in protest of a 70 percent hike in electricity rates. The new increase came on top of increases totaling 300 percent in the last year.

The barricades remained in place for nearly 60 hours, isolating several cities. Widespread support for the protests forced the government to rescind the latest hike.

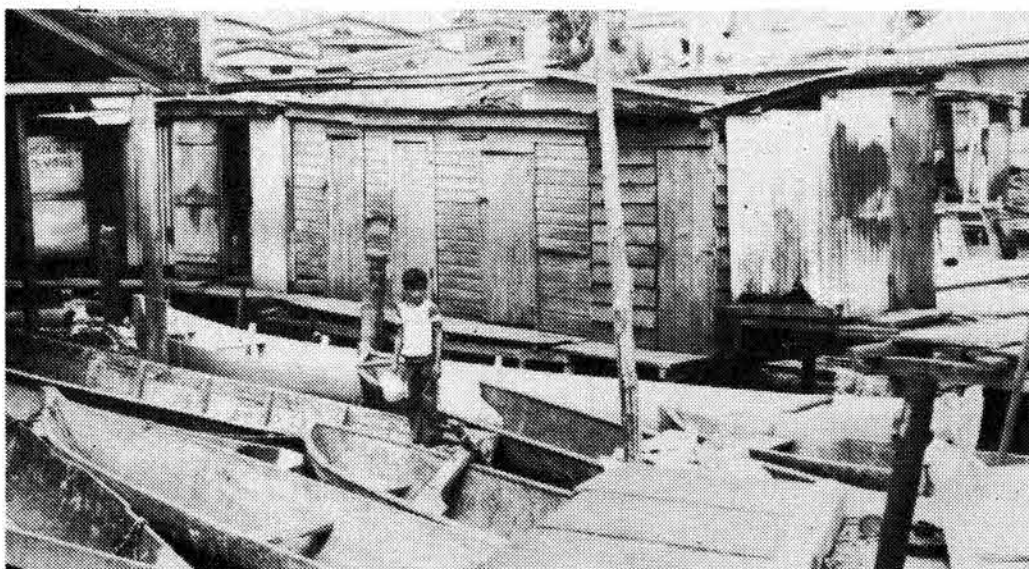
In addition, the government agreed to include, for the first time, utility bills in the basket of goods and services whose prices

are used to determine cost-of-living increases in wage contracts. Small businesses are to be billed at a new, lower rate.

The electricity increases were the straw that broke the camel's back. Even official government figures show that skyrocketing inflation over the last few years has increased the number of families living below the poverty level from 25 percent in 1977 to 71 percent in 1982.

Revolutions in Central America and the Caribbean

Don't go looking in the capitalist press for the truth about Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada. It isn't there. It is, however, in the *Militant*. See the ad on page 2 for subscription rates.



Russell Johnson

Overcoming poverty imposed by imperialism is major goal of Nicaraguan government in Bluefields.

Sandinista leader discusses problems of Atlantic Coast

Challenge to Nicaraguan revolution

BY JANE HARRIS

BLUEFIELDS, Nicaragua — "It's not easy," Ray Hooker told us here in Nicaragua's largest city on the Atlantic Coast. "You see, revolution is a very difficult thing."

Over the course of a two-and-a-half-hour discussion with 40 North American socialists in late February, this is what Sandinista leader Ray Hooker, a member of the South Zelaya regional government, stressed foremost: winning support to the revolution on Nicaragua's isolated Atlantic Coast takes patience, flexibility, conviction, and time.

Zelaya, while the most sparsely populated (200,000 of Nicaragua's population of 2.9 million), is the largest of 16 provinces, accounting for over half the area of the country. By and large, most who live in the province played no role in the July 1979 revolution that overthrew ex-dictator Anastasio Somoza.

By the time the socialists arrived in Bluefields, they were keenly aware of one of the chief problems here — the isolation and tremendous distance from Managua. Just to get to Bluefields, it had taken the group a five-hour bus ride and a four-hour boat ride.

As they walked up the dock, they were struck by the contrast from Nicaragua's Pacific Coast. Bluefields has much more in common with the Caribbean. Many people — including Ray Hooker — speak English as their first language.

Spanish, British domination

The isolation the Atlantic Coast is beginning to emerge from today began with the arrival of the British in 1631. The British aim during the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries was to weaken the Spanish empire, which at that time ruled Nicaragua's Pacific Coast.

Unlike the Spaniards who exterminated most of the Indian population, the British policy was to use the indigenous peoples to establish trade, fish for them, and fight for the British empire.

The British taught the native population to hate the Spaniards. And likewise the Spaniards on the Pacific Coast taught the people there to hate the native peoples of the Atlantic Coast.

"We had two European powers teaching the local populations to hate one another," explains Hooker, a native of Bluefields and a graduate of the local Moravian high school.

Before 1894, when U.S. troops and warships came to help the government on the Pacific Coast incorporate the Atlantic Coast into Nicaragua, the Atlantic Coast was to a certain extent governed by some of its own traditions and customs.

Not only did the *Costeños* (people of the Atlantic Coast) lose their traditions and customs, but they came to lose nearly all their natural resources through the virtual rape of the Atlantic Coast by U.S. business interests.

Standard Fruit was given *carte blanche* to clear-cut timber, and over the years they succeeded in converting Nicaragua's once rich northeast forest to a grassland.

The small country of Nicaragua became one of the 10 greatest gold producers in the world by the '40s and '50s. "But," says Hooker, "if you go to the mining region now, what do you find? You don't find anything. That is, you'll find equipment that is obsolete, you'll find shantytowns, ghost towns to a great extent, and you'll find lots of people sick with tuberculosis,

sick with silicosis."

Fishing companies (U.S. and Somoza-owned) were established to export shrimp and lobster to the U.S. market. For every pound of shrimp caught, many pounds more of other fish were caught. Yet because they were interested only in the export market, the fishing companies ordered the fishermen to dump the other species back into the water, systematically depriving the *Costeños* of an important source of protein in their diet.

During this time practically no schools or hospitals existed. Contact with the outside world was extremely difficult, Hooker reminded us.

Divide and conquer

"What Somoza did was maintain the mutual isolation," he said, "keeping the Atlantic isolated from the Pacific. His idea was divide and conquer. He didn't interfere with drug smugglers or users. Eventually the Atlantic Coast became a center for international drug traffic."

"So, after the triumph in July 1979, to a certain extent, this [the Atlantic Coast] was a mess," Hooker told the group. "What happened?"

"People from the Atlantic belonged to different cultures — the Miskitos, the Sumus, the Ramas, the Caribs, the English-speaking population. On the Pacific basically you have a Spanish-speaking population."

"Two populations, people who knew very little about one another. Now where there's very little knowledge, that's how mistakes are made. If you're going to govern a region, you have to understand that region; you must understand that culture."

"And this lack of understanding, this lack of mutual knowledge, has created problems that even today we are still trying to solve."

One important problem is increasing the *Costeños'* understanding of how the U.S. companies destroyed the coast, says Hooker.

Imperialist exploitation

"The type of contract the companies had with the national government was one in which they were able to bring any amount of foreign beer, liquor, foreign goods into the country without paying any kind of taxes. Each of these companies made sure they had well-stocked commissaries, the equivalent of your supermarkets, functioning in these areas. So what happened?"

"The salaries the employees made returned right back to the foreign company. They brought in things such as American yellow cheese and lots of canned goods, which we're not accustomed to. Here we had our people with Pabst Blue Ribbon beer, Schlitz — which was famous in those days — Budweiser and things like this. And what did they leave for the people?"

"You go and you look in the north and you'll find nothing. When the trees were exterminated, the companies packed up and left. So now our people are left without their trees, their forest, which was the traditional source of food for them. Because in many cases they depended upon hunting for a source of their livelihood. But when the trees were cut down, the animals also disappeared."

"But you'll find a number of the older generation who will say 'Oh, if only another company would come to Nicaragua.' The tragedy of the situation is that they have never really understood what was happening, what was being done to

their livelihood, that the future generation was being endangered, that their children were being endangered, that every bottle of whiskey they consumed meant less for their own children."

A factor that complicated this task was the fact that after the 1979 triumph, Sandinista leaders, unfamiliar with the full scope of imperialist devastation of the region, made unrealistic projections about how fast economic improvement could be brought about.

"If you're going to make this land productive," Hooker explained, "the coconuts are going to take eight years. The African Palm another eight to nine years. To really change the fishing industry, these things take time."

"So when you go immediately after the triumph promising all these things soon, you're creating expectations that you cannot fulfill. And you not only create expectations you cannot fulfill, but you're laying the groundwork for future antagonisms."

"These have been some of the difficult situations through which this revolution has gone. And the lack of knowledge of some leaders of the revolution of some cultures on the Atlantic Coast compounded the situation."

Given the wealth of problems inherited by the current government, one socialist was curious to know what Hooker considered the short-, medium-, and long-range goals of the South Zelaya regional government to be.

"We're trying to satisfy the basic needs of the people," Hooker began. "That's our short-term objective." Sufficient, nourishing, inexpensive food, adequate clothing, housing, educational opportunities for the entire region, and health care were the items that Hooker listed as these basic needs.

To provide this, he explained, each region in Zelaya is trying to grow more basic foodstuffs locally, to save some of the high transportation costs of bringing in food from the Pacific Coast.

In terms of medium-range goals, Hooker explained the government was on a crash program to get technicians and professionals trained. He said this could take eight years or so — five years of college and three years of practical experience, because after a student "gets out of the university he still doesn't know anything." Hooker said their experts would need the experience of everyday living before they could really be said to have acquired some knowledge.

This goal is critical for the area as many professionals have left the country. As Hooker described them, "These are people who want to make money out of the skills they acquired through education. Well, if you're working in revolutionary Nicaragua — no — you're definitely not going to get rich in terms of material benefits or salary. In terms of conviction, yes. In terms of self-satisfaction, yes. Here there's lots of wealth to be acquired, but if you want greenbacks, you're not going to get those things."

Agricultural projects

In terms of long-range goals he stressed the planting of perennial crops, which are more suited to the Atlantic Coast where there is 10 months of rainfall each year.

To this end, he said, they'd already begun planting 8,650 acres of coconut and 47,710 acres of African Palm. However these trees will need to grow eight to nine years before they will bear fruit. Yet once

they begin to do so, they will continue for 75 to 80 years.

Other goals include:

- Transforming Bluefields' neighboring harbor, El Bluff, into Nicaragua's most important port, reducing the Pacific Coast's need to use expensive passage through the Panama Canal for trade with Europe and the United States.

- A highway system with routes connecting Managua with two cities of the Atlantic Coast, Puerto Cabezas and Bluefields.

- Modernizing the fishing industry for internal and external consumption.

- Reforestation.

- High school scholarships for those from small towns where none exists.

And lastly Hooker said, "In terms of values we are trying to get the present, the younger generation, and the coming generation to value very dearly every other human being, to respect tremendously the rights and privileges of every other human being."

"We're trying to instill in them a pattern of behavior where if they have any more talents than their neighbor, they'll use that capacity in order to help others instead of themselves. But again," Hooker reminded us, "it's not an easy thing."

The Nicaraguan revolution has had some special problems on the Atlantic Coast. Because of the scope of these difficulties, solving the Atlantic Coast's problems is a priority for the revolution as a whole — not just the regional governments of the coast.

A few examples include:

- Building an all-weather road linking Managua to Puerto Cabezas in the northeast Atlantic Coast. This became the largest single construction project in Nicaragua after the triumph in 1979. Next will be a road linking Bluefields with Managua. Building highways on the Atlantic Coast is three times more expensive than on the Pacific Coast because of the rainfall.

- Visits to doctors have increased 400 percent since the revolution triumphed. Bluefields' hospital, which used to be open only four to five hours a day, is now open 24 hours a day. A new hospital is being built in Bluefields. The current hospital will most likely be turned into a polyclinic.

- Miners who were fired by U.S. companies for having tuberculosis now receive monthly pensions.

At the same time, it is evident that the regional government has taken a flexible approach toward adapting the mass organizations that exist on the Pacific Coast to the different needs and traditions on the Atlantic Coast.

Referring to the Sandinista Defense Committees (block associations on the Pacific Coast), Hooker said, "What we're finding is that some of the things that work on the Pacific Coast won't work on the Atlantic Coast. We're coming to the conclusion that we must identify spontaneous situations in the different communities that are of interest to most members of the community and work with the people from these communities to try to find solutions to the problems of the communities."

"But if we go to the communities and we try to impose patterns that are alien to them, then we don't get any results," he explained.

Later in our discussion, referring to the changes in the government here since the revolution, Hooker told us, "In a revolution, you have some things being done by trial and error. It's not always the best and scientific approach. But sometimes it has to be."

THE GREAT SOCIETY

Logistical problem — A Pentagon official said 50,000 more troops would be needed to operate the new ships, planes, tanks, and other weapons authorized by Congress during the past two years.



Harry Ring

But we're all equal — A New York caterer will do a beach-style

clambake on your terrace. The menu features steamed clams, lobster, chicken, sausage, corn, potatoes and onions. A minimum of 40 guests are required at \$23 per head. Meanwhile, the Reagan administration has proposed slicing another \$400 million from the school lunch program.

March of theology (I) — Computers are reportedly playing an increasing role in religion. Like the members of one spiritually oriented group who link up for "attunement" sessions. When you feel properly attuned, you simply punch the "return" button.

March of theology (II) — The pastor of a Catholic church in Granville, New York, keeps a computerized file of all known invalid marriages in the area, plus a listing of those known to be dwelling together without benefit of clergy. He doesn't need the list himself, he explains, but keeps it current in case he gets transferred to a new parish or checks out.

Homey — If you need a place to crash in New York, check out the Nova-Park Gotham. Like, the presidential suite — \$1,750 a night — including kitchen, study, conference room, security operations

room, and bulletproof windows throughout. The owner says he's psychologically oriented and feels hotels should create a mood of happiness.

Flexible — "Some people say they're uncomfortable taking honorariums. I'm uncomfortable taking campaign contributions. Well, I compromise: I take both." — Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, who took \$135,750 in honoraria last year.

Value judgment? — A New York Times headline advises: "Illegal dumping of toxic waste laid

to organized crime." We assume they're referring to Big Biz.

No silver lining — "No snow means no skiers, and no skiers mean no ski injuries and no ski injuries mean fewer paying patients." — *American Medical News* explaining why the past mild winter was the peg for a 10 percent wage cut at a New Hampshire hospital.

It took two months? — "Officer testifies he turned thief on joining forces — Says he started stealing within two months" — New York headline.

CALENDAR

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Black Freedom Struggle in South Africa. Speaker: Darryl Turner. Sat., June 18, 7:30 p.m. 205 18th St. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (205) 323-3079.

ARIZONA

Tucson

Stop the Deportations: Rally for Héctor Marroquín. Speakers: Héctor Marroquín; Jesús Romo, Arizona Farmworkers Union; Rev. T. Ellsworth Gantt, Mt. Calvary Missionary Church; Rev. John Fife, Southside Presbyterian Church; others. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 24, 7:30 p.m. Southside Presbyterian Church, 317 W 23 St. Ausp: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (602) 622-3880.

CALIFORNIA

San Diego

Nicaragua and the Defense of the Revolution. Speakers: Virginia Garza, Socialist Workers Party delegate to recent Nicaraguan women's conference for peace. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 25, 7:30 p.m. 1053 15th St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (619) 234-4630.

San Francisco

Nicaragua Under Attack. Speakers: Virginia Garza, recently attended women's conference for peace held in Managua, Nicaragua; Marilee Taylor, member of Young Socialist Alliance and International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, just returned from Nicaragua. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 18, 8 p.m. 3284 23rd St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Pat Wright for Mayor Committee. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

Chile: the Current Workers Upsurge. Speakers: Amador Aguila, Chilean refugee; representative, *Perspectivas*, a magazine specializing in news about Chile. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 24, 8 p.m. 3284 23rd St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Pat Wright for Mayor Committee. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

Reconstruction and Defense in Nicaragua Today. A slide show and talk by Marilee Taylor, member of Young Socialist Alliance and International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, just returned from Nicaragua. Presentation and discussion in Spanish. Sat., June 25, 7 p.m. 820 Treat St., Apt. 6. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Automation and Unemployment. A panel discussion with Rand Wilson, union organizer; Kip Hedges, member of International Union of Electrical Workers Local 201; others. Sun., June 19, 7:30 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave., Kenmore T stop. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

MISSOURI

St. Louis

Peace Conference to Mobilize Participation in August 27 March. Panels and workshops. Keynote speakers: Dessima Williams, Grenada's ambassador to Organization of American States; Rev. Sterling Lands, president, Missouri Association for Nonviolent Social Change in America (ANSCA). Sat., June 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kingdom House, 1321 S 11th St. Donation: \$3. For more information call ANSCA, (314) 721-2332.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

The Fight Against Racist Attacks. Speakers: Dennis Dixon, victim of racist attack and eyewitness to last year's murder of Willie Turks in Brooklyn, member of Committee for Justice for Willie Turks and Transport Workers Union Local 100; representative of Newark NAACP; Wells Todd, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. Donation: \$2. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

Speakout Against Dioxin. Speakers to be announced. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Lessons of the Chicago Election: What Harold Washington's Victory Means for Working People. Speaker: Ed Warren, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor in recent Chicago election. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 17, 7 p.m. 79 Leonard St. (5 blocks south of Canal). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445 or 852-7922.

Honor the Memory of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg. 30th commemorative year of the tragic execution June 19, 1953. Demonstration at U.S. Court House. Fri., June 17, noon to 2 p.m. Foley Sq. Memorial meeting, Fri., June 17, 7:30 p.m. Ethical Culture Society, 2 W 64

St. Ausp: National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case. For more information call (212) 228-4500.

Struggle for Freedom in South Africa Today. David Ndaba, representative, African National Congress. Fri., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Brooklyn and Manhattan Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445 or 852-7922.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro

Rally to Stop U.S. War in Central America: Fight Against Attacks on Workers, Blacks, and Women. Grand opening of Militant Labor Bookstore. Speakers: Irvin Brisson, president, Morningside Homes Resident Council; Irv Joyner, civil rights attorney, defended Wilmington 10; Andrew Mitchell, chairman, Stokes County NAACP; representative of General Union of Palestine Students; representative of Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., June 25; reception, 6:30 p.m.; rally, 7:30 p.m. 1400 Greenwood Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Bookstore. For more information call (919) 272-5996.

Labor's Strategic Line of March: Revolutionary Continuity in the U.S. A class series. 1) "Building the industrial unions," Sat., June 25, 2 p.m. 2) "Independent working-class political action," Sun., June 26, 10 a.m. 3) "Building a revolutionary party." Speaker: Dick McBride, member of Transport Workers Union Local 100 and National Committee of Socialist Workers Party. Sun., June 26, 1 p.m. 1400 Greenwood Ave. Donation: \$1 per class. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (919) 272-5996.

OREGON

Portland

What Strategy for Lesbian and Gay Liberation? Speakers: Dennis Peterson, Lesbian and Gay Pride 1983 Steering Committee; Renee La Chance, editor of *Cascade Voice*; Jaime Partridge, participant in early Portland gay rights groups; others. Sun., June 19, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

Poetry and Social Protest. Speaker: Jerry Baum, professor of English at Lewis and Clark College. Sun., June 26, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg

Poland: An Eyewitness Report. Hear two

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Stop U.S. Intervention in Central America. Wabun Inini (Vernon Bellecourt), leader of American Indian Movement; Alejandra Rivera, Salvadoran Refugees for Peace and Justice. Fri., June 24, 7:30 p.m. Cannery Workers Union Hall, 213 S Main. Donation: \$2.50. Ausp: Vernon Bellecourt Tour Committee.

Endorsers: Salvadoran Refugees for Peace and Justice; Committee in Solidarity With the People of El Salvador; Guatemalan Solidarity Committee; Friends of AMES (Women's Association of El Salvador); National Lawyers Guild; Veterans for Nonintervention in Central America; CORECH (Chilean refugee organization); Students Against U.S. Intervention in El Salvador; Socialist Workers Party; Santiago Juarez, immigration lawyer; Seattle Reproductive Rights Alliance; Union of Democratic Filipinos.

socialist activists recently returned from Poland. Speakers: Katherine Sojourner and Clemens Bak. Wed., June 29, 7 p.m. 803 N 2nd St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (717) 234-5052.

Philadelphia

Women in Nicaragua. Speaker: Katy Carlin, Socialist Workers candidate for city council at-large, member of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, recently returned from Nicaragua. Slide show. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 18, 7 p.m. 5811 N Broad St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 927-4747.

Pittsburgh

U.S. Hands off Central America! Jobs Not War! Socialist Campaign Rally. Speakers: Al Duncan, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Allegheny County Commissioner; Kathy Mickells, SWP candidate for Washington County Commissioner. Sat., June 18; reception, 7 p.m.; rally, 8 p.m. 141 S. Highland Ave. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Western Pennsylvania Socialist Workers Campaign Committee.

TEXAS

San Antonio

Ireland: England's Vietnam — Eyewitness Report. Speaker: John Flannery, San Antonio supporter of Irish Republican Army, recently returned from Northern Ireland. Translation to Spanish. Fri., June 17, 8 p.m. 337 W Josephine St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (512) 736-9218.

UTAH

Salt Lake City

Defend Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos. Speaker: Georges Sayad, Young Socialist Alliance National Committee. Fri., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 677 S 700 E. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Direct From Nicaragua: Nicaraguan Women's Association. Speakers: Ivón Siú, director of international relations for Nicaraguan Women's Association (AMNLAE); Zulema Baltodano, leader of AMNLAE. Tues., June 21, 7:30 p.m. Bloedel Hall, St. Marks Cathedral, 1245 10th East. Ausp: El Centro de la Raza. For more information call (206) 329-2974.

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What the revolution has meant for Cuban dance

BY FRANK BOEHM

The U.S. propaganda pack, headed by Reagan, has become increasingly shrill in its denunciations of Cuba.

In recent pronouncements in Miami and Washington, Reagan, the ringmaster of terror in Central America, has grotesquely assailed "terrorism and repression" in Cuba.

But as a visitor to Cuba, talking with ordinary Cubans, observing life, and researching the dance, which is an important part of Cuban culture, I found the Cuban reality to be the exact opposite of the picture presented by Reagan and company.

The arts, like the children, do not lie. Cuban dance is exploding with excitement, achievement, innovation, creativity, and growth. There is also meticulous attention to the correct preservation of the best of the past, in both classical ballet and the dances and rituals of the African slaves.

I asked choreographers — those who create ballets — what the revolution has meant for dance. Alberto Méndez of Alicia Alonso's internationally acclaimed Ballet Nacional de Cuba is considered one of the best of the young choreographers. The revolution brought him to dance. He explained that the revolution meant creative freedom. Complete freedom to search, probe, and express. And free access, he added, to the resources needed to bring a creation to life.

Creative freedom, he observed, is a bad joke when there are no tools, no money, no space, no trained talent, no stage, no audience.

Eduardo Rivera Walker, a choreographer for the Danza Nacional de Cuba (DNC), Cuba's modern dance company, considered the question about the impact of the revolution on Cuban dance. He clasped one large black hand over the opposite

wrist, gesturing confinement, and asserted in his lilting Jamaican accent, "We could not create in this kind of atmosphere. Creativity requires freedom." He released his wrist, "And we have it."

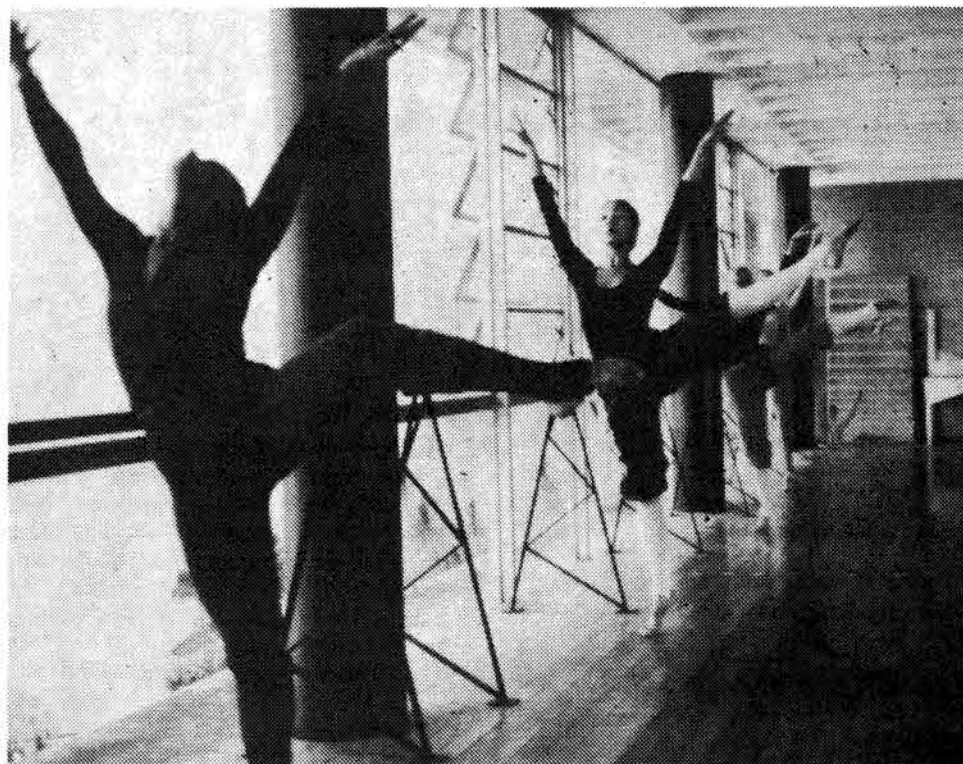
A distinctly Cuban ballet

One of the most astounding artistic achievements in Cuba is the development of a distinctly Cuban school of classical ballet. The best works in the classical repertoire — *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Les Sylphides*, *La Fille mal gardée* — have been restaged. Detailed attention has been given to proper style — the exact tilt of the torso, placement of the head, movement of the arms (*porte de bras*), and character of the steps. And in a unique contribution, the Cubans have taken great care to research the historical and social settings of the classics in order to better understand their meaning as well as the social relations among the characters.

And they are developing complete characterizations for each role on stage so that each dancer has a history and well-defined relationship to the other dancers in the ballet's story. It is a theatrical approach that deepens the interpretation of the work and each performer's role in it.

To all of this they bring a distinctly Cuban musicality, sensuality, and legato. The results are highly dramatic. The performance of *Swan Lake* I saw by the Ballet Nacional reflected the success. The performance itself and the genuine adulation of the audience was deeply moving.

Expressing the new while preserving and enriching the best of the past is the approach of the Cuban school of modern dance as well. Martha Graham's style of modern dance was brought to Cuba by



Militant/Frank Boehm

Morning class at Danza Nacional de Cuba, Cuba's modern dance school.

U.S. dancers, though their work was sporadic and isolated before the revolution. Graham's weighty angularity was softened, given Cuban rhythms and a sensuous torso movement. It is an electrifying combination.

The Danza Nacional de Cuba has a diverse repertoire of abstract works as well as ones exploring Cuba's African and Spanish heritage and political and social themes. One work, *Panorama*, by DNC chief choreographer Ramon Cuéllar, shows the history of dance in Cuba from the rituals of African slaves, to Spanish court dances, to the combination of African and Spanish in uniquely Cuban dances — the cha-cha and rumba — and full circle to the current free form rock dancing of the youth.

It is an artistic triumph and a rich example of the care taken to explore the past and understand it better through artistic expression.

Folkloric ensembles

The conjuntos folklóricos are the most popular and accessible dance groups in Cuba. There are numerous professional ensembles, the best being in Santiago de Cuba and Havana. Their job is to preserve and bring to life the rituals and dances of the Cuban people. A national study continues to research and revive authentic dances, rituals, and instruments.

The folkloric performance I saw on a farm near Santa María was an exciting combination of percussion, chanting, dance, and ritual, telling of Yoruba gods and myths. I couldn't help but note that in the U.S. our rich tradition of folk dance, from Native American to tap and Appalachian clogging, is all but ignored by the cultural establishment, let alone studied, taught, preserved, and formed into professional performing companies.

These vibrant developments in Cuban dance are in contrast to general developments in the United States. While the technical virtuosity of U.S. dancers makes gains that parallel advances in computer technology, a complementary coldness and alienation dominate post-war works. The classics have suffered as well from inattention to detail of style and historical ignorance. And much of recent social dancing, I think, has degenerated to robotic, disjointed and, at times, violent indulgences.

The extensive efforts to educate and involve Cubans in dance is also in striking contrast to the United States. Famous artists from the major professional companies conduct lecture-demonstrations in workplaces, fields, army bases, and neighborhoods. Workers, peasants, or soldiers who decide to form dance groups are given teachers to train them and prepare performances. Laura Alonso, an important figure in Cuban ballet and considered one of the best coaches in the world, spends one night each week training children who are either mentally or physically impaired. The "psycho-ballet" classes are remarkable to observe and have proven successful in helping youngsters cope and improve.

Casas de la cultura exist in every community and offer free classes in ballet, modern, and folk dance as well as other disciplines to children, teenagers, and adults.

The Marianao Casa de la Cultura near

Havana is a large, open, brightly painted building with murals. At 8:30 in the evening, it was alive with activity. The director explained the purpose of the *casas* was twofold: to encourage participation in cultural life among the people, and to develop intelligent spectators. The *casas* discover and promote talent with the aim of returning that talent to the community to deepen the overall work. The plan, it was explained, is to eventually have a *casa de la cultura* in each neighborhood.

A devotion to teaching

Giving back that which you have learned was a constant theme. At the Marianao Casa I watched a mime class of deaf-mutes taught by an excellent young mime who resigned from a national mime group in order to devote himself to teaching.

In Cuba it is considered an honor and duty to teach, to return that which you have mastered and nurtured. In the United States we have a saying summing up the cynical attitude that is encouraged: "Those who can, do; those who can't, teach."

In addition to the municipal *casas* there are provincial art schools for talented children, and the famous national art school, the Cubanacán, that provides the youthful talent that nurtures the professional companies as well as providing dancers for opera, musical theater, television, and nightclubs. Efforts to keep people abreast of dance news include an hour-long weekly radio show, a monthly dance magazine, and television programs.

The sum of all this was noted by Walter Terry, the U.S. dance critic and historian: "Today there are two superstars in Cuba, both known to 8 million Cubans by their first names: Fidel! Alicia!"

The dancers themselves are like dancers everywhere . . . almost. They are dedicated, proficient, and work hard. But they also participate in guard duty at the ballet schools and contribute their spare time to volunteer work. I was impressed by the long list of names at the Ballet Nacional headquarters on a sign-up sheet for 6 a.m. Sunday morning work.

At the end of my two weeks I had a talk with Alicia Alonso. She was curious about my impressions. Openness. Warmth. Humanity. It was overwhelming. The next day I was in Miami and the following day in New York City. I was startled by the stores with merchandise overflowing onto the sidewalks. But it was a jolting reminder of the harshness of capitalist society to see the man on the sidewalk in Columbus Circle next to a hand-lettered sign that said, "I am starving. Please help."

I found myself instinctively looking away from a cop's stare, and passing the beggars that seem to be everywhere now.

As I observed the city's poverty — and related wealth — I was reminded that this is what Reagan and American capitalism are determined to defend and preserve, by any means necessary.

And I thought again of Cuba. Of the warmth, humanity, and excitement of artistic creation, the product of a society pointing the way forward for humanity.

Frank Boehm is a Chicago jazz dance choreographer, dancer, and teacher.

30th anniversary of July 26 to be celebrated in New York

BY WAYNE HIEBER

NEW YORK — Orquesta Aragón, the most famous musical group in Cuba, will be performing in New York on Friday, July 15. The group will lead a program celebrating the 30th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada military garrison in Santiago de Cuba on July 26, 1953. Led by Fidel Castro, this action marked the beginning of the mass struggle that resulted in the overthrow in 1959 of the U.S.-backed Batista dictatorship.

This date is the major national holiday of the year in Cuba. Each year solidarity committees in U.S. cities organize events to mark the anniversary.

This year's 30th anniversary occurs at a critical juncture. The workers and farmers of Central America and the Caribbean are making historic advances that are changing the course of history. At the same time, the U.S. government is involved in an escalating military interventionist campaign to turn back the hands of time. Part of this war drive is a hate campaign against the revolution in Cuba, as well as Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Grenada.

To ensure the largest turnout of people to repudiate the Reagan administration's warmongering, anti-Cuba campaign, planning for the 30th anniversary in New York began months ago. A broad coalition has been involved in the preparatory work. Efforts have been made by all groups involved to avoid scheduling events in the Northeast that would conflict with the celebration.

The event will be held at the Beacon Theater at 74th Street and Broadway in Manhattan. Two shows are scheduled — 7:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. The theater seats 2,600 people. In addition to the Orquesta Aragón, the program will include Caridad Cuervo, a popular salsa star from Cuba, and Los Bravos, a well-known Afro-Cuban band.

"Other aspects of the program are still being worked out," said Yvette Nieves, spokesperson for the Coalition for July 26.

The performers by themselves are so popular that the coalition expects most of the tickets to be sold out in advance. "Already we are getting calls for reservations. We urge people not to wait until the night of the event to get their tickets, since we cannot guarantee that there will be any left," Nieves pointed out.

In addition to New York City and northern New Jersey, large organized contingents will be attending from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.

"We expect hundreds of people to come from all over the East Coast," explained Viqui Hernández. A leader of the Antonio Maceo Brigade, she is heading up the Outreach Committee of the Coalition. "Many local committees outside of New York City are organizing publicity and transportation."

Anyone wanting to order tickets or get in touch with one of these committees can call the coalition at (212) 741-1340 or write Caribe Productions, P.O. Box 763, Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10276.

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Rosenberg case: 30 years later

Lessons of the anticommunist witch-hunt

Invitation To An Inquest by Walter and Miriam Schneir; Pantheon Books, New York, New York; 1983. 522 pages, \$8.95.

BY GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

Thirty years ago, on June 19, 1953, the U.S. government put Julius and Ethel Rosenberg to death. They were executed in the electric chair at New York's Sing Sing prison, for allegedly passing "atomic secrets" to the Soviet Union. The couple,

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along with codefendant Morton Sobell, had been convicted under the Espionage Act.

The Rosenbergs were the first people ever executed under that law at a time when the United States was not legally at war. The government reasoned that because their alleged spying took place during World War II, the maximum wartime penalty was called for.

Such legalisms covered up the real truth. The United States was very much at war at the time, as a result of its invasion of Korea. Judge Irving Kaufman, who presided at the Rosenbergs' trial, made the connection quite clear by trying to foist the blame for the Korean War onto the Rosenbergs.

"Your conduct . . . has already caused the Communist aggression in Korea, with the resultant casualties exceeding fifty thousand and who knows but that millions more of innocent people may pay the price of your treason," said Kaufman.

Millions throughout the world demanded clemency for the couple. But the demand for justice and the pleas for mercy fell on deaf ears in Washington.

The Rosenbergs and Sobell were the victims of a massive government frame-up that involved the highest officials of the U.S. Justice Department, the FBI, and the federal courts themselves.

The case had nothing to do with atomic secrets. It had everything to do with the political aims of the employing class and their government at the time.

The Cold War and the anticommunist witch-hunt were in full swing. Under the guise of ferreting out "communists" and "communist sympathizers," the government and all of its police agencies began a massive crackdown on democratic rights.

Strictly on the basis of their political views, thousands of people, from industrial workers to Hollywood actors, lost their jobs. Many were blacklisted and prevented from working anywhere in their trade.

Under the thought-control Smith Act, hundreds of members of the Communist Party were arrested in Los Angeles, Baltimore, San Francisco, Honolulu, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Detroit, St. Louis, Chicago, Seattle, Denver, New York, Boston, Cleveland, Buffalo; Butte, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico. Countless others, who were not citizens, were deported.

The Smith Act made advocacy of Marx-

ist ideas a crime. It was first used against leaders of the Socialist Workers Party and the Minneapolis Teamsters in 1941.

New stage in witch-hunt

The Rosenberg case took the witch-hunt to a new stage. As the *Militant* explained within days of their death, "Not only can jobs be lost in the loyalty purge. Not only can reputations be ruined through false accusations by Congressional witch hunters. But the Rosenberg precedent can prove that even lives can be forfeited."

The *Militant* also pointed to other factors that led the government to execute the Rosenbergs:

"1. It seeks to strike terror into the hearts of radical critics of its imperialist policies and police-state methods. The fate of the Rosenbergs is to serve as a grim threat to all present and prospective opponents of Washington's war plans.

"2. It aims to place a tighter gag on those who are troubled by its encroachments on civil liberties.

"3. It wants to buttress the system of stool-pigeoning which has become one of the girders of the FBI inquisition. [David] Greenglass, the chief witness against the Rosenbergs, saved his neck and spared his wife by turning state's evidence against them. The Rosenbergs themselves were offered commutation from death if they would admit their guilt and become informers against others. This is one of the most important reasons for the deadly pressure exerted upon them.

"4. Finally, [President] Eisenhower's administration hopes to appease and strengthen the McCarthyite currents, preparing them for future attacks upon the most vulnerable sections of the labor movement."

The government's charges

The case against the Rosenbergs was built on the charge that they, along with Sobell and Ethel Rosenberg's brother, David Greenglass, were part of a spy ring. This ring was allegedly connected to Klaus Fuchs, who, in England in 1950, had confessed to spying for the Soviet Union.

Despite thousands of hours of work by the FBI, manufacturing evidence and coaxing witnesses to "remember" events that had not happened, the government's case was not impressive.

It centered on the charge that Greenglass, a machinist at the Los Alamos, New Mexico, project (site of the first successful effort to split the atom), had got his hands on a sketch of "a high-explosive lens mold, or something of that type of thing, which was an experiment to study implosion effects on a steel tube . . ." as Greenglass told the FBI with scientific precision.

The government maintained that Greenglass, the Rosenbergs, Fuchs, and an alleged "courier" for Fuchs named Harry Gold, turned this and other information over to the Soviet Union. This supposedly unlocked the secret of the atom bomb which, up until that time, had rested safely in the hands of the warmakers in Washington.

The other "evidence" produced at the Rosenbergs' trial consisted of:

- Two large family snapshots, which the government passed off as passport photos.

- An ordinary piece of furniture that the government claimed was a device for photographing microfilm.

- A copy of an Albuquerque hotel registry which, recently revealed FBI documents show, was forged by government agents.

- Half a jello boxtop — supposedly used by Gold to identify himself to Greenglass.

The FBI also submitted evidence indicating their real interest in the case. These included a Communist Party election petition, and a collection can used for donations for anti-fascist refugees from the Spanish civil war.

The trial lasted 14 days. The efforts to stop the monstrous miscarriage of justice that led to the Rosenbergs' death stretched



FBI agents arrest Julius Rosenberg

out for more than two years. It would take a book to tell the whole story.

Fortunately, an excellent account of the case has just been republished by Pantheon Books. *Invitation to an Inquest*, by Walter and Miriam Schneir, was originally published in 1965.

This reprinting, timed to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the executions, includes three important chapters added by the authors. This material sheds important new light on the methods used by the government to frame the Rosenbergs and whip up anticommunist hysteria.

The new chapters are based on tens of thousands of previously secret FBI files, as well as documents from other government agencies. After more than 25 years they were pried out of the hands of the government by the persistent efforts of the Rosenbergs' sons, Michael and Robert Meeropol, and the National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case, through a bitterly contested Freedom of Information Act lawsuit.

Virulent anti-Sovietism

In a new chapter titled "Masters of Deceit," the Schneirs record the observations of Atomic Energy Commission chairman David Lilienthal following an Oct. 31, 1949, meeting with top Pentagon brass:

"The view of some of the military is that war is inevitable. The top, however, do not go so far; they believe it's 'likely' in a relatively short time, four to five years. After it comes we must use the atomic bomb, as we can't hold Europe without it. . . ."

Following a meeting with the chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, Lilienthal wrote again in his diary:

"What he is talking [about] is the inevitability of war with the Russians, and what he says adds up to one thing: blow them off the face of the earth, quick, before they do the same to us — and we haven't much time."

Fortunately, the Soviet Union was able, in time, to develop its own atomic weapons to defend itself. Washington's plans to use its monopoly of nuclear weapons to annihilate the Soviet workers state could not be carried out.

The real issues

No one with any knowledge of physics really believed that the Rosenbergs had stolen the "secret" of the atom bomb. The only "secret" about the bomb was whether or not it could be built. The U.S. government itself had conclusively answered that question in 1945 when it destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki — acts that shocked and horrified the world.

The Rosenbergs were brought to trial and killed because they were political radicals — members or supporters of the Communist Party. And they were Jews. The fact that the government chose a Jewish prosecutor to conduct its case and a Jewish judge to try it revealed more than it concealed about the anti-Semitism that was an important component of the campaign

against the "communist spies."

The case against the Rosenbergs and Sobell was designed to fuel the anticommunist witch-hunt. As the largest radical tendency in the workers movement, the CP was a prime target. The government's attempts to weaken the CP were central to its broader effort to intimidate and silence all those who considered themselves communists, socialists, or radicals of any kind. The primary goal of this red-baiting was to weaken and divide the working class and the organized labor movement in particular.

Progovernment 'socialists'

As opposed to some previous government frame-ups of working class fighters — such as the case of Sacco and Vanzetti for instance — the Rosenberg case and others of the witch-hunt period did not unite all those who claimed to be defenders of civil liberties. The Schneirs quote from *Partisan Review*: "The Sacco-Vanzetti case united the liberals; the Rosenberg case divided them."

It would be more accurate to say that, with a few exceptions, most American liberals ran for cover. "Most reacted to the affair by hurriedly snapping shut their political chastity belts and tossing away the keys," write the Schneirs.

Trailing after the liberals were many who called themselves socialists, but were making their peace with capitalism as they turned their back on defense of the Soviet workers state against imperialism. These proimperialist "anti-Stalinists" wanted nothing to do with defending the CP against the witch-hunt.

Thus, anticommunist liberals and anti-communist "socialists" often walked the other way when it came to defending the rights of members of the Communist Party. Many of them agreed that CP members were "agents of a foreign power" who were getting what they deserved. They refused to defend the Rosenbergs, just as they refused to defend CP members sent to prison under the Smith Act.

This line was a common one among the top officials of the labor movement. Although there was considerable sympathy among workers for the Rosenbergs, and support for the efforts to stop the execution, the misleaders of the unions either openly supported the frame-up or kept silent.

Witch-hunt in the unions

The red scare in the labor movement predated the Rosenberg case by several years. A full-scale retreat on defending the democratic rights of union members to hold and express their political views began in earnest around the time of the passage of the infamous, antilabor Taft-Hartley Act in 1947.

This law imposed direct government regulation over the unions in the selection of their officers, in their economic and organizational struggles, and in their political activity. It established government by injunction not only in order to break strikes



Ethel Rosenberg

in private industry but to prevent unions from engaging in a host of traditional labor activities.

The Taft-Hartley Act was the beginning of the government's attacks on the rights and power of the labor movement. It went hand in hand with their preparations for war in Korea and elsewhere.

No effective opposition to the Taft-Hartley bill was mounted by the top union officials. Moreover, many were perfectly willing to accept one of the other key provisions of the law. This called for all union officials to take an anticommunist loyalty oath, or face denial of union recognition by the National Labor Relations Board and exclusion from NLRB collective bargaining polls.

By refusing to fight this undemocratic provision, the union misleaders aided the government witch-hunters in dividing the labor movement. They offered their services in making pariahs of anyone who refused to express hostility towards the Soviet Union or maintained that, despite the crimes of Stalin, the workers state created by the October 1917 revolution should be defended against imperialist efforts to overthrow it.

This weakened the entire union movement. Within two years of passage of Taft-Hartley, every international union but the United Mine Workers and the International Typographical Union had capitulated to the loyalty oath requirement.

So-called "progressive-led" unions like the United Auto Workers were not exempt from this. In fact, "socialist" officials, like Walter Reuther, were in the front lines of the anticommunists. As early as 1941 Reuther had lined up with the most backward sections of the union at its convention that year and pushed through a change in the union's constitution prohibiting "communists" from holding any office in the UAW.

Challenge to the labor movement

The complicity of the top union officials with the witch-hunt harmed not only the most prominent victims like the Rosenbergs. It did substantial damage to the labor movement itself.

"The labor movement has had the duty to be in the front line of the fight" against the Rosenberg frame-up, wrote the *Militant* in 1953. "The sinister forces hastening to exact their blood vengeance from the Rosenbergs . . . are not going to stop there."

"Emboldened by the inactivity and cowardice of the labor leaders, the McCarthyites will reach out for bigger prey in the trade unions. They will not show any gratitude to the labor leaders later for their refusal to defend the Rosenbergs. . . . The labor movement must realize that in defending all victims of the witch-hunters it is defending its own interests and its very existence."

This prediction proved to be all too accurate. The witch-hunt in the unions was intensified following the Rosenbergs' death. On Nov. 1, 1953, the Senate Internal Security subcommittee opened hearings on "Communist penetration of our trade unions." The infamous House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) began companion hearings.

Sen. Joseph McCarthy, the most notorious witch-hunter, took his traveling inquisition to Massachusetts and Schenectady, New York, to investigate "communist penetration" of the unions at the big General Electric plants.

But McCarthy received a surprise when his kangaroo court opened in upstate New York. Hundreds of union members jammed the hearing room and the corridors and booed and jeered the right-wing demagogue. They carried an oversized valentine that read: "GE loves McCarthy."

One Black worker called to the witness stand responded to McCarthy's well known intimidation attempts by shouting back:

"Go down South and subpoena Governor Byrnes and Talmadge [two racist Dixiecrat politicians]. Yes subpoena those enemies of my people, of America. Why don't you investigate subversion by GE, of



Execution evening, June 19, 1953, thousands gather in New York City to protest.

the Jim Crow system, of the profits taken from the sweat of my people? You fascist bum, why don't you investigate that?"

After the seventh witness told McCarthy he refused to be framed and took the Fifth Amendment, "which guarantees," he said, "that innocent people be protected," McCarthy suddenly announced that he had received an "urgent" phone call, adjourned the hearing, and skipped town.

Unfortunately this type of response was the exception, not the rule. Those in the ranks of the labor movement who were prepared to stand up to the witch-hunt were faced with a union leadership that chose to capitulate to it.

Debate continues today

Today, under the pressure of the employers' relentless drive against the working class at home and overseas, some proimperialist "socialists" are once again seeking to justify the witch-hunt. "Proving" that the Rosenbergs were, after all, guilty is one of their preoccupations.

Leading the pack is Ronald Radosh who, in 1979, caused a commotion with an article in the *New Republic* entitled, "The Hidden Rosenberg Case." The article argued that the Rosenberg case was not a frame-up. What caused the controversy was the fact that Radosh had a reputation as a radical. He was a member of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee — now the Democratic Socialists of America.

Later this year Radosh will release a new book on the subject entitled *The Rosenberg File*.

Radosh sought to prettify and confirm evidence provided to the FBI at the time of the case by a stool pigeon who had been in prison with Julius Rosenberg while he was awaiting trial. There, Radosh claims, the stool pigeon gained Rosenberg's confidence. "In conversations stretching over six months," wrote Radosh, "Julius divulged details about the [spy] network during the period before his arrest."

Radosh admitted that "It's hard to believe Julius Rosenberg really talked about these things in jail." Nevertheless we are asked to accept the testimony of this informer.

In an editorial presenting Radosh's article, the *New Republic* pointed to "new evidence" uncovered by Radosh which, it proclaimed, "confirms Julius's role in a spy network composed of ostensibly ordinary people whose prime political conviction happened to be a belief in the special world mission of communist Russia."

The source of this "new evidence" was another long-time anticommunist socialist, James Weinstein, editor of the social-democratic biweekly, *In These Times*.

What was the "new evidence"?

James Weinstein was a member of the Communist Party in his youth. He roomed with a fellow CPer named Max Firestone at Cornell University. One day, Weinstein

claims, Firestone told him he was quitting the party to do "secret work." Later in 1949, Firestone asked Weinstein to drive a friend named "Julius" to New York City. Weinstein told Radosh that "'Julius' sat in the back of the car and never said a word."

In 1950, the same "Julius" showed up at Weinstein's door one day looking for Firestone. Soon after, Weinstein read about the Rosenbergs' arrest and recognized Julius from news photos.

End of story. A story that proves nothing. A story that was calculated only to bolster the lies of the FBI that helped send the Rosenbergs to their death.

In his original article Radosh tried to soften his story with the assertion that, while Julius was a spy, Ethel Rosenberg was not guilty. But in his forthcoming book, Radosh has evidently undergone a change of heart. Ethel Rosenberg, too, was guilty as charged, he now argues.

Truth brought to light

The government mobilized vast resources — well documented in the Schneirs' book — to get a conviction of the Rosenbergs. In this they succeeded.

But they never proved their charges. Beginning with the worldwide fight for clemency for the Rosenbergs, and continuing in the 30 years since they were put to death, much of the truth about the frame-up has been brought to light, thanks to the work of the Schneirs and many others. Nothing compiled by Radosh or other apologists for the FBI's manufactured case can cover up the truth.

The Rosenbergs were executed because the rulers of this country wanted to put to death some American Communists.

The "crime" of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg was that they refused to abandon their principles, as they understood them. Under shadow of the execution sentence, government agents worked overtime to get a "confession" from one or both of them. In this, the government failed.

In a letter to President Eisenhower asking for clemency they wrote:

" . . . our accusers torture us, in the face of death, with the guarantee of life for the price of a confession of guilt. . . . We refuse the iniquitous bargain. . . . We cannot besmirch our names by bearing false witness to save ourselves."

Their stand remains a testimony to their courage. On the 30th anniversary of their death, the Rosenberg case deserves to be remembered and studied by today's generation of working-class fighters.

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists meets

Continued from Page 6

Warren told the *Militant* after the convention his assessment of the Hayes candidacy and the convention:

"The discussions at the convention on electoral politics," Warren explained, "are a reflection of broader discussions occurring in the Black community and among all working people today seeking a new perspective and strategy to take on the bipartisan government offensive against labor, Blacks, and women. Hayes' announcement that he is running for Congress as a trade unionist reflects that sentiment for change."

"The problem is that the Democratic Party, like the Republican Party, is responsible for racism and unemployment. What Blacks and labor need to do is break with these parties. That's why I urged delegates at this CBTU convention to reevaluate their approach to politics. It is realistic today for unionists and Blacks to run as independent candidates and win support. In fact, it is essential if we are to effectively combat the attacks on our rights."

"The CBTU, with its strong ties to the Black community and to the labor movement, can play an important role in this process, helping chart a course toward independent working-class political action and the idea of independent Black and labor parties."

Warren's views were listened to by many delegates. Few agreed, however, that Hayes should run as an independent Black and labor candidate.

Besides electoral politics, the other major point mentioned in Lucy's keynote speech concerned the upcoming August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom called by the major civil rights organizations and backed by the AFL-CIO. Lucy pledged active support for the march by the CBTU and urged all members to build it. A resolution was later adopted by the convention affirming support for the

action.

Finally, a number of other resolutions were adopted. These included one calling on the U.S. to break diplomatic relations with the racist regime of South Africa and for U.S. corporations to end all investments in that country. A leader of TransAfrica, a lobby group, and a representative from Mozambique also spoke and were well-received. A resolution also passed calling for a cut in the military budget, and several more were adopted hitting the Reagan administration's hostile positions on civil rights.

Reading on the Black struggle

Independent Black Political Action: 1954-78

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Edited by Mac Warren, this Education for Socialists publication includes articles on the Freedom Now Party, Lowndes County Freedom Organization, Black Panther Party, National Black Assembly, and more. 8½ x 11 format, 72 pages, \$3.50.

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Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, New York 10014. Please include \$.75 for postage and handling.

Who the U.S. chooses to deport

Why is the U.S. government so anxious to deport Héctor Marroquín?

The latest move by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) against this Mexican-born worker was to cancel the 30-day period for "voluntary departure" he had previously been granted. (See page 1.)

This means that Marroquín, who is asking for political asylum here, could be turned over instantly to the Mexican cops if the Supreme Court refuses to hear his appeal of a deportation order.

Washington's haste is a sign of the importance of Marroquín's fight. He is challenging a drive by Washington to shut the doors of asylum to anyone who opposes Washington's policies in Central America and the Caribbean.

His fight for asylum is part of the fight of Salvadorans, Haitians, and others to live and work here despite their opposition to governments that Washington supports.

The government barely tries to conceal its political motivation in pressing for the deportation of Marroquín. He is a socialist who opposes the new Vietnam war. Washington is headed toward in Central America.

As the INS lawyer who prosecuted Marroquín put it, "Marroquín has admitted from his own mouth that he is a Marxist. . . . The U.S. doesn't grant asylum to those kinds of people."

To former Somocista National Guardsmen, with the blood of thousands on their hands — yes.

To the justly hated shah of Iran — yes.

To Nazi war criminals, as long as their presence doesn't become too much of a scandal — yes.

But to Héctor Marroquín — no.

And no to tens of thousands of Salvadorans who have fled the right-wing terror that has taken the lives of 35,000 of their compatriots. Only 6 percent of Salvadorans applying for asylum have been granted permission to stay. Many others have been flown back to El Salvador

— and into the hands of the military rulers.

Tens of thousands of Haitian workers who have fled the repression and misery of Duvalier's — and Washington's — Haiti have met similar refusals. Only 7 percent have been granted asylum here.

The U.S. government hates and fears these working people because they tell the truth about the tyrannies that Washington has imposed on their homelands. They help expose the lies that the government dishes out to justify war moves.

And the government of the rich fears them because of what they can add to the consciousness and fighting capacity of the American working people.

The message the INS is trying to deliver is clear: if you want to have any chance of staying here, you had better keep quiet about what Washington is doing in Central America.

And you had better go along with racism, repression, and union-busting here as well.

The government wants to make an example of Héctor Marroquín because it is afraid of the growing support such political refugees are getting.

Scores of churches have provided sanctuary for Salvadoran refugees. The racist treatment of Haitian refugees has aroused broad opposition in the Black community.

The attack on Héctor Marroquín is intertwined with Washington's escalation of its war in Central America and its war preparations in the Caribbean. It is part of the drive to intimidate and silence opponents of those war policies.

Recognition of this is one reason why Héctor Marroquín's fight for asylum is winning a response from labor, civil rights, and antiwar organizations.

The new threat from the INS calls for stepped-up efforts to get out the truth about this case to the working people of this country.

Lenin's views on immigration and class solidarity

BY MARGARET JAYKO

The question of immigration and immigrant workers is an important one for the working-class movement today.

This is true for two reasons:

- One is the massive numbers of workers and peasants that are forced to leave their homelands and join the ranks of the working class in other countries.

- The other is that the imperialist rulers of the world are on a campaign against the rights of immigrant workers as part of their drive to slash the rights and living standards of all working people.

V.I. Lenin, central leader of the October 1917 Russian revolution, outlined for workers the communist view on this question.

Most of what he wrote on this centered on the United States and Switzerland, which at the beginning of the 20th century had huge numbers of immigrant workers

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

within their borders, as they both still do today. The United States, said Lenin, "heads the list of countries which import workers."

Lenin explained that the development of capitalism resulted in workers immigration on a massive scale.

"The rapidly developing industrial countries, introducing machinery on a large scale and ousting the backward countries from the world market, raise wages at home above the average rate and thus attract workers from the backward countries," Lenin explained in his 1913 article "Capitalism and Workers' Immigration" (*Lenin Collected Works*, Volume 19).

Lenin observed in his pamphlet *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism* that "One of the special features of imperialism is the decline of emigration from imperialist countries and the increase in immigration into these countries from the more backward countries where lower wages are paid."

For the United States at that time, this meant that most immigrants were no longer from Western Europe. Now the majority were from Eastern Europe. Since then, this has shifted again, with the majority today being from the semicolonial countries, particularly Central America and the Caribbean.

Lenin explained that this movement of workers into the imperialist centers was progressive in that it expanded the ranks of the working class and united workers across national boundaries.

"There can be no doubt that dire poverty alone compels people to abandon their native land, and that the capitalists exploit the immigrant workers in the most shameless manner," Lenin said. "But only reactionaries can shut their eyes to the progressive significance of this modern migration of nations."

"Emancipation from the yoke of capital is impossible without the further development of capitalism, and without the class struggle that is based on it. And it is into this struggle that capitalism is drawing the masses of the working people of the whole world, breaking down the musty, fusty habits of local life, breaking down national barriers and prejudices, uniting workers from all countries in huge factories and mines in America, Germany, and so forth."

Lenin said that this process makes these immigrants "participants in the world-historical movement" of the working class and "brings them face to face with the powerful, united, international class of factory owners."

Lenin was keenly aware of how "the bourgeoisie incites the workers of one nation against those of another in the endeavor to keep them disunited." This meant that workers in the imperialist countries had to be imbued with unshakeable working-class internationalism, championing the cause of foreign-born workers.

Lenin denounced all those socialists who echoed the ruling-class chauvinist campaign against these workers.

In a letter Lenin sent to some internationalist-minded socialists in the United States during the First World War, he said, "In our struggle for true internationalism and against 'jingo-socialism' we always quote in our press the example of the opportunist leaders of the SP [Socialist Party] in America, who are in favor of restrictions of the immigration of Chinese and Japanese workers. We think that one can not be internationalist and be at the same time in favor of such restrictions."

"And we assert that socialists in America, especially English [speaking] socialists, belonging to the ruling, and oppressing nation, who are not against any restrictions of immigration, against the possession of colonies (Hawaii) and for the entire freedom of colonies, that such socialists are in reality jingoes."

In addition to the demand for a world without borders, Lenin also said that socialists must fight for full equality of rights for foreign-born workers, and for the workers' movement to organize these workers into trade unions on an equal basis with native-born workers.

Fight for South African freedom

The struggle for freedom in South Africa is entering a new stage.

Despite the brutal, unceasing repression of the racist apartheid regime in Pretoria — typified by the hanging of three freedom fighters June 9 — South Africa's Black majority is pressing forward with its fight for national liberation.

In Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, and dozens of other cities around the country, Blacks are taking to the streets to demand an end to racist laws, the right to live and work where they please, higher wages, education and health care, and a multitude of other democratic and social rights that are today denied to them.

It is the powerful Black working class that is taking the lead in this struggle. Through strike action and the organization of militant trade unions, Black workers are hitting at the very foundations of the apartheid system, which rests on the brutal capitalist exploitation of Black labor.

Like Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi, and Thabo Motaung — the three young members of the African National Congress (ANC) who were hanged — thousands are today taking up arms to fight for their rights. The ANC, because of the wide support its actions have inspired and its links with the mass movements, is beginning to pose a formidable political challenge to the apartheid regime.

The outcome of the struggle in South Africa is impor-

tant for working people in the United States as well. A victory for the liberation movement will strike a mighty blow against the racist rulers of this country, who are the main backers of the apartheid regime.

Blacks in the United States, who face racist oppression every day of their lives, have been in the forefront of supporting the struggles of their brothers and sisters in South Africa.

The best way to deepen such solidarity is to resolutely oppose all efforts by the U.S. government and big business to come to the aid of the apartheid rulers.

Since it has come into office, the Reagan administration has increased Washington's economic, political, and military ties with Pretoria. This has included the training of South African naval officers in the United States, joint military research, the sale of computers and other equipment to the South African police, and diplomatic support for Pretoria in the United Nations, including over its occupation of Namibia.

Last November, Washington used its influence in the International Monetary Fund to win approval of a \$1 billion loan to Pretoria.

Working people — especially the organized labor movement — must join in the protests against all such collaboration with the apartheid regime. It is in our own class interests, and in those of South Africa's fighting Black majority.

Abortion victory for women

Continued from front page

tion, for the right to equal pay and working conditions, for childcare and paid maternity leaves.

Opponents of abortion rights were outraged by the Supreme Court's decision, and they threatened to redouble their efforts to ban abortions.

The antiabortion "right-to-lifers" don't confine themselves to verbal attacks on women's rights. The Akron antiabortion ordinance was passed in 1978 amidst a wave of violence against abortion clinics, which included firebombings. Last year, the rightist "Army of God" kidnapped Dr. Héctor Zevallos and his wife because the doctor performed abortions.

The antiabortion forces are also opposed to busing for desegregation, to rights for immigrant workers, to labor's right to organize. Behind their "right-to-life" disguise, they are champions of Washington's murderous war policies in Central America.

Each advance made by women deals a blow to these reactionary forces.

The progressive character of the fight for abortion

rights makes it a cause for the entire working class.

Since abortion became legal, the support for abortion rights in society, especially among workers, has grown markedly. This is beginning to be reflected in the positions taken by sectors of the trade union movement.

The Coalition of Labor Union Women maintains a strong position in support of abortion rights, including opposition to cutting off federal funding.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU), at its recent convention, reaffirmed its support for women's right to abortion. The ILGWU's membership — overwhelmingly female including many Spanish-speaking immigrants — are the kind of women who have the biggest stake in women's equality, including the right to abortion.

Other unions have also begun to get involved in educating and acting around abortion rights.

The Supreme Court decision should encourage supporters of women's rights to press their struggle further. As they do, they will find their staunchest allies in the labor movement and in the Black and Latino communities.

GE workers don't buy Reagan's sales pitch for war

BY ELLEN BERMAN

LYNN, Mass. — When President Reagan spoke on Central America before a joint session of Congress on April 27, he was trying to whip up anticommunist hysteria. He wanted to convince the American people that

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we should support his attempts to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua and continue to allow our tax dollars to support a brutal military dictatorship in El Salvador.

But if the reactions of workers at the General Electric (GE) plant here in Lynn, are any indication, most people didn't buy it.

The GE Riverworks employs around 6,000 people. We build and assemble jet engines for the U.S. Air Force. The issue of the military budget is a sensitive one at the plant and provokes a lot of interesting discussions. Nevertheless, antiwar sentiment is high.

Recently, the president of the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), William Bywater, added his name to the growing list of members of the National Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador. This committee includes leaders of major international unions, including the United Auto Workers, Machinists, and Amalgamated Clothing Workers, among others.

Around the same time that President Bywater started working with the national labor committee, antiwar activists were involved in building a local anti-intervention demonstration that was to take place in Boston on May 14. Antiwar activists working in the Riverworks plant wanted to talk to coworkers about this demonstration and to show support for President Bywater's decision to speak out against U.S. military aid to El Salvador. We wrote an open letter to President Reagan and Speaker of the House Thomas O'Neill, which was circulated in the plant.

The letter said, in part, "We, as members of IUE Local 201 . . . don't want another Vietnam. We want: An immediate end to all military aid to El Salvador! An immediate end to all U.S. intervention in Nicaragua!"

The letter began circulating a few weeks before Reagan's speech. It got a very positive response. Almost everyone who was approached agreed to sign, a total of almost 200 people. A lot had major questions about the

United States' role in El Salvador, about which side we should be on, about who the Sandinistas are, about the role of the Russians and the Cubans. But in spite of the questions, one thing was clear. GE workers didn't want another Vietnam.

One coworker told me he had lots of hesitations but he would sign anyway, "for my own reasons." He seemed apologetic and said they were "selfish reasons, not the best." It turned out his reason was he didn't want his younger brother, who had just joined the service, to be sent to fight in El Salvador.

The company, of course, was not too pleased about this letter being circulated. One of the people circulating the letter was threatened with suspension and told he could not approach people for signatures even during his own 18-minute lunch break. This raised the issue for the union about whether union members are free to conduct personal business during their lunch break in the plant, when they are off the time clock. The company's attempt to restrict this right is currently being grieved by the union.

We were interested to see how Reagan's speech would affect our coworkers' sentiments about Central America. The day after the speech, we asked people for their reactions. Many hadn't heard the speech and didn't seem too interested. Some didn't want to hear Reagan because they felt they couldn't believe anything he says anyway.

Some expressed questions, like one shipping processor who said, "I don't know. It's clear that he doesn't care about the Salvadoran people. He's worried about the Soviet Union and U.S. power in the area, that's all. But I don't know. Maybe if we do pour millions into the government, we can get the government to pretty much do what we want, to reform the country."

A couple agreed wholeheartedly with U.S. intervention. But most, in spite of their questions and confusion, expressed serious doubts about Reagan's policies. One, an older woman, put it this way: "It's criminal. The way that government is murdering the people there. And murdering those American nuns. And we're going to send American boys to die there for nothing. For what? We don't want it."

The night before Reagan's speech I had a long discussion with one of my coworkers, a man in his early forties. He disagreed with me about everything from what is socialism, to the causes of unemployment, to the need for a labor party, to the nature of the Soviet Union, China, and Cuba. At the end of the discussion, I told him we

were being dragged into another Vietnam in El Salvador and that the United States was trying to overthrow the government in Nicaragua. He told me I was wrong about that too.

The night after Reagan's speech this same coworker called me over and said, "I just wanted to tell you, you were right about El Salvador." He went on to say he didn't know who was right or wrong down there, that he didn't want to get involved, but that he certainly didn't want another Vietnam.

The fact that the National Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador exists is one indication of the growing antiwar sentiment among working people. It adds legitimacy to the argument that U.S. intervention in Central America is an important issue for the labor movement.

Some union activists, including some officers, feel that, no matter where they themselves stand on the issue of military aid to El Salvador, our local has too many other, more pressing matters to deal with and shouldn't take a stand on foreign policy. People on the shop floor also express concern about the problems of automation and layoffs, but seem no less willing to consider El Salvador a union issue because of this. Several asked if the letter being circulated was an official union petition, and when they were told it wasn't, wanted to know why not.

Several drew connections between the issue of layoffs and U.S. intervention in Central America; like one young sweeper whose reaction to Reagan's speech was, "Why don't they use all that money for jobs? Why are they doing this? I guess that the United States just thinks they're the policemen of the world."

And a young machinist who was recently downgraded to a packer due to layoffs, put it this way, "Reagan said it's not going to be a new Vietnam, but of course it is. He said they're sending advisers to train more troops and that's just the way it started in Vietnam. They need to spend more money here. Look at all the people laid off from GE who need jobs."

The discussion among our coworkers at GE is just beginning. But it is clear that as the war drive escalates, so do the questions about U.S. intervention in Central America. Another young coworker, a member of the National Guard, said, half-jokingly, half-seriously, after listening to Reagan's speech, "There's definitely going to be a war down there. I was going to lose weight so I could stay in the guards. They might kick me out because I'm too heavy. Now I think I'll gain weight, so I do get kicked out."

2,000 march in Cheyenne, Wyoming, against MX

BY ROBERT BRUNEAU

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Two thousand protesters gathered here over the Memorial Day weekend to register their opposition to the proposed deployment of 100 nuclear-tipped MX missiles in Wyoming and Nebraska. The urgency of the issue was dramatized by the bipartisan congressional passage the previous week of \$625 million for continued development of the MX.

Carrying banners with slogans like "Military madness — Vietnam, El Salvador, MX," "Not here — not anywhere," "Stop U.S. intervention in El Salvador," and "Stop the MX," protesters came from Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota,

Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada — the states where the bulk of the U.S. nuclear land-based arsenal is stationed.

The rally, held in a city park outside Warren Air Force Base, was organized in five weeks by an eight-state coalition called Western Solidarity, which was formed in December 1982 to oppose and to defeat the MX.

Warren Air Force Base, which would control any MX missiles based here, currently controls 200 Minuteman III missiles in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Colorado. Those missiles represent about a fifth of the U.S. land-based ICBM's.

Congressional Democrats and Republi-

cans have released \$625 million to the air force for continued tests on the MX missile (including flight tests) and for development of plans to base the missiles. Each MX missile could carry up to 10 nuclear warheads and would be placed in existing Minuteman III silos, 69 in Wyoming and 31 in Nebraska.

But opposition is growing among ranchers, farmers, clergy, Indians, and working people throughout the West as Washington pushes toward expanding the war budget.

Presidential hopeful Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) was billed as the keynote speaker and a leader of the MX opposition in the

Senate. Although Hart challenged MX supporters, including President Reagan, to publicly debate the missile issue with him, Hart failed to oppose the U.S. war drive and U.S. intervention abroad — sentiments which were displayed on the majority of the protesters' banners.

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World outcry condemns hanging of freedom fighters in South Africa

BY ERNEST HARSCH

In defiance of an international defense campaign and protests within South Africa, the white minority regime on June 9 hanged three young freedom fighters in Pretoria.

The three — Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi, and Thabo Motaung — were all members of the African National Congress (ANC) and Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the ANC's armed wing.

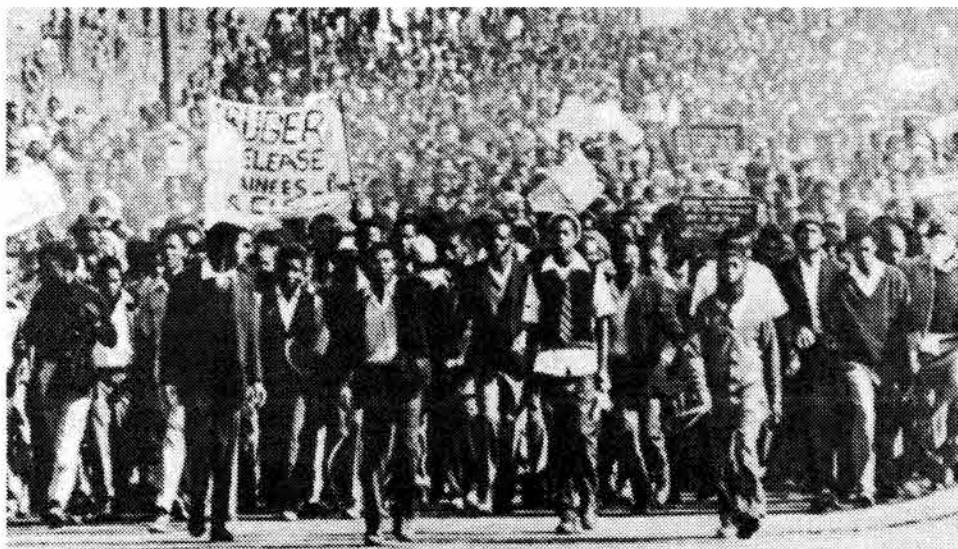
They were sentenced by an all-white court for their participation in a series of attacks on police stations between 1979 and 1981, in which four policemen were killed. They admitted their participation in the attacks, but demanded that they be treated as prisoners of war, since their actions were on behalf of the Black majority's struggle for national liberation. The racist regime refused to accord them that status.

Although an average of more than 100 Blacks are ordered hanged by South African courts each year, the case of Mogoerane, Mosololi, and Motaung was different. They were not just victims of the apartheid system, but political symbols of the new generation of young Blacks who are fighting back against that system.

All in their 20s, they came through the experience of the massive 1976 rebellions in Soweto and scores of other Black townships. During their trial, they explained how the sight of young children being shot down by the police led to their decision to join the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe, so that they could "fight for the liberation of Black people."

That is why they were sentenced to death and hanged. A statement by Alfred Nzo, the ANC's secretary general, declared that Mogoerane, Mosololi, and Motaung "perished because they dared to fight for the national emancipation of their people, for democracy, nonracialism, and peace." (See statement below.)

But there are thousands of others like them. Since the rebellions in 1976, the ranks of the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe have grown enormously. As a result, the



Soweto, 1976. Apartheid regime's murderous repression of protests has moved Black South African youth to step up fight for liberation of their people.

ANC has been able to carry out increasingly effective armed actions against the apartheid regime — nearly 100 since the beginning of 1981.

On May 20, less than three weeks before the executions, ANC fighters delivered their most spectacular blow yet against the white minority regime. They detonated a car bomb just outside a building in Pretoria that houses the air force command, air force intelligence, and prisons department. Eighteen people were killed and about 190 wounded, many of them air force and military personnel.

"People are jubilant," one Black told a reporter, describing the reaction in the Black townships.

This support for the liberation struggle is not just a passive one, however. Despite the regime's repression, hardly a week goes by without some protest demonstration, march, rally, or consumer boycott.

Workers have been playing a particularly active role. During 1982, there was an average of one new strike each day. Militant Black and nonracial trade unions have

been springing up around the country to fight for workers' rights and the rights of the entire Black population. In recent years, more than 300,000 Black workers have joined such unions — the highest number of unionized Black workers in South African history.

Besides carrying out its armed actions, the ANC is also helping to build these mass organizations and has active members within them.

Because of its role in the armed struggle and the mass movements, the ANC has emerged as the most popular and influential organization among South Africa's Black majority.

Surveys conducted by some of the major white-run newspapers in South Africa have found that the ANC commands far more support among urban Blacks than any other political group, despite the fact that it is banned. In late 1981, representatives of some 109 community groups, trade unions, student organizations, women's associations, and other groups met in Dur-

ban and adopted the ANC's "Freedom Charter" as their program of demands.

Fearful of this mass support for the ANC and the anger that could be unleashed by the execution of the three fighters, the Pretoria regime refused to hand their bodies over to their families, in an effort to head off big funeral demonstrations. It also banned a protest rally that had been scheduled to take place in Soweto, the massive Black township outside Johannesburg.

But the authorities could not prevent all expressions of protest.

Two hours before the hangings, chapel bells rang out throughout Soweto in a display of solidarity with Mogoerane, Mosololi, and Motaung.

At the University of Zululand, about 700 demonstrators rallied to protest the executions, and some of them set a police car afire. About 1,000 demonstrated at Fort Hare University.

In Durban, about 400 people, mostly students, marched through the city beneath an ANC banner. The police attacked and arrested 23 protesters.

In Soweto, hundreds attended a memorial service for the three. They sang Black freedom songs and listened to a eulogy by Rev. Thomas Manthata, who declared, "We are here to bury our heroes. They have lost their lives in a noble cause."

From Intercontinental Press

'Their sacrifice must be a call to battle'

The following statement was issued June 9 in Lusaka, Zambia, by Alfred Nzo, the secretary general of the African National Congress.

Today, at dawn, the Pretoria regime carried out a cold-blooded murder. Three members of the African National Congress, combatants of Umkhonto we Sizwe, — Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi, and Thabo Motaung — are dead.

In flagrant and deliberate violation of international law, Botha and his accessories joined together to kill these prisoners of war. This cabal, which has no regard for the most elementary notions of human decency, carried out its crime despite appeals by our people, by governments, and by representatives of millions of people throughout the world.

The African National Congress hereby extends its heartfelt condolences to the families of the martyred heroes and commends them for their steadfastness in defense of what their loved ones stood for.

We salute the international community, which raised its voice in a noble effort to save the lives of these patriots. We hail our own people, who stood by their sons to the last second of their lives.

We lower our flags to the eternal memory of our departed comrades, who have perished because they dared to fight for the national emancipation of their people, for democracy, nonracialism, and peace. At the very end of their brief, but heroic lives, they chose to die with honor, rather than to demean themselves with craven pleas to their captors.

Their example and their sacrifice must, and will, for us, serve as a call to battle.

The apartheid regime of terror has done its will. Through struggle, the will of the people of South Africa, with the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe at their head, shall prevail in the not-too-distant future. The perpetrators of this latest crime will be brought to book.

Farewell, dear comrades. The cause for which you sacrificed will surely triumph.

Meatpackers strike 7 Wilson plants

BY MICHAEL CARPER

CHEROKEE, Iowa — More than 6,000 workers at seven of Wilson Food Corp.'s 12 pork-packing plants are on strike, in response to a major assault by the meatpacking bosses on their union, the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW). The workers voted to strike the first week of June.

The strike's origins were in the voiding of the UFCW contract by Wilson April 22 through a new antiunion ploy: the company announced it was filing for bankruptcy because it claimed its labor costs were too high.

Wilson slashed wages from \$10.69 an hour to \$6.50 and drastically cut overtime pay and other benefits. The union was simply told it no longer had a contract.

Workers at Wilson began a work slowdown. "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay" was how they described it.

The company then agreed to negotiate. But, Mike Wilbur, president of UFCW Local 179 here, told the *Militant*, "they wanted to negotiate a whole new labor agreement. We told them, no."

Wilbur added that the contract "took 40 years to build, and we weren't going to let them dismantle it overnight, which is what they really want to do."

As a sign of good faith, Wilbur said, the union agreed to restore production, although many workers, seeing the com-

pany's determination to increase profits at their expense, were reluctant to do so.

When union representatives met with the company May 27, Wilbur said, "We really couldn't get anywhere with them." He said Wilson told the union they "didn't have the authority to put anything on the table."

The workers then slowed down production again, and Wilson began firing workers.

"They suspended two departments," about 175 people, Wilbur said. The company then told workers they could return if they gave full production. The workers returned, but continued the slowdown.

On June 1, workers at Wilson's Oklahoma City plant "had just plain got tired of working for \$6.50 an hour and they just walked out," Wilbur said.

In Monmouth, Illinois, union representatives were ordered to get union members out of canteen areas, where they had sat down, within 30 minutes. If not, they would call the National Guard.

This was no idle threat; last year, another giant meatpacker, Iowa Beef Processors (IBP) protected strikebreakers with the guard, and state police assaulted strikers.

In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a Wilson truck barreled down on pickets at high speed, provoking a confrontation.

Workers here see Wilson's attacks as a major threat to their union. "There's a principle involved here," Dave French, a nine-

year Wilson veteran, told reporters. "If we continue working at this wage, we'd be taking everybody else — the workers at Oscar Mayer, Hormel, and others — down with us."

Support for the strike is good, Wilbur said. The union has also been supported by the North American Farm Alliance, a new coalition of family farmers' groups.

A third assault on the UFCW has been mounted, following last year's by IBP and the current one by Wilson: Greyhound announced June 10 that it intends to sell its meatpacking subsidiary, Armour.

Greyhound also cited alleged labor costs under the union contract. A new owner could operate the plants nonunion.

The union strongly disputes claims of high labor costs. Wilbur says the cost of labor per pound of pork has gone up only 1 1/2 cents since 1950. "The last time we worked for anything near \$6.50," he told us, was 1967.

Since then, productivity has gone up markedly. "At that time, we were boning 135 loins an hour; now it's up to 310."

With the increased production has come a substantial increase in tendonitis and carpal tunnel syndrome, two painful and potentially crippling diseases.

The unionists charge that Wilson is responsible for whatever losses it may have suffered, through speculation in the pork-futures market and overproduction.