

## Copper miners stand up to company-cop union busting

BY DAN FEIN  
AND RICH STUART

MORENCI, Az., August 17 — Here in this small mining town, and in others around the state, a big battle is under way between the Phelps Dodge Corp. and striking copper workers. The outcome will have repercussions throughout the labor movement.

Phelps Dodge, one of the nation's biggest copper producers, is out to bust the copper workers' unions. From the day the

As we go to press, Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt has activated seven units of the Arizona National Guard. The Arizona Daily Star reports that several hundred guardsmen and 400 state troopers equipped with armored personnel carriers, four Huey helicopters, automatic weapons and hundreds of tear gas canisters, are on hand within miles of Morenci, the mining town that is the center of the strike.

strike began, July 1, the company has used every means at its disposal to break it.

Strikers have been fired and threatened with eviction from company-owned housing. Credit has been cut off for some miners at company stores.

Phelps Dodge has tried to work the mines with a relative handful of scabs and has openly appealed to hire more.

Within days of the beginning of the strike, the company got court injunctions limiting the number of strikers picketing any gate to five. Large numbers of heavily armed cops have been brought into the mining towns to back this up.

Continued on Page 9



Top: state troopers and sheriff's deputies march against copper strikers in Ajo, Arizona, August 9. Bottom: 1,000 miners mobilize outside Phelps Dodge gate in Morenci August 8 and succeed in forcing company to shut down mine.

## Aug. 27 will be powerful show of solidarity

The August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom could not have come at a better time.

Washington is encircling Nicaragua with warships and tens of thousands of U.S. troops. The new Vietnam in Central America has begun.

At the same time the employers and government are escalating their attacks on working people here at home. Millions are still without jobs. The rights of all working

In 1963, some 4 percent of the work force was jobless. For Black workers, the figure was 7 percent. Today, by government estimate, it's 10 percent for workers generally, and 21 percent for Black workers, triple the figure of two decades ago.

Today the fight for peace means making August 27 a deafening outcry against the swiftly escalating U.S. military involvement in Central America. It offers the opportunity to voice what is clearly the majority sentiment in this country:

"U.S. out of Central America!"

The fight for freedom gains new meaning today also, as cops and courts seek to break up picket lines, Blacks in the South are harassed for trying to register to vote, and women are consigned to second-class citizenship.

A powerful coalition has emerged around the demands of the August 27 march, ranging from the civil rights groups to women's organizations, farmers, Latino groups, and organized labor.

Despite the decision of the AFL-CIO officialdom to endorse August 27 but put its main energies into building "Solidarity Day III" rallies on Labor Day, many unions with predominantly Black memberships are organizing for a big turnout. And two unions locked in strike battles, the Communications Workers of America and the International Association of Machinists, pledge to bring large contingents.

An encouraging example from the labor front comes from the Tidewater region of Virginia, encompassing such industrial areas as Newport News and Norfolk.

There, the August 27 coalition adopted a resolution supporting the striking phone workers. They went to a local meeting of

the Communications Workers, read the resolution, and received a standing ovation.

Coalition members went to the phone workers' picket lines to demonstrate their solidarity and, also, pass out August 27 leaflets. They got a good response and the local union is helping to build the Washington action.

That's the kind of effort needed in the remaining days before August 27. It will help ensure the turnout and solidarity that will advance the common fight for jobs, peace, and freedom.

All out August 27!

## U.S. military moves threaten Libya as French troops pour into Chad

BY ERNEST HARSCH

As hundreds of French troops began pouring into Chad, the Pentagon on August 10 launched the most massive show of U.S. military force in North Africa since World War II.

The military exercises — codenamed Bright Star '83 — involve operations by some 5,500 U.S. troops in Egypt, the Sudan, and other countries, and maneuvers by a U.S. fleet just off the coast of Libya.

Together with the dispatch of French combat troops to Chad, the Bright Star '83 maneuvers are designed as a naked show of imperialist military might. This aggressive display is directed most immediately against the peoples of Libya and Chad, as well as all those in the region who dare to

## U.S. troops, warships encircle Nicaragua

BY STEVE WATTENMAKER

Brushing aside Nicaragua's repeated peace proposals and opposition in the United States to a new Vietnam, Washington is moving full steam ahead toward full-scale war in Central America.

On August 16 the U.S. aircraft carrier *Coral Sea* and four other warships arrived off Nicaragua's Caribbean coast. The *Coral Sea* carries more than 70 warplanes.

Meanwhile, the U.S.S. *New Jersey* and five other warships moved closer to Nicaragua's Pacific coast.

Under the guise of conducting "war games" in Honduras and in the waters off Nicaragua, the Pentagon is getting U.S. ground and naval forces in position for direct intervention.

At the same time, Washington is shoring up its control of "friendly" military regimes in the region.

### Coup in Guatemala

On August 8 a military coup toppled right-wing Guatemalan dictator Efraín Ríos Montt. Montt had won U.S. praise for his bloody antiguerrilla operations, but his regime had grown too unstable for Washington's war plans in the region. The U.S. government decided it needed a more reliable ally in Guatemala City.

Within a week of seizing power, the new head of state, Gen. Oscar Mejía Victores, announced that Guatemala would train large numbers of soldiers from the Salvadoran army.

The coup was also intended as a message to other proimperialist regimes in the region that Washington was prepared to act, if necessary, against its friends as well as its enemies. The Reagan administration made little attempt to cover up the fact that Mejía Victores met with U.S. officials aboard the aircraft carrier *Ranger* just two days before the coup. During the takeover itself, a U.S. embassy attaché was inside the Presidential Palace with a two-way radio directing the overthrow operation.

The aircraft carrier *Ranger* is part of the naval task force that Reagan dispatched to Central American waters for "maneuvers" scheduled to last six months. Navy officials said, however, that they expect the White House will order them to keep a permanent task force off the Nicaraguan coast.

As the warships took up position, the first contingents of at least 4,000 U.S. ground troops arrived in Honduras. The

Continued on Page 3

## EDITORIAL

people are under attack. Unions are under fire and Blacks, other oppressed nationalities, and women face ever stiffening resistance to their demand for full democratic rights.

Read the accounts in this issue of the *Militant* on the strikes of copper miners in Arizona, telephone workers, West Coast shipyard workers, and that of the Continental Airline workers. The drive for major concessions from these workers, and in some cases for outright union busting, becomes clear.

In a recent demonstration, striking phone workers in Washington, D.C., carried a banner declaring:

"Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO — WE STILL HAVE A DREAM — Jobs • Peace • Freedom"

"We still have a dream" is the official slogan for the August 27 demonstration, which marks the 20th anniversary of the historic civil rights march led by Dr. Martin Luther King in 1963.

challenge continued imperialist domination and plunder of their countries.

Like the similarly massive U.S. military maneuvers being organized in Central America, Bright Star '83 is a stark reminder of Washington's drive toward new foreign wars, in defense of its world empire.

### Lies about Libya

As a cover for this intervention in North Africa, the Reagan administration, the Mitterrand government in France, and the various proimperialist regimes in the area have issued a barrage of propaganda aimed at portraying Libya as the aggressor, accusing Libyan leader Muammar el-Qaddafi of seeking to take over Chad.

Continued on Page 11



BY CHERYL PORCH

LINCOLN, Neb. — During the recent strike against Wilson Foods, Lincoln Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance members found a good response to the *Militant* among meatpacking workers. In one week, sales teams went to four packing plants in the area, selling 27 *Militants* and one subscription, and talking with many more workers.

On the picket line at Cherokee, Iowa, workers agreed with the *Militant* headline "Meatpacker bankruptcy aims to bust union." Wilson claimed bankruptcy and then insisted on major concessions from the union. This sparked the strike.

The president and vice-president of United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 179 welcomed the team of *Militant* reporters and gave them a half-hour interview. They had first seen the *Militant* last year at a support rally for the Iowa Beef Processors (IBP) strikers. After talking with the team, they bought a subscription for the union hall.

At the IBP plant in Dakota City, Nebraska, where UFCW Local 222 fought a bitter four-month strike last year, the reception was even better. The team took a sign reading, "The *Militant* Supports Wilson Strikers — Buy One."

Fifteen papers were sold to



Meatpacking workers, who are targets of union-busting drive, welcomed *Militant's* coverage of their struggles.

workers leaving the plant after the night shift. One stopped to buy a paper and said, "I remember that paper; you guys were here last summer when we were on strike. You gave us some good coverage — I'm glad to see you're supporting the Wilson strikers."

Another worker asked if the security guard had bothered the team. "I'm glad they didn't scare you off," he said, "they didn't scare us when we were on strike

either. I'm glad you're supporting the Wilson workers. Keep it up, we've got to stick together."

A Wilson sausage plant in Clarinda, Iowa, employs about 40 workers. When a team visited the picket line there, picketers invited them to sit and talk and offered refreshments. One of the workers on the picket line that day was also a farmer. He talked of the need for farmers and other workers to get

together. "We're really fighting the same thing, against the same people." He was glad to hear that the North American Farm Alliance was supporting the strike: "That's the way we've got to go."

To introduce workers at the Hormel pork processing plant in Fremont, Nebraska, to the *Militant*, a leaflet was printed with the Wilson bankruptcy article and some other recent headlines. The UFCW local there had been forced to accept contract concessions earlier this year after the company threatened to close the plant.

Most of the workers took the leaflet and seven bought *Militants*. As the team was leaving, a union steward approached a salesperson, looked at the leaflet and said, "We couldn't agree with you more, brother."

In Omaha, where Cudahy workers have been on strike for several months, a team sold a *Militant* and talked to a local steward at the UFCW hall. "Many young people in this country don't understand the need for unions, how important they are for the rights of working people," he commented.

"But I think in the next five years there are going to be a lot of changes in this country and we in the unions will help lead these changes. The article in the *Militant* hit it right on the nail. That's what they want: they want to bust the unions."

## Help get out 'Militant,' 'PM' on August 27

*Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* salespeople will be fanning out across Washington, D.C., on August 27 to get the papers' revolutionary views into the hands of thousands of demonstrators attending the jobs, peace, and freedom march.

You can join this effort by contacting the Socialist Workers Party branch nearest you (see directory, page 15), or by stopping at our dispatch truck on 17th Street one block north of Constitution Avenue on the day of the demonstration.

The Young Socialist Alliance will be hosting a reception for demonstrators interested in the ideas presented in the *Militant* and *PM*. It will be held at the University Club in Marvin Center on the George Washington University campus, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

## Continental Airlines out to break Machinists

BY HARRY RING

U.S. airline workers are faced with a dangerous union-busting attack. The immediate target is striking maintenance workers at Continental Airlines. But if the company's carefully orchestrated union-busting plan succeeds, it will surely be tried by other airlines.

According to the *Washington Post*, Continental is the first airline which plans to keep flying in the face of a strike.

More than 2,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) struck Continental August 13, after being confronted with contract demands clearly intended to cripple the union.

IAM membership at Continental is composed primarily of licensed mechanics, but also includes 670 fuelers, aircraft cabin cleaners, and food service workers.

In its contract demand, Continental proposed nonmechanics take a 40 percent wage cut. It also outlined work-rule changes that would mean the loss of some 600 machinist union jobs. One device for doing this would be to contract out work now performed by union employees. Another is to hire "part time" workers, without the benefit of union standards or protection.

These and other equally bad demands

were decisively rejected by the IAM membership.

The company immediately declared that all strikers who did not return to work forthwith would be fired and replaced.

Meanwhile, the company is using supervisors and scabs to keep the line partially functioning. According to its account, flights to 17 cities, including Miami, Las Vegas, Detroit, St. Louis, Baltimore, and Buffalo, have been abandoned.

The company claimed that, with its threat of firings, some mechanics returned to work in several cities, principally Houston, its headquarters.

Continental also claimed it has already contracted out work done by striking non-mechanics.

The company also asserted it is preparing to counter a possible support walkout by the 2,300 Continental workers who are members of the Flight Attendants union. Continental claims it has already trained about 800 scabs to replace them.

A key factor for the striking IAM is the attitude of the Airline Pilots Association. On August 14 officials of this union voted to remain "neutral" on the strike for the time being and continue flying.

In 1981 the officialdom of this union failed to support PATCO, the air traffic controllers union, when it was on strike.

Last year, officials of the pilots' union reopened their contract with Continental and agreed to givebacks which the company estimated were worth \$90 million.

The other major airlines have been pressing for such givebacks. Last March Transport Workers Union officials agreed to a pact with American Airlines under which members received an average annual increase of 7 percent and, in exchange, the company was given the right to pay new hires 32 percent less than the current wage scale.

American is reportedly negotiating a similar agreement with the Flight Attendants.

Continental is pushing even further. Vowing they would fire machinists before granting their wage demands, a company spokesman declared, "It has long been our corporate goal to reduce labor costs."

A report in the August 12 *Washington Post* put it more precisely: "Continental, in the private view of some industry observers, may be seeking to break the union, not just drive down costs."

Continental is a subsidiary of Texas Air Corp. which also owns the nonunion line, New York Air.

Clearly, the solidarity of all airline workers is needed to defeat this dangerous threat.

## From Pathfinder

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by Geoff Mirelowitz, \$ .95, 40 pp.

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# Unions rally in Vancouver to defend rights

BY ROBERT SIMMS

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — A massive fightback against sweeping government attacks on working people is developing in British Columbia, Canada's westernmost province.

Close to 45,000 people poured into Vancouver's Empire Stadium August 10 to protest an all-out assault on trade union economic and civil rights by B.C.'s provincial government, headed by the Social Credit Party.

Protests closed government offices and shut down Vancouver's transit system. Tens of thousands of workers left their jobs for several hours to attend the rally.

This action added more momentum to a rapidly growing struggle that had previously mobilized 25,000 demonstrators in Victoria, B.C., on July 27 and nearly 20,000 in Vancouver on July 23.

Workers are uniting with their allies from every sector of society to fight the government's July 7 budget and the dozens of legislative bills that accompanied it.

The government was emboldened by the May 10 reelection of the Social Credit Party. The New Democratic Party (NDP), the labor party based on the trade unions, was defeated in the elections although it captured 45 percent of the vote.

## Far-reaching attacks

The new legislation authorizes the government to: "fire without cause" any of B.C.'s 250,000 public sector workers in the civil service, municipalities, hospitals, and schools; cut the civil service by 25 percent and the number of teachers by 10 percent; abolish the Human Rights Commission, the enforcement body of the B.C. Human Rights Code, and water down the code itself; and extend indefinitely wage controls on all public sector workers.

The new laws would also: end rent controls and allow landlords to evict tenants "without cause"; begin dismantling the public health insurance system; and severely cut aid to the elderly, handicapped, students, and welfare recipients.

One bill would allow employers to negotiate collective agreements that ignore minimum labor standards in the areas of maternity leave, overtime, vacations, and hours of work. This will mainly affect women and those in weaker unions.

The far-reaching attacks in B.C. are not isolated. Step by step, Canada's capitalist parties are working to impose severe au-

Continued on Page 8



45,000 unionists gathered at Vancouver stadium August 10 to protest British Columbia government plans to lay off workers, gut civil rights measures, and enact new antilabor legislation.

Militant/Dean Peoples

## U.S. ships, troops encircle Nicaragua

### Continued from front page

Pentagon described the deployment as a "joint training exercise" to be carried out over at least the next six months with 6,000 Honduran army soldiers.

Echoing Pentagon explanations, President Reagan told a July 26 news conference that the maneuvers "are not going to put Americans in any reasonable proximity to the border" with Nicaragua. "We are not planning a war," he solemnly declared.

### Act of war

Top U.S. officials, however, confirmed that Reagan had approved sending the 19-ship "surface action group" as preparation for a blockade of Nicaragua — an action that would, in effect, be a declaration of war.

The Pentagon's Joint Chiefs of Staff ordered Navy commanders to practice "quarantine, blockade, and interdiction of shipping" off Nicaragua's east and west coasts, according to the August 2 *Washington Post*.

Navy A-6 bombers were also ordered to start making "practice runs" over Honduran territory. An example of what the Pentagon may be considering "practice" occurred July 28 as an unidentified aircraft rocketed a small island just two miles from Nicaragua's main port and then fled in the direction of Honduras.

Defense Department officials further stated that the presence of U.S. warships in the area "is designed in part to signal Warsaw Pact nations and Cuba that sending war supplies to Nicaragua could get dangerous," the *Post* reported.

Washington drove that point home July 30 when a guided missile destroyer and two other U.S. warships intercepted a Soviet freighter headed for the Nicaraguan port of Corinto. The destroyer ordered the captain of the *Alexandr Ulyanov* to identify its cargo and destination. A Navy helicopter made flights above the freighter and the warships trailed the *Ulyanov* at a distance of 2,000 yards until it entered Nicaraguan territorial waters.

Senior officials in Washington responded to the incident by threatening that all Soviet commercial vessels entering Central American waters would be met by U.S. warships.

The Soviet Union accused the U.S. government of "overt lawlessness" and described the incident as "provocative." The Kremlin warned in a formal protest that "the U.S. government should clearly realize that the full responsibility for possible consequences of such actions will rest entirely with the American side."

Meanwhile, in Honduras, U.S. land-based "maneuvers" are not only a cover to mass thousands of troops on the Nicaraguan border, but another step in turning Honduras into a permanent U.S. military garrison in Central America.

- U.S. Green Beret advisers are already training 2,400 Salvadoran army troops at a U.S.-constructed base near Puerto Castilla, Honduras.

- U.S. Air Force technicians are staffing a sophisticated radar installation near the Honduran capital.

- The Army Corps of Engineers is lengthening two military airport runways to accommodate huge C-130 cargo planes.

- The Pentagon is considering proposals to establish several permanent U.S. military bases in the country, including a \$150 million naval facility on the Caribbean coast.

Hundreds of fully armed U.S. combat troops, the first to arrive for the "maneuvers," were being deployed along a narrow strip of Honduran territory that borders both Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Behind the Reagan administration's rhetoric of protecting Central America from a "Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis" is Washington's desperate attempt to turn back the socialist revolution in Central

America and reassert its traditional domination.

To counter the growing opposition in this country to its policies, the White House continued a prowar propaganda barrage. The administration's latest goal is a special focus on lining up support for its Central American policies among Latinos, the majority of whom are deeply opposed to a U.S. war in the region.

At a meeting of Latino businessmen August 12 in Tampa, Florida, Reagan intoned that Central America presented the United States "with a challenge of supreme importance."

"A faraway totalitarian power has set its sights on our friends and neighbors in Central America and the Caribbean. If we don't meet our responsibilities there, we will pay dearly for it."

### Lies about Cuba

Turning to Cuba, Reagan told his audience, that "Cuba has become the economic basket case of the hemisphere. . . . They have neither freedom nor material goods. The only thing abundant there today are slogans, weapons, repression and shortages."

Apparently that lie was even too big for the *Washington Post* to let pass without comment. After reporting that part of Reagan's speech, the *Post's* editors immediately inserted a disclaimer:

"According to the U.N. Economic Commission, however, Cuba was the only country in Latin America to show an increase in per capita income last year. Median individual income rose 4 percent, and Cuba's gross national product . . . increased 2.7 percent the U.N. study said."

Continuing on the propaganda trail, Reagan flew to Texas August 13 for a speech to an organization of Latino war veterans, the American G.I. Forum.

Two days later Reagan spoke at the convention of the 1.9 million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in New Orleans. The White House is encouraging efforts by the right-wing VFW leadership to raise "humanitarian aid" for the counter-revolutionaries trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan revolution.

During his speech to the VFW Reagan called the U.S. government a "peace-maker" in Central America.

But the only peace Washington is interested in for Central America and the Caribbean is peace for U.S.-backed dictators and the North American corporations who exploit the oppressed peoples of that region.

El Salvador's rebel station Radio Venceremos commented recently that Washington's military "maneuvers" are "the most eloquent signs" of what the U.S. government has in store for the region. "The American plan is for war, the only American plan for Central America is intervention."

## Chicago socialist candidate blasts Reagan veto of desegregation funds

CHICAGO — Ed Warren, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the 1st District, sharply assailed President Reagan's August 13 veto of a Congressional measure that would have provided some funds to help in desegregating Chicago schools.

The bill would have provided a modest \$20 million to help carry out a desegregation program to which the federal and Chicago governments had both committed themselves. This followed a 1980 consent decree before a federal judge after the Justice Department itself had argued that Chicago officials had established and maintained a segregated school system. The federal government pledged to help finance desegregation moves, but did nothing.

Warren noted that "this desegregation plan was so minimal that at the time, the Reagan administration hailed it as a 'model.'"

"What they especially liked about it is that it didn't include compulsory busing, the only means to effectively desegregate Chicago schools. Yet now, they're even trying to block funds for what little improvement the plan might bring."

Chicago is one of the most segregated cities in the nation, in housing as well as schools. The 1st Congressional District where Warren is running is overwhelmingly Black, and the district's school children are forced to attend inferior, overcrowded schools.

In the city as a whole, some 81 percent of public school students are Black and



Militant/Holbrook Mahn

### Socialist candidate Ed Warren

Latino. They make up 90 percent of the student body in the schools that were to get the aid vetoed by Reagan.

Warren reminded voters that for generations the Democratic Party in Chicago has led the resistance to any effort to end segregated schools. The Republicans have followed suit. "If you want to register your stand in favor of desegregation, cast your vote for the Socialist Workers Party in the August 23 election, not for either of the two parties responsible for denying our children their right to an equal education."



# Cubans respond firmly and rapidly to U.S. war moves

BY FRED MURPHY

The Cuban people and their leaders have responded rapidly and unequivocally to Washington's deployment of warships and troops in Central America and the Caribbean.

Cuba would regard a U.S. blockade or quarantine of Nicaragua as an "act of war" against that country, Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcón told journalists in Santiago de Cuba on July 26. "We are approaching a decisive moment," Alarcón said, in which the Reagan administration "is concentrating for a military solution."

Cuban leader Fidel Castro spoke to more than 200,000 persons in Santiago the same day at a rally held to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the beginning of the fight against the Batista dictatorship. He warned that the U.S.-Honduran "maneuvers" are in reality "an actual deployment of U.S. troops in Central America. Nicaragua is already essentially surrounded by U.S. warships and soldiers."

After an earlier round of U.S. threats and provocations in April, Cuban defenses were bolstered. From May 30 to June 3, the Revolutionary Armed Forces and Territorial Troop Militias carried out maneuvers in west-central Cuba involving simulated naval landings, airborne troop deployments, and air strikes against enemy positions.

Those exercises were followed up in mid-June with a series of civil defense exercises entitled "Bastion '83." These involved over 100,000 persons, Castro reported July 26.

## 6 million in arms

In the weeks leading up to the July 26 celebrations, a total of 1.8 million women signed up to join the Territorial Troop Militias, Castro said, bringing Cuba's combat potential to "almost six million citizens."

"In the next 12 months," he continued, "an additional half million men and women plus 30,000 new officers will be joining the Territorial Troop Militia." The new units "will be made up mainly of women, in a ratio of three to one in relation to men."

While preparing to confront whatever military moves Reagan may have in store, Nicaraguan and Cuban leaders have stressed their willingness to seek negotiated political solutions. On July 19, Nicaraguan junta coordinator Daniel Ortega offered a six-point proposal calling for a nonaggression pact between his country and Honduras, an end to all military aid

to all sides in El Salvador and to opposition forces throughout Central America, a halt to economic discrimination against any Central American state, and the removal of all foreign military bases and the suspension of all military exercises involving foreign troops.

Commenting on these points to reporters from CBS-TV Castro said in Havana July 28: "If there were to be an agreement among all the parties involved about withdrawing all the advisers, we would be willing to support such a settlement. If an agreement were reached on the basis of the cessation of sending weapons to any state of Central America we would be willing to abide by it."

Castro pointed out that Washington's claims regarding the number of Cuban military advisers in Nicaragua are "absolutely false."

"We do not have the tenth part of what they say we have," he said. The 4,000 Cubans serving in Nicaragua include 2,000 teachers, 500 doctors, 400 construction workers, and 100 civilian technicians of various kinds, Castro said. As for military advisers, these number only "about 200." He added that in his opinion the latter "are not essential" because the Nicaraguan army and militia "have the experience" and "the Sandinistas are strong."

Should Honduras attack Nicaragua, Castro declared, "the Nicaraguan people would swallow the Honduran army."

While expressing Cuban readiness to abide by any accord reached on limiting military aid and advisers, Castro left no doubt as to his country's principled stand regarding the way such decisions must be made and implemented.

"We are not the ones who have to decide," he told a group of French reporters August 6. "The country that provides collaborative aid to another cannot negotiate about it" with third parties.

For example, Castro said, "We aid Angola and we will never negotiate over such collaboration. Still, we agree that the countries with which we collaborate can negotiate." But if Cuba were to seek deals with the imperialists behind the backs of such countries, "that would be disloyalty."

In his statements to the French and U.S. reporters, Castro also emphasized the central place El Salvador must have in any solution to the Central American conflicts. "There will be no negotiated solution in Central America that does not deal with the Salvadoran guerrilla movement," Castro



Part of crowd of 200,000 Cubans that mobilized on July 26 in defense of revolution.

said. "If a solution implies ignoring the Salvadoran revolutionaries, then there will be no solution."

## No solution based on capitulation

The Salvadoran fighters "are stronger than ever," Castro said. "Their sense of responsibility toward their country and toward Central America brings them to a readiness to sincerely seek formulas for a negotiated political solution." But "solutions based on capitulations or on unilateral concessions can never be expected."

The initial U.S. reaction to Castro's statements was a claim by Reagan July 29 that "I am willing to give [Castro] the benefit of the doubt in any negotiations and so forth." Reagan even asserted that Washington would "take the lead" in seeking talks.

Reagan also claimed his show of force had spurred Nicaragua and Cuba to take conciliatory positions. Castro responded August 6 that such a conclusion "is a profound error."

"I am absolutely convinced," he said, "that Nicaragua will never cede to a policy of force and that Cuba will never cede to a policy of force. The search for solutions can never mean, in any way, unilateral concessions on the part of the revolutionaries, on Nicaragua's part, on Cuba's part."

Washington dropped the pretense of seeking negotiations August 13 when officials issued a flat rejection of Cuba's expressed willingness to abide by a Central American settlement. The administration

had already concluded, the *Washington Post* reported, that Castro was "not serious."

"Until the Cubans stop what they're doing in Nicaragua, there's nothing to negotiate," a Reagan aide told the *Post*.

What the Cubans are "doing" in Nicaragua is providing unconditional aid in a wide range of fields, including military, at the request of the Nicaraguan government. In helping to defend the Nicaraguan revolution from the mounting efforts by U.S. imperialism to destroy it, the Cuban people are at the same time defending their own revolution.

"Is imperialist arrogance resigned to the successes of our revolution and the example set by it?" Castro asked in his July 26 speech. "We know well that the answer is no."

"They threaten us with military blockades, they threaten us with reprisals and punishments, they threaten us with invasions. Should we be afraid? No. We must be prepared."

"How many troops would imperialism need to occupy Cuba? Five million soldiers wouldn't be enough to confront hundreds of thousands, or even millions of determined and well-trained combatants."

"As we have said to many comrades, we would apply the formidable watchword of [Antonio] Maceo: 'Whoever tries to conquer Cuba will gain nothing but the dust of her blood-soaked soil — if he doesn't perish in the struggle first!' But in this case, the enemy would not gain the dust of our blood-soaked soil. He would perish first."

# Opposition to Chilean regime spreads despite repression

BY HERMAN CHAUKA

Despite brutal repression, opposition to the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile is broadening and taking significant organized form. The labor movement is playing a key role in the struggle.

Over a period of several days ending August 13, at least 24 people were killed and well over 60 wounded. They fell victim to the 18,000 cops and troops ordered into the streets to try to crush the fourth monthly demonstration of opposition to the dictatorship.

A number of the victims, including at least three children, died when cops fired into the windows of homes trying to stop people from banging on pots, the means of registering the demand that the Pinochet dictatorship must go.

The U.S. government, which installed the Pinochet regime and continues to arm and finance it, said it "deplored" the violence.

The monthly protests were initiated by various unions, principally the copper workers, and by the Democratic Alliance, a five-party opposition to the dictatorship.

The Pinochet dictatorship was installed ten years ago after the CIA, in collaboration with Anaconda Copper, IT&T and other U.S. investors in Chile, joined hands with Chilean officers to overthrow the legally elected government of Salvador Allende.

An estimated 2,500 people have "disappeared" since then, suffering torture and death at the hands of the regime. Some 70,000 Chileans were forced to flee into exile. Another 70,000, mainly middle-class people were compelled to leave the country because of the mounting economic hardship.

While the Pinochet regime has continued to safeguard the profits of U.S. im-

perialist investors, the toll on the Chilean people has been devastating.

The chaotic condition of the economy, and the amount being siphoned off by foreign banks, is indicated by an estimated foreign debt of \$29 billion, nearly equal to the country's gross national product.

Unemployment is reported at 30 percent, but in the *poblaciones* — the shantytowns in the capital city of Santiago — the jobless figure soars to 70 percent. Forty percent of Santiago's population now live in the *poblaciones*.

The official, and undoubtedly low, estimate of inflation is 35 percent.

In Santiago alone, an estimated 180,000 people are unable to pay their utility bills.

Along with the workers, the middle class has been hard hit. Many business and professional people have repainted their cars black and yellow and become cab drivers overnight. The number of taxis in the country leaped from 12,000 to 40,000 in a few months.

The August 5 *Christian Science Monitor* reports that the unions which survived as isolated factory units have recently been united into a centralized structure.

High school students have formed a national assembly. University students have elected representatives to a congress slated for the end of August.

Merchants and other small business people have joined forces in a new opposition organization.

Residents of the *poblaciones* have already held a national congress of elected delegates.

So deep is the opposition that the dictatorship was forced to release copper union leader Rodolfo Seguel from prison. He had been jailed for 35 days for organizing prior protests and is regarded as a symbol of the opposition to Pinochet.

## Fidel Castro's July 26th speech in new 'Intercontinental Press'

The September 5 issue of *Intercontinental Press*, a biweekly international news magazine, features the full text of Fidel Castro's speech at Cuba's July 26 celebration. Order your copy today, or better yet, subscribe.

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# Nicaragua organizes territorial militia: 'Our people are prepared to resist'

BY HARRY RING

Nicaragua is arming and mobilizing its civilian population — young and old, male and female — to resist a U.S.-backed invasion block by block.

The scope of the militia's preparation, and the popular response to it, underlines the profound changes brought by the Sandinista revolution. It has given the working people of Nicaragua a stake in their country, which they are ready to defend even against a massive U.S. invasion force.

And it has given them a workers and farmers government that is confident of popular support and able to arm the people.

The process of organization of territorial militias was discussed at a July 26 rally by Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the armed forces. An initial report on the speech appeared in the *Militant* August 5.

The occasion for the speech was the formation of three territorial militia units in Managua neighborhoods, or *barrios*, each numbering some 700 people. About 500 of the newly organized fighters are women. Many more such barrio units are being rapidly organized.

The rally of about 20,000 included many relatives and workmates of the militia members, who were armed with brand new Soviet AK-47 assault rifles.

The Sandinista People's Militia has, up to now, engaged in much of the fighting against counterrevolutionaries.

Reorganization of the militia on a territorial basis will permit the government to dispatch its regular army and reserve forces to border areas under assault.

Meanwhile, the new territorial militias will be ready to defend their own areas. In addition, the government has announced a military draft, which has met with broad popular support. Previously, all military service was voluntary.

Ortega told the rally that while the government was utilizing all possible diplomatic and political means to avert an escalation of the U.S. aggression, it was necessary to prepare for a deepening of counterrevolutionary activity, especially from Honduras. And, he added, the prospect of a direct U.S. invasion is real.

## U.S. warships off coast

The new threat, he explained, came from the mobilization of U.S. forces in the waters directly off Nicaragua.

"Fifteen or 20 kilometers off the coast," Ortega told the rally, "you can see the U.S. warships."

He said three U.S. aircraft carriers, with more than 200 planes, would be off the Nicaraguan coast in a matter of days, and these would be buttressed by three cruisers, a destroyer, a warship, and other support vessels.

Nicaragua, he said, could not directly counter an attack by this powerful force. "We have no aircraft carriers, we have no armored vessels, we have no warships," he said.

"But," Ortega resolutely added, "we are also certain that if they dare to try to set foot on our soil they are going to confront this uniformed people, armed with these weapons, with this morale, defending the homeland, defending the revolution!"

## Role of women

An important source of strength of the newly created territorial militia, Ortega emphasized, "is the incorporation of Nicaraguan women, of Sandinista women, in military defense." They have, he proudly declared, "run to pick up the rifle."

Ortega said the Nicaraguan armed forces have successfully fought off the Honduran-based counterrevolutionaries. But, he continued, the escalated direct activity of the U.S.-backed Honduran army increased the danger of Nicaragua being dragged into a war with that country.

In addition, he declared, there is "the real possibility of intervention, as in our country's past, by the odious Yankee jackboot, by the hated U.S. Marines."

But, he added, if U.S. forces do set foot on Nicaraguan soil, "we have absolute confidence" in the capacity of the people to resist.

Not only to resist, Ortega declared, "but to defeat the invaders, even with their cannons, their planes, their rockets, and whatever other technology they may possess!"

Responding to the threat of a U.S. military blockade, he said:

"For our part, we say to imperialism, that our revolutionary people are prepared, with firm morale, to resist as long as necessary this encirclement, this blockade, without surrendering, without yielding!"

Further, Ortega expressed confidence that international support for Nicaragua would be so strong in the face of this aggression, that "in the long run it is they who will be blockaded, not Nicaragua!"

In the event of an invasion, he reiterated, "we are not going to run from the cities, leaving our people abandoned."

"With the people organized in militias we are going to defend the cities, we are going to defend the roads . . . we are going to defend the entire country."

In addition to the detailed plans for military resistance by the people, he continued, civil defense planning is being stepped up.

"You already know," he told the crowd, "the kinds of brigades we have to create — special brigades for the children, special brigades to clean up shell and bomb damage, fire-fighting brigades, first-aid brigades, public health and clean-up brigades. And brigades to build the air raid shelters."

## Dominican gov't cracks down on left

BY CLAUDIO TAVÁREZ

SANTO DOMINGO — A sweeping campaign of repression against leftist leaders and activists has been unleashed in the Dominican Republic by the administration of President Salvador Jorge Blanco.

More than 50 activists from the Dominican Left Front (FID) have been detained. The FID is a coalition of 10 of the principal left organizations in the Dominican Republic.

President Jorge Blanco has accused the Dominican Left Front of "organizing strikes and occupations of land and churches" and of "mounting demonstrations throughout the country with the aim of destabilizing" the government.

At the same time, José Francisco Peña Gómez, who is mayor of Santo Domingo as well as leader of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), has gone on a media campaign charging that the Dominican left organizations are preparing for guerrilla warfare.

In statements to the newspaper *La*

## Protests hit Dominican arrests

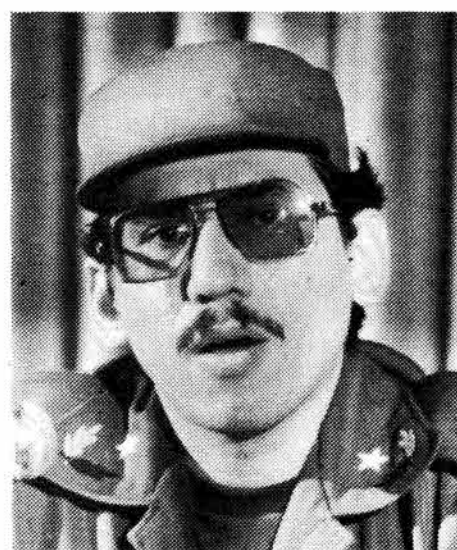
A broad protest campaign has been organized against the Dominican government's round-up of left activists, trade unionists, and peasant leaders.

Several newspapers have written editorials protesting the arrests, and trade unions, political and cultural organizations, and prominent individuals have called for the immediate release of all those detained.

Activists in the Dominican Republic have called for an international campaign to demand that the Dominican government release the detainees and respect civil liberties.

They have asked that telegrams and letters protesting the arrests be sent to: Dr. Salvador Jorge Blanco, President of the Republic, Palacio Nacional, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; or to the Consul General of the Dominican Republic, 17 West 60th St., New York, N.Y. 10023.

Copies should be sent to *Nuevo Diario*, Apartado Postal 841, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.



Militant/Fred Murphy

Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of Nicaragua's armed forces, addressed territorial militia July 26. "Sandinista women," he declared, "have run to pick up the rifle."



Militant/Michael Baumann

Equally essential, Ortega pointed out, is the need for increased revolutionary vigilance, especially in protecting strategic centers.

"They will try," he noted, "to blow up the refinery . . . so that we will have more difficulty in moving our troops who require fuel for transport."

"They will try to sabotage our power plants, our drainage systems. . . ."

In a warning to the Honduran and Costa

Rican regimes, which have provided bases for the aggression against Nicaragua, Ortega declared that Nicaragua would confront intervention "not only in our territory, but also wherever the invasion comes from."

He also declared that the Nicaraguan people could count on broad international solidarity. "We have the support of responsible governments and we have a large

Continued on Page 9

*Noticia*, Peña Gómez claimed the Dominican Left Front had set up a military training school for guerrillas.

This baseless charge has been echoed by the military high command and the National Police, who have leaked documents to the press claiming that 43 known leaders of the Dominican left have been involved in this "school for guerrilla training."

Among those arrested have been Socialist Bloc (BS) leaders Leo Mercedes, Edgar Erickson, Wellington Peterson Pieterz, and Victor Morales; Dominican Communist Party central committee member Carlos Dore Cabral; and other leaders of the Dominican Left Front.

The Dominican government has also resorted to charges of Cuban interference. Two Cuban sociologists, who had been invited to the Dominican Republic to participate in a seminar on methods of research in rural areas, were arrested and expelled from the country. The Cuban scholars were charged with engaging in politics and taking part in the alleged destabilization plan against the Dominican government.

In the midst of this sweep against Dominican activists, U.S. Gen. Robert Schweitzer, head of the Inter-American Defense Board, arrived in Santo Domingo for talks on military training plans.

The real reason for the government's crackdown is not a guerrilla threat or Cuban interference. Rather, the Jorge Blanco regime is confronted by a rising tide of protests by workers, peasants, and other layers of the population who are demanding that the government carry out its election promises.

During the 1982 election campaign, Salvador Jorge Blanco promised to solve the basic problems facing Dominican workers and peasants. He pledged his government would carry out a major land reform and promised farmers that the government would replace pigs they were forced to slaughter to prevent the spread of a swine fever epidemic.

Victims of Hurricane David in 1978, who have been living in temporary shelters ever since, were promised new housing and schools.

Workers were told that trade-union rights would be respected and their living conditions would improve.

In international relations, the PRD candidate pledged to carry out an independent foreign policy, establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba and other socialist coun-

tries.

Not one of these promises, however, has been fulfilled. Instead the workers and peasants have been subjected to an austerity program imposed at the insistence of the International Monetary Fund.

Since Jorge Blanco's election in May 1982, demonstrations, rallies, and marches have taken place demanding that the government deliver on its promises.

In recent months, thousands of peasants from all over the country have gathered in the capital demanding land reform and implementation of the pig replacement program.

In some provinces, machete-wielding peasants have occupied lands promised them by the government. Hundreds have been arrested.

In the poor and working-class neighborhoods of Santo Domingo and other cities, People's Struggle Committees have been set up to demand that the government carry out its promises to build schools, housing, and clinics and to improve living conditions in the slums.

These committees have organized demonstrations, strikes, and occupations of churches to press their demands.

In recent months these campaigns have taken on a massive, nationwide character. Organizations working in the Dominican Left Front have actively participated in and led many of these actions. Taking their inspiration from the process of left unity taking place in Central America, the ten organizations that came together in the FID have been able to help coordinate and strengthen the struggles now taking place in the countryside and cities.

It is this growing unity and effectiveness that is behind the government's witch-hunt against "communist subversion."

PRD leader José Francisco Peña Gómez has also publicly warned that the growing U.S. intervention in Central America could cause an explosion inside the Dominican Republic. By striking at the left now, the government hopes to cripple the response to U.S. aggression in the region.

The Dominican Left Front answered the round-ups with an open letter to Peña Gómez, who is also a vice-president of the Socialist International. The letter challenged his claim that the left is involved in a destabilization campaign and argued that the present wave of repression stems from the PRD's inability to solve the problems facing Dominican workers and peasants.



# Michael Manley speaks in N.Y.

'Every small country has a stake in defending Nicaragua'

BY STEPHEN BRIDE

NEW YORK — The U.S. armada that is currently cruising Nicaragua's shoreline came under verbal fire here August 7 from former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley.

Addressing a crowd of 2,000 at Hunter College, Manley called the U.S. fleet a "mounting threat" to the region and charged that "these battleships and carriers are being dispatched to bully small outposts of freedom."

At stake, Manley said, "is the right of small countries to pursue their independence, to rid themselves of external exploitation. Every small country has a stake in the defense of Nicaragua's right to pursue her own salvation."

The ex-prime minister, who came in for his own share of U.S. bullying during his term in office, urged the audience to "make your voices heard" in opposition to Washington's drive toward war.

Manley held office from 1972 until his electoral defeat in 1980 at the hands of Edward Seaga's proimperialist Jamaica Labor Party (JLP). That election took place amidst a CIA-organized terror campaign against supporters of Manley and his People's National Party (PNP).

Hundreds were killed, and PNP candidates ducked numerous assassination attempts, as armed rightist gangs laid claim to the streets. It was well known at the time that much of the weaponry these thugs wielded had been supplied by the United States.

Manley's appearance here came on the 21st anniversary of Jamaica's independence from Britain on Aug. 6, 1962. He described the nation his government inherited 10 years after formal independence.

"It had embarked on an explicitly dependent road. It regarded itself as part of the Western capitalist system, as an appendage of that system. Political independence was symbolic; the inner reality of our economic situation had not changed.

"Forty percent of the population was functionally illiterate. The distribution of land was a social and economic disgrace. On the day of independence, Jamaican unemployment was 12.4 percent; by 1972, the unemployment statistics were 24.8 percent.

"The workers had no part in determining their product. They made a profit for others, then had to scratch and claw to get a share of it in the form of a wage increase."

Manley then listed the accomplishments of his administration, which brought the island its "greatest period of progressive social legislation" along with the wrath of Washington.

"We are proud of the literacy campaign, in which 200,000 people learned to read and write. In economic reorganization, we made a beginning. Light and power, the telephone company, foreign sugar corporations — all these were put under public ownership.

"The government acquired 51 percent of bauxite mining operations [Jamaica's deposits are among the world's largest]. In the tourism industry, we brought many

critical services into public control. We began the first experimentation in land reform."

Accompanying this were public works programs and measures to lower the costs of education, housing, and health care.

In the area of foreign policy, the PNP likewise struck a course independent of Washington. "Some said that because we are small we must have no concern with the world around us," Manley told the audience. "We must be an obedient vassal."

"We said that *because* we are small we must be concerned; *because* we are small we must have our own policy."

Particularly unsettling to Washington were the warm relations the PNP government enjoyed with revolutionary Cuba, culminating in Manley's support to the 1975 Cuban intervention in Angola.

Facing invasion from South Africa, he said, "the government of Angola had an absolute right to ask Cuba to render assistance. And when Castro's government was asked to help, they responded. They hurled South Africa back over the border and saved Angola."

"In a situation like that, only dogs and curs keep quiet. I did not hesitate to declare that Jamaica supported Cuba's actions."

Manley then brought the predominantly Black crowd to its feet when he asserted, "The struggle of Black Africa is sacred, because it is our struggle. It is our roots."

Manley charged that 1975 began a period of "active U.S. sabotage" of the Jamaican economy and political system. Aluminum companies cut back bauxite

production, other industries followed suit, and thousands were put out of work. "U.S. and international aid dried up. Anti-Jamaica propaganda in the U.S. cut deeply into tourism. M-16 rifles began to appear."

"Washington accused us of being communists. We were not communists. If we were, we would have a clear Marxist-Leninist position. We are what we are: democratic socialists. So it was a premeditated lie, and in the name of that lie there was violence and killing."

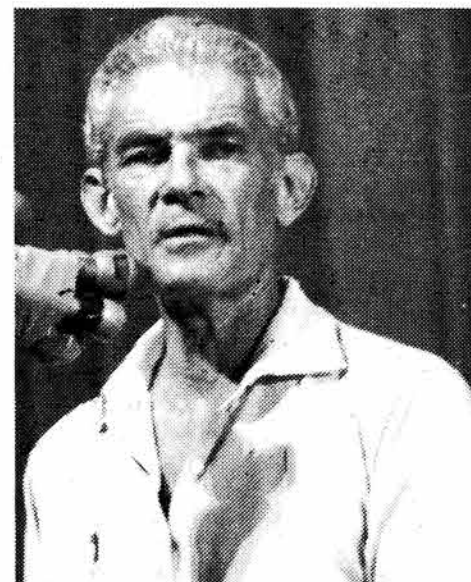
Following the "nightmare" of the 1980 election, Manley said, the new Seaga regime began to divest itself of the nationalized holdings. Trade deregulation swelled the balance-of-payments deficit to \$US400 million a year, as the island was overrun with imports.

"In one six-month period alone, domestic agriculture shrank by 80 percent. Layoffs have taken place at a level never seen. All democratic processes have been frozen."

Much of this, Manley observed, was by way of inviting "a flood of foreign capital. We are told there is only one engine of development: foreign capital."

"Nobody's knocking foreign capital," he continued. "Everybody needs foreign capital. But the question is, on what terms? Is that what you depend on for your development?"

Regarding the future, Manley said the island must again set out on "the road of national pride and self-reliance." The PNP must be "the instrument of mass mobilization" in the next election.



Militant/Mark Satinoff  
Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, addressing 2,000 at Hunter College, said "right of small countries to rid themselves of external exploitation" is at stake in U.S. war against Nicaragua.

Manley shared the stage at Hunter with leaders of the PNP-affiliated Progressive Youth Organization of Jamaica (PYOJ). In an opening statement, PYOJ General Secretary Michael Wiltshire called Jamaica's struggle "a microcosm of the larger struggle for national liberation throughout the world," adding that "unity of these anti-imperialist forces must be high on the agenda."

"Revolution," Wiltshire concluded, "is the last means through which a people can achieve freedom, democracy, and self-determination. There will be no peace in the region until — like Cuba, Grenada, and Nicaragua — every other nation is freed from the shackles of neocolonialism."

## Brazilian workers resist IMF pillage

BY WILL REISSNER

Striking workers brought São Paulo, Brazil's largest city, to an almost complete halt on July 21 in a protest against the military government's latest round of austerity measures.

Mass demonstrations also took place that day in Rio de Janeiro, Brasília, Porto Alegre, and Belo Horizonte. The scope of the actions outside São Paulo is difficult to determine because Brazilian authorities ordered journalists to suppress news of the protests.

Earlier in July, tens of thousands of workers in Brazil's auto plants and oil refineries walked off their jobs to protest the austerity measures.

The anger focuses on a government decree limiting cost-of-living raises to 80 percent of inflation. This year inflation is already running at a rate of nearly 130 percent, and is expected to rise to 170 percent by year's end.

Measures to cut real wages and slash social spending are being carried out at the insistence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the big imperialist banks as their price for further credits and loans to the Brazilian government.

The Brazilian military's decision to cut wage indexing and slash social spending followed a confrontation with the IMF over \$1.1 billion in additional credits. Brazil is now \$1 billion in arrears in its loan repayments.

The Brazilian government is especially vulnerable to IMF blackmail because of the size of the country's foreign debt — nearly \$90 billion — and the fact that Brazil is unable to keep up its repayments.

As old loans fall due, the Brazilian government must go hat in hand to the imperialist banks and financial organizations to beg for new loans to pay off the old ones.

Increasingly, Brazil must borrow new funds simply to pay the *interest* on its existing loans. The country's foreign debt has climbed from \$12.6 billion in 1973 to nearly \$90 billion today.

### Mushrooming debt burden

Brazil's situation is not unique. In 1973, Third World countries had a total foreign debt of about \$100 billion. Ten years later, its foreign debt had soared to more than \$700 billion. In fact, last year alone the underdeveloped countries paid out far more in

interest and loan repayments — \$131 billion — than the total they owed a decade earlier.

The mushrooming debt burden is particularly acute in Latin America, where 46 percent of the Third World's foreign debt is concentrated. And 80 percent of that is owed by just four countries — Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Venezuela.

Country after country has been unable to keep up its payments and has had to turn to the IMF for new loans.

But to get an IMF loan, the borrowing country has to agree to squeeze the working people so that every possible penny can be diverted to repay loans to the imperialist banks.

Typically, the IMF demands that the borrowing country:

- Cut real wages. When purchasing power is reduced, the demand for imports drops. Hard currency previously spent on imports can be diverted to the imperialist banks. Consumption of local products is also cut, forcing businesses to seek new export markets.
- Cut social services. In this way a larger portion of the national budget can be used to repay the foreign debt.
- Devalue the currency. This makes imports more expensive in the local currency and exports cheaper in world markets. By slashing imports and increasing exports, more foreign currency is available to repay foreign debts.

But how did the Third World countries get into this bind in the first place?

### Imperialist pillage

The answer is naked imperialist pillage. The rape of the Third World takes a number of forms, beginning with foreign investment. Contrary to imperialist propaganda, foreign investment does not develop the Third World. In fact, far more money leaves the Third World in profits than is invested there.

Between 1970 and 1980, for example, imperialist corporations directly invested \$62.6 billion in the underdeveloped countries. But they sent home more than *twice as much* in repatriated profits — \$139.7 billion.

Another form of pillage takes place through interest payments and unequal trade. Increasingly, Third World countries have had to resort to private bank loans to finance development programs. Bank

loans now make up nearly 90 percent of the financial flow from the advanced capitalist countries to the Third World.

In theory, these loans would be repaid by increasing exports from those areas of the economy developed through the borrowing. But with the economic downturn in the imperialist countries since the mid-1970s, exports from the Third World have been restricted by declining demand and growing protectionism. This has led to a sharp drop in the prices of the commodities that make up a large part of Third World exports.

But the price of imports from the advanced capitalist countries has continued to rise, as a result of inflation and because of the big shift in the exchange rate that favors the dollar against other currencies. Much of what the Third World countries import is priced in dollars.

The wealth that leaves the country through the raking off of profits by the imperialists, the declining export earnings, and the higher prices for imports are at the root of the financial crisis of the semicolonial countries. But on top of all this, these countries have also been the victims of soaring U.S. interest rates over the past three years.

Unable to repay their foreign loans as they came due, the semicolonial countries have had to take out new loans to repay their old ones. But the new loans are at much higher interest rates, with shorter repayment periods. And the private banks insist on acceptance of IMF-sponsored restructuring programs as a condition for further loans.

### Playing with fire

When Brazil's military rulers demand that workers and farmers tighten their belts another notch, they are playing with fire.

Even under the best of circumstances, Brazilian workers live on the edge of destitution.

In São Paulo, Brazil's industrial and financial center, one-third of the workers make less than \$75 *per month*. Only 30 percent of the city's housing is connected to sewers, and half the homes have no piped water.

Living conditions are much worse in other cities and in rural areas.

As a result of its burgeoning debt and the international capitalist crisis, Brazil has al-

Continued on Page 10



Militant/Mark Satinoff  
Michael Wiltshire of the Progressive Youth Organization of Jamaica explained that "unity of anti-imperialist forces must be high on the agenda."



# 1,000 gather at int'l solidarity rally in Ohio

BY STEVE WATTENMAKER

OBERLIN, Ohio — More than 1,000 people attended an August 5 rally here in solidarity with the liberation fighters in Central America and throughout the world.

The rally was held on the final evening of a weeklong Socialist Educational and Activists Conference. The conference drew members and supporters of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance and many international guests.

Keynote speakers at the rally included representatives of the revolutionary movements in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Palestine, South Africa, the Caribbean, and Indochina. They were joined on the platform by U.S. Black leaders and activists organizing for the August 27 Washington, D.C., march for jobs, peace, and freedom.

Events in Central America charged the rally with a special sense of urgency. U.S. warships and troops had recently been ordered to that region for "maneuvers" aimed at the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran revolutions.

As the speakers filed to the stage, the audience rose and broke into chants of "¡No pasarán!" The slogan, made popular in Nicaragua, means "They shall not pass!"

Jackie Floyd, SWP candidate for mayor of Miami, chaired the rally along with Bill Hovland, a coal miner and 1982 SWP candidate for governor of West Virginia.

"The U.S. government is dragging us into another Vietnam," Floyd said. "But we only have to look at the war these tyrants are waging on our rights here at home to know their real purposes in Central America."

## 'Nicaragua wants peace'

Roberto Alvarez, representing Casa Nicaragua, was given a standing ovation and welcomed with more chants of "¡No pasarán!"

"Allow me to say that your applause is not for me," Alvarez began, "but for my sisters and brothers who are fighting along the Honduran border. The people of Nicaragua want peace so we can continue to build more schools, more hospitals, more roads, and to put an end to the 12 percent illiteracy that still remains in our country."

"The government of Nicaragua wants

peace and we are convinced the people of the United States want peace. But your government is ignoring your demands. If the U.S. wants peace they must withdraw their warships and fight hunger and poverty instead," Alvarez said.

SWP leader Fred Halstead, just returned from a conference in Nicaragua, also spoke.

"The Nicaraguan revolution is a strong revolution," Halstead told the audience. "I was there just after the insurrection in 1979 and I could see the difference. It's much, much stronger today and better organized."

"I want to pass on something a small farmer told me up near Nicaragua's northern border where all the fighting is going on. He said, 'You know, this is the first time I've got a government on my side. And nobody's going to take it away from me. If anybody tries, Cuba's going to help us and Russia's going to help Cuba.'"

## 'El Salvador will win'

Chants of "No draft, no war; U.S. out of El Salvador!" greeted the two speakers from the struggle in that country.

Alberto Arene, a U.S. representative of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) and Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), exposed Reagan's claim to be for free elections and democracy in El Salvador.

He explained that the growing worldwide support for the FMLN-FDR's call for a dialogue to achieve a political solution to the war "has been reducing the political space and time the Reagan administration has to act in our country."

But if Washington chooses to pursue the war, Arene said, "we will defeat the intervention through military and through political means."

"We have not been sleeping all these days. We have not only been confronting and defeating the Salvadoran army, but preparing ourselves for [U.S.] intervention. Through negotiations or through military victory, the Salvadoran people will win this struggle."

Salvadoran trade union leader Alejandro Molina Lara told the rally that labor struggles in El Salvador are on the rise. Molina Lara is a leader of FENASTRAS, one of the country's largest trade union confederations.

He pointed out that on May Day this year some 200 trade union leaders defied the dictatorship and its death squads by celebrating this workers holiday in the streets of El Salvador.

While the Salvadoran regime is "exact-ing a high price in lives and blood," Molina Lara declared, "it will never be higher than those who intervene in our country will have to pay."

"The U.S. administration will soon add to its history a fresh defeat," he concluded.

## Grenada, Cuba

Customs officials in both Barbados and New York delayed a representative of Grenada who was flying in to speak at the rally. Donald Telesford, president of the Grenada-Michigan Association and the Detroit Grenada Solidarity Committee, spoke in his place.

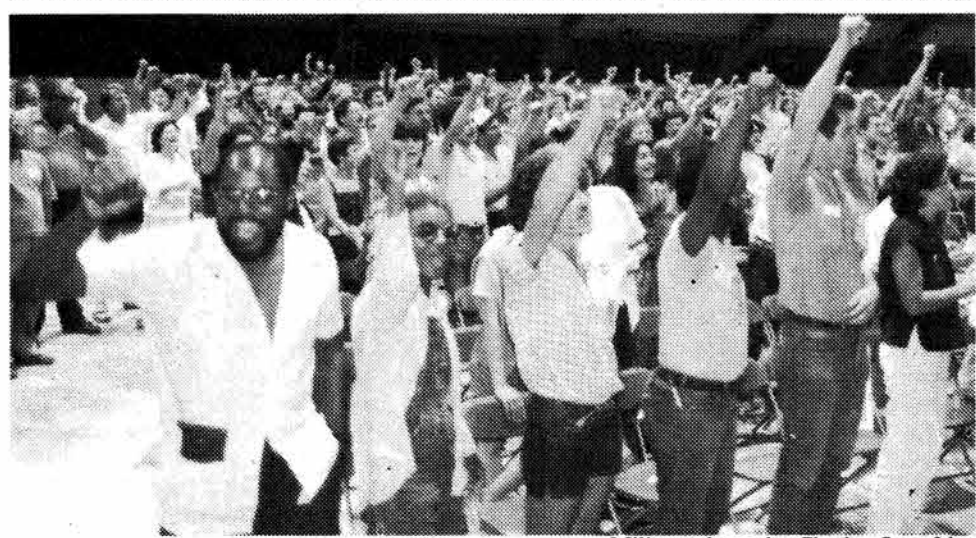
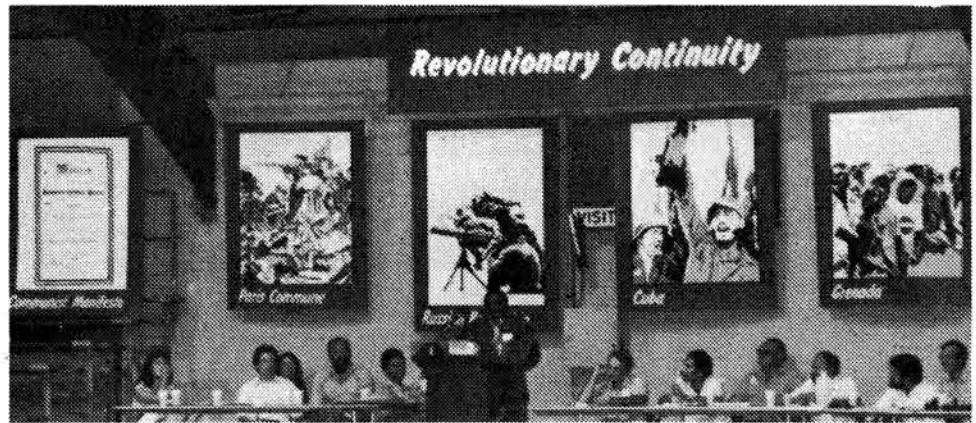
Telesford explained that while the island of Grenada is tiny in size, it is powerful in world politics. What threatens Washington, he said, is that Grenada is making giant strides in education, health care, and other social needs.

Viqui Hernández brought greetings to the rally from the Antonio Maceo Brigade, an organization of young Cubans in the United States. (See text below.)

In 1965 U.S. Marines were responsible for the bloody suppression of a revolutionary uprising in the Dominican Republic. José Antonio Gómez, a representative of the Socialist Bloc in the Dominican Republic, recalled that event in light of today's war buildup in Central America.

"The Reagan administration and its puppets will understand that the revolutionaries of the world have no borders, and that at the instant the U.S. Marine invaders touch Nicaraguan soil, they will be touching Dominican soil," Gómez declared.

During the 1965 U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic, he recalled, "The streets and neighborhoods of Santo



Militant photos by Charles Ostrofsky  
Dr. Fred Dube of ANC addresses rally. Freedom fighters from all over globe joined U.S. activists in denouncing Washington's war in Central America and Caribbean.

Domingo were filled with valiant and heroic men, women, and small children shedding their humble blood in the struggle against imperialism."

After that experience, the people of the Dominican Republic, Gómez promised, "will never stand with their arms crossed in the face of an imperialist invasion of Nicaragua, Cuba, Grenada, or El Salvador."

## 'PLO! PLO!'

Hatem Hussein, deputy director of the Palestine Liberation Organization's UN observer mission, drew a connection between Washington's war moves in the Middle East and in Central America.

"The U.S. war machine is on the march today throughout the world," Hussein said. "The U.S. Marines are in Lebanon. The Sixth Fleet is in the Mediterranean. There are U.S. military maneuvers in Egypt and Oman. There are warships off Nicaragua."

"Who can stop the U.S. war machine?" Hussein asked. "The people can, as they did in Vietnam. And as they are doing today in occupied Palestine and in South Africa." The crowd responded with cheers and chants of "PLO! PLO!"

Joining Hussein on the platform were Dr. Fred Dube, a UN representative of the African National Congress (ANC), and Chan Bun Han of the Committee in Solidarity With the Peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos.

Reagan, Dube noted, "says his policies in South Africa, in Central America, in the Middle East, toward the elderly, toward women are not understood. How could so many millions misunderstand one man?"

"The problem Reagan has is not that he is misunderstood," Dube said. "His problem is that you cannot defeat peoples who are rising, who will no longer accept oppression."

Chan Bun Han told the audience that the U.S. government was cooking up a provocation in Central America modeled on the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964 that became the pretext for escalating the Vietnam War.

## August 27 march

The historic march for jobs, peace, and freedom coming up August 27 was a theme of several speakers.

Herman Dozier, a leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, explained that Black people were going to Washington August 27 to "return a rubber check, a no good check that Reagan gave to the poor people of this country" at a time when the government is spending trillions of dollars on war.

Ken Morgan, a leader of the National Black Independent Political Party in Balti-

more, called on those at the rally to take three important steps.

First, he said, "We must build the August 27 jobs, peace, and freedom march on Washington."

Second, "we must at every opportunity . . . demand that the U.S. government keep its hands out of Central America and the Caribbean." Finally, Morgan called on everyone to get involved in struggles to support Blacks and other oppressed nationalities, movements to halt investment in South Africa, and fights to defend the rights of workers and women.

"I say to you that if Brother Malcolm X was living today he would have supported the struggle of people in Grenada, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. He would have linked those struggles with the struggles of Blacks in America and in Southern Africa," Morgan said.

"Another fallen Black warrior, Martin Luther King, also understood the international implications of our struggle and imperialism when he began speaking out against the Vietnam War in 1968."

Elombe Brath, a leader of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition, denounced U.S. imperialism's desperate attempt to head off the revolutionary upsurge in Central America and elsewhere. He singled out Grenada, Nicaragua, and Cuba as examples for the oppressed of the world.

With the U.S. government moving toward war, Brath said, Washington is putting the Black community "in a position where our children will be forced to go and become cannon fodder."

"It means that particularly in the African and Latino community, those people who are the most deprived are forced to look to the U.S. military as the employer of last resort. What does that mean? It means they will be going to fight in Central America, they will be going to fight in Southern Africa."

A special moment during the rally was a speech by Héctor Marroquín. Marroquín is a leader of the Socialist Workers Party who has been waging a fight for political asylum in the United States since fleeing political persecution in Mexico in the 1970s. He spoke not only for himself, but on behalf of a long list of immigration service victims, particularly those from Central America.

"If the imperialists think that by deporting us, by deporting me, they will silence our ideas, I must say they will fail," Marroquín declared. "The U.S. working class with its contingents from all over the world can and will advance the fight for a new world, a world without borders."

Future issues of the "Militant" will feature full coverage of the Socialist Educational and Activists Conference.

## Message from Antonio Maceo Brigade

The following message was presented to the August 5 solidarity rally in Oberlin, Ohio, by Viqui Hernández on behalf of the Antonio Maceo Brigade National Committee:

Compañeros and compañeras,

The Antonio Maceo Brigade wishes to congratulate the Socialist Workers Party, as well as all the participants in this year's Socialist Educational and Activists Conference taking place in Oberlin.

We consider critical the questions of intervention and war in Central America and the Caribbean. The Reagan Administration's decision to escalate the U.S. military intervention in the region to a most dangerous degree is the greatest threat to the welfare and future of the Central American and Caribbean peoples, as well as to the welfare and future of the people of the United States.

The peoples of El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Grenada, Suriname, and Cuba have been the victims of a policy of aggression. Its purpose has been to perpetuate a system of exploitation denying them their right to self-determination.

Today, the greatest challenge for those of us in the United States is the strengthening of the movement against U.S. military intervention in our hemisphere and against war in general. Our most important task is the mobilization of the majority that has repeatedly expressed itself against war.

In the year of the 30th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks and the bicentennial of the birth of Simón Bolívar, the Liberator, let us all commit ourselves to defend the right of all peoples to establish and develop better and more just societies in peace. ¡Patria o Muerte! ¡Venceremos!





Picket line at Seattle's Todd Shipyard

Militant/Dean Peoples

# West Coast shipyard workers walk out; reject takeaway contract

BY DEAN PEOPLES

SEATTLE — Nearly 10,000 West Coast shipyard workers from 11 craft unions in the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council struck major shipyards from San Francisco to Seattle on July 25. The shipyard workers, whose contracts expired June 30, rejected a wage-cutting, take-away contract by a vote of 6,535 to 54.

The three-year contract proposal made by a joint employer bargaining unit calls for a 10 percent cut in journey-level pay for new hires; a 3 percent cap on the cost of living adjustment; takebacks in pensions, health and welfare; and contract language greatly weakening seniority rights and undermining the security of the unions themselves.

Under the old contract almost all production employees are paid at or near the journeyman rate, unless they are apprentices or trainees. With the current proposal, the employers are attempting to introduce a new system of four classifications for each craft, with a wage structure far below journey-level pay.

They are also proposing new contract language requiring production employees to perform the work of other crafts. A letter from the unions' District Council Negotiating Committee states, "Craft distinctions and historic jurisdictions would disappear in short order under the employers' proposal to allow interchangeability among crafts for periods of up to two hours whenever it makes for an efficient operation or lends itself to reducing standby time."

This "interchangeability" is a key part of the shipyard owners drive to speed up production and eliminate jobs in all the different crafts in order to boost profits. This provision could virtually eliminate the jobs of less skilled crafts such as the Ship Scal-

ers — those whose duties, among others, include cleaning compartments and removing excess material from the ships.

This move constitutes a sharp attack especially on the job rights of Blacks and women, who make up the majority of the membership of the Ship Scalers Union.

The shipyard owners are trying to play on the fear of being permanently out of a job to get workers to accept concessions. In order to make their demands for concessions and speedup appear more reasonable they are claiming that their labor costs are too high to compete for work with Atlantic and Gulf Coast yards. Production workers in these other areas receive \$2-\$5 per hour less and lack many of the benefits West Coast workers have won over the years. This is due in part to the "right-to-work" legislation in some states where these yards

are located that has helped weaken union power, or block workers from organizing altogether.

West Coast shipyard workers have set the pace in winning improvements in wages and working conditions throughout the industry. If they are forced to accept concessions it will exert downward pressure on wages throughout the industry as a whole. This will not increase jobs, but it will increase the profits of the shipyard owners.

Currently, Lockheed Shipyard, which has not been on strike, has made a separate contract offer. Lockheed dropped out of the employer bargaining unit and pursued negotiations with the union council independently of the other yards, a move that has divided the work force.

Until now, struck yards have not attempt-

ed to continue production but it appears they may be getting ready to try. Tacoma Boat is now hiring scabs, and other yards say their "gates are open."

This offensive of the shipyard owners to roll back wages and working conditions in the yards comes on the heels of a serious setback for Metal Trades workers in Seattle foundries and fabricating plants, or "shops," as they are called. After a 6 to 7 week strike last May, most of the shops ended up with a contract in which the employers succeeded in wresting major concessions in wages and working conditions from the unions involved. These included the Machinists, Boilermakers, Painters, Sheetmetal, Automechanics, and Teamsters. Except for the Automechanics, these are the same unions that are organized in the shipyards.

## British Columbia unionists rally

Continued from Page 3

sterity programs on labor everywhere. The B.C. government introduced wage controls in early 1982. It was soon followed by the federal government and most other provinces.

In March of this year, the Quebec government succeeded in forcing deep wage cuts and weakened job security on its 300,000 public sector workers.

Such takebacks are an expression of the international capitalist economic crisis as imperialist governments around the world prop up the profits of corporations to boost their ability to compete. At the same time, working people are told they must put up with lower living standards, less social services, and fewer democratic rights.

The B.C. budget provoked an immediate groundswell of protest. Picket lines were set up at several government offices for short walkouts. The 600 workers at the Tranquille Health Center in Kamloops, B.C., staged an occupation that lasted nearly four weeks after the government ordered the center closed as part of the cutbacks.

Women's groups, civil rights organizations, and tenants associations have held large public protest meetings.

The B.C. labor movement quickly became the backbone of the struggle. On July 15 the B.C. Federation of Labor (BCFL) called all unions in B.C. together, including those not affiliated to the BCFL, to set up a labor united front called Operation Solidarity. The unions involved represent 500,000 organized workers, more than 50 percent of the B.C. work force.

Operation Solidarity has established a Solidarity Coalition, which scores of organizations representing women, the unemployed, churches, tenants, and East Indians and other minorities have joined.

Solidarity coalitions with the same forces are being reproduced in every region of B.C.

NDP members of the B.C. legislature are filibustering all bills.

### Show of strength

The August 10 Vancouver rally was an impressive show of strength. The vast majority of participants were unionists and their families. Reflecting the large proportion of women working in the public sector, about half the rally participants were female. While public employee unions predominated, contingents of workers in telecommunications, the post office, and rail numbered several hundred each. Four hundred shop craft workers at B.C. Rail, a railway owned by the provincial government, walked off the job to attend the rally.

As the proceedings got under way, the huge crowd exploded into cheers and applause when the 1,000 bus drivers who had shut down the transit system marched into the stadium. A wave of applause followed them as they paraded around the

track. They responded with clenched fists.

With that, most other union contingents came down from the stands one after the other to march on the track. "Come on, show them your strength," shouted a nursing assistant to encourage thousands of hospital workers to join in. Women's groups, Chinese-Canadians, human rights workers, and tenants groups paraded to applause. Even a group of doctors carried a banner.

"It makes everybody feel better to see so many," said hospital worker Marianne Berenson. "This is tremendous, another step towards getting rid of [B.C. Premier] Bill Bennett," said another rally participant.

One point of weakness was the fact that the NDP was scarcely present, even though most of those at the rally voted NDP in the provincial elections. One lone NDP constituency association paraded its banner to vigorous applause. Although the NDP is the governmental alternative to the Social Credit Party, the NDP was not invited to speak at the rally.

### 'We are the majority'

Those who addressed the demonstrators included spokespersons from the churches, handicapped, civil rights organizations, and labor.

Human rights director Hanne Jensen, whose job was abolished by the legislation, told the rally, "the minorities who have had their rights attacked are the disabled, native peoples, gays, East Indians, women, and trade unionists. That's about everybody in B.C. except a few free enterprisers. We are the majority."

Jack Munro, president of Western Region 1 of the International Woodworkers of America, explained that "the government hopes to drive a wedge between public and private sector workers. We know if Bennett gets his way, we're next on the list."

Operation Solidarity's steering committee meets August 18 to plan the next stage of mobilization. As BCFL Pres. Art Kube told the rally, "this is not the sort of struggle that ends, but gains momentum day by day. . . . Whatever human costs, that is the price we will pay."

## Canadian solidarity with Ohio strike

BY MICHAEL ITALIE

CINCINNATI — Canadian unionists came to nearby Norwood, Ohio, in July to bring solidarity to workers on strike against U.S. Playing Card Co. Nine representatives of United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 195 in Windsor, Ontario, which organizes the company's Canadian subsidiary, say they also face a strike, and wanted to aid the fight against concessions here.

On June 19 Local 256 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers went out on strike against U.S. Playing Card. By a vote of 580-15 the union members, mostly women, rejected a contract offer which included massive concessions.

The company is demanding an across-the-board \$3 an hour wage cut, that workers pay for half of insurance coverage, and the right to layoff and recall out of seniority. The company doesn't claim to be losing money; it wants the concessions in order to be "more competitive."

In a leaflet it is distributing, the union points out that, "This strike, like others in the area, is by [company] design. The design is to selectively destroy organized labor. We join ranks with the members of Kahn's, Copaz, Cincinnati Sheet Metal

and many more organized labor organizations who are under corporate attack."

The company is bringing in scabs and has obtained a court injunction limiting pickets to two per gate. In response, the strikers rallied across the street from the company in a public park, but even this legal, peaceful rally was broken up by the Norwood police.

On July 8, 15 strikers and a union business agent were arrested for "disorderly conduct," and Judge Thomas Crush prohibited non-picketing strikers from coming within 250 feet of the plant.

Groups of UAW members from nearby General Motors and Seamen's Allis plants have come by the picket lines to express solidarity, as have other individual workers. It is union and community support like this which has forced the Norwood City Council to state its opposition to bringing in scabs — but the police continue to escort scabs into the plant.

Kathleen Denny, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Cincinnati City Council, has visited the picket line to show solidarity. In a press conference announcing her campaign, Denny denounced the arrest of strikers.



# Copper miners stand up to union busting

Continued from front page

Phelps Dodge has claimed the strikers are responsible for violence and the media has chimed in with appeals to defend the "right to work" for scabs.

But the miners have not been intimidated. They have fought back. Hundreds of strikers, their families, and other supporters have turned out on the picket lines to defend their unions. This reached a high point on August 8 and 9 when over 1,000 pickets stopped the company from bringing in large numbers of new scabs here at the Morenci mine, Phelps Dodge's largest.

As a result of this militant show of strength by the strikers, Phelps Dodge felt compelled to shut the Morenci mine down for a 10-day period. This moratorium is set to expire on Friday, August 19.

The militant resistance of rank-and-file miners forced Phelps Dodge to back off temporarily. But the company remains on a course aimed at breaking the copper unions.

Earlier in the year the unions signed a contract with Kennecott, the country's largest copper company. Traditionally the Kennecott agreement has served as the model for the rest of the industry.

But this year Phelps Dodge broke the pattern. It believed the time was right to launch a major assault on the unions. It insisted on deep-going wage and benefit givebacks. These included a virtual end to any cost of living protection; a wage freeze; a new, lower wage scale for all future hires; forcing workers to pay a greater share of medical insurance costs; and weakened work rules.

Originally the company tried to keep the mines open with 12-hour shifts staffed by salaried personnel and the few scabs who crossed the picket lines. An appeal was also issued to the hundreds of workers laid off for months before the strike began, to reclaim their jobs by scabbing.

When these appeals proved ineffective, the company escalated its union-busting offensive. It announced it would hire new employees from outside the area to replace the strikers.

But this move underestimated the determination of the strikers. On Monday, August 8, angry rank-and-file workers in Morenci decided to take matters into their own hands.

That evening's shift change had been set by the company as the first day of work for the new scabs it intended to hire. But early that morning about 100 strikers showed up at the mine employment office here to discourage scabs from applying for work. By 8:15 a.m. the company felt compelled to shut the office down.

By 3:00 p.m. that afternoon, 110 state police and 35 county police were at the mine gates, armed with riot gear to disperse the pickets and clear the way for the scabs to enter.

## 'Today everything stops'

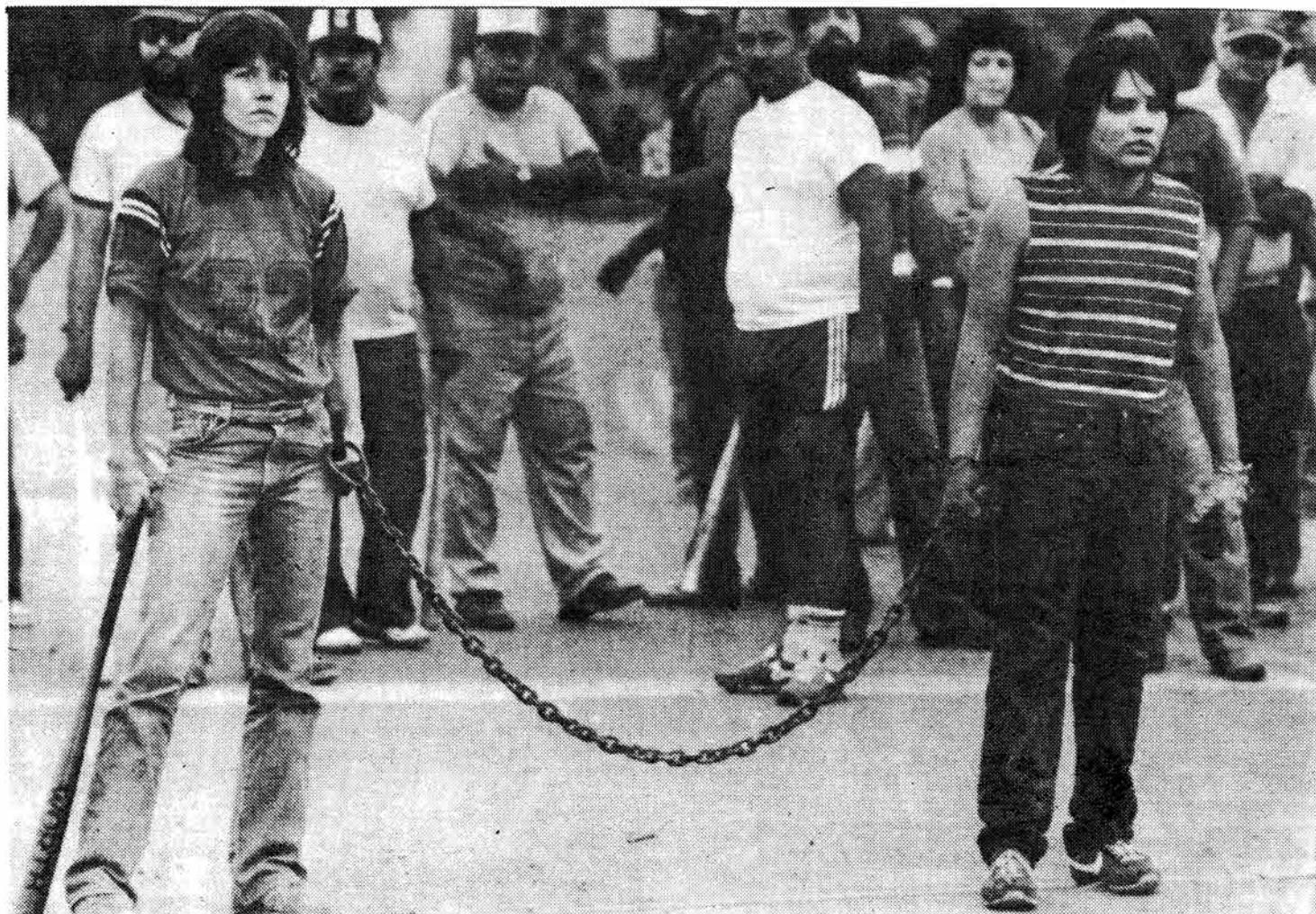
The strikers refused to be intimidated. Over 1,000 copper workers and members of their families turned out in the most massive show of strength since the strike began. Some carried baseball bats to defend themselves from the cops. All were determined to turn back this attempt to break the strike. They made it clear they were prepared to do whatever was necessary to defend their unions. The word that passed among the miners was "today is the day everything stops."

The strikers kept their promise. When the shift change time arrived no scabs entered the mine. The strikers' determination forced the cops and the company to change their plans. Phelps Dodge officials decided to close the mine for 24 hours.

Meanwhile Democratic Gov. Bruce Babbitt arrived on the scene in the hopes of cooling off the confrontation. He met with company, police, and union officials as the strikers waited to see what the next move would be on the part of Phelps Dodge.

The next morning, smoke billowing from the smelter's smokestacks revealed that the company had, in fact, never shut the mine down completely. Hundreds of strikers flocked back to the picket lines. There was a growing sentiment that the strikers themselves would have to shut the mine down and bring out the scabs.

Confronted with this prospect the company gave in. Shortly before noon Phelps



Copper workers in Ajo, Arizona prepare to defend their unions. Strikers at Ajo were inspired by victory at Morenci, where mine was shut down.

Dodge announced that the mine would be shut down for 10 days while the company resumed negotiations with the unions representing the strikers. This announcement was greeted by cheers from the strikers who triumphantly raised their bats in the air and chanted "Union! Union! Union!"

Inspired by the victory at Morenci, 300 strikers turned out at the picket lines at the smaller mine in Ajo, Arizona, on Tuesday, August 9. There too, the workers were successful in preventing any scabs from coming or going.

## Cops armed to teeth

But by Wednesday Governor Babbitt had mobilized a massive show of police force. Cops were brought in from throughout the state armed to the teeth with automatic rifles, machine guns, and tear gas. Two helicopters loaned by the National Guard circled overhead.

"We didn't expect this much force. We were caught off guard," said Dave Woods, a vice-president of one of the striking unions, the International Association of Machinists.

The confrontation at Ajo led to a stand-off and a temporary truce. However, the company refused to close the mine completely, as it had in Morenci. As a result a small handful of salaried personnel and other scabs continue to staff a skeleton crew there. But the company was not successful in introducing a large number of new scabs. While the negotiations continue, Phelps Dodge has agreed to stop any further hiring.

The militant action of the strikers was successful in forcing the company to slow down its union-busting moves and return to the bargaining table. Negotiations began in the presence of federal mediators on August 11. However, the fight is far from over and subsequent events have made it clear that Phelps Dodge has not given up on its plan to bust the unions.

On the second day of negotiations the company explained that it saw no reason to continue the talks unless the unions agree to give up the demand for COLA protection as a precondition for further discussion. This has been one of the key issues from the beginning. The stance taken by Phelps Dodge is further evidence that it has no serious intention of negotiating in good faith with the unions.

## Stepped-up harassment

In fact, all public signs point to another big confrontation on August 19 when the company's agreement to shut the Morenci mine expires. Phelps Dodge Senior Vice-president Arthur Kinneberg has stated pub-

licly that at that time, everything will go back to the way it was before the 10-day shutdown.

This impression is reinforced by the systematic campaign of harassment and victimization that Phelps Dodge is conducting in these company towns.

Some strike leaders have been informed that they have been fired for their role in the strike. Such a termination notice is usually accompanied by an eviction notice from company housing, to be put into effect in 30 days.

Credit is being cut off at the company stores.

Phelps Dodge is petitioning the courts to find individual strikers and their unions in contempt for allegedly violating the injunctions the courts granted in early July, limiting the number of pickets.

In another ominous sign, Cass Alvin, spokesperson for the United Steelworkers of America, the largest of the striking unions, told the press on August 15 that the unions have reason to believe that Phelps Dodge is arming its supervisors in anticipation of its efforts to open the mine on August 19.

## Media violence-baits strikers

The seriousness of the company's threats is also reinforced by the line taken by the big-business press here. The media is demanding that maximum police power be wielded against the strikers. A banner headline in the August 10 edition of the *Arizona Republic* read, "Phelps Dodge says law men didn't do job."

In an editorial two days later the same paper asks:

"If the union leadership cannot be depended on to assert control over the rabble on the picket lines, can the public rely on law enforcement authorities to prevent mob rule from compromising public safety?"

Looking ahead to the end of the 10-day moratorium the editorial continues:

"Whether the mob or the law prevails in this ugly dispute will be tested again next week, when Phelps Dodge plans to reopen the Morenci operation, and the bat swinging strikers, some slurping beer for courage, plan to close it by force."

The editorial writers leave no room for doubt as to what they believe must be done to break the union:

"Efforts of state and local law enforcement to protect the lawful rights of property owners and nonstrikers . . . must be unflagging."

## Labor solidarity vital

Clearly the full power of the company

and the government is to be brought to bear on the heroic miners. While they remain determined to win, their need for solidarity from others in the labor movement grows each day with each new threat by Phelps Dodge and its backers.

An important step in this direction was taken by the AFL-CIO's national executive council, meeting in Boston on August 9. A resolution was adopted in support of the strikers, which stated:

"We strongly support the efforts of these workers and their 13 unions to achieve a fair and decent contract in the face of unjustified concession demands by management."

This statement from the national leadership of the labor movement can open the door to the active solidarity that the copper strikers need if they are to defeat the union busting of Phelps Dodge.

A Copper Strike Relief Fund has been set up by the unions involved in the strike. Financial contributions or messages of support can be sent to the fund at the following address:

c/o Morenci Unity Council  
P.O. Box 1017  
Clifton, Az. 85533

## Nicaragua organizes territorial militias

Continued from Page 5

number of patriotic and internationalist offers," he said.

"We are internationalists," he continued. "We accept as internationalists those who support us. We will open our hearts, we will open our trenches, to all Latin American brothers who, at the moment the enemy tries to escalate military intervention, make a decision to come fight together with the Sandinistas, together with the poor of Nicaragua, against the Yankee jackboot!"

And, he emphasized, "We are certain they will step up the protests, the struggles, that are already under way in their own homelands, in their own countries, against these steps toward war by our enemies."

"The U.S. warmakers," he warned, "should not for a moment think that, if they intervene against us, it is only here that they will receive the justice of bullets."

"We are certain that once they intervene against us . . . the peoples of Latin America will make them feel the weight of justice of our Latin America."

And, the revolutionary commander added, "We are also certain that from the people of the United States there will surge forward efforts of solidarity."



# U.S. uses MIAs to slander Vietnam, Laos

BY GEORGE JOHNSON

The U.S. government continues to charge that Vietnam and Laos are holding live U.S. prisoners and deliberately withholding the remains of dead ones.

In June Secretary of State George Shultz and other U.S. officials repeated this charge on a visit to Thailand.

Shultz refused to rule out U.S. support for armed incursions, such as the raids into Laos conducted from Thailand in 1982 and 1983 by Col. James (Bo) Gritz to search for alleged prisoners.

There is no evidence at all for the charges, other than highly dubious photographs and testimony by counter-revolutionaries from Southeast Asia, who have a political or financial interest in defaming the governments of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea.

In making his charges, Shultz cited the testimony of a mortician and political exile who claims to have seen the bodies of 400 U.S. servicemen in a building in Hanoi. U.S. journalists have seen that building and say it houses no bodies.

These false charges are intended to incite the U.S. population against the revolutions in Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, and to justify Washington's ongoing military, political, and economic attacks on those countries — as well as its escalating wars in Central America.

The POW-MIA (Prisoner of War—Missing in Action) charges also exploit the hopes among families of the missing that their relatives might still be alive.

Nguyen Ngoc Dung, Vietnam's deputy representative to the UN, told the *Militant* last December the Vietnamese deeply resent U.S. attempts to incite public opinion about this. Vietnam "has made great efforts to find American MIAs," she said.

She also pointed out, "We have thousands of missing of our own from the years of war. In my family alone there are two whose fate remains unknown."

## Legacy of U.S. war

The U.S. war left a terrible toll on the peoples and land of Southeast Asia. More than a million Vietnamese were killed, and 10 million were driven from their rural homes to overcrowded cities and towns to escape U.S. bombings, the heaviest in history.

In South Vietnam alone, 9,000 out of 15,000 hamlets were damaged or destroyed. The area of cultivated land bombed or sprayed with crop-killing herbicides totaled 25 million acres, plus 12.5 million acres of forest.

U.S. casualties were 55,000 troops killed and more than 300,000 wounded. The Pentagon lists 2,491 as missing, including 42 civilians. Of these, 1,394 were lost in Vietnam, 574 in Laos, 91 in Kampuchea, 4 in Thailand, 6 in China, and 422 over water.

Many of the missing were lost in rugged and sparsely populated mountains and forests. The Pentagon has admitted the difficulty of finding their remains, even when U.S. forces had military control of the areas in which some MIAs were lost.

## Brazilian workers resist IMF pillage

Continued from Page 6

ready been mired in recession for the past three years. One in five urban workers is unemployed and many more are underemployed. Business failures and layoffs are a daily occurrence.

International health organizations estimate that 38 percent of Brazil's population is seriously malnourished, and 25 percent of all Brazilians remain illiterate.

The military government's acceptance of the IMF-sponsored austerity program will cause the number of jobless to grow, and social ills like malnutrition will spread as living standards of workers continue to plunge.

## Protests in Chile

The situation in Brazil is being duplicated elsewhere in Latin America. In Chile, for example, the economy shrank 13 percent in 1982, battered by plunging copper prices on the world market. Nearly one-third of Chilean workers are un-

employed and real wages have dropped by 16 percent.

Since May, massive monthly protests led by the trade unions have shaken the military dictatorship of Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

On May 11, workers organized the first nationally coordinated mass protests since the CIA-engineered coup that overthrew and murdered President Salvador Allende in 1973. On June 14, hundreds of thousands of people went into the streets of the country's major cities as part of a National Day of Protest. Two days later, copper miners went on strike, and on June 23 truckers, coal miners, steelworkers, and others responded to a call for an indefinite general strike.

Mass demonstrations again took place on July 12, despite the imposition of a national curfew. Residents of Santiago and other cities banged empty pots and pans, and barricades went up in working-class neighborhoods.

From Intercontinental Press

But in early 1979 Vietnamese and Kampuchean insurgents overthrew the murderous regime of Pol Pot in Kampuchea, which had invaded Vietnam with the backing of China. The U.S. government supported Pol Pot and still does.

The official campaign against Vietnam and Laos on the MIAs began. By June 1980, Democratic Congressman Lester Wolff of New York was holding House hearings to publicize the fantasies of the alleged mortician from Hanoi.

Ronald Reagan had campaigned on the MIA issue, and since he was elected the White House and the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia have worked together to raise the issue. Reagan and other top U.S. officials besides Shultz have charged some U.S. prisoners might still be alive in Vietnam and Laos.

Leaders of the League of Families, particularly its executive director, Ann Griffiths, are part of the U.S. government's campaign against the Indochinese revolution. Griffiths has close connections to the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency. She sits on the government's Inter-Agency Task Force on POW/MIAs.

Griffiths and others in the League of Families originally aired the alleged Hanoi mortician's fabrications. Whenever Vietnam has returned remains, Griffiths has termed it "insulting" and "dribbling out the remains because they must think it suits their purposes."

When four Vietnam veterans visited Vietnam at the end of 1981, at a time when the United States had virtually broken off meetings with Vietnam over the MIA issue, Griffiths denounced them as "amateur diplomats."

The veterans were deeply moved by their experiences during their visit. Anti-Vietnam attitudes changed.

They reported that the Vietnamese were willing to cooperate in finding and identifying remains.

**Gritz's 'private' raids**

The widely publicized "secret missions" into Laos in 1982 and 1983 by former Special Forces Col. James (Bo) Gritz to "find POWs" shed some light on the total lack of evidence that Vietnam and Laos are holding live U.S. prisoners.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* sent a reporter, Mark Fineman, to Bangkok, where he interviewed officials from the U.S. Joint Casualty Resolution Center and many of



Washington's devastation of Vietnam. In inset, Nguyen Ngoc Dung, Vietnam's deputy representative to UN. She explained that Vietnam, which has suffered tremendously at hands of U.S., deeply resents Reagan administration's slanders concerning MIAs. The Vietnamese have "made great efforts to find American MIAs."

Gritz's former colleagues in the CIA and Special Forces.

Fineman concludes that the evidence is overwhelming that none of the missing are still alive.

Fineman reports that the sources of many of the false claims were veterans of the old CIA-sponsored Secret Army, which controlled the opium trade and heroin factories in Laos.

When they return from Thailand from what Fineman calls "their limited and anemic war against the Communists," they claim to have "valuable information" — which turns out to be things like animal bones — about Americans being held in Laos.

"Invariably," Fineman writes, "investigators say they then try to sell the information to interested families or use it to negotiate for arms and other military support from the American government. In several cases on the books, MIA families have privately paid as much as \$2,000 for useless or eventually disproven shreds of information."

"Indeed, it was just such sources who — for a price — supplied Bo Gritz with the 'intelligence data' on which he based his unproductive foray into Laos last year."

## U.S. government denials

The U.S. government was embarrassed by publicity about Gritz's missions, because it showed both the total lack of evidence of live MIAs and the clear violation of Laos' borders. Government witnesses discredited Gritz and disclaimed association with him.

The League of Families followed suit. Gritz, and the other Americans who worked with him, claim the U.S. government *did* support the raids. And no one disputes that Gritz was asked to retire by the CIA to pursue the campaign against Indochina around the MIAs.

U.S. Rep. Robert Dornan (R-Calif.) claims Gritz had government support until November 1982, when, Dornan says, "they jerked the rug out from under him."

Earlier in 1982, Gritz received "intelligence" data from Ann Griffiths. He was also given advanced communications equipment by Litton Industries, a large government war contractor. And he and his cohorts got no more than slaps on the wrist (\$275 fines) from Thailand, a close U.S. ally.

The Laotian government dismissed the claim that Gritz belonged to a "private organization."

The Lao People's Revolutionary Party termed "pure hypocrisy" the claims by the U.S. government that "it heard about this

story just two days before it was published in the media."

The CIA itself financed at least two armed incursions into Laos in 1981, with the same objective as Gritz, and based on the same "evidence."

The CIA raiding parties — recruited from among the same Lao reactionaries as those hired by Gritz — entered Laos to hunt for alleged live POWs.

The "evidence" was photographs taken either from a space satellite or a high-altitude SR-71 spy plane, that showed shadows of men thought too long to be cast by Asians. Further, there were tools "too long for Asians but just right for Caucasians."

Using these flimsy assertions as a pretext, the U.S. government mounted the armed raids to search for U.S. prisoners.

## Vietnam, Laos cooperative

In stark contrast to the U.S. government's hostile and counterproductive MIA policy is that of Vietnam and Laos. In spite of enormous damage from U.S. bombs and shells, and desperate material and financial hardships — worsened by the U.S. refusal to pay war reparations agreed to in 1973 — these countries have fully cooperated and have returned prisoners and remains promptly.

Vietnam turned over hundreds of prisoners in 1973, and continues to return remains, the most recent in June. Laos follows the same policy, in spite of tremendous difficulties: the country has few paved roads and no railroad even to this day.

Both countries continue to cooperate with official U.S. government teams in finding and identifying remains. Both have hosted members of the League of Families. Such visits were made to Laos and Vietnam last September.

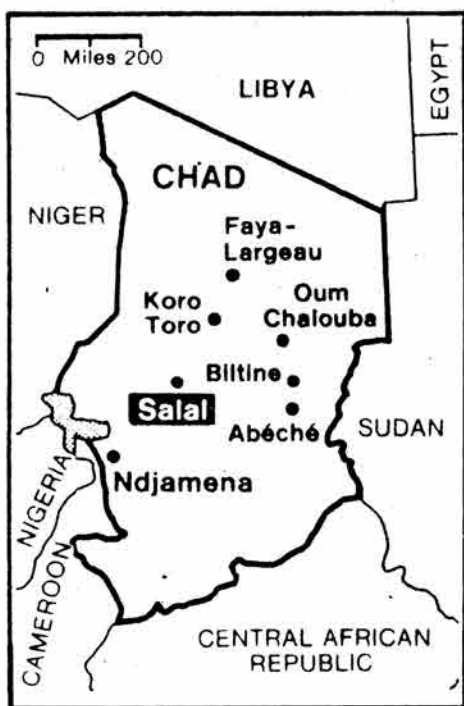
There is absolutely no evidence of, nor motive for, Vietnam and Laos holding live or dead U.S. prisoners.

Despite this, the campaign continues as a political weapon against the Indochinese revolutions, especially against the Vietnamese for helping to liberate Kampuchea from Pol Pot.

The campaign is also part of the rewriting of the history of the Vietnam war, to turn it into a "noble cause," as the U.S. rulers escalate their war in Central America and the Caribbean.

Contrary to the claims by Washington to want a "full accounting" of MIAs, the last thing it wants told is the true story of how it waged war against Vietnam; Laos, and Kampuchea and sent these men to their deaths.





# Behind conflict in Chad

BY WILL REISSNER

The central African country of Chad might seem an unlikely place to merit the intense attention it is getting from the world press, the Reagan administration, and the Mitterrand government in France.

Chad is a large but sparsely populated country. Its four and a half million people are spread out over an area that is more than twice the size of France but contains only 150 miles of paved road.

It is one of the poorest countries on earth. About 90 percent of the population ekes its meager living out of primitive agriculture or stockraising. According to the most optimistic estimates, barely 18 percent of the people can read or write (some estimates put the literacy rate as low as 10 percent).

The present borders of Chad, a former French colony, were arbitrarily drawn up

by the French.

Geographically and ethnically, Chad is composed of two distinct regions — what the French colonialists called the "useful" southern third, and the northern two-thirds where the French had few economic interests.

The "useful" south is a semitropical Black African region, in which the economy is based on cotton production that is dominated by French companies and geared to the French market.

The semiarid and desert central and northern portions of Chad are more like Arab North Africa. The economy there is based on nomadic livestock herding, the population is largely Arabic-speaking and Muslim, and trade patterns have traditionally been geared toward Libya and the Sudan.

## Neocolonial regime.

When the French granted formal independence to Chad in 1960, they established a neocolonial regime based on individuals from the "useful" south. As in their other former colonies in Africa, the French aim in Chad was to maintain their economic and political domination after formal independence was granted. To that end, at the time of independence in 1960, and again in 1964 and 1976 — French governments signed military pacts with successive Chadian regimes, giving Paris the right to send troops to protect imperialist economic interests.

To this day French capitalists have substantial holdings in Chad. The cotton industry of the south, which provides 75 percent of Chad's export earnings, is entirely in the hands of a French-owned company.

There are also substantial French interests in the vegetable oil industry and in mining.

French governments have repeatedly sent troops to Chad, not only to protect their direct interests in that country, but also to prevent the establishment of a government in conflict with imperialism that could serve as an inspiration to other former French colonies in Africa where French economic holdings are more substantial.

## 1960s rebellions

With the establishment of an independent state in Chad, the French installed the proimperialist dictatorship of Ngarta Tombalbaye in 1960. During Tombalbaye's years in power, the Muslim peoples of central and northern Chad were subjected to severe discrimination.

This provoked waves of protest and revolt. In 1963 more than 100 Muslims were killed during a protest in the capital city. And in 1965 Tombalbaye's regime killed hundreds of people while putting down a massive peasant uprising.

In 1966 the Chad National Liberation Front (Frolinat) was established as a nationalist group opposed to the continued

French domination of the country and the existing neocolonial regime. Frolinat's main base has been among the Muslim population of the central and northern regions.

When Frolinat took up arms against the Tombalbaye dictatorship, the French rushed in troops to protect their puppet regime. Between 1968 and 1972 French counterinsurgency troops left thousands dead in the countryside but were unable to crush Frolinat.

## Libyan role

The position of the Frolinat forces improved considerably in 1969, when Col. Muammar Qaddafi came to power in neighboring Libya. Qaddafi, a foe of proimperialist regimes in the region, began providing Frolinat with military and financial aid.

This aid, however, came to an end in 1972 when Tombalbaye signed a treaty ceding a strip of land along the Chad-Libya border to Libya.

But even without Libyan aid, Frolinat fought on, and Tombalbaye was unable to put the rebellion down. Tombalbaye himself was overthrown in 1975 by another pro-French officer, Gen. Félix Malloum. But Malloum had no more success than Tombalbaye in fighting the Frolinat forces.

By 1976, however, the Frolinat forces had split into numerous factions, including those led by Goukouni Oueddei and Hissène Habré. That split continues to this day as Habré's and Goukouni's forces are locked in combat over control of Chad.

Taking advantage of these splits in Frolinat, the French have used Habré at various times as a counterweight to Goukouni's larger Frolinat faction and the other political forces allied with him.

In January 1978, for example, Goukouni's forces went on a major offensive that threatened to topple the pro-French Malloum regime. In response to Frolinat's advance, the French sent in 2,500 troops to prop up Malloum and convinced Habré's Frolinat splinter to form a coalition government with Malloum.

That coalition, however, quickly broke down and in late 1979 the French engineered a new coalition government, this time bringing together Goukouni, Habré, and Malloum-supporters into a single government.

But that new government, composed of 11 political and military groups, was fragile and divided, and Habré decided in March 1980 to try to seize total power.

In the fighting that followed, the French backed Habré, who also got considerable aid from Egypt and the Sudan.

In turn, Goukouni, as president of the coalition government, called on Libya for help to put down Habré's rebellion under the terms of a 1980 treaty between the two countries.

With the help of Libyan troops, Goukouni's forces defeated Habré in the civil war and Habré's troops fled Chad in December 1980.

## 'Grave turn of events'

Goukouni's 1980 victory over Habré was seen in the region as a major blow to imperialist interests. The then-U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig described Habré's defeat as a "grave turn of events."

Washington and Paris immediately began pressuring Goukouni to sever his ties with the Libyan government, and in November 1981 Goukouni yielded to that pressure by asking Qaddafi to remove all Libyan troops from Chad.

But the withdrawal of Libyan troops simply opened the way for a return of Habré's forces. In early 1982, Habré's troops — openly armed by the proimperialist governments of Egypt and the Sudan, and with strong support from the CIA — crossed into Chad from bases in the Sudan.

Goukouni and his supporters were driven out of the capital by Habré's troops on June 7, 1982.

But Goukouni has now regrouped his supporters and, with Libyan backing, is again on the offensive against the Habré regime. In response, Habré is using troops from France and Zaïre, and supplies and other aid from Washington, in his attempt to keep his proimperialist regime in power.

## U.S. military maneuvers pose threat to Libya

Continued from front page

At an August 11 news conference in Washington, Reagan sought to justify Washington's sending of \$25 million in arms to the U.S.-backed regime in Chad by accusing Qaddafi of "adventuring" and "empire-building."

The next day, at a debate on Chad in the United Nations Security Council, U.S. delegate Charles Lichenstein denounced "Qaddafi's brutal new colonialism," which he claimed threatened "the security of northern and north-central Africa."

Such accusations turn reality on its head.

It is the imperialist powers — foremost among them Washington, Paris, and London — that have for decades imposed a system of "brutal new colonialism" on the peoples of Africa and the Middle East. They have toppled governments, sought to crush popular rebellions, and constantly interfered in the daily political life of those countries.

Since Chad won its independence in 1960, for example, French troops have intervened several times to put down anti-imperialist insurgencies.

The reason the imperialists hate Qaddafi so much is that his regime has repeatedly defied their dictates and has provided support to numerous revolutionary and national liberation struggles around the world.

In response, Washington has actively sought to bring down Qaddafi. Several months after Reagan came into office, the White House adopted a secret plan to overthrow the Libyan regime.

## CIA installs Habré

A key part of this campaign has been stepped-up support to proimperialist regimes in the area — like those in Egypt, Morocco, and the Sudan — and opposition to those governments and political forces that maintain friendly ties with Libya.

In 1982, the CIA funneled \$10 million in assistance to rebel forces in Chad led by Hissène Habré. With this backing, Habré was able to topple the government of Goukouni Oueddei, which had earlier received Libyan assistance.

In May 1983, with direct French encouragement, proimperialist forces in Upper Volta ousted Capt. Thomas Sankara, the prime minister, on the grounds that he had close ties with Qaddafi.

Sankara, however, was able to regroup his forces and on August 5 seized power in Upper Volta, pledging to end the "domination of foreigners and neocolonialism." The imperialist news media promptly labeled it a "pro-Libyan coup."

In face of the imperialist efforts to encircle Libya with a string of hostile proimperialist regimes, the Libyans have sought to defend themselves. This has included renewed backing to the coalition of political and military forces in Chad led by Goukouni.

In June, Goukouni's forces began a drive to retake power, seizing a series of cities and towns in northern and central Chad. The U.S. and French imperialists responded quickly, sending tons of arms to bolster Habré. With this support, govern-

ment forces were able to reoccupy most of the positions they had lost.

## Troops, 'advisers,' mercenaries

Although the French government initially claimed it had no intention of sending troops to Chad, some 150 French "advisers" and mercenaries had arrived there by early August. The U.S.-backed regime of Mobutu Sese Seko in Zaïre sent close to 2,000 troops.

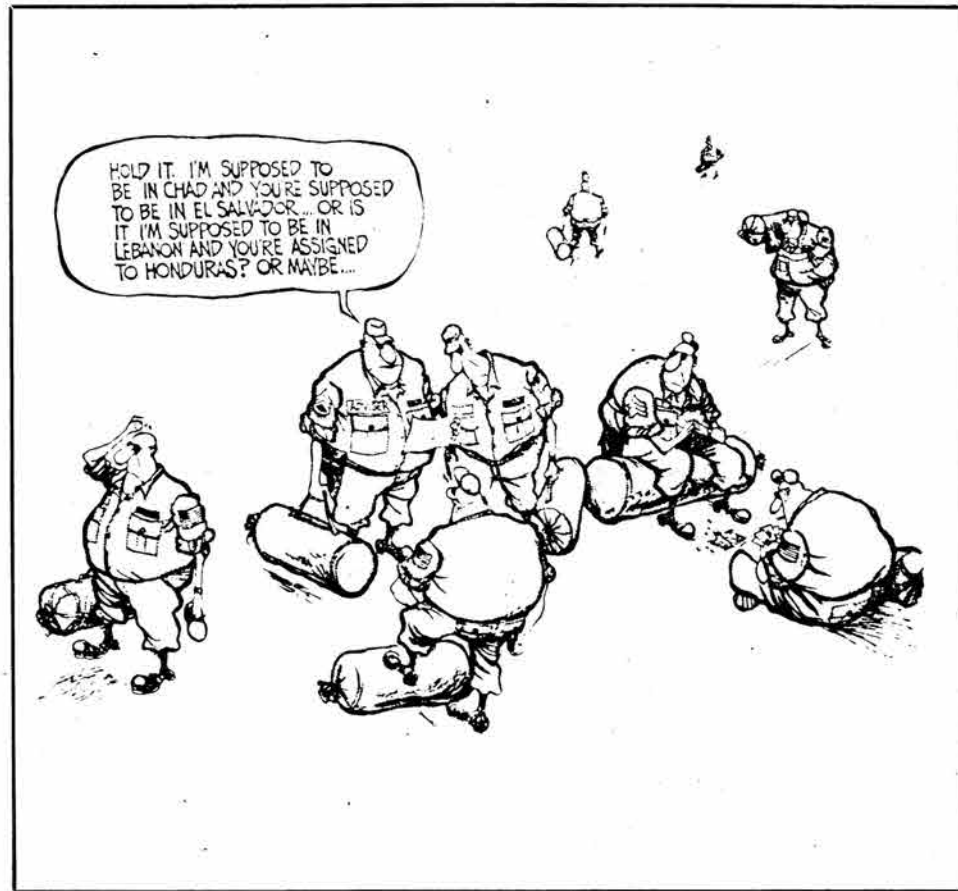
Despite this intervention on the side of Habré, Goukouni's forces launched a second offensive and captured the key northern town of Faya-Largeau after several days of heavy fighting.

Washington and Paris escalated their intervention further. Reagan sent two AWACS electronic surveillance planes and eight F-15 jet fighters to neighboring Sudan in an effort to intimidate Libya. The planes were accompanied by 550 U.S. ground personnel. Three U.S. military "advisers" were sent to Chad itself.

At Washington's urging, the Mitterrand government announced on August 10 that it was sending up to 500 French paratroopers to Njamena, the Chadian capital, a number that is expected to rise to 1,000. Some of these troops were dispatched to the towns of Abéché and Salal to bolster Habré's frontlines.

According to a French government official, a score of French jet bombers based in nearby African countries were placed in "a high state of alert" for possible action in Chad.

However much Reagan and Mitterrand seek to portray their joint military campaign in Chad as a response to Libyan "adventurism," it is nothing but outright imperialist aggression.





**The people speak** — A dispatch to the August 7 *New York Times* advised that public support for Grenada's revolutionary gov-

ernment is diminishing rapidly. The *Times* correspondent was assured of this by "dozens of businesspeople, church leaders,

diplomats" and unidentified "human rights monitors."

**It does sound logical** — Budget director David Stockman assures it's an exaggeration to say that President Reagan's tax cuts were designed to benefit the rich. Most rich people have lots of shelters, he explained, and don't pay that much taxes to begin with.

**Housekeeping tip** — If you find it a problem getting at the clothes in your closet, you can now order the kind of revolving racks used by dry cleaners. The minimum closet space must be 5' x 8'. Starting price, \$1,500.

**Realer than real** — Procter & Gamble, the soap folk, are moving in on the orange juice industry and will be plugging a new frozen concentrate which, they insist, "is superior to, and distinguishable from freshly squeezed orange juice."

**A good loser** — If you've been worrying about how Jane Byrne is getting by since she lost her job as mayor of Chicago, relax. Some \$4,000 of her campaign fund went to buy her daughter a new Mustang. "But she only uses it when she represents me," the ex-mayor assured. Plus, her spouse drew \$155,000 as a campaign aide.

**Thought for the week** — "You can't be complacent about investments anywhere." — Robert Anderson, chief exec at Atlantic Richfield, discussing "instability" in the colonial world.



Harry Ring

ernment is diminishing rapidly. The *Times* correspondent was assured of this by "dozens of businesspeople, church leaders,

**Catch 22** — According to a new policy of the San Francisco Catholic archdiocese, it's not sinful to be a homosexual, provided you don't engage in homosexual acts.

**Take that!** — Mary Hudson, chair of the Hudson Oil Company, and reputedly one of the 400 richest people in the country, was convicted of ordering an aide to arrange for the rigging of gas pumps in 14 states to shortchange customers. She was sentenced to a

**Tough situation** — The late shah plundered the Iranian people of untold millions and his widow, now resident here, concedes that "compared to a lot of other people, I'm still very rich," but adds that she has to worry about finances

**Housekeeping tip** — If you find it a problem getting at the clothes in your closet, you can now order the kind of revolving racks used by dry cleaners. The minimum closet space must be 5' x 8'. Starting price, \$1,500.

## 700,000 telephone workers say 'no' to Ma Bell

Continued from back page

meet a quota of several hundred calls a day.

Since the strike began, there have been daily picket lines across the country, including at the White House.

On August 15, in a show of strength, 2,000 workers marched across the Brooklyn Bridge to the headquarters of New York Telephone on 42nd St. in Manhattan. They carried a mock "Ma Bell" coffin, and chanted, "Ma Bell, go to hell!"

According to the *New York Daily News*, "The marchers were led across the Brooklyn Bridge by a black sedan blaring singer Donna Summer's hit 'She Works Hard for the Money, So You Better Treat Her Right' — a song that has become an anthem for the workers on strike here."

Many of those on the picket lines are Black, and many are women.

### Cop harassment

At a picket line in Brooklyn at the beginning of the strike, a conflict with police led the union to consider filing police brutality charges.

In many cities, *Militant* reporters say that pickets are matched or outnumbered by cops, whose presence is designed to intimidate these workers and protect management personnel who are trying to run the phone system along with some scabs.

The consistent theme that the big-business media has sounded in order to demoralize the strikers and their supporters is that the highly-automated communications industry doesn't need workers to make it run. One example of this propaganda campaign is a headline in the August 14 *Washington Post*: "The Harbinger of Strikes to Come: Telephone Workers Go Out and Hardly Anybody Notices."

This idea is countered by the complaints

that are starting to come from companies that rely for their business on computers linked up to telephones, and on the problems in getting repairs and installations done. Clearly, the strike is having an impact on service.

In New Jersey, the media has joined the phone company in an orgy of sabotage-baiting of the strikers. A superior court judge in New Jersey handed down an injunction against the IBEW, limiting the number of pickets on the pretense that they damaged company property, though there is not a shred of proof to back up the charge.

In Los Angeles, several strikers have been arrested.

Pickets report that passers-by have been very supportive of the strike.

### Solidarity

The New Jersey Industrial Union Council (IUC) has invited CWA and IBEW representatives to an IUC executive board meeting.

IUC President Maurice Veneri declared, "We will propose, and I'm sure we'll get, unanimous approval for a program of total support for the New Jersey strikers, including picket line backing, financial assistance and . . . getting across to the labor movement and the public at large, the unconscionable position of the Bell System, which brought on this strike."

The Newport News, Virginia, coalition which is building the August 27 march on Washington for jobs, peace, and freedom passed a resolution in support of the striking workers.

Many members of the CWA plan to attend the march, which will present an opportunity to gather much-needed solidarity for their struggle.



Workers picketing AT&T at New York offices

## U.S. expels North Korean in frameup and harassment

BY WILL REISSNER

A nearly 11-month-long showdown between the U.S. State Department and the North Korean mission to the United Nations ended July 28 when O Nam Chol, the mission's third secretary, departed for his homeland.

Since last September 28, O Nam Chol had been forced to remain inside an apartment housing the North Korean mission in order to avoid arrest on trumped up criminal charges. Westchester County police had placed a 24-hour watch on the building to seize him if he left the premises.

In addition, other members of the mission were regularly followed by police and were subjected to general harassment.

Since the showdown began, Washington has refused to issue visas to North Korean diplomats assigned to the UN mission.

On July 20, the State Department escalated the pressure, threatening to begin expelling high-ranking members of the mission unless O Nam Chol surrendered.

The dispute began Sept. 5, 1982, when O Nam Chol and four other North Koreans were seized by police in a park while having a picnic. A woman in the park claimed she had been sexually assaulted by an Asian male.

When the woman and three witnesses were shown the diplomats, including O Nam Chol, all four told the police that the assailant was not among them. The diplomats were then released with an apology.

Two weeks later, however, police claimed the woman identified O Nam Chol from photographs of North Korean diplomats provided by the State Department.

O Nam Chol protested his innocence, pointing out that if the woman could not identify him in person moments after the attack, she could hardly identify him weeks later from a photograph.

But he refused to appear in court on the charges since that would compromise the principle of his diplomatic immunity. The State Department claims that North Korean diplomats have only "functional immunity" covering them while on specific UN business.

As it became increasingly difficult for the mission to function and the State De-

partment threatened to escalate the harassment, the North Koreans finally agreed — under protest — to a proposal by Washington.

O Nam Chol pleaded not guilty to the main charge against him, but guilty to a third-degree misdemeanor and promised to leave the country and never return.

In a statement issued the day after his departure, O Nam Chol stated "I am innocent, and the charge against me is sheer fabrication." He added that he had agreed to the arrangement solely "to guarantee the security of my Mission and its members and to secure the performance of my Mission's normal function."

## —CALENDAR—

### ALABAMA

**Birmingham**  
Behind the War in Chad. Panel discussion. Speakers to be announced. Sat., Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (205) 323-3079.

### MASSACHUSETTS

**Boston**  
Eyewitness Report From Nicaragua: *What Happens When Workers and Farmers Run Their Own Country?* Slideshow presentation by Valerie Johnson, laid-off auto worker and member of Young Socialist Alliance, recently returned from Nicaragua. Sun., Aug. 21, 7:30 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. 4th floor (near Kenmore T stop). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

### PENNSYLVANIA

**Philadelphia**  
Jobs, Peace, and Freedom Street Festival. Help raise money for transportation and win marchers to the coalition. Sat., Aug. 20, 12 noon. 20th St. and Lehigh. Ausp: August 27 Coalition. For more information call (215) 724-3294 or 925-3235.

**Dramatic Production: "We Still Have a Dream."** Mon. and Tues., Aug. 22 and 23, 7 p.m. Uptown Entertainment Center, Broad and Susquehanna. Donation: \$5. Ausp: Aug. 27 Coalition. For more information call (215) 235-5222.

## 5,000 in Toronto protest raid on Morgentaler abortion clinic

The following are excerpts from an article that appeared in the August *Socialist Voice*, the newspaper reflecting the views of the Revolutionary Workers League of Canada.

BY LYNDIA LITTLE

TORONTO — An estimated 5,000 people participated in an angry demonstration here July 6 to protest the police raid on the Morgentaler abortion clinic. It was the largest demonstration in English Canada in support of a woman's right to choose on abortion. The protesters, the vast majority of them women, chanted, sang, and waved placards calling on the government to legalize the clinic and end its harassment of the clinic's doctors.

On the morning of July 5, 15 morality squad cops burst into the clinic just after Dr. Robert Scott had completed an abortion procedure. The police arrested Scott, manhandled the staff, and carried off the clinic's equipment and medical files.

Later that day they arrested Dr. Leslie Smoling and put out a warrant for the arrest of Dr. Henry Morgentaler.

Scott and Smoling were charged with two counts each of procuring an abortion. Morgentaler and Smoling were each

charged with conspiracy to procure abortions during a period between 1982 and 1983.

There was an immediate and militant response. The Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics (OCAC) rallied 100 protesters outside the clinic as the raid took place. The coalition then swung into action and organized the July 6 rally.

Bob Rae, Ontario NDP [New Democratic Party] leader, was the first speaker at the rally. He called for the repeal of all sections of the Criminal Code dealing with abortion and demanded that the Ontario Tory government "establish women's health centers to provide . . . abortions in the earliest months."

A telegram from the office of Bob White, Canadian Director of the United Auto Workers, demanded an end to the "harassment of Dr. Morgentaler and his colleagues" and called for legalization of free-standing clinics.

Clinic supporters are now turning their attention to building the October 1 Day of Action for Choice on Abortion. This cross-country action is receiving widespread endorsement, including from both the Ontario and British Columbia federations of labor.



# Operation PUSH convention blasts U.S. war

Continued from back page

Jackson called for an end to U.S. military training in Honduras and Panama. He urged the U.S. government to end its backing of counterrevolutionaries in Costa Rica and Honduras who are invading Nicaragua.

Jackson blasted the U.S. backing of Guatemala's "military dictatorship's pacification efforts, which have resulted in many peasant massacres in the countryside, including racist genocide against the Indian majority population."

On the issue of refugees coming to the United States, Jackson said, "Instead of deporting Central American refugees, the United States should grant them extended voluntary departure status."

## Salvadoran union leader

During the convention, over 50 people attended an International Affairs workshop. Jack Odell, international affairs director for Operation PUSH, opened the workshop by explaining that foreign and domestic policies are not separate, but are part of a single government policy.

The film "Americas in Transition" was shown, detailing human rights violations in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, and advances made in Nicaragua following the overthrow of the dictator Somoza.

On the workshop panel were Alejandro Molina Lara, organization secretary of the National Federation of Salvadoran Workers' Unions, and Héctor Marroquín, a leader of the Socialist Workers Party facing deportation to Mexico.

Molina Lara drew the parallel between the struggle of the oppressed and exploited workers and peasants of El Salvador and the struggle for emancipation of workers in the United States. He also joined Jackson at a news conference during the convention.

Marroquín explained the history of his fight to seek political asylum in this country. Born and raised in Mexico, Marroquín became a political activist while a high school student. Forced to flee repression in Mexico, he came to this country. The U.S. government is now trying to deport him. Marroquín appealed to PUSH for support

for his case and thousands of other refugees from Central America and Haiti.

Both Molina Lara and Marroquín got standing ovations.

The convention later adopted a resolution against the deportation of Marroquín and in support of his right to political asylum in this country, and in support of Haitian refugees.

## Need for protest

Jackson called for "a massive education program of the real issues involved in Central America — the struggle for justice, freedom, and economic independence. This education must take place in the classroom, in the church house, and in the streets. We must begin to massively demonstrate and protest our displeasure over America's present course in Central America."

It is within the context of the fight against the war in Central America that Jesse Jackson and Operation PUSH support the August 27 March on Washington. The convention workshops projected the main focus of PUSH's activities in building the march as bringing forth the question of the U.S. war in Central America.

Jack Odell said, "We are called to march on Washington, the seat of national government, and march we must. Marching educates people by dramatizing an issue. Marching helps people to overcome individual isolation and feel the power of united action. . . . It is one of the creative ways in which ideas are introduced into the mainstream of social values of a society."

Jackson also explained that he supported the march for a number of reasons " . . . but among the highest reasons are that this nation must be set on a new course of jobs, peace, and justice. We must revive the civil rights, labor, and religious coalition."

He went on to say, "We must form a new coalition, the rainbow coalition of the rejected — Blacks, Hispanics, women, peace activists, Native Americans, youth, the elderly, the poor, environmentalists — in short, all rejected people and all humane and concerned people who identify with rejected people."



Militant/Alison Beckley  
Salvadoran union leader Alejandro Molina Lara, at right, addresses PUSH International Affairs workshop. At far left is socialist Héctor Marroquín, who spoke on his fight against deportation.

Jackson spoke out against nuclear weapons. Operation PUSH advocates massive demonstrations to oppose U.S. deployment of the cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe.

Jackson also blasted the U.S. government's hypocritical stance of speaking out against the suppression of the workers movement in Poland but siding with the white racist regime in South Africa.

## 1984 elections

Throughout his keynote address to the convention, Jackson called for the need of a new political course in U.S. politics. He sharply denounced the Reagan administration and racist Democratic Party officials.

Some months back, Jackson called for a new coalition of Blacks, Latinos, labor, and women to effect change within the Democratic Party. Jackson has posed the idea that a Black run for U.S. president in the Democratic Party in 1984. He has indicated that he may even run. Throughout his speech, Jackson was interrupted by applause and chants of "Run, Jesse, run!"

A petitioning campaign was initiated by Bishop H.H. Brookins to draft Jesse Jackson for the 1984 presidential elections.

Jackson explained his view that mobilizing support behind a Black contender for

the presidential nomination will increase Black political clout in the Democratic Party and make it possible to defeat Reagan in 1984.

"Blacks and [the] rainbow coalition . . . must renegotiate [their] relationship with the Democratic Party in 1983, so [they] can enthusiastically support the Democratic Party and its candidates in 1984. If we remove the Democratic dagger from our back in 1983, then we can face the Republican arrow in 1984 and defeat Ronald Reagan in the White House, regain control of the Senate from the Republicans, and defeat Republicans and their Democratic boll-weevil allies in the House."

In line with this perspective, he indicated he was against a Black candidate running independently against the Democrats and Republicans.

He said, "A Black for president should not run a symbolic candidacy, a protest candidacy, or a third party candidacy. A Black should run a serious primary campaign and seek the Democratic nomination."

A number of those who attended the convention told the *Militant*, however, that an independent presidential campaign was a possibility to consider.

The National Black Independent Political Party, which has a perspective of breaking from the Democratic and Republican parties, had some of its material handed out at the convention.

## Voter registration perspective

Part of Jackson's discussion on the 1984 elections is the campaign to register hundreds of thousands, if not millions of Blacks to vote throughout the South. This campaign is known as Operation PUSH's "Southern Crusade." Jackson has been touring the South and mobilizing Blacks in the streets to register to vote.

Along with this voter registration campaign, Operation PUSH is also fighting attacks on the Voting Rights Act. In Mississippi, in order to register, a voter must register at both the county seat and at city hall in a procedure they call "dual registration." For many people, it means driving 100 miles to accomplish this. This and other schemes to deny Blacks their right to vote are being carried out by the state Democratic Party officials, as was pointed out during the convention.

Panelists and convention delegates pointed to the need to stand firmly for affirmative action for Blacks and women and took a strong stand in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. They stated that there is no separation between Black rights and women's rights. They spoke in favor of busing and school desegregation, and against plant closings, which have thrown thousands of workers, Black and white, out of work.

In the past several months, Operation PUSH has started organizing committees in 22 cities across the United States, the vast majority in the South. At the convention, it was announced that five of the committees have become chapters.

Several times throughout the convention, the involvement of young people in the various activities discussed was stressed. At a workshop entitled "Youth Involvement in the Political Process," Tyrone Crider, director of Operation PUSH's youth division, announced plans for a "national college tour of Jesse Jackson."

# Fired socialist professor wins back pay

BY HARRY RING

A victory for academic freedom has been won by Prof. Morris Starsky, who was fired by the Arizona State University (ASU) in Phoenix in 1970 because of his activity against the Vietnam War.

Starsky won broad support in his determined fight against the firing, including that of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). It was the backing of the AAUP over the years that finally compelled the university to make a partial settlement of the case.

Seven years ago, the AAUP placed the university on its "censured" list because of what it had done to Starsky. When a college is placed on the censured list, many professors will not lecture at the school or accept employment from it.

This spring, the AAUP voted to take the university off its censured list after the school agreed to pay Starsky \$15,000 due him in back pay.

Accepting the settlement, Starsky assessed it as an important but limited victory, in that he had not won reinstatement.

Starsky had been the target of both state and federal witch-hunters in his firing. A member of the Socialist Workers Party, he testified two years ago in the party's suit against the federal government for its systematic campaign of illegal disruption of the party.

In the course of Starsky's fight for reinstatement it was established that the FBI had written anonymous poison-pen letters about him to the members of the ASU Board of Regents.

Meanwhile right-wing members of the Arizona legislature were also pressing for his firing.

Starsky's reinstatement fight won impressive support from academic and civil liberties figures in Arizona and nationally. Support was especially strong among students and professors at the cam-



Militant  
Morris Starsky, fired from Arizona State University for activity against Vietnam War and socialist views. Administration officials finally granted him back pay under pressure from American Association of University Professors.

pus, where he was widely respected for his readiness to lend his support to all progressive causes.

Starsky had won several court decisions declaring he had been illegally fired, but in the appeal process a judge finally came up with a technicality to rule against him.

Starsky was blacklisted after his firing and despite his high academic rating as a philosophy professor found it increasingly difficult to obtain work in his field. Finally, a heart ailment left him unable to work. He now resides in Cincinnati.

In a statement on the settlement, Starsky declared, "Thirteen years ago, the U.S. government targeted me to be fired from ASU because I was a public opponent of the war in Vietnam. That's a matter of re-

cord. Now I am a public opponent of the U.S.-backed war against the government of Nicaragua and U.S. military involvement in El Salvador."

He said he had just recently returned from a trip to Nicaragua and the progress he saw there was in sharp contrast to the lies about Nicaragua in the U.S. media.

He declared, "I plan to tell the truth about the Nicaraguan revolution and to help mobilize public opinion against U.S. policy to the best of my limited physical ability."

The moral of the outcome of his fight with Arizona State University, Starsky observed, is: "They can't shut you up if you don't let them!"



# Embattled strikers need support

"An injury to one is an injury to all" should be the clarion call of the U.S. labor movement today.

Hundreds of thousands of workers have been forced out on strike by employers who are attempting to impose major takeback contracts or bust their unions.

The most significant strikes are reported in this issue of the *Militant*:

- Thousands of copper mine workers in Arizona went on strike July 1 against the Phelps Dodge Corp., one of the country's largest copper producers. The company has called upon the National Guard, state troopers, cops, courts, news media, and scabs in an effort to bust the striking unions. The outcome of this confrontation will have ramifications for the entire labor movement.

- Nearly 700,000 telephone workers went on strike on August 7 against the giant American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (AT&T).

"Ma Bell" is demanding major wage concessions. It also refuses to discuss issues such as the retraining of workers whose jobs are being eliminated as new technology is introduced by AT&T.

- Ten thousand workers at nine major shipyards from California to Washington State went on strike July 25. The shipyard owners are demanding an across-the-board 10 percent wage cut and a three-year wage freeze, along with major work-rule changes that will eliminate jobs.

- Two thousand members of the International Association of Machinists went on strike against Continental Airlines on August 13. The airline is demanding a wage cut of 40 percent for nonmechanics and work-rule changes that will eliminate 600 jobs. As soon as the walkout began, Continental fired all strikers who refused to cross the picket lines, and began hiring scabs to keep the planes in the air.

Over the last several years workers were forced to accept give back contracts out of fear of losing their jobs. The upturn in the economy today is giving more workers confidence — as in the case of Chrysler workers — to demand real wage increases.

The bosses, on the other hand, have no intention of sharing the blood-money they took from the workers. Their aim is to demoralize the work force, including busting the unions if need be, to maintain their new profit rates.

The strike of copper miners takes on an immediate urgency because of the steps already taken by the copper bosses against the unions, and the response of the strikers.

Rank-and-file unionists and their families are fighting back against Phelps Dodge's brutal offensive — something the company and its backers did not expect.

This has led the leadership of the affected unions and the AFL-CIO nationally to back the strike and to condemn the union-busting of the company.

The militant actions already taken by the copper miners to defend their rights reflect a problem the employers have as they deepen their attacks on working people. The picture of over 1,000 copper miners carrying bats to de-

fend themselves from strike-breaking cops, which was picked up by newspapers across the country, gives encouragement to other striking workers. It is also a warning to the bosses.

In response, the employers are using their government to curtail workers' democratic rights through antilabor legislation, police attacks, and injunctions against picketing.

The boss news media is at the same time showing its true antiworker and pro-employer colors. The *Arizona Republic* said the cops must "protect the lawful rights of property owners and nonstrikers." They said the mob — meaning the strikers — must be put down.

This view of U.S. workers is identical to the view the employers have of workers and peasants abroad fighting for their self-determination. The war at home is part and parcel of the war abroad.

The employers cannot deepen their intervention into Central America, back French imperialist troops in Chad, and put U.S. troops in Lebanon, and then allow workers here to freely organize and improve our wages and working conditions.

That's why every major strike today runs into the power of the government as well as the employer.

Thus the need for active solidarity by the national labor movement becomes even more urgent to win victories and beat back the bosses' offensive.

The copper miners are clearly in the front lines of this current class confrontation. The copper barons are intent on opening their mines — union or no union. The intervention of the National Guard against the workers makes it imperative that the AFL-CIO resolution calling for solidarity be given lifeblood.

Unions should adopt resolutions condemning the company's harassment and victimization of strikers and in support of the striking unions. The unions can also initiate broader meetings along with Black, Latino, and women's rights groups in support of the copper workers.

Unions nearby especially should send delegations of workers to visit the miners' picket lines. They should invite striking miners to speak before local meetings.

Similar types of solidarity should be organized for the striking telephone workers as well.

Finally the August 27 march on Washington can be the most important national day of solidarity for the striking miners and telephone workers. It brings together tens of thousands of workers favoring jobs, peace, and freedom — just what the strikers are fighting for.

The truth about all these strikes must be told. That's why we urge readers of the *Militant* to sell the paper to striking workers at plant gates and in working-class communities to get out the workers' side of the story.

Forums and other public meetings should also be held to get out the truth and win support for the copper miners' strike, and the strikes of telephone, airline, shipyard, and other workers.

The labor movement must make solidarity its watchword or it will suffer further setbacks as the employers' offensive accelerates.

# Zionists smear Aug. 27 march

The capitalist media has taken special relish in highlighting opposition to the August 27 Washington demonstration for jobs, peace, and freedom. In recent weeks such opposition has come principally from officials of pro-Zionist organizations.

They represent such groups as the American Jewish Committee, Jewish War Veterans, and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

These groups assert that they supported the 1963 March on Washington, which demanded jobs and freedom.

They can't support the present march, they say, because it has broadened its demands to include peace!

Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, said, "The organizers made a serious mistake when they moved away from the 1963 civil rights goals into complicated foreign policy questions."

He added that his group wouldn't support march policy statements, which it saw as "too pro-Third World and anti-American."

The Zionist organizations especially oppose the sentence in the original call for the march that states, "We oppose the militarization of internal conflicts, often abetted and even encouraged by massive U.S. arms exports, in areas of the world such as the Middle East and Central America, while their basic human problems are neglected."

While centering their criticism on the call's condemnation of Washington's role in the Middle East, these groups are strongly opposed to protests against U.S. and Israeli war moves in Central America as well. Israel is currently supplying arms to the dictatorships in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

For many years a "consensus" was imposed on this country in support of the reactionary anti-Arab aggression by the Israeli government, with only a small minority publicly dissenting.

A major break in the asserted consensus came a few years back when a group of prominent Blacks traveled to the Mideast and met with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

This created a furor among ruling circles in this country and among Zionist spokespeople. Like Bookbinder, they gravely advised that foreign policy was too "complicated" for Blacks, who should stick to civil rights.

The move by the Black leaders was a highly progressive one. And it reflected a growing public recognition, particularly in the Black community, of the racist face of Zionism.

That recognition was deepened by last year's Israeli invasion of Lebanon, culminating in the horrifying massacre of Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatila camps of Beirut.

These events have put Zionists on the defensive and, consequently, made them even more virulent toward those who oppose U.S. support to the Israeli regime.

But the hostility of these forces to the Black movement is not limited to Black opposition to arming the Israeli regime.

These same forces have also been among the most outspoken against the demand of the Black and women's movements for affirmative action quotas.

Like the employers and the Reagan administration, the Zionist leaders have howled that this is "reverse racism."

It's for all these reasons that they now try to deal blows to the August 27 march.

The Zionist objectors were aptly answered by Jack O'Dell, an associate of Jesse Jackson, head of Operation PUSH.

Responding to the critics, O'Dell said the success of the march "at this point doesn't depend on any group that has not yet come on board . . . it's not a civil rights march, it's a march for jobs, peace, and freedom, and that's who's marching."

# Hiroshima bombing and U.S. war drive

BY HARRY RING

It was 38 years ago this month that World War II ended with the United States reducing Hiroshima and Nagasaki to atomic rubble.

Around the world, millions were horrified by the scope of the slaughter and chilled by the implications of this new weapon of destruction.

In this country, the capitalist media worked hard to create a different response. This new weapon, they assured, was "good" because "we" controlled it and would use its awesome power to enforce world peace.

Liberal apologists for capitalism joined in, gravely advising that as frightening as it was, the bomb meant that now future wars were "unthinkable."

In the midst of this welter of lies, the *Militant* of Aug. 18, 1945, appeared with a banner headline:

"THERE IS NO PEACE!"

The headline — quite startling at a moment when every other paper was hailing the end of the war — introduced a statement by the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party.

Responding to the assertion of the media and liberal politicians, the SWP statement charged that the organs of ruling-class power had been mobilized to gull the people

# OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

into believing that a "true and lasting peace" had been won and that "peace can be preserved without revolutionary social change."

"Capitalist appetites and imperialist rivalries remain," the statement explained. "Only the focus of the antagonisms has shifted. War is the end result of the ceaseless capitalist hunt for profits, markets, colonies, spheres of influence."

The statement posed a searching question:

"After World War I, these same liberals declared that another war was 'unthinkable.'"

"Now that mankind has suffered another terrible blood-bath, do they seek to enquire why the 'unthinkable' came to pass?"

"They do not. For honest inquiry leads straight to the conclusion that under capitalism wars are inevitable."

The statement added: "To conceal the true source of war, capitalist propagandists divide the nations into 'aggressors' and 'peace-lovers.' This is a lie. The people of every nation hate war, for they are its victims. They are plunged into war by the capitalist rulers who alone profit from it."

"It contributes exactly nothing to an understanding of the profound social causes of war to say that Germany or Japan started it, Germany and Japan have been defeated. Yet the germs of war are STILL lodged in the heart of capitalist society."

History has confirmed that analysis. True, World War III has been held off.

But that's because the giant victories scored by the colonial and socialist revolutions since the end of World War II have changed the world relationship of class forces sufficiently to alter the global war plans of imperialism.

And the Soviet Union's development of its own atomic weapons has been a powerful added deterrent.

But there has been no peace.

On every continent, the imperialist powers have waged savage wars to thwart the rising movement for colonial independence. With mixed results; the British and French have fought to maintain their grip in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Mideast.

Throughout, the most persistent aggressor has been U.S. imperialism, the supposed guardian of world peace.

After World War II, it built more bases and garrisoned more troops around the globe. It dragged the U.S. working people into the horror of Korea and Vietnam.

And now we see the ominous escalation of the military intervention in Central America.

There is, of course, no reason to believe that Washington's growing war in Central America will be "limited."

Certainly the rulers of this country don't think so. That's precisely why they continue to expand their nuclear stockpile. If they didn't plan to use these weapons, they wouldn't be spending untold billions on building them.

The warning remains timely: "THERE IS NO PEACE!"

And so does the further declaration of that 1945 SWP statement:

"Only the utter wiping out of capitalist rule throughout the world can assure that atomic explosives will never again be used for mass murder. . . . The fight for socialism is now more than a fight to end poverty and inequality, to abolish the exploitation of man by man. Today the fight for socialism is the fight to prevent the annihilation of the human race."



# LETTERS

## From a GI

I would like to donate \$200 to the *Militant*. This represents 10 percent of my gross income for three months of active duty training in the army.

I appreciate reading about the facts and truth you print about how the capitalist ruling class takes away the rights of the working class in this country.

Some political issues that are of special interest for me are the recent enactment of an "anti-terrorism" law in Georgia that is used by the state's political police to pardon government efforts in spying on working-class organizations and foreign students; the efforts of Lockheed workers to regain their jobs, which they lost because of their legal union activities and political beliefs; the persecution of Dennis Banks by the government on trumped-up charges because of his leadership in the American Indian Movement; and

the way the government and the U.S. news media are sabotaging, disrupting, and slandering every effort by socialist countries like Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada to solve the problems faced by the working class in those countries.

A G.I.  
Texas

## Vancouver labor rally

Being on strike at Todd Shipyard in Seattle, I had the opportunity to attend the Operation Solidarity labor rally in Vancouver, British Columbia, on August 10.

When I told people I met at the rally that I was a socialist and shipyard worker from the United States currently on strike myself, they said they were glad that I had come. They were interested in finding out what the issues were in the Pacific Coast shipyard strike. When I told them that we were facing wage cuts and other

takebacks, they expressed their solidarity with the strike and wished us success.

Several people bought copies of the *Militant* after I pointed out the coverage that it had on Nicaragua and on the building for the August 27 demonstration for jobs, peace, and freedom.

Twelve people at the rally signed petitions to oppose the deportation of Hector Marroquin by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and in support of his request for political asylum in the United States.

Dean Peoples  
Seattle, Washington

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

I SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN... YOU, UNFORTUNATELY, HAVE BEEN BORN.



# How U.S. government shielded 'Butcher of Lyon'

BY NANCY COLE

The U.S. government's true colors in its "war against fascism" in the 1940s are coming to light in the controversy over Klaus Barbie, the "Butcher of Lyon."

Barbie was the Gestapo chief at Lyon during the German occupation of France in World War II. He ordered and participated personally in numerous atrocities against Jews and the French resistance. In presiding over a reign of terror throughout the French countryside, Barbie

out drinking beer once in a while" with him.

Eugene Kolb, chief of operations for U.S. intelligence in the Augsburg region at the time, says that Barbie proved very valuable in "penetrating" the Bavarian Communist Party. He "was very shrewd, extremely intelligent, a very capable professional," says Kolb. And he "knew how to extract information through interviews, interrogations."

Kolb says Barbie might have used the rubber-hose technique to get information, but in general Kolb is "skeptical" about the atrocity stories surrounding Barbie's time in France.

France, meanwhile, was hunting for Barbie, but its repeated requests were met with silence from U.S. authorities.

At one point, the U.S. officials even staged an arrest

of Barbie, and conducted an investigation of his crimes, which "cleared" him. They then rehired him.

By 1951, the United States decided it was risking too much to continue harboring Barbie in Europe, so they sent him via the U.S. Army-organized "Rat Line" to South America. There "Barbie put his gestapo training at the service of a succession of military dictators" for the next 32 years, explains "Frontline" narrator Jessica Savitch.

He now awaits trial in the same jail in France where he personally tortured hundreds of members of the French resistance.

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Kolb still has no qualms about what the United States did. "The benefits outweighed the costs," he says.

## AS I SEE IT

headed a unit that was responsible for as many as 20,000 deaths of French people.

Yet after the war, Barbie was put on the U.S. Army's payroll. When it got too risky to keep him in Europe, the United States arranged a safe journey for him and his family to South America, where he served a string of right-wing dictators until February of this year. He was then extradited from Bolivia to France to face charges of "crimes against humanity."

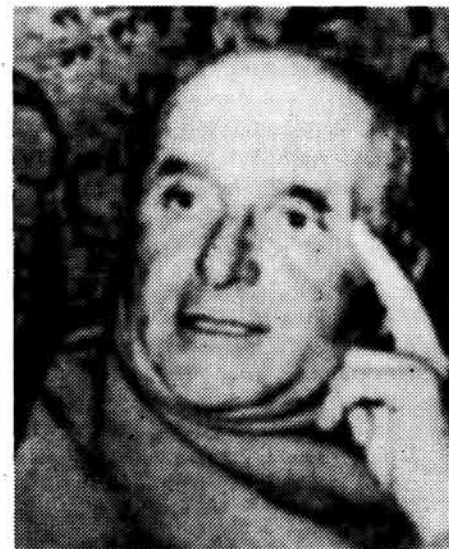
The U.S. role in shielding this criminal from justice was highlighted in early July with the airing in Britain of the British Broadcasting Corp.'s show "Panorama." Tom Bower, deputy editor of "Panorama," has also written a book on Barbie. In the United States, the BBC interviews were the basis of a "Frontline" program on public television broadcast July 25.

The problem facing U.S. spy agencies after World War II, claimed former officials interviewed by BBC, was that they knew very little about Soviet operations. Nazi criminals, with their contacts and their methods, could help out the United States.

The U.S. "control officer" for Barbie in Germany, Erhard Dabringhaus, says, "We went overboard to be nice to that guy." They set him up with his family in a home, got him an office with a secretary, and even "went



Known to have ordered the murder of 20,000 French Jews and resistance fighters (shown executed at left), Klaus Barbie (right) was considered good material as a U.S. spy after World War II.



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**TEXAS:** Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Tel: (512) 452-3923. Dallas: SWP, YSA, 2817 Live Oak. Zip: 75204. Tel: (214) 826-4711. Houston: SWP, YSA, 4806 Alameda. Zip: 77004. Tel: (713) 522-8054. San Antonio: SWP, YSA, 2811 Guadalupe, #100. Zip: 78207. Tel: (512) 432-7394.

**UTAH:** Price: SWP, YSA, 23 S. Carbon Ave., Suite 19, P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. Salt Lake City: SWP, YSA, 677 S. 7th East, 2nd Floor. Zip: 84102. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

**VIRGINIA:** Tidewater Area (Newport News): SWP, YSA, 5412 Jefferson Ave., Zip 23605. Tel: (804) 380-0133.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.:** SWP, YSA, 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699. Baltimore-Washington District: 2913 Greenmount Ave., Baltimore, Md. Zip: 21218. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

**WASHINGTON:** Seattle: SWP, YSA, 4868 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Charleston: SWP, YSA, 1584 A Washington St. East. Zip: 25311. Tel: (304) 345-3040. Morgantown: SWP, YSA, 957 S. University Ave. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

**WISCONSIN:** Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 4707 W. Lisbon Ave. Zip: 53208. Tel: (414) 445-2076.



## 700,000 telephone workers say 'no' to Ma Bell's demand for concessions

BY MARGARET JAYKO

The national strike by 700,000 telephone workers against the giant American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (AT&T) is an important struggle which deserves the support of the entire labor movement.

AT&T is pushing for a full package of concessions on wages, work rules, and fringe benefits from its employees, similar to those that have been forced on workers in the auto, steel, trucking, and other industries.

In a united show of resistance, the three major unions that organize "Ma Bell's" employees walked out simultaneously, and are picketing telephone company sites from one end of the country to the other. These unions are: the Communications Workers of America (CWA), which organizes 525,000 telephone workers; the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), which represents 100,000 telephone workers; and the Telecommunications International Union (TIU), which represents 50,000 of the striking workers. The three unions are bargaining separately.

Employers around the country are paying close attention to this first nationwide strike since the beginnings of the upturn in the economy. They are determined to wrest major concessions from the telephone workers. If the unions successfully resist, it will fuel the confidence and combativity of other workers whose contracts are coming up, such as oil and chemical workers, auto workers, and coal miners.

The CWA's membership voted 5-to-1 to authorize the nationwide strike, in the face of eight weeks of AT&T's refusal to bargain seriously with the unions.

### Western Electric walkout

The strike began at 12:01 a.m. on August 7. One week later, another 40,000 members of the IBEW voted to strike Western Electric, which manufactures the equipment for the Bell system.

Telephone workers are angered by Bell's measly offer of a 3.5 percent wage increase for the highest-paid workers only with no increase at all for the rest of the work force. AT&T's record \$7.2 billion profits in 1982 — a record which all signs indicate will be surpassed in 1983 — makes this "offer" especially galling to telephone workers.

According to CWA spokesperson Francine Zucker, the union is "looking for a wage offer that will compensate all levels of seniority fairly."

### Job security

Even more than wages, however, the question of job security is on the minds of telephone workers. And for good reason.

Their problem is not only the continual technological advances in the telecommunications field, which consigns thousands of workers to the unemployment lines.

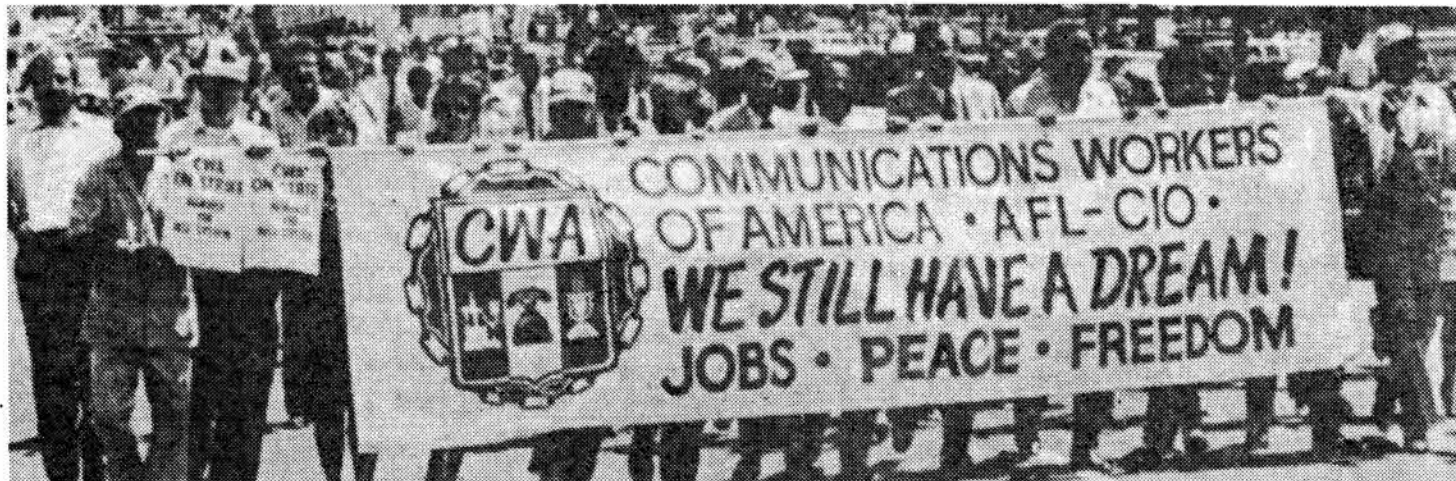
As of January 1984, the government-sanctioned dismantling of AT&T into nine independent companies will go into effect.

AT&T's owners intend to use this "divestiture" to cut the work force and to impose lower wages and harsher conditions on those workers who remain.

### Weaken unions

Central to this perspective must be weakening the unions which organize telephone workers, particularly the CWA. AT&T hopes this will be facilitated by the increase in the number of companies the unions will have to bargain with. AT&T's breakup will also mean higher phone rates.

As the August 9 *New York Times* put it, "For management, the key question is how the impending breakup of the giant company will affect its profits. . . . For



Striking telephone workers march in Washington, D.C. Rally in support of the strikers was held there on August 16. Josh Williams, head of Central Labor Council, said solidarity with phone workers is important because "if they do not succeed we know it will be open season on all unions."

labor, the central question is whether the computer technology being adopted by the industry may result in fewer jobs and fundamental changes in job conditions."

"AT&T is trying to trim its costs and maintain maximum flexibility regarding how it uses its workers as it enters the new arena of deregulated, highly competitive telecommunications," said the August 5 *Wall Street Journal*.

The unions are demanding a job retraining program, so that workers who lose their jobs due to the introduction of new technology will be able to get new jobs. AT&T has

rejected this idea.

AT&T wants to create a new job classification called "service assistant" which would replace all the highest-paid craft workers, who perform jobs like phone installations, disconnections, and hook-ups. The only difference would be that "service assistants" would get paid 65 percent of current wages.

The company is also demanding that a substantial amount of the payments for medical insurance be shifted from the company to the workers.

A federal district judge recently ruled

that the nine companies that AT&T will be broken into can each have their own pension plan, thus endangering the pension benefits of workers who transfer from one company to the other and weakening pension funds as a whole. The unions are demanding one AT&T-wide pension plan.

Ma Bell has also rejected all the union proposals for reducing the tremendous stress telephone workers are subjected to.

Picketing operators have plenty of stories to tell about the abuse and stress involved in their job, including having to

Continued on Page 12

## Operation PUSH condemns U.S. war against people of Central America

BY STUART CROME AND MACEO DIXON

ATLANTA — "This covert CIA activity in Central America, this . . . blockade that the present administration is setting up, is nothing but preparation to send the Black, the brown, and the white poor to fight and die to protect rich interests."

These were the words of Jesse Jackson, president of Operation PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity). Jackson was speaking to a jubilant, foot-stomping crowd of 1,500 to 2,000 people attending the 12th annual convention of Operation PUSH. The theme of the convention was "Black America: A People Whose Time Has Come." It was held here July 24-30.

The key questions that were discussed at the convention were defense of the Voting Rights Act and Black voter registration, the Equal Rights Amendment and women's rights, economic initiatives that PUSH has made, as well as a number of other national and international questions. They were all discussed in the context of mapping out a political program to put forward in the 1984 presidential elections.

### Central America

Convention delegates expressed widespread opposition to any war moves by the U.S. government. Just as the convention was assembling, Reagan was sending a naval fleet to both coasts of Nicaragua.

Jackson told the conventioners that "No other foreign policy issue so occupies our attention or dominates our concerns as does Central America." He said, "We need a new course toward peace."

"The present unrest in Central America cannot be blamed on Soviet and Cuban adventurism in our 'backyard,'" Jackson said. "It is the result of centuries of exploitation by colonial Spain and wealthy landowners and a sad record in this century of U.S. intervention to protect the interests of



Salvadoran unionist Alejandro Molina Lara (left) and PUSH President Jesse Jackson (right) denounced U.S. war in Central America at PUSH convention news conference.

big business and corrupt dictators."

At a press conference during the week, the PUSH leader said "Central America, like Africa, is attempting to emerge from centuries of colonialism, neocolonialism, and racism that has left them a legacy of poverty; illiteracy; poor health; and other social, economic, and political maladies."

Jackson called for a "new U.S. peace policy towards Central America," explaining that "The people of the whole of Latin America are faced with a new danger to their sovereignty represented by the current military naval buildup in Central America ordered by President Reagan. The people of our country must act in our own national self-interest and see to it that this danger is removed. . . . This means a complete break with the tradition of 'gunboat diplomacy,' which the Reagan administration is trying to restore."

He told the convention that a new policy towards Central America should "respond to the legitimate demands of the poor majority for greater justice and participation in decisions affecting their lives."

His proposal called for a change in policy toward eight governments in Central America and the Caribbean, included normalization of relations with Cuba, and opposed giving military aid to El Salvador's ruling junta.

"Instead of isolating and undermining Nicaragua's revolutionary government," he said, "the United States should respond to Nicaragua's repeated offers of dialogue and allow this process to produce concrete measures in the areas of trade and diplomatic recognition on the basis of mutual respect and sovereignty."

Continued on Page 13