

Toledo UAW battles cops in struggle to save union



Toledo auto workers are engaged in bitter fight to defend UAW against union-busting at AP Parts plant. More than 40 workers have been arrested.

Labor's stake in fight at AP Parts

BY MALIK MIAH

TOLEDO, Ohio — The AP Parts strike here has taken on major significance for the labor movement. National television cameras have shown pickets attacked and arrested by the cops. The courts have backed each company strike-breaking tactic, including a new injunction cutting the number of pickets from six to four. AP Parts has hired a private goon squad, at \$45,000 a week, to protect the scabs.

The battle is becoming an important test of strength between the organized labor movement here and an employer backed by powerful antiunion forces. The largest auto company in the world, General Motors, has already given AP Parts a \$20 million contract — on the basis that AP's new union-busting pact is operative.

This strike is more than a battle between a small auto parts supplier and 450 strikers. It is a symbol of the bigger battle between

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3,000 auto workers take to streets

BY ELIZABETH LARISCY

TOLEDO, Ohio, May 23 — A battle erupted in the streets of this city on May 21 when cops attacked a demonstration of more than 3,000 auto workers in front of the AP Parts Auto Co. United Auto Workers Local 14, representing over 400 workers at AP, has been on strike since May 2.

Unionists from all over town had gathered to show solidarity with the AP strike and to challenge a court injunction limiting the number of pickets to six per gate.

Armed with tear gas, clubs, and pellet guns, the police first arrested several people. Then they turned on the whole

TOLEDO, May 24 — Early this morning AP Parts brought 233 people, including scabs and supervisory personnel, in 89 cars into the struck plant. Electrical power to the plant remains cut off due to what the company claims was a transformer fire.

For the first time since the strike began, face-to-face negotiations resumed yesterday between AP Parts and the United Auto Workers (UAW). A new round of talks is scheduled to begin today at 1:30 p.m. UAW international staff representative Rod Smith told the Militant that the union plans to file lawsuits against the cops for brutality against workers at the May 21 action.

crowd and fired tear gas. They put on their riot helmets and charged into the workers, going after demonstrators who threw the tear gas canisters back.

The angry workers refused to let the cops push them off the streets. A pitched battle ensued for six hours. Before it was over, 41 unionists had been arrested, including some officials. Several workers and some cops were hospitalized.

The scabs brought in to break the strike stayed locked inside the plant. The company was afraid to bring them out until the next morning, under heavy police guard.

Workers here view the battle they put up as a big victory for the union. As the *Militant* goes to press, AP has not tried to bring scabs through the gates again. AP is shut down, the company says, because a power transformer went out.

On May 23, AP management went to the Lucas County Pleas Court and obtained a new injunction limiting pickets to four per gate. The court also banned any gatherings larger than four on the street where the plant is located.

AP is threatening to open the plant on Friday, May 25.

Meanwhile, evidence of the May 21 fight at the plant remains. Bricks and broken glass lie everywhere. A truck owned by Nuckols, Inc. — a private cop outfit hired to herd scabs — sits symbolically at the gate. Its tires are all slashed, its windows broken, and a railroad tie is rammed through the front window.

Last March 3, the UAW contract at AP expired. The company unilaterally imposed its final contract offer — which the

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Congress welcomes Salvadoran tyrant

BY JOSÉ G. PÉREZ

In the wake of the visit to Washington by Salvadoran president-elect José Napoleón Duarte, Democrats in Congress are saying they will join Republicans in approving a \$62 million emergency military aid package for El Salvador without even the figleaf of "human rights conditions."

Duarte, who was elected president with the help of some \$2 million in secret fund-

ing from the CIA, denounced conditioned aid as a violation of "the principle of sovereignty."

"I think he has sold enough people in the House," said speaker Thomas O'Neill. "The votes are there overwhelmingly."

Duarte's election and subsequent visit to the United States are all part of a carefully prepared U.S. government plan to give "democratic" cover to U.S. military inter-

vention in Central America.

He has been lionized by Congress and the capitalist press as "a strong, courageous and combative democrat." The *Washington Post* exclaimed May 23 that Duarte had "swept through Congress like a conquering hero" during a "triumphant tour of Capitol Hill."

According to the big-business press, Duarte deserves the confidence of the people of the United States because he is committed to ending death squads, establishing a "national dialogue" with the freedom fighters of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, and carrying out social reforms.

During his visit, Duarte endorsed Reagan's five-year, \$8 billion package of aid for right-wing dictatorships in Central America, including \$178 million in military aid to El Salvador this year.

On May 21, he held a meeting with President Reagan at the end of which they issued a joint statement saying any solution to the Salvadoran civil war "should take place within the democratic rule which establishes that the only access to power is in accordance with the will of the people expressed through free elections."

Duarte himself claims to have been freely elected president in the May 6 runoff election. But the freedom fighters of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), who control roughly one-third of El Salvador, could not participate.

The FMLN and Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) pointed out that to campaign in elections organized by a regime responsible for the murder of more than 40,000 civilians in the past five years would be tantamount to suicide.

During a May 20 interview on the NBC program "Meet the Press," Duarte further demonstrated that his "national dialogue" is nothing but the same old Reagan administration refusal to negotiate dressed up in new rhetoric.

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All out for June 9 antiwar rally

New York area opponents of the U.S. war in Central America will have an important opportunity to register their protest on Saturday, June 9.

An antiwar march and rally in New York City that day comes as U.S. aggression in

ing from the CIA, denounced conditioned aid as a violation of "the principle of sovereignty."

Earlier, on June 7, civil disobedience activists will hold a noon protest at the Federal Building in downtown Manhattan.

The protest actions have been organized by the Coalition Against U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean. Some 50 groups are sponsoring the coalition's efforts.

Among these are: Mobilization for Survival, Committee in Solidarity With the People of El Salvador (CISPES), Clergy and Laity Concerned, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, various Central America solidarity organizations, Socialist Workers Party, Communist Party, Democratic Socialists of America, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, People's Anti-War Mobilization, Riverside Church Disarmament Program, War Resisters League, and U.S. Peace Council.

Representatives of Mobilization for Survival, CISPES, and Clergy and Laity Concerned are the principal coordinators.

June 9 is a timely response to the swiftly escalating moves by Washington toward direct U.S. troop involvement against Nic-

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EDITORIAL

Central America and the Caribbean has sharply escalated.

The last three months have seen a qualitative acceleration of U.S. military intervention in the region. This escalation of the war makes demonstrations and other public antiwar protests all the more important.

U.S. Army engineers have been building two new airstrips in Honduras — one near El Salvador and the other near Nicaragua. On May 23 another 1,000 GIs were sent to Honduras where U.S. troops are already involved in "counterinsurgency" activities. Congress is getting ready to rush millions more in military aid to the Salvadoran dictatorship.

"Stop the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean" will be the theme of the June 9 demonstration, which is expected to involve significant numbers of people from New York and the surrounding areas. The march is also demanding "No nuclear fleet

BY BERNIE SENTER

PHOENIX — For the last 11 months, copper miners in Arizona have been on strike against the Phelps Dodge Corp. Phelps Dodge, with the help of the cops, state government, and big-business press, is trying to bust the 13 unions, led by the United Steelworkers of America (USWA), which organize workers at the mines and smelters.

The *Militant* has been consistently covering this fight, and building solidarity with the copper miners among other unionists. Strikers have shown a great deal of interest in the *Militant's* coverage, as have other unionists in Arizona.

Socialists who live and work in Phoenix have organized regular teams to travel the 90 miles to Globe, Arizona, to sell at the gates

of the Inspiration mine at shift change, and then to go to the grocery store in town to sell the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* and talk to other copper miners. Sixty-six copies of the *Militant* have been sold in Globe in the last month, the majority at the mine entrance.

On May 5, a peaceful picket line in the copper town of Clifton-Morenci was attacked by police. Ten strike supporters were arrested.

The May 18 issue of the *Militant* carried front-page eyewitness coverage of the attack, along with an editorial answering the lies about Nicaragua and the Salvadoran freedom fighters contained in Reagan's May 9 televised speech.

Socialists in Phoenix decided to make a special effort to use the

Militant to discuss these two big issues with unionists in the area.

At Marathon Steel in Phoenix, a regular team has been selling at the plant gates for months. Socialist steelworkers in the plant find we are being asked more and more by other workers what the paper is about. Eleven copies of the May 18 issue of the *Militant* were sold to USWA members who work at Marathon — three at the plant gate and another eight by socialists who work there.

A number of marathon workers have either worked in the copper mines previously, have family that worked in the mines, or are from that area. So there's been a lot of interest in the copper strike, and in a paper like the *Militant* that reports on the strike and that takes the side of the workers. The daily

newspapers here side with Phelps Dodge.

There was considerable interest in the eyewitness coverage of the May 5 attack. That issue got around quite a bit.

Workers who buy the paper are interested in the *Militant's* other coverage as well. Socialists who work at Marathon have had discussions with workers who are opposed to U.S. support to the counterrevolutionaries who are waging war on Nicaragua. They feel that the government is getting us involved in something in Central America that we have no control over and are pretty upset about it.

Socialists in Phoenix expanded our regular weekly plant-gate sales with the May 18 issue of the *Militant* to a Goodyear aerospace plant outside of Phoenix, which is or-

ganized by the International Association of Machinists.

The response to the *Militant* — nine papers were sold — indicates that these unionists, too, are thinking about what the copper strike means for them and about the U.S. war in Central America.

Socialists in Phoenix want to introduce some of these same unionists who we've been meeting to Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate Andrea González when she visits Arizona at the end of this month. Campaigning and selling the *Militant* and *PM* at plant gates is a central part of preparing for her tour.

Bernie Senter works at Marathon Steel in Phoenix and is a member of United Steelworkers of America Local 5904.

June 11 hearing on Marroquín's fight to stay in U.S.

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

Supporters of Héctor Marroquín are stepping up their efforts to force the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to allow him to stay in the United States until his application for permanent residency — a green card — is completed.

Marroquín is a Mexican-born leader of the Socialist Workers Party facing deportation because of his outspoken opposition to Washington's war in Central America and its attacks on the rights of working people here at home. Marroquín's appeal for political asylum is currently before the U.S. Supreme Court, which is expected to rule on it any day. As a result, the fight for his right to extra time to pursue his green card takes on added importance.

A June 11 hearing is slated in Newark at the U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey. There, Marroquín's attorneys, Susan Susman and Claudia Slovinsky, will ask the court to order the INS to allow him to remain here while his green-card application is pending. Susman and Slovinsky filed a motion for this on May 4.

As a result of this legal action and the many protests on Marroquín's behalf, INS officials have offered verbal concessions, but they have refused to sign a binding agreement.

The June 11 hearing is before Judge Dickinson Debevoise. It begins at 10 a.m. at the Federal courthouse on Franklin and Broad streets in Newark. All supporters of Marroquín are urged to attend. For more information, call the Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF) at (212) 691-3270.

Marroquín applied for a green card a year ago based on his marriage to a U.S. citizen. While permission to remain in the country while pursuing a green card is routinely given in most cases, the INS has balked at granting permission in Marroquín's case.

Should the Supreme Court deny Marroquín asylum, he would have only 48 hours to leave the country voluntarily, unless he has an extension.

The PRDF, which is coordinating Marroquín's defense, has been urging supporters to send telegrams, letters, and other messages to the INS demanding they grant Marroquín his green card.

"We support the efforts of Héctor Marroquín to receive a permanent residence visa to remain in this country," read the message sent by Rev. Abraham Woods, president of the Birmingham, Alabama, chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

"We commend," continued Woods, "his

activities to promote justice and to help remove the burdens of the oppressed and the exploited. Surely, in this 'land of the free and the home of the brave' there is room for Héctor Marroquín."

Among the many letters sent to the INS supporting Marroquín's request were protests from Clyde Cleveland, a Detroit city council member; the executive board of the Jersey City, New Jersey, chapter of Operation PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity); Peter Camarata, co-chair of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union; and

Raymond Ceballos and John Moran, the secretary-treasurer and business representative, respectively, of Local 1327 of the International Association of Machinists in San Francisco.

"The number of messages sent so far," said Holbrook Mahn, national coordinator of PRDF, "shows the potential for winning support for Marroquín's fight."

Protest messages should be sent to INS Commissioner Alan Nelson, INS, Washington, D.C. 20536, with a copy to PRDF, Box 649, New York, N.Y. 10003.

Contingents formed for June 9 antiwar rally

BY OLGA RODRIGUEZ

NEW YORK — Over 60 activists from the New York area participated in the May 17 meeting here of the Coalition Against U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.

The meeting heard reports on final plans for a June 9 march and rally called here. The central demand of the action is "Stop the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean." The demonstration is also demanding "No nuclear fleet in N.Y. harbor" and "Convert the military budget to fund human needs: jobs, peace, justice."

The breadth of participation in the coalition reflects the growing desire to actively oppose the rapidly escalating U.S. presence in Central America. A large number of organizations are taking part in the protest (see list in editorial on page one). Representatives of the Mobilization for Survival, Committee in Solidarity With the People of El Salvador (CISPES), and Clergy and Laity Concerned are the principal coordinators.

Additional sponsors include the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights (NCPRR), Black United Front, Women for Racial and Economic Equality, Committee for a Free Grenada, and Caribbean Peoples' Alliance.

Also endorsing and actively building the action are the Salvadoran Solidarity Coordinating Committee — an organization that includes all the Salvadoran organizations in New York, Casa Nicaragua, Antonio Maceo Brigade, and New York Catholic Peace Fellowship.

The Women's Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean announced at the meeting their plans to organize a women's contingent at the march.

On May 21, Latino activists met to organize a Third World contingent for the June 9 action. Zoilo Torres, representing the National Congress of Puerto Rican Rights, chaired the meeting.

The NCPRR has issued a bilingual leaflet appealing to Puerto Ricans to join in the antiwar demonstration. The leaflet states, "Our youth will not be cannon-fodder for U.S. military invasion of Central America! Justice is what we want for the people of Central America, the Caribbean and in the United States! No to racism!"

Among those organizations participating in the contingent meeting were the New York Committee in Support of Vieques, Antonio Maceo Brigade, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, Young Socialist Alliance, Casa El Salvador, and Casa El Salvador-

Farabundo Martí.

In addition to these contingents, labor, Middle East, and nuclear disarmament contingents are planned for June 9.

A civil disobedience action will take place on June 7 at the Federal Building, 26 Federal Plaza, in lower Manhattan at 12 noon.

At the May 17 coalition meeting, Marilyn Vasta, a leading activist from CISPES, reported on the program for June 9. The action will take the form of a trial of U.S. interventionist policy in Central America and the Caribbean. Among those speaking are William Kunstler, noted civil liberties lawyer, and Salvador Tió, of the NCPRR and executive director of the New York American Civil Liberties Union. Also testifying against the U.S. war and its impact on U.S. society will be speakers on Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Grenada, and representatives of the Black and labor movements.

The demonstration will assemble at 11 a.m. at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza (47th Street and First Avenue) and march to the Times Square Recruitment Center. For more information, contact the Coalition Against U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean at (212) 242-1040 or (212) 673-1808.

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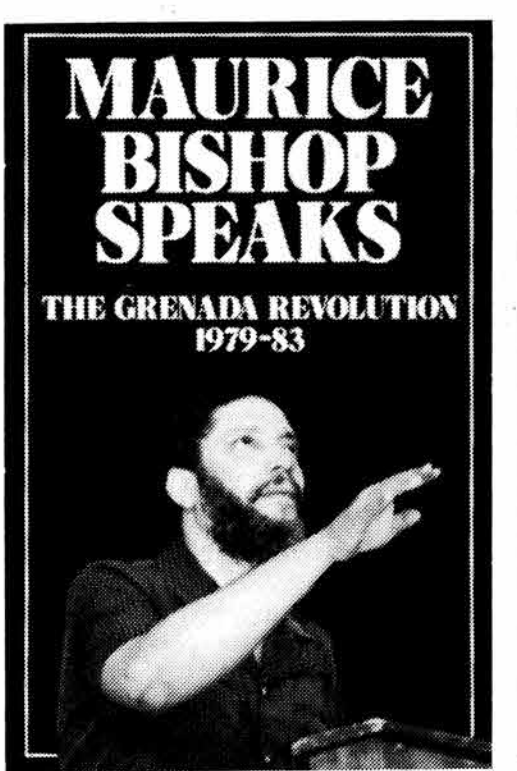
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Mason to speak in Ireland and join protest of Reagan visit

BY ANDREA MORELL

Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Mel Mason flew to Ireland May 23 to join protests set for Pres. Ronald Reagan's visit there in early June. Reagan will stop in Ireland June 1-4 on his way to an economic summit conference in London later in the month.

The visit of the U.S. president has become a focus of widespread political controversy in Ireland, centered around opposition to Washington's rapidly escalating war in Central America. While the government of Irish Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald will welcome Reagan, broad forces throughout Ireland are preparing to protest his visit and the U.S. war against the struggling workers and farmers of Central America.

The U.S. media report that several ad hoc formations, based on Central America solidarity and peace groups, have come together to organize pickets, marches, and rallies during Reagan's Irish tour. Their actions have wide support and have helped set a context in which diverse groups are planning to express their opposition to Reagan.

"We hope this will be a massive demonstration against President Reagan and his foreign policies," said Ben Kearney, president of the Council of Trade Unions, of the protests that will begin when Reagan arrives at Shannon Airport. Kearney advised that round-the-clock pickets will station themselves at Ashford Castle where Reagan will stay and again at Dublin Castle June 3 where he will attend a state banquet.

Demonstrators will converge in Galway City June 2, when Reagan is scheduled to receive an honorary degree from University College. They will join university staff members who have announced they will burn their degrees in protest of the award.

The *Washington Post* reports a group of 75 Jesuit priests in Dublin released a statement May 18 calling upon all Christian clergy to reconsider any decision they may have made to join in public welcoming ceremonies for Reagan. Meanwhile, Dr. Eamon Casey, the bishop of Galway and

an outspoken critic of U.S. policy toward El Salvador and Nicaragua, has made clear he will not be available to meet with the president when he comes to that city.

A resolution denouncing Reagan's support of "corrupt regimes in Central America" was passed by the National Federation of Youth Clubs, and the Irish Committee for Nuclear Disarmament announced it will push a mock version of a Pershing II missile from Donegal to Ballyporeen to demonstrate opposition to the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

Meanwhile, 15 residents of Ballyporeen, the village in County Tipperary where Reagan's ancestors lived, have announced they will stage a walkout when Reagan shows up there.

In addition to participating in these protests, People's Democracy, Irish sympathizing section of the Fourth International, has invited socialist presidential candidate Mel Mason to Ireland where he will be in the center of the nationwide debate and protests sparked by Reagan's visit. Mason and his running mate, Andrea González, make exposure of the political aims of Washington's war policy a theme of their campaign. With this initiative by People's Democracy, Mason will be on hand throughout Reagan's tour of Ireland to counter directly the lies of U.S. imperialism's chief executive. The socialist candidate will also explain the bipartisan support to the war, which is massively funded due to Democratic votes in the Congress.

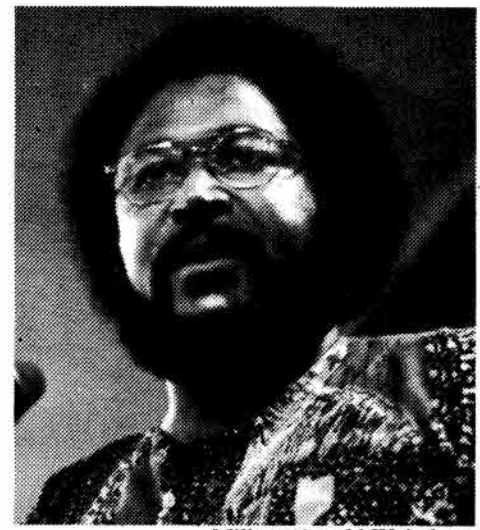
Mason will be featured speaker at rallies organized by People's Democracy in Dublin, Belfast, Limerick, and Westbrook. On the platform with him will be leaders of Sinn Féin, the largest political organization fighting for Irish independence from Britain, leaders of the Anti-Reagan Campaign, student representatives, activists in the Irish civil rights movement, and others. In Dublin and Belfast, Mason will appear with internationally known Irish freedom fighter, Bernadette Devlin McAliskey.

In anticipation of his visit, Mason gave a telephone interview to the *Dublin Tribune*, which appeared in the Sunday, May 20, edition of the paper. The socialist presidential candidate hailed the protests under way in Ireland in preparation for Reagan's appearances there and expressed his hope that the people of the entire world "will emulate the Irish people in demonstrating their opposition to this warmonger wherever he goes."

While in Ireland, Mason will make clear his unconditional support for Irish reunification and complete independence from British domination.

Mason will go to Britain from Ireland to join public protests there in opposition to Reagan. He will take part June 9 in a major action in London sponsored by the Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

Supporters of *Socialist Action*, a British Marxist newsweekly, have invited Mason to Britain. He will be the featured speaker at a protest meeting they will hold June 6 in Central London.



Mel Mason, socialist candidate for U.S. president, hailed Irish groups' plans to protest U.S. war in Central America during Reagan's visit to Ireland.

Under *Socialist Action's* auspices Mason will tour throughout Britain, traveling to Manchester, Birmingham, and to major coal mining centers, including Sheffield and Yorkshire. There Mason will speak with striking British coal miners who are in the midst of a deepgoing struggle against attempts by the Thatcher government to break their union and open the way to return the nationalized coal industry to private hands.

Mason will also meet with leaders of the Greenham Common encampment, made up of women who have been protesting placement of U.S. missiles in England.

The socialist candidate, who is a longtime leader of the fight for Black liberation in the United States, will hold discussions with Black struggle leaders throughout England, including with activists from Grenada and the rest of the Caribbean.

Sales drive boosts '84 socialist campaign

BY LEE MARTINDALE

Mel Mason, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. president, says "If anybody asks you what the socialist campaign is all about, you can tell them — majority rule. We're for working people, the majority, running the country instead of the tiny minority of capitalists."

Mason and vice-presidential candidate Andrea González are running against the Democrats and Republicans, the parties of the bosses, and for a government of workers and farmers. So it stands to reason that the main activity of these candidates and their campaign supporters is talking with workers and farmers about the socialist program.

Two of the best ways to do this have proven to be collecting signatures on petitions to place the socialist candidates on the November ballot, and selling the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, the Spanish-language socialist biweekly. The current eight-week sales drive for the two papers is designed to boost the election campaign effort.

Socialists in Morgantown, West Virginia, have been involved in both of these campaign activities. In April, campaign supporters turned the task of collecting 15,000 signatures to put the socialist ticket on the ballot into a major campaigning effort throughout the state. Now they're organizing to follow up on this by campaigning with the *Militant* in areas where working people live and shop.

In a day's campaigning on May 19, one team of socialist workers went to a shopping center in the city. Alyson Kennedy explained that she would hand shoppers a campaign leaflet introducing the candidates and then tell them about the *Militant*. She found a lot of interest in discussing the bipartisan vote by Democrats and Republicans in Congress to provide more military aid for the dictatorship in El Salvador. Kennedy bumped into a fellow member of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union at Morgan Shirt, where she works. This woman commented, "Oh, yes, this is what you were talking about at the union meeting — how the Democrats aren't doing anything for working people." Thirty-one copies of the *Militant* were sold by the team.

The socialists expect that several more weeks of campaigning will put them over the top of their goal of selling 440 *Militants* during the eight-week drive.

Socialists from Los Angeles and Seaside, California, took the Mason-González campaign and the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* to a May 19 demonstration in Los Angeles against the anti-immigrant Simpson-Mazzoli bill.

James Harris, a leader of the Socialist

Workers Party in Los Angeles, explains that one of the strengths of the socialist campaign is being able to involve every campaign supporter in its activities. "We have oil workers working rotating shifts, people who work afternoons and overtime on Saturday, and all kinds of schedules. This means we can take the campaign, and the *Militant* and *PM*, anywhere at any time.

"We keep a calendar in the headquarters with everybody's shift on it, and another calendar of events in the city we want to campaign at. On Saturdays we meet at the headquarters in the morning and send teams out campaigning in the community. People who can't make it then go out with teams at about 3:00 in the afternoon. And people who work all day Saturday can go out with a team during the week. It takes some attention to organize, but it gives us a lot of flexibility."

So far in the sales drive, socialists in Los Angeles have sold 610 copies of the *Militant* and 503 of *PM*. One Black worker who was introduced to the Socialist Workers Party through buying a *Militant* from a team of campaigners wants to join the party. And at a recent campaign rally for Andrea González, two other people decided to join the Young Socialist Alliance.

The accompanying scoreboard reflects sales through the fifth week of the eight-week sales drive in cities where branches of the SWP and chapters of the YSA have adopted goals for the drive.

In addition, campaign supporters in other areas are using the *Militant* and *PM* to introduce people to the program and candidates of the socialist campaign. For example, Kevin McGuire, a supporter in Toms River, New Jersey, sold the *Militant* at a protest against storage of nuclear weapons at Earle Naval Weapons Base near Coltsneck, New Jersey. Three hundred fifty people participated in the protest. McGuire introduced the *Militant* as the campaign newspaper of the Socialist Workers Party candidates.

"I explained that Mel's campaign is the only truly antiwar campaign, the only campaign for unilateral U.S. disarmament, the only campaign calling for hands off Nicaragua. People welcomed the connection our campaign makes between the shooting war going on in Central America and the threat of nuclear war." Thirteen people bought copies of the *Militant*.

SALES SCOREBOARD

(Week #5: Totals as of *Militant* issue #18, *PM* issue #9)

Area	Eight-week Goal <i>Militant</i> / <i>PM</i>	Sold So Far <i>Militant</i> / <i>PM</i>	Total Goal/Sold	%
Toledo	800/40	721/11	840/732	87
Seaside, Calif.	320/200	214/178	520/392	75
Denver	515/85	379/52	600/431	72
Greensboro, N.C.	360/0	254/1	360/255	71
Milwaukee	800/160	584/75	960/659	69
Seattle	760/40	507/33	800/540	68
Dallas	400/200	229/177	600/406	68
San Diego	375/125	232/104	500/336	67
Chicago	900/300	669/136	1,200/805	67
Oakland	570/170	397/91	740/488	66
Los Angeles	840/880	610/503	1,720/1113	65
Albany, N.Y.	704/56	450/42	760/492	65
Philadelphia	640/160	409/105	800/514	64
Cleveland	675/70	442/37	745/479	64
Baltimore	800/20	519/2	820/521	64
Phoenix	600/320	425/153	920/578	63
Houston	555/195	345/131	750/476	63
Birmingham	600/0	378/0	600/378	63
Louisville	450/0	281/0	450/281	62
Washington, D.C.	515/105	319/58	620/377	61
Newport News, Va.	400/0	240/0	400/240	60
San Francisco	755/325	453/191	1,080/644	60
San Jose	480/80	245/84	560/329	59
Virginia, Minn.	500/0	291/0	500/291	58
Miami	720/80	387/71	800/458	57
Minneapolis/St. Paul	1,120/80	638/33	1,200/671	56
St. Louis	533/0	296/0	533/296	56
Price, Utah	336/24	187/16	360/203	56
Atlanta	760/40	427/16	800/443	55
Salt Lake City	400/40	199/38	440/237	54
Morgantown, W. Va.	440/0	237/0	440/237	54
Detroit	1,040/40	541/17	1,080/558	52
Portland	320/160	172/74	480/246	51
New Orleans	720/80	345/34	800/379	47
Albuquerque	480/120	206/45	600/251	42
Pittsburgh	850/0	341/0	850/341	40
Indianapolis	760/0	306/0	760/306	40
Cincinnati	600/0	237/0	600/237	40
Newark	1250/250	380/166	1,500/546	36
Kansas City	650/25	241/5	675/246	36
Charleston, W. Va.	450/0	142/0	450/142	32
New York City	1,600/550	459/175	2,150/634	29
Boston	640/160	214/17	800/231	29
Total sold		15,548/2,871	18,419	

Seattle protest condemns right-wing arson

BY DAN FEIN

SEATTLE — A "Stop Racist Attacks — No to Nazi Violence!" rally was held here May 13 in Seattle's Black community. The rally was sponsored by the Washington Socialist Workers 1984 Campaign Committee and was held to protest the April 26 arson attack on the campaign's headquarters.

Bob Barnes, secretary-treasurer of the Shipscalers Union Local 541 — who recently returned from Nicaragua — was the first speaker. He likened the attack, which came after a week of vandalism against the socialist headquarters that included stickers of Hitler being pasted to its front windows, to the actions of counterrevolutionaries in Nicaragua. "There they burn down schools, hospitals, and farms; here they burn down women's clinics and socialists' offices," he said. Barnes continued, "We should also condemn the Seattle police who have done nothing to get those responsible." "In Nicaragua," Barnes explained, "the *contra* [counterrevolutionary] attacks get the people's spirits fired up. Right-wing attacks here should get our spirits fired up also!"

Diane Hale, director of the Feminist Women's Health Center, sent a statement to the rally. The Feminist Women's Health Center in Everett, Washington, has been hit by fire bombs three times within the last six months. The center has been a target of a harassment campaign by foes of abortion rights. Hale's statement said, "We support the Socialist Workers Party totally in their determination not to submit to right-wing terrorist attacks."

José Cervantes, a leader of the Chicano community, compared the U.S. military build-up in Central America to rightist violence in this country. "The U.S. government is responsible for both," he said. Cer-

vantes noted that "every fight by women, Blacks, Chicanos, and working people for democratic rights always faces government repression."

Cheryll Hidalgo, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor, noted that it is no accident that the attack occurred just one and a half weeks after the acquittal of six Ku Klux Klan and Nazi members charged with the 1979 killing of five anti-Klan demonstrators in North Carolina. "The government gave Ku Kluxers and Nazis a green light," she said.

Other speakers at the rally included representatives from the Seattle chapter of the National Organization for Women, Committee in Solidarity With the People of El Salvador, and the Puget Sound chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW).

At the May 7 membership meeting of the CLUW chapter the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas the right wing, emboldened by the political climate set by Ronald Reagan, continues to increase its violent activity and

"Whereas these opponents of free thought and justice seeking to stop progressive movements in the U.S. and the world are also the enemies of the labor movement's goal of bettering the life of working women and men,

"Therefore be it resolved that the Puget Sound chapter of CLUW opposes the violence and lawlessness used against organizations, individuals, and labor unions exercising their democratic right to express their ideas and opinions."

The May 5 issue of the *People's World*, the West Coast weekly newspaper reflecting the views of the Communist Party, ran a story on the arson attack and the protests against it.

Antiwar sentiment aids Ohio campaign

BY MARK J. RAHN

CINCINNATI — "I'll sign that," said a young Black woman on hearing that the Socialist Workers candidates oppose the U.S. war in Central America. "My life is just beginning and Reagan talks like he wants it over."

Supporters of the Socialist Workers ticket of Mel Mason for U.S. president and Andrea González for vice-president were out on the streets collecting the 5,000 signatures required by law to get their candidates on the November general election ballot. Socialists in Cincinnati also petitioned to put Kathleen Denny, Socialist Workers candidate for Congress in the 1st Congressional District, on the ballot. Denny works at the General Electric plant that makes engines for military and commercial aircraft. She is a member of the International Association of Machinists.

After Reagan's May 9 speech demanding more aid for the repressive regime in El Salvador, socialist campaign supporters found a lot of people in Cincinnati interested in the socialists' antiwar platform.

While one petitioner was explaining that he was collecting signatures to get candidates on the ballot who are running on a "jobs not war" platform, he was approached by an 84-year-old man who had overheard him.

"I want to sign that," he said. "War is always for the bankers. They send in the military to collect on their investments." He was especially interested in the *Militant* article on the settlement in the veterans' Agent Orange suit. "They're just throwing pennies at those veterans when they owe them dollars."

A locomotive engineer, a member of the United Transportation Union, told a petitioner, "We're hauling armaments all the time. To South Carolina, Norfolk, Texas. They're getting ready to do something with them. Something big."

A team of petitioners went with Kath-

leen Denny to the plant gate of General Motors in Norwood. They talked with second-shift workers going in and sold five copies of the *Militant* with the front-page article on the GM-Toyota attack on the United Auto Workers, the union which organizes Norwood.

One campaign supporter petitioned in the Winton Terrace housing project and got 99 signatures in three hours. Many project residents remembered Denny from her campaign for city council in 1983.

One young man asked Denny if she is a Christian. When she answered that she wasn't religious, he said, "I like what you say about how wars are caused by big business, and how workers should run the country. But I'm a Christian so I can't sign that."

His mother, who had already signed to put the socialists on the ballot, snapped, "Look John, Christians have to live in the same world as the rest."

He thought it over and signed.

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Cheryll Hidalgo (right), Socialist Workers candidate for Senate, in front of her burned out campaign headquarters in Seattle, Washington. Arsonists struck April 26. Inset shows Nazi stickers smeared over SWP office windows prior to attack.

Boston machinist runs for Senate as socialist

BY AL CAMPBELL

BOSTON — At a press conference on May 3, Christine Gauvreau, a machine operator at the large General Electric plant in Lynn, Massachusetts, officially announced her candidacy for U.S. Senate on the Socialist Workers Party ticket. Unofficially her campaign had already been off and running.

On April 29 Citizens for Participation and Political Action sponsored a debate for all the candidates for the seat presently held by Democratic Sen. Paul Tsongas, who has announced he will not run again. The leading contenders aspiring to fill the opening are liberals — Rep. James Shannon, Lt. Gov. John Kerry, and Rep. Edward Markey (Markey dropped out after the debate).

All stressed that they were opposed to Reagan, and in particular to his Central American policies.

Gauvreau drew a lot of interest when she addressed their posturing: "The central political question facing working people is the U.S. war in Central America. The leading Democratic candidates attempt to portray themselves as peace candidates."

"While they call for cuts in military spending, they are still for spending billions so Washington can step up its military intervention against the struggles of workers and farmers in Central America, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia."

"While they say they are opposed to U.S. troops in Central America, their party votes again and again to escalate the war. The so-called debate in Congress over the mining of Nicaraguan harbors served as a smokescreen for the major U.S. military maneuvers that began in Honduras last week."

Campaign supporters distributed more than 2,000 pieces of literature on Gauvreau's campaign at her plant, with a cover letter from Gauvreau explaining why she is running.

An interview with Gauvreau and Socialist Workers presidential candidate Mel Mason appeared on the May 4 front page of Lynn's *Daily Evening Item* with the title, "Socialist candidates say workers and farmers need their own government."

A May 5 campaign rally for Gauvreau and Mason drew several people who had never been to a socialist event before.

Paul Allen from the Grenada Solidarity Committee commented on the importance of challenging the undemocratic election laws and described the work his committee is doing in Boston.

Gauvreau talked about the war against workers around the world and in the United States by Washington.

"I am a trade unionist who is experiencing first-hand the offensive against workers and farmers by the employers and government," said Gauvreau. "My employer, GE, is pushing ahead with a drive to boost profits through automation and job combinations at the expense of present jobs. As many as 4,000 garment jobs have been lost in Boston. Factory raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service have been stepped up to harass and deport undocumented workers."

"Plant closings plague the state. Last month Revere Sugar gave its 400 workers 60 days notice. Last week investors forced wage and benefit concessions from 700 Schraft Candy workers," said Gauvreau.

Gauvreau also discussed the recent rape trials in the case of a woman who was raped and beaten in Big Dan's bar in New Bedford, Massachusetts, last year.

She applauded the conviction of four of the rapists as a victory for women's rights. Gauvreau denounced the big business-owned media, which portrayed the rape victim as the criminal and used the fact that the rape occurred in a city where many Portuguese immigrant workers live to fuel racism against the Portuguese community.

Gauvreau indicated that the problems facing Blacks, women, and all working people will not be solved by voting.

"Working people need our own party, a labor party. A working-class political party based on the trade unions would be a powerful instrument for organizing a fight for a new kind of government, a workers and farmers government. This new government would begin to reorganize society on the basis of human needs rather than private profits," concluded Gauvreau.

What U.S. workers learn from Grenada

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

Trade unionists in the United States today are facing an employer offensive to drive down wages, speed production, undermine health and safety conditions on the job, and institute other "cost-saving" measures.

How can working people defend themselves from these attacks? The Grenada revolution of 1979-83 offers valuable lessons for unionists and other workers here. More jobs, higher wages, better social benefits — these were among the gains made by Grenadian workers under the revolutionary government headed by slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

There's no better sourcebook for studying the Grenada revolution than *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, published by Pathfinder Press. Getting this collection of speeches by Bishop into the hands of trade union activists can help provide these fighters with the answers they need about how to advance the interests of U.S. working people.

One speech in particular, "In the Spirit of Butler," takes up the advances made by Grenada's trade union movement. (Excerpts from this talk are printed below.)

Bishop discusses not only the increased wages, better working conditions, and explosion of union democracy for Grenadian workers, but also the increased social wage they achieved: the free health care, free secondary education, adult literacy programs, low-cost housing, massive tax cuts, cheaper electricity rates, and a new international airport.

Under the People's Revolutionary Government headed by Bishop, Grenadian workers had something U.S. workers are still fighting for. They were widely organized into trade unions with a leadership ready to take on the employers and their U.S. backers.

Most important, Grenadian working people had a government that was on their side — their most powerful weapon in their struggle with the bosses. U.S. workers can study the Grenada revolution to aid them in developing a strategy to win such a workers and farmers government here in the United States.

Widely distributing this book among trade unionists is also an important act of solidarity with the Grenadian people, who still face U.S. occupation.

The Socialist Workers Party is on a 10-



Militant/Pat Kane

February 1982 meeting of Grenada's Technical and Allied Workers Union. Trade union rights expanded during Grenada revolution, which holds rich lessons for U.S. workers.

week campaign to aid Pathfinder Press' effort to promote *Maurice Bishop Speaks*. SWP branches have been backing receptions, rallies, and other events initiated by Pathfinder to celebrate the publishing of the book.

One such event is scheduled for New

York on June 17. (See ad on this page.)

As the sponsorship of the New York meeting shows, great interest exists in the Black community, especially, in such events. This support is an important starting-point for approaching trade unionists and prominent individuals for their endorsement.

U.S. trade unionists are impressed with the accomplishments of the Grenada revolution — once they find out about them. Meetings like the New York rally are the most valuable way of gaining exposure for *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, and trade union activists should endorse, speak at, and attend such events.

Bishop: revolution strengthens unions

The following is excerpted from a November 1981 speech Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop presented to open the Third Trade Union Conference for the Unity and Solidarity of Caribbean Workers held in St. George's, Grenada. The talk appears in *In the Spirit of Butler: Trade Unionism in Free Grenada*, Fedon Publishers, St. George's 1982. It is reprinted in *Maurice Bishop Speaks: The Grenada Revolution 1979-83*, published by Pathfinder Press.

What we are seeing more and more in Grenada is that the objectives of the revolution and the objectives of the trade union movement in our country are one and the same. Thus, any antagonisms between them are gradually lessening and disappearing, for the revolution has set free the opportunities for the trade union movement to accomplish its tasks of building the emancipation, security, and prosperity of the working people, the identical will of the revolution itself.

Let us consider the massive rise in membership since the revolution of the most militant and democratic unions. On March 13, 1979, the Bank and General Workers' Union had some 100 members. It now has about 3,000. It has spread out from its birthplace at Barclay's Bank to the banana boxing plants, the nutmeg pools, the restaurants and hotels, the factories and workshops. Its tradition of honest and consistent struggle on behalf of its members has made

it the largest union in the country.

The Commercial and Industrial Workers' Union has had over 50 percent increase in membership, the Technical and Allied Workers' Union, a 60 percent increase, and the Agricultural and General Workers' Union has risen from scratch to its present level of 2,300 members.

We had a huge, symbolic demonstration of our increased trade union membership and power in this year's May Day celebrations. It was the biggest-ever May Day turnout in the history of Grenada, and the seemingly endless procession of organized workers wound around the steep streets of our capital.

Along with this sudden explosion in the membership of our unions is the emphasis the new leadership is putting on their democratization. This is very much allied to the general thrust in democracy right through our society since the revolution, in all structures of mass organizations, community groups, and the other organs of our people's power. As we have seen, before the revolution there was a tradition in some unions of few or no general meetings.

Following the revolution, we have seen a massive new interest in trade unionism as Grenadians saw new hope and strength in cooperative and collective democratic solutions to their problems. At the first general meeting of the Commercial and Industrial Workers' Union after the revolution, in July 1979, there was over 100 percent

increase in the attendance. Two hundred and ninety members came and voted 246 to 44 in favor of a militant, democratic leadership as against the previous conciliatory and conservative type, even though the latter had organized and conducted the elections.

What is happening now in our country is that everybody is becoming affected by the dialectic of democratic participation that is sweeping through our villages and workplaces. Involvement in one organization or meeting leads directly to involvement in another.

A worker who attends a workers' parish council hears something which he wants to bring to his trade union. So he goes to the meeting of his union, although he may not have attended one for years. And when he finds, quite surprisingly, that his union is taking a vibrant, democratic direction, he involves himself on one of its new committees or structures for fundraising, sports, or planning for educational seminars. His confidence is raised through all this activity and the speaking and organizing that goes along with it, and his appetite is whetted to join one of the mass organizations — the local party support group, the militia, house repair program, or for the sisters, the National Women's Organisation. Each organization feeds strength, power, and confidence into the next, and all of them, including the trade unions, grow in real potency and democratic advancement.

And now we see workers' parish councils splitting into zonal councils, in a new sprouting of decentralized democracy right through our nation, a reflection of a similar tendency that is happening within our progressive trade unions.

The People's Revolutionary Government has been swift to take legislative action in favor of the trade unions. All Gairy's antiworker laws were repealed and two months after the revolution, in May 1979, People's Law Number Twenty-nine, the Trade Union Recognition Law, was passed.

For the first time in Grenada's history, our workers had the opportunity to join the union of their choice, and the employer was compelled to recognize the trade union, once 51 percent of his work force were financial members. Under this law, the Ministry of Labor has to respond within seven days of the union's application for recognition, and then call a poll of workers. If the majority is shown to be members, then the union must be certified as the bargaining agent for the workers.

For, apart from Barclay's, before the revolution there were other grotesque examples of nonrecognition of trade unions. The workers at the Red Spot Soft Drinks

Continued on Page 10

Atlanta Black party circulates videotape on Grenada revolution

BY M. DIXON

ATLANTA — The National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) here recently organized four showings of the videotape "Truth Crushed to the Earth Will Rise Again." The video is an interview with Don Rojas, former press secretary to the slain Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Rojas explains the achievements of the March 1979 Grenada revolution and its overthrow last October.

On April 29 some 40 people — nearly all Blacks — attended a showing of the video, which was sponsored by the Atlanta NBIPP, People United to Serve Humanity (PUSH), Atlanta Coalition of Conscience, Nation of Islam, and the Socialist Workers Party.

Dr. A.M. Bujung, director of international affairs for Atlanta PUSH, arranged for a showing of the videotape in his church. Bujung, a pastor at the newly formed Universalist African Church, has been to Grenada three times since the 1979 revolution there.

The videotape was also shown at the University of Georgia in Athens. One of the students who attended is a Grenadian whose brother was an activist in the New Jewel Movement — the revolutionary party led by Bishop. After seeing the video the students had a lively discussion about the accomplishments of Grenada's revolutionary government and Washington's lies and slanders about the revolution.

There was also a showing of the video at the Georgia-Hill Center in Atlanta. Among those at this meeting were members and supporters of the All African People's Revolutionary Party and Atlantans Concerned for Latin America.

The discussion at this event took up the campaign of Jesse Jackson for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination and lessons that could be drawn from the Grenada revolution about the need for Blacks and other working people to break with the Democratic and Republican parties and fight for socialism. Four copies of *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, a new book published by Pathfinder Press, were bought at the video showings.

Celebrate publication of "Maurice Bishop Speaks"

Sunday, June 17
4 p.m. reception, 5:30 p.m. program
Medgar Evers College Gymnasium
1150 Carroll St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Speakers:

JOACHIM MARK
noted Grenadian historian

SAFIYA BANDELE
director of Medgar Evers College
Center of Women's Development

MFANAFUTHI MAKATINI
director, international affairs
African National Congress,
South Africa

ADEYEMI BANDELE
National vice-chairperson for
international affairs
National Black United Front

STEVE CLARK
editor of "Intercontinental Press"
author of introduction to
"Maurice Bishop Speaks"

ELOMBE BRATH
Patrice Lumumba Coalition

Sponsored by: Pathfinder Press, Medgar Evers College Center of Women's Development, N.Y.C. Black United Front, Patrice Lumumba Coalition.

Medgar Evers College via subway: #3 Train to President St; #4 (Flatbush) Train to President; or #2 Train to Nostrand Ave.

Marcos' elections spark U.S. protests

BY JANET POST

SEATTLE — Demonstrators protested in front of the Philippine consulate here on May 14 as part of a "National Day of Protest" in the United States and Canada, demanding an end to the dictatorship of Philippine Pres. Ferdinand Marcos.

May 14 was election day in the Philippines. Opponents of the Marcos regime who had called for a boycott of the elections held a demonstration of 5,000 in Manila the night before the polls opened. Opposition forces that decided to run in the elections as the United Nationalist Democratic Organization appear to have won about 34 percent of the vote.

Sponsored by the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship/Philippine Solidarity Network (CAMD/PSN), the demonstration here in Seattle called for support of the Filipino election boycott, an end to U.S. aid for Marcos, the release of all political prisoners, an investigation of the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, and the withdrawal of U.S. military forces.

Cindy Domingo, a Seattle coordinator of CAMD/PSN, said, "The Filipino people have not been fooled by these elections. The political forces around the boycott in the Philippines have begun to unify around the demand to oust the U.S. backed dictatorship and form a government of democracy."

Esther Simpson of CAMD/PSN explained that the "boycott movement has been growing tremendously since the Aquino assassination."

Protesters also marched in solidarity with the revolution in El Salvador. John Haines, a member of the Committee in Solidarity With the People of El Salvador, compared how the elections are used to fool people in El Salvador, the Philippines,

and the United States.

Members of International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Local 37 (Cannery Workers), a local with many Filipino members, participated in the demonstration. These workers had helped local solidarity organizations write a resolution against the Marcos regime that declared, "We believe that a free election cannot take place in an environment devoid of freedom. Consequently, we advocate a boycott of the May 14 elections."

Speakers pointed to the recent bipartisan U.S. congressional vote to give Marcos \$55 million in military aid and \$155 million in so-called economic aid over the next five years as evidence that both the Democratic and Republican parties intend to move toward direct U.S. involvement in the Philippines.

Other anti-Marcos protests were held in the San Francisco Bay Area, New York City, and Washington, D.C.



May 14 protest in Seattle

Militant/Janet Post

German workers strike for 35-hour week

BY GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

West German workers have begun an important strike to demand that the work week be shortened to 35 hours with no cut in pay. The strike is organized and led by I.G. Metall, a 2.5 million member union of steelworkers, auto workers, engineering workers and others.

The unemployment rate in Germany is 9.5 percent. I.G. Metall argues that the best way to bring it down is to cut the work week and spread the available work around.

The union has not yet called most of its members out on strike. Instead it is or-

ganizing selective strikes aimed at halting production in the highly profitable auto industry. In this way it hopes to pressure the employers and the West German government to negotiate seriously.

The strike started in the Stuttgart and Frankfurt areas. Early in May a strike vote of I.G. Metall members there registered 80 percent support for the walkout. Thirteen thousand workers hit the bricks on May 14. They shut down 14 plants in the Stuttgart area that supply electrical parts to the automakers.

Within days the strike effectively cut production in the West German auto indus-

try. By the end of the week, Daimler Benz AG, producer of luxury Mercedes Benz cars was forced to close its largest plant, employing 21,000 workers in Sindelfingen. Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, makers of the luxury BMW auto, quickly followed suit, shutting all of its plants in the country. BMW estimated the strike could cost it as much as \$18 million a day in lost sales.

Volkswagenwerk AG, West Germany's largest automaker, employing 156,000 workers, announced it too could only maintain production until May 23 at the latest due to the parts shortage caused by the strike. Adam Opel, owned by General Motors, said it would be forced to shut its largest plant by May 21.

On May 21, 33,000 more metal workers joined the strike in the Frankfurt area.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported, "Other industries that supply products to the auto industry, such as chemical and steel concerns, are also starting to get nervous about a widening impact of the strike."

Both the employers and the government have maintained a hard line in opposition to the strike, however. The employers have threatened to lock out I.G. Metall members who have not yet been called out on strike by the union.

At the huge Sindelfingen plant management would not let I.G. Metall officials into the factory to address the workers before the strike deadline. In response the union held a mass meeting in a parking lot across the railroad track from the plant. More than 12,000 workers participated.

The outcome of this battle can have important implications for all workers, worldwide, who face the plague of unemployment.

Pope's S.E. Asia trip used against Vietnam

BY DIANE WANG

Enemies of the Vietnamese revolution tried to use Pope John Paul II's visit to Southeast Asia to drive a wedge between Vietnamese Catholics and their government. During his stopover in Thailand, the pope broadcast a May 11 message in French to Vietnamese Catholics and Vatican sources told reporters the pope wanted to register "concern over the fate" of Vietnam's Catholics.

The Catholic church hierarchy is pressuring Vietnamese Catholics to resign from the Solidarity Committee of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics founded at a conference in Hanoi last November 8-10.

Church sources claimed that Vietnam is trying to establish a national church separated from Rome and dominated by communists.

This is a slander against both the Vietnamese government and Vietnamese Catholics. Since Vietnam declared its independence in 1946, the country has respected freedom of religion and the right of Catholics to worship as they please.

The founding conference of the Solidarity Committee in Hanoi involved about 300 delegates, more than half of them priests and monks. Archbishops and bishops from around the country sent greetings. Conference participants were received by the Vatican-appointed Vietnamese Cardinal Trinh Van Can and celebrated a mass with a crowd of Hanoi Catholics.

The committee attempts to dispel misgivings of Catholics about their role in Vietnam and to clear away obstacles that might arise for Catholics who want to work in such social organizations as the women's or youth associations. In addition it tries to promote understanding between Catholics and the large majority of non-Catholics in Vietnam.

The Catholic church began in Vietnam 300 years ago, as French missionaries opened the way for French gunboats. Today there are about 3.5 million Catholics in Vietnam, about two-thirds of them living in the south. There are 43 bishops and six seminaries, as well as a cardinal appointed by the Vatican.

In 1954, following the victory of the

Vietnamese over the French and division of the country, the imperialists whipped up a stampede of Catholics from the northern part of Vietnam. The Saigon Military Mission, set up by the United States in 1954 to begin covert activities in Vietnam, organized the campaign, broadcasting slogans that "the Virgin Mary is going South." U.S. and French ships and planes took whole communities of Catholics south.

In the south the church hierarchy sided with U.S. imperialism, although some priests took part in protests against the U.S. occupation and U.S. puppet regimes.

Despite the church's hostility, the revolutionary government did not attempt to interfere with Catholics' relations with the Vatican or try to establish an independent church in Vietnam. Bishops were sent from the north to synods in Rome. The government helped send Cardinal Trinh Van Can

and, before him, Cardinal Trinh Nhu Khue to Rome for ordination.

Despite this long history of respect for the Vatican, Pope John Paul II tried to do to Vietnam what he attempted on his visit to Nicaragua last summer. There too the pope encouraged opposition to the revolutionary government.

Yet the pope was pleased to meet with the South Korean dictator Chun Doo Hwan during his early May visit to that country. He urged Koreans to forget the crimes of the dictatorship, preaching that they should "free [themselves] from bitterness, pardon those who have sinned against you."

Wherever he goes, Pope John Paul II pursues the same policy — opposition to the struggle of the oppressed against exploitation and imperialist domination. He preaches to the poor that they be reconciled to their suffering.

Unlikely source hits frame-up of Bulgarian

BY WILL REISSNER

The claim that the Bulgarian secret service was involved in the May 13, 1981, shooting of Pope John Paul II came under fire recently from a surprising source.

The March-April 1984 issue of *Problems of Communism*, a magazine published by the government's propaganda arm, the United States Information Agency, contains an article by CIA veteran William Hood entitled "Unlikely Conspiracy."

Hood debunks the charge that the Bulgarian secret service, acting for the Soviet KGB, organized an attempt on the pope's life because he was stirring up trouble in Poland.

This theory, which has come to be known as the "Bulgarian connection," was first raised in a September 1982 *Reader's Digest* article by Claire Sterling, a Rome-based journalist with long CIA connections. Sterling expanded her article into a book which was published in 1983.

Hood's critique of the "Bulgarian connection" theory takes the form of a review of Sterling's book and another book also

published in 1983, Paul Henze's *The Plot to Kill the Pope*.

This is not simply an academic question. Bulgarian airline clerk Sergei Antonov has been held by Italian authorities since Nov. 25, 1982. On May 9, 1984, an Italian state prosecutor announced he will bring Antonov to trial if he can get court approval.

Antonov was arrested solely on the testimony of Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turkish ultrarightist serving a life sentence in Italy for shooting the pope. The Italian press has since revealed that Agca's statements implicating Antonov and other Bulgarians were based on coaching by agents of the Italian secret services — the SIDE and the SISMI. The agents visited Agca repeatedly in jail, alternating threats with promises of a reduced sentence if he changed his story about acting alone, and they provided Agca with information to make his charges seem more credible.

Most of Agca's claims have since been proven false. But the so-called Bulgarian connection theory has been boosted by prominent officials in the Reagan adminis-

tration and by the big business news media, with the *Wall Street Journal* leading the pack.

The Bulgarian "plot to kill the pope" was cited as one more piece of "evidence" that the Soviet Union is indeed the "focus of evil" in the world, as Reagan claims.

But Hood picks apart Agca's claims of involvement with the Bulgarian secret service, suggesting time and again that no professional operative would function the way Agca claims the Bulgarians operated.

He explains in detail why "Agca was something less than an ideal choice for any secret mission — let alone that of murdering the world's most prominent religious leader."

Hood's conclusion is quite significant given his past CIA credentials and the fact that his article appears in a U.S. government publication.

Meanwhile, Sergei Antonov remains in an Italian jail with no charges filed against him, held on the word of Agca, a man the *New York Times* acknowledges is known in his native Turkey "as a 'chronic liar.'"

Rally June 2 for Vietnam solidarity

BY PAT HAYES

NEW YORK — A rally in solidarity with the Vietnamese people to be held here June 2 has drawn wide support. The rally will celebrate the May 1954 victory of the Vietnamese over French colonial domination and the April 1975 victory over the U.S.-backed dictatorship in the southern half of the country. It will also demand that the U.S. government normalize relations with Vietnam and Kampuchea and end the economic blockade of those countries.

Steve Clark, editor of *Intercontinental Press*, will speak about his recent month-long trip to Vietnam and Kampuchea. A representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's Mission to the United Nations will speak, and there will be special greetings from a representative of El Salvador's Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

Sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum, the meeting's endorsers include Elombe Brath of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition; the *Guardian* newspaper; Bill Henning of the Communications Workers of America; Muntu Matsimela; Association of Vietnamese in the United States; Irwin Nack, president of American Federation of Teachers Local 1796; Nick Sánchez of the Puerto Rican Association for Community Action; Nan Bailey, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress in the

16th Congressional District; Wilma Revelón, executive director, Office of International Information for the Independence of Puerto Rico; Dennis Serrette, New Alliance Party U.S. presidential candidate; and the Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos.

The rally will be held at the Marc Ballroom, 30 E. 16th Street at 1 p.m. on June 2. A \$5 donation is requested.

Several meetings have been held recently in support of Vietnam. A May 6 celebration of the Dien Bien Phu victory sponsored by the Patrice Lumumba Coalition in Harlem drew about 70 people. A spokesperson for the Patrice Lumumba Coalition explained in the *Amsterdam News*, "It is necessary to better understand the history of the Vietnamese national liberation struggle which served as an inspiration for many other people throughout the world, particularly in Africa."

The Vietnamese ambassador to the United Nations, Hoang Bich Son, spoke at the May 6 event in Harlem.

On May 13 the Committee in Solidarity With Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos held a celebration of the Dien Bien Phu victory attended by about 40 people.



Militant/Diane Wang

Vietnam today needs international solidarity. June 2 rally and other meetings help build support and get out truth.

'Vietnamese are part of a common struggle'

BY DIANE WANG

"If the American administration could not continue the war in Vietnam, it was because it was against the desire of the American people, combined with the struggle of the Vietnamese and the support of progressive people around the world," Do Xuan Oanh told Steve Clark and me when we visited Hanoi last February. Oanh is deputy director of the Vietnam-U.S. Committee. We were discussing the lessons of the Vietnam war.

"The lessons from the war in Vietnam have been drawn by the American peoples themselves. The main lesson is that any people can defend their own independence and sovereignty, no matter how strong the enemy is, provided there is unity — unity of mind, unity of strength — among the people of that country," Oanh said.

While forging unity to fight and win the long war against U.S. imperialism, the Vietnamese also taught people to distin-

guish between the U.S. government and the North American people. One of the remarkable features in Vietnam is the contrast between the massive destruction of the country by U.S. bombers and troops and the generosity and friendliness of Vietnamese toward U.S. visitors.

The Vietnam Committee for Solidarity With the American People was set up in 1968 to help achieve this. The committee sponsored visits by antiwar activists to Vietnam. "But it was a unilateral effort," Oanh said. "We couldn't obtain visas to visit the United States."

In addition, U.S. literature — Walt Whitman, Edgar Allan Poe, William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway and others — were translated into Vietnamese. Oanh himself translated *Huckleberry Finn* into Vietnamese. "Despite the American bombs over our heads, even when we had to publish and teach in caves, we introduced American history and literature to the Viet-

namese public."

The other side of the committee's work is to explain Vietnam to people from the United States. "We think it is very important to get the American people to understand the past and present of Vietnam, the revolution of Vietnam," Oanh said.

In that spirit, the *Militant* has been sponsoring slide shows from Steve Clark's and my trip to Vietnam and Kampuchea. The forums and discussions held in five cities so far show what potential there is for winning people to understand the Indochinese revolution.

Who comes to the forums? All sorts of working people attend, some of them veterans of the Vietnam War and others from the movement against the war. They want to know what has happened in the last 10 years in Vietnam. They want answers to Washington's current propaganda barrage against Vietnam. They want to know if the revolution was worth so much sacrifice and what kind of society has come out of it.

Many who have attended are supporters of the Chinese revolution trying to understand what went wrong with it and why China attacked Vietnam. Some were enthusiasts of Mao Tse-tung in earlier days.

Others are young people who were only children when Vietnam finally defeated U.S. imperialism in 1975. They have been inspired by the revolutions in Nicaragua and El Salvador and are eager to learn about the struggles in Southeast Asia.

"We consider our revolution part of the world revolution, and the struggle of the Vietnamese people part of the common struggle of all people for peace and justice and a better world," Oanh told us. As the revolution erupts in Central America and Washington marches us into another Vietnam-style war there, many more can be won to solidarity with the Indochinese people who fought for so long and won.



Militant/Diane Wang

'Intercontinental Press' editor Steve Clark (left) at Ha Tu strip mine during visit to Vietnam.

Talking over school days in Tu Son tea shop

Along Vietnam's roads are many small tea shops. Late one afternoon Steve Clark and I stopped by one of these shops, a small hut in someone's front yard in Tu Son town outside Hanoi. Mr. Phuong and his wife Mrs. Cuu had tea, cookies, candies, and cigarettes available for neighbors to buy.

Phuong and Cuu are not like the vendors common throughout colonial Asia and Latin America, however, who have to eke out a subsistence living selling from tiny stands. Phuong is a white-collar worker in Hanoi and Cuu a physics teacher. They sell tea to supplement their income.

Cuu recalled what it was like trying to teach during the U.S. war in the 1960s and

1970s. "The bombing was so severe that we had to move the children to an underground cave. But we never lost any of our students, and we did continue classes."

Her experience was common in northern Vietnam. One high school we visited had been demolished by three U.S. airstrikes in 1966. Once rebuilt, the school was bombed again on Dec. 26, 1972.

Mr. Phuong had volunteered for the army during the war. He had been sent to teach school in liberated zones in South Vietnam. "It was important to know our country's real history," he said, enthusiastically as he remembered the war days. "And now, too, our children have to know the history of our struggles."

Phuong and Cuu are good examples of the priority Vietnam assigns to education. Even during the fiercest years of the war, Vietnam tried to build an education system so that people would be prepared to govern and rebuild their country. Since the 1975 victory over U.S. imperialism, despite the country's desperate poverty, education has been a main concern.

The May 28 issue of *Intercontinental Press* has an article detailing education in Vietnam, as well as an interview with Pen Navuth, minister of education in Kampuchea. It is available for \$1.25 by writing 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

— D. W.



Militant/Diane Wang

Mr. Phuong and Mrs. Cuu in their tea shop outside Hanoi.

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SPEAKERS

STEVE CLARK

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Catholic bishops vs. Nicaraguan people

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The ideological battle between supporters of the Sandinista revolution and its enemies has escalated sharply in the wake of an April 22 pastoral letter issued by this country's nine Catholic bishops.

That letter called on the Nicaraguan government and people to "pardon" the chiefs of the CIA-organized counterrevolutionaries who are waging war against Nicaragua and to establish a "dialogue" with them. These bands are dominated by officers from the brutal National Guard of dictator Anastasio Somoza, who was overthrown by a mass insurrection five years ago.

The letter failed to condemn the terrorist crimes these rightists are carrying out against the Nicaraguan people.

A popularly supported response to the bishops' suggestions came from Sergio Ramirez, a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, the top government body.

Addressing the closing session of an international conference of trade unionists for peace, he said: "Our heroic combatants, our people in arms, are carrying out the dialogue with the mercenaries and traitors in the mountains."

"And we will not speak with mercenaries and traitors except through the barrels of our rifles, until there are no mercenaries and traitors left to have a dialogue with."

Some of the old photographs of the bishops' masses for Somoza's hated National Guardsmen are now seeing the light of day again. As well, the receipts of Somoza's lavish Christmas offerings to the church hierarchy are now being made public. And those revealing shots of the bishops breaking bread and sipping wine with Somoza are being shown.

More devastating still is a one-minute TV spot which, against the backdrop of sinister music, flashes on a Somozaist cop about to club Sandinista combatants who are already handcuffed, then to Archbishop Obando y Bravo smiling with Somoza, then to more violence, and then to Somoza making the sign of the cross.

The announcer says, "These images are already well-known to our people, but in light of the lies and obscurantism being spread now by the country's sell-out sectors, it is necessary to recall them. It is a lie to say that the criminal violence of the Somozaists can ever be forgotten or pardoned. The accomplices of past and present Somozaist corruption and crime shall not pass."

The spot fades out. But off the air and on the streets, in the factories and fields, and in the regions most affected by the U.S. war, the response is more damning. Vic-

tims of the U.S.-backed aggression suggest, in no uncertain terms, that the bishops should come and live with them and see what this war is really like.

Meanwhile, here in the capital city of Managua and abroad, the bishops try to assert that they are the victims of a tyrannical, atheist government.

Jaime Wheelock, one of the nine members of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) National Directorate, responded to the charges in a speech to the main May Day rally held in the northwestern agricultural town of Chinandega.

"They may say you are atheists," he told the crowd. "Okay, we acknowledge this.... We state openly that there are some in the Sandinista National Liberation Front who, on the basis of their ideas, their ideology, their studies, their questions, have begun to believe that God does not exist. We state this openly."

At the same time, Wheelock pointed out, it has been the FSLN that has guaranteed religious freedom in Nicaragua. Christians — including several Catholic priests (much to the hierarchy's chagrin) — hold important positions in the FSLN-led government, among them Minister of Culture Ernesto Cardenal and Minister of Foreign Affairs Miguel D'Escoto.

On the confrontation between the revolution and the Catholic bishops, Wheelock asked the crowd: "Are the differences religious or political?"

"Political," the crowd roared back.

"Who said," Wheelock continued, "Blessed be the poor, for they shall inherit the earth?" Who took land away from the Somozaists and the rich to give it to the poor?"

The crowd answered, "The revolution!" "So there is no material contradiction" between the revolution and Christianity, Wheelock explained, despite the ideological differences many in the FSLN have with belief in God.

As for the idea that the campaign by supporters of the Sandinista revolution to expose the proimperialist politics of the bishops constitutes an attack on religious freedom by a tyrannical government, the FSLN daily *Barricada* responded in an April 30 editorial:

"We did not help the bishops consume the whiskey or enjoy the other privileges bestowed by Somoza. Therefore, we had no obligation not to reveal that behind the privileges, the embraces, the religious services, and the speeches of sugary servility to the [National] Guard lay the political — not religious — commitment they are now shamelessly putting into practice....

"The blood of our relatives and compatriots has never been forgotten for the sake of protecting false dignity, corrupt hierarchies and sanctified hypocrites."

I know that yesterday my Somocista brothers visited you...



I know they raped your wife and daughters...



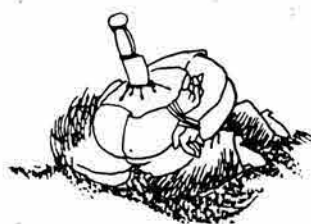
and burned your house and crop and stole your livestock...



but, as a Christian, what hurts me most is that you had the opportunity to have a dialogue with them...



and you blew it!



Barricada/Róger

Peace march in Costa Rica

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — "We want peace!" demanded some 50,000 Costa Ricans of their government in the largest demonstration held in their country in recent years.

Faced with increasing pressure from Washington to become another Honduran-style base for the United States to the south of Nicaragua, the protesters demanded that Costa Rica's president, Luis Alberto Monge, maintain their country's independence and supposed neutrality.

In addition to the sheer size of the San José protest, the demonstration, held on May 15, was important because it was led by two former Costa Rican presidents, José Figueres and Daniel Oduber. As well, Interior Minister Angel Edmundo Solano and leaders of the National Liberation Party, now in power, participated.

The Costa Rican press has played a key role in trying to convince its readers that the Sandinistas are carrying out attacks on their country. In keeping with their propaganda, the press denounced the march beforehand using every anticommunist trick in the book.

Fernando Ayanegui, director of the University of Costa Rica, who spoke at the rally, urged Monge to "expel all functionaries from his government who are driving the country into a fratricidal confrontation with Nicaragua."

Meanwhile, as the protesters rallied in San José, to the south in Panama City leaders of the Contadora Group — the countries of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela who are seeking a peace settlement in the region — met in hopes of finding a mechanism to stop further confrontations along the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border.

This is especially important because of Washington's latest scheme. Ex-Sandinista and traitor Edén Pastora, whose U.S.-backed Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) is based in Costa Rica and is waging war on Nicaragua's southern border, has collaborated with the Costa Rican Civil Guard to stage attacks on Costa Rica and then claim the Sandinistas are responsible.

With the full support of the Costa Rican media, these self-attacks have made significant progress in whipping up anti-Nicaraguan sentiment inside Costa Rica. Washington's aim is to get the Costa Rican people to demand that the government abandon its neutrality pledge.

An agreement was reached by the Contadora leaders in Panama City for an inspection commission to begin work May 26 based in the Nicaraguan border town of Peñas Blancas. Comprised of members from Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the four Contadora countries, and with the aid of communications systems, the commission's work would be to investigate anything that could lead to a border confrontation.

Returning here following the Panama City meeting, Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto described the meeting as "one of the most significant achievements since the beginning of the Contadora peace process."

D'Escoto added that key to the success of the meeting was that it was called on short notice with little publicity and that, uncharacteristically, Washington didn't send their usual "special envoys."

But only two short hours after the foreign minister spoke, Washington's special envoys made their presence felt. U.S.-trained counterrevolutionaries, once again with the collaboration of the Costa Rican Civil Guard, attacked three Nicaraguan border towns — Peñas Blancas, la Pimienta, and Bocas de Sapoá.

Using artillery and mortars, the counterrevolutionaries hoped Sandinista border guards would be provoked into attacking Costa Rican territory.

Nicaraguan border guards are under strict orders not to do so. The only way they can defend themselves is by firing on the counterrevolutionaries, some 50 of whom crossed over the border. In this way, the attack was ended in an hour and 40 minutes.

Here in Managua, the government junta declared in a communiqué that the incidents were "the provocative response of the Central Intelligence Agency and their mercenaries in ARDE who are trying to sabotage the efforts of the Contadora Group."

In a reference to the recent Costa Rican march, the communiqué stated the new attacks represented an attempt "to silence the disapproval shown by the Costa Rican people to this confrontationalist and war-like policy, threatening the neutrality policy proclaimed by President Luis Alberto Monge and defended by the people of Costa Rica, the people and government of Nicaragua, and by the international community."

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Militia women of Bluefields, Nicaragua

Guatemalan workers occupy Coca-Cola plant

The following is an abridged version of an article that appears in the May 28 issue of *Perspectiva Mundial*, the biweekly Spanish-language sister publication of the *Militant*. The translation is by the *Militant*.

BY DUANE STILWELL

When the management of the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Guatemala announced on the night of February 17 that the owners had decided to close the factory and lay off all the workers, they surely didn't expect the heroic response the trade unionists there gave them.

By dawn the next day the 460 workers, alerted by their union leaders, had occupied the plant.

Three months later, the occupation of EGSA — the Guatemalan Bottling Company, Inc. — is still going strong.

This battle has taken on importance, not only for all Guatemalan working people, but also for the entire Central American liberation struggle.

Workers in Guatemala live under the constant threat of repression in a country whose government — militarily supported by the United States — terrorizes the entire population.

History of the conflict

The first union at the Guatemalan Bottling Company was brutally crushed in 1954 by the Castillo Armas regime, which was installed the same year that the CIA and the U.S. government overthrew the elected government of Jacobo Arbenz.

Another attempt to organize the workers at Coca-Cola in 1968 was cut short when one of the principal organizers was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered. The current union, STEGAC (Union of Workers of the Guatemalan Bottling Company and Allied Trades), was established in 1975 in a struggle for wage increases. At that time the workers were only making between \$2.08 and \$2.50 a day. In March 1976 the management reacted by firing 154 workers, replacing them with scabs (or "snakes," as they are called in Guatemala). This touched off a militant struggle by the Coca-Cola workers. They received broad solidarity from the rest of the Guatemalan working class. The bottling company was finally forced to rehire the 154 fired workers.

A contract was signed in 1978 and 94 percent of the workers at the plant joined the union. From 1978 to 1980, at the request of a Texan named John Clinton Trotter who was the nominal owner of the Guatemalan subsidiary of Coca-Cola, the Guatemalan regime unleashed a campaign of terror against the union and its leaders.

In this period three general secretaries of STEGAC were murdered. Earlier, another general secretary had fled to Mexico after surviving three attempts on his life. During the same period three more leaders were murdered and four workers "disappeared." STEGAC decided to leave the post of general secretary vacant for a while.

The campaign of provocations against the union also included the hiring of military police to patrol inside the factory. But even this failed to break the union.

An unprecedented agreement

The unity and combativity of the Coca-Cola workers was combined with an international campaign of support launched by the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF). This included a boycott and solidarity strikes at Coca-Cola plants in other countries. The campaign paid off: an unprecedented agreement was negotiated between the IUF and Coca-Cola, which is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia.

The demands the EGSA workers won included the dismissal of the franchise owner, John Trotter; the recognition of their union, STEGAC; the signing of a contract; the dissolving of the company union; the withdrawal of the police from the plant; and a change in management. Another important victory was a suspension of the campaign of assassinations against the leaders of STEGAC.

Coca-Cola decides to break the union

With the increase in urban and rural repression in Guatemala following the rise to power of Gen. Oscar Mejía Victores in August 1983, Coca-Cola saw the opportunity

it had been waiting for to rid itself of the powerful, combative union; annul the contract with the IUF; and boost its superprofits by exploiting non-union labor.

The mechanism Coca-Cola decided to use to try to break the union is one which has recently become very popular in the United States. U.S. companies, with the help of the government and the courts, have used bankruptcy claims as a powerful means of blackmailing U.S. workers.

Already in August 1983 the Coca-Cola union had noted the deterioration in financial stability and administration of the enterprise.

Decapitalization plot

Steve Abrecht, a specialist hired by the IUF to investigate the Guatemalan Bottling Company's financial situation, visited the plant March 20-22. The workers have all the company's financial records in their possession.

Abrecht uncovered a complicated arrangement by which Coca-Cola International was able to evade U.S. antitrust laws and bleed EGSA, at the same time laying the basis to declare bankruptcy, break the union, and reopen the enterprise under new ownership. If Coca-Cola could succeed in ridding EGSA of the union, the market worth of the company would be even greater.

When the bosses put the "bankruptcy" scheme into operation, they also tried to bribe the workers.

As the workers tell it, the night of February 17, management offered \$60,000 to every union leader who would go home and forget about STEGAC. Moreover, each worker who gave up his job would find between \$4,000 and \$6,000 waiting for him in a bank in Guatemala City. But the workers at Coca-Cola had struggled too hard for their jobs, and had seen their brothers die fighting in defense of the union.

The leaders held firm, and only about 10 of the 460 workers accepted the bosses' offer.

The unionists responded to the company's antiworker fraud by occupying the plant.



International solidarity is key to aiding Guatemalan Coca-Cola workers in their fight to prevent plant from being closed down.

Groups of workers keep watch 24 hours a day to prevent sabotage. Every day there is at least one rally during which messages of support from other unions are read. Mention is also made of the material solidarity received on that day, whether it be donations of food or money.

During the assembly a period is always set aside for the workers who wish to take the microphone and speak to the rest of their fellow unionists.

In the union office the workers keep busy with correspondence, the drafting of statements, and the organization of all activities in the plant, from religious services to soccer games.

The union also decides how to use the small financial resources which it has at its disposal. It has made an effort to give some amount of money, however small, to each worker. Many already face the possibility that their families — which include more than 1,000 children under 12 years old — will be evicted from their homes.

The Coca-Cola workers understand full

well the importance their struggle holds for the Guatemalan workers' movement. "They want to get rid of other unions the same way," said Evert Soto, the organization secretary of STEGAC.

As a unionist at another factory explained, "If we don't help the union at Coca-Cola, then we won't survive. If that union falls, we all fall."

Rodolfo Robles, general secretary of STEGAC, explained that the workers have been able to keep their morale high during the occupation precisely because "we see and feel the solidarity of all the workers of the world, and we can see Guatemalan unionists being unified again on a national level."

Such solidarity gives the Coca-Cola workers the confidence to defy the threats and repression, and enables them to set an inspiring example for all working people.

"It doesn't matter if some of us are killed," said Robles with determination, "because after us there will come others. It's still the same generation, but with greater consciousness."

N.Y. labor meeting extends solidarity

BY EDWIN FRUIT

NEW YORK — An important meeting was held here on May 11 to build support for the workers occupying the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Guatemala. It took place at the District 65 United Auto Workers headquarters.

The event was sponsored by the New York Area Labor Committee for Human Rights and Democracy in El Salvador. The committee includes a large number of trade union officials who oppose U.S. policy in Central America.

Close to 100 people heard solidarity statements, a report-back from a representative of a labor delegation which recently returned from Guatemala, and a video of the strike.

Ralph Rivera, on behalf of the District 65 Hispanic Affairs Committee, chaired the meeting.

Al Bilik, deputy to the executive director, District Council 37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees reviewed the reasons the labor committee on El Salvador was formed. He said that it hoped to influence the AFL-CIO to change its support for U.S. policy in Central America.

He also explained that the election of José Napoleón Duarte as El Salvador's new president would not bring real change in El Salvador. "Our position is no aid at all as long as the killing machine still exists there," he said. Bilik also criticized the U.S. government's attitude toward the World Court in its unanimous condemnation of the U.S. mining of Nicaraguan ports.

Nancy Peckenham, an editor of *Guatemala Rebellion*, gave a brief history of the U.S. role in Guatemala. She reviewed the part played by the United Fruit Company and the CIA in the overthrow of the elected Guatemalan government in

1954 and the subsequent 30-year rule by generals.

Sid Bykofsky of the United Hebrew Trades said that the unions in the United States need to be more than "one issue" organizations. They have to be concerned about society as a whole.

Bykofsky said that it was his local of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU), Local 169, which was instrumental in getting the international to take a position against the Vietnam War. The same kind of position needs to be expressed, said Bykofsky, about U.S. policy in El Salvador and the attacks on the Coca-Cola workers in Guatemala.

The final speaker was Stan Gacek from the United Food and Commercial Workers. He had just returned from Guatemala.

Gacek was part of a delegation sponsored by the North American affiliates of the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF). This is a worldwide federation of trade unions representing workers in food and beverage preparation and manufacture; tobacco processing; and hotels, restaurant, and catering service workers.

Gacek explained that Coca-Cola is using bankruptcy to evade its collective bargaining agreement in much the same way as Continental Airlines and Wilson Foods have done in this country.

Gacek reported that the situation of the Coca-Cola workers had worsened recently. They were running low on food and landlords were beginning to evict people for non-payment of rent. He explained that pressure needs to be brought on Coca-Cola to reopen the plant and to demand that the Guatemalan government protect workers from the death squads.

He also reported that work actions in support of the sit-in had taken place at Coca-Cola plants in Italy, Norway, and Austria. The most important thing to do in the United States, he said, is to get the

word out on the strike, get solidarity for the workers, and put pressure on the Coca-Cola Company.

On May 9, the AFL-CIO Executive Council issued a statement calling on Coca-Cola to live up to its contract with the union, and to "enter into serious discussions with the IUF with a view toward securing the jobs and safety of the Coca-Cola workers in Guatemala City. Those workers have our full support."

The International Union of Food and Allied Workers has published a report on its delegation's trip to Guatemala. It is available for \$2 from the North American Regional Organization of IUF, Suite 408, 815 16 St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. The videotape on the strike can be rented for \$25 or bought for \$80 from Real to Reel Productions, 357 W 36 St, 5th floor, New York, N.Y. 10018, Telephone (212) 736-3887.

Edwin Fruit is a member of Local 63, New York Joint Board, ACTWU.

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International brigade aids harvest

'Standing shoulder to shoulder with Nicaraguan workers and peasants'

BY JOANNE TORTORICI

SOLENTINAME, Nicaragua — In January, I was able to participate in one of the many brigades of supporters of the Nicaraguan revolution from around the world who came here to help harvest the coffee and cotton crops.

The Sandinista government appealed for such solidarity because attacks on both Nicaragua's northern and southern borders by U.S.-backed counterrevolutionaries have put the harvests of the two key export crops — coffee and cotton — in danger.

Ronni Carpen Moffitt Brigade

We named ourselves the Ronni Carpen Moffitt Brigade in honor of a North American solidarity activist who was assassinated in Washington, D.C., while she was working to advance democratic rights in Chile. We went to one of the most underdeveloped areas of the country: the southern tip of the Atlantic Coast, right on the Costa Rican border.

We came from all different parts of the United States and Europe — from Central America solidarity organizations and church groups. There were teachers, students, nurses, a steelworker, an electrician, a truck driver, a journalist, and a farm worker.

We held a variety of political views but were united in our support to the Nicaraguan revolution and our determination to end the U.S. government's war against Nicaragua.

We were split up and sent to participate in four different aspects of the region's seven agrarian reform projects.

Difficult living conditions

Living conditions in Rio San Juan are difficult. Transportation is hard to come by. As Humberto Áviles from the Nicaraguan Committee in Solidarity With the Peoples had explained to us in the capital city of Managua, we could expect clouds of mosquitos, tropical rainstorms, a deadly variety of insects and snakes, diarrhea, and armed counterrevolutionaries. At the same time, he said, we would find ourselves welcomed with open arms by the poorest of peasants — those for whom the revolution was made.

In this isolated area, support for the revolution was not as great as in the more populated centers. Nevertheless, it was

here on the Solentiname Islands in Lake Nicaragua in 1977 that Father Ernesto Cardenal, currently Nicaragua's minister of culture, organized a group of revolutionaries.

A historic Sandinista National Liberation Front military action was launched from here against the military barracks in San Carlos, a town at the edge of the lake. Nubia Arcia, one of those who planned and took part in that attack on the barracks of the murderous national guard, recounted the events for us.

The battle with the guard lasted four to five hours, and two compañeros were caught by the guard, and later killed. The others swam and walked for days, and finally reached Costa Rica in tatters, swollen from scratches and hundreds of insect bites.

Arcia is now an organizer in Solentiname for areawide development. "I did what any Nicaraguan woman would have done," she told us.

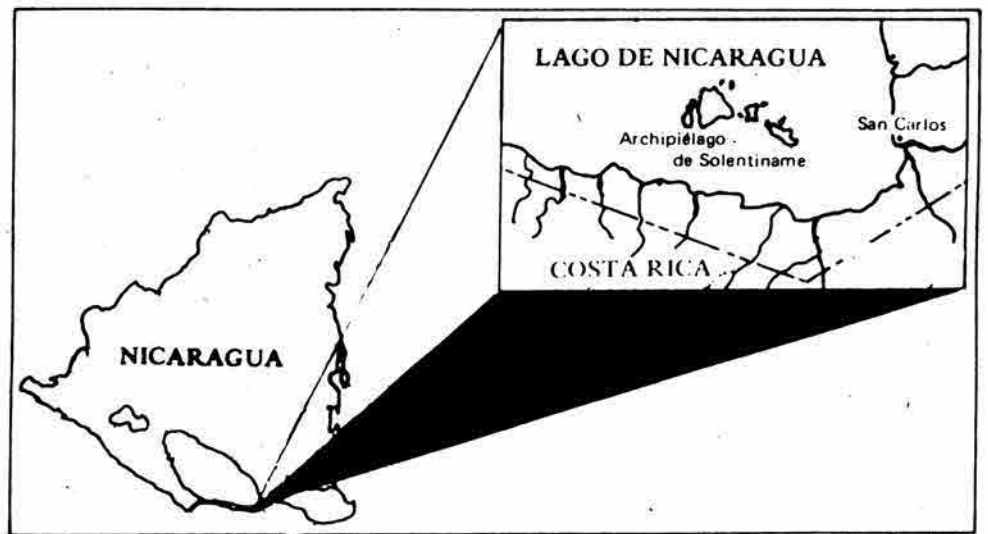
After the attack, the guard unleashed its violence on Solentiname: burning books, razing buildings, and terrorizing the inhabitants. The town has been painstakingly rebuilt, and the multicolored designs in the chapel typify the Primitivist art style for which Solentiname has become well-known.

Rio San Juan region

Solentiname is part of the larger Rio San Juan region, and leads in the region's efforts to develop agriculture, sanitation, health care, and education.

Rio San Juan is one-fourth the size of Vermont, with a population of 30,000. This is the area where the traitor Edén Pastora and his counterrevolutionaries, organized into the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, operate, attacking the peasants and adding further hardships to already difficult conditions.

Virtually all of this lush, tropical region used to be owned by former U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza. After the triumph of the revolution, when it became "people's land," it was formed into one region and given particular attention. Its rich, black farmland is now organized for the production of national staple crops such as sweet potatoes and corn. Experimentation is conducted for the development of quickly maturing export crops, such as a new breed of cacao.



Ronni Carpen Moffitt Brigade went to Archipiélago de Solentiname, one of Nicaragua's most underdeveloped regions, to help combat effects of U.S. war.

An important project is the consolidation of the population, many of whom have been displaced by the war. Efforts are under way to build electricity generators, provide sanitary water, build latrines, and improve sanitation and health conditions.

In Rio San Juan, one sees the devastating effect of both imperialist domination through the instrument of the Somoza regime and the current U.S. economic and military actions against the country.

'Special project'

While Somoza and his murderous cohorts lounged in luxurious resorts (now used as military and development project training areas), the peasants lived in the worst conditions.

The water supply in San Carlos, for example, is the river. It is used for everything — drinking, bathing, laundry, toilet.

Women who wash clothes in the river for money often have skin diseases from standing in the water all day. Raw sewage runs through the streets, in open pipes, to the river. Some people show signs of having intestinal parasites.

Just outside of San Carlos, among the 38 Islands of Solentiname, conditions are in some ways worse. There is no electricity or running water. Transportation is limited to a few small boats. The population is spread out: there are only one or two people on some of the islands.

To combat such enormous difficulties, the Nicaraguan government has declared the Rio San Juan region, or Zone 3, a special project. San Carlos now has two schools and a good hospital, which includes 10 Cuban doctors on its staff. Housing is sprayed nightly to kill malaria-bearing mosquitos. Rice, beans, corn, powered milk, coffee, and sugar are government-subsidized for the area.

The island Mancarrón in Solentiname has two electrical generators, a chicken farm, many schools, a health center, and a nearly completed furniture and educational toy factory.

Attacks by counterrevolutionaries

Already rough conditions are made worse by the constant military attacks by counterrevolutionaries. A ferry boat, which was donated by West Germany, for example, was blown up a few months back by the counterrevolutionaries.

Fuel continues to be in short supply because of the rightists' attacks on oil reserves. The persistent attacks on military areas and civilian housing alike make it necessary for large numbers of people to be active in one of the military organizations.

At the same time, workers are desperately needed to help in the farming projects.

On the island of Zapote, for example, where I worked, enough workers were mobilized to plant fields of corn, sweet potatoes, squash, and tomatoes, but much of the crop had been lost for lack of upkeep. The small number of workers on the island could simply not maintain all the fields by themselves.

Our job on Zapote was to "weed" the fields. On the first day, with visions of kneeling to pluck tiny sprouts out of the ground, we were led up a path bordered by big tropical vegetation. Machetes in hand, we arrived at a full field of six-foot plants. These were the "weeds." The sweet potatoes, which we were saving, grew in vines close to the ground.

Others in our group went to border areas of La Esperanza, San Miguelito, and Santa Rosaria. Some worked with cattle, some with rice, others dug latrines and trenches for defense. Still others worked in waist-deep water, clearing swampland, preparing for the relocated population.

We saw how the war has changed the everyday existence of all Nicaraguans. Many that we met here had family members who were killed while defending the country from attack.

In this war zone, each move we made had to be coordinated with military activity to ensure our security. Much discipline was required — to go off on one's own could be very dangerous and might even result in death, should we be attacked by counterrevolutionaries.

We told our Nicaraguan compañeros that we are not "unusual" North Americans. For each one of us, there are many who don't like Washington's aggression and are willing to aid Nicaragua. And, as more U.S. working people learn the truth about the Nicaraguan revolution, the numbers willing to stand shoulder to shoulder with Nicaragua's workers and peasants will grow.

Bishop: revolution strengthens unions

Continued from Page 5

factory had a 100 percent financial membership of the Commercial and Industrial Workers' Union in 1978, but the company still refused recognition. And it took the workers at Bata some seventeen years of struggle before they finally won recognition, so this law has changed all those old abuses and given the workers real and genuine security in making their trade unions effective bargaining agents on behalf of their workers.

For the sister trade unionists, the 1980 Maternity Leave Law has made an enormous difference to their working and personal lives. Every working woman now has the right to two months' paid maternity leave over the period of the birth of any child. And the trade unions were involved, together with the mass organizations, particularly the National Women's Organisation, and the churches, in the widespread consultation conducted all over the nation before the bill was finally passed.

The Equal Pay for Equal Work Decree in the state sector has also had a profound effect on improving the wages of the sisters and leveling them up with those of their brother workers throughout Grenada — as well as increasing their general confidence

to organize and struggle, side-by-side, with their brothers. For now both men and women are sharing equally in the improvement in wages and conditions being brought about since the revolution. The old, appalling working conditions and lack of facilities, like no drinking water or workers' amenities in workplaces, compulsory overtime without pay, and no job security, are now doomed. The recent successful strike of agricultural workers in the St. Andrew's parish, waged by members of the Agricultural and General Workers' Union, is proof of this. The comrades achieved their demands of holiday and sick-leave pay under the new democratic leadership of their new union.

Workers in a revolutionary country like ours, who are under a progressive and democratic leadership in their trade unions, do not see trade unionism solely in a narrow, economic sense. They do not see their responsibilities stopping only at their fundamental tasks of improving their members' wages and working conditions.

They see themselves deeply involved in all aspects of the social and political life of their country, their region, and their world. Our unionized workers have consistently shown solidarity with all other struggling workers of the world. They see this as an internationalist duty to all trade unionists organizing for their rights and fighting for social and political justice, be they in Chile, El Salvador, southern Africa, the Middle East, or any part of the world where the producers of wealth are exploit-

ed and oppressed. They see their responsibility, likewise, with other trade unionists of the Third World, in pressing for the new international economic order that will create more favorable terms of trade between rich and poor nations and transfer wealth and technology for the benefit of the masses in countries such as ours.

Comrades, it is clear that the growing economic crisis in world capitalism is having a dynamic effect in the Caribbean. Throughout our region we see the employing class united in its attack upon trade unionism. There have been newspaper advertisements in Barbados calling upon workers there to abandon their trade unions. There have been incidents of multinational companies in St. Vincent forcing workers to sign documents pledging that they will leave their trade union.

Clearly, the employers are trying to deunionize their work forces to make them more pliable and exploitable, so we, throughout the Caribbean, must go beyond all our political and ideological differences and forge the essential unity of our regional trade union movement to combat this reactionary offensive by the employers. This is why we have to work towards the total unionization of our workers and the maximum democratization of our unions, to ensure that they are vigilant and active in the struggles against the employers, and to guarantee that the negativism and passivity that arise from undemocratic trade union structures are forever finished in our region.

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

IAM ratifies new contract at McDonnell Douglas

BY RAYMOND SANSBURY

ST. LOUIS — At a May 20 union meeting, members of International Association of Machinists (IAM) District 837 voted to ratify a new three-year contract with McDonnell Douglas Corp., one of the nation's largest military and aerospace contractors.

The vote was 5,042 to 1,994 — despite a recommendation by the union bargaining committee not to ratify.

The new contract contains major concessions. Workers will receive no new wages increases. Instead, they will get annual lump-sum payments equal to 3 percent of their pay. Workers will have to pay more for medical coverage.

Worse, 25 percent of the union's 9,600 members (mostly the unskilled workers) will get no cost-of-living allowance (COLA) raises during the term of the agreement.

The company succeeded in taking advantage of, and further deepened divisions in, the work force by offering an increase in pension payments and by guaranteeing COLA increases to more skilled workers.

In the previous contract, approved in 1981, McDonnell Douglas forced through a two-tier-type wage structure, allowing them to pay new hires less than others doing the same job.

The company argued that the



Kennecott seeks to rip up miners' contract

new agreement fit in to its "need to be competitive." Meanwhile, in the past months it has won a number of new contracts from the government and private industry valued at hundreds of millions of dollars that will yield hefty new profits.

Many workers here are aware that McDonnell Douglas recently succeeded in waiting out a lengthy strike at its Long Beach, California, plant, organized by the United Auto Workers. It did not hesitate to use scabs and other union-busting measures and ultimately imposed a contract unfavorable to UAW members.

On the morning after the contract was ratified, a number of workers expressed various views. Some were confused, some were disappointed, some thought they

could do no better, and some saw more attacks to come. As one put it, "Now the company will take even more away the next time."

Raymond Sansbury is a member of Lodge A, IAM District 837.

Kennecott Corp. moves to reopen copper contracts

With two years left in its three-year contract with copper workers' unions, the Kennecott Corp. has initiated steps aimed at reopening the agreement and imposing concessions.

Kennecott, the nation's largest copper producer, has copper mines and other operations in Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New

Mexico, and Maryland. On April 15, 1983, it signed agreements with 13 unions led by the United Steelworkers of America. The company had hoped to impose a wage cut at the time. It was unable to do so, but did succeed in winning a wage freeze as well as greater flexibility in combining and eliminating jobs.

The Kennecott contract has traditionally set the pattern in the copper industry. However, in 1983 the bosses at Phelps Dodge Corp., the country's second largest copper company, decided more could be gouged out of copper workers.

On July 1, 1983, they forced a strike on Phelps Dodge workers, who refused to give in to demands for wage cuts, medical benefit givebacks, and other concessions. That strike continues today. Phelps Dodge and the Arizona state government have conducted a ruthless campaign of union-busting against the copper workers.

Kennecott evidently sees the opportunity to join this open offensive against the copper unions. "At this point we're just requesting," says Kennecott spokesman Ken Hochstetler of the company's new concession demands. But if the unions refuse he threatened, "we'd have to look at our other alternatives."

"If Kennecott is successful in obtaining significant concessions," added Arizona Mining Association Pres. C.J. Hansen, "it's natural for some of the other companies to ask the same thing of their unions."

The Pinto Valley copper company, a smaller producer, recently imposed a \$2-an-hour pay cut as

part of the price it extracted from workers in reopening previously shut down operations in Arizona.

Government wants to freeze wages of postal workers

Postal Service officials have escalated threats to "PATCOize" postal workers whose contracts expire July 20. Postmaster General William Bolger has already charged that postal workers are "over compensated." The government's initial contract offer to unions representing the 600,000 workers calls for a three-year wage freeze.

The government's "offer" also includes eliminating premiums for night and Sunday work. A proposed two-tier wage structure would pay new hires one third less than current employees and would deny them the contract's first two cost-of-living adjustments (COLA). The COLA plan for all workers would be cut back. So would sick pay benefits.

A union bargainer termed the plan "ridiculous." However, it represents a serious threat. As federal employees, postal workers are denied the right to strike for a decent contract. With contracts expiring in the auto industry and in the coal fields in the months immediately following the postal contract deadline, the government would like nothing better than to make an example of the postal unions.

compiled by Geoff Mirelowitz

War department increases harassment of socialist

BY RICH IACOVETTA

DENVER — Sally Goodman, one of three women electricians at Martin Marietta Corp. in Denver, Colorado, and a member of United Auto Workers Local 766, is fighting for her job in the face of new harassment from the Defense Investigative Service (DIS).

Last November DIS agents subjected Goodman to a three and a half hour grilling about her political views and personal life, including her "homosexual proclivities."

Goodman, a member of the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance, is being harassed because she is a socialist, a staunch unionist, and a woman in an industry where that isn't "normal."

DIS is a witch-hunt agency of the Defense Department which has responsibility for "national security" investigations. It admits to having files on 10 million workers and their families.

Last April Goodman was informed that DIS wanted to conduct yet another "interview" with her, to give her a chance to answer their questions "more fully."

In the letter requesting a second, taped interview, DIS agent Robert Grisham responded, for the first time, to Goodman's assertions that the investigation is illegal. Goodman maintains that her rights to privacy and freedom of political affiliation are protected by the U.S. Constitution and points out that DIS's own guidelines prohibit questioning workers about their polit-

ical affiliations. Grisham replied that DIS was not bound by any "higher authority" (i.e. the Constitution) and that DIS's own regulations are in no way binding on their agents.

The letter also explained that the Defense Department may deny a clearance for "lack of sufficient information regarding national security threatening issues." That is, either Goodman submits to the interrogation or DIS will revoke her security clearance.

Those defending Goodman in the labor movement now include Charles Carter, national vice-president, American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) District 13; Daphney Cornelius, Women's Director, AFGE District 13; and from Pueblo, Colorado, Kathy Bacino, business agent for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 76.

The Colorado American Agriculture Movement has recently endorsed the case and has Goodman petitions in its office in Campo, Colorado.

A protest letter has been sent by the San Jose-South Bay (California) chapter of the

National Organization for Women. It demands that Martin Marietta and DIS "cease immediately" their harassment of Goodman for her "political/union affiliation/sexual preference."

The parish council of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, a large Catholic church located in Denver's Chicano community, passed a resolution of support stating Goodman's "lifestyle and political beliefs are her own private business and she is constitutionally guaranteed her right to privacy." Colorado State Rep. Philip Hernandez also endorsed the case and sent a contribution for her defense.

Francisco "Kiko" Martinez, himself a victim of government threats for his political activities in the Chicano movement, endorsed Goodman's right to work free from harassment and sent protest messages to Martin Marietta and DIS.

Letters protesting the harassment of Goodman should be sent to DIS c/o Martin Marietta Corp., P.O. Box 179, Denver, Colo. 80201. Contributions and copies of protest letters can be sent to the Political Rights Defense Fund, 130 W. 12th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80204.

Black GI gets stiff sentence

BY HARRY RING

A Black Marine corporal who refused duty in Beirut was given a harsh sentence May 17 by a military court in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Cpl. Alfred Griffin, 22, told the court it would have violated his beliefs as a Muslim if he had participated in the war against the Lebanese.

Griffin was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge. He was ordered to serve four months at hard labor and was reduced to the rank of private. Of the private's pay, he will forfeit \$395 a month for six months.

With a bad conduct discharge on his record, it will make it harder for him to ob-

tain work after he's out of the service.

Griffin absented himself when his marine amphibious unit set sail for duty off the Beirut coast. (Actually, the unit was diverted en route to participate in the invasion of Grenada.)

At his trial, Griffin testified: "If I'd have gone, I would have been a disgrace to my people, and I feel I would have been punished by Allah."

He added:

"If I had gone to Lebanon, I would have been put in a situation in which I would have had to take arms against other Muslims."

His attorneys argued that Griffin's religious beliefs made the order dispatching him to Lebanon unlawful. Under the findings of the World War II Nuremberg tribunal, they said, he had "a duty to disobey... an unlawful order."

The severity of the sentence imposed on Griffin reflects the concern of the military with the development of antiwar sentiment in the armed forces, and an attempt to thwart it with harsh measures.

The same thing was done during the Vietnam War, but it failed to block the growth of massive antiwar sentiment among GIs.

'Militant' Prisoner Fund

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

Gay conference held in South

BY SONJA FRANETA AND LEA SHERMAN

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Ninth Annual Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men took place in Birmingham April 12-15. People attended from Alabama, North Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, Virginia, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

Given the escalating attacks on gay and lesbian civil rights, organizers of the conference, which drew 225 people, saw the need to "pull together within the movement and to reach out to those outside the movement."

Richard Arrington, mayor of Birmingham, gave greetings to the conference. Keynote speakers included Abby Rubinfeld of the LAMBDA Legal Defense and Education Fund and Ginny Apuzzo, direc-

tor of the National Gay Task Force. Apuzzo raised the need to fight not only discrimination against lesbians and gay men, but also sexism, racism, the threat of nuclear war, and the reactionary policies of the Reagan administration.

Workshops were held against the death penalty, on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), and on legal rights of lesbians and gay men.

A workshop was also held on the Sally Goodman defense case (see story this page). More than 30 people signed petitions during the conference in support of Goodman's right to her job.

The Socialist Workers campaign of Mark Curtis for Congress from Birmingham was present at the conference and expressed its support for equal rights for lesbians and gay men.

Hold the dough — On that proposal for a subminimum wage for youth. Reagan's 1985 budget proposal to Congress suggests that if



Harry Ring

it's enacted, \$87 million will be saved by paying the \$2 subminimum on federal youth projects. "We don't believe in spending money if we don't have to spend it," an official advised. Be-

sides, he added, it would be unfair to McDonald's if the government paid more than they did.

The truly needy — Some people, the administration advises, stand in soup lines because they like free lunch, while others use food stamps to swill down whiskey. But our president only accepts useful freebies — like a couple of hearing aids worth \$1,590. (And he really wanted to pay for them, but the company wouldn't hear of it.)

J. Montmorency Widebottom, CEO — An ad for "executive cut" swim trunks. We were intrigued. A discreet identifying

label? Grey flannel polyester? Pinstripe? Nope. A roomier seat.

Democratic dum dums — The Dominican minister of tourism is traveling about assuring potential visitors all's well. What about the recent food protest in which some 60 people were killed, several hundred wounded, and a few thousand jailed? It's the price of democracy. "That could never happen in a dictatorship," he said.

How's your phone bill lately? — Members of Congress are entrusted with a number which permits them to hook into the government-paid WATS line from any home or pay phone. That means unlimited long-distance calls, any

time, anywhere.

No need for No-Doz — Brazilian politician Ulysses Guimaraes says his country is now divided into two groups of people: "Those who can't sleep because they're hungry, and those who can't sleep because they're afraid of what the hungry ones might do."

Un-American — The San Bernardino, Calif., city council has moved to ban public break-dancing and impose \$100 fines for violators. Council members say the dancers draw loud and noisy crowds which, perish the possibility, keep customers away from stores.

'This is only a test' — Right. In the event of nuclear war, the national emergency broadcast system is really beside the point, say Senate probers. Few stations have the requisite two-week supply of food and water and two-way communications equipment. Not to speak of the special shielding for antennas, without which it's all useless.

Our rational society — Coca Cola announced a \$26 million ad campaign to boost shrinking sales of diet Tab. Earlier, they invested \$50 million in promoting Diet Coke, which has now outstripped Tab.

Blacks protest death of youth in police custody

BY NANCY COLE

MILWAUKEE — Another Black youth has died in police custody here, and the Black community — through meetings and a petition drive — is demanding to know why.

Police claim that 19-year-old Eric Adway hanged himself with his shoelaces from a cell door in city jail on May 3.

Adway's family and friends don't believe it.

Adway was arrested on his way home from Bible study class May 2 on a charge of aggravated battery for an incident that occurred four days before.

After an autopsy by the medical examiner's office, Adway's death was declared a suicide. But little-publicized discrepancies in the police report have yet to be answered.

The death came two days after Police Chief Harold Breier announced his retirement, ending 20 years as the city's top cop. Breier, a notorious "law and order" racist, had apparently decided to step down after the state legislature passed a law aimed at curbing his personal power over police operations.

There was no public questioning of the Adway death until May 7 when Alderman Michael McGee, responding to family and community requests, spoke out. "Anytime that someone dies in police custody, there is a problem," he said, adding that Adway's death "would have been an appropriate present for [Breier] from his men." Later he described a section of the police department as "the KKK in blue."

McGee, a long-time Black community leader, was co-chairman of the Coalition for Justice for Ernie Lacy, which spearheaded a two-year struggle around the July 1981 police killing of Ernie Lacy. McGee was elected to the city council this April and was in office for only two weeks when Adway died.

Enraged cops and politicians alike re-

sponded to McGee's remarks with clamor for his censure and removal from his post.

The news media jumped in with fierce denunciations of McGee's "irresponsibility." The *Milwaukee Journal* editorialized, "the new alderman should show restraint, remembering that he is no longer just a protest leader."

But the attention focused on the case forced District Attorney E. Michael McCann to grant the Adway family's request for an inquest into the death.

Two hundred people, many of them young Blacks, attended a meeting called by McGee on May 11. The speakers included a cross-section of local Black elected officials who as yet had not spoken up in defense of McGee. Myrtle Lacy, Ernie

Lacy's mother, who had played a prominent role in the Lacy struggle, also spoke.

When a Black off-duty cop in the audience intervened, trying to shift attention away from the cops onto the street gangs, Eric Adway's mother, Bobbie, angrily took the microphone. "Gangs is just a word used against our Black children," she interrupted. It was not gangs who killed her son, she went on, and she would not rest until she found out who was responsible. "I feel they lynched him just like they did Ernie Lacy," she said.

Three nights later, more than 50 people jammed into a small office to organize a coalition. Those present decided to name themselves the Coalition for Justice for Eric Adway. The coalition's purpose will

be to monitor the inquest, raise funds for the Adway family's legal needs, and organize support until the family and community are satisfied.

The coalition will also continue with a petition drive begun days after the Adway death became known. The petition demands a full investigation and a fair and impartial inquest.

The petition is also circulating in churches and factories. At Eagle Knitting Mills, workers took up a collection for the Adway family and 35 workers signed a message of condolence and support for the family's efforts to learn the truth. Petitions have circulated at the Junior House clothing factory and at the Briggs and Stratton auto parts plant.

CALENDAR

FLORIDA

Tallahassee

Truth Crushed to the Earth Will Rise Again. A videotape interview with Don Rojas, press secretary to Grenada's slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Thur., May 31, 8 p.m. Florida State University. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance, Center for Participant Education. For more information call (904) 222-4434 or 644-6577.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

Support the Guatemala Coca Cola Sit-in Strikers. Videotape of Guatemala Coca Cola strike. Introduction by Duane Stilwell, staff writer for *Perspectiva Mundial*. Translation to Spanish. Fri., May 25. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; forum, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey St. (corner Raymond, 1 block from Broad). Donation: \$2, \$3 dinner. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Soviet Pull-Out From the Olympics: Who Is to Blame? Speaker: Sue Parker, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., June 2, 7:30 p.m. 5517 Rainier Ave. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

Plant Closings and Run-away Shops: How Can We Save Our Jobs? Speakers: Jeff McDonald, research department, Allied Industrial Union; Mark Rosenbaum, president of Local P40, United Food and Commercial Workers (Patrick Cudahy); Chris Breihan, member of United Auto Workers Local 438 and Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sun., June 3, 7:30 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

Why Aren't There Enough Jobs for Youth? A discussion on solutions to unemployment,

police brutality, and other problems facing youth. Malcolm X on tape: "The Ballot or the Bullet." Speaker: representative of Young Socialist Alliance. Tues., June 5, 7 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon Ave. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Commemorate First Anniversary of Maurice Bishop's Visit to Detroit: U.S. Out of Grenada and Central America! Videotape showing of interview with Prime Minister Maurice Bishop during his Detroit visit. Speakers: Congressman John Conyers, Congressman George Crockett, Chokwe Lumumba, Donald Telford, Andrew Pulley. Sat., June 2, 3 p.m. Crummell Center, 74 Glendale, Highland Park. Ausp: Maurice Bishop and Grenada Martyrs Foundation. For more information call (313) 837-1025 or 895-6016.

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CALIFORNIA: Bay Area District: 3808 E 14th St., Oakland. Zip: 94601. Tel: (415) 534-1242. Los Angeles: SWP, YSA, 2546 W. Pico Blvd. Zip: 90006. Tel: (213) 380-9460. Oakland: SWP, YSA, 3808 E 14th St. Zip: 94601. Tel: (415) 261-3014. San Diego: SWP, YSA, 1053 15th St. Zip: 92101. Tel: (619) 234-4630. San Francisco: SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 282-6255. San Jose: SWP, YSA, 46 1/2 Race St. Zip: 95126. Tel: (408) 998-4007. Seaside: SWP, YSA, 1184 Broadway. Zip: 93955. Tel: (408) 394-1855.

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ILLINOIS: Chicago: SWP, YSA, 3455 S

Michigan Ave. Zip: 60616. Tel: (312) 326-5853 or 326-5453.

INDIANA: Bloomington: YSA, Activities Desk, Indiana Memorial Union. Zip: 47405. Indianapolis: SWP, YSA, 4850 N. College. Zip: 46205. Tel: (317) 283-6149.

IOWA: Des Moines: YSA, P.O. Box 1165. Zip: 50311.

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

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

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

MICHIGAN: Detroit: SWP, YSA, 7146 W. McNichols. Zip: 48221. Tel: (313) 862-7755.

MINNESOTA: Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, 112 Chestnut St., Virginia, Minn. 55792. Send mail to P.O. Box 1287. Zip: 55792. Tel: (218) 749-6327. Twin Cities: SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

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NEW JERSEY: Newark: SWP, YSA, 141 Halsey. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

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

NEW YORK: Capital District (Albany): SWP, YSA, 352 Central Ave. 2nd floor. Zip: 12206. Tel: (518) 434-3247. New York: SWP, YSA, 79 Leonard. Zip: 10013. Tel: (212) 226-8445 or 925-1668.

NORTH CAROLINA: Piedmont: SWP, YSA, 301 S. Elm St., Suite 522. Greensboro. Zip: 27401. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO: Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 4945 Pad-dock Rd. Zip: 45237. Tel: (513) 242-7161. Cleveland: SWP, YSA, 15105 St. Clair Ave. Zip: 44110. Tel: (216) 451-6150. Toledo: SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

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

PENNSYLVANIA: Edinboro: YSA, Edinboro State College. Zip: 16444. Tel: (814) 734-4415. Philadelphia: SWP, YSA, 2744 Germantown Ave. Zip: 19133. Tel: (215) 225-0213. Pittsburgh: SWP, YSA, 141 S. Highland Ave. Zip: 15206. Tel: (412) 362-6767. State College: YSA, P.O. Box 464, Bellefonte. Zip: 16823. Tel: (814) 238-3296.

RHODE ISLAND: Providence: YSA, P.O.

Box 261, Annex Station. Zip: 02901.

TEXAS: Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Tel: (512) 452-3923. Dallas: SWP, YSA, 2817 Live Oak. Zip: 75204. Tel: (214) 826-4711. Houston: SWP, YSA, 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, 5517 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.

3,000 Toledo auto workers take to streets

Continued from front page

union had opposed — on the plant. Workers were forced to take a \$5.84 pay cut and lost most seniority rights.

But that was only the beginning. In an open attempt to bust the AP unit of UAW Local 14, the company laid off 175 of the plant's workers. Management began a campaign of discipline and harassment against the remaining workers for alleged violations of the new work rules the company had put into effect.

To add insult to injury the National Labor Relations Board ruled that AP Parts was not guilty of unfair labor practices as the UAW charged. This left the union no choice but to go out on strike May 2.

The next day, AP called the laid-off workers back on the job, warning they would lose unemployment benefits if they refused to come in. Not a single laid-off member of the union was willing to scab.

The company quickly obtained court injunctions to limit the number of pickets and weaken the strike's effectiveness.

The May 21 solidarity demonstration was the first challenge to the court injunction. For a week, UAW committeemen and stewards in other plants spread the word about an upcoming action. Union members were told to be ready to be called out after work without advance notice.

At 3:40 p.m. on May 21, hundreds of workers had already gathered at the AP gate. Most learned of the demonstration as they were leaving work that day, including this writer.

The AP strike has been a big topic of discussion here. Many workers were eager to respond to the call from UAW officials. Unionists came from the Ford plant, from Jeep, Chrysler, GM Hydramatic, and scores of other auto shops organized by the UAW, which is this city's most important union. Black committeemen from Jeep were in the front lines of the demonstration. Hundreds of women were in the crowd.

Also participating were members of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 7-912 who are on strike at the Sun Oil refinery here, as well as a sprinkling of other unionists. Rev. Floyd Rose, president of the Toledo NAACP, was there.

The demonstrators chanted, "Union!

Congress welcomes Salvadoran tyrant

Continued from front page

Duarte said he wouldn't negotiate with "arms on the table" (i.e., the FMLN must surrender).

In contrast, the FMLN and the FDR have repeatedly proposed the holding of a dialogue without preconditions as the best way to begin the search for a negotiated political solution.

In a May 21 speech, Duarte repeated the Reagan administration line that the Salvadoran government is caught between "Communist guerrillas and death squads." But the government *is* the death squads. There are countless, documented cases of people picked up by cops or troops who have subsequently turned up murdered "death squad" style.

Not a single member of the military has ever been punished for any of those crimes. And while in Washington, Duarte announced an appointment that guarantees things will continue as they are: Gen. Eugenio Vides Casanova will remain as minister of defense. Vides Casanova was head of the National Guard in 1980 when troops under his command abducted and then brutally raped and murdered four U.S. women missionaries.

In his May 21 speech, Duarte said "emphatically" that "we will never ask you to send American troops to fight on our soil." But U.S. troops are already in El Salvador and they already participate in the war. U.S. spotter planes from Honduras fly frequent missions over El Salvador to direct Salvadoran troops against the fighters of the FMLN. U.S. advisers plan and supervise the Salvadoran government's military.

And, despite Duarte's statement, President Reagan specifically refused to rule out sending combat troops when asked about it during a nationally televised news conference on May 22. Instead, he dismissed the question as "hypothetical."

Union!" and carried a big banner that read, "UAW Strong."

A UAW member parked a big car-carrier truck in front of one gate and a hundred or more workers climbed aboard to lead chants and hold up picket signs.

"It's about time we did something," was a frequent comment in the crowd. Many other workers said, "We've got to keep Toledo a union town."

Dave Kubicki, chairman of the UAW Local 12 Unit at Dana Corp., explained the day following the action, "The shops and people in the plant have been asking for some time, 'When are we going to go out and do something? When are we going to help them?'"

Mood changes on cops

When the demonstration began, many workers tried to appeal to the cops as fellow unionists. The mood suddenly changed when the police opened up with tear gas. Then it was clear they were the enemy.

Labor's stake in fight at AP Parts

Continued from front page

labor and the employers, who are determined to qualitatively weaken the industrial unions. Like almost every strike action that labor has taken in the last few years, this is a defensive battle. It is primarily a fight to save the union.

What must be the response of labor and its allies — Blacks, Latinos, women, and farmers?

All out solidarity!

The local leadership here of the United Auto Workers (UAW), and rank-and-file union members, have taken the lead in this fight against the employer offensive. The officials of the national AFL-CIO should provide every possible form of solidarity to UAW Local 14 and its supporters. The international UAW leadership should do the same. Local unions, as they have done here in Toledo, can also take immediate action to offer aid to the embattled UAW members.

In the aftermath of the May 21 action, workers here are discussing and drawing some important lessons. These include:

- A clearer understanding of the true role of the cops. Many workers at the May 21 mass picket line of 3,000 initially tried to win the support of the cops. They appealed to the police as "fellow unionists."

But once the tear gas fell and the clubs came down, workers began to lose their illusions. The talk the next day at many shops was about the strong resistance the workers gave the cops and company goons.

- A greater understanding of the deep-going nature of the employers' antilabor attacks. It is more and more accepted that AP Parts' union-busting represents the opening shots in a new stage in the auto barons' war against workers in the heart of the industry — auto assembly.

There is growing belief that if AP Parts' vicious concession contract is imposed here, destroying the union, it means GM and Ford workers are in for a difficult ride in September when their national contract expires. The AP strike is seen as directly linked to these upcoming battles. Common

Mason, González telegram to UAW

The following telegram was sent May 24 to striking auto workers in Toledo by Socialist Workers Party presidential and vice-presidential candidates Mel Mason and Andrea González:

To the Brothers and Sisters of United Auto Workers Local 14:

We extend to you our full solidarity in your battle against AP Parts, whose antilabor campaign has been backed every step of the way by the courts, the National Labor Relations Board, and the cops.

Your strike has the support of working people across the country. Auto workers especially see AP's assault on your local as the opening shot by the auto bosses against the UAW this year. Coal miners, whose contract expires this fall, are also watching

As tear gas canisters exploded and fell, workers quickly and calmly left the area, only to regroup somewhere else. When the gas subsided, the crowd surged forward again, determined not to let the cops deprive them of their right to peacefully assemble.

One police car was burned by the end of the night, and 17 had all their windows smashed.

The mood in the plants the day after was one of confidence and pride. "We finally did something!" said one worker. "We're going to be on TV all over the world," said another. "Finally somebody's standing up to Reagan."

At the Dura Corp., organized by UAW Local 16, a worker who spent the night in jail got a hero's welcome when he returned to the shop floor. He is charged with aggravated rioting, as are many other workers. Fellow unionists pledged to defend him.

Toledo is a fiercely prouder town. While many auto workers have taken some bad blows here from layoffs and other anti-

union moves over the past few years, they are by no means beaten or cowed. The May 21 action confirmed that.

Workers see the battle at AP Parts as the opening round in a campaign by the auto bosses to weaken or break the UAW, starting in the smaller parts shops, but ultimately spreading to the larger assembly plants.

Local UAW officials say the May 21 action is the beginning of a sustained campaign to defend the union at AP.

This is welcomed by UAW members and other unionists. The demonstration and the police attack have deepened a discussion among many workers about what kind of militant action it will take to win this strike and roll back the union drive.

Elizabeth Lariscy works at Jeep in Toledo and is a member of United Auto Workers Local 12 (Jeep Unit). She is also the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress in the 9th Congressional District.

comments among UAW members here are "AP first, GM, Ford, Jeep next" and "If they lose, we lose."

- Recognition of the importance of leadership in fighting back. A new stage in the strike battle was reached when the local area UAW decided that court injunctions could not be allowed to stand in the way of effective strike support actions. The decision to organize the May 21 mass action was widely welcomed by rank-and-file workers who eagerly responded to the call.

Earlier the approach of the regional and local UAW leaders was to rely on appeals to the National Labor Relations Board, which turned them down, and direct negotiations, which the company consistently stonewalled.

A strong desire to show solidarity with the AP Parts strikers had been growing among auto workers here. The organization of the May 21 action by local UAW leaders has given rank-and-file workers more confidence and encouragement to express active strike solidarity.

The main organizers of the May 21 protest were shop committeemen from many plants. They led the action from the front lines of the picket. This increased their authority among the membership.

May 21 showed that the union ranks will fight back when a struggle is organized and led. Workers will not only respond, but fight with increased boldness and militancy.

Coincidentally, this battle is unfolding on the 50th anniversary of the great 1934 Toledo Auto-Lite strike (see page 14). That

Toledo socialists back strikers

TOLEDO, Ohio — Elizabeth Lariscy and Mark Friedman, Socialist Workers Party candidates in the 9th Congressional District and state House of Representatives District 45 respectively, are members of UAW Local 12 (Jeep unit). Both responded immediately to the police attacks

fight helped establish Toledo as a union town and helped pave the way for the establishment of the CIO throughout basic industry.

Many workers are learning of this historic legacy and the UAW here is organizing slide shows and other activities to celebrate it. There is even some talk of emulating some of the class struggle tactics used successfully in the '34 battle — more mass pickets, "flying pickets," and broad support committees — to win the AP Parts strike. The Toledo Union Journal, published by UAW Local 12, has been running a series of articles on the Auto-Lite fight.

In addition to women activists in the UAW, women in the union's women's auxiliary are also playing an active role in solidarity efforts; and many Blacks are involved; several Black committeemen from Jeep were on the front lines May 21. Significantly, the head of the NAACP was also at the mass protest. The coming together of these forces increases the potential to strengthen strike solidarity and push back the powerful forces behind AP Parts.

That's what's on the agenda now for all unionists, civil rights activists, and women's rights fighters across the country. AP Parts and the employing class are determined to bust UAW Local 14 — make it an example, demoralize workers, warn workers that to fight is to lose.

Labor must respond in the spirit of the May 21 action — with more active class solidarity.

Malik Miah is a national cochairperson of the Socialist Workers Party.

and arrests on May 21. After work with fellow workers they joined the demonstration. The next day they issued a statement demanding charges against the arrested workers be dropped. It was aired by six radio stations.

Lariscy and Friedman's act of solidarity as union activists as well as socialist candidates is nothing new. The SWP has participated in the struggles of auto workers and others in this area for many years.

Soon after the AP Parts strike began, the SWP candidate for vice-president, Andrea González, toured Toledo. She visited the AP Parts picket line and expressed her support for the strike through two TV interviews. She also voiced her support for Sun Oil refinery workers who are on strike here. She campaigned at the Jeep plant gates and among the 450 people attending the Jeep Unit Local 12 UAW meeting.

Socialists have also regularly sold the *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*, at the AP Parts plant gate for over nine months. A weekly average of 6 to 12 papers has been sold. In early May socialists circulated petitions to put the SWP's '84 presidential ticket on the ballot, including among striking AP workers. More than 50 *Militants* were sold at the May 21 action.

The U.S. threat to Iran

In his televised news conference May 22, Reagan assured that chances were "very slight" that the U.S. government would become involved in a shooting war in the Persian Gulf. His assurance was not very assuring.

A day earlier, in a message to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Reagan had declared his readiness to provide military aid to Persian Gulf governments hostile to Iran.

The pretext for the offer of U.S. military intervention is an alleged threat of Iranian interference with the shipment of oil from the area.

But the fact is the threat to shipping there has been from the government of Iraq, whose planes have been persistently attacking ships in the gulf as part of its war of aggression against Iran.

Implicit in the U.S. offer to the Saudi government was the understanding that U.S. jets would be used to shoot down Iranian planes, not simply as escorts to discourage "attack."

Behind this is a move to achieve a new, and dangerous, increase in Washington's military power in the Persian Gulf. Already, there are nearly 20 U.S. warships in the area.

The Reagan administration is insisting that U.S. planes can't effectively "defend" the gulf unless Saudi Arabia permits it to establish a "temporary" military base on its coast. Such a base would be used to expand U.S. military domination in the entire Persian Gulf.

The justification for Washington's threats against Iran turns the victim into the criminal.

U.S. forces may have to act, we're told, to thwart Iran from blocking oil shipments out of the gulf.

It was reported May 19 that Iraqi jets had sunk a 17,000-ton Panamanian-registered cargo liner bound for Iran with a shipment of steel. In the past three years, some 60 ships have been attacked in the gulf by Iraqi jets.

Iran is charged with shelling three tankers in mid-May. The Iranian government denies this. It declared May 15 that Iraqi forces were trying to throttle Iran economically by preventing the shipment of oil from Kharg Island, Iran's major oil depot in the Persian Gulf.

Following the Iraqi sinking of the freighter bound for Iran, a State Department spokesman emphasized that Washington was ready to condemn Iran's alleged attacks on ships in the gulf, but would not criticize Iraq for its 60 attacks over the past three years, because these assertedly were made within a defined "war zone."

Since the Iranian people threw out the U.S.-backed shah in 1979, Washington has worked overtime to roll back the revolution there and to prevent its spread to the other countries of the region.

As the May 20 *Times* pointed out, "The United States believes it is crucial to American policy in the Middle East that the radical policies of Iran not be spread across the gulf to the largely conservative Arab governments there."

When Iraq launched its invasion of Iran in September of 1980, quick victory was anticipated.

But by 1982 the Iranian people had driven the Iraqi forces out of most of the country.

Youthful worker and peasant volunteers, who clearly see the revolution as worth fighting for, have played the major role in repelling Iraqi forces.

It is that revolutionary commitment that Washington wants to crush. U.S. moves toward an expanded military role against Iran are a threat to the people of the entire region and, of course, to world peace as well. Working people in this country should demand that all U.S. ships, aircraft, and troops get out of the region now and stay out.

NLRB ruling hits labor — again

Suppose a group of workers in a nonunion shop decide they want a union. They approach a union to help organize the plant — the Teamsters for instance.

Suppose the company decides it doesn't want a union. It threatens to fire the workers and close the plant to block union representation.

Most workers rightly believe this should not be allowed. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) just ruled otherwise.

An administrative-law judge found that Gourmet Foods Inc. in St. Paul had committed a string of unfair labor practices. The Teamsters argued that the NLRB should order Gourmet Foods to bargain with the union for a contract because the company's union-busting moves had been so "outrageous and pervasive."

No, said the NLRB. Such action would amount to "governmental imposition of a choice of representative." It argued that the union had not proven that a majority of Gourmet Foods workers wanted Teamster representation. That's not surprising. The purpose of the company's unfair practices was to intimidate workers and persuade them not to sign union cards.

This is the latest example of a direct antiunion NLRB decision. Once again the government has ratified an employer's "right" to carry out an antilabor practice that has

been going on for years. This will embolden other employers to resort to even more blatant union-busting.

Many workers are thinking about and discussing what to do about this problem. Top union officials argue they are all a result of Reagan occupying the White House. The answer offered by these officials is to oust Reagan and elect Democrat Walter Mondale.

The answer does not lie in electing more Democrats, nor does it lie in the bosses' courts, in a more "prolabor" NLRB, or in any of the institutions of capitalist society set up by the employers to protect their profits and their rule.

The answer lies in organizing and using union power — the only thing the employers have ever respected in labor relations — to fight for workers' interests.

In Toledo, members of the United Auto Workers at AP Parts were also the victims of an antilabor NLRB decision. The NLRB ruled that the company's \$5.84 an hour wage cut and harassment and victimization of union members was not an "unfair labor practice."

This week Toledo UAW members offered a good lesson in what to do when the NLRB rules against labor (see story page 1). The entire union movement can profit from their example.

All out for June 9 antiwar rally

Continued from front page

aragua and the Salvadoran liberation forces. The threat to Cuba has increased as well.

The Pentagon's "Granadero" exercises in Honduras are a clear signal that U.S. forces are poised for action.

In addition to bulldozing new airstrips there, existing ones are being extended to accommodate jumbo troop transport planes. Several big ammunition depots are being built as well.

A month ago, the Pentagon admitted publicly that U.S. "advisers" are accompanying Salvadoran government pilots into combat.

It's been admitted that the mining of Nicaraguan harbors has been carried out entirely by the CIA, plus some unidentified Latin American hirelings. The 600 mines planted brought a loss of more than \$9 million to Nicaragua and private shipping companies.

The CIA now has put together an army of some 11,000 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary exiles — the murderous *contras*. Roughly half these well-armed thugs are operating inside Nicaragua.

Moreover, it is admitted that CIA agents have flown in Honduran helicopters, violating Nicaraguan air space, to supply the counterrevolutionary terror bands operating inside the country.

Another ominous aspect of the escalation was the Ocean Venture exercise in the Caribbean, which featured a practice evacuation of civilians from Guantánamo Naval Base, the U.S. installation on the island of Cuba.

The mining of the Nicaraguan harbors provoked worldwide opposition, which was reflected in the unanimous World Court decision calling on Washington to halt

its outrageous violation of international law.

In this country, the antiwar sentiment was registered in a CBS poll released April 29. Of those asked, only one person in three supported Reagan's Central America policy. Nearly half felt it would lead to war, and 67 percent opposed the mining of Nicaraguan waters.

That opposition includes millions of young workers who will be the first called on to do the killing and dying in a Central American war.

This underlines the importance of involving the maximum possible number of unionists in the June 9 demonstration.

Some union officials and union bodies have declared their opposition to Washington's Central American war policies.

The National Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador has called for a halt to all U.S. aid to the repressive Salvadoran regime.

Leaders of the labor committee include top officials of the United Auto Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, and the International Association of Machinists.

At its last convention, the United Auto Workers also opposed "covert or overt U.S. aid to overthrow the government of Nicaragua," urging "a withdrawal of CIA and military involvement in Honduras aimed at harassment of Nicaragua."

Such union stands on this vital issue increase the potential for involving unionists in actions like the New York demonstration and subsequent antiwar activity.

We urge our readers to make every effort to help ensure a maximum turnout for June 9.

Toledo Auto-Lite strike battle: 50th anniversary

This week marks the 50th anniversary of the turning point in the 1934 strike at the Toledo Electric Auto-Lite Co. Last week we reprinted excerpts from an article by Farrell Dobbs on the 1934 Minneapolis Teamsters strike. These two struggles, along with the San Francisco general strike the same year, inspired workers throughout the country and helped pave the way for unionizing the auto industry and the formation of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO).

As Art Preis, one of the leaders of the Toledo strike movement, wrote in his book *Labor's Giant Step*, "With the Auto-Lite victory under their belts, the Toledo auto

OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

workers were to organize 19 plants before the year was out and, before another 12 months, were to lead the first successful strike in a GM plant, the real beginning of the conquest of General Motors."

The Toledo Auto-Lite strike lessons are especially important today as auto workers are again in battle in the city of Toledo, this time in support of United Auto Workers strikers at the AP Parts plant (see story on front page). Reprinted below are excerpts from *Labor's Giant Step* on the Auto-Lite strike and its aftermath.

Labor's Giant Step can be ordered for \$9.95 from Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please include 75 cents for postage and handling.

* * *

It was at this stage, when strike after strike was being crushed, that the Toledo Electric Auto-Lite Company struggle blazed forth to illuminate the whole horizon of the American class struggle. The American workers were to be given an unforgettable lesson in how to confront all the agencies of the capitalist government — courts, labor boards and armed troops — and win.

Toledo, Ohio, an industrial city of about 275,000 population in 1934, is a glass and auto parts center. In June 1931, four Toledo banks had closed their doors. Some of the big local companies, including several suppliers to the auto industry, had secretly transferred their bank accounts to one big bank. These companies did not get caught in the crash.

But thousands of workers and small business men did. They lost their lives' savings. One out of every three persons in Toledo was thrown on relief, standing in lines for food handouts at a central commissary. In 1933, the Unemployed League, led by followers of A.J. Muste, head of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action (later the American Workers Party), had organized militant mass actions of the unemployed and won cash relief.

On February 23, 1934, the Toledo Auto-Lite workers, newly organized in AFL Federal Local 18384, went on strike. This was quickly ended by the AFL leaders with a truce agreement for negotiations through the Regional Labor Board of the National Labor Board.

Refusing to be stalled further by the labor board or to submit to the special Auto Labor Board, which [Franklin] Roosevelt had set up in March to sidetrack pending auto strikes and which had upheld company unionism, the Auto-Lite workers went on the picket lines again on April 13.

By May 23, there were more than 10,000 on the picket lines. Then followed one of the most amazing battles in U.S. labor history. "The Marines had landed" in the form of the National Guard but the situation was not "well in hand." With their bare fists and rocks, the workers fought a six-day pitched battle with the National Guard. They fought from rooftops, from behind billboards and came through alleys to flank the guardsmen.

But the strikers and their thousands of sympathizers did more than shame the young National Guardsmen. They educated them and tried to win them over. Speakers stood on boxes in front of the troops and explained what the strike was about and the role the troops were playing as strikebreakers.

World War I veterans put on their medals and spoke to the boys in uniform like "Dutch uncles." The women explained what the strike meant to their families. The press reported that some of the guardsmen just quit and went home. Others voiced sympathy with the workers.

On Friday, May 31, the troops were speedily ordered withdrawn from the strike area when the company agreed to keep the plant closed.

By June 4, with the whole community seething with anger, the company capitulated and signed a six-month contract, including a 5 percent wage increase with a 5 percent minimum above the auto industry code, naming Local 18384 as the exclusive bargaining agent in the struck plants. This was the first contract under the code that did not include "proportional representation" for the company unions. The path was opened for organization of the entire automobile industry.

Malcolm X on elections, Democrats, revolution

One indication of the power of the revolutionary ideas of Malcolm X is that almost 20 years after his death interest in his ideas still runs very high among Blacks, who are looking for a way to put an end to the intolerable racism of this class-divided society. The occasion of Malcolm X's birthday, May 19, is an appropriate time to recall what he actually said regarding a strategy for winning Black liberation — particularly since many distortions of Malcolm's views are being peddled today.

Malcolm explained, first of all, that racism comes not mainly from individual anti-Black bigots, but from the government and the system it protects. In his April 1964 speech "The Ballot or the Bullet" Malcolm said, "You



BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

Mohammed Oliver

and I in America are faced not with a segregationist conspiracy, we're faced with a government conspiracy. Everyone who's filibustering is a senator — that's the government. Everyone who's finagling in Washington, D.C., is a congressman — that's the government. You don't have anybody putting blocks in your path but people who are a part of the government.

"The same government that you go abroad to fight and die for is the government that is in a conspiracy to deprive you of your voting rights, deprive you of your economic opportunities, deprive you of decent housing, deprive you of decent education. You don't need to go to the em-

ployer alone, it is the government itself, the government of America, that is responsible for the oppression and exploitation and degradation of Black people in this country. And you should drop it in their lap."

One of Malcolm's greatest contributions was the fact that he didn't confuse *politics* with *electoralism*. He understood that it was the struggle between the masses of the oppressed and the ruling rich and their politicians — on the shop floor, in the streets, in communities of the oppressed, and in national liberation wars the world over — that determined the status of Blacks and other oppressed people. It was not who you vote for every four years.

Malcolm always explained politics as a question of struggle — not new faces in high places.

Malcolm urged Blacks to organize to struggle independently of both the Democratic and Republican parties because "both parties have sold us out. Both parties are racist. . . ."

What a far cry that is from Jesse Jackson's bid for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, which aims to *strengthen* that racist party of big-business in order to reform the capitalist system. We are being told that "dumping Reagan" is the key question before Blacks and workers today.

In 1964 we were told similarly that we should vote for Democrat Lyndon Johnson in order to keep the warmonger Republican Barry Goldwater out of the White House.

Malcolm responded "It isn't a president who can help or hurt; it is the system. And this system is not only ruling us in America, it is ruling the world. . . ."

"If Johnson had been running all by himself, he would not have been acceptable to anyone. The only thing that

made him acceptable to the world was that the shrewd capitalists, the shrewd imperialists, knew that the only way people would run toward the fox would be if you showed them a wolf. So they created a ghastly alternative. And it had the whole world — including people who call themselves Marxists — hoping Johnson would beat Goldwater.

"I have to say this: those who claim to be enemies of the system were on their hands and knees waiting for Johnson to get elected — because he is supposed to be a man of peace. And *at that moment* he had troops invading the Congo and South Vietnam! He even has troops in areas where other imperialists have already withdrawn. Peace Corps to Nigeria, mercenaries to the Congo!"

Malcolm was a revolutionary and he saw the Black struggle for equality in the United States as part of the worldwide upsurge of the colonial peoples against imperialism and capitalism. "1964," Malcolm said, "will see the Negro revolt evolve and merge into the worldwide Black revolution that has been taking place on this earth since 1945. The so-called revolt will become a real Black revolution."

"Now the Black revolution has been taking place in Africa and Asia and Latin America; when I say Black, I mean nonwhite — black, brown, red, or yellow. Our brothers and sisters in Asia, who were colonized by the Europeans, our brothers and sisters in Africa, who were colonized by the Europeans, and in Latin America, the peasants, who were colonized by the Europeans, have been involved in a struggle since 1945 to get the colonialists, or the colonizing powers, the Europeans, off their land, out of their country."

Every serious fighter for social change — Black and white — should study Malcolm X. The legacy of his ideas is an important weapon in the struggle today against racial oppression and capitalist exploitation.

Milwaukee workers discuss plant closings

BY GEORGE O'NEILL

On April 28, about 500 workers, members of Allied Industrial Workers Union Local 806, marched to the Caterpillar plant on Milwaukee's South Side to protest the announced closing of the plant. Caterpillar, the world's largest manufacturer of earth-moving equipment, employs about 450 people at its Milwaukee plant.

At a rally outside the plant, several prominent Democratic Party officials spoke, including Mayor Henry

solutions to the problem and are open to new ideas. Another sign of the this was the friendly response to the *Militant* at the rally — 18 *Militants* were sold.

In nearby Cudahy, Wisconsin, 850 members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-40 are facing the threatened shutdown of the Patrick Cudahy meatpacking plant. The company announced on April 24 that it would close in 90 days if it did not find a buyer for the plant.

If Patrick Cudahy shuts its doors, it will have a devastating effect on farmers, probably driving some out of business. South-central and southeastern Wisconsin are among the biggest hog-producing regions in the state. The closing of Patrick Cudahy would drop the state's hog slaughtering capacity from 2 million a year in 1978 to about 300,000 a year.

The company's announcement came after Local P-40 members voted 498-119 on February 26 against making new contract concessions. In October 1980 the union agreed to a \$2 per hour wage cut, bringing wages down to their current level of \$9.96 per hour. Now the company wants to cut wages almost in half — another \$4.50 an hour.

Local P-40 Pres. Mark Rosenbaum said the union voted against the new concessions because the company refused to open its books to the union; because it would not guarantee job security in return for the wage cut; and because the company refused to negotiate the size of the wage cut. He also pointed out that labor costs only

amount to about 10 percent of the company's costs.

Some workers at the plant expressed resentment at the company's attitude. One said, "I lift a 100,000 pounds of meat a day . . . and they want me to take a cut. They're just here for the money. They don't care about the people."

Others were skeptical about the plant closing, viewing it as a union-busting maneuver by the company. Industry analysts are already speculating that Iowa Beef Processors, a notoriously antiunion firm, might buy the company.

Employers' representatives in the area are uncomfortable with the attitudes developing among workers. The president of a Wisconsin economic marketing corporation said, "It is kind of hard to comment, I'm still in a state of shock. I was hoping that period was behind us, the labor impasse type of thing. I was hoping the concessionary atmosphere was still wide open. It's just going to add a great big log to the fire to get things turned around."

The developments at Caterpillar and Patrick Cudahy show that workers are trying to think through how to deal with the problem of plant shutdowns. It is becoming increasingly obvious to a layer of workers that concessions are not the answer to the problem. This awareness, and a growing willingness to fight back and look for new solutions, are a hopeful sign for Milwaukee workers.

UNION TALK

Maier, County Executive William O'Donnell, and U.S. Congressman Gerald Kleczka. They offered no meaningful solutions to the workers.

Maier blamed the sunbelt for job losses, O'Donnell said we need a new Roosevelt, and Kleczka urged everyone to vote in November. Another politician said it was all in God's hands.

The significance of this rally, however, was not in the politicians' speeches. This was the first rally against plant shutdowns in Milwaukee in many years. It came after Local 806 had presented its own concessions package to the company to try to save the plant. This was rejected.

The rally was a sign that workers are looking for other

LETTERS

Racist stereotype

According to the *Boston Globe*, the undersecretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development believes Hispanic people live in overcrowded conditions because they prefer it that way.

They quote Philip Abrams as saying it's "a cultural preference."

He said, "That is, as I found it, a characteristic of Hispanic communities, irrelevant to their social [and] economic conditions. It is a cultural preference, I'm told. . . . I'm told they don't mind and they prefer, some prefer, doubling up."

We read fantastic things in the press each day, but this is really too much.

Mary Lipman
Lynn, Massachusetts

'Slave labor'

During a recent campaign rally in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Jesse Jackson proposed to prevent industries from leaving the United States and going to coun-

tries where they have "slave labor."

It is ironic that Jackson made such a speech here, since for some time now politicians and labor bureaucrats up-North have denounced North Carolina for the same reason.

If Jackson and the other Democratic Party candidates are concerned about people who work for a living, they can start by demanding an end to all U.S. support to the governments of countries such as El Salvador, South Africa, and South Korea, which enforce "slave labor" conditions at the point of a gun.

As John F. McNair III, the chair of the North Carolina Board of Economic Development and vice-chair of Wachovia Bank, recently pointed out: "I don't understand how a manufacturer in North Carolina could be expected, because of unions or any other reason, to substantially exceed the going wage in his industry, worldwide, over a long period of time."

The union bureaucrats should take the hint. Do everything you can to bring all U.S. troops home. While you are at it, go on a big mobilization to get rid of the federal law that allows state "right to work" (for less) laws. And it would sure not hurt to go on a big union organizing drive in the South. Most workers would respond if it is seriously organized and financed.

H.H.
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Draft resister writes

Many thanks for your offer of a subscription to the *Militant* and for the issue I received this week. Although I usually read the *Militant*, I hadn't seen it since my imprisonment in November 1983.

I was particularly interested in Steve Craine's account of security at Kathy Boudin's trial (some of which I hoped to attend after my release). One of the prisoners here had just come back from court



hearings in White Plains and had given a pretty grim picture of the "guilt by implication," "security" tactics used by the prosecution in the Boudin trial.

As it happens I'm scheduled to be released, so there's no need for the subscription. I'd be happy to talk about my case once I'm back in Boston.

Edward Hasbrouck
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

[Ed Hasbrouck was imprisoned for four and a half months for refusal to register for the draft.]

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.

Thousands of coal miners, women march to back British strike

BY GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

Tens of thousands of coal miners, women supporters, and others have demonstrated in recent weeks in support of the over 11 week old British miners strike.

On May 14 the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) brought 45,000 strikers and supporters into the streets of Mansfield in the heart of the Nottinghamshire coalfields.

Demonstrators cheered when NUM President Arthur Scargill told the crowd, "If it takes until November or December, we will win. You have a leadership prepared to lead, not a leadership whose only interest is a seat in the House of Lords. I pledge that this leadership will not accept pit closures. The leadership will lead until we win."

The NUM is on strike against the British National Coal Board's plans to permanently close many of the country's nationalized coal mines (known as pits) and throw tens of thousands of British miners permanently out of work.

The Conservative government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has sought to take advantage of divisions within the NUM in an effort to break the strike. In the Nottinghamshire area there are more productive mines with more modern technology and incentive pay plans that mean higher wages for many miners. This contributes to the fact that many miners in this area have refused to join the strike.

Despite this, about a third of Nottinghamshire miners — mainly young workers — are on strike. Much NUM picketing activity is aimed at persuading more Notts miners to respect the picket lines. The May 14 demonstration had a similar aim.

The May 14 action was preceded by a militant rally held two days earlier in Barnsley. There 10,000 women, mainly wives and family of the striking miners, poured into the streets chanting, "Maggie, Maggie, Maggie — out, out, out," a reference to Thatcher.

No women work as underground miners in Britain. However support by women for the strike has become a vital component of the battle. While women's support has been present in previous miners' strikes, it is developing on an unprecedented scale in this battle. The militant determination of women strike supporters has added a crucial factor to the class showdown that is shaping up.

Maureen Douglass, one of the women leaders, told the May 12 rally, "What we are doing as women in this miners' strike is making history."

"We are setting a pattern for the future, for the involvement of women in political struggle, which will show what a formidable force we can be."

"Without our organized support this strike can't win," Douglass continued, "but we also want the active support of the whole trade union and labor movement and all of us can work to win this support."

"None of us here will be daunted by hardship," she pledged. "No matter what difficulties we face, for certain we will win."

In his speech at the May 12 women's action Scargill too spoke of the stakes in the strike. "We are fighting for the survival of the community," he explained. "All of us are involved. No pit is safe," he warned. "In fact, 50 percent of South Notts is earmarked for closure. We are asking the Notts miners to strike for their own jobs."

Another theme of both demonstrations was opposition to the wholesale violations of democratic rights by British cops who are carrying out Thatcher's orders to break the strike.

"Join us on the freedom march to Notts," the NUM paper *The Miner* urged in its May 9 issue. "The right to a job and the right to travel unhindered is a basic human right," declared the paper, referring to cop attempts to limit the NUM's "flying pickets"



Ten thousand women rallied May 12 in Barnsley to support striking British coal miners. Women's support for the strike is developing on an unprecedented scale. "What we are doing in this miners' strike is making history," said one of women's leaders.

by preventing miners from leaving the towns they live in to picket elsewhere in the country.

"We are British people," Scargill told the May 12 rally, "and we are entitled to go where we want."

The miners strike is the leading edge of a broader class confrontation that is developing in Britain between the working class and the Conservative government. Rail workers, dock workers, and others have al-

ready joined in efforts to stop the movement of scab coal.

However a strike throughout the British railway system is now looming. "Rail unions have been urged to join the miners strike," *The Miner* reported in a special note on the front page of the May 9 issue. "The railmen are themselves facing cutbacks of 6,000 jobs in their industry and there is deep dissatisfaction with a 4 percent productivity-linked pay offer."

Washington women protest antiabortion terror

BY LISA HICKLER

MUKILTEO, Wash. — The Washington State conference of the National Organization for Women (NOW) held here May 4-6 discussed the growing problem of right-wing violence against abortion clinics.

The March-April issue of the *National NOW Times (NNT)*, NOW's national newspaper, featured a frontpage article on the increased number of violent attacks on abortion clinics across the country. NOW Pres. Judy Goldsmith sent a telegram to President Reagan demanding a full-scale federal investigation into the attacks. She denounced the "campaign of terrorism and intimidation against American women exercising their constitutional right to obtain health care, including abortion, if they so choose."

The *NNT* cites a report of the National Abortion Federation which found that incidents of vandalism and harassment of abortion clinics have risen dramatically in 1984. Goldsmith attributed the increase in violence in part to "the increasingly strident and provocative anti-abortion rhetoric of President Reagan."

The incidents cited by the *NNT* include the February 29 arson fire at the Prince Georges' Reproductive Health Services clinic in Maryland and the February 17 firebombing of the Hillcrest Clinic in Norfolk, Virginia.

The *NNT* also reported on the successful efforts of the staff and supporters of the Fox Valley Reproductive Health Center in

Wisconsin in waging an effective fight against clinic harassment through mobilizing broad support.

One such clinic under attack is the Feminist Women's Health Center in Everett, Washington, which has been firebombed three times in the last six months. Everett NOW has been active in support of the clinic.

The Washington State NOW conference devoted a portion of its agenda to a rally to demonstrate NOW's support of abortion rights and defense of the Everett clinic. The rally was addressed by clinic director Diane Hale and Lee Minto, a founding member of King County Planned Parenthood.

Minto recounted several stories about women who came to her for help during the days before abortion was made legal in Washington State in 1970. For rich women, going out of the country to obtain an abortion was always an option. But for the vast majority, there was no choice but carrying a pregnancy to term or dangerous self-induced or back-alley abortions. Her speech was a moving reminder of the tragedies caused by the illegal status of abortion.

Diane Hale told the crowd that her clinic was recently shut again by the third arson attack since November. "Today," she said, "I stand here before you without a clinic." But, she declared the clinic staff has decided to stay in Everett and reopen. "Our clinic has turned into a symbol," she said. "It's not a fight I would have chosen. It's

not a time I would have chosen. But we have to stand up."

In addition to arson attacks and harassment from right-wing groups, the clinic has also faced inaction by the police and city officials. Before the third fire, police refused to organize extra patrols of the clinic. According to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, police stated, "It's important that we remain neutral in this kind of situation."

The bank that rents space to the facility is now attempting to evict the clinic, and insurance agents are threatening to cancel the clinic's account.

In an effort to restrain right-wing pickets who have harassed staff and clients at the Feminist Women's Health Center, the clinic has gone to court demanding a court injunction limiting the time, place, and manner of the picketing. The court began hearing testimony on this request just one day before the third attack on the clinic.

This trial has been turned into a trial of a woman's right to abortion, with opponents of the clinic testifying against abortion rights.

A friend-of-the-court brief in support of the clinic has been filed, with more than 15 community and feminist organizations as cosigners. A decision is expected soon.

Despite the fact that the clinic is currently out of operation, supporters of the clinic believe that a victory in this court case would be a blow to forces in the city attempting to prevent the clinic from reopening.

The Washington State NOW conference took up a collection for the clinic at the rally's conclusion.

Participation of women in the 1984 elections was the central theme of the Washington State NOW conference.

A keynote address was delivered by Ann Lewis, political director for the Democratic Party. Some women at the conference sported the new NOW T-shirt, "Women for Mondale, Mondale for women." Conference workshops included topics such as "Getting out the vote."

A luncheon May 5 featured presentations by three gubernatorial candidates: Democrats Booth Gardner and Jim McDermott, and Socialist Workers Party candidate Cheryll Hidalgo.

Hidalgo is also a member of International Union of Electronic Workers Local 1002. Hidalgo told participants that women shouldn't support the Democratic and Republican party politicians who claim to favor women's rights. She pointed out that the rights women have won, such as legal abortion, were not given to women by "friendly politicians," but were fought for by supporters of women's rights.

After hearing Hidalgo speak, some women expressed the view that her campaign was a diversion from the effort to replace Reagan with a Democrat. Others expressed support for her ideas. Several people expressed support for Hidalgo's right to be on the ballot and took campaign literature.