

## Final push to build N.Y. antiwar demonstration

BY OLGA RODRÍGUEZ

NEW YORK — With less than two weeks to go, activists in the October 25 Coalition are into the final push to build the demonstration called for October 27 in Brooklyn's Caribbean community to protest the rapidly escalating U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean.

The theme of the action is "The Caribbean and Central America are Nobody's Backyard." The demands of the demonstration are:

- Removal of all U.S. and foreign troops from Grenada now!
- End U.S. military intervention in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala.
- No more U.S. military intervention or economic destabilization in the Caribbean or Central America.
- End the U.S. military occupation of Puerto Rico.
- Say no to Reaganism.

The demonstration will take place on the first anniversary of the United States invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada. The U.S. military invasion and the subsequent occupation of the island followed within days the overthrow of the workers and farmers government and the murders of its central leaders, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and the team around him, as well as scores of other Grenadians by a clique of army, government, and party officials organized by then-Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard.

The October 27 action and other activities around the country take on special urgency now, as the Nicaraguan workers and farmers government faces a stepped-up offensive by U.S.-backed mercenary forces.

The demonstration also takes place shortly before the U.S. presidential elections. Both candidates of the imperialist ruling-class parties oppose the just struggles of the Salvadoran workers and farmers for self-determination, and favor the overthrow of the workers and farmers government of Nicaragua, led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Walter Mondale, the Democratic Party's candidate, has stated his complete support for Pres. Ronald Reagan's invasion of Grenada and the continued occupation of that small island.

While many of those active in building October 27 say the primary task for solidarity and anti-interventionist forces is to defeat Reagan in the November elections, all are convinced of the necessity to mobilize the largest possible expression of opposition on October 27 to imperialism's war.

Coalition activists who are also members of Local 23-25 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) have begun to get the word out about the demonstration to their coworkers in the Bronx. Several workers have said they will join the march. Supporters of the coalition in plants organized by the International Union of Electronic Workers and the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers unions in New Jersey are also organizing to bring coworkers to the action.

While there is interest among rank-and-file workers in many area unions, there has been no support for the action from any local officials. This is not surprising. The trade union officialdom at every level is subordinating everything to getting out the vote for Mondale.

Moreover, while many international and local unions have taken the important step of publicly opposing U.S. military aid to the dictatorship in El Salvador and to the U.S.-backed *contras* attacking Nicaragua,

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## Salvador peace talks held as U.S. presses war



U.S. military adviser trains Salvadoran troops.

BY MARGARET JAYKO

The major media is portraying the recent meeting between El Salvador's president, José Napoleón Duarte, and representatives of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) and Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) as a bold initiative by Duarte.

The meeting is being pointed to as proof positive that the Duarte regime — and its backers in Washington — is sincerely committed to bringing the five years of bloodshed in El Salvador to a halt, and establishing democracy and social justice in that war-torn country.

Such lofty ideals, however, have nothing to do with the real forces and motives that led to the negotiations with the rebels at this time.

### U.S. intervention escalates

Duarte's proposal for the meeting was announced at the United Nations on October 25.

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## British coal miners union stands firm

BY CLIVE TURNBULL

SHEFFIELD, England — "IT'S WAR!" reads the banner headline of the latest issue of *The Miner*, newspaper of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), which is now in the eighth month of the strike against mine closures.

"War has been declared on the whole trade union movement," *The Miner* explained. "That is the meaning of the £200,000 fine [approximately \$250,000] against the NUM. It is a calculated attempt

to smash organized labor in this country. The labor movement can give only one response — a massive increase in support to the NUM."

On October 10 a High Court judge fined the NUM £200,000 and NUM Pres. Arthur Scargill £1,000 for refusing to recognize an earlier ruling that the miners strike was "unofficial." The same day, the union's leadership reaffirmed once again that the strike is official.

The judge gave Scargill and the NUM

two weeks to pay the fine. The NUM has consistently refused to recognize the right of the courts or government to interfere in the affairs of the union. It was not represented at the hearings, and has stated that the fines will not be paid.

A similar stance by the South Wales area NUM led to seizure of its funds by the courts. This threat is now aimed at the NUM nationally, in an attempt to cripple the union's ability to continue the strike.

The courts haven't been used against the working class on such a scale since 1972. Then the previous Conservative Party government tried to introduce special courts to attack the unions. When five dockers were jailed for defying these laws, a massive wave of solidarity strikes was launched. The Trades Union Congress (TUC) threatened a general strike.

The capitalist class backed off. The dockers were released, and the antiunion laws were put in cold storage, until they were repealed two years later after the 1974 miners strike had brought down the Conservative government.

The escalation of the struggle is a recognition of failure by the current Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher and by its National Coal Board (NCB). In July they had hoped to break the strike with a "back to work" movement. It failed when only a handful of scabs came forward to be driven in armored buses, through miners' picket lines, escorted by thousands of police.

Then the bosses pinned their hopes on the labor and trade union bureaucracy leaving the miners to fight alone. But at the TUC and Labor Party conferences, held in September and October respectively, it was the right wing class collaborators who were isolated. The miners' determined struggle had won a massive wave of support. Workers opposed to the Conservative government's record of mass unemployment and cuts in social spending rallied behind the miners. Union leader after union leader was forced to come forward to pledge support.

The government and the NCB then tried to use the involvement of the Trades Union Congress to put pressure on the miners in negotiations, which they reopened through the Arbitration and Conciliation Service. On October 15 the talks broke down. Scargill stated the miners' case:

Continued on Page 6

## SWP excluded from N.Y. ballot; immediate protests needed

The following statement was issued by Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Mel Mason and New York congressional candidate Nan Bailey.

Immediate protests are needed against the undemocratic action taken by the New York State Board of Elections, and backed by the state's highest court, barring the SWP presidential ticket from our rightful spot on the November ballot.

Democratic and Republican officials have seized on a technicality to tighten their control of the ballot and place further restrictions on the choices of working people in this election. This move is not aimed only at the Socialist Workers Party and the 30,000 people who signed our nominating petitions. It is aimed at the democratic rights of unionists, Blacks, Latinos, women, and all working people.

Such attacks are increasing today. They are increasing because the U.S. government is at war in Central America and plans to escalate that war sharply in the future. In order to undercut effective opposition to this new Vietnam, both Democrats and Republicans are intent on whittling away our democratic rights.

Restrictions on ballot rights are part and parcel of the stepped-up attacks on union rights, abortion rights, Black rights, and the rights of immigrant workers.

Three years ago the government smashed the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) when those workers used their democratic right to strike. This remains the model for Demo-

crats and Republicans today. Thus they threatened postal workers with the undemocratic laws against strikes by public employees when their contract expired in July. They have whipped up an ideological offensive aimed at intimidating women from exercising their hard-fought right to abortion. And the list goes on.

It is this policy which explains why, for the first time since 1948, the Board of Elections and the courts have ruled the SWP off the New York ballot. Their excuse is the legal hocus-pocus that SWP petitions did not state the names of representatives to the electoral college. However the petitions conformed exactly to the instructions provided by the Board of Elections.

The Democratic Party shares complete responsibility with the Republicans for this undemocratic act. Gov. Mario Cuomo has refused to take any action to stop this outrage.

The hypocrisy of the employer politicians could not be clearer. The same Democrats and Republicans who accuse Nicaragua of conducting "undemocratic" elections — when, in fact, for the first time the democratic rights of workers and peasants in that country are being defended and advanced — support these restrictions on the ballot rights of New York's working people.

Protests are urgently needed. They should be addressed to New York Secretary of State Gail S. Shaffer, 162 Washington Ave., Albany, New York, 12231. Telephone (518) 474-4750.



# —SELLING OUR PRESS AT THE PLANT GATE—

BY LEE MARTINDALE

As part of a traveling team of socialist campaign supporters on the stump in southwestern Pennsylvania, I was struck by how many coal miners, steelworkers, and others recognized the Socialist Workers Party election campaign and the *Militant*.

The team spent four days talking about the socialist campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González for president and vice-president, and Clare Fraenzl for Congress from Pennsylvania, at plant gates and in mining communities.

"Is that the paper they have at the mine?" several people asked when I knocked on their doors to tell them about the campaign. Dis-

tributing campaign literature and the *Militant* at unemployment offices in Washington, Waynesburg, and Uniontown, we'd ask, "Have you heard about the campaign?" And in many cases the answer was, "yes."

I asked Clare Fraenzl, socialist candidate for 22nd Congressional District and a United Mine Workers (UMWA) union member laid off from a mine in the area, how we became so well known.

The answer is that socialists in that part of Pennsylvania have gone through a long and patient process of introducing workers in the coalfields to the *Militant* and the ideas of the Socialist Workers Party.

The *Militant* has been sold at the Marianna mine off and on for over five years. Regular sales have been organized at the Bethlehem mines in Ellsworth and Cokeburg. These sales broaden the impact that socialist miners have in discussing the *Militant's* ideas with coworkers and in their union activities.

Socialists in Pittsburgh also sell regularly to steelworkers. Pittsburgh is a center of the steel industry. United Steelworkers of America members have faced heavy layoffs and company demands for concessions. Every week at the Homestead, Allegheny-Ludlum, and Edgar Thompson mills, steelworkers can read the *Militant's* coverage and

proposals around these attacks and similar problems facing other unionists.

The Pittsburgh SWP branch also organizes sales at General Motors' Fisher Body plant, at a garment shop organized by the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, and at the Post Office.

In addition to the plant-gate sales, the Socialist Workers Party has run candidates three times in coalfield districts. Twice, after petitioning, they have had to fight attempts by the state to keep them off the ballot.

This consistent work laid the basis for our team selling 18 copies of the *Militant* and one

*Young Socialist* at the five plant gates and mine portals we visited. More importantly, it laid the basis for discussions with workers about the perspectives put forward by the campaign. Because of the *Militant's* reputation, people were more willing to stop and talk, whether or not they agreed with what the *Militant* or the campaign has to say about everything.

This kind of reputation is a result of regular weekly plant-gate sales being organized. It increases the impact of socialist ideas and is why members and supporters of the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance across the country participate in weekly sales teams at scores of plant gates.

## Indian activist Peltier gets hearing on new trial

BY ERLING SANNES

BISMARCK, N. D. — A hearing on Leonard Peltier's seven-year quest for a new trial, concluded October 3 in Bismarck, North Dakota, heightened the possibility Peltier could be granted a new trial. William Kunstler, one of Peltier's defense attorneys, called significant new developments at the hearing a "miracle."

During the three-day hearing, the defense maintained that an FBI weapons expert was lying when he testified that laboratory notes on a crucial .223-caliber shell casing connected to a murder weapon allegedly used by Peltier were written only by himself and his assistant. In a dramatic surprise turn of events, the hearing was reopened two hours after it had adjourned at the request of U.S. Attorney Lynn Crooks. Crooks informed U.S. District Court Judge Paul Benson the defense was correct in its assertion that a third person, as yet not identified, had made notations on the FBI weapons documents.

Judge Benson granted the defense request for copies of all previously unreleased FBI laboratory notes and left the hearing open for further testimony.

Peltier, an American Indian Movement activist, is serving two life sentences for the deaths of two FBI agents killed during a shoot-out on June 26, 1975, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Peltier maintains the 1977 conviction was a frame-up and that he is innocent.

The hearing revolved around an Oct. 2, 1975, FBI teletype that said, in part, that a rifle recovered by the government "contains a different firing pin" than the rifle used to fire the shell casings recovered at the scene of the shooting.

This teletype was suppressed as evidence at the trial, but the defense learned of it through the Freedom of Information Act.

Earlier this year, Judge Benson was ordered by the Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to conduct an evidentiary hearing to determine whether a new trial should be granted.

The hearing opened on October 1 amid

grim, tight security in North Dakota's capital city of 48,000. Security was clearly organized to intimidate the more than 200 supporters that arrived in Bismarck from all over North Dakota, and from at least 10 different states — including New York and California — and Canada.

Observers from numerous human- and civil-rights organizations included representatives from the London-based Amnesty International, Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Friends for a Non-Violent World, and several church organizations.

Peltier, who was present at the hearing, was brought into the Bismarck Post Office-Federal Building with a caravan of eight vehicles, each occupied with four heavily armed law enforcement officers.

Between 60 and 70 officers were stationed inside the small four-story building. Dogs were brought in to sniff mail coming into the post office. A large contingent of officers with automatic weapons was clearly visible on the roof of the building.

Everyone was overwhelmed by the security. Jim Whitehawk, from Denver, told the *Militant*, the government was "using harassment techniques to scare away Leonard's supporters."

"We believe this case represents not just one man but all people affected by injustice — Native Americans, Blacks and Latinos," Whitehawk said.

"We will never give up, and we intend to stay with Leonard until he gets a new trial," Faye Brown, a Leonard Peltier Defense Committee member from Minneapolis, told the *Militant*.



Leonard Peltier

## As rich get richer — working people suffer

BY GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

"There has existed for some time a disparity in the distribution of income. There isn't any evidence it has declined over time," says Glenn Canner, an author of a report recently issued by the Federal Reserve.

In other words, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

The study by the nation's central banking system is described as the most comprehensive analysis of family income since 1977. It confirms what many working people already know, but which is often kept carefully hidden.

The richest U.S. families — the top two percent that make up the ruling class — control an enormous amount of the nation's wealth.

This top two percent, reports the study, "with incomes of \$100,000 or more, control 50 percent of the stock, more than 70 percent of the nation's taxfree bonds, 39 percent of the taxable bonds, and 20 percent of the real estate."

These same families own General Motors, U.S. Steel, Exxon, almost all the large corporations, and many of the mines, mills, and factories where U.S. workers labor to produce the wealth these people own.

The top 10 percent of the rich in this country received 33 percent of all income in 1982. That year millions of workers were being forced to give back wages and benefits won through previous union struggles, while the government continued to wield the ax on social programs.

But the rich weren't just staying rich. They were getting richer. In 1969 this same top 10 percent received "only" 29 percent of all income.

These same facts were reported in an October 9 *New York Times* article that asked: "4 Years Later: Who in U. S. is better off?"

The answer was not exactly a shocker. Consider a few of the conclusions offered by the *Times*:

"The well-to-do and the very rich are clearly better off than they were in 1980 but the pockets of poverty... have grown by 6 million Americans."

"Farmers, plagued by high interest rates and declines in both the value of their land and their sales abroad, have lost ground."

"Blacks in general have lost more ground than all other groups, in terms of both employment and income."

"Women in general are still paid less than men, about 60 cents for each dollar a man receives...."

"Many young Americans... have lost ground to both the overall economy and to other age groups. For households headed by workers under 25, incomes have declined 10 percent since 1980."

Finally, in case you weren't sure, the influential big business daily reports sagely: "The captains of industry have done better than their blue collar laborers."

All of which goes to show that capitalism is working — the only way it can.

### Follow the socialist presidential campaign —

#### Subscribe to the 'Militant'

While Reagan and Mondale defend the ruling rich's policy of war and union-busting at \$1,000-a-plate dinners and "media events," the socialist candidates for president and vice-president, Mel Mason and Andrea González, are on a different kind of campaign trail.

Mason and González know it is in struggles, not elections, that gains are won for working people. And that's where you'll find them — on union picket lines, at demonstrations against the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean, and at protests against farm foreclosures, racist cop brutality, and attacks on women's rights.

Their defense of workers' rights doesn't stop at the U.S. border. They've been to Ireland, Britain, the Dominican Republic, Canada, Nicaragua, and Puerto Rico to express solidarity and learn about workers and farmers' struggles internationally.

That's where you'll find the *Militant* too, bringing you the kind of news and analysis you can't get except in a paper like ours — written by and for working people, not the rich.

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### The Militant

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# GM pact passes but Canadian UAW strikes

**TORONTO, Ontario** — As we go to press 36,000 UAW members struck GM in Canada. The company submitted a last-minute offer October 16 to try to head off a noon strike deadline set for the next day. UAW negotiators rejected the proposal.

When news of the rejection reached the night shift at GM's giant plant in Oshawa, Ontario, 9,000 workers downed their tools and shut the plant October 16. Just hours later, workers at the GM plant in Ste. Therese, Quebec, did likewise. By noon on October 17 all 36,000 workers were on strike.

The strike's impact will be felt quickly in the United States. Included in the walkout are workers at GM parts plants which produce parts made nowhere else in North America and which are necessary for GM to maintain production at its U.S. assembly plants.

**BY JEFF POWERS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — The three-year contract reached by top United Auto Workers (UAW) officials and the General Motors Corp. has been ratified by the union ranks. Final vote totals show

138,410 workers (57 percent) voting for the pact and 102,528 (43 percent) voting to reject it.

Simultaneously UAW officials announced they had reached a tentative agreement with the Ford Motor Co. Exact details of the pact, which now go to the 114,000 UAW members at Ford for ratification, are not yet available but union Pres. Owen Bieber said it "follows closely the pattern established by the UAW at GM."

The Ford agreement contains small hourly wage increases and will require the company to establish a \$300 million "job fund," said union officials.

Bieber had boasted that the tentative GM settlement was "unprecedented," and so good it would "sell itself." But getting it ratified proved to be no easy task.

UAW officials had problems selling the pact to the membership because in spite of their claims, the new contract proved to contain a number of major concessions similar to those imposed by GM in 1982.

This year union officials promised to make "job security" the number one goal. But the new agreement does virtually nothing to protect anyone's job.

GM openly states that in the next three years it plans to lay off 60,000 to 120,000 workers. This is in addition to the more than 70,000 auto workers already on permanent layoff.

The new contract will in no way prevent GM from carrying out these plans. Instead, the union is "rewarded" with a \$1 billion "job bank" scheme. The program will get \$166 million a year and will cover fewer than 10,000 workers at any given time. It will end in six years.

GM granted small hourly wage increases of 1 to 3.5 percent in the first year of the pact, depending on a worker's classification. These are to be replaced by wage bonuses in the final two years. The bonuses will not be included in the computation of overtime pay and will not become part of the permanent wage structure.

When cutbacks in cost-of-living are calculated in — which includes giving up an 11-cent-an-hour COLA raise due this past September — GM workers will receive little, if any, monetary gain for three years. This from a corporation that will post a net profit of at least \$6.5 billion for 1984.

The first UAW locals to vote on the pact ratified it by close margins or rejected it outright. In response, Bieber called an October 5 press conference to warn the UAW membership — not the company — that rejection of the contract would mean an immediate nationwide strike. The strike would last at least two months, said Bieber, and would net auto workers no better contract than the one he negotiated.

Many auto workers credit the contract's ratification to Bieber's threats. Despite the

threats, a significant percentage of the membership voted against the proposal.

*Militant* correspondents in the auto plants report that the UAW leadership had great difficulty convincing the union membership of the benefits of this package.

Teams of officials who were assigned to explain the contract at ratification meetings were generally met with skepticism if not downright hostility. Many workers' questions centered on the "job security" program, which proved near impossible to explain. Meetings tended to drag on for hours as union officials often resorted to reading from a special 23-page booklet prepared by the union officialdom on the contract.

UAW officials often pointed out that older workers, those with 15 years seniority and more, and the skilled tradespeople would receive the most benefits.

Skilled-trades workers received higher wage increases and were given more promises of job security. Workers with 20 years or more seniority will receive better Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) and those with 15 years or more will receive Guaranteed Income Stream (GIS) benefits if they are laid off.

This tactic appeared to have some effect. At the two GM assembly plants in Kansas City for example, production workers voted to reject the pact while skilled-trades workers voted for its ratification.

In general however, workers who voted yes did it reluctantly, believing that under the present union leadership — which had openly shown its opposition to leading any type of fight, especially a strike — nothing better could be obtained at this time.

## Grower signs UFW contract

**BY SARAH MATTHEWS AND LYNDIA JOYCE**

**SALINAS, California** — Valley Harvest signed a new contract with the United Farm Workers (UFW) union on October 11. The firm was one of 14 growers and harvesters in this area that recently allowed contracts with the UFW to expire. The growers had been pushing for wage and benefit concessions in an attempt to break or weaken the farm workers union.

The pact covers 60-65 cauliflower workers. Wages went up slightly from \$7 to \$7.20-an-hour. "We consider it a breakthrough," UFW Pres. César Chávez said. "We kept everything we had and got a little more. Now we can expect others to sign in the next week or so."

The 14 contracts expired September 1, and for five weeks none of the growers bargained in good faith. In protest, the UFW organized a march of 6,500 farm workers and their families Sunday, October 7. At the rally, Chávez called for a one-day sick-out the next day.

At 6:00 a.m. on Monday morning, October 8, UFW members and supporters went to farm worker bus pickup points and to the fields to organize their coworkers in the sickout. They formed caravans of cars that toured the Salinas Valley vegetable fields, waving the red and black UFW flag and urging other workers to join the one-day action. One caravan grew to about 40 cars. Some workers unfurled a huge UFW flag on the main highway, 101.

At the union hall Monday afternoon, UFW representatives from the fields were excited and confident. More than 5,000 workers at about 40 companies participated in the sickout. "Even the antiunion people cooperated. They came out. They didn't work," said one union representative from Harden Farms.

Of special interest was the fact that at

about 10 nonunion companies where UFW organizers had been active, including the big Hansen Farms operation, approximately 1,400 workers joined the sickout.

Paul Bertuccio, a notorious antiunion employer, said that 200 of his 300 workers didn't show up. "They were terrible today. We're practically shut down. They were calling out sick, and meantime the same people were standing outside with flags."

At Bruce Church the UFW filed charges with the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) October 11 against the suspension of 15 workers. The UFW has been boycotting Church's "Red Coach" brand of lettuce, and recently scored a victory when Taco Bell joined McDonald's in refusing to buy lettuce from this company.

Bruce Church has refused to sign a UFW contract since 1979, although the UFW represents the workers there. Mike Payne, Church vice-president, claimed the suspensions were not punitive. "They called in sick," he said. "We're just trying to give them a couple extra days to recuperate."

UFW negotiator Frank Ortiz said he had seen a "change of attitude" among the growers since the walkout and the October rally. Ed Angstadt, ex-vice-president of the Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association, said all six of the firms his company represents were shutdown by the UFW sickout. Valley Harvest is one.

Chávez said that the one-day sickout was just a taste of what's ahead if the growers persist in trying to cut wages. He went on to say the UFW "is prepared to strike," if the 14 growers don't drop their demands.

Two union representation elections were held this week as well. They were the first face-off between the UFW and the Teamsters since 1977, when the two unions signed a pact limiting the Teamsters

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## Fund boosts final campaign push

**BY YVONNE HAYES**

Supporters of the socialist presidential campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González have launched a drive to get the socialist program into the hands of working people across the country. Armed with tens of thousands of copies of a new campaign brochure — as well as the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, the socialist news-magazines — they are campaigning at factory gates and mine portals; in the Black and Latino communities; and among anti-war activists, women, and young people.

In addition to distributing campaign materials, socialist campaign supporters around the country are organizing a wide variety of activities over the next few weeks to explain the ideas of the socialist candidates. Informal meetings with the candidates, rallies, and showings of a Mason-González videotape are among these activities.

This is a special effort to talk to workers, farmers, and others about the socialist solutions to the crisis of U.S. capitalism. And this effort won't end on election day, November 6. The socialist candidates explain that real politics — the struggle by working people against the employers' takebacks and war — doesn't end on election day and that fundamental change can't be won at the polls. They explain that working people need to organize independently of the bosses' political parties — the Democrats and Republicans.

On election night Mel Mason and Andrea González will be addressing their supporters in cities across the country via a nationwide telephone hook-up from rallies in Chicago and New York. Their message will be that the fight for political power — the fight for a workers and farmers government to rebuild society in the interests of working people — goes on beyond these elections and they will talk about the next steps for socialists in promoting this fight.

In order to cover the costs of this nationwide telephone hook-up, the socialist campaign is depending on its supporters and their donations to the \$100,000 Socialist Campaign Fund.

The contributions to this fund pay for the national tours across the country of Mel Mason and Andrea González, and of campaign spokespeople. They cover the costs of printing and distributing the new campaign brochures. But much more is needed to take advantage of the big opportunities to get a hearing for the socialist campaign.

With only three weeks remaining, a special effort is needed to collect \$61,753 and reach the \$100,000 fundraising goal.

### Socialist Campaign Fund

\$100,000

Pledged  
\$98,602

Collected  
\$38,247

To cover the costs of the socialist presidential campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González, a \$100,000 fund is under way. A big push is needed to collect the remaining \$61,753 by November 6, election day. Contributions can be sent to Socialist Campaign Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

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## The 'Militant' names editors

*Militant* readers will notice a change in this week's masthead on page 2.

Malik Miah is now the editor of the *Militant*. Cindy Jaquith, who has been coeditor of the paper with Miah, is now working as a

fulltime staff writer.

Margaret Jayko, who has been a staff writer since 1981, has become our managing editor. Jayko is a member of the Socialist Workers Party National Committee.



Margaret Jayko



Malik Miah

Militant/Lou Howort



BY LAURA GARZA

"It's the law." This is a not so subtle reminder attached to the end of each radio and television commercial, newspaper ad, and letter noting that anyone turning 18 must register for the draft. It is an ominous reminder of the U.S. war in Central America and who will fight and die to "protect" the profits of big business.

Jackie Floyd and Ellen Haywood, two leaders of the Young Socialist Alliance, are currently on national speaking tours. They have spoken with many young people about what the government wants to do with its army, what the war in Central America is about, and why we should oppose it.

## Nicaragua

As national youth coordinators for the socialist presidential campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González, they say the most im-

portant thing youth can do — voting age or not — is to be a part of fighting for a future without war.

In Denver, where Haywood spoke to almost 600 high school students, she explained that the U.S. government is escalating its war in Nicaragua.

She described the gains the Nicaraguan people have made in health care, education, and housing. The U.S. is fighting this war to defend the right of capitalists to make profits, she noted.

One student explained that a different story is told in the daily papers. Who should they believe?

Haywood explained many people were visiting Nicaragua for just that reason, to see for themselves. She said a major project of the YSA is encouraging people to go to Nicaragua to learn the truth about what is happening there.

Students were also very interested in other issues that have come up in the presidential election. Haywood reported that in

every class she spoke at the issue of abortion was raised, and questions about the socialist position on school prayer.

Haywood explained that the so-called debate on abortion is part of a campaign to obscure what is really at stake: a woman's right to control her body. The Democrats and Republicans are trying to mystify abortion and make it seem like something other than a medical procedure. Any action concerning a woman's body is something that only she has the right to determine.

Haywood also noted that the socialist campaign supports separation of church and state and opposes reintroducing organized prayer into the schools.

## Malcolm X

Floyd spoke in Detroit at several high school classes. She found much interest in the ideas of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mal-

colm X. Many students had been told the lie that Malcolm was someone who hated whites and advocated violence.

Floyd was able to explain Malcolm's ideas and answer many of the lies. She noted that Malcolm was for Blacks organizing to fight in their own interests and that he did not believe Blacks who stood up in the civil rights movement against a violent and racist system should be brutalized in order to have the right to speak out.

One young woman signed up to get more information on the YSA because she liked what Floyd had to say about Malcolm X and wanted to learn more about his ideas.

During their visits to different cities Haywood and Floyd met several high school students who are organizing in their schools. In Indianapolis, Haywood spoke on a platform with Julie Bowers of the Youth Activist Party (YAP), a group of high school students.

The group puts out a newspaper for high school students. The first issue had an article opposing the U.S. invasion of Grenada. It is also attempting to get equal time with ROTC speakers and bring speakers to the high schools who oppose the U.S. war in Central America.

The tours of Haywood and Floyd have helped in the effort to reach more people like those in YAP with socialist ideas and to encourage them to join the YSA.

Laura Garza is a member of the National Committee of the Young Socialist Alliance.

To find out more about the YSA and the Socialist Workers Party 1984 presidential campaign, write to Young Socialist Alliance, 14 Charles Ln., New York, N.Y. 10014. Subscriptions to the *Young Socialist*, the YSA's bimonthly newspaper, are \$3 for one year.

# Mason, González campaign across country

## González stresses growing U.S. war

BY BOB BRUCE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — On October 5 Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. vice-president, and Mark Curtis, SWP candidate for Congress in Alabama's 6th C.D., met with workers at the plant gate of Hayes International. Hayes is a war plant whose workers are organized by the United Auto Workers.

Curtis works at the plant and was able to introduce González to many of his coworkers. Many were interested in talking to González about her tours of Nicaragua and she was able to explain the truth about what is going on there. The campaigning at Hayes was part of a two-day tour by González in the Birmingham area.

The tour began October 4 with a news conference that was covered by both daily newspapers and a major radio station. The focus of the conference was the growing threat of U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua.

González was also later interviewed by the Montgomery daily newspaper; by the Birmingham *Times*, the area's largest circulation Black paper; and by WENN-FM, Birmingham's top-rated Black radio station.

The final part of the tour was a public meeting where González, Curtis, and Georgia Fleming spoke.

Fleming is the editor of the *Irish American Voice* and is a supporter of the Mason-González campaign because of its unconditional support for the Irish freedom struggle. She reported on recent developments in Northern Ireland. Irish prisoners she is in contact with have stressed the need for the Irish solidarity movement to understand the importance of the revolutionary struggles in Central America and the need to solidarize with these struggles.

## Socialist speaks out against INS

BY DAVE MORROW

MILWAUKEE — On September 26 a well-heeled Milwaukee crowd heard Ronald Reagan at a local campaign appearance offer empty generalities on the subject of God and country.

On September 29 a different kind of crowd heard Andrea González, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president, discuss the real problems facing them as working people.

Most important of these is the escalating U.S. war in Central America.

"In 1979, the workers and farmers of Nicaragua stood up to U.S. imperialism and overthrew the U.S.-backed military dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza. They



Supporters of Mason/González actively campaign against U.S. war drive. Here members of Young Socialist Alliance join in June 9 antiwar march in New York City.

established a government of their own that promoted unions, reduced unemployment, organized a massive literacy campaign, passed an equal rights amendment, and provided free health care and other social benefits," said González.

"And the masses of El Salvador are fighting to follow their example."

It is struggle between working people and their exploiters, not elections, that decides a country's political course, González explained.

"Somoza didn't lose an election in Nicaragua. It wasn't an election that ended slavery in the United States — it was a civil war. The union movement was built through bloody battles, not elections. Advances for women's rights in the 1970s were won through protest. It wasn't an election that ended the war in Vietnam."

Bill Breihan, the SWP candidate for Congress in the 5th C.D., was also a featured speaker at the rally.

"If the Democratic Party really represented working people," said Breihan, "you would think we would be better off in a state like Wisconsin that's run by liberal Democrats."

"But 50,000 manufacturing jobs have permanently disappeared in the past three years in this area."

"When Alderman Michael McGee denounced the police department for the bloodthirsty cowboys that they are, the city attorney refused to defend him against the racist cop lawsuit that followed."

González and Breihan were joined on the rally platform by other fighters for social justice. Boyce Harris spoke at the rally representing the Alderman Michael McGee Defense Committee.

Also speaking were Alberto de Jesús Berriós, a Puerto Rican activist and frame-up victim; Ted Shakespeare, an activist in the Central American solidarity movement; Sue Hagen, socialist member of the United Auto Workers; and Gilberto Delgado, another UAW member active in union protests against recent INS raids in Racine, Wisconsin.

Delgado took up the argument that immigrant workers are stealing "our" jobs. "What about me?" he asked. "I came here all the way from Texas, over a thousand miles away. Am I 'stealing' the jobs of Racine workers? What about guys I work with that came here from places like Mississippi? Are we 'stealing' someone's job every time we move from one city to another?"

"We should fight the companies and the government, not each other."

## González campaigns at textile mill

BY PHIL DUZINSKI

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Andrea González brought the socialist vice-presidential campaign here October 6-8. The Southeast region is the heart of this country's textile industry, with Greensboro being the center of strength of the textile division of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU).

A highlight of her tour was a campaign stop at the shift change at Cone Mills-White Oak, an ACTWU-organized textile mill here. She received a warm welcome, with many workers stopping to take campaign literature and buying copies of her campaign newspaper, the *Militant*.

At a public meeting held at the SWP campaign headquarters, González lashed out at the U.S. government's war in Central America, particularly its attempts to sabotage Nicaragua's November 4 elections.

"The U.S. government," she said, "wants to prevent the elections in Nicaragua from happening because after November 4 the workers and peasants will continue to rule in that country."

González spoke at this meeting with two other socialist candidates who will be on the ballot in North Carolina — Kate Daher for U.S. Senate, and Meryl Lynn Farber for Congress.

## Mason talks with workers in Philly

BY HALKET ALLEN

PHILADELPHIA — The tour for Mel Mason began on a rainy and cold Friday morning at 7:00 a.m. in front of Stanly Blacker. Blacker is a large clothing factory where over a thousand Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union-organized garment workers make men's clothes. The mostly immigrant workers waved and rushed inside to get to work.

The socialist campaign has leafleted three plant gates announcing that Mason would be campaigning there. Mason arrived during the half hour lunch break at Botany 500, a large men's garment factory. Many workers stopped to talk even though they had to cash their checks, grab a bite to eat from the lunch truck, and get back to work.

Several socialist campaign supporters who work at Botany brought friends and coworkers over to introduce them to Mason. One said he was glad to meet a candidate who opposed the war in Central America. Another asked Mason what he would do about getting more people jobs.

Mason talked about the movement that would be needed to stop employer takebacks and the war drive. That afternoon the plant buzzed with discussions about the Black socialist candidate for president.

Later Mason went to the large UAW-organized Budd auto parts plant. He and his campaigners arrived at the Budd gate and were greeted by KYW Channel 3, the NBC TV affiliate in Philadelphia. The presence of the TV crew and previous campaigning at the gate caused quite a stir. Many Black workers stopped and talked to Mason or greeted him. One worker shook Mel's hand and said that he was "glad to talk to someone that was talking about organizing and fighting back." Another assembly worker told a campaign supporter that he was "interested in any candidate that was willing to stand out in the rain and discuss how to make the union stronger." He shook Mason's hand and said, "you've got my vote."

On Saturday, September 29, Mason and his supporters went campaigning on street corners in Philadelphia. He visited a Puerto Rican neighborhood to talk to people who had been getting the Spanish-language campaign paper, *Perspectiva Mundial*. One woman there commented that "everybody is talking about this Mel Mason."

During Mason's tour a young woman called and said that she wanted to join the Young Socialist Alliance. She said that she was "sick of capitalism and wanted a way to fight back."

Also at the rally were some campaign supporters from Wilmington, Delaware, who have been holding meetings, leafletting, and building the socialist campaign.



# Salvador talks held as U.S. presses war

Continued from front page

October 8. This was only days after the revolutionary governments of Cuba and Nicaragua had warned the UN delegates that a new escalation of U.S. imperialism's war against the Nicaraguan revolution was on the agenda.

In addition, U.S. military intervention to prop up the Salvadoran government has continued to increase. Scores of U.S. military personnel are involved in training Salvadoran troops, flying reconnaissance missions over rebel zones, and engaging in operations with artillery and other combat units. U.S. military aid for fiscal year 1984 is a whopping \$196 million.

The goal of Washington and its puppets in El Salvador remains to militarily crush the FMLN in order to keep El Salvador "safe" for profiteering by U.S. capitalists.

The problem for the U.S. government and its man Duarte is, that despite the massive influx of U.S. money and military hardware, they have not been able to defeat the FMLN. In fact, the rebel forces have continued to gain in size, cohesiveness, military striking power, and political support.

For the last three years, the FMLN and FDR have been calling for unconditional negotiations with the Salvadoran regime. This call, which had been rejected up until now, helped expose Washington, and the forces it backs, as the real warmonger in El Salvador.

The discussions between the Salvadoran government and the FMLN and FDR, which began October 15 in the town of La Palma, are a recognition of the gains achieved by the revolutionary movement and the government's failure to militarily crush it.

As Joaquín Villalobos, one of the general commanders of the FMLN, explained over Radio Venceremos, the rebel radio station, "The real possibility of beginning a process of dialogue rests on the political and military strength of the FMLN-FDR."

And FDR representative Rubén Zamora declared, "This meeting is recognition by President Duarte that there are two powers, two armies, and two territories in El Salvador."

## Election promises

During Duarte's election campaign earlier this year, he had presented himself as a champion of peace and had pledged to hold a dialogue with the rebels if elected. This peace-making image was an attempt to win him votes, given the fact that five years of war have taken a heavy toll on the workers and peasants of El Salvador.

The FMLN-FDR's call for a dialogue has been endorsed quite widely within El Salvador, including by supporters of Duarte's own party, the Christian Democrats. This is a reflection of the growing conviction on the part of the masses of El Salvador that the bloodshed, repression, and economic chaos that increasingly mark life in El Salvador today must be halted. In the face of the rebels' constant exposure of the Salvadoran government and its U.S.-overlords as the source of violence, the pressure was on Duarte to implement his main election promise — to bring peace.

Duarte was also making a bid to get more support for his regime from other governments. His call for a dialogue, as well as his "democratic" image, is providing useful cover for a number of European imperialist governments that are now renewing their aid to El Salvador after previously cutting it off.

Duarte is also using the negotiating process to probe attempts to divide the FMLN-FDR. This is what was behind his original insistence that he would meet only with FMLN leaders, and not with FDR representatives. This was rejected out of hand by the rebel forces, and Rubén Zamora and Guillermo Ungo of the FDR, as well as

Fermán Cienfuegos and Facundo Guardado of the FMLN, met with Duarte.

At the end of the four and a half hour meeting, a joint communiqué was issued. It said, in part, "It was agreed to form a mixed commission of four delegates of the Government and four of the Revolutionary Democratic Front-Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, under a moderator representing the church, to discuss all aspects that could lead to the achievement of peace."

It said further, "It was agreed to hold the next meeting in the second half of November. . . ."

The stated objectives of the commission that was established are:

"A. To study statements and proposals of both sides.

"B. To develop convenient mechanisms to incorporate all sectors of the people in the search for peace.

"C. To study the measures that might make possible the humanization of the armed conflict.

"D. To discuss all that might lead to peace in the shortest time possible."

In his speech after the meeting to the crowd outside, FMLN commander Cienfuegos urged everyone to return to their towns, villages, and cities to form pro-dialogue committees, which would discuss all the problems facing the Salvadoran people.

## FMLN-FDR document

The document presented by the FMLN-FDR to the La Palma meeting consisted of a series of 23 demands. (See text below.) "Our people will never attain peace" until these demands are met, the statement said.

For his part, Duarte presented a seven-page proposal which claimed that unlike in the past, "Today in our country one breathes an air of freedom. Political parties are respected and encouraged and the people choose their leaders in freedom. Human rights violations have decreased to a minimum and the guilty are prosecuted." On this basis, going into the talks Duarte had called for a cease-fire by the rebels, which they rejected.

## U.S. response to Contadora

Duarte's meeting proposal came just as the Nicaraguan government had agreed to sign the peace accord on Central America drafted by the Contadora Group, comprised of the governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela. The accord seeks agreement among the governments of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Guatemala for a polit-



FDR representatives Guillermo Ungo (left) and Rubén Zamora with (at the right) Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front representatives Eduardo Sancho Castañeda and Lydia Díaz. Talks in La Palma, El Salvador, were recognition of gains of FMLN-FDR and inability of U.S. to crush them. While revolutionaries presented peace proposal, U.S. pushed forward its war throughout Central America.

ical solution to the war in the region and an end to outside intervention.

So far, only Nicaragua has agreed to sign the pact without revisions. Washington has publicly expressed its displeasure with the accord, and has urged its allies in the region to raise various objections to it. Washington dispatched Secretary of State George Shultz on a tour of Central America to try to get several sponsors of the accord, in particular the Colombian and Mexican governments, to revise its terms.

Reagan tried to use the Salvadoran negotiations to counter Nicaragua's peace offensive. "If only the commandantes in Nicaragua," said Reagan, referring to the Nicaraguan government leaders, "would make the same offer to resistance forces there, we would all be much closer to true peace in Central America." The October 16 issue of the Sandinista National Liberation Front daily, *Barricada*, reported the Nicaraguan government's response to this cynical proposal.

Government Coordinator Daniel Ortega explained that the situation in Nicaragua and the situation in El Salvador are totally different. "The struggle of the Salvadoran people corresponds to a real, concrete situation of social injustice and exploitation," said Ortega.

"The situation in Nicaragua is very dif-

ferent. Here, following the defeat of the [Somoza] dictatorship, the U.S. government came and created an artificial force with Somocista guards, sponsoring a permanent war against the people. Those mercenary forces exist to the degree that the United States supports them; if the U.S. support were to end, they would disappear because they are artificial, they have no social base."

Just as in El Salvador, where Washington's real strategy is crushing those who oppose its military rule, the U.S. goal in Nicaragua is the overthrow of the Sandinista government through force and violence.

This was confirmed once again when the *New York Times* published excerpts from a CIA-written booklet titled "Psychological Operations in Guerrilla Warfare." The 44-page booklet, written for Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, explains, among other things, how to kidnap and "neutralize" public officials, blow up public buildings, and blackmail ordinary citizens.

This underlines that it is Washington that is the source of the escalation of the war in Central America. It is only by withdrawing all U.S. military personnel and backing for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and the Salvadoran government that real peace can be established in the region.

# FMLN-FDR demands presented at La Palma

With all the publicity given by the U.S. media to the recent meeting between Salvadoran Pres. José Napoleón Duarte and leaders of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) and the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), none saw fit to report on the document that they presented at the meeting.

The *Militant* is reprinting below the document presented by the FMLN-FDR at the October 15 meeting in La Palma.

Our people will never attain peace until the following demands are met:

1. Our people demand the exposure and trial of the culprits in the assassinations of Monsignor Romero, the four U.S. churchwomen, the *compañero* members of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) Executive Committee; exposure of the assassination of the advisers from the Agrarian Transformation Institute (ISTA), and of the four Dutch journalists. Exposure and trial of the culprits of all political crimes committed in recent years.
2. There will be peace when freedom for all political prisoners is obtained and the situation of the disappeared is clarified.
3. To stop the bombing of the civilian population and the policy of economic strangulation of inhabitants in zones controlled by the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).
4. Full respect for the right of organization and mobilization of urban and rural

workers. Full respect for the right to strike; demilitarization of workplaces; free mobilization and organization of government workers.

5. Payment of salaries to teachers and solutions to their most important demands; to set the harvest wage this year at 18 colones per one hundred pounds, and a daily wage for cotton and coffee; a 10 percent general salary increase for bank, trade, and industrial workers.

6. Price reduction in articles of popular consumption.

7. Deepening and continuation of the agrarian reform in all its stages.

8. Reestablishment of decree 207 [Phase III of the agrarian reform law].

9. Total suspension of forced recruitment [into the army].

11. Scholarship funding programs for the children of workers.

12. In accordance with the austerity policy, a reduction in the salary of the President of the Republic, the ministers, the Legislative Assembly members, and all high-ranking government officials. Likewise, a reduction in the salaries of colonels, lieutenant colonels, generals and majors of the Army. Increase in the salaries of army soldiers and a stop to the policy of mistreatment of soldiers in garrisons, as well as physical mistreatment, threats to family members, etc.

13. The withdrawal of all U.S. military advisers; suspension of U.S. military aid.

14. Ending of repression and persecu-

tion of the women vendors from the central markets; development of a plan that will allow them to earn a living.

15. An end to the forced payment to the civil defense in small villages and hamlets. This payment has been taken from the population.

16. To make available all radio, written and television media to all guild organizations.

17. To establish special legal measures, aimed at providing protection to the national and international press, to guarantee full freedom of information.

18. Reduction of water and electric power bills for households.

19. Reestablishment of state subsidies to achieve the reduction in the price of fuel, spare parts, and other materials to transportation workers.

20. Suspension of school tuitions at all public schools, and the regulation — based on a limiting chart — of tuitions at private schools.

21. To give preferential treatment and reduction of loans to small and medium-sized farmers.

22. To give preferential treatment and a reduction of the interest rates within the credit policy for the small enterprise.

23. Increase of 100 percent in taxes on all profits and activities of large enterprises.

These are the paramount aspirations of the Salvadoran people.

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# British mine workers union standing firm

Continued from front page

"The NUM emphasizes yet again that there can be no settlement of this dispute unless the Coal Board drops its demand that pits [mines] should be closed on economic grounds, keeps open the five pits currently under threat, and withdraws the pit-closure program announced on March 6, 1984."

The new stage of the miners strike was outlined by Scargill at a 1,000-strong meeting at the Labor Party conference, organized by *Labour Briefing*. The following extracts from Scargill's speech are taken from *Socialist Action*, a socialist weekly published in London, whose supporters helped organize the meeting.

## Scargill pledges miners will stand and fight

[W]e've got a whole series of unelected judges dispensing not justice but class law against our people who are involved in a struggle to maintain jobs, and to maintain the communities in which they live.

There's been a gauntlet thrown down. That gauntlet is being picked up. The miners' union has been told after seven months of official strike action that the strike is no longer legal or official. What utter nonsense!...

The national executive committee of the NUM meeting on Monday, 1 October 1984, were told that a writ had been issued against the NUM. Following a full discussion, the national executive committee unanimously agreed the following steps:

*One*, to fully endorse and support the views and comments expressed by the national president during the interview on Channel 4 news on Friday, 28 September.

*Two*, irrespective of the High Court decision, the executive unanimously reaffirmed its determination to continue to deal with the mineworkers' internal affairs in accordance with the rules and constitution of the NUM — as befits an independent and free trade union.

*Three*, to reaffirm as official the strike action in the British coalfields, including Yorkshire and Derbyshire, which has been sanctioned in accordance with national Rule No. 41 by a national delegate conference — the governing body of our union which gives instructions to all members of the national executive including the national officials, the president, the general secretary, and the vice president....

We are entitled to ask therefore why have the government and the NCB still determined to press ahead with their proposals announced in March of this year? I'll tell you why. It is not about closing a few pits, it goes to the very heart of the economic philosophy of this government.

You can either choose the balance sheet mentality of this government — of producing a political and economic solution that considers profits rather than people — or you can accept the social and sensible approach from the NUM and the labour and trade union movement that puts at the very centre of its argument the benefit of human beings rather than statistics in the balance sheet of the Coal Board or the balance sheet mentality of [NCB head] Ian MacGregor.

They can tell us there is insufficient money for investment, but then they should stop the cruise and Trident missiles programme.

This fellow MacGregor, he really takes the biscuit. I remember during the negotiations, one Saturday evening, [NUM Vice-president] Mick McGahey, [NUM General Secretary] Peter Heathfield, and I thought we were on our way to settlement. We'd reached a point where we thought seriously that the Board were going to concede, and we adjourned for the night.

We began to drink a cup of tea in the Coal Board office. Mick McGahey says to MacGregor: "I went to the Soviet Union in 1954 and the pits had been devastated, but development was their aim, and people

were regarded as the most important thing. Today the industry has been developed in a most unbelievable way."

MacGregor says: "You know, Michael, I was there in 1956, and I agree with you. Those Russians have done a great job. Not as well as I would have liked, but pretty good, pretty good."

Peter Heathfield then says: "I'll tell you what, I went to China. The Chinese have got coal where previously there were only paddy fields. Terrific. Marvellous."

And MacGregor says: "You know, Peter, I too have been to China. And those Chinese are doing better than those Russians."

And I thought, I'm not going to be left out of this. "Do you know the country I think's the best I've seen? Cuba. Do you know," I said, "I've visited the mines in Cuba, in the Oriente province, and to compare those mines today, under the socialist system, with the divisions and the problems they had under the private owners before the revolution was fantastic. Did you ever see them?"

There was then what's called a pregnant pause. And finally it wasn't "Michael" or "Peter." "Mr. Scargill, I was the owner," says MacGregor. And he said: "Your friend Castro, Fidel Castro, took them off me."

McGahey says: "That's bugged it." And MacGregor changed his mind next day.

What kind of a head of the National Coal Board is it who has no concept of the British labour and trade union movement? A man who, in the USA, was head of a mining company which was quite openly in association with the development of mines that employed non-union labour. I have no doubt that this will be the kind of policy and philosophy which he will attempt to pursue here in Britain today.

The miners' union today are fighting for their jobs. They're fighting for their communities. They're fighting for a way of life, for a culture.

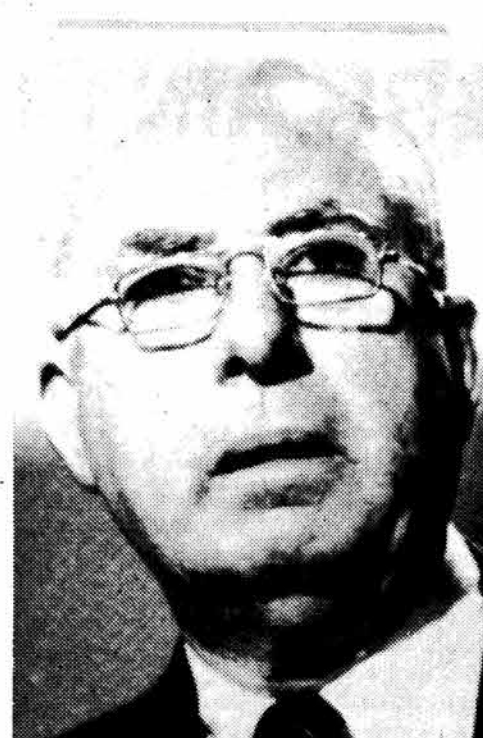
Someone said to me "do you believe the resolve of miners is beginning to weaken?" But there is one phenomenon over all others which in this dispute has made mineworkers absolutely determined to win. The involvement of women.

I went to a meeting in South Wales, and in the course of that meeting one woman got up and said: "We want to make it clear no matter what anyone says it's no longer a question of whether the miners feel that this or that can be negotiated. You're not negotiating for the future of your pits, you're negotiating for the future of our livelihood, our communities. No compromise. You'll not resolve this until the Board withdraw their pit closure programme..."

Make no mistake this national executive of the NUM is not prepared to betray its members. Often in the past workers and trade union members have pointed to lead-



Mine union Pres. Scargill (left) told Coal Board head MacGregor (right) that Cuba runs its mines sensibly. Replied MacGregor, "Your friend Castro took those mines from me."



ers and said: "They sold us out. They betrayed us. They said one thing before they were elected and another thing once they got their nice job as a full-time trade union leader."

When I campaigned for the job of national president of my union I made clear that if the members of the NUM wanted a president who was intent on becoming a lord, then don't vote for me. I said it was more important not to prostitute one's principles, or to compromise the policies of the national conference of my union than to have a seat in the House of Lords. I gave a pledge that throughout my trade union career I would do everything I could to take forward the aims and aspirations of the members of my union....

Those of us who do not take warning at what is taking place will do so at our peril. They've come today for the National Union of Mineworkers, and they'll come tomorrow for the rest of the movement.

We are going to resist with all the power we can muster. And if that means that we have to suffer, if I am sent to jail, that is something we will have to accept. We will accept the consequences of our actions because it is more important to stand by one's class, and to stand by one's members, than to cave in and accept the decisions either of an unelected judge, or the dictat of a government that can't even spell the word democracy.

Over the next period we're going to be involved in possibly the most major confrontation that we have witnessed. We're now facing the full might of the judiciary. We've got so many writs we could paper two rooms the size of this one with them.

We've had the South Wales area that's had all their funds sequestered. We've got an action against the South Wales NUM, North Wales area, Durham area, Yorkshire area, Lancashire area. We've had actions pursued against the Scottish miners. And no doubt writs to come against all the other sections that are involved in this historic dispute.

There are two options available. We can either accept the imposition of the organised might of the state. Or we can stand firmly by the policies not merely of our union but the policies of the Trades Union Congress, and the policies of this party.

Let me remind you that the TUC are on record demanding that there should be no loss of jobs. This party is on record arguing against redundancies [layoffs]. The TUC is on record arguing against the anti-trade union legislation in all its forms. And so is our party.

Now is the time to turn those words into deeds.

I speak not for myself. I am not speaking for the executive of the miners' union. I believe that I'm speaking for the entire trade union and labour movement when I say that there is an obligation on each and every one of you to stand up and be counted.

Time and time again people have said we need leadership. If we had proper leadership we could win. Well, you've got leadership. Leadership that is prepared to stand and fight, whatever the consequences. Comrades, given that leadership, we too have the right to demand your support.

Given that support we are invincible.

## Interview with Rubén Zamora in 'IP'

What are the goals of the revolutionary fighters in El Salvador? Rubén Zamora, a member of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front-Revolutionary Democratic Front (FMLN-FDR), explains what they are fighting for in an interview that appears in the current October 29 issue of *Intercontinental Press*.

Zamora describes the FMLN-FDR's proposal made earlier this year for a Government of Broad Participation and the relationship between this proposal and the call for a Democratic Revolutionary Government made in 1980.

The October 29 issue of *IP* also includes the speeches given by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli and Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega at the General Assembly of the United Nations early this month. Both speeches warn of a stepped-up offensive by U.S.-backed mercenary forces. Malmierca's speech also focuses on

U.S. imperialist threats in southern Africa. He reaffirms Cuba's defense of Angola and support of Namibia's struggle for independence.

In addition the current *IP* carries a feature article by Ernest Harsch on the background to the struggles of Blacks in South Africa.

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### Cuba, Nicaragua Warn of U.S. Intervention Threat



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# Socialists campaign in the coalfields

BY MATT HERRESHOFF  
AND LEE MARTINDALE

WILLIAMSON, W. Va. — Socialist campaigners traveling through the southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia coalfields have talked with hundreds of working people about how to defend our jobs and our unions.

The socialists have gone to mining communities in Pennsylvania and hollows in West Virginia, to unemployment offices, steel mills, and mine portals campaigning for Mel Mason and Andrea González, socialist candidates for president and vice-president, and for local socialist candidates in both states.

Layoffs by the steel and coal bosses have hit this area hard. In a tavern in the mining community of Clarksville, Pennsylvania, the woman behind the counter told us how young people are being forced to leave the state to look for jobs. "There's nothing here for young people to build a future around," she said.

In Pennsylvania the team campaigned with Clare Fraenzl, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the 22nd Congressional District, and in West Virginia with SWP Senatorial candidate Joan Radin. Both are recently laid-off coal miners and members of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA).

The two candidates released a statement on the recent round of layoffs:

"The offensive against our union and our living standards is ... to squeeze even greater profits out of workers and working farmers here and abroad." The statement explains that this is why the U.S. government is arming the dictatorship in El Salvador, and bankrolling CIA-trained mercenaries seeking to overturn the Nicaraguan revolution.

Most people we spoke with in the course of our campaigning agreed that the U.S. government should stop the war in Central America, pull out its money and troops, and that the money should be used here to create jobs for hospitals, schools, and social services in our communities. Some said, "That's right — we have enough problems right here at home." Others liked the idea of international solidarity, of helping the Nicaraguan people instead of fighting them.

In a Logan hollow, a Teamsters union member we talked with said, "I think what the Sandinistas are doing is good, especially since they got rid of that dictator Somoza." He liked the idea of forming a workers and farmers government in the United States, like the one in Nicaragua.

We talked with him about how to stop the growing attacks on our jobs and unions. Like some others, he mistakenly pointed to imports as a problem, not the divide-and-rule policies of the employers. "If seems

like just about every time you go to the store," he said, "half the stuff in there is made in Japan or Korea."

A steelworker at the Clairton mill near Pittsburgh bought one team member a cup of coffee so he could spend the few minutes before shift change talking about how to fight back. "We should all go out at once," he said, "and shut everything down." Several other workers we met had the same idea — that when they went after PATCO, we all should have gone out together.

Two retired miners from Eastern Coal, one Black and the other white, pointed to a big challenge facing the miners' union. "When we went out on strike in '81, we gave in on the operators subcontracting out" coal production to non-union operations. "Now we have to fight to win back those jobs for the union."

The team talked to UMWA pickets in Fredericktown, Pennsylvania. Management at the mine where they work has refused to sign the contract with the miners union. "Sometimes people forget how important unions are," a picket told us. "One good thing about being out on a picket line like this is it shows why we need strong unions."

The Clairton steelworker explained how one effect of the bosses' attacks had been to intimidate and divide workers. "People are scared in here," he said. "They're trying to save their houses and cars, trying to keep working." A steelworker at another plant said, "They cut the workforce in half at our place. And those of us who were left, we coped with the speed-up and made it work. We should have gone out together, before they all got laid off."

A Black miner from a hollow in Williamson, comparing notes with Joan Radin on the situations in their respective mines, expressed his concern about how women and Blacks are being driven out of the mines by the layoffs. "Gypsies, that's what Blacks are," he said, since they can't get enough seniority to stay in one mine."

One solution he thinks might help is having dual seniority lists to maintain the proportion of Blacks and women in the mines when the layoffs hit.

A number of workers thought that dumping Reagan was essential to slow up the union-busting assault. "Do you think Mondale will be different?" we asked. "No, not really," was the most common response.

In the course of hundreds of discussions like these, we found many workers who agreed with the campaign's ideas and wanted to find out more. In its first week on the road, the team has sold 90 copies of the *Militant*, five of the *Young Socialist*, and two subscriptions to the *Militant*. The team has passed out thousands of pieces of campaign literature. Nine people have



Pennsylvania miners. Two teams of socialist campaigners are traveling through the southeastern and midwestern coalfields of United States, winning support for Mason-González presidential campaign and selling *Militant*.

signed campaign interest cards to get regular information on campaign events.

Some of the workers we met already knew of the socialist campaign. One Black miner in Logan, who had followed Mel Mason's campaign for governor when he lived in California, gave a \$3.00 donation to the campaign. He said he was glad to see us in West Virginia.

At Wheeling-Pittsburgh's Monessen

mill, a young Black worker who had met the Young Socialist Alliance at the University of Pittsburgh bought a *Militant* and a copy of the *Young Socialist*.

Next week, the team will be campaigning in the coalfields of northern West Virginia. Dave Ferguson, Socialist Workers candidate for governor of West Virginia, will join the team for its last several days in the coalfields.

## Layoffs hit miners hard

BY MARY NELL BOCKMAN

PITTSBURGH — Two weeks ago, the membership of United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) ratified a new 40-month contract with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association. For the first time in 20 years a contract was reached without a strike.

But for miners in western Pennsylvania and southern West Virginia the fight to protect their jobs and their lives continues.

Over 4,000 miners in UMWA Districts 4 and 5 have been indefinitely laid off since the contract was signed. Unemployment is now as high as 90 percent in some mining communities. The ranks of working miners in District 5 has gone from nearly 4,000 working members two years ago to less than 1,000 today.

The coal companies claim the layoffs are the result of stockpiling by the utilities in preparation for a strike. This is a convenient cover for the coal operators' real goal of imposing the concessions on the union that they could not get in the contract.

In order to accomplish this, the companies are "realigning" the mines. This means dramatically increased production, permanent layoffs, reduction in crew sizes, and callous disregard for safety.

Deteriorating working conditions have already resulted in a 300 percent increase in deaths underground this year. The new attack by the companies will result in even more injuries and deaths.

Most of the mines affected by the recent layoffs are owned by the giant steel corporations — U.S. Steel, LTV, and Bethlehem Steel. Steelworkers in western Pennsylvania know well what the result of "realigning" by these profiteers will be.

The companies call it "restructuring" in the steel industry. Fifty thousand steelworkers here know it as another word for empty factories, permanent layoffs, and major concessions on wages, pensions, and safety.

Bethlehem made its intentions clear in a meeting with mine union officials held a week after 900 miners were laid off at the 84 Complex in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Bethlehem officials explained that only part of the work force would be recalled, and that miners would find a new mine when they returned.

The company will be combining jobs, forcing one miner to do the work of two. The smaller crews will be expected to maintain production at prelayoff levels.

Another ominous sign of Bethlehem's

intention is the company's refusal to allow any member of Local 1197's mine committee or safety committee into the mines since the layoffs.

Margie Mayernik, a Local 1197 mine committee member, said, "Bethlehem wants more coal with fewer miners. They may have the advantage now but the union is sticking together on this."

The attack on the UMWA at Bethlehem is being repeated at mines throughout the area. The companies hope to use the fear generated by their threats of permanent shutdowns to divide and weaken the union.

A local official in District 5 told the *Militant* that the union has no intention of allowing this to happen. "If the companies succeed with their plans, we're going to have a bunch of Mariannas in this district. We can't let that happen," he said.

Marianna is a Bethlehem-owned mine where realignment has produced speed-up and overtime — and a doubling of coal production by half the previous work force.

The layoffs are having devastating effects on the mining communities. In Gary, West Virginia, a town of 3,000 formerly owned by U.S. Steel, the new layoffs will send the unemployment rate from 40 percent to 90 percent.

Fifty thousand dollars a year in business taxes won't be paid by U.S. Steel. This will result in further slashes in city services, including cutting off street lights because the town can't pay the electricity bill.

Clare Fraenzl, a UMWA member and victim of the recent layoffs, is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the 22nd C.D., in the heart of the coalfields in Pennsylvania.

She told the *Militant*, "The offensive against our unions and living standards is part of the international antilabor drive by the corporations and the government. It can only be fought if we organize independently and rely on the power of our unions and our class."

Fraenzl's campaign has issued a statement calling on the mine owners to open their financial books to public examination, and the labor movement to fight for a shorter workweek with no reduction in pay.

The stakes for all workers in this fight are high. The coal companies' offensive is aimed at further weakening the UMWA. The battleground they have chosen is a union stronghold. While the outcome is far from certain, the union has vowed to carry out a vigorous defense of the jobs and safety of miners.

## Marroquín helps launch tour



Héctor Marroquín

Militant/Lou Howort

BY KIM KLEINMAN

ST. LOUIS — "I'm sure my father's going to like this paper. He's a coal miner," a young woman told Kipp Dawson, a laid-off coal miner from Pennsylvania and a member of a Militant/Mason-González socialist campaign team in southern Illinois.

The socialist campaigners began a two-week tour of coal mining communities in Illinois, Kentucky, and Alabama, going door-to-door among the Blacks, whites, and Puerto Ricans who live in Mount Vernon, a poor working-class town in the heart of the southern Illinois coal fields.

The team is part of a national effort to sell 15,000 copies of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, distribute 120,000 Mason/González socialist campaign brochures, and deepen discussions among working people about the escalating U.S. war in Central America.

The team was launched at a Militant Labor Forum in St. Louis on October 7. Socialist Workers Party leader Héctor Marroquín — who's fighting to live and work in the United States in the face of deportation threats — joined two leaders of the St. Louis Young Socialist Alliance, coal miner Hilde Edler and auto worker Sarah Harris, for a discussion of "Contract Battles and War in Central America."



# Machinists convention held in Seattle

BY LISA HICKLER

SEATTLE — The 31st Grand Lodge convention of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) met here September 17-25. The IAM organizes some 800,000 workers in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Panama Canal Zone.

The convention met at a time of increased attacks on the IAM. Between 1980 and 1984 the dues-paying membership of the union dropped by 22 percent. The number of unemployed members has reached a post-World War II high of 116,545.

In the air-transport industry bankruptcies and mergers are the trend. Total employment has dropped by 50,000 workers over the past five years. The IAM lost 13,350 air-transport members in the same period. Company union-busting has resulted in the lock-out of 232 Qantas Airways workers, and the year-long strike at Continental Airlines.

IAM contract negotiations in the copper industry have resulted in a three-year wage freeze. Not satisfied with this, the Phelps Dodge Corp. forced IAM members and other unions representing copper miners out on strike in July 1983. Phelps Dodge hired scabs and continues to operate.

Takeback demands in the machine, manufacturing, and shipbuilding industries resulted in a drop in average wage increases from 9 percent to 5.4 percent between 1983 and 1984.

In the aerospace industry, where the IAM organizes its largest shops, workers face layoffs, plant closings, forced overtime, and employer concession demands.

## How to respond?

The IAM international president, William Winpisinger, told convention delegates, "I am scared to death for the future of the trade union movement. Four more years of Reagan and free trade unions and free collective bargaining as we know them may be wiped out."

Speaking for the IAM officialdom, Winpisinger called the election of Democrats Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro the key answer to problems facing U.S. labor. This theme was echoed from the podium by virtually every guest speaker: Lane Kirkland, AFL-CIO president; Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women; Hans Meier, president of Germany's I.G. Metall union; Dr. Helen Caldicott, president of Physicians for Social Responsibility and a member of the Australian Labor Party; Ronald Dellums, Democratic congressman from California; and others.

This message was driven home by large signs adorning the convention hall calling on IAM members to elect Mondale. Convention identification badges came with Mondale-Ferraro pins already affixed.

Winpisinger devoted much of his keynote address to blasting Reagan and the Republican Party.

Winpisinger's speech and the entire convention echoed the view that the labor movement's job is to put forward a program to make capitalism work better.

The IAM officialdom has issued its program in a book entitled *Let's Rebuild America*. A central plank calls for "correcting abuses of power" by corporations. It urges laws to bind corporations to "a civilized and decent code of behavior and conduct... that is conducive to a harmonious and peaceful society."



Héctor Marroquín (left), fighting for his right to stay in United States, discussed his case with IAM President Winpisinger at convention.

Underlying this program is the notion that the interests of bosses and workers can be reconciled. The IAM claims that many of its ideas for the economy would be mutually beneficial to capital and labor.

## Class collaboration

One example of this philosophy is the way the IAM officialdom presents its opposition to two-tier wage structures. The September 1984 issue of the union newspaper, the *Machinist*, argues "two-tier" wage structures are dangerous to the future of companies as well as unions. These two-tier systems... will cause friction among employees, thus eroding morale and resulting in deep dips in productivity."

The challenge of the two-tiered wage structure, implemented in the IAM's contracts with Boeing, Lockheed, McDonnell Douglas, General Dynamics, and other aerospace companies, was not taken up at all at the convention.

The IAM leadership presented a report from its Coordinated Bargaining Department. It noted the IAM's opposition to concession contracts, singling out in particular its opposition to the union-busting company tactic of installing "Quality of Work Life" programs in the plants.

The report sought to remove responsibility from the IAM top officialdom for the wave of concession contracts negotiated recently. It placed the blame on some local lodges for "giving away the store." The main way the IAM tops intend to deal with concession demands is through nationally coordinated bargaining, and through demanding financial records of companies that claim they are financially troubled.

These measures would be steps in the right direction if combined with commitment to mobilize the union's ranks. However, no such plans were made.

## Three long strikes

The report explains that three IAM local lodges have been on extremely long strikes because of the union's refusal to buckle to concession demands. These include Phelps Dodge workers in Arizona; workers at Browne and Sharpe, one of the country's largest manufacturers of precision instruments, in Rhode Island; and Continental Airlines workers.

The top IAM officialdom presented no report to the convention detailing any plans for winning these strikes. Several local lodges submitted resolutions backing the Phelps Dodge strikers and more than once delegates took the floor to urge greater support for these embattled copper miners.

Tony Medino, secretary-treasurer of striking Lodge 1132 at Phelps Dodge staffed an information table throughout the convention where a video about the strike was being shown. Over \$1,000 was donated at the table by convention delegates. Medino told the *Militant* that this strike is important because it demonstrates that "we're not going to give in to concessions."

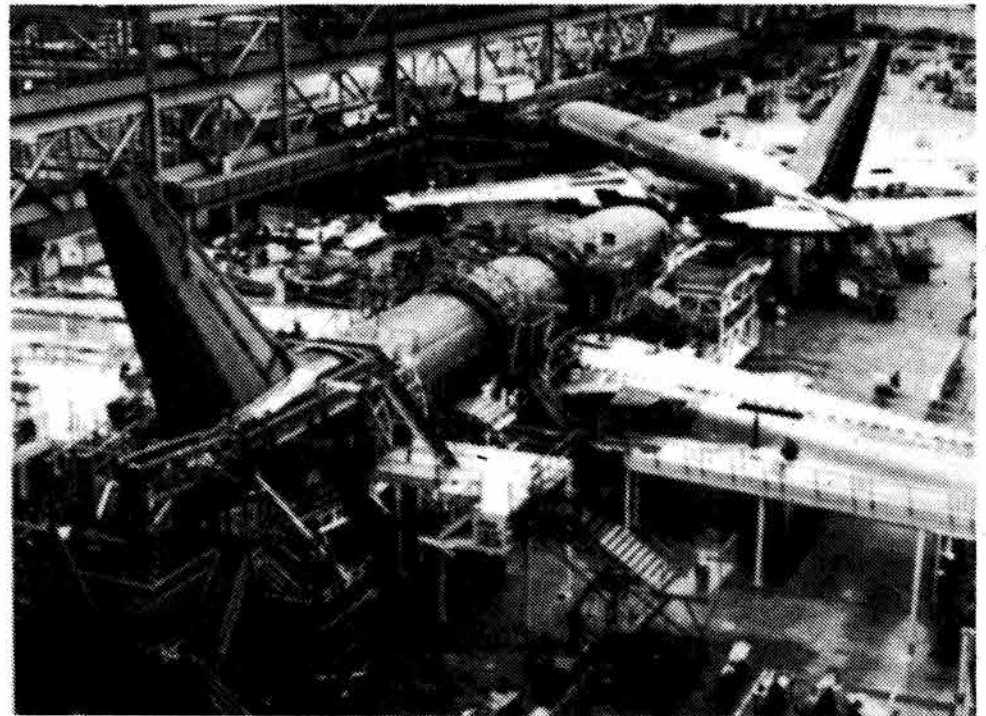
Medino called the use of troops against strikers an example of the "government taking care of big business like they're also doing in El Salvador."

## 'Buy American'

The IAM officialdom shares the view of the entire top U.S. labor bureaucracy that the answer to unemployment is to "buy American" and "produce American." A resolution was passed claiming that American jobs are going to "foreign workers." One Canadian delegate rose to request clarification of whether Canadians were considered "foreign workers." Assured that this was not the case this delegate too expressed his support for the resolution.

This dangerous policy was not opposed on the convention floor. At the same time, many convention delegates are concerned with building solidarity with brother and sister workers from other countries. One example of this was the resolution submitted by Baltimore Lodge 1784. This resolution called for opposing "all economic and military aid to El Salvador and all aid to the CIA-led terrorists trying to overthrow the popular Nicaraguan government."

It called for sending fact-finding delegations to Nicaragua to find out firsthand what is happening in Central America "and thereby determine a foreign policy in the interests of the labor movement."



IAM represents thousands of aerospace workers at Boeing in Seattle

The resolutions committee proposed and won approval for a watered-down version of the resolution that omitted the proposal for fact-finding delegations, although IAM officials stated that the union had sent representatives to Nicaragua.

One delegate from Quebec rose during the discussion to support the resolution. He explained that the mayor of Seattle had declared Managua, Nicaragua, and Seattle to be sister cities. The delegate described attending a concert the night before given by Nicaraguan singer Carlos Mejia Godoy. The Nicaraguan performer sent a message of solidarity to the machinists, which the Quebec delegate read to the convention in both Spanish and English.

The growing concern among IAM members over Washington's drive toward a new Vietnam in Central America was also expressed in a lunchtime reception for a Seattle trade unionist who had gone to Nicaragua as part of a West Coast trade union delegation. Although attendance at the event was small, a serious discussion took place on how to advance within the union the fight against U.S. intervention in Central America.

Sixty delegates also signed petitions supporting the case of Héctor Marroquín, a Mexican-born worker fighting for his right to stay in the United States and remain active in the labor movement. Marroquín attended two days of the convention in order to explain his case to convention delegates. He received a friendly response. Marroquín was introduced to Winpisinger at a reception held during the convention hosted by the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

## Conversion

The IAM has a position in favor of the conversion of weapons production facilities into production for socially useful purposes. A resolution to reverse this stand was defeated at the urging of the international leadership.

Helen Caldicott, a prominent spokesperson for the conversion view received an enthusiastic response when she explained, "Job conversion is easy. You cannot buy bombs, you cannot eat them, you cannot wear them to work — they are a totally dead-end industry. They do not make any money. It would be just as easy for the government to stop making bombs and pay you your weekly wages until you have been reemployed doing something that will save the earth, not blow it up."

Congressman Ronald Dellums expressed the view that the danger of war is caused by weapons themselves.

Dellums also ridiculed the U.S. invasion of Grenada, saying, "We must reject those policies that have us invading those 'superpowers' like Grenada — as if in some way they pose a significant threat to this country!"

Dellums' speech, however, accepted the idea that a certain amount of weaponry was necessary for legitimate "defense" interests. He did not take up the U.S. war in Central America.

Walter Mondale also spoke during the

convention. Just days before, he had explained his intention, if elected, to "quarantine" Nicaragua and announced his support for the U.S. invasion of Grenada.

He told convention delegates, "Four years ago America was the number one machine-tool industry country on earth. In four years we went to number four in the machine-tool industry, behind even the Soviet Union. That is not just economics, that is not just jobs, that is national strength. Try to fight a war with no machine-tool industry and see how far you would get."

## How to fight back

Despite the fact that no delegates presented any alternatives to the IAM officialdom's perspective about defending jobs and the union, a number of floor fights at the convention reflected that many IAM members are trying to think this question through.

The Canadian caucus organized a floor fight over a resolution which called for a change in the constitution that would allow the Canadian membership to choose its own vice-president.

The discussion over this resolution was quite heated. Canadian delegates, including those from Quebec, brought maple leaf flags onto the convention floor as their delegates packed the microphones.

Many U.S. delegates supported the Canadians' right to elect their own vice-president, as an elementary component of union democracy. Other U.S. delegates claimed that this was a move to divide the union. The resolution was strongly opposed by the international leadership.

In a several-hour-long roll call vote it was defeated.

Despite the fact that the majority of English-Canadian and Québécois delegates supported a French-language rights resolution submitted by several Québécois lodges, they decided to drop the fight for this resolution. The resolution would have recognized the right of Quebec lodges to function in French. It received the backing of a number of delegates from lodges where the majority of members speak Spanish as their first language. But when the law committee recommended non-passage of the resolution no delegates took the floor and the resolution was defeated.

The law committee explained their recommendation by saying, "we have substantial numbers of members who do not speak English as their native tongue. If we provide complete translation services for Quebec, we will have to provide them in other areas as well, particularly our Southern and Southwestern Territories."

Throughout the convention, teams of socialist workers — members of the IAM and other unions — distributed literature on the campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González for president and vice-president and introduced convention delegates to the *Militant*. In all, more than 70 copies of the *Militant* were sold.

An open house held at one of the convention hotels sponsored by the Washington Socialist Workers Campaign Committee also drew several convention delegates.



# Third World conference protests U.S. war

BY TONY DUTROW

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — "Peoples in struggle: The Third World" was the theme of a conference held here at Webster University on October 5-6 to discuss revolutionary struggles in a number of countries oppressed by imperialism. The conference was organized by the St. Louis Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC). It was attended by about 150 antiwar activists.

Featured speakers included Dr. Gaston Ortigas, president of the Movement for a Free Philippines; Dr. Albert Aghazarian, a Palestinian professor at the Birzeit University in the West Bank; Steven Henderson, a Black actor; and Jim O'Connor, director of the St. Louis Repertory Theater's production of South African playwright Athol Fugard's *Master Harold and the Boys*. Each speaker linked their struggles to the widening war in Central America and the need for solidarity.

Ivonne Sfu, head of International Relations for the Nicaraguan Government and central leader of AMNLAE (Nicaraguan Association of Women) was scheduled to make a presentation on the political situation in Central America and the growing U.S. war against Nicaragua. Due to pressing responsibilities in her own country she was unable to attend.

Héctor Marroquín, a Mexican born socialist, was present at the conference to discuss the serious threat of a massive military escalation in the U.S. aggression against the Nicaraguan revolution and to win support for his fight against deportation. Marroquín is fighting for permanent residency.

Because of the seriousness of the war threats against Nicaragua, conference organizers invited Marroquín to speak on this question.

In proposing this to the conference, Dan Hellinger, a professor at Webster University and longtime leader of the LASC, said, "Héctor will make a presentation on the growing threat of a new Vietnam war in Central America and bring us up to date on the message brought to the United Nations by Daniel Ortega, Nicaraguan Government coordinator, on the seriousness of the present situation."

## Building for Oct. 27 antiwar march

Continued from front page

most of these unions supported the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Thus, discussions among rank-and-file workers on the job about the significance of the October 27 demonstration have centered on why the U.S. invasion of Grenada was not in our interests as workers, and why it was the first major step by the U.S. government in preparing a new Vietnam-style war in Central America.

Regular post-up and leafleting brigades are being organized by the New York and Brooklyn chapters of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador. In addition, the Manhattan chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) is organizing leaflet distribution in Harlem. At a recent meeting of the coalition's outreach committee, Manhattan NBIPP reported distributing hundreds of leaflets and engaging in lively discussions with Harlem residents about the U.S. war in Central America, the invasion of Grenada, and the importance of a large Black turnout on October 27.

In addition to mass leafleting and poster-ing, a number of activities are planned to build the demonstration.

Friday, October 19, there will be a memorial service and reception honoring Maurice Bishop and the Grenadian patriots who gave their lives a year ago defending their revolution. The service, organized by the Grenada Action Center, will take place at Saint Gregory's church at St. John's Place and Brooklyn Avenue in Brooklyn at 7:30 p.m.

In honor of the fourth anniversary of the founding of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), the Coordinadora de Solidaridad Salvadoreña is hosting a political-cultural event Friday, October 19. The event, which will feature a representative of the FMLN-FDR, is important in mobilizing participation of Salvadorans,

Marroquín gave a 45-minute presentation on the growing U.S. aggression in Central America. "I am not an official representative of the Nicaraguan government or the Salvadoran revolutionary leadership," he said, "but I wish to speak to you as an unconditional defender of these revolutions and as someone who, like many workers both in Latin America and the United States, has been profoundly inspired by the tremendous achievements of our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua and their popular revolutionary government."

"The Nicaraguan revolution, like the Cuban Revolution 25 years ago, represents a great living example for the peoples of Latin America, the Philippines, South Africa, and Palestine. It is also a great example and source of inspiration for working people in the United States."

Marroquín informed the audience of the warning made by Daniel Ortega at the United Nations on October 2 on the threat of an imminent escalation of the U.S. war against Nicaragua. He welcomed the efforts by the LASC in bringing the truth out on what was at stake in this war and appealed to the conference participants to "redouble your efforts and reach out to the trade union movement; Black, Latino, and women's organizations; and immigrant workers."

Marroquín also urged everyone there to organize tours to Nicaragua as a way to expose Washington's lies about the aims and achievements of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Marroquín's presentation was warmly received and provoked a good discussion that followed on what to do and on whether the outcome of the U.S. elections would make a significant difference in the course of the war.

There was little enthusiasm for the idea raised that electing Walter Mondale would help stop the war. Many in the audience were aware of Mondale's threats to impose a "quarantine" on Nicaragua if he got elected.

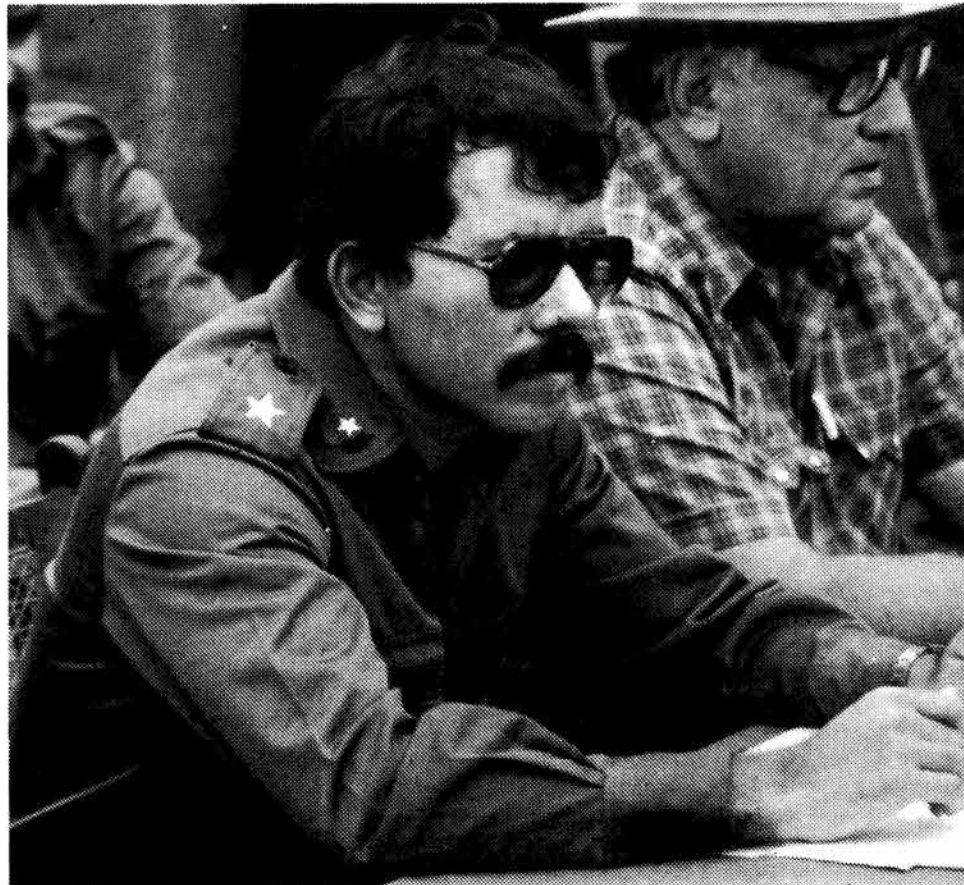
Each member of the audience also took time out to sign a petition circulated demanding a stop to the deportation of Héctor Marroquín.

other Latinos, and U.S. supporters of the Salvadoran people on October 27. The event begins at 7 p.m. at P.S. 41, 6th Avenue and 11th Street in Manhattan.

A key building activity for the October 27 demonstration will take place Thursday, October 25, 6:30 p.m. This is the date of the actual U.S. invasion of Grenada and will be commemorated with a rally at the Harriet Tubman School, 127th Street and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard. The rally will feature two films on Grenada — *Grenada: The Future Coming Towards Us*, which chronicles the four and a half years of advances of the Grenadian people under the leadership of Maurice Bishop. The second film, entitled *Maurice*, is a Cuban-made film that includes extensive documentary footage of the U.S. invasion. Speakers at the event will include noted Grenadian historian, Joachim Mark, as well as representatives of the sponsoring organizations — the Patrice Lumumba Coalition, Caribbean People's Alliance, New Afrikan People's Organization, and patriotic revolutionary organizations of Grenadians in New York. For further information call (212) 866-1600.

The New York and Newark *Militant* Labor Forums will jointly sponsor a forum given by Steve Clark on the legacy of Maurice Bishop and the Grenadian revolution and lessons for fighters today. Clark wrote the introduction to the collection of speeches by Bishop, *Maurice Bishop Speaks*. The forum will take place Friday, October 26, 7 p.m. at 79 Leonard Street in lower Manhattan. For more information, call 219-3679.

Volunteers and funds are urgently needed to build October 27. For more information on how you can help, or to volunteer to keep the coalition office open, contact October 25 Coalition, 451 A Nosstrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 11216, or call (718) 638-0811.



Nicaraguan government coordinator Daniel Ortega. Conference discussed Ortega's October 2 address to United Nations, warning of escalation of U.S. war.

## Friendly welcome as antiwar fighter returns to job

BY JUDY WHITE

SAN DIEGO — On September 19, Merrill Cohen, one of four workers fired by Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical (TRA) for political activity, returned to work at the war production plant after her union, United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 506, won her reinstatement through the grievance procedure. Three other workers fired along with Cohen — Jan Aragon, Tom Barton, and Gina March — were denied reinstatement.

The four workers were widely known in the plant as union activists, socialists, and opponents of Washington's war in Central America. Between April and June 1983 they were laid off. In October 1983 the company denied them recall rights and began an investigation of charges that they had falsified their employment applications. In February 1984 they were fired.

The UAW challenged the firings. A July 30 arbitrator's ruling ordered all four workers reinstated with back pay. But in a highly unusual move the arbitrator then reversed his decision and ordered that TRA reinstate Cohen only.

During the arbitration hearing there was no dispute that Aragon, Barton, and March had done what millions of other workers do to get a job — embellish their previous work records in order to make their employment applications more attractive.

The original arbitrator's ruling stated, "In the absence of a deliberate falsification of an application for employment which can be shown to represent a continuing threat to the employer's operation or well being, a one year limitation on discharge for falsification of employment applications should be recognized."

Even the second arbitration opinion noted, "the purpose of the employment application is not to create a sacred document of eternal verity." Rather, it stated, it is an attempt to predict performance. The ruling expressed the view that one year of company service was a more accurate basis to judge a worker's performance on the job.

Aragon, Barton, and March were denied reinstatement on the technicality that, due to layoffs, they had not actually worked a solid year at TRA.

In fact, the performance of the four workers on the job had nothing to do with the entire case. It was their exercise of trade union rights and their outspoken opposition to the U.S. war in Central America that brought them to the attention of the company and led to the firings.

In particular, the four had been instrumental in encouraging fellow workers in UAW Local 506 to invite Alejandro

Molina Lara, an exiled Salvadoran trade unionist, to address the local on the subject of the common interest of U.S. and Salvadoran workers in opposing Washington's war.

While the failure to reinstate three of the four workers is a setback to the UAW and the entire union movement, the UAW's successful fight to reinstate Cohen is a noteworthy victory.

When she returned to the job, Cohen told the *Militant*, "Many of my coworkers were excited to see that somebody had stood up to the company and won. They were disappointed," said Cohen, "that the other three would not be returning too."

"Even several workers who had disagreed with my views on El Salvador expressed their congratulations and their opinion that I had a right to a job."

On her return to work Cohen learned more about the company's efforts to intimidate workers into supporting its undemocratic moves. "Workers told me," said Cohen, "that while I was out of the plant, a member of the Industrial Relations department walked the shop floor in my department asking people what they thought about the 'communists.'"

A Black shop steward told Cohen that he had been called to the office and offered a foreman's job, if he agreed to call the *Los Angeles Times* and retract a statement he had made about the firings. This worker had told a reporter that he had heard a foreman say, "if he found a way to get rid of all the communists, he would get rid of them."

The shop steward, said Cohen, told the company he was not interested in joining management. He was aware, he said, that a known leader of the Ku Klux Klan had recently been given a foreman's job. He advised the company that people like that might do their work for them, but he would not.

"Since I've been gone," Cohen told the *Militant*, "my department has tripled in size. The new hires came in under a dual wage scale with starting wages about half what other workers earn. Many young workers are disgusted, and they make the mistake of blaming the union," which agreed to the two-tier wages in a divided contract vote.

"I explain," Cohen continued, "that we need a union. Without it, I'd still be on the street. But I also tell people that we have to get actively involved in the union and fight to change it and strengthen it so that it can defend us from employer attacks — whether in the plant or in Central America."



# Black party meets in southeast

BY WYNSTON JEFFRIES

ATLANTA — Activists of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) from several southeastern cities met here October 6. They came from Birmingham, Houston, New Orleans, and Greensboro, as well as Atlanta. A public forum, a fund-raising party, and a regional meeting of NBIPP activists were the scheduled events. The regional conference was held to help build participation in a national gathering of NBIPP activists and other Blacks scheduled for November 3 in Baltimore.

The October 6 forum discussed the 1984 elections and perspectives for Black and other working people. The panelists were Sifiso Makathini of the African National Congress of South Africa, Edward Muhammed from the Nation of Islam, Sozufe Nnamdi from the Baltimore chapter of the NBIPP, and Maceo Dixon of the Atlanta NBIPP.

The discussion spanned many topics: from the U.S. Civil War in 1860-65 to the civil rights movement, the Grenada revolution, and Black Reconstruction. It was in this context that the elections and Jesse Jackson's Democratic presidential bid were discussed. Most people saw little dif-

ference between Mondale or Reagan. A few, however, thought that Reagan had to be voted out of office if Blacks were going to survive.

One person, an activist from Operation PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity) said, "I'm scared about the situation for our people if Ronald Reagan is re-elected. Do we boycott the elections and allow Mr. Reagan to go back to the White House?"

Makathini explained that the Reagan administration's close ties to the apartheid regime of South Africa meant that it was up to Blacks in the United States to "determine the future" in the upcoming elections.

Dixon differed with this perspective. He said, "The rich who govern this country try to hide from the masses the way this society is run. These elections are nothing but a political con game. Pulling a lever doesn't fundamentally change anything. We must break out of this framework."

Nnamdi thought that Jackson was on a "deadend street," but that he had "created a movement." He said, "We can't sit on the sidelines and just dog out our leaders. We have a responsibility to provide an alternative for our people. We need to break away



Part of June 1963 Detroit civil rights march. Maceo Dixon, from Atlanta chapter of National Black Independent Political Party, said lesson of struggle is Blacks must fight for equality.

from the Democratic and Republican parties."

Someone in the audience exclaimed that "Jesse Jackson didn't create anything. It was already here. The Black people in Waynesboro [Georgia] or Miami, who rebelled against police violence, did not rise up because Jesse Jackson was running for president."

Dixon then explained that Jackson refused to seriously campaign against racist violence and was a roadblock to any kind of independent political movement organized by Black people.

Muhammed discussed his view of the civil rights movement, the Black Panthers, world revolution, and Jesse Jackson. He explained that "What we have today as a result of our civil rights came from some of our people shedding blood, being maimed, and killed. It came out of blood, sweat, and pushing. It's easy for many of us in here to say, 'I'll give up my life.' But I'm a father of five. This government will even stoop to killing children and babies. We must realize what we're up against."

Dixon, commenting on this, said, "During the civil rights movement in the south, we had no vote, nor any Black politicians. All the politicians were organized against us — violently and otherwise."

"Yet," noted Dixon, "we made more gains than in any period since the Civil War. In any liberation struggle there will be casualties. But we cannot allow this to stop us. If we don't struggle, there will be even more casualties."

Later that night a dinner party was held where the political discussion continued. Some South African students and Guyanese who attended the forum were present. A \$50 cash prize and a Malcolm X record album were given away in a raffle.

The weekend of activities concluded with a regional meeting of NBIPP activists. They discussed the November 3 national conference being organized by the Baltimore chapter. Political activities carried out by other chapters were also discussed.

The national conference will begin Saturday, November 3, at 9:00 a.m. at Morgan State University in Baltimore. For more information call (301) 444-3454 or write NBIPP, P.O. Box 244, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

## Grenada coup leaders try to reorganize

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada — Leading colleagues of the late Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop who survived last October's coup have publicly denied that the New Jewel Movement (NJM) still exists as a legal political organization in the country.

The NJM, cofounded by Bishop and Unison Whiteman, was the revolutionary party that led the struggles of the Grenadian workers and farmers to victory against the U.S.-backed Eric Gairy dictatorship on March 13, 1979.

The denial was in response to a recent statement signed by Ian St. Bernard, a former member of the short-lived Revolutionary Military Council (RMC), which was set up following the coup masterminded by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard. In the statement, St. Bernard claimed that the NJM is functioning legally like any other political party in Grenada.

"Everyone in Grenada knows there is no NJM. Ian St. Bernard could only speak for the Coardite-RMC clique," said a press release issued by the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM). The MBPM is led by George Louison and Kendrick Radix, two former ministers in Bishop's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

The MBPM statement said: "The real and true NJM, the party of the Grenadian people, which was started and built on the sweat and blood of patriots like Maurice Bishop and Unison Whiteman, was killed last year October by counterrevolution led by this same clique."

St. Bernard's statement, dated September 15, acknowledged that the "NJM had made errors during last October's crisis and accepts full responsibility for the events that took place."

St. Bernard, a former commissioner of police, is now out on bail on charges of plotting to overthrow the PRG by force of arms. He was the only one among 20 to escape facing the high court on murder charges in early October. Coard, his wife Phyllis, Gen. Hudson Austin, and 16 others were remanded to stand trial on murder charges when the preliminary inquiry into the killings of Bishop and the others ended last month.

The MBPM noted that "it is now one year since this same clique raised the lunatic idea of joint leadership as a smokescreen for seizing control of the party and obtaining state power without popular support."

"They went on to commit the worst crimes imaginable against the Grenadian people and opened the doors for the Yankee invaders," the statement pointed out.

According to the MBPM, supporters of the RMC were claiming over the past year that they were right in their actions of last October. "Now, all of a sudden, they wish to pass off their crimes with a simple statement like this: 'The NJM admits that it made errors in the past in the handling of the internal party crisis. We are now prepared to face any criticism against us. ...'"

The MBPM listed what it said were five crimes "the Coardites-RMC elements" have to answer. These are the murder of Maurice Bishop and others, framing up the deaths as a cross-fire incident, mutilating the bodies, promoting those directly involved in the murders, and "opening the doors wide for the Yankee invasion."

"The Grenadian people and the world," the MBPM declared, "will not permit

crimes of this magnitude to be passed off as errors."

St. Bernard's statement comes at a time when certain supporters of Bernard Coard's position have been approaching MBPM figures in a reconciliatory manner. Some of them have even been talking about "a unity of the progressive forces in the country." St. Bernard's statement, which predictably blasted the U.S. invasion and occupation of the country, as the MBPM does, said that the NJM is willing to meet with any organization in the country that shares its views and ideology.

However, the MBPM further stated that "the Coardites are making statements because stark reality has hit them." It pointed out that the Grenadian people, progressive parties in the socialist world, the Non-aligned Movement, the national liberation movements, and the Western world have condemned their actions.

The MBPM statement concluded: "The genuine patriots who gave the NJM its oneness with the people over the years are now rallying under the banner of the MBPM."

"Those who wish to serve and advance the struggle of the poor and working people of Grenada must hold high the banner of Maurice Bishop in order to recover our national independence, sovereignty as a nation, economic development, and peace." **From Intercontinental Press**

## Calif. socialist campaigns in union

SAN FRANCISCO — As garment workers gradually filed into the Laborers Hall in San Francisco's Mission District, many stopped to talk with campaigners for Mel Mason and Andrea González, Socialist Workers presidential and vice-presidential candidate, and Marilee Taylor, socialist candidate for California State Assembly. The October 2 union meeting was attended by at least 600 workers from shops all over the Bay Area. The purpose of the meeting was to register workers to vote, and to build support for the Mondale-Ferraro campaign.

Most of the workers coming to the meeting, however, were more interested in discussing what the union could do about the layoffs and other problems. Some of the shops, for example, did not receive the contractual raise due to everyone in September. Few of the workers in attendance even have the legal right to vote, since the majority of the Chinese, Latino, and Filipino workers are not citizens.

Workers outside the meeting lined up to get copies of the Socialist Workers Party campaign platform, distributed in English, Spanish, and Chinese. Many people already knew Marilee Taylor, or were famil-

iar with her campaign. Others were excited to find out about a socialist garment worker running for public office.

In the discussion period at the meeting Taylor took the floor and spoke briefly in Spanish and English, explaining that we should be fighting to defend immigrant workers' rights and fighting against U.S. intervention in Central America.

## Thousands join Oct. 10 protest in Iceland

Thousands of demonstrators protested against Iceland's conservative government October 10 at the opening of parliament in Reykjavik.

The protest was called in support of a strike by public-sector unions that has closed ports, schools, post offices, and public transportation since October 4.

The public workers are demanding a 30 percent wage increase to compensate for cuts in their standard of living as a result of government austerity measures. But the government of the Independence and Progressive parties has offered only 6 percent.

## Garment workers fight harassment

Continued from back page

— those who are most outspoken in defense of the union — with little regard for the union contract.

In a statement released by Taylor she explained, "I believe this discriminatory layoff is an attempt to fire me without doing so openly."

"This is in direct response to my demand that women workers on the fourth floor not be subjected to the intimidation and sexual harassment of male bosses entering our bathroom."

"Fundamentally," the statement continues, "This attack on me is actually an attack on the rights of all women workers at Koret and an attempt to weaken our union."

Other workers at Koret see it this way too. A Latina worker who knows Taylor

through her election campaign said, "This is what they always do to try to get rid of anybody who stands up to them. I hope she wins her job back."

Another Filipina worker explained, "This guy has been getting away with stuff like this for at least 20 years. It's time we put a stop to it. They think they can treat us as though we're not even human beings. This is exactly the kind of fight the union should be taking up."

Taylor's statement, which is printed in English, Spanish, and Chinese, ends with an appeal for support.

"I urge you to help get out the facts of this case by talking to other garment workers, and friends and relatives in your communities and other unions in order to help stop this gross violation of women workers' rights at Koret."



# Lesson of AP Parts strike: new course is needed

BY MARK FRIEDMAN

TOLEDO — The strike forced upon United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 14 at the AP Parts plant here is more than five months old. Determined workers remain on the picket lines while an equally determined employer continues to operate with scab labor.

Many auto workers and others are asking if this strike can be won, and how. This important question is not one of strike tactics. It can only be answered by looking at the broader issues of union policy and strategy.

The AP Parts strike is part of a bigger challenge posed to the union movement: how can labor and its allies de-

## UNION TALK

fend against the generalized employing class broadside that includes escalating war in Central America and stepped-up union busting at home?

AP Parts provoked the strike when it unilaterally imposed a new contract on the union that included a \$5.84 an hour wage cut, destruction of seniority provisions, and big attacks on work rules.

For eight weeks UAW members labored under this agreement. They walked out of the plant in May when it became clear, through their day-to-day experience, that AP Parts intended to operate as if there was no union in the shop.

Local 14 won support and sympathy from working people throughout Toledo. This city has been a UAW stronghold since 1934 when the militant Toledo Auto-Lite strike forced the employers to recognize the union. UAW members and others in the labor movement here quickly recognized that if Local 14 could be broken at AP Parts, 50 years of union gains would be in great danger.

On May 21 thousands of workers acted on this conviction and joined the strikers on the picket lines. The militant solidarity rally aimed to show the owners of AP Parts and the bosses in Toledo that strike-breaking, union-busting, and scab labor would not be tolerated here.

When police and company-hired thugs attacked the protest, workers defended themselves and set an inspiring example for the many working people who believe that it is time for the labor movement to flex its power against the employers and their agents — not attempt to collaborate with them.

The May 21 action forced the company back to the bargaining table, but it became clear very fast that this was an empty gesture. In the weeks following May 21 the employers and the city government that backs them deepened their assault on the labor movement.

In July, 37 workers were indicted by a grand jury for their role in the May 21 demonstration. The Toledo *Blade* heaped praise on the cops. The UAW was placed even further on the defensive.

The sentiment of solidarity with the strikers and in defense of the indicted unionists remains high. However, little has been done to tap it.

No public defense campaign has been mounted for the workers facing charges. Little pressure has been brought to bear on AP Parts to force them to back off from their union-busting course.

The labor movement has organized fund raisers for the strikers. Yet the only real action proposed by top UAW officials is a boycott of AP's scab mufflers. Here too, the power of the union movement remains untapped.

While international UAW officials call on workers not to buy AP-made products when they go to an auto parts store, those of us who work at the big Jeep plant here know that 700 AP mufflers are being installed on new Jeeps every day on the assembly line. UAW members at many General Motors plants know that the same thing occurs in their shops. Such a boycott is unlikely to force AP Parts to back down.

The problems facing the AP Parts strike are not uncommon. Throughout the country workers in many industries have been forced into similar strikes, provoked by the employers — with the backing of the government — to bust or weaken the unions.

In Chicago, steelworkers at the Danly Machine Co. were forced onto the picket lines just as the AP walkout began. Here in Toledo members of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers (OCAW) union only recently ended a long strike against Sun Oil. The list could go on.

If the labor movement is to defend itself and make any real progress, not just hold our own against concession demands, a new course is needed. Workers, like the AP strikers and those who came out to back them May 21, have demonstrated that the source of the problem is not a lack of willingness to fight on the part of the union ranks.

The problem is political. Top officials of the labor movement are committed to a course of collaboration with the employers and their political parties. One ex-



Militant Nancy Boyasko  
AP Parts strike supporter being arrested during UAW solidarity rally at plant gate.

pression of this is the get-out-the-vote campaign for Democrat Walter Mondale and scores of local capitalist politicians.

But more is involved. Top officials of the labor movement consistently subordinate the interests of organized labor and all working people to seeking an accommodation with the employers and the government. That explains why they refuse to mobilize a fight against Washington's war in Central America, or use union power to try to win the confrontations that are increasingly imposed on us by the employing class.

These are the problems that must be discussed in the union movement today. That discussion has already begun on the shop floor and the picket lines among workers looking for a way to fight back. It will deepen as battles like the AP Parts strike, and others that are coming, continue to unfold.

Mark Friedman is a member of UAW Local 12's Jeep unit.

# Boston 'peace' rally speakers support Democrats

BY JON HILLSON

BOSTON — Three to four thousand people rallied here on September 22 at a demonstration organized on the theme "Vote no to War — Build Peace and Justice in '84."

The central activity promoted by the event was urging a vote for Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale and registering antiwar activists for the upcoming election.

The rally was built by Central America solidarity, antiwar, and antinuclear groups throughout New England. A majority of the crowd were in their early twenties or younger. There was little official representation of trade unionists.

While speakers tended to condemn U.S. foreign policy in El Salvador and Nicaragua, the unmistakable message from the platform was to exhort a Democratic vote in November.

A written message to the event from Mondale was a rehash of his "arms con-

trol" campaign rhetoric. It did not mention Central America and received less than a trace of applause from the crowd.

Many speakers and much solidarity literature urged a vote for the Central America Peace Referendum. It asks state representatives to vote for a resolution calling on congress and the president to halt the U.S. war against the people of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Endorsed by numerous Democratic politicians, including Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, the referendum and the literature backing it omit any reference to Democratic support for U.S. war policy in Central America and the Caribbean.

In the framework of the Mondale campaign's "dump Reagan" pitch, the referendum's main function is to give antiwar cover and win votes for the Democrats, even though some of its organizers don't formally endorse Mondale. Because the referendum is clearly a diversion from organizing against the war, socialists have

adopted a voting stance of abstention.

Many activists, however, came out September 22 to protest Washington's war drive. They carried banners denouncing U.S. aid to the Duarte regime in El Salvador, and opposing CIA-organized *contra* terrorists in Nicaragua and a potential U.S. military draft.

Some young people wore kerchiefs with the initials of the Salvadoran freedom fighters of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), while at the same time sporting Mondale-Ferraro buttons.

Silvia Sandoval of the Association of Salvadoran Women (AMES) alerted the crowd to the escalation of the war and the danger of a U.S. invasion. She also hailed the Central America Peace Referendum and urged efforts like it be multiplied across the country.

Introduced as the "socialist mayor of Burlington, Vermont," Bernard Sanders did not directly urge a vote for Mondale. Referring to himself as a "third party mayor," he criticized U.S. foreign policy, called for "returning power to the people" so that "elected officials can do our job," and said the most important thing antiwar activists could do was "tell Reagan we cannot allow him to capture the American flag."

Not once during the two-hour rally was the U.S. invasion and continuing occupation of Grenada mentioned or protested.

March organizers consciously refused to do so, for fear of "alienating" Democratic politicians, who find it convenient today to say a few critical words about aspects of U.S. foreign policy as part of their election campaigns, but who, like Mondale, back a real intervention as it unfolds.

This prompted the Boston Grenada Solidarity Coalition to refuse to endorse the march and rally. Its activists leafleted the event with educational material, sold literature, and were warmly received by many activists.

Because of the pro-Democratic Party character of the event, the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance did not back or build it. They mobilized their Boston supporters to distribute a campaign

statement by SWP presidential and vice-presidential candidates Mel Mason and Andrea González, and Massachusetts U.S. Senate contender Chris Gauvreau.

This explained the bi-partisan support essential to the war's escalation, the dead end of "lesser-evil" politics, and the need for a "marching, independent antiwar movement" based on the struggles of working people.

The socialist campaigners handed out nearly 1,500 leaflets, sold more than 100 copies of the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, and the *Young Socialist*, along with \$121 in revolutionary literature. Thirty young people signed up for more information about the YSA.

The socialists found more than a few marchers dismayed about both the "Mondale alternative" and the "get out the vote" push from the platform.

Some were dejected about prospects for the future, and said so. A few had decided not to vote for Mondale. Many said they would vote for the Democrat as a "protest" in hopes a moment might be gained in the fight for peace, but felt stepped-up antiwar activity in the streets is called for no matter who wins the elections.

Many of these young antiwar fighters had not been born, or were small children, when Democrat Lyndon Johnson ran as a "peace candidate" in 1964 against Republican "warmonger" Barry Goldwater, only to escalate the Vietnam war on his election. Thus, socialist campaigners had to spend some time in their discussions with activists about this lesson from history.

Other radical groups at the event chose to deny the meaning of this lesson altogether, as they trailed the Mondale bandwagon. The Democratic Socialists of America and the Communist Party campaigned openly for the Democratic candidate.

Socialist supporters of Mason, González and Gauvreau were heartened by the rich, serious and often times lengthy discussions they held with many young people committed to a struggle against Washington's new Vietnam, and to whom "dumping Reagan" and pro-Mondale rallies are not answers to the big questions they are beginning to ask.

## UFW marks gains in fight with growers

Continued from Page 3

to organizing packing sheds, leaving field workers to the UFW. The pact ended Teamster cooperation with the growers to block the more militant and predominantly *Mexicano* and *Chicano* UFW by signing sweetheart contracts. In April Teamster officials refused to renew the pact.

At Samsel Farms, a small, family-run operation where workers say they already have their own organization, the vote was 62 for "no union," four for the UFW, and one for the Teamsters.

The Merrill Farms election was the real contest. At six in the morning at the labor camp, which houses 40 of Merrill Farms 300 workers, five UFW organizers were campaigning. They stood in the dark, each with a group of farm workers, answering questions and passing out a letter from Chávez. Some emerged from the workers' rooms, talking in Spanish and Tagalog (many farm workers are Filipino). A car drove up with another UFW organizer who

spread the news that Valley Harvest agreed to a contract.

Many workers wore UFW buttons pinned over the logo on hats put out by the company which said "Freedom with no union." Workers told the *Militant* that the Teamsters had organized this farm about seven years ago, but stayed only about three years.

"They abandoned us," said one man who had worked at Merrill for 11 years. The same three-way ballot had been presented to the workers about four years ago said another, in a decertification election. The vote went for "no-union" because the company "made a lot of promises." But now the workers don't believe them. "The only protection we have is the union," he said. "They keep cutting us little by little."

The vote was 96 for the UFW, 85 for "no-union," and 30 for the Teamsters. The UFW may still face a run-off against "no union" following legal challenges.



**Progressive education** — Faced with vigorous protest, officials at Plymouth State College in Concord, N.H., put a hold on re-



**Harry Ring**

cently purchased campus-control "Stun Guns." The manufacturer boasts they produce "severe, uncontrollable muscle spasms and

immediate, though temporary, paralysis." The dean philosophized that it's better to use the Stun Guns than "hit them, slug them, shoot them, or spray Mace in their faces."

**No stuff, Dick Tracy** — "We've noticed a trend toward middle and upper management getting more and more fringe benefits untaxed." —Treasury Secretary Donald Regan.

**Where are they now dep't** — Tom Hayden, who fancied himself a militant radical in the '60s, is running hard to keep his present seat in the California state assem-

bly. A Democrat, he's scandalizing his Republican opponent for allegedly having been busted in the Air Force for drug use. Also, Hayden has exposed the fact that his opponent is driving with an expired license and didn't vote for ten years.

**No McDonald's certificate?** — Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles Olympics, received a \$475,000 merit bonus.

**Funny, we thought of that** — A letter writer to the *Washington Post* inveighs against critics of tax breaks for private golf clubs. He notes: "Each acre of grass converts

enough carbon monoxide each day to sustain the oxygen needs of 1,000 people." "Golf clubs are often testing grounds for new pesticides." "Every large golf club I have seen has beautiful large homes near it."

**Insult to injury** — Uruguay's junta has freed some political prisoners. It then slaps them with a bill for room and board for time in the slammer, with liens on property to ensure collection. Bills run as high as two years' average worker's wages.

**Altruism, Inc.** — Pets for People provides qualified seniors with a free pooch or puss from the

local pound. Founded by a non-profit foundation, the Purina Pets for People Fund, the organization also gives recipients a starter supply of Purina Dog or Cat Chow.

**Defending the American Way** — Congress allocated \$8 million to convert surplus military buildings into shelters for the homeless. But Army brass decided it would be too difficult transporting homeless to and from bases and, besides, they could only permit such shelters to be open for limited hours of the day. So, after duly notifying Congress, they're using the bulk of the \$8 million for added "defense" preparations.

## Farmers protest outside Chicago Board of Trade

BY CHERI TREMBLE

CHICAGO — About 150 farm families from a dozen states left their fields in the middle of harvest season to protest in Chicago September 27. They are angry that the prices farmers get for their products do not meet the cost of production and that the family farmer is becoming extinct.

Farmers representing the American Agriculture Movement (AAM), the North American Farm Alliance (NAFA), and the National Farm Organization (NFO) gathered outside the Chicago Board of Trade, the agricultural commodity futures exchange, to call attention to the plight of family farms. They demanded an increase in farm prices and a moratorium on farm and home foreclosures.

Jeanette Boeddeker, a dairy farmer from Ava, Missouri, said, "There are over 500

farmers going broke every day in this country. I'll put it very simply: it costs me \$1.26 to produce one gallon of milk. I get paid \$1.10 for it. Once the small family farms get forced out, it's going to go to corporate farming. Watch what happens to the price of food."

Don Horton, Illinois State Coordinator of the AAM, defined a family farm as 400 to 600 acres. He said, "My records show I'm one of the most efficient farmers around and I still can't make it. Don't believe anyone who says a farmer is wasteful or inefficient. If a farmer can't make a living on a section [640 acres] of ground there's something wrong."

He further explained, "A year ago food

didn't cost more than today but soybeans are \$2 per bushel cheaper than they were a year ago." Soybeans sell now for more than \$2 below the cost of production. Wheat sells for about half the cost of production according to these farmers.

Several farmers said they would like to see speculation on their products eliminated. Oral Ratliff, a farmer from Oklahoma, referring to the Board of Trade, said, "You might as well go to Las Vegas and roll the dice." He went on to explain that there are TV screens in the grain elevators that show the trading at the trade boards in Chicago and Kansas City. "That establishes the prices on commodities that they have never seen and have never felt in

their hands. That wheat is my wheat," he said.

Roger Allison, speaking for NAFA, said, "The farmer bears the brunt of all the speculation that goes on here at the Board of Trade. These people don't deal in fairness, they deal in bucks and they don't care just so long as they're making the bucks."

"This is one place," he added, "But I think the main place is Washington, D.C. It will take a political solution to [solve] our problem. Farmers being forced off the farm is government policy."

James Hanak from Missouri said, "I don't think it would make any difference if a Republican or Democrat gets elected president, it's the system."

## Salvadoran youth speaks to N.J. unionists

BY L. PALTRINERI

NEWARK — Sixteen-year-old Héctor Recinos, Jr. took a week off from his Los Angeles high school to speak here October 2 on the case of his imprisoned father, Salvadoran trade union leader Héctor Recinos. (Recinos and nine other trade union leaders were freed in El Salvador on October 15, largely due to an international campaign on their behalf.)

The New Jersey Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador sponsored the tour of young Recinos, who fled El Salvador just seven months ago to escape government repression and death squads.

The Labor Committee organized two important meetings. One was cosponsored by the Newark Teachers Union at its downtown Newark offices; the other was cosponsored by four locals of the Communications Workers of America and held at the Rutgers Labor Education Center in New Brunswick. Recinos also spoke at a meeting in a New Jersey high school before heading on to Boston and Washington, D.C.

The young Salvadoran spoke about the unjust imprisonment of his father and the nine other leaders of STECEL, the Salvadoran hydroelectrical workers union. They were arrested during a 1980 nationwide strike called to protest government repression directed against STECEL and other unions. They were held without bail or formal charges, enduring torture and threats against themselves and their families.

The young Recinos told New Jersey trade unionists that it became dangerous for his family after the arrest of his father. In 1982 his mother, an activist with the Committee of Mothers of Prisoners and Disappeared, and his 13-year-old sister, were kidnapped by heavily armed uniformed and civilian men. They have not been heard from since. Héctor and his two younger brothers were forced into hiding, changed their names, and found jobs in a brick factory in order to survive.

He was able to visit his father in prison under his assumed name. He described the conditions in the prison and how "the cops videoed the torture sessions as if this was something good to watch."

At his father's urging, and with the help of relatives in the United States, he and his brothers fled El Salvador, travelling on foot through Guatemala and Mexico to this country. They were immediately picked up by the U.S. Immigration and Naturaliza-

tion Service cops. They are now seeking political asylum.

Accompanying Recinos on the tour was Francisco Acosta, the U.S. and Canadian representative of the Salvadoran trade union federation FENASTRAS. Acosta, a construction worker in El Salvador, explained that over 400 multinational corporations operate in El Salvador's tax-free zones. They are making millions of dollars in profits off the backs of poorly paid Salvadoran workers.

Newark Teachers Union Pres. Carol Graves, a longtime union activist and member of the New Jersey Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador, told the other teachers present that a real campaign is

needed "to make people aware of the injustices and convince the U.S. government not to intervene in El Salvador. By helping Recinos 'we are helping ourselves — as we don't want a war.'"

"We have been in jail too, and we know it's a bad place to be," she added. Graves gave Recinos some Newark Teachers Union T-shirts as a gesture of solidarity from the union, as well as a check to aid the STECEL unionists.

The New Jersey committee is planning another informational forum and benefit for STECEL on October 23. It is cosponsored by two chapters of the New Jersey Coalition of Labor Union Women, and will be held at the United Auto Workers Region 9 offices in Cranford.

## Union leaders freed in Salvador

BY GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

NEW YORK — The National Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador has reported that Héctor Recinos and nine other leaders of the Salvadoran hydroelectrical workers union, STECEL, were released from prison in El Salvador on October 15.

Nine of the 10 unionists, accompanied by members of their families and the Dutch ambassador, flew to Guatemala City, where they boarded a plane for Holland.

The STECEL leaders were imprisoned in 1980 after leading a strike against Salvadoran government repression directed against the trade union movement. For four years they were held without bail or formal charges. They, and members of their families, were subjected to torture. Re-

cinis' wife and 13-year-old daughter were "disappeared" by a Salvadoran death squad in 1982.

The National Labor Committee was instrumental in mounting a public campaign to free the STECEL prisoners. In an October 8 United Nations appearance, Salvadoran Pres. José Napoleón Duarte announced that the 10 would be freed.

Dan Cantor, a spokesman for the National Labor Committee, told the *Militant* that the antiwar union forces will continue to press Washington to grant political asylum in the United States to Recinos and the other STECEL leaders. Those who want to aid this effort can contact the National Labor Committee at 15 Union Square, New York, N.Y. 10003. The telephone number is (212) 242-0700.

## Massive protests in Bangladesh

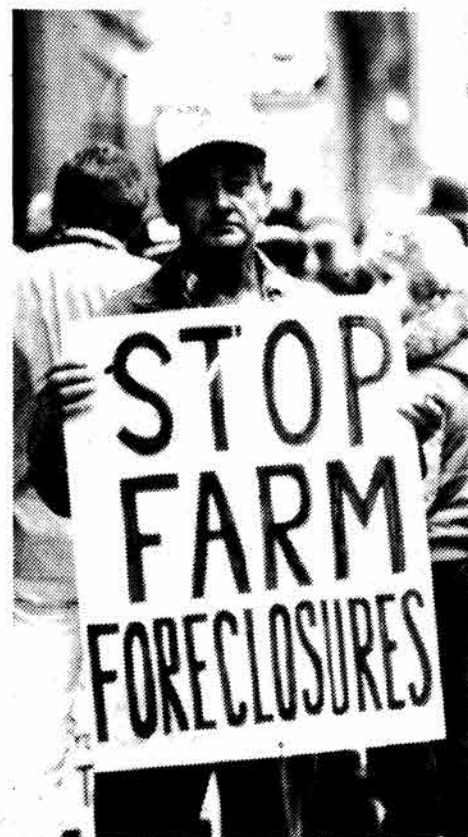
The military regime of Lieut. Gen. H. M. Ershad in Bangladesh was hit by massive protests on October 14. Three opposition groups organized three national rallies of more than a million people in the country's capital, Dhaka, to protest two and half years of martial law.

Bangladesh, one of the poorest countries in the world, has been ruled by the military off and on since winning its independence from Pakistan after a ten-month-long civil war in 1971. The latest protests come in the context of General Ershad calling parliamentary elections for December 8, when a new civilian government is to be elected.

The opposition parties are refusing to participate in the elections so long as martial law exists. They are demanding that Ershad turn the government over to caretaker rule until the elections are held.

General Ershad has refused. The opposition is calling for a 24-hour general strike on election day.

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Farmer at Chicago demonstration

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## CALIFORNIA

### Seaside

**Antiwar Rally.** Speakers: Ken Collins, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Seaside City Council; Jairo Romero, Hartnell Latin American Solidarity Club; Guillermo Morales, Watsonville farm worker organizing against deportation of undocumented workers. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Oct. 26, 8 p.m. Martin Luther King, Jr. School, 1713 Broadway Ave. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (408) 899-4732.

## FLORIDA

### Tallahassee

**El Malik El-Shabazz.** A film on Malcolm X.

Discussion to follow. Tue., Oct. 23, 8 p.m. 228 Conradi, Florida State University. Ausp: Tallahassee Young Socialist Alliance, FSU Black Student Union. For more information call (904) 222-1018.

## KENTUCKY

### Louisville

**Coal Miners Under Attack: Report On British Coal Strike and Recent U.S. Mine Workers Settlement.** Speaker: Bruce Kimball, member, United Mine Workers and Socialist Workers Party. Visited British coalfields. Sun., Oct. 28, 7 p.m. 809 E. Broadway. Donation: \$2.

Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Boston

**There Is an Alternative to the Reagan-Mondale Deadend.** A socialist campaign rally. Speakers: Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president; Chris Gauvreau, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 27, Social hour, 7 p.m.; rally, 8 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. Donation requested. Ausp: Massachusetts 1984 SWP Campaign. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

## MINNESOTA

### St. Paul

**Free American Indian Political Prisoners!** Speaker: Ruth Voights, Leonard Peltier Defense Committee. Sun., Oct. 28, 4 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Minnesota Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

## NEW YORK

### New York City

**Election '84: Will Voting Stop War, Racism, or Unemployment?** Speakers: Nan Bailey, SWP candidate for Congress, 16th C.D.; Elombe Brath, Patrice Lumumba Coalition; Alfred Edmond, managing editor, *Big Red*. Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. 79 Leonard St., Manhattan. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

**The Socialist Electoral Alternative.** A panel discussion with representatives of the Communist, New Alliance, Socialist Workers, and Workers World parties. Tue., Oct. 23, 8 p.m. New York Marxist School, 151 W 19th St., 7th floor. Donation: \$3. For more information call (212) 989-6820.

## OHIO

### Cincinnati

**Socialist Educational Conference.** "Independent Black Political Action." Sat., Oct. 27. "History of the Freedom Struggle in South Africa." Sun., Oct. 28. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For class times and more information call (513) 242-7161.

## Toledo

**Women Against Sexual Harassment.** Speakers: Denise Gotely, National Organization for Women; Lynn Edmondson, member Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union and Young Socialist Alliance. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Oct. 28, 7 p.m. 2120 Dorr St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (419) 536-0383.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia

**1984 Socialist Campaign Against the Reagan-Mondale War Drive.** Speaker: Jackie Floyd, National Youth Coordinator of Socialist Workers Campaign and member National Committee of Young Socialist Alliance. Fri., Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. 2744 Germantown Ave. Ausp: YSA. For more information call (215) 225-0213.

## WASHINGTON

### Seattle

**Stop the U.S. War on Central America and the Caribbean: A Socialist Campaign Rally.** Speakers: Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president; Mark Manning, SWP candidate for Congress, 7th C.D.; Cheryl Hidalgo, SWP candidate for governor of Washington. Fri., Oct. 26, 7 p.m. Rainier Community Center, 3701 S Oregon (off Rainier Ave. S). Ausp: Socialist Workers 1984 Campaign Committee. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

## WISCONSIN

### Milwaukee

**Black Revolt in South Africa.** Speaker: Stuart Crome, member National Committee of Young Socialist Alliance. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

# Grenada: forums mark one year after invasion

## ALABAMA

### Birmingham

**Film: Grenada — The Spirit Lives.** Film produced March 1984. Interviews with George Louison, Maurice Bishop's mother, and other survivors of coup and U.S. invasion. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 205 18th St. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (205) 323-3079.

## CALIFORNIA

### San Jose

**U.S. Out of Grenada and Central America!** Speakers: Mel Mason, SWP candidate for president; John Harris, SWP candidate for Congress, 10th C.D. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Oct. 21. Reception, 5:30 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. 46 1/2 Race St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: 1984 Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

### Seaside

**Informational Picket Line to Protest U.S. Military Occupation of Grenada.** Thurs., Oct. 25, 5:30 p.m. Fort Ord, Broadway St. gate. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (408) 899-4732.

## KENTUCKY

### Louisville

**Grenada: One Year Under the U.S. Boot.** Speakers: Betsy Soares, Socialist Workers Party; Joe Buckner, Young Socialist Alliance, visited Grenada in 1981. Sun., Oct. 21, 7 p.m. 809 E. Broadway. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Boston

**Grenada Invasion Anniversary Gathering.** Sat., Oct. 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Boston Common, Park St. Station. Ausp: Boston-Grenada Solidarity Committee. For more information call (617) 442-0588.

## MICHIGAN

### Detroit

**U.S. Out of Grenada! No U.S. Intervention in El Salvador, Nicaragua, or Cuba!** A schedule of activities.

1. Memorial Service for the Grenada Martyrs of Oct. 19, 1983. Fri., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. Hartford Memorial C.A. Hill Chapel, 18700 James Couzens.

2. March and rally to demand U.S. troops

out of Grenada. Assemble at Dexter and Grand Blvd. Sat., Oct. 27, 11 a.m. March to Dexter and Davison; noon rally.

Ausp: Detroit Organizing Committee for the Grenada Foundation. For more information call (313) 577-4649.

## MINNESOTA

### St. Paul

**U.S. Out of Grenada: One Year Under Military Occupation.** Speakers: Yusef Mgeni, Malcolm X Pan-African Institute; John Gaige, Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Oct. 21, 4 p.m. 508 N Snelling. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Minnesota Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

## MISSOURI

### St. Louis

**Grenada: One Year After the U.S. Invasion — Is Nicaragua Next?** A panel discussion. Sun., Oct. 21, 7 p.m. 3109 S Grand. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 772-4410.

## NEW YORK

### New York City

**Rally Against U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Grenada.** Speakers: Joachim Mark, noted Grenadian historian; representatives of sponsoring organizations. Film showings: *Grenada: The Future Coming Toward Us*, and *Maurice*, Cuban-made film documenting U.S. invasion. Thurs., Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m. Harriet Tubman School, 127th St. and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd., Manhattan. Ausp: Patrice Lumumba Coalition, Caribbean People's Alliance, New Afrikan People's Organization, others. For more information call (212) 866-1600.

**The Bishop Legacy: Lessons and Perspectives.** Speaker: Steve Clark, author of introduction to *Maurice Bishop Speaks*. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. 79 Leonard St., Manhattan. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

## OHIO

### Cincinnati

**Grenada: One Year Later.** Film: *Grenada: The Future Coming Toward Us*. Followed by presentation, speakers to be announced. Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. University YMCA, 270 Calhoun St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Free Grenada Committee. For more information call (513) 221-5574.

### Cleveland

**In the Spirit of Maurice Bishop: A Discus-**

**sion of the Grenada Revolution, 1979-83.** Speakers: Mohammed Oliver, staff writer for *Militant*, traveled to Grenada; Paul Hill, instructor of behavioral sciences, Cuyahoga Community College. Sat., Oct. 27, 4 p.m. McGowan's Party Center, 14402 Kinsman Rd. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Pathfinder Press. For more information call (216) 451-6150.

## OREGON

### Portland

**An Evening In Solidarity with the Grenada Revolution — 1979-1983.** Slide show of 1981 tour to Grenada. Videotape: *The Truth Crushed to the Earth Will Rise Again*, interview with Don Rojas, press secretary to murdered Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Sat., Oct. 27. Music and refreshments, 7 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 2732 NE Union. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Pathfinder Press and Militant Bookstore. For more information call (503) 287-7416.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia

**Solidarity Meeting to Protest U.S. Occupation of Grenada.** Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. 2744 Germantown Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 225-0213.

### Pittsburgh

**U.S. Out of Grenada! — Grenada One Year Later.** Speakers: Richard Blackett, professor of Black studies, University of Pittsburgh; Chako Bendela, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 141 S Highland. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

## TEXAS

### Houston

**The Grenada Revolution.** A series of classes sponsored by the Young Socialist Alliance every Thurs. at 6:30 p.m. through Oct. 25. Translation to Spanish. 4806 Alameda. For more information call (713) 522-8054.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Lessons of Grenada One Year Later.** Louis Wolf, coeditor, *Covert Action*; Daphne Northington, professor at UDC; Fred Stanton, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 3106 Mt. Pleasant. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

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Box 261, Annex Station. Zip: 02901.

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



## Lessons of GM-UAW contract

The wealthy owners of General Motors have won another round from the United Auto Workers. The auto profiteers have succeeded in winning the contract they wanted, one that leaves the way clear to inflict new blows on the union.

For UAW members who hoped to win back ground lost in 1982's concession contract, the new pact is a major disappointment. Most frustrating of all, the union put up no real fight.

GM's success in imposing its conditions will also have an impact on other workers who are seeking to draw the line against the employer offensive. Many, including lesser-paid and nonunion workers, had hoped that the potentially powerful UAW would do this. They know GM's victory will further embolden the entire employing class.

The new contract was highly touted by UAW Pres. Owen Bieber and other top union officials. They claimed it broke new ground in winning "job security." So it is particularly noteworthy that many angry auto workers — 43 percent — voted to reject the pact despite the hard-sell from the top union officialdom.

For many workers the vote against the contract was a serious, conscious decision. They knew the union could do better if it put up a fight against GM's owners.

Bieber and the UAW tops warned against such a course. When initial vote returns showed the pact in danger of failing, Bieber made two things clear to the union membership.

First, he warned, a no vote was a vote to go on strike. Second, he predicted in advance that such a strike would accomplish nothing, reemphasizing the top officialdom's refusal to lead a struggle if the union ranks insisted on one.

The UAW misleaders' opposition to a fight was manifested on the day the old contract expired. They refused to mobilize the power of the entire union in a nationwide GM walkout. Instead they chose a small, selective strike against a few GM plants, one that could be ended quickly once they reached a settlement.

Top UAW officials called the selective strike as a token gesture to keep the lid on things inside the union while they went on negotiating with GM. It was understood the same way by GM's owners. The UAW officialdom maintained its course, seeking a contract acceptable to GM.

Bieber and company also continued to press the line that the real enemies of auto workers are not the owners of the wealthy corporation, but fellow workers in other countries who also make cars and auto parts for a living. They ran expensive television ads pushing the reactionary "Buy American" campaign.

Such a course cannot defend U.S. auto workers from the employer offensive. The U.S. labor movement can not advance by counterposing the needs of workers in this country to those abroad who are exploited by U.S. and world imperialism.

The new GM contract confirms that. While GM (which was hurt little by the brief selective strike) continues to rake in record profits, auto workers will lose ground over the next three years.

In addition to their open threat to lead a strike to defeat, the UAW officialdom sold the contract by continuing the class-splitting policy of pitting worker against worker — a policy that has been the hallmark of the U.S. labor bureaucracy for years. It appealed to its base in the union: older workers and those in the skilled trades who will gain a little bit more in the new deal.

What lessons can be drawn from this experience? Auto workers have been on the front lines facing the employer offensive in the United States. But the assault is directed against all working people both in this country and abroad. It is not just the UAW that needs new policies to fight back effectively, it is the entire labor movement.

This requires a sober view of what we are really up against. The U.S. government's war against the Nicaraguan revolution and the Salvadoran liberation fighters is at the center of the boss-class offensive. The war is already affecting working people in this country and it will have a more profound impact as it continues to escalate.

The union-busting drive at home is one piece of the more generalized assault on the social gains and rights of all working people. This includes renewed attacks on Black, Latino, and women's rights; scapegoating of immigrant workers; a growing murderous squeeze on family farmers; and more.

The most conscious workers in the UAW and other unions are searching for a strategy to meet this challenge. Some are beginning to understand that there is no effective strategy for auto workers, and other working people, separate from an independent political fight against the integrated offensive by the employing class.

That process of drawing the necessary lessons from the blows inflicted on U.S. labor in the past decade is still in the beginning stages.

The sizable no vote was an expression of anger and frustration. A willingness to fight is growing in the union ranks. It can provide a base for a class-struggle opposition, one that will refuse to subordinate the needs of auto workers and other working people to the needs of GM's owners, their class, and the two capitalist political parties which represent them.

Such an opposition — based on an alternative political course — does not yet exist in the UAW or any U.S. union today. The top labor officialdom remains completely united on a policy of class collaboration — even those officials who stated opposition to the GM contract offered no alternative to Bieber's political course.

A militant new leadership will have to emerge from among the fighters in the ranks — Blacks, Latinos, Arabs, Asians, women, and young workers. This leadership will be forged in the course of class conflict — including setbacks such as this one at GM. But it will also arise out of big social battles against war, racism, sexism, and other issues of vital concern to working people.

The fight against the U.S. war in Central America is the central challenge facing working people. New leadership in the unions will have to take up this challenge. Every step that is taken today in the labor movement against the war, contributes to advancing a class-struggle leadership.

As the war escalates, this antiwar fight will become intertwined with other struggles of working people inside the union movement, as well as outside. It will point the way forward for those workers who seek to transform the labor movement into an effective tool for struggle in the interests of all working people.

An immediate test is the strike by 36,000 Canadian auto workers who walked out at GM's Canadian plants October 16 and 17. These Canadian workers face the same problems and challenges as their U.S. counterparts. They deserve effective and immediate solidarity from the ranks of U.S. labor.

## Castro: 'Maurice Bishop a true revolutionary'

The Grenadian revolutionary government headed by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was overthrown October 12, 1983, by a clique of military and government bureaucrats led by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard. This same group organized the murder of Bishop and other central revolutionary leaders on October 19, 1983. The overthrow was followed by the October 25, 1983, U.S. invasion of the country.

Following are excerpts from a November 14, 1983, speech delivered by Fidel Castro to a gathering of more than a million Cubans in Havana, who were honoring Cuban workers killed during the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Castro explains Bishop's revolutionary leadership and takes up Coard's counterrevolutionary coup. The entire speech is printed as an appendix to *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, published by Pathfinder Press.

The U.S. government looked down on Grenada and hated Bishop. It wanted to destroy Grenada's process and obliterate its example. It had even prepared military plans for invading the island — as Bishop had charged nearly two years ago — but it lacked a pretext.

Socioeconomically, Grenada was actually advancing satisfactorily. The people had received many benefits, in

## OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

spite of the hostile policy of the United States, and Grenada's Gross National Product was growing at a good rate in the midst of the world crisis.

Bishop was not an extremist; rather, he was a true revolutionary — conscientious and honest. Far from disagreeing with his intelligent and realistic policy, we fully sympathized with it, since it was rigorously adapted to his country's specific conditions and possibilities.

Unfortunately, the Grenadian revolutionaries themselves unleashed the events that opened the door to imperialist aggression. Hyenas emerged from the revolutionary ranks. . . . The fact is that allegedly revolutionary arguments were used, invoking the purest principles of Marxism-Leninism and charging Bishop with practicing a cult of personality and with drawing away from the Leninist norms and methods of leadership.

In our view, nothing could be more absurd than to attribute such tendencies to Bishop. It was impossible to imagine anyone more noble, modest, and unselfish.

In our view, Coard's group objectively destroyed the revolution and opened the door to imperialist aggression. Whatever their intentions, the brutal assassination of Bishop and his most loyal, closest comrades is a fact that can never be justified in that or any other revolution. As the October 20 statement by the Cuban party and government put it, "no crime must be committed in the name of the revolution and freedom."

On October 12, Bishop was removed from office by the Central Committee, on which the conspirators had attained a majority. On the thirteenth, he was placed under house arrest. On the nineteenth, the people took to the streets and freed Bishop. On the same day, Coard's group ordered the army to fire on the people and Bishop, Whiteman, Jacqueline Creft, and other excellent revolutionary leaders were murdered.

As soon as the internal dissensions, which came to light on October 12, became known, the Yankee imperialists decided to invade.

The message sent by the leadership of the Cuban party to Coard's group on October 15 has been made public. In it, we expressed our deep concern over both the internal and external consequences of the split and appealed to common sense, serenity, wisdom, and generosity of revolutionaries. This reference to generosity was an appeal not to use violence against Bishop and his followers.

This group of Coard's that seized power in Grenada expressed serious reservations toward Cuba from the very beginning because of our well-known and unquestionable friendship with Bishop.

The national and international press have published our strong denunciation of the events of October 19, the day Bishop was murdered.

Imperialism, however, presented the events as the coming to power of a group of hard-line communists, loyal allies of Cuba. Were they really communists? Were they really hard-liners? Could they really be loyal allies of Cuba? Or were they rather conscious or unconscious tools of Yankee imperialism?

Look at the history of the revolutionary movement, and you will find more than one connection between imperialism and those who take positions that appear to be on the extreme left. Aren't Pol Pot and Ieng Sary — the ones responsible for the genocide in Kampuchea — the most loyal allies Yankee imperialism has in Southeast Asia at present? In Cuba, ever since the Grenadian crisis began, we have called Coard's group — to give it a name — the "Pol Pot group."

## A new blow to democratic rights

In an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, Congress passed, and President Reagan signed into law, a radical measure that will produce the most far-reaching overhaul of federal criminal law in U.S. history. The law poses grave dangers to the democratic rights of all working people.

The 635-page "anticrime" package includes sweeping changes in the bail system. The legislation allows judges to detain defendants that they deem "dangerous."

This effectively guts the constitutional safeguard that one is presumed innocent until proven guilty. A worker framed up on a charge of "picket-line violence" for instance, can now, under federal law, be imprisoned with little or no proof. The same will be true for Blacks, Latinos, women, and working farmers victimized and jailed when fighting for their rights, as well as for opponents of the U.S. war in Central America and individuals charged under federal "conspiracy" laws as well as other charges.

The new rules also put limits on the insanity defense. A defendant who, for reason of mental illness, was unable to control his or her actions will no longer be able to claim this as a defense.

Other provisions in the law make fundamental changes in parole and sentencing. The result will be longer sen-

tences and further overcrowding in the hellholes that make up the federal prison system.

Black and Latino youth, always a special target of cop brutality and harsh court sentences, will be among those who suffer the most from these new reactionary measures.

The real criminals — the warmongers in Washington, land speculators, corporate bosses, and loan sharks on Wall Street — of course will continue to walk the streets and exploit and oppress working people.

Although the Reagan administration claims credit for the new law, its passage was a bipartisan act.

Sen. Edward Kennedy is one of the chief architects of several key provisions of the bill, which he had been pushing before Reagan ever entered the White House.

In order to convince working people to go along with reactionary restrictions on their rights, like those contained in this new bill, Democrats and Republicans and their media mouthpieces whip up scare campaigns about "crime in the streets."

The full effect of the bill may not be seen immediately. However, its purpose is strikingly clear: to have in place harsh new measures that the nation's rulers will seek to use against working people fighting racism, union-busting, farm foreclosures, attacks on abortion rights, and imperialism's escalating war in Central America.



# How New Zealand unionists fought sexual harassment

Throughout the world women fighting their way into basic industry face many of the same problems. One of the biggest is sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment of women is a versatile weapon in the hands of the bosses. It is used to intimidate and discipline a section of the work force. It is aimed at driving women out of jobs in basic industry and preventing us from taking our place as equals in the productive process. It is used to divide and weaken the work force. Manage-



## WOMEN IN REVOLT

Pat Grogan

ment tries to play on the sexist prejudices of many male workers to enlist them in the attacks against women workers.

The fight against sexual harassment is a central political question and a big challenge to the union movement everywhere.

In New Zealand over the past 15 to 20 years, women have fought their way into the relatively high paying jobs in the meat industry, which is central to New Zealand's economy. However, women are still only a small percentage of the total number of meat workers. A very few have managed to get into the highest paying, skilled jobs as butchers.

The following article appeared in *Socialist Action*, the newspaper reflecting the views of New Zealand's Socialist Action League, a sister organization of the Socialist Workers Party. It describes a successful fight of

meat workers against a case of sexual harassment at one of the plants. The incident is very similar to the "peephole" cases being fought in this country by women coal miners. (See October 12 *Militant*.)

The article is written by Eileen Morgan, a former meat worker.

"Workers at Hawkes Bay Farmers Meat Company's Takapau works... walked out on September 12 after a particularly gross example of sexual harassment of women meat workers at the plant came to light.

"Following a complaint that someone was spying on the women in their changing room and showers, a union investigation discovered that eight peepholes had been drilled in a wall in the shower area.

"From the women's side of the wall the holes looked like pinpricks but, shed president [a union official representing the whole plant] Roley Hapaku explained to reporters, they had been countersunk from the back and drilled from different angles to give the viewers 'maximum vantage points.'

"On the other side of the wall was a service passage. Chairs had been arranged by the peepholes, and empty juice cartons and soft drink bottles were lying around. The activities of the men spying through the holes, Roley Hapaku said, 'violated the dignity and rights of the women at the works.'

"When the holes were discovered, only 40 women were working. At the height of the meat season, however, over 100 women meat workers are employed at Takapau, representing 35 percent of the work force. It seems likely that the holes had been there since the works first opened in November 1981.

"After the holes were discovered, the women workers walked out and said they would not return until their privacy was guaranteed. A shed meeting was then held, and the rest of the workers voted to join the walkout in soli-

darity with the women.

"The union demanded that the company block the holes, line the wall of the passageway, and line the interior wall of the shower room with white paper. When the workers returned to work the following day, only two of these demands had been met and they walked out again. Normal work resumed on September 14.

"In the course of the union's investigation, it was discovered that the works' management had known about the peepholes for at least five weeks. Roley Hapaku described the company's lack of action as unacceptable. Action should have been taken much earlier, he said.

"Takapau's management claimed that they had done nothing about the holes because they were trying to catch the men involved. But one worker is reported in the September 14 *New Zealand Herald* as saying that, 'the management's attitude had been one of humor at the incident.'"

The strong stand taken by these New Zealand workers is an inspiring example of solidarity to workers everywhere.

The male workers refused to fall into the bosses' trap. Unlike management, they saw nothing funny about the humiliation and sexual harassment of their union sisters.

The determination of the women workers to stand up to the bosses and defend their right to work with dignity was no doubt a big factor in helping to win the male workers to the right side.

The workers — both male and female — not only took the issue seriously, they were willing to back it up with action by walking off the job.

A blow was struck, not only for the "dignity and rights" of the women workers, but for the dignity and rights of the male workers as well. Because of it, there is a stronger, more combative and unified union at the works.

## LETTERS

### Send 'Bishop Speaks'

I am a prisoner presently confined at Green Haven State Prison, Stormville, New York.

I have recently finished reading a very informative newsletter titled "U.S. Imperialist Invasion of Grenada." This newsletter has helped me immensely to better understand the U.S. invasion and occupation of Grenada. Thanks to this newsletter I have also become more aware of U.S. imperialism in Central America and in the Middle East.

The reason why I am writing this letter to you is to ask that you please, if possible, send me a copy of the newly published book "Maurice Bishop Speaks." I need to know more about the Grenada revolution, and I am sure that this book will provide me with the information I crave to know.

A prisoner  
Stormville, New York

### Mondale's antiarabism

I received a copy of a protest message from the Association of Arab-American University Graduates (AAUG) regarding the racist, anti-Arab campaign of Mondale-Ferraro. I thought *Militant* readers would be interested in reading this message, which was sent to the Mondale campaign by Abbas Alnasrawi, president of the AAUG, in response to the racist decision of the Mondale campaign to refuse campaign contributions from Arab-Americans:

"The Association of Arab-American University Graduates (AAUG) was horrified to learn of the Mondale campaign's policy not to accept contributions from Arab-Americans and to return the contributions already made. AAUG protests in the strongest possible terms this blatant policy of antiarabism, antisemitism, racism, and political discrimination."

Georges Sayad  
Salt Lake City, Utah

### Sri Lanka

We are a progressive organization in Sri Lanka working wholeheartedly for the liberation of the workers, and especially the plantation workers in this island, who are an oppressed class. Armed with several publications

of our own and a strong trade union, we are engaged in active work with a fairly large panel of field workers.

As your esteemed journal the *Militant* would be helpful to us in our campaigns, we would be grateful to you if you would consider giving us a concession rate of subscription for it.

V.L. Pereira,  
General Secretary,  
Hill Country Youth Assembly  
Colombo, Sri Lanka

### NBIPP newsletter

The first issue of the *NBIPP Newsletter* of the New York National Black Independent Political Party that was reviewed in the October 19 *Militant* is getting an excellent response. It features articles on the elections, an excerpt from the NBIPP charter and one demanding that the U.S. get out of Grenada.

Although no NBIPP chapter exists yet in Toledo, members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance have been aggressively distributing this important material. In just two days twenty copies were sold. About half of these were sold at an election debate in the Black community, and the rest to members of the UAW Local 12 at Jeep. The newsletter has literally sold itself, and is of special interest to former Jesse Jackson supporters and *Militant* readers. Copies can be ordered for twenty-five cents each from NBIPP c/o Yvette Montero 108 143rd St. Apt. 6E, New York, N.Y. 10030.

Mark Friedman  
Toledo, Ohio

### Refugee Center

The Center for Central American Refugees in Plainfield, New Jersey, held a grand opening reception and cultural event on October 8. The Center was founded with a \$20,000 grant last summer to provide "legal assistance, general assistance, and outreach and integration into the community" for the more than 400 Salvadorans and Guatemalans living in the immediate area.

75 people attended a reception that featured a warm welcome by Plainfield City Council Pres. Helen Miller. Then 150 people at-

tended a one-act play, "A Peasant from El Salvador." The play was an entertaining and effective explanation of the life and history of Salvadoran peasants, and the underlying causes of the current civil war.

After the play, supporters of Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate, Priscilla Schenk, sold 13 copies of the *Militant*, 12 copies of *Perspectiva Mundial*, and 3 copies of the *Young Socialist*.

To contact the Center for assistance, or to volunteer help, write to 403 West Seventh Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060, or phone (201) 753-8730.

Michael Pennock  
Jersey City, New Jersey

### 'The Good Fight'

Have you seen the movie, *The Good Fight — The Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War*?

It is a powerful film! A stinging indictment of U.S. foreign policy from pre-World War II until now. When the 'International' is sung, it is very moving. It is also a very funny film. Why doesn't someone review it for the *Militant*?

Jack D. Bresée  
Richmond, Virginia

### Mason at auto plants

Mel Mason, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president, spoke to workers at two auto plants here — the Fairfax plant, which is a GM assembly plant in Kansas, and the Leeds GM plant in Kansas City, Missouri, where I work. These two plants were not part of the UAW's selective strike, although feelings ran very high in both plants to shut them down.

Workers, both Black and white, male and female, spoke to Mel and expressed their feelings about jobs, the coming elections, and the U.S. war drive. A Black worker told Mel, "We don't need war. What we need in this country is jobs and better contracts. I like this about union solidarity, we certainly need a lot of that."

A white male worker said, "We need help and it sounds like you're the only one who's trying to do it. Good luck to you."

Wells Todd  
Kansas City, Missouri



### S.F. budget

Mayor Diane Feinstein recently announced proposals for the city budget. The budget has been praised by local and state politicians because it saves the city several million dollars in surplus.

In the weeks that followed the budget's appearance, it became clear where this surplus is coming from — money cut from the budgets of community social organizations that service working people, particularly the city's Black, Latino and Chinese populations.

On Tuesday, September 18, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the new budget. To protest the proposed cuts approximately 400 people showed up at the hearing. Among them was Marilee Taylor, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for the 16th State Assembly District and a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Taylor had been invited to the hearings by a coworker whose child care center is due for closure. Taylor is a member of Local 101 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

"What do you think working people are supposed to do?" asked one Latina. "If they close the child care, are we supposed to quit our jobs, take our kids to work, or what? They don't care a bit for the needs of working people."

Taylor denounced the new budget. "Care for the aged, child care, human services, and education should be the first things maintained and expanded upon. Only a government of the working

people, not of the rich, can guarantee this."

Raúl González

San Francisco, California

### Regular readers

I'm sorry that at this moment I am unable to make a generous contribution. I am an 'alien' in this country and have no one who could send me anything at this time.

I've been passing the *Militant* around every chance I get. I have about seven regular readers. We love to read the different articles and have strong political conversations and try to come up with a solution to these different problems — especially the problems of the Third World.

A prisoner  
Comstock, New York

### Correction

Due to a typographical error, the number of steelworkers who attended a slideshow on Nicaragua during the United Steelworkers convention was reported incorrectly last week. The sentence on page 14 should have read: "During the convention week 15 workers attended a slideshow entitled 'A Steelworker's View of Nicaragua.'"

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.



## Answer U.S. lies on Grenada

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

In the next several weeks, U.S. working people will be deluged with a flood of lies about the Grenada revolution, its achievements, and its overthrow. The occasion for the storm of demagoguery is the first anniversary of the U.S. invasion of the Caribbean island on October 25.

U.S. employers and their government will take this opportunity to not only smear the Grenada revolution, but to try to win support for the U.S. war in Central America. Countering the employers' lies about the Grenada revolution is an essential task for all its supporters and an important contribution to the fight against Washington's escalating war in Central America.

"There's a bipartisan drive to deepen the U.S. rulers' war," explained Mel Mason, Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate. "Democratic presidential hopeful Walter Mondale has chimed in with President Reagan's saber-rattling against Nicaragua. Mondale has also made clear his support to the U.S. invasion and occupation of Grenada."

"The big lie used to 'justify' this invasion," continued Mason, "was that U.S. citizens in Grenada were in danger. The truth is that the U.S. rulers saw a chance to ensure the defeat of Grenada's workers and farmers government and turn back the gains of the Grenada revolution."

Grenada's revolutionary government was overthrown Oct. 12, 1983, in a military takeover led by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, who placed Maurice Bishop, the prime minister, under house arrest. Tens of thousands of Grenadians freed Bishop October 19, but the revolutionary leader and many of his supporters were gunned down by Coard's troops. These events opened the door for the October 25 U.S. invasion.

One year later, noted Mason, "U.S.



Joachim Mark (at podium), noted Grenadian historian, and Adeyemi Bandle (seated), from National Black United Front, both addressed June 1984 meeting celebrating publication of *Maurice Bishop Speaks*. Renewed educational drive is needed to counter U.S. government lies about Grenada revolution.

troops still occupy Grenada to maintain the domination by U.S. imperialists over the island. I urge my campaign supporters to build and participate in antiwar actions such as the October 27 demonstration in New York City and to mount a drive to answer the U.S. lies about the Grenada revolution."

Mason and Andrea González, the SWP vice-presidential candidate, have used their

campaign to help mobilize antiwar opposition to the U.S. government. Other SWP candidates throughout the country have done likewise. "We plan to step up this drive," explained Andrea Morell, SWP national campaign director.

Morell said SWP candidates and supporters will be speaking at news conferences, meetings, forums, and elsewhere about the accomplishments of the Grenada

revolution and the lessons of its overthrow.

An integral part of this drive, she said, will be sales of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*. These periodicals help counter the employers' lies about the U.S. invasion and occupation of Grenada.

Another important aspect of this educational effort will be selling *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, published by Pathfinder Press. During a similar campaign last spring, SWP members sold over 1,000 copies of the book. In addition, the socialists helped build forums, rallies, receptions, and other events to celebrate the publication of the book.

*Maurice Bishop Speaks* is the property of all supporters of the Grenada revolution. This fact was shown by the broad sponsorship of and participation in book celebration meetings such as the one in New York City on June 17. At the 13th annual convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, participants sponsored a reception for the book. Some 60 attending the convention came to the event. The potential for organizing such gatherings still exists.

There is no better record of the Grenada revolution than Bishop's words themselves. *Maurice Bishop Speaks* contains the major speeches by Bishop between 1979-83. The book also has the October 20 and 25 statements of the Cuban government and Cuban Communist Party, and the November 14 speech by Fidel Castro on the execution of Bishop and his supporters and the subsequent U.S. invasion.

By introducing working people to *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, they can learn about the actual program of Grenada's revolutionary leadership. Most importantly, learning about the gains made by Grenadian workers and farmers once they seized political power can help inspire U.S. working people to do the same here.

## Striking British miner tours Utah coalfields

BY GEORGES SAYAD

SALT LAKE CITY — International working-class solidarity against a common enemy was the message that striking British National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) member Steve Shukla brought to working people in Utah. Utah is one of the largest copper and coal mining centers in the United States. Miners here are facing big employer attacks against their unions, jobs, and standard of living. Shukla's description of the NUM's militant seven-month fight against mine closures was an inspiring view of how to fight back.

Shukla was welcomed at a press conference called by the Salt Lake City Central Federation of Labor. A number of radio and TV stations and one of the major dailies covered his tour. The press conference was followed by a luncheon organized by the Central Federation of Labor, which was attended by union officials. The Cen-

tral Federation of Labor expressed its solidarity by contributing \$150 to the NUM. The local Molders and Laborers unions also made contributions.

Shukla's major public appearance in Salt Lake was at a rally in solidarity with the British miners held at the Union Labor Center. This event was publicized at a number of mines and factories, including Kennecott Copper.

Kennecott, emboldened by the union-busting example set by Phelps Dodge Corp. in Arizona, recently laid off over 1,800 workers. These workers had just rejected a company plan for further union concessions. Shukla, who had just visited Arizona, took the opportunity at the meeting to express his support to the Arizona copper strikers who have been on picket lines at Phelps Dodge for more than a year.

He explained that workers here and in Britain face a common enemy and a common challenge of defeating the employer attacks supported by the sister capitalist governments in both countries. Shukla also thanked Gordon Otley, president of the Central Federation of Labor and of Salt Lake City American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), for the support expressed by Utah unionists.

In the coal mining area of Price, Utah, Shukla was welcomed to Carbon County at a reception organized by The Lady Coal Miners of Utah held at the District 22 headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). About 20 working and retired miners were present. The spirit of solidarity was high and was most symbolically expressed when a Navajo miner showed her appreciation for the British miners' struggle by giving Shukla a gift of a Navajo necklace and hairclip for his children.

Some miners were quick to raise the

analogy to the 1981 air traffic controllers strike in this country. They pointed to the need for labor solidarity and explained how much stronger the union movement would be if the air traffic controllers had been victorious through the active support of other unions. Following the reception Shukla was invited to continue discussions over dinner at the Cowboy Club. The country western band welcomed Shukla and the NUM to the club.

Shukla also had interviews with two radio stations in Price and the local newspaper, *The Sun Advocate*.

One of the highlights of the Price tour was a breakfast meeting with some coal

miners from Emery mines. Emery Mining has refused to sign a contract with the UMWA and miners there struck shortly after Shukla's visit.

A lot of what Shukla had to say hit very close to home for these miners. Shukla invited them to come to Britain and learn first hand about the experiences of the British miners. They all exchanged addresses, and one miner expressed interest in taking Shukla up on his offer.

In the course of the tour, supporters of the British miners in Price and Salt Lake City raised over \$450.00 to cover the tour expenses and to help the miners strike fund.

## Garment workers fight sex harassment

BY BETSY FARLEY

SAN FRANCISCO — On September 19, Marilee Taylor, a single needle sewing machine operator, was laid off from her job as a floorworker at Koret of California. The layoff came down just hours after Taylor, along with other workers, had complained about sexual harassment of women workers on the fourth floor. A male supervisor, John Pugliaresi, repeatedly entered the women's bathroom.

Taylor is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for State Assembly in California's 16th District. She has worked at Koret for two and a half years, and is a member of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) Local 101.

Taylor is well known as a union activist, a fighter for women's and immigrant workers' rights, and as an opponent of U.S. intervention in Central America.

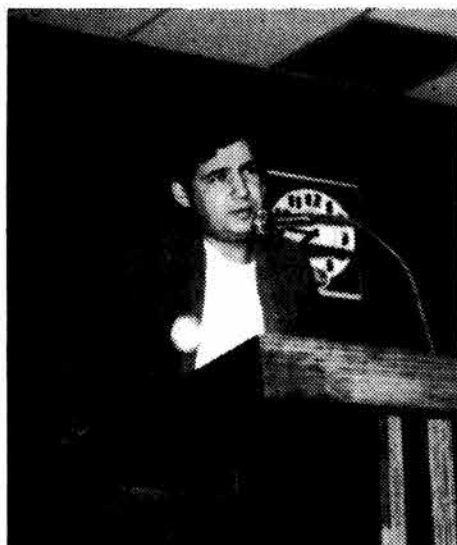
ILGWU Local 101 is taking up the fight to win Taylor's job back. She has filed a

grievance demanding immediate callback with full back pay or preference for equal work distribution in the future, and an end to sexual harassment of workers on the fourth floor.

Although the ILGWU generally has no seniority provision in its union contracts, virtually every contract has provisions mandating equal division of work. This means that when work is slow, the available work must be divided equally among the workers in a particular job category, regardless of their length of time on the job.

Equal division of work is a hard-fought gain won through militant struggles by garment workers over the past 70 years. Its purpose is to prevent arbitrary firings for union activity and discrimination against immigrant workers, a huge percentage of the membership. But the manufacturers and contractors are always trying to violate this principle. When work is slow they use this as an excuse to lay off "troublemakers"

Continued on Page 10



Steve Shukla, striking British miner.