

## Vote Socialist Workers Party!

Mel Mason and Andrea González, the Socialist Workers Party presidential and vice-presidential candidates, deserve the vote and support of workers, Blacks, Latinos, women, family farmers — all the oppressed and exploited.

Why?

Because the socialist presidential ticket, and the candidates running for local, state, and federal offices in 26 states, are the only candidates telling the truth:

- About the source of working people's problems — the capitalist system with its

## EDITORIAL

brutal wars, racism, sexism, and exploitation and domination of working people.

- About the realistic and necessary solution — a popular social revolution led by workers and farmers to establish a government of, by, and for working people, the producers of the country's wealth.

Throughout the campaign, this fundamental truth has been brought to workers and farmers by Mason and González.

It's been brought to striking copper miners, auto workers, and bus drivers. It's been brought to Black and Latino fighters for equality. It's been brought to women fighting for their rights. It's been brought to farmers fighting bank foreclosures. It's been brought to young people opposed to the draft.

Moreover, the socialists have focused their campaign on the central issue of U.S. and world politics — Washington's war in Central America and the Caribbean. The fight against imperialist war is at the heart of the political struggle to make a socialist revolution in the United States.

War is inherent to the imperialist system.

That's why the only way to end imperialist war, once and for all, is for politically conscious workers and farmers to disarm the warmakers by seizing political power — as the Cubans and Nicaraguans have done.

Mason and González have used their

Continued on page 14

# Socialist candidates say 'oppose U.S. war drive'



G.M. Cookson



Militant/Yvonne Hayes

Mel Mason, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president; Andrea González, socialist vice-presidential candidate.

In the accompanying editorial the *Militant* presents the reasons for its endorsement of the Socialist Workers Party ticket in the November 6 elections. We are printing here a statement by the SWP's presidential and vice-presidential candidates Mel Mason and Andrea González containing their views on the key issue they've addressed in their campaign — the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean.

The central issue in world politics today is the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean. The U.S. employers and their government in Washington are determined to maintain their domination of this region. Working people must be equally determined in fighting against it.

The U.S. rulers reap tremendous wealth from their subjugation of workers and farmers in Central America and the Caribbean. The U.S. imperialists have historically imposed brutal dictatorships throughout the region in order to suppress opposition to this exploitation and oppression and crush any revolt against Yankee domination.

But the toilers of the Americas have begun to stand up. In 1959 Cuba broke the chains of U.S. imperialist domination, making a revolution that placed the workers and farmers in political power. They replaced the private profit system with an economic system that put meeting the needs of Cuban working people first.

The socialist revolution in the Americas took another step forward with the 1979 victories of our Nicaraguan and Grenadian brothers and sisters. Once again, working people showed that the path to national liberation lies with ending the political domination of the imperialists and their native agents.

Despite the heavy blow our class has suffered with the overthrow of the Grenada revolution by an internal counterrevolution, and the subsequent U.S. invasion and occupation, the socialist revolution in the Americas still thrives.

Workers and farmers are consolidating their power in Nicaragua while they continue to fight against the U.S.-organized war. In El Salvador, the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front and the Democratic Revolutionary Front, which represent the Salvadoran masses' aspiration for freedom, are waging a determined struggle against the U.S.-backed regime there.

Continued on Page 4

## N.Y. march protests U.S. occupation of Grenada

BY WENDY LYONS

NEW YORK — Close to 1,000 people marched in Brooklyn October 27 to demand an end to U.S. occupation of Grenada and an end to U.S. military intervention in Central America and the Caribbean. The action protested the recent harassment of Dessima Williams, former Grenadian ambassador to the Organization of American States.

Williams had been seized two days earlier in Washington, D.C., by immigration cops. She was dragged off after giving a speech to a conference supporting nonintervention in the Caribbean and Central America, held on the first anniversary of the invasion of Grenada. (See story on back page.)

Williams was to have been a featured speaker at the Brooklyn rally. The move against her was clearly aimed at intimidating those who are speaking out about the widening U.S. war against liberation fighters in Central America and the Caribbean. It is also aimed at those telling the truth about the real aims of the occupation forces in Grenada, which is to wipe out the gains workers and farmers made through the revolution that was led by the slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. It is part of the growing attacks on the democratic rights of working people.

The Brooklyn rally, preceded by two feeder marches, took place under a banner with a quote from Maurice Bishop: "The Caribbean and Central America is nobody's backyard." The event was cochaired by Adeyemi Bandle of the National Black United Front (NBUF) and Wilma Reverón of the International Information Office for the Independence of Puerto Rico.

Bandle opened the rally by saying "no one should take lightly our presence here today. The arrest of Dessima Williams on the anniversary of the invasion shows that there are those who want to stop the truth being told at any cost. But we won't let them. . . . We are here today to say that our sisters and brothers in the Caribbean and Central America have the right to live in peace and justice."

NBUF leader Rev. Herbert Daughtry described how Bishop "turned Grenada around from what the imperialists did to it and made it responsive to the needs of the Grenadian people."

Felipe Cativo, a former leader of the Salvadoran shoemakers union, told of the recent military victories of the Salvadoran liberation fighters of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front-Revolutionary Democratic Front.

A North American who has been working in Nicaragua for two years, Ann Lefflander, told the crowd that she was at the rally at the urging of Nicaraguans who told her to tell the American people the

Continued on Page 11

## War against Nicaragua heats up

As we go to press . . .

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct. 31 — Powerful sonic booms shook this city and many other points in Nicaragua today as a U.S. Air Force SR-71 spy plane flew over large parts of the country, including strategic economic and military facilities. The boom produced by the plane led to widespread, and erroneous, reports of air attacks.

The Nicaraguan Ministry of Defense charged that the flight had the "double purpose of espionage and of creating panic among our population." The ministry warned that the spy flight and other recent U.S. provocations signaled that a sharp step-up in U.S. aggression is coming.

BY ELLEN KRATKA

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The Sandinista People's Army (EPS) has beaten back new attempts by U.S. armed counter-revolutionary forces to prevent massive participation in the upcoming November 4 election, Capt. Rosa Pasos said during a news conference here October 25. She warned of further attempts — economic

sabotage, terrorism against the peasant population, and even attacks on large population centers — that are expected before the elections.

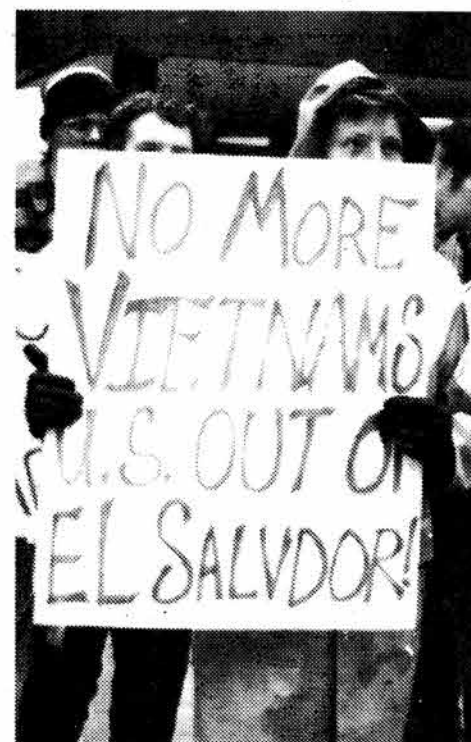
In the first 24 days of October, 92 battles were fought between the EPS and mercenaries financed and directed by the U.S. government. That's an average of almost four a day.

In these battles, 240 *contras* — as the mercenaries are called — were killed and 28 captured.

Captain Pasos, head of Public and International Relations for the Ministry of Defense, explained that the escalation of attacks against the revolution is taking place within the framework of the imperialist plans to destroy or discredit the Nicaraguan elections.

The Sandinistas expect the recurrence in the near future of air raids similar to the September raid against a military training school in Santa Clara, in which two U.S. mercenaries were shot down in their helicopter by the Sandinistas. This time the targets are expected to be economic installations, such as oil refineries and food sup-

Continued on Page 5





BY TOM LEONARD

In the closing weeks of the national and local election campaigns, many plant-gate sales teams have been combining sales of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* with serious campaigning for Socialist Workers presidential candidates Mel Mason and Andrea González, as well as for local candidates of the Socialist Workers Party.

We have had effective handouts of the SWP English-language campaign brochure reprinted from the *Militant*, and now a Spanish-language translation is available for plant-gate distributions in the closing days of the campaign. Latino workers will really appreciate this special effort.

Every once in a while we have to remind ourselves why this column is in the *Militant*. It is to report sales and political campaigns carried out primarily at plants organized by some of the key industrial unions in the country — particularly where socialists are seek-

ing to broaden our influence and build a revolutionary tendency. These unions are the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU), Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU), United Automobile Workers (UAW), United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), United Steel Workers of America (USWA), International Association of Machinists (IAM), Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW), United Transportation Union (UTU), and the International Union of Electronic Workers (IUE).

Our goal is to win workers in these important industries to accepting the *Militant* and *PM* as their papers, and to win them to membership in the SWP and Young Socialist Alliance.

In addition, we learn a great deal from workers at plant gates when we have the opportunity to talk with them. They tell us about the things they are interested in, the attacks they are undergoing on

the job, and how they are trying to fight back.

Along these lines, we received a report from Dean Athans in Cincinnati, who said that they have begun regular sales at six industrial plants organized by the UAW, USWA, and IAM.

Athans reported sales of five or six *Militants* a week at an auto assembly plant that recently voted 2-to-1 against accepting the national GM contract.

At a UAW-organized Ford plant, which they had not visited for several weeks, a couple of workers recognized the *Militant* and had their windows rolled down and money ready when they saw the sales team.

The Cincinnati team at General Electric has the problem of fast moving cars leaving the plant, which hurts sales. But they did get out a couple hundred campaign brochures. They also found out about a scheduled plant-gate demonstration by retired GE workers who want better protection in the



Militant/Yvonne Hayes

SWP presidential candidate Mel Mason (right).

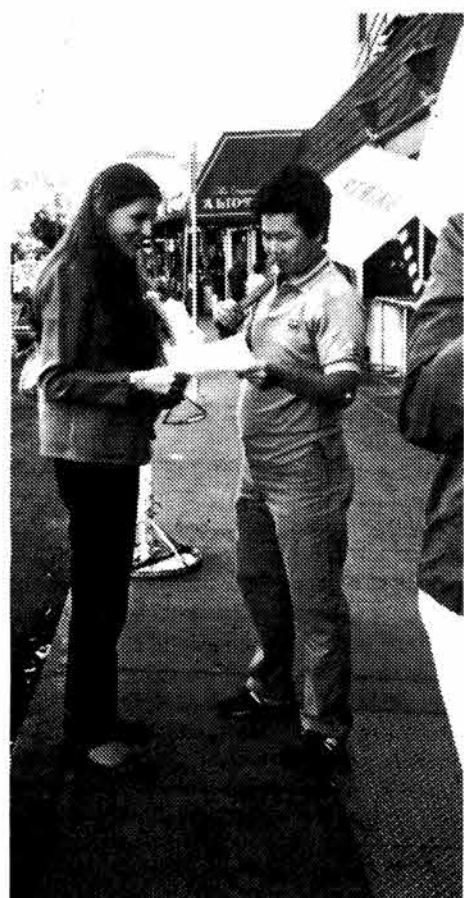
upcoming contract. The sales team plans to be there.

From Milwaukee, we have a report of 20 *Militants* sold at the UAW-organized American Motors Corp. auto assembly plant. Chris Rayson says the sales team was surprised that the workers there seemed more interested in Grenada and the British miners strike than the GM contract.

It's always good to get reports

like the one from Dave Cahalane in Indianapolis. He recently received a call from an at-large SWP member and two at-large YSA members in Muncie, Indiana, who have been selling regularly at a Chevrolet plant gate. They said they had been selling the seven papers they take with them in about ten minutes, and are considering ordering a bigger bundle of *Militants*.

## ILGWU wins victory in sexual harassment case



Union activist and socialist candidate Marilee Taylor (left).

Taylor was laid off as a floor worker at Koret for protesting sexual harassment of women workers on the fourth floor, where she works. Along with other workers, Taylor had complained about a male supervisor, John Pugliarese, repeatedly entering the women's bathroom.

Taylor is well-known as a union activist and an outspoken opponent of discrimination against women and immigrant workers, as well as the U.S. war in Central America. She is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for California State Assembly in the 16th district.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) Local 101, of which Taylor is a member, took up the fight to get Taylor's job back. Her grievance demanded enforcement of the contract provision for equal division of work during slow periods, as well as an end to sexual harassment in the form of male supervisors entering the women's bathroom.

In a grievance meeting with company representatives on October 23, the union won on both counts. Taylor returned to work on October 24 with agreement to preference for work in the future to make up for the five weeks she was unfairly laid off.

In addition, agreement was reached that male supervisors are prohibited from entering the women's bathroom.

The union's victory in this case strengthens the position of all garment workers against the manufacturers' and contractors' drive to break the power of the union through blatant disregard for the contract. It also sends a message to garment bosses that our union is united in its refusal to tolerate sexual harassment of women

workers.

This is particularly important in the garment industry where 85 percent of the work force is female, and the majority are immigrant workers.

During the course of this fight Taylor's case became widely known to garment workers at Koret and other factories here. Taylor and other union members distributed a fact sheet in English, Spanish, and Chinese explaining the facts in her case and its importance for all garment workers.

Male and female workers alike recognized the attack on Taylor as an attack on all garment workers. One young worker from Mexico helped explain to his coworkers that this type of sexual harassment is a tool that bosses use to degrade and intimidate women workers, weakening the union as a whole.

For most garment workers in San Francisco the danger in standing up to sexual harassment and contract violations includes not only possible layoff, but also the danger of deportation. Companies are not above using the Immigration and Naturalization Service against workers who speak in defense of the union, and most of the workers are Asian and Latino immigrants.

The victory in Taylor's case clearly shows that with the firm support of the ILGWU, garment workers can fight to defend the gains our union has won.

Workers at Koret are generally encouraged by the successful resolution of this fight, and many will feel more confident to challenge incidents of sexual harassment and other contract violations in the future.

Betsy Farley works at Koret and is a member of ILGWU Local 101.

## Chrysler makes record profits

On October 24, the Chrysler Corporation announced that it "earned" \$261.6 million in profits for the third quarter of 1984. This was a company record for third quarter earnings, although they don't come up to the whopping \$1.5 billion Chrysler racked up in the first two quarters.

One of the reasons for these record profits is that Chrysler, the nation's third largest auto maker, *doesn't have to pay any federal income taxes*. The corporation is still exempted from federal taxes as a result of the losses they piled up in 1979 through 1981.

While Chrysler's owners got tax breaks and a huge government bail-out, auto workers at Chrysler were hit with massive

concessions that lowered their standard of living, weakened the union, and cost jobs.

Meanwhile, it was announced that Owen Bieber, president of the United Auto Workers (UAW) union, had been elected to serve on Chrysler's board of directors, succeeding former UAW president Douglas Fraser. Fraser was placed on the board in return for the massive concessions made by the union.

Summing up the class collaborationist stance of the UAW officialdom, Bieber had this to say about his election: "I assume the Board seat with the understanding that to speak on behalf of Chrysler workers is also to speak in the best interests of the corporation."

BY BETSY FARLEY

SAN FRANCISCO — Garment workers here recently won a victory against sexual harassment and discriminatory layoffs when Marilee Taylor was reinstated in her job at Koret of California, a subsidiary of Levi Strauss.

## 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.

You can't afford to miss a single issue. Why not subscribe today?



- ☐ Enclosed is \$3 for 12 weeks
- ☐ Enclosed is \$15 for 6 months
- ☐ Enclosed is \$24 for 1 year
- ☐ Enclosed is a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Union/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Militant, 14 Charles Ln., NY, NY 10014

## The Militant

Closing news date: October 31, 1984

Editor: MALIK MIAH

Managing editor:

MARGARET JAYKO

Business Manager:

LEE MARTINDALE

Editorial Staff: Pat Grogan, Arthur Hughes, Cindy Jaquith, Tom Leonard, Karen Newton, Mohammed Oliver, Harry Ring.

Published weekly except two weeks in August, the last week of December, and the first week of January by the Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone: Editorial Office, (212) 243-6392; Business Office, (212) 929-3486.

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to The Militant Business Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Militant, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. Subscriptions: U.S. \$24.00 a year, outside U.S. \$30.00. By first-class mail: U.S., Canada, and Mexico: \$60.00. Write for air-mail rates to all other countries.

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the *Militant's* views. These are expressed in editorials.



# Yale strike raises key labor issues



Winning pay equity for women workers is a key issue in Yale strike.

BY MALIK MIAH

More than 430 students, teachers, and union members were arrested in front of Yale University's administrative building in New Haven, Connecticut, on October 26 while demonstrating in support of striking clerical and technical workers. The protest was organized by Local 34 of the Federation of University Employees, which represents Yale's 1,600 striking workers. The union went out on strike September 26.

The strike is over both economic and social issues. The union is demanding a 29 percent wage increase over three years plus partial cost-of-living raises, and an end to what they call "economic discrimination," which is suffered by the 82 percent female and 13 percent Black clerical and technical staff.

"We're fighting for our rights," said one woman picket. "Yale discriminates. They won't pay us what we're worth."

The Yale management is offering a 17 percent wage increase over three years. It demands modifications in the pension plan

and dental and health-care benefits. The administrators say the issue of comparable worth, "economic discrimination," is a national one that cannot be settled in a local contract.

The 17 percent offer may seem pretty good considering most unions over the last year received much lower wage increases or significant wage and benefit cuts. However, the average yearly pay of the striking workers is only \$13,473.

What does Yale management say about this fact? Workers, they claim, accept low wages because they like the amenities of university life!

To back up this antiunion stance Yale has stonewalled serious negotiations.

It wasn't until May 1983 that Local 34 won collective bargaining rights after a National Labor Relations Board election. Afterwards, Yale agreed to a few non-economic issues, but stalled over wages.

One and half years later the union was forced to walk the streets.

They learned the hard way that Yale

isn't an "ivory tower" for them. The union launched a publicity campaign to win solidarity from other working people, students, and teachers.

Significant support was quickly won from a layer of the 10,000-member student body. Students joined several solidarity efforts, including three library protests, and the October 26 action. One hundred two students filed a multimillion dollar damage suit against Yale for denying them a proper education.

"No longer will Yale make students pay for its unreasonable bargaining position," said Ian Ayres, a second-year law student who helped draft the suit. The suit demands \$2 million for each week of the strike, which would be distributed to the student body. The aim of the suit is to pressure the university into serious negotiations.

The union has also won support from its sister local, Local 35, which represents custodial, maintenance, and food workers. Local 35 members have refused to cross picket lines and have joined other solidarity action. Local 35's own contract expires at the end of January.

The significance of the strike goes well beyond the Yale campus. It is being closely watched by top university brass and labor officials across the country. Universities are dead opposed to unionization. They all share Yale's paternalistic view of their work force.

The top labor officials see union organization of clerical workers as a way to rebuild their declining memberships. The organized labor movement now represents less than 20 percent of the U.S. working class. It represents even fewer office workers — 15 percent. A victory at Yale could spur on further unionization at colleges and among office workers.

For these reasons, Yale is seen as a test case and it is unlikely the university administration will buckle quickly.

AFL-CIO Pres. Lane Kirkland's deciding to join a Yale support rally early in the strike was a good sign. So was the decision of the New York Central Labor Council to organize their own support action. (See story below.)

More support is needed to aid these embattled strikers. Working people around the country have a stake in the outcome in this struggle.

## Workers in New York organize rally to back Yale strikers

BY ETHEL B. LOBMAN

NEW YORK — A lively picket line and rally of over 500 workers took place here on October 24 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in front of Grand Central Station and directly across from the Yale Club on Vanderbilt Avenue. This action was organized as a show of solidarity with Local 34 of the Federation of University Employees, which represents the 1,600 striking clerical and technical workers at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. The Yale workers have been out on strike since September 26.

In addition to unionized clerical and technical workers from Columbia University, New York University, and New School, a large contingent of construction workers chanted and shouted slogans at the expensively-dressed alumni and business men and women entering the exclusive club. Harry van Arsdale, president of the New York Central Labor Council, expressed his pride at seeing this show of solidarity by New York City workers with their brothers and sisters in New Haven.

In the past few years there has been a substantial increase in successful organizing drives of university technical and clerical workers, especially in the Northeast. Wesleyan, New York University, New School, and mostly recently Columbia and Yale, have all been unionized, but each by a different international union. In spite of this, these locals have tended to solidarize with each other and this action showed that their common interest surmounted their organizational separation.

## Ford pact passes — Canada strike ends

BY PAT GROGAN

Members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) employed by Ford Motor Company voted to approve a three-year contract with Ford by a vote of 33,312 to 18,386 — 64 percent in favor to 36 percent against.

In voting that ended on October 29, only a little over 45 percent of Ford's 114,000 UAW members turned out to vote on the pact that closely patterns the concession contract approved by the union with General Motors.

As in the GM contract, a phony job security program will be set up that is in fact a green light for the auto giants to go full speed ahead with layoffs and other attacks on union rights.

Workers who are laid off because of automation, productivity increases, outsourcing (contracting out of work here or abroad), or movement of work to another U.S. or foreign Ford-owned plant, will be placed in a "job bank" where they will receive paychecks until the meager \$350,000

allocated by Ford runs out. While "in the bank" workers must accept any job offered by the corporation, regardless of geographical location or job classifications. Workers in the bank will be forced to work in violation of existing work rules, contributing to the weakening of the union.

The Ford pact contains minor differences with the GM contract — which means fewer jobs, a tiered-wage-increase system that increases divisions among workers, concessions on cost-of-living allowances, pensions, work rules, and working conditions.

Coming after the approval of the contract at General Motors — the union's stronghold with some 375,000 workers — the pressure on workers at Ford to accept the contract was strong.

During the voting at GM — when it looked like the membership might defeat the sell-out pact, UAW president Owen Bieber threatened that if the membership rejected the contract he would refuse to re-

turn to the negotiating table. The only alternative to acceptance, he said, was a nationwide strike that would end in defeat.

"It's important that the members know what they're voting on and also what the consequences are of a rejection," Bieber warned. "If the membership should vote the contract down, then there will be a nationwide strike at GM, I think they should know that." Bieber also stressed that nothing would be gained from a strike, since he had "hammered out at the table everything we possibly could have." GM workers approved the contract by 57 to 43 percent.

Even though it was clear that the UAW top officials would not lead a fight for a decent contract, a significant number of Ford workers — like GM workers — voted against the pact. The 36 percent who voted "No" registered their anger, recognition of the contract as a setback, and their willingness to put up a fight for something better.

But the vote also reflected another fact: there is no alternative class-struggle leadership in the UAW — one with a program that rejects the false policy of the tops epitomized by their reactionary "job security" program.

It became clear in the course of the contract negotiations that the top officials viewed "job security" as identical to attacking foreign workers making less money than U.S. workers. They called on UAW members to "give up" on money matters in order to keep out the foreign cars and parts. This reactionary divide and rule, "look out for the relatively better wages of U.S. workers" strategy is what explains the nonstruggle policy of the officialdom. *It is why they couldn't lead a fightback.*

It is also why the officials saw getting out the vote for Mondale and keeping quiet about the U.S. war in Central America as so important. The main concern for the officials was working hand in hand with the auto barons to raise their profits, not to defend auto workers' interests.

At the same time, those officials who opposed the contract accepted the same reactionary political programs of the top bureaucracy. This included Pete Kelly, president of UAW Local 160 and the only member of the GM national negotiating team who voted against the contract. He urged a vote against the contract in part because it did "almost nothing" to restrict foreign imports and outsourcing.

Kelly had made known before the contract expired his view that a strike by UAW members could hurt Mondale's election effort and thus, the only real chance of winning domestic content (anti-import) laws, and other legislation "favorable" to auto workers.

Meanwhile it was announced that the UAW had reached a tentative agreement with Mack Truck, Inc. and suspended its nine-day strike. Some 9,200 UAW members at Mack Truck Plants in Hagerston, Maryland; Allentown, Pennsylvania; and Bridgewater, New Jersey went out on October 20. The union said "job security" and

Continued on Page 12

## Frame-up in 'Bulgarian connection'

BY WILL REISSNER

Italian officials took their anticommunist slanders against Bulgaria and the Soviet Union one step further October 26 by deciding to try three Bulgarians and four Turks for supposed involvement in the May 1981 attempt on the pope's life.

Of the three Bulgarians named in the indictment, airline clerk Sergei Antonov has been in Italian custody since Nov. 25, 1982. Two Bulgarian diplomats named are no longer in Italy.

In the 1,243-page indictment, not one piece of evidence connects the Bulgarians to the assassination attempt. The entire case against them rests on the changing stories of Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish ultraright gunman serving a life sentence for shooting Pope John Paul II.

Each time Agca's story has been disproven, he has told a new version. Agca now admits that he got many of his details about the Bulgarians from stories in the press and on television.

Sergei Antonov's defense attorney, Giuseppe Consolo, predicted October 25 that Antonov would be cleared of all charges when the trial begins next year.

Regarding Agca's statements, Consolo commented: "60 to 70 percent of what he said he denied himself, and the other 30 percent is credible? Why? If he's a liar on 70 percent, he's a liar on everything."

If there was a plot to kill the pope, it involved Agca and his associates in the ultraright Turkish Gray Wolves.

In 1979 Agca was sentenced to life imprisonment in Turkey for killing a journalist. Five months later, he walked out of prison, aided by Gray Wolves members.

Three days after escaping, Agca sent a letter to a newspaper, threatening to kill Pope John Paul II.

Agca then traveled throughout Europe, getting money and shelter from well-

known Turkish ultrarightists. The Italian indictment has voluminous evidence of the involvement of several Turks with Agca.

In contrast, the so-called "Bulgarian connection" rests solely on Agca's say-so and on a theory expounded by CIA-connected journalist Claire Sterling and Paul Henze, former CIA station chief in Turkey.

Their theory, repeated by the prosecutor, is that the Soviet KGB and its Bulgarian allies organized the assassination attempt in order to cripple the Solidarity union movement in Poland.

But Agca threatened the pope's life more than a year before Solidarity even existed! And Agca claims he began plotting with the Bulgarians in July 1980, a month before the Gdansk shipyard strikes gave birth to Solidarity.

Despite the lack of evidence against the Bulgarians, the big business media has been squeezing every last drop of anticommunist propaganda out of Agca's ravings for more than two years.

Defense attorney Consolo argues that the Italian authorities have filed charges, even knowing they have no evidence, because "they didn't have the courage to dismiss the case."

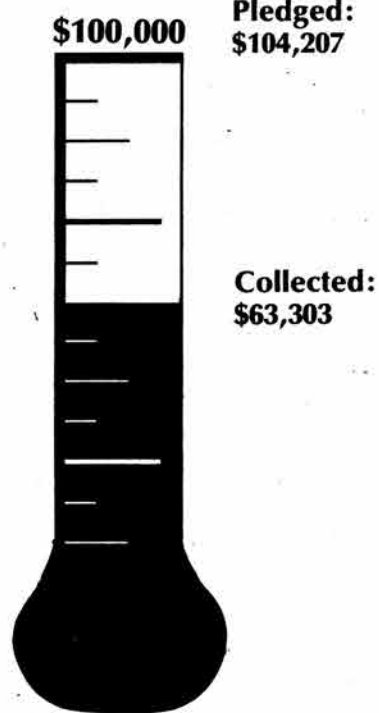
Meanwhile, Sergei Antonov will soon begin his third year in custody.

### SUBSCRIBE TO 'PERSPECTIVA MUNDIAL'

Biweekly, Spanish-language sister publication of the *Militant*. Rates: \$2.50 for 6 issues, \$8.00 for 6 months, or \$16.00 for one year. Send name, address, and payment to *Perspectiva Mundial*, 408 West St., New York, NY 10014.



## Socialist Campaign Fund



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 \$36,700 by November 6, election day. Contributions can be sent to Socialist Campaign Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

- ☐ Enclosed is my contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ to the socialist campaign.
- ☐ I would like to help out on the socialist campaign.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Union \_\_\_\_\_

Paid for by the Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee. 41

## Socialist candidates speak out against U.S. war drive

Continued from front page

The U.S. rulers and their two parties — the Democrats and Republicans — are hell-bent on turning back these revolutions. They hope to regain their political power in Nicaragua. They also want to overthrow the Cuban workers state and re-establish capitalism on that liberated island. As Cuban Pres. Fidel Castro said recently in a speech in Havana, the U.S. government is determined "to wipe socialism off the face of the earth." Washington's massive nuclear arsenal is a dagger aimed at trying to terrorize into submission those peoples fighting for their freedom.

We urge working people to vote for us. But our central message remains the necessity of working people becoming active political opponents of the bosses' war abroad, as well as their war against our rights and living standards at home.

The most important thing that every opponent of the U.S. war in our hemisphere can do today is tell the truth about why Washington is waging war. To aid that process, as many working people as possible should visit Nicaragua, to see for themselves the gains that the workers and peasants have made through their revolution. Public antiwar protests, inviting Salvadoran trade unionists to speak at meetings of unions, civil rights groups, and women's rights organizations — these can all aid the process of uncovering the rulers' lies. To disarm the warmakers we must begin by arming ourselves with the truth. That's what our campaign has been all about. And that's what our party — the Socialist Workers Party — intends to do all year round.

Join us!

# Fund keeps campaign on road

## Big effort needed to reach goal on time

BY YVONNE HAYES

With only a week to go until the November 6 election-day deadline, a big push is needed to collect the remaining \$36,700 to reach the \$100,000 goal for the fall Socialist Campaign Fund. Special efforts to raise this money need to be made by campaign supporters around the country.

A socialist campaign team is on the road in the coal and copper mining areas of Utah and Arizona. For the next two weeks, they will be meeting and talking with miners and other working people about the deepening war against workers and farmers in Central America and the struggle in the U.S. against the bosses' offensive at home. They will be introducing hundreds of workers to the socialist program and discussing the need for working-class solutions to the crisis of the capitalist system.

The team is led by Cecilia Moriarity, a coal miner from Price, Utah, and the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of that state. Moriarity is a member

of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). Her local is currently on strike against Emery Mining.

The socialists began their tour in the Price area, campaigning among the Emery strikers and other miners. Their efforts include sales of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, the Spanish-language socialist newsmagazine, at mine portals and in the community. They plan to distribute thousands of English and Spanish-language brochures for the socialist presidential campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González.

The team will also spend several days in the Salt Lake City area, where Moriarity will be making a number of campaign appearances.

The socialists will then travel to the Navajo reservation at Kayenta, Arizona. A large number of Native Americans there are coal miners, organized by the UMWA. These unionists took part in a strike against Peabody Coal this spring.

While in Arizona, the team will also

campaign among copper miners in the Globe-Miami area.

The socialists will be on the road beyond election day. No matter who is in the White House after November 6 — Reagan or Mondale — working people will still be confronted with an escalating U.S. war in El Salvador and Nicaragua and sharpening attacks on our rights and living standard at home. And the campaign to win working people to the perspective of fighting to end the system of capitalist exploitation, which is the cause of these problems, will also continue.

November 6 is the date targeted to raise \$100,000 for the fall Socialist Campaign Fund. The contributions to this fund so far, over \$63,300, have made it possible to field campaign teams like the Utah-Arizona team, to print campaign materials, and to tour the socialist candidates and campaign spokespeople across the country and internationally.

An all-out effort by campaign supporters during the final days will be necessary to meet the goal on time.

## SWP fields 58 candidates across country

Listed below are the candidates in the November 6 elections who are running on the Socialist Workers Party ticket, which is headed by Mel Mason and Andrea González, the presidential and vice-presidential candidates.

### ALABAMA

Mark Curtis — U.S. Congress, 6th District (Birmingham)

### CALIFORNIA

Ken Collins — Seaside City Council; John Harris — U.S. Congress, 10th District (San Jose); Marilee Taylor — State Assembly, 16th District (San Francisco); Mary Jo Vogel — U.S. Congress, 41st District (San Diego); Mari Hawkes — U.S. Congress, 44th District (San Diego); Silvia Zapata — U.S. Congress, 25th District (Los Angeles); Naomi Bracey — U.S. Congress, 28th District (Los Angeles).

### COLORADO

David Martin — U.S. Senate; Cathy Eminizer — U.S. Congress, 1st District (Denver).

### FLORIDA

Harvey McArthur — U.S. Congress, 19th District (Miami).

### GEORGIA

Sara Jean Johnston — U.S. Senate.

### ILLINOIS

Nelson González — U.S. Senate; Ed Warren — U.S. Congress, 1st District (Chicago); Mark Burrows — University of Illinois, Board of Trustees (Chicago); Holly Harkness — University of Illinois, Board of Trustees (Chicago); Rita Lee — University of Illinois, Board of Trustees (Chicago).

### INDIANA

Dave Ellis — U.S. Congress, 10th District (Indianapolis).

### KENTUCKY

Dave Welters — U.S. Senate; Peggy Kreiner — U.S. Congress, 3rd District (Louisville).

### LOUISIANA

Derrick Morrison — U.S. Congress, 2nd District (New Orleans).

### MARYLAND

Joey Rothenberg — U.S. Congress, 7th District (Baltimore); Ted Leonard — U.S. Congress, 2nd District (Baltimore).

### MASSACHUSETTS

Christine Gauvreau — U.S. Senate.

### MICHIGAN

Helen Meyers — U.S. Senate; Andrew Pulley — U.S. Congress, 1st District (Detroit).

### MINNESOTA

Ellie Garcia — U.S. Senate; Pete Brandli — U.S. Congress, 4th District (St. Paul).

### MISSOURI

Diane Shur — U.S. Congress, 5th District; Bob Allen — Governor.

### NEW JERSEY

Priscilla Schenk — U.S. Senate.

### NEW YORK

Richard Ariza — U.S. Congress, 23rd District (Albany); Nan Bailey — U.S. Congress, 16th District (Harlem).

### NORTH CAROLINA

Kate Daher — U.S. Senate; Greg McCartan — Governor; Meryl Lynn Farber — U.S. Congress, 6th District (Piedmont).

### OHIO

Kathleen Denny — U.S. Congress, 1st District (Cincinnati); Elizabeth Lariscy — U.S. Congress, 9th District (Toledo); Mark Friedman — State House, 45th District (Toledo); Susan Berman — State House, 16th District (Cleveland); Omari Musa — U.S. Congress, 21st District (Cleveland).

### OREGON

Deborah Higdon — U.S. Senate.

### PENNSYLVANIA

Katy Karlin — U.S. Congress, 2nd Dis-

trict (Philadelphia); Al Duncan — U.S. Congress, 14th District (Pittsburgh); Clare Fraenzl — U.S. Congress, 22nd District (Pittsburgh).

### TEXAS

Beverley Andalora — U.S. Senate; Steve Iverson — U.S. Congress, 24th District (Dallas); José Alvarado — U.S. Congress, 18th District (Houston); John Cannon — U.S. Congress, 25th District (Houston).

### UTAH

Cecelia Moriarity — Governor.

### VIRGINIA

Eli Green — U.S. Congress, 1st District (Newport News).

### WASHINGTON

Cheryll Hidalgo — Governor; Mark Manning — U.S. Congress, 7th District (Seattle).

### WEST VIRGINIA

Joan Radin — U.S. Senate; Dave Ferguson — Governor.

### WISCONSIN

Bill Breihan — U.S. Congress, 5th District (Milwaukee).

## The election night socialist rallies

**Hear presidential and vice-pres. candidates Mel Mason and Andrea González live on national telephone hook-up**

Socialist Workers campaign committees across the country will host election-night rallies and open houses. Mel Mason, in Chicago, and Andrea González, in New York, will address the rallies via

a national telephone hook-up. For more information on the election-night gathering in your area, call the Socialist Workers campaign headquarters listed on page 13.



Mel Mason will speak at 9:15 p.m. CST from Chicago at 3455 S Michigan Ave.



Andrea González will speak at 10 p.m. EST from New York at 79 Leonard St., Manhattan.



# Irish freedom fighters back Mason, González

The following is the text of an advertisement that appeared in the *Irish Echo*. Published in New York City, the *Irish Echo* is the largest circulation Irish-American newspaper.

The signers of the ad, George Harrison and Thomas Falvey, are well-known supporters of the Irish freedom struggle. They are two of the "Freedom Five," Irish-American supporters of the Irish Republican movement who on Nov. 5, 1982, were found not guilty of charges of gun running to Northern Ireland.

Throughout the highly publicized trial, the defendants explained their support for the struggle to free Ireland from British rule.

The acquittal of the Freedom Five by a jury made up of a cross-section of New Yorkers showed that many are convinced of the justice of the Irish struggle.

Dear Friends,

As veteran activists in the fight for Irish Independence against British imperialist tyranny we endorse and appeal for support for Mel Mason and Andrea Gonzalez, the Socialist Workers Party candidates for president and vice-president of the United States.

Mel Mason and Andrea Gonzalez are working-class fighters who are campaigning against both big business parties — Democrats and Republicans — and believe working people should look to their own power, united in struggle, to advance their interests.

They are using their campaign to promote the struggle of working people and oppressed in the U.S. and internationally. Both are staunch supporters of the fight for a united Ireland free from British domination.

While a city council member in California, Mel Mason sent a strong protest to Margaret Thatcher during the 1981 hunger strike when the policies of Thatcher forced Irish political prisoners, led by Bobby Sands, to embark on a hunger protest. It ended only when ten had died while the Iron Maiden remained unmoved and was applauded and supported by her colleague in imperialist infamy, Ronald Reagan.

At the invitation of Irish freedom fighters, Mel Mason travelled to Ireland in May, while Reagan was there, and joined thousands in protests against Washington's policies in Central America and the Caribbean. While in Ireland Mason spoke on platforms with Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, Joe Austin, and other leaders of the struggle. He joined John Noonan campaigning in different neighborhoods as a Sinn Fein candidate in the EEC elections; visited with Nicky Kelly, then still imprisoned, and everywhere raised his voice demanding British troops out of Ireland.

From Ireland he went to Britain in soli-

darity with striking coal miners and urged them to support their brothers and sisters in Ireland, who face the same enemy they do — the British employing class, their government, and its criminal leaders.

While campaigning across the U.S. Mason explains what Irish people are fighting for and demands an end to U.S. complicity with British rule in the six Northern counties, and an end to the policy of collaboration with British imperialism.

Mason and Gonzalez call for visas for Irish Republicans to visit the U.S. so the people of this country can hear the truth about Ireland and the struggle for independence. They call for an end to the harassment, jailing, and deportation of Irish activists who support the struggle in Ireland, such as Michael O'Rourke.

Like us, the Socialist Workers Party views the struggle in Ireland as part of the worldwide freedom struggle. The SWP stands with the Sandinista government in Nicaragua, which is making great strides in health, education, and land reform despite the U.S. financed contra war. Mason and Gonzalez stand, as we do, with El Salvador's workers and farmers against the U.S. intervention against the right-wing dictatorship of Duarte and his predecessors who murdered, in cold blood, missionary nuns, Archbishop Oscar Romero, and countless thousands of Salvadorans opposed to their bloody tyranny.

The SWP supports the Black majority in South Africa in their fight against the foul and inhuman policy of apartheid, and, like us, upholds the moral right of the African National Congress and the South West Africa People's Organization to engage in armed struggle to end it. They support the Palestinian people fighting for their homeland, the Philippine people in their effort to defeat the Marcos dictatorship, and the people of Chile in their struggle to defeat the Pinochet dictatorship. They join us, as well, in a stand against Washington's policy of colonialism in Puerto Rico and in support of the Puerto Rican independence movement.

They condemned, as we did, the invasion of Grenada as an act of institutionalized international terrorism and the gunboat diplomacy of Ronald Reagan in the Middle East. As well as his aggression against the people of this hemisphere when he allowed the British pirate Navy to attack Argentina, as that nation claimed what is rightfully theirs — the Malvinas Islands — which led the war criminal Thatcher to order the sinking of the Belgrano outside the zone of war. A war crime which sent close to 400 Argentine youth to graves in the South Atlantic, a crime still to be accounted for.

We take this position after due consideration that the correct historical tradition of our people lies with neither Ronald



Militant/Marc Lichtman

George Harrison, longtime activist in Irish liberation struggle.

Reagan nor Senator Moynihan, or any of their apprentices. Instead, it lies with the tradition of the Molly Maguires, early martyrs of the U.S. labor movement; of Tom Mooney, railroaded to jail for most of his life on fake evidence; with the Dunne Brothers of Minneapolis, who helped lead the famous 1934 Teamster strike. Ray Dunne became a long time leader of the Socialist Workers Party.

We conclude that this is the correct position for supporters of the Irish Independence movement to take. We believe this is in the best tradition of those leaders of the Irish revolutionary movement who

founded and nurtured it through the decades and centuries of struggle. Tone, Lalor, Connolly, Pearse, Ceannt, Mellows, Frank Ryan, the list is endless.

We support Mason and Gonzalez because they have stood in support of the Irish struggle not silently or furtively but openly and proudly and like them we support the unending struggle for freedom and justice of all humanity, regardless of geographic location or race, color, or creed.

In Solidarity,

[signed]

George Harrison Thomas Falvey

## Sales drive picks up pace

BY TOM LEONARD

The five-week campaign to sell 15,000 *Militants* and *Perspectiva Mundials* is picking up momentum as socialist campaigners for the presidential ticket of Mel Mason and Andrea González continue to reach new layers of workers, Blacks, Latinos, women, youth, and working farmers.

An example is the report from Jim Altemberg in Minnesota, who sent in the following account.

"On the weekend of October 20, socialist campaigners from Minneapolis-St. Paul traveled to Austin, Minnesota, to talk with workers at the big Hormel pork-processing plant. The plant employs 1,750 workers, one-third of Hormel's unionized work force.

"Over a period of years, United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 has given big concessions demanded by the company. On October 8, workers were hit with a 23 percent wage cut unilaterally imposed by Hormel.

"Campaigning at the plant gate, we met angry workers who felt they had their backs to the wall, with no choice but to stand and fight. 'People have to defend something,' one worker said.

"Introducing the *Militant* as a pronoun, antiwar newspaper that tells the truth about working peoples' struggles, the campaign team sold 15 copies to the small Saturday shift. One worker commented that the local paper only prints the company's side, never the union's, as he bought a copy of the *Militant*."

From Phoenix, Ellen Lauper called in to report on a meeting with Arizona Farm Workers in El Mirage.

Hector Marroquín, a Mexican socialist fighting to stay in this country was invited to speak to their educational meeting, which he addressed in Spanish. He was warmly received. Marroquín and the sales team had a two-hour discussion with the 33 workers present and sold 26 *PMs* and *Militants*, and gave out campaign literature.

In Philadelphia, a sales drive team went to an anti-Reagan/pro-Mondale rally in front of Republican Party headquarters. The theme sounded from the platform, and through cheers led by rally organizers, was for demonstrators to vote for the Democrats on November 6.

But many demonstrators carried signs with slogans that Mondale strongly disagrees with like "U.S. out of Grenada," and "Hands Off Central America." That's an example of carrying the right signs for the wrong candidate. Mel Mason and Andrea González are the most effective campaign-

ers against U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.

Despite the large number of people at this demonstration wearing Mondale/Ferraro buttons, Socialist Workers Party campaigners were well received. They sold 39 *Militants*, *PMs*, and *Young Socialists*, and distributed hundreds of SWP election brochures.

Sales drive teams in Milwaukee sold 99 *Militants* and five *PMs* toward their cumulative goal of 500.

In addition to plant gate and community sales, they sold at a campus Grenada meeting, an antiwar picket line, and two political rallies. Fifteen *Militants* were sold at a pro-Mondale rally, and 19 at a meeting for Jesse Jackson.

In the meantime more areas have sent in their cumulative sales goals, including Miami with 475, and the Capitol District with 350.

## War against Nicaragua continues to escalate

Continued from front page  
ply depots.

Honduran soldiers are also complicit in the latest round of attacks, it was reported. On October 24 they fired mortars into the border province of Chinandega.

Pasos reported the following details on recent contra activity:

- A contra task force of 250 that planned to attack the cities of Estelí and Jinotega has been routed by Sandinista troops. However, the mercenaries have regrouped with other units of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) and are expected to strike again soon. The militias in Estelí are in a constant state of readiness.

- Some 600 to 800 mercenaries of the FDN are concentrated in the southern border region on the Pacific Coast. Two recent attacks have been carried out against the Nicaraguan border post of Peñas Blancas by another group of 200 contras.

Summing up, Pasos said there are between 6,500 and 7,000 in small groups, still operating throughout the country.

Pasos also denounced the constant presence of U.S. Navy ships off both coasts, and the recent lie that appeared in the U.S. press that Soviet-built MIG jets were being unloaded in the Nicaraguan port of El Bluff.

Sandinista leaders explain that although they have not acquired this type of aircraft yet, Nicaragua has a sovereign right to any type of weapon needed for its self-defense.

## Fort Dix GIs meet socialist

BY BARBARA MUTNICK

WRIGHTSTOWN, N.J. — Priscilla Schenk and supporters of her campaign for U.S. Senate in New Jersey took their antiwar message to scores of servicemen and their families on October 20.

Wrightstown, in southern New Jersey, is nestled in between Wright Air Force base and Ft. Dix. The latter is one of the largest army training bases in the east.

Armed with the Socialist Workers Party campaign leaflet "Jobs not War" and a leaf-

let publicizing an October 27 protest in Brooklyn, N.Y., against last year's U.S. invasion of Grenada, the socialist campaigners explained their view that the U.S. government's spiraling military involvement in Central America is not in the interest of working people here or workers and peasants there, and least of all in the interest of GIs.

The overwhelming response was agreement. One young GI shopping with his wife and baby said, "I don't know what they've got in store for me, but whatever it is, I don't like it." He was one of 15 who bought a copy of the *Militant* or *Perspectiva Mundial*.

A Black GI expressed surprise upon receiving a leaflet for the October 27 demonstration sponsored by a broad coalition of groups. "They want soldiers there?" he asked. After being assured those in the service were welcome, and that veterans and GIs had played a major role helping to end the U.S. war against Vietnam, he said he might come to the protest if he was off duty.

On the drive back to her state campaign headquarters in Newark, Schenk commented: "Many of the young men and women we talked to today are only in uniform because they couldn't find a job. Unemployment or cannon fodder — that's what capitalism offers youth."



Militant/L. Paltrineri

Priscilla Schenk



# Socialists find miners oppose U.S. war drive

BY MATT HERRESHOFF

WELCH, W. Va. — For two weeks, a team of socialist campaigners crisscrossed the coalfields of West Virginia and Pennsylvania talking with hundreds of working people about how to defend our jobs and our unions, and how to stop the growing U.S. war in Central America. A second team campaigned in coal-mining areas of Illinois, Kentucky, and Alabama.

Our team talked with over a thousand people in two dozen towns and hollows in the West Virginia and Pennsylvania coalfields. Through these discussions, 188 bought copies of the *Militant*, two subscribed, six bought copies of the *Young Socialist*, and eighteen signed up for regular information on the campaign. Several thousand people took copies of the campaign's platform.

Kim Kleinman, captain of the socialist campaign team in Illinois, Kentucky and Alabama, reports that they received a similar response.

Both teams found especially deep anti-war and prounion sentiment.

"The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer," a young woman told us in Shinnston, West Virginia. A dozen other workers used these exact words to describe what they see happening in the coalfields. "Pretty soon, that's all there'll be," one added.

Layoffs by the coal and steel bosses have devastated communities throughout the coalfields. In Pennsylvania and West Virginia, 5,500 more miners were laid off since the new United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) contract went into effect October 1. Several miners we spoke with saw these layoffs as an attempt to weaken their union.

We spoke with workers at Bethlehem Steel's "model" mine in Marianna, Pa. After closing down for over a year, Bethlehem reopened the Marianna mine, but called back only half the miners.

"They're hogging coal out of there," one miner told us. Bethlehem is getting the same amount of coal as before the shutdown, with just half the workers. "If your machine breaks down, they don't care, they expect the same production." Miners are forced to "double out," or work two shifts in a row. Safety practices are ignored. "What they're doing in there is wrong, it's unsafe," said a miner retired after 45 years in the mine.

We visited Williamson, West Virginia, just one day after the A.T. Massey Co. announced the shutdown of six UMWA-organized mines in the Williamson area. Massey, a notoriously anti-union coal operator, closed the mines rather than come to terms with the union.

A Black miner in a nonunion Massey mine told us of the company's racist and antiunion policies. "I'm one of just two Blacks working in that whole hollow," he said.

A miner from a nonunion mine near Grundy, Virginia, told us how they earn only \$8.25 an hour for underground work, slightly more than half what union miners earn. "We need a union; we tried, but couldn't get one in there," he said.

"It just seems like they want to force us all to be on welfare," a laid-off miner told us in Brownston, West Virginia. "I think it's 'cause they want to bust the unions," he said.

We talked with a miner at Consolidation Coal's Shoemaker mine near Wheeling, West Virginia, where 600 miners used to work. He told us that 300 have been laid off, including 80 since the contract was signed. "The union finally banned voluntary overtime, and they had to hire back 10 guys. We should have done it two years ago," he said. "Me and the guys were talking about it," he continued, "and if we had a four-day week, we'd get everybody back to work."

Many workers were looking for individual solutions. "I'm the RC man," a worker told us in Logan, West Virginia. "I figured that no matter how bad things get with the mines, people will always drink soda pop." A laid-off miner told us that, in his view, the problem is "these guys that are taking 9 or 10 cuts (of coal) a shift are taking away their own jobs and everyone else's, too."

Everywhere we went, both teams found deep sentiment against the U.S. war in Central America. "My son joined the navy because he couldn't find a job," a woman

told us in Clarksville, Pennsylvania. "He may be one of the first ones to go." Throughout the West Virginia and Pennsylvania coalfields, we found that layoffs have driven thousands of young people like him into the military.

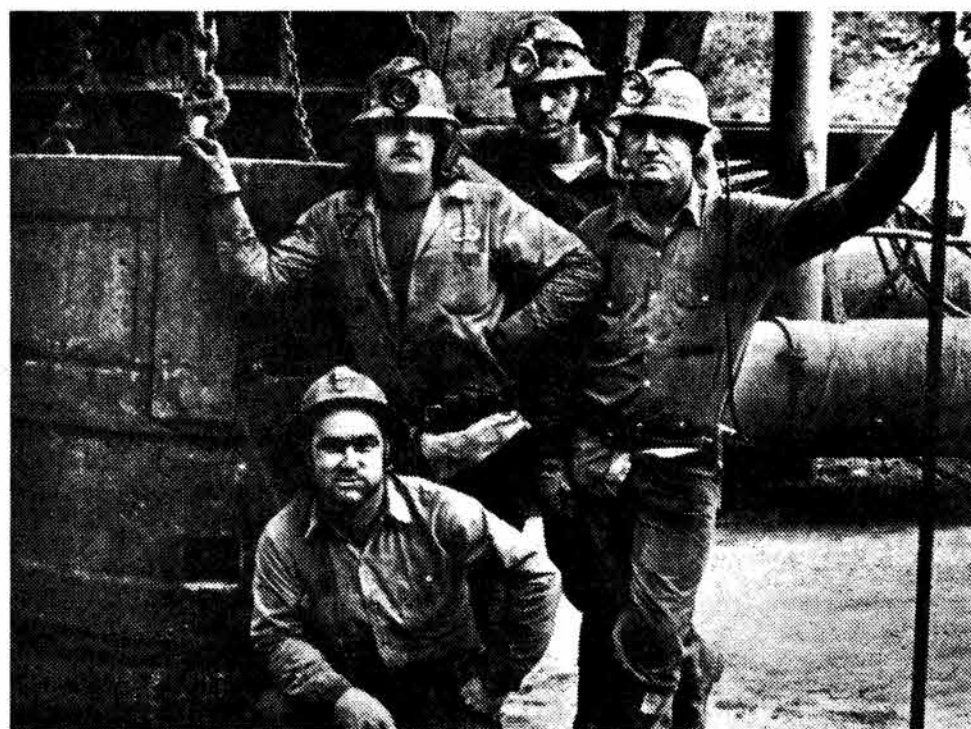
A miner in Merissa, Illinois, told campaigners there that he would take his four sons to Canada rather than let them fight and die in Central America.

A young worker in Rosemont, West Virginia, recently laid off from an electronics plant, told us he strongly opposed the war, "though it's a shame to say, that may be what it takes to create some jobs around here." He, like most people we talked to, liked the socialist proposal to take the war budget and spend it on jobs, housing and other human needs. "If they spent that money here," a retired miner told us in Monongah, West Virginia, "we wouldn't have half the problems we have in this country."

Many people we talked with were interested in the gains of the Nicaraguan revolution, and some solidarized with it.

In Pennsylvania, the team was joined by Socialist Workers' congressional candidate Clare Fraenzl. In West Virginia, we campaigned with Joan Radin and Dave Ferguson, socialist candidates for senate and governor. All three are UMWA members and coal miners. Fraenzl and Radin were laid off in early October; Ferguson is still working at Exxon's Kitt No. 1 mine.

Many workers liked the idea of coal miners running against the Democrats and Republicans, and liked the socialist candidate's proposals. "Maybe these are the answers I've been looking for," a Black pipefitter told Clare Fraenzl in Washing-



UMW Journal

Socialists campaigning for Mason and González spoke to hundreds of miners like the ones above during special two-week campaign tours of the coalfields. Miners in Pennsylvania and West Virginia have been hit hard by layoffs following recent contract settlement between United Mine Workers Union (UMWA) and the coal bosses.

ton, Pennsylvania. "Sure I know about Joan Radin," a Black, laid-off miner told us in Welch, West Virginia. "I'm a coal-mining woman." She signed up for more information about the campaign, and bought a copy of the *Militant*. "I've been looking for a paper like this," a miner told us at the Kirby mine in Pennsylvania. "Can you get it every week?"

In towns throughout the coalfields, newspapers and radio and TV stations reported on the campaigns of these three coal miners. In Wheeling, West Virginia, dozens of people told us they'd seen Dave Ferguson on TV the night before, and liked what they saw. Twenty-three of them got copies of the *Militant*, and hundreds took campaign platforms.

## Grenada book, film distributed in New Zealand

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

New Zealand opponents of the U.S. invasion and occupation of Grenada are mounting a five-week campaign to sell *Maurice Bishop Speaks: The Grenada Revolution 1979-1983*. The drive is aimed at answering the lies of the U.S. and New Zealand rulers about the Grenada revolution's achievements and its overthrow.

Beginning October 25, Pilot Books, the major New Zealand distributor of books and pamphlets about Cuba, Nicaragua, and other revolutionary struggles in Central America and the Caribbean, will carry out a promotional tour for *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, its "book of the year."

The book, published in the United States by Pathfinder Press, contains the major speeches and interviews by Bishop, who was prime minister of Grenada's workers and farmers government from March 1979 until October 19, 1983, when he and other revolutionary leaders were murdered in a counterrevolutionary coup. The October

25, 1983, U.S. invasion came quickly after the overturn of the Bishop-led government.

Spokespeople for Pilot Books note that the promotion of *Maurice Bishop Speaks* provides "a unique insight into the ideas behind the revolutionary struggles in Central America and the Caribbean." They explain that the drive will be an important aid to building opposition to the New Zealand employers' backing of the U.S. war in the region.

Pilot Books wants to use the campaign as "a valuable opportunity to get out the truth about the escalating war in the region" and keep alive the ideas of Bishop. As part of this book promotion, Pilot Books will be sponsoring showings of the film "The Future Coming Toward Us," which was produced by Cuban filmmakers and depicts the social, economic, and political gains made by Grenadian working people during the revolution. The distributor will also show a videotape, "Truth crushed to the earth will rise again." This

video is an interview with Don Rojas, former press secretary for Bishop.

The promotional tour will include public meetings in at least 18 cities. Pilot Books is also making the film, video, and *Maurice Bishop Speaks* available for Labour Party and workplace meetings, as well as for discussions in the women's rights and anti-racist movements.

Pilot Books reports that the response to the campaign has already been good. Maori activists in Whangarei, unionists in Invercargill and Tokoroa, and antiwar activists in Auckland, Hamilton, and Wellington have offered to help organize meetings in their areas. Maoris are the indigenous people of New Zealand.

Earlier this year Pilot Books set a goal of selling 150 copies of *Maurice Bishop Speaks* in 1984. Nearly 140 copies have been sold already. In launching its five-week campaign, Pilot Books increased its sales goal to 200.

## FMLN declaration on Salvadoran talks reprinted in 'IP'

In covering the October 15 meeting between Salvadoran Pres. José Napoleón Duarte and leaders of the rebel Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front, the big-business news media in the United States played up Duarte's claims that he aimed to achieve "peace" in El Salvador. But the continuing war being waged by Washington and Duarte against the Salvadoran workers and peasants has received much less coverage, and the actual positions of the FMLN and FDR have largely been ignored.

The November 12 *Intercontinental Press* does the opposite. Not only does it report on the ongoing U.S. war, but it also prints the full text of a statement on the October 15 talks issued by the General Command of the FMLN.

"Duarte is trying to manufacture a peaceful image while his repressive apparatus deepens the war against the people," the FMLN points out. It calls for an end to U.S. intervention in El Salvador — a precondition for peace — and

stresses that "the peace we seek is one that fulfills all the people's aspirations. As long as they are not fulfilled, our rifles will remain ready for battle."

The FMLN calls on unionists, combatants, students, professionals, and others to step up their mobilizations. "Everyone must intensify the people's struggle."

*Intercontinental Press* carries more articles, documents, and special features on world politics — from Europe to Oceania and from the Middle East to Central America — than we have room for in the *Militant*. Subscribe now.

Enclosed is ☐ \$7.50 for 3 months. ☐ \$15 for 6 months. ☐ \$30 for 1 year.

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

Clip and mail to *Intercontinental Press*, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014.

**INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS**  
inprecor

**FSLN's Election Campaign Advances Nicaragua Revolution**



Salvadoran FMLN on La Palma talks

Interview With Philippine Communist Party Leader

U.S. Women's Rights Under Big Attack



# Marcos rule is shaken by Philippine masses

BY TOM LEONARD

During the second nationally televised debate of capitalist presidential candidates Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale, Reagan came out unequivocally in defense of the brutal military dictatorship of Philippines Pres. Ferdinand Marcos.

According to Reagan, the U.S. government is better off defending Marcos and his government, "rather than throwing them to the wolves and then facing a communist takeover across the Pacific."

The "wolves" Reagan referred to are the working people of the Philippines, who are outraged at the latest attempt to whitewash Marcos of any complicity in the Aug. 21, 1983, political assassination of Benigno Aquino, not to mention the murder, torture, and imprisonment of thousands of others since Marcos has been in power.

Aquino, a leader of the procapitalist opposition to Marcos, was gunned down at the Manila airport while returning from three years of political exile. At the time he was surrounded by six military and civilian cops who claimed a lone gunman, Rolando Galman, suddenly appeared and shot Aquino. The cops then killed Galman on the spot.

At the time Marcos, in complicity with the military brass and cop high command, proclaimed the assassination a "Communist plot."

Few Filipinos swallowed this blatant lie, and hundreds of thousands have continued to demonstrate demanding justice for Aquino and the prosecution of his real killers.

The organized working class is in the vanguard of these demonstrations as part of their response to the bloody attacks they have suffered during the 12 years of near-dictatorial rule under Marcos. Despite the continuing cop attacks on strikes and workers demonstrations, their fight back has continued to escalate. In the first six months of this year, 500 strike notices were filed with the Ministry of Labor and Employment. Up to August, 150 strikes had taken place, and in September, 10 strikes broke out in Manila alone.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU-May First Movement), a trade union alliance that claims 360,000 members, charges that the strikes are a response to both political and economic repression.

The average daily wage of most workers is 30 pesos (U.S. \$1.67), and many workers earn far less. There are numerous reports of workers with full-time jobs suffering from malnutrition.

One eyewitness observer reported their participation in the massive anti-Marcos demonstration in Manila last August 21 as follows: "The workers came in their patented red streamers as well as yellow banners, many of them in their working clothes with their factories' logos on their backs. They skipped work despite government announcements that the day would be like any other working day."

"They were there — many of them from strike-bound and strike-prone firms. The drums added drama and in a little while the city circle was teeming with thousands of workers...."

In addition to the deepening working-class struggles in the cities, the guerrilla movement in the countryside is continuing to grow and expand into new areas, largely under the influence of the Philippine Communist Party (PCP), and its military arm, the National Peoples Army (NPA). These are the two organizations Marcos tried to frame up for the Aquino assassination.

Under this mass pressure, Marcos was forced to set up a commission — hand-picked by himself — to investigate the assassination. The commission was headed by a retired former judge, Corazon Agrava, a long-time Marcos lackey. At one public commission session, which included the appearance of Imelda Marcos, the president's wife, Agrava asked everyone to rise and sing "Happy Birthday" for her, after she had testified.

The other commission members were little better. They included Dante Santos, businessman; Amando Dizon, college administrator; Ernesto Herrera, a progovernment union leader; and Luciano Salazar, a corporation lawyer.

All five commission members stood and sang the national anthem, facing a picture of Marcos, at the first public commission meeting 12 months ago. It was clear from the beginning they had no intention of implicating Marcos in the assassination, and when they released their findings, this proved to be the case.

They were forced to repudiate Marcos' phony charge that the assassination was a "communist plot," since not a shred of evidence was produced.

There was plenty of evidence implicating the military, and all five commission members had to conclude that a military plot was behind the assassination.

What they couldn't agree on — or tried to cover up — was how widespread the plot was, so they were forced to give a minority and majority report on the commissions findings.

The minority report by former judge Agrava, claimed that the plot involved just seven people, the guards present at the time, and retired air force general, Luthur Custodio. She went out of her way to exonerate Chief of Staff Gen. Fabian Ver, a long-time accomplice of Marcos.

Her report was greeted by prolonged booing, and she quickly adjourned the hearing.

The majority report the next day, October 24, also concluded that a "military plot" was behind the assassination. It charged that not seven, but 26 members of the military and police were involved, including three generals and two colonels, among them General Ver.

The report stated: "The SWAT troopers who gunned down Galman and the soldiers who escorted Senator Aquino down the



Marcos' cops attacking striking workers in front of Artex textile factory last July 9 in Valenzuela, Metro-Manila. Strike is now in fifth month.

service stairs deliberately and in conspiracy with one another, gave a perjured story to us regarding the alleged shooting by Galman of Senator Aquino and the mowing down, in turn of Galman himself...."

The fact that General Ver was named as part of the plot didn't surprise many Filipinos. What did surprise and anger many, was that neither report implicated Marcos.

Aquino's widow told a press conference she could not believe the assassination was "planned and executed without Marcos' knowledge or express approval."

Another report said, "The majority report, with its wider scope, was greeted with wild applause and chants of 'Marcos

Resign' when it was presented to the press and public...."

Even the politically weak capitalist opposition whom Marcos had tolerated in the Philippine parliament, have accused him of being "morally, legally, and politically responsible" for the assassination, and are demanding his immediate resignation.

Despite all the evidence pointing to Marcos' guilt in the Aquino assassination, and countless other murders, he continues to receive praise from the White House for his handling of the assassination.

But it will take more than whitewash from the U.S. government to save their murdering puppet from the determined struggle by the workers and oppressed masses to bring down his hated regime.

## Capitalism has no solution for homeless

BY HARRY RING

NEW YORK — The number of homeless people in this city is growing rapidly.

Once largely confined to the Bowery and other impoverished areas, the homeless are becoming increasingly visible as growing numbers of them sleep on the streets and in doorways throughout the city, including such exclusive areas as Park Avenue.

City officials bluntly state — and with a straight face — they have "no solution" for the problem.

It's projected that nearly 10,000 people a night will be accepting refuge in the "shelters" offered by the city and some churches.

There is no hard estimate of the number of additional thousands spending their nights in the streets, in doorways, in subway and train stations, bus depots, parks, and rat-infested abandoned buildings.

The October 10 *New York Times* offered some facts in a major report on the situation.

The significance of the swelling army of homeless goes beyond the numbers.

The *Times* reports:

"In the 1960s, a typical person in the shelter was a male, over 50 years old, white and alcoholic. Today the majority are Black and Hispanic, and more and more women are coming into the shelters."

Concurrently, the average age is dropping fast.

To explain away the growing number of homeless, the media and some politicians depict them as "psychos." In other words, they'd have a home if they weren't crazy.

In New York City, the homeless — mostly unemployed working people — are jammed into a cluster of run-down hotels on Manhattan's West Side. Featuring cubicles for individuals, these "Single Room Occupancy," or SROs, coined a fortune collecting outrageous rents from welfare agencies.

But too much is never enough for landlords.

They got in on a special city tax abatement swindle designed for slumlords. Big tax writeoffs were given for allegedly upgrading slum units into livable low- and medium-income housing.

The mentally ill, and others, were cleared out of the SROs, sometimes liter-

ally by goons with baseball bats. The units were converted into "gentrified" ultra high-rent apartments.

In 1970, there were 127,000 SRO units. Today? 19,000.

Many of the 108,000 who were evicted are among those wandering the streets or enjoying the hospitality of the "shelters."

The Coalition for the Homeless has brought suits against the city regarding the rotten conditions and suffocating overcrowding of the shelters. So far, they've made little progress.

One unsuccessful suit demanded enforcement of an ignored state statute limiting the number in a shelter to 200 and the number in one room to 30.

To do that, the city bosses respond, it would have to virtually double the present number of shelters.

One facility used as a shelter is the drill room of an armory.

That single room has housed as many as 1,400 people a night!

What are the city and state officials doing about the housing shortage? They blame the federal government, which has virtually halted construction of low-cost housing.

But all are to blame. Top city, state, and federal government officials are at the service of the landlords, bankers, and super-rich who make decisions affecting working people, including the homeless.

In 1981, to get rid of one suit, New York's Mayor Koch signed a consent decree to provide shelter for everyone who needed it.

That, he now declares, was a "mistake." Responding indignantly to critics, Koch charges that they believe that the city "has a moral obligation to provide every person with an apartment."

That idea, says the mayor, "boggles the mind."

Homes for the homeless? "Mind-boggling."

New York officials are quick to point out that in other major cities, the situation of the homeless is even worse.

What an indictment of the profits-before-people system we live under!

And the problem is going to get worse. Each new downturn in the capitalist econ-

omy leaves additional workers and farmers permanently jobless.

There are some who never had and maybe never will have a job. Simply consider the fact that among Black youth the unemployment rate persists at more than 50 percent.

By contrast, look at a country like Cuba, which has abolished capitalism. With meager resources, it fights to overcome the housing shortage it inherited from the old system.

But, because it has a planned, rational system that puts people before profits, Cuba is able to provide jobs for all. Its most virulent enemies will not argue that people are sleeping in the streets there.

As capitalism builds an ever bigger human scrapheap, it becomes imperative that working people rally behind the homeless.

In New York, for example, Nan Bailey, the Socialist Workers congressional nominee, is demanding a combined city-state-federal program to do precisely what Mayor Koch finds "mind-boggling" — provide a decent home for everyone who needs it.

Plus an adequate health, education, and job training program, with the government providing union-wage jobs where private industry can't. And, she insists, there must be a humane, livable standard of assistance for those who can't work.

Where would the funding come from? Many places. For a quick start, heavily taxing the real estate sharks who are coining billions by driving the poor into the streets with their "gentrification" drive.

And the federal government could easily underwrite its share. Cancelling war maneuvers in Central America, cutting off funds to Nicaraguan "contras" — that is, elimination of the entire war-making budget — is the first place to start.

All of this must be done. But even more is needed.

The devastating, traumatic insecurity that has become a hallmark of capitalism must be ended. A home, health care, education, a decent job — all these things indeed must become a right. But that right will not be established until crisis-ridden capitalism is replaced by a socialist system of planned production for use, not profit.



# Nicaraguan elections strengthen workers

BY JOSÉ G. PÉREZ

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — "The Sandinista Front commits itself to strengthen the power of the people and to keep the weapons in the hands of the people in order to uphold and defend that power."

This is the very first point in the program that the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) is putting forward in the November 4 election here for president, vice-president, and constituent assembly.

From the beginning, the FSLN has explained that this election is not to decide which class holds political power. That was settled through a popular revolution led by the FSLN that overthrew the U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979 and brought a workers and peasants government to power. Rather, this election is to strengthen and institutionalize the political power of the workers and peasants and increase their active involvement in making and administering political decisions on how the country is run.

Washington opposes the elections because they will further consolidate the revolutionary government. As Sandinista commander Tomás Borge explained, the elections are "a contribution to the essential requirement of deepening the revolutionary process."

## Red and black brush strokes

From the main boulevard of Managua, to the remote rural hamlets in war zones like La Ceiba and El Cuá, the entire country is covered by the red and black brush strokes — the FSLN campaign symbol. All over the country, FSLN activists are going door to door to discuss with workers and peasants the challenges and tasks facing the revolution. The FSLN's "Plan of Struggle" — the Sandinista program, which is a call to the toilers to defend and deepen their revolution — is being read and discussed in factories, farms, offices, and neighborhoods. (See excerpts from "Plan of Struggle" on facing page.)

The FSLN has waged its campaign through the mass organizations of the Nicaraguan people: unions, neighborhood defense committees, peasant organizations, and youth and women's groups. It has placed at the center of its program the defense of conquests and achievements of these past five years in the face of the U.S. aggression. The FSLN has explained the economic transformations and social advances registered by the revolution, among the most important of these being agrarian reform. It stresses the tasks that lie ahead.

The composition of the FSLN slate is an indication of the kind of campaign the Sandinistas are waging. As vice-presidential candidate Sergio Ramírez told the cheering crowd of some 1,000 women who work as small vendors in Managua's markets, "There had to be a real revolution in Nicaragua, so that a compañera from the Eastern Market could be a candidate for the assembly."

Also running on the FSLN slate are central leaders of the Sandinista union federation, the CST; National Union of Farmers and Ranchers; the women's association, AMNLAE; student organizations and the Sandinista Youth; Sandinista Defense Committees; and organizations of professionals and artists.

Rather than having many general campaign rallies, the FSLN instead has concentrated on meetings organized by one or another mass organization.

At these campaign meetings, Sandinista leaders have stressed how the revolution has benefited various sectors of the population victimized by Nicaragua's previous rulers. For example, in speaking to the small merchants, Ramírez explained how the revolution was advancing toward the goal of "freeing market women from the exploitation by middlemen and rich wholesalers."

## Campaigning among unionists

Among industrial workers, the Sandinistas have carried out their campaign in a special way. The campaign meetings at CST locals have been discussions of resolutions adopted at a CST national assembly in September. These resolutions detail the



Nicaraguan women putting up Sandinista campaign poster. FSLN campaign has reached all parts of country, mobilizing workers and peasants through mass organizations.

big toll the U.S. aggression is taking on the economy of the country and how union members must work harder, and sacrifice more, to defend their revolution. (See report in *International Socialist Review* in last week's *Militant*).

Speaking to one such rally sponsored by the poultry workers union, Commander of the Revolution Víctor Tirado said that workers "must redouble their efforts in their production centers at this moment of aggression and the threat of an invasion."

Deepening class consciousness among workers and peasants and increasing their self-confidence has been at the heart of the FSLN campaign.

At the rally, Tirado stressed that "it is the workers themselves who will be able to maintain, consolidate, and economically develop the revolution."

A huge banner hanging outside the CST national headquarters declares: "For the building of socialism, the workers continue to go forward with the [Sandinista] Front."

Carrying through this campaign, the FSLN has consciously combatted the myths of bourgeois electoralism — the idea that elections and other forms of parliamentary activity are what transforms society, rather than class struggle.

As Commander Tirado told the poultry workers, "elections have never solved any economic problems anywhere." They are, he said, simply one more "form of struggle in the process of revolutionary transformation." The FSLN's "Plan of Struggle" explains:

"The Sandinista Front, which was at the head of the people in the insurrectional struggle and victory, buried the past of pacts, betrayals, and electoralist deals among the sell-out parties of Yankee imperialism."

"In the first free elections in Nicaraguan history, which only the Sandinista revolution made possible," the document continues, "this same people will ratify on Nov. 4, 1984, the votes it casts everyday in support of the revolution in the factories, in the unions, in the cooperatives, in the neighborhoods, in the shops, in the classrooms, in the building of the new Nicaragua."

"In the same way, the people will be ratifying their everyday votes on the battle front, in the trenches, in the struggle to the death against the mercenaries and the foreign invaders."

"The people will vote for the conquests and advances of the revolution."

"The people will vote massively for the Sandinista Front."

Since the date of the elections was set last February, there has been a sharp escalation of military attacks by CIA-organized terrorists. (See front page article.) This military aggression has been accompanied by an imperialist political and diplomatic offensive internationally and within Nicaragua itself.

Within Nicaragua the main mouthpieces of U.S. policy have been the Catholic

church hierarchy, the capitalist daily *La Prensa*, and the Democratic Coordinating Committee (*Coordinadora*) which is a coalition of capitalist political parties headed by the Supreme Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), the main organization of the Nicaraguan capitalist class.

After the 1979 revolution all these groups began loudly clamoring for "free elections" in their attempt to portray the Nicaraguan workers and peasants government as unpopular and "totalitarian."

However, when it became clear that Nicaragua would hold elections, the capitalist opposition slammed on the brakes and went into reverse, claiming the scheduled elections were "undemocratic."

From the beginning of the pre-election period, the most outspoken capitalist opposition sectors have been openly orienting toward boycott. This is the case with the presidential campaign of Arturo Cruz, who lives in Washington, D.C., and is a top official of the Inter-American Development Bank. Cruz was ambassador to the United States from Nicaragua in the early years of the revolution. He returned to Nicaragua last July as the presidential nominee of the *Coordinadora*. Following that visit he has spent most of his time on tour outside Nicaragua denouncing the elections as undemocratic, and ultimately refusing to run.

Last July the government junta coordinator and FSLN presidential candidate, Daniel Ortega, explained that, in trying to sabotage the elections, Cruz was "carrying out a mission for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency." This was later confirmed by Reagan administration sources who revealed to the *New York Times* in mid-October that the CIA worked closely with top *Coordinadora* leaders — and especially Enrique Bolaños, president of the COSEP — to ensure that Cruz did not run in the elections.

The FSLN has countered the election boycott by denouncing it as a vote for the U.S. war against Nicaragua. At the same time it has sought to build a united front in support of holding elections with other parties — including capitalist parties. To this end, the FSLN has enacted measures such as relaxing state-of-emergency regulations and increasing free radio and TV time for candidates. Representatives of other parties have been drawn into administering the election law and supervising the voting.

Sandinista leaders extended this approach "even to the CIA parties," as Ortega explained October 23.

All efforts to have them participate, however, proved fruitless because the *Coordinadora*'s leaders were determined not to run.

Despite the U.S.-organized boycott, six parties in addition to the Sandinista Front did register and campaign for the November 4 election.

## Independent Liberal Party

The Independent Liberal Party (PLI), a capitalist party, nominated as its candidate

for president Virgilio Godoy, who until earlier this year was the minister of labor in the Nicaraguan government. The PLI appears to have some following among better-off merchants as well as some professionals and technicians in urban areas.

At the beginning of the election period, the PLI tried to project a more-or-less moderate, reasoned tone of criticism within the framework of the revolution, but this quickly evolved into broadside attacks on the revolution and its defense against imperialist aggression. Godoy declared that if the PLI took power it would "demilitarize the country." He criticized the rationing of basic goods. He denounced the internationalist aid Nicaragua has received, claiming that Nicaragua has become "a country impoverished and invaded by thousands of Cubans, hundreds of Russians, and a large number of experts from Germany. All these foreigners have been brought in to persecute and repress Nicaraguans."

The unraveling of the PLI's real program culminated in its October 21 decision to withdraw from the election, on the grounds of "lack of democracy." This brought out into the open an internal fight in the PLI. Some PLI members charged that the day before Godoy got the PLI to drop out of the race, he had been meeting secretly with the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua.

## Conservative Democratic Party

After the PLI announced its withdrawal, Rafael Cordova Rivas, a leader of the Conservative Democratic Party (PCD) and a member of Nicaragua's governing junta, charged that U.S. embassy personnel were also pressuring his party to withdraw from the elections. (The U.S. embassy, according to Daniel Ortega, is offering up to \$300,000 to each party that pulls out).

The PCD, also a capitalist party, has adopted as its main campaign slogan "Forward against the [Sandinista] Front." This is also a slogan of the radio station run by the CIA-financed mercenary group, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force.

PCD spokespeople have hailed the "brilliant methods of government" of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Clement Guido, PCD presidential candidate, pledges to "exterminate the devastating Marxist-Leninist cancer that is threatening Nicaragua." He calls for a "social pact" between private and public sectors of the economy so that "private enterprise can operate without fear."

According to FSLN activists, the PCD has some support in the countryside among large growers and ranchers.

## People's Social Christian Party

The People's Social Christian Party (PPSC) campaign motto is: "Christians to Power." PPSC presidential candidate Mauricio Díaz has criticized those parties boycotting the election, saying, "We must fight totalitarianism by employing all our forces, but within a legal framework."

Prior to the beginning of the election campaign, the PPSC and the PLI were members of the Patriotic Revolutionary Front, a coalition of political parties in the Council of State led by the FSLN. As the elections got under way, a convergence of the procapitalist positions of the PPSC, the PLI, and the PCD emerged.

For example, all three parties attack the Sandinista agrarian reform because the land titles granted under this reform cannot be sold or mortgaged; they can only be transferred to the state or passed on to a peasant's heirs. The three parties also criticize the emphasis given to cooperatives in the agrarian reform.

The PPSC and the PCD counterpose union participation in management decisions, profit sharing, and employee stock-ownership plans to the state ownership and management of nationalized enterprises. The PPSC, which presents the most elaborate schemas along these lines, calls for the immediate transformation of all state enterprises into employee-owned companies.

All three parties have strongly denounced the *turbas* ("mobs"), as Nicaraguan right wingers call popular demonstrations organized by the Sandinista neighbor-



# and peasants power

hood defense committees. All three have attacked the military draft and have called for abolishing the neighborhood defense committees.

They have all tried to whip up a campaign against internationalist workers aiding Nicaragua, focusing their fire on Soviet, Cuban, Bulgarian, and Libyan personnel. On the central immediate issue facing the Nicaraguan people — the U.S. war of aggression — the PLI, PPSC, and PCD blame the FSLN, not Washington.

Clemente Guido, PCD presidential candidate, says that if the FSLN remains in power, "Mr. Reagan, or any other Reagan who becomes president of the United States, will continue the war. First of all, because they object that the FSLN hasn't been elected by popular vote, and second, because the Sandinistas are Marxist-Leninists. . . . If the PCD wins the elections, these conditions would disappear. . . ."

## Nicaraguan Socialist Party

Three small groups claiming to be Marxist are also running in the election. The most important of these is the Nicaraguan Socialist Party (PSN), which has traditionally had close ties to the Soviet leadership.

The main campaign slogan of the PSN is "For the democratization of the revolution" — implying that the FSLN-led government is somehow undemocratic. While trying to give the impression that it has only "tactical differences" with the FSLN, the PSN denounces the Sandinistas for "bureaucratism," "corruption," "inefficiency," and "sectarianism."

The PSN was founded in 1944. A number of key founders of the FSLN broke

from the PSN in the 1960s because of its policy of class collaboration with the Somoza dictatorship. In the period leading up to the 1979 revolution, the PSN split and a significant wing took part in the insurrection and soon fused with the FSLN.

Today's PSN is the wing of the old party that did not take part in the insurrection and has maintained a separate existence. It was a member of the Patriotic Revolutionary Front in the Council of State.

The PSN leads a small union federation, the General Federation of Workers — Independent, which remains outside the FSLN-led Sandinista Workers Federation to which the majority of Nicaragua's workers belong.

The PSN's candidate for president is Domingo Sánchez Delgado, a founding member of the party.

Sánchez criticizes the Sandinista land reform because of "the priority given to the cooperative sector." He says this is "contradictory," because "campesinos want individual ownership rights to their land."

The PSN has put forward a peace program it calls an "intermediate alternative" between those of the FSLN and the rightist parties. Sánchez, referring to the U.S. imperialists, says, "if they come with bullets, we'll fight them with bullets; but if we can do it civically, that's how we should fight them."

## Communist Party of Nicaragua

The Communist Party of Nicaragua (PCN), a tiny sect that came out of a split from the PSN in 1967, is running Allan Zambrana for president. In the first years of the revolution, through its trade union



Sergio Ramírez (left) and Daniel Ortega, FSLN candidates for vice-president and president, talking with soldiers in department of Estelí.

arm known as the CAUS, the PCN was involved in a number of strikes at nationalized enterprises.

The PCN has called for a "socialist" revolution against the FSLN, which it characterizes as "bourgeois nationalist." It opposes the distribution of land titles to the peasants as "bourgeois." It has echoed the imperialist charge that the elections are undemocratic, and has threatened to withdraw from the race, claiming "abuses" of its rights by the FSLN.

In the PCN's 16-page campaign platform, there is exactly one, three-sentence paragraph devoted to the U.S. war against Nicaragua.

## People's Action Movement

The People's Action Movement — Marxist-Leninist (MAP-ML), shares some

of the positions of the PCN, but tries to relate more directly to day-to-day Nicaraguan politics. It leads a small union group called the Frente Obrero (Workers Front), which has a seat in the Council of State, as does the MAP-ML.

Like the PCN, the MAP-ML denounces the FSLN's agrarian reform as "bourgeois." It calls for the rapid "expropriation without compensation" of all large private enterprises and for the outlawing of capitalist parties.

The MAP-ML presidential candidate is Isidoro Téllez. The party calls for the formation of an "Assembly of People's Representatives," made up of workers, peasants, militia members, shantytown dwellers, and soldiers, for the purpose of replacing the "petty-bourgeois" FSLN government.

Continued on Page 11

# Sandinista 'Plan of Struggle' to defend revolution

The following are brief excerpts from the "Plan of Struggle," the program put forward by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) for Nicaragua's November 4 election. The 23-point program was printed in the October 1, 1984, *Intercontinental Press*. (Single copies of *IP* are \$1.25; subscriptions are \$30 for one year. Write to *Intercontinental Press*, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014).

## Defense of the homeland

Weapons will remain in the hands of the people and we will go on strengthening our Armed Forces so long as imperialism goes on pressing its policy of destroying the power that belongs to the people. Its aim is to force us back into the past of submission and surrender, and that would mean wresting away all our gains, wresting away our sovereignty and independence.

The Sandinista Front commits itself to go on defending the country's sovereignty, on the basis of continuing to arm and organize the entire people.

## Human rights and public liberties

The Sandinista Front commits itself to incorporate into the new Constitution that will be voted upon by the National Assembly this integral set of rights and freedoms that the Sandinista Revolution has brought into force through the daily exercise of democracy and public liberties in Nicaragua. For the Sandinista Front these rights took on a new dimension with the revolutionary victory:

- The right to a job.
- The right to land.
- The right to organize and mobilize.
- The right to housing and a building lot.
- Workers' access to the communications media.
- The right to education, culture, and sports.
- The right to equal opportunities.
- The right to criticize, engage in dialogue, and raise demands.
- The right to health care.
- The rights of women.
- The rights of children, youth, and the aged.
- In sum, the overall right to human life.



Bluefields resident reading "Plan of Struggle."

## The peasants and land reform

The Sandinista Revolution's policy in the countryside consists of giving land free of charge to the peasants who want to work it and in helping them to organize themselves so as to gain better access to bank credit and technical assistance.

This also means guaranteeing the property of the small- and medium-sized rural producers who were already landowners before the victory, and providing them with support in terms of credit and technical aid.

This policy also applies to agricultural producers who work efficiently and produce good yields, whatever the size of their property holding.

The Sandinista Front commits itself to continue encouraging and extending the organization of cooperatives in the countryside.

## Wages and the supply of goods

In order to deal with the problem of the supply of goods, the Sandinista Front commits itself to guarantee to the population access to the principal basic products needed for subsistence, at stable fixed prices, distributed through uniform and se-

cure channels. The list of goods will be broadened to include other consumer products to the extent that the imperialist aggression diminishes and we achieve greater levels of production and organization.

The rights of all those shopkeepers, market vendors, and small merchants who work honestly to strengthen the distribution channels will be protected.

We commit ourselves to go on developing supply networks in the countryside, installing people's stores and rural supply centers little by little. At these outlets it will also be possible to obtain machetes, boots, files, and other products needed by the peasantry that the country is in a position to provide.

In the same way, the Sandinista Front commits itself to go on developing a just and rational policy with regard to wages, according to the principle of equal wages for equal work, as has been initiated with the application of the National System for the Organization of Work and Wages.

## Workers, trade unions, and jobs

The Revolution promotes trade-union organizations so that the workers can participate in the management and organization of production and supervise compliance with the labor laws, respect for the norms of safety and hygiene, and food and housing conditions in rural sectors.

In the factories, plants, and workplaces, commissaries, cafeterias, and medical services have been established. Contracts provide for many other guarantees and benefits.

The Sandinista Front has promoted the unity of the working class and will go on doing so, in a constant struggle against divisionism, opportunism, low productivity, indiscipline, and work inefficiency.

All these are vices that the agents of imperialism and capitalism try to preserve among the most backward sectors of the working class. It will be necessary to combat them energetically.

The Sandinista Front, as the historic vanguard of the Nicaraguan proletariat, reaffirms its confidence in the workers and commits itself to guarantee their true leading role in the revolution and to go on consolidating the organization of the working

class, both in the cities and in the countryside.

## The Atlantic Coast

The Sandinista Front commits itself to continue upholding the territorial integrity of Nicaragua, more and more incorporating the Atlantic Coast into the country. We will continue the process of integration and transformation that has already begun; go on creating new poles of economic development in forestry, mining, and fishing; and develop ports, agriculture in permanent settlements, communications media, and highways.

The Sandinista Front commits itself as well to go on respecting the culture and religious beliefs of *criollos* [English-speaking Blacks], Miskitus, Sumos, and Ramas, who are all part of the Nicaraguan nationality; to preserve and encourage the preservation of their languages, cultural traditions and customs, incorporating these into the cultural heritage of the nation; and to go on defending their right to be educated in their mother tongue as well as in Spanish, the national language.

We will go on defending the ethnic minorities' right of organization and their participation in running the government.

## Women

The family laws adopted by the revolutionary government are aimed at protecting women as mothers and providing them the dignity due them within the family.

The Revolution has created equality of opportunity for all Nicaraguans, regardless of sex, and has restored the dignity of women. But social problems persist, and these pose obstacles to full participation by women in the Revolution.

The Sandinista Front will make greater efforts to overcome these social problems in order that women can achieve full participation. And it will struggle in a more systematic way to eliminate prostitution.

The Sandinista Front will go on defending the nuclear family and the integrity of the home. To make it possible for the family laws adopted by the Revolution to be fully complied with, education guidelines aimed at fostering greater understanding of this set of problems will be developed.



# British mine supervisors call off strike

## Miners stand firm; Scargill defends NUM meeting with Libyan unionists

BY CLIVE TURNBULL

SHEFFIELD, England — The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has come under pressure over the last week.

On October 24 the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies, and Shot-firers (NACODS), the mine supervisors' and safety workers' union, signed a separate deal with the National Coal Board (NCB). The NACODS members had been due to join on the following day the NUM strike against mine closures and job losses, now in its eighth month.

The NACODS agreement does not include withdrawal of the Coal Board's mine-closure program. Mines threatened with closure will be subject to an independent review body. Where a mine is being starved of investment, in the union's view, this can also be referred to the review body.

The reaction of the NUM to the NACODS deal was expressed by Vice-president Mick McGahey: "I regret very much the attitude taken by NACODS, first in compromising themselves before the NCB; and secondly, making things much more difficult for the NUM who are seeking a principled solution to this dispute."

"The calling-off of this strike is a demonstration of weakness by the NACODS executive, which the NCB under MacGregor will capitalize on in the future, and at the expense of NACODS members."

"The NUM will continue to pursue their case."

On October 25 a high court judge ordered the "sequestration" of all the NUM's funds and assets following the union's refusal to pay a £200,000 [approximately \$240,000] fine. This had been imposed for a contempt of a court ruling that said NUM's strike was not "official."

The sequestration order seizes all funds and assets from the NUM so that the £200,000 fine can be paid. The court can hold onto the NUM's property until the "contempt is purged," by the NUM leadership agreeing to bow to the capitalist courts. Further fines can be imposed if the union continues to defend its right to decide whether the action of its members is official.

In the view of Kent area NUM Pres. Malcolm Pitt: "This decision will not intimidate the National Union of Mineworkers. If anything, it will harden the attitude of our members." Labor Party General Secretary Jim Mortimer described the court order as "an attempt to defeat the NUM by making it impossible for the union to operate and by starving their members, wives, and children into submission."

In Sheffield, where the NUM has its national headquarters, the local Trades Council, representing all unions in the city, called an emergency protest. Over 800 workers rallied to the NUM's defense, including engineers from the GKN Shadlows works who had walked out on strike after a lunch-time factory-gate meeting addressed by Ann Scargill, wife of NUM Pres. Arthur Scargill.

The scab miners who started the court action against the NUM plan to take further legal measures to have the £200,000 fine paid by the union executive members personally, instead of from NUM funds. The lawyer representing the scabs said they were prepared to bankrupt individual executive members.

"Scargill: the Libyan connection," was *The Sunday Times* headline on October 28 — "Secret visit to Tripoli by top NUM official." The report concerned a trip by Roger Windsor, NUM chief executive, to meet with the Libyan Federation of Trade Unions, at their invitation, to explain the NUM's fight for jobs.

The capitalist press, in a campaign orchestrated by Conservative Party Energy Minister Peter Walker, sought to identify the NUM with their slanderous view of the Libyan regime as "terrorists" and "murderers."

Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock tamely echoed the chorus of hate that the British ruling class has for the Qaddafi government's stance of opposing imperialism. The secretary of Britain's Trades Union

Congress, Norman Willis, made similar statements which were heralded in the conservative press as the most significant statement to be made by the TUC leader in the two months since he took office.

*The Times* in its October 30 edition explained that the aim of the government campaign is to isolate the NUM from the TUC and Labor Party leadership, and the labor movement as a whole.

So secret was the NUM visit to Libya that it was reported by the official Libyan news agency, Jana, and Windsor's meeting with Qaddafi screened on Libyan television. Arthur Scargill explained the union's position in a radio interview: "All of the national officials of the NUM knew of the visit; there was nothing secretive about this whatsoever. Indeed, when we were asked if Mr. Windsor could go over and explain the position of the British miners to the trade unionists of Libya, we said: 'Yes, of course. We've already contacted unionists all over the world, and we have received invitations and responded positively to those in at least 50 countries.'"

Negotiations are due to be reopened between the NUM and the NCB on October 31. However, there is no optimism in the union as to the outcome. Jack Taylor, Yorkshire NUM president, spelled out his opinion in the *Yorkshire Miner* this week:

"We in Yorkshire believe his [Coal Board chief Ian MacGregor's] on-off negotiating style is nothing more than a strike-breaking device which he has learned in America and is now applying in Britain on behalf of the Tory government."

"The idea is to raise our members' hopes of a return to work, with jobs guaranteed for the future, only to dash them again in the hope of demoralizing them and sapping the will to fight."

"We do not believe our members will fall for that. But we must warn them we face a ruthless government whose tactics will become more desperate as the strike forces them further into crisis."

"But we are equally determined to win this fight for jobs."

The Conservative government continues to use the courts to try and break the miners' struggle. Two striking miners from Whitwell NUM in North Derbyshire were released from 45 days in prison. They were held awaiting trial on charges of "staging an affray" and "unlawful assembly."

The condition of their bail is that they stay with relations at Wick in the far north of Scotland, 300 miles from the nearest coalfield. North Derbyshire NUM secretary Gordon Butler commented: "Here we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the exile of the Tolpuddle martyrs, and now in 1984, these two NUM members have had to leave the country."

The Tolpuddle martyrs were six agricultural workers from the village of Tolpuddle who were transported to Australia for organizing a union in 1834.

*Funds to support the striking miners can be sent to the NUM Miners Solidarity Fund, Cooperative Bank, Sheffield, England. Account No. 30000009.*

## Minn. socialists take campaign to farmers

Throughout the election campaign, Minnesota supporters of the Socialist Workers Party candidates have been actively campaigning among working farmers in the region. Recently, teams were sent to farm protest rallies in Thief River Falls and Marshall, Minnesota. Another team was scheduled to go to a rally in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on November 1.

The socialist campaigners are selling a pamphlet, produced locally, that includes the three-part series on the farm crisis and the elections that appeared in the *Militant* in October. It also includes the 1984 platform of Ellie Garcia and Peter Brandli, the SWP candidates for U.S. Senate and Congress (4th C.D.).

The pamphlet sells for \$.50 but was distributed free to those who purchased a *Militant* subscription.



Clive Turnbull

Arthur Scargill (in cap, center) leads march of protesting miners. Thatcher government tried to smear miners by reporting on NUM "secret" meeting in Libya. Scargill responded there was nothing secret about meeting and defended right of NUM to build international solidarity.

## N.Y. forum on 1984 elections

BY YVONNE HAYES

NEW YORK — The 1984 elections and the question, "Will voting stop war, racism, and unemployment?" were the subjects of an important debate and discussion here October 20. The participants in this Militant Labor Forum were all active builders of the October 27 march demanding an end to Washington's military occupation of Grenada and an end to the U.S. war in Central America.

Nan Bailey, who is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in Harlem's 16th C.D. and cochair of the Manhattan chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party, opened her presentation by explaining her view of the elections:

"We believe that it does not matter which of the two capitalist candidates, Reagan or Mondale, is elected," Bailey stated. Both represent imperialist parties and both have the same objective — to protect the political and economic interests of U.S. imperialism in Central America and the Caribbean. They both act against the interests of working people in Central America and in the United States."

Bailey explained that the "U.S. working class and its allies — Blacks, women, youth, and farmers — have a job to do. We need to break from the capitalist framework of politics and organize our class to take power."

"This is the only realistic solution," she asserted. "Because the root of the problem is the question of power, now held by the capitalist class. And it is political struggle in the streets, not the elections and bourgeois candidates, which can make a difference."

Joe Kaye, a member of the national steering committee of the November 29th Coalition which has been active in building solidarity with the Palestinian people, explained that he agreed that both the Democratic and Republican parties are "instruments of monopoly capitalism and imperialism." He said the commonly held illusion that the Democratic Party represents the interests of the working class is an obstacle to social progress. He pointed to the Democratic Party's defense of Israeli terrorism against the Palestinians as an example of the true nature of that party.

"But," Kaye explained, "there exist divisions among the rulers." He stated that "Reagan represents a threat of a qualitatively different order than the mainstream imperialists."

Kaye said that it was the job of those who understand this to continue to "explain the character of the Democratic Party and organize at the grassroots" but at the same time to "get Reagan out of office."

The only "concrete way to do this," Kaye stated, "is to cast a vote for Mondale."

Gwen Wilson, a representative of the New York Black United Front, opened her remarks by stating that she would not be voting for Mondale. She explained, "Walter Mondale is no choice. He is not committed to any positive change that would affect the lives of Afro-Americans or Africans. And he hasn't embraced the elements which could possibly win him the election."

These elements, she explained, were those who were involved in Jesse Jackson's bid for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. "The Jackson movement addressed the needs of the poor, of working people, women, South Africa, and of Nicaragua and Central America," Wilson said. "It was a moral movement."

Wilson did, however, see a difference between the policies of Reagan and Mondale. "Mondale will cut us and let us bleed slowly while Reagan will cut our veins and we will die right away," she said. "And that gives us a choice. Because if we are to die slowly, we might just have the possibility of stopping the bleeding."

Elombe Brath, a leader of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition, said that he too would ordinarily oppose choosing between the "lesser of two evils" — between the Democratic and Republican parties. "But this election is very critical," he explained. He called for a "campaign to stop Reagan — a particular enemy of the people who has the capacity to trigger world war."

"I believe in the need for an independent movement and in the need to build the National Black Independent Political Party in a revolutionary direction," Brath stated. "But it can't be built before November 6." Brath explained that the only serious thing to do was to work for the "removal of Ronald Reagan from state power."

In the discussion, Bailey explained the socialist view that the Reagan administration is not an abnormality. "What we are facing now are normal conditions under their system, capitalism. And we will see an intensification of the class war that is going on," she stated. "We will see an escalation of the U.S. war in Central America and more attacks on working people's democratic rights and standard of living."

"Our biggest problem is that we are politically disorganized and weaponless," Bailey explained. "We need to begin now to address this problem — not figure out how to be the conscience of the Democratic Party. We need to begin the process of building our own organizations, our own class weapons."



# INS seizes Grenadian leader in D.C.

Continued from back page

claimed people were kicking them and pushing, so they shoved Williams into the car.

Under questioning by Williams' attorneys, Kramer admitted that their "thorough" attempt to find Dessima Williams consisted of going to American University — but they didn't check the student registry. They went to the Grenadian embassy and asked someone at the door if they knew where Williams was. When the answer was no, they left.

## Many public engagements

Williams has been a registered graduate student under scholarship at American University since August 1984. She maintains an apartment near Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C. She has been a public spokeswoman for the Grenada Foundation, Inc., and has appeared on numerous television and radio programs.

In the past month Williams has been speaking at a series of Town Meetings on Central America across the country. On October 24 Williams spoke at a news conference in New York City. On October 25 she spoke at Howard University — to a news conference and conference participants. She was a publicized speaker for the October 27 antiwar demonstration in Brooklyn, New York. Everyone — but the INS — seemed to know where Dessima Williams was.

Williams' attorney Michael Maggio explained that Williams had been trying to apply for a change in her status. Williams was ambassador from Grenada to the OAS from 1979 until 1983, when the PRG was

overthrown. Diplomats are granted special status in this country.

The INS claims Williams' diplomatic status was revoked in January 1984. She has never been formally notified of her change of status in this country — either by the U.S. government or the government of Grenada. She had written the Grenada government and received no reply. Until she has that information, Maggio explained, she cannot seek a resident alien card.

Seven character witnesses appeared on Williams' behalf. They included Nora Bauer of American University, where Williams is under fellowship; Josephine Butler, National Board of the US-Grenada Friendship Society and the Statehood Party candidate for D.C. City Council; the Rev. Philip Wheaton, an organizer of the conference where Williams was speaking; Dr. M. Katherine Perkins, professor of economics at Howard University; Harold Massey, Board of Church and State of the United Methodist Church; Gene Locke, administrative assistant to Rep. Mickey Leland of Texas; and Jacqueline Jackson.

Jaqueline Jackson told Judge Joan Arrowsmith that she and the Rev. Jesse Jackson and their family would take personal custody of Williams in lieu of bond. Gene Locke testified that Representative Leland was willing to fly from Texas to also take personal responsibility for Williams.

After a two-and-a-half-hour hearing, Judge Arrowsmith reduced the bond from \$3,500 to \$1,000. More than \$1,000 had been raised at the picket line. When the National Council of Churches put up bond, those funds were donated to the Dessima Williams Legal Defense Fund. Williams is ordered to appear for a preliminary deportation hearing on November 27.

When Williams emerged from the INS building she was greeted with cries of "Dessima. Dessima." "Forward Ever, Backward Never."

Williams explained that her arrest was political and an attempt to prevent her from speaking out.

Following Williams' release, 40 supporters met to discuss further defense efforts and to prepare for the November 27 hearing by publicizing the facts of her arrest and obtaining support.

The group is asking that funds be sent to the Dessima Williams Legal Defense Fund, c/o James Drew and Associates, 1346 Connecticut Ave. NW, Fifth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Telegrams protesting Dessima Williams' arrest and demanding that deportation procedures be stopped should be sent to: Robert Neptune, District Director INS, 25 E Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20536.

The Howard University Student Association is investigating the complicity of



Militant/Ernest Harsch

Dessima Williams

Howard University authorities with Williams' arrest. They are asking that telegrams demanding an investigation be sent to: James E. Cheek, President, Howard University, Administration Building, Howard University, Washington, D.C. 20059.

## Mason protests arrest of Dessima Williams

The following protest telegram was sent by Mel Mason and Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidates for president and vice-president. It was addressed to the director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, with copy sent to the State Department.

We strongly protest the arrest of Dessima Williams, former ambassador to the Organization of American States representing the government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada. Your action is a blatant attempt to obscure the truth by silencing one of the most outspoken opponents of the criminal U.S. invasion and military occupation of that once freed Caribbean island. It is aimed at intimidating all opponents of Washington's war in Central America and the Caribbean.

We will redouble our efforts to get out the truth about the Grenada revolution and to help build a powerful movement in this country against the U.S. war.

## Nicaraguan elections

Continued from Page 9

This group has denounced the U.S. war of aggression against Nicaragua, but it claims that the Sandinistas are well on their way to selling out to the imperialists. If the FSLN continues with its current policies, charged a September 25 MAP-ML statement, "it won't lose its power in a war, it will hand it over at the negotiating table."

On one point the MAP-ML has an identical position to that of the capitalist parties. It too rejects and condemns aid from such countries as Cuba and the Soviet Union, drawing an equal sign between such aid and the interference by Washington into Nicaragua's affairs.

As of this writing, it is still unclear whether other parties will join the PLI and the Coordinadora in boycotting the elections.

But as Daniel Ortega explained in an October 23 speech, Nicaragua's enemies "want to destroy the elections because they know the people massively back the Sandinista Front."

"But the people will go to the elections, with two parties, or three, or six, or they will go alone to the polls, because these elections will be against imperialism, it will be a vote between being slaves of the United States or being free."

## Harlem mtg: Maurice Bishop's legacy

BY WENDY LYONS

On October 25 a meeting of 300 took place in Harlem to protest the U.S. invasion of Grenada and build support for the October 27 march and rally in Brooklyn. The meeting took place under a banner reading "In the Spirit of Maurice Bishop." Speakers included Joaquim Mark, noted Grenadan historian; Samori Marksman of the Caribbean People's Alliance; Ahmed Obafemi of the New African People's Organization; Elombe Brath of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition; and Margarita Samad-Matias of the Committee for a Free Grenada.

Elombe Brath set one of the themes of the meeting when he pointed out that the same oppressors that were responsible for the pre-dawn raid on Black homes in Brooklyn and Queens October 18 were responsible for the invasion of Grenada. He said that the threat against Nicaragua must be taken seriously. He pointed out that the Cubans and Nicaraguans were preparing for stepped-up U.S. intervention in the region.

A highlight of the evening was a new film produced in Cuba. *Maurice* is a tribute to the revolutionary leadership of Maurice Bishop.

In the opening a young man says, "When they killed Maurice Bishop they didn't just kill a Grenadian, they killed a world leader."

The accomplishments of the revolution, as seen through the eyes of young Grenadians, are recounted. Interviews with leaders of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement, George Louison and Kendrick Radix, shed light on the responsibility of the counterrevolutionary clique of Bernard Coard in overthrowing the workers and farmers government led by Bishop. This paved the way for the invasion of U.S. imperialism.

Pictures and descriptions of the mass demonstrations to free Bishop from his arrest by the Coard forces are shown. There is an interview with a young soldier who refused to shoot at the demonstrators when ordered to do so by the Coard forces. The attempts of the United States to dismantle the gains of the revolution are shown. There are also a number of inspiring interviews with youth who will be the backbone of building a new revolutionary movement to free the island from the grip of imperialism once again.

On October 26 another activity took place building the Brooklyn march. The Militant Labor Forum sponsored a talk by Steve Clark, author of the introduction to

*Maurice Bishop Speaks*, a compilation of speeches by the Grenadian leader.

Clark reviewed the accomplishments of the revolution under the leadership of Bishop. He then drew the lessons of the overthrow of the workers and farmers government carried out by the Coard group, which paved the way for the intervention of U.S. imperialism. Clark stressed the bipartisan character of the attempts of U.S. imperialism to roll back the extension of the

## New York antiwar protest

Continued from front page

truth about what the U.S. government is doing to Nicaragua. She said that the instructions contained in the CIA manual that was recently brought to light are being carried out by the U.S. government in an attempt to disrupt the Sandinista revolution.

Alfred Griffin, a Black former U.S. Marines corporal, told the Brooklyn rally the he was "honored to stand with you" in speaking out about what the United States has done in Grenada. Griffin spent four months in a federal prison and was discharged from the marines for refusing to serve in Lebanon and fight "my Muslim brothers and sisters."

Rigoberta Menchú linked the liberation struggle of the Guatemalan Indians with the other struggles going on in Central America and with the fight for the rights of North American working people. "We in Central America know that the people of this country are different than the people in power."

"We want you people here to learn from our struggles," she said. "We have to raise all of our voices against a common enemy."

Wilma Reverón read a message to the demonstration from Ida Luz Rodríguez, a fighter for Puerto Rican independence who is being held in federal prison at Alderson, West Virginia. A demonstration took place there at the same time as the Brooklyn rally. It protested the brutal treatment of Luz Rodríguez and other independence fighters who are held in prisons across the country for refusing to testify in front of grand juries investigating "conspiracies."

Adeyemi Bandle pointed to the growth of conspiracy frame-ups as part of the crackdown on the rights of the American people. He cited the recent case of nine Black activists in New York. Four hundred heavily armed cops and FBI agents swooped down on their homes in Brooklyn and Queens claiming they are part of a "Black terrorist army."

Other speakers at the rally included Elombe Brath of the Patrice Lumumba Co-

socialist revolution in Central America and the Caribbean. "Mondale and Reagan are trying to outdo each other in talking tough," he said.

Clark recounted the efforts of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement. It is striving to rebuild a movement based on the legacy of Bishop that will fight to take Grenada back from the imperialists once again. Clark urged support for the demonstration in Brooklyn the next day.

alition, Michael Ratner for the Center for Constitutional Rights, Richard Hoyen, a representative of the Jamaica Workers Association, and Patricia Burke, who read a message from Dessima Williams.

Members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, sponsoring organizations of the coalition that built the October 27 protest, sold more than \$650 worth of socialist literature off their table. Demonstrators bought 39 copies of the book *Maurice Bishop Speaks*.

The YSA held an open house near the rally site after the demonstration. People packed in to hear YSA leader Jackie Floyd and meet SWP candidates Nan Bailey and Priscilla Schenk. Bailey is running for Congress in Harlem; Schenk for U.S. Senate from New Jersey.

Many copies of the *Militant, Perspectiva Mundial*, and the *Young Socialist* were sold to marchers.

## Williams sends message to N.Y. antiwar rally

The following message was sent by Dessima Williams to the October 27 Brooklyn rally.

On behalf of the patriotic sons and daughters of Grenada I extend warmest greetings on the occasion of your demonstration for justice and peace in our region. As you assemble in Brooklyn your call for true independence and self-determination for the people of the Caribbean and Central America are in concert with the aspirations of the people of these regions.

I also wish to express profound gratitude for the deep concern and concrete assistance you gave me during these last two days. Your thoughts and actions are a part of the ongoing solidarity you feel for all the people of Grenada.

Forward ever, backward never!



# —THE GREAT SOCIETY—

**Who influences who?** — Harvard researchers found that the Carter administration had approved a covert program to get



Harry Ring

more favorable European press coverage on the neutron bomb, "either for money or for free." Dubbed the ideal capitalist bomb, the neutron destroys more people

than property. The disclosure about the planted stories resulted from a study of how the press influences government policy.

**Stuff and nonsense** — Environmental groups filed suit against the EPA when it announced it was dropping plans to control airborne radioactive material resulting from the operation of nuke plants, production of nuclear weapons, etc. A fed conceded such material does cause cancer, but assured the risk is "relatively trivial."

**Kansas harvest** — After a 13-year shutdown, the Sunflower Army Ammunition plant, near Doto, Kansas, resumed production

of a key chemical used in rockets. It operated previously during World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam. At reopening ceremonies, Maj. Gen. Peter Burbules declared, "We need to be ready to fight if necessary, and god forbid, a long war." State Rep. David Miller said the plant adds "diversity to the economy of the area."

**Land of equality** — According to *Forbes* magazine, the 400 richest people in this country have a combined "worth" of \$125 billion — compared to \$126 billion that all the rest of us have in savings.

**A choice** — After 20 years of

research, the Pentagon is still having problems with the Bigeye nerve gas bomb. Bigeye contains two nontoxic chemicals which are mixed into a lethal combination just before it's dropped. But this can rupture the bomb casing, exposing the crew to the deadly concoction. A currently favored option — fly in low and have the gases mix while the bomb is being dropped. While this deals with the leak risk, it does multiply the danger of the plane being shot down.

**Our rational society** — With reports that Florida's orange crop might be badly damaged by a bacterial infection, prices offered

by speculators in juice futures soared. Then came the bad news. The damage was much more limited than initially reported. Futures prices plunged.

**Value judgment** — What's the value of a human life? Federal agencies have various measures. One way is to determine the value people themselves put on their lives. For instance, we're told, high-risk, low-paid fire fighters are placing a low dollar value on their lives. Admittedly, a government consultant conceded, workers don't always have a choice. But, he philosophized, the method does help reflect the value of life "in the marketplace."

## Calif. protests blast killing of Vietnam supporter

**Continued from back page**

the condition that he not be identified, said, "Let us praise Dr. Cooperman for his humanitarian past. . . . We lost a true friend of the Vietnamese people — someone who really cared."

There is good cause for the fear shared by many Vietnamese in this country to speak out in public, given the many political assassinations, murders, and other violent attacks against supporters and friends of Vietnam.

### History of political killings

In 1981 Lam Trong Duong, an outspoken opponent of the U.S. war in Indochina, was assassinated in San Francisco. A group calling itself the Anti-Communist Viets Committee took responsibility for that murder. No one was ever brought to justice.

In May of this year, another assassination occurred in San Francisco, taking the life of Phan Tri Luu, and seriously wounding her husband, Nguyen Van Luy. They too were opposed to the war in Indochina and were active in working for normal relations between the United States and Vietnam at the time they were gunned down. Again, the FBI and cops did little or nothing to apprehend the killers.

*Vietnam Today*, newsletter of the U.S./Vietnam Friendship Association reported in its July-September issue, "A group calling itself the 'Vietnamese Organization to Exterminate Communists and Restore the Nation,' took credit for the attack two days later in a letter sent to a rightist newspaper in southern California."

In 1982, Dam Phong, publisher of *Tu Do* magazine was murdered in Houston. According to the October 26 *New York Times* his widow gave the following account of the killing: "She said her husband was threatened after he published articles about extortions and frauds committed by a gang. She said that before the slaying her children received telephone threats instructing them to tell their 'father to stay away from our business or he will be sorry for what he does.'"

"She said that her husband was shot to death in his office and that a group calling itself the Vietnamese Party of the Annihilation of Communism and for the National Restoration, left a message in Vietnamese next to his body, describing him as a 'traitor.' The same letter included threats against four other Vietnamese journalists, some of whom had their homes fire bombed."

In addition to these political assassinations, killings, and arson, there have been violent attacks against public meetings that are pro-Vietnam, especially when Vietnamese are scheduled to speak. These attacks have had a chilling effect, especially in Indo-Chinese communities, where right-wing terrorists and thugs have intimidated people from exercising the right of free speech and assembly.

The possibility that Cooperman was the victim of a political assassination because

of his pro-Vietnam views is widely believed. It is one reason why many people here are demanding a public investigation of his shooting.

### FBI role

Another reason is that Cooperman had received many death threats in recent months. He informed the FBI of this. They reportedly told him to "Get a gun and learn how to use it."

In the meantime, Minh Van Lam, the 20-year-old student charged with the killing, had his bail lowered from \$250,000 to \$100,000. His defense attorneys, George Chula and Alan May, are claiming the shooting was accidental. They claim fur-

ther that Cooperman liked to engage in friendly wrestling matches with Lam, and it was during one of these that the gun went off.

No one who knew Cooperman is buying this account.

Anthony Russo, president of the Los Angeles chapter of the U.S./Vietnam Friendship Association, worked closely with Cooperman. He said, "Ed was always calm and cool. I never saw him overreact."

Russo stressed that Cooperman's killing must be seen in the context of the recent killings of other people who had encouraged cooperation and interchange with Vietnam.

Cooperman's killing was also a warning to working people opposed to the U.S. war

in Central America and Washington's aggression against workers and peasants around the world. The fact is, the U.S. government and its cops have done absolutely nothing to arrest and prosecute those responsible for past killings.

While the police and district attorney hope to carry out a rapid trial, friends and fellow activists are pushing to get out the whole truth. They have recently formed the Committee for Justice for Ed Cooperman in Los Angeles.

Russo is acting chairman of the committee, which will be dedicated to getting out the truth about the life and work of Cooperman, as well as focusing public attention on the political character of the assassination.

## Atlanta SCLC rips U.S. war in Central America

BY ALBERT MILLER

ATLANTA — Civil rights leaders participated in several antiwar activities here on October 17. Former Grenadian ambassador Dessima Williams met with the women's auxiliary of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and other political groups.

Evelyn Lowery said SCLC would lend its support to the struggles of the Grenadian people. She mentioned that SCLC has established a "sister city" program between Atlanta and the city of Bluefields, Nicaragua, and hoped to develop a similar program with a city in Grenada. She stated that Nicaragua is the only country in the world that has an official celebration on January 15, Martin Luther King's birthday. Ever since SCLC sent a women's delegation to Nicaragua, they "have been getting calls from across the country from those expressing interest in the sister city program."

The idea of civil rights groups participating with trade unions in delegations to Nicaragua was also discussed. It was announced that SCLC will sponsor political forums once a month to address the situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

Dessima Williams, in her presentation to the group, explained the history and gains of the Grenada revolution. She described the assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop "led by Bernard Coard" that opened the door for the U.S. invasion. She stated that 1,000 U.S. and Caribbean troops are still occupying Grenada and have drastically affected the lives of the Grenadian people.

"Free health care and literacy programs have been disbanded. A psychological operation is being implemented in Grenada. Posters with slogans like 'God Bless America' are widely distributed," she said. "Pamphlets with instruction on counterrevolutionary activity similar to those being distributed in Nicaragua are being passed around in Grenada as well. The church is also being used as a major source of U.S. propaganda."

Williams called for the "immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops and the need to educate the North American people." Two campaigns, she said, are being waged by the Grenadian people: 1) Return of the remains of Maurice Bishop and other leaders who were killed, and 2) The international airport be named after Maurice Bishop.

Williams spoke later to a meeting at Atlanta University.

A town meeting concert, organized by the Committee of Concern for Central America, was the main event of the day. It was one of several being organized by the committee across the country.

The meeting featured a parade of TV personalities and was attended by approximately 1,200 people. Many of these celebrities have visited Central America and witnessed the devastating effect of U.S. foreign policy on the region. All of them denounced the government's support to the brutal Salvadoran regime and the contras in Nicaragua.

Musician Jackson Browne said, "The

problems we have are not just the Reagan administration. Both parties are responsible. John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Jimmy Carter are also to blame. I don't think any one party is going to solve our problems. It comes from our way of life."

Dessima Williams also spoke at this meeting and received a rousing ovation when she exclaimed, "If the U.S. is so interested in liberation why don't they send a rescue mission to liberate South Africa?"

These events are part of an increase in antiwar activities here. A protest rally is being planned for downtown Atlanta against the U.S. invasion and continued occupation of Grenada. Teach-ins and film presentations are also scheduled.

## Ford pact OK'd; Canada strike ends

**Continued from Page 3**

attempts by the company to push a bigger share of health costs on the workers were the key issues.

In Canada, the 36,000 UAW members employed by General Motors ended their twelve-day strike. As the effects of the strike spread, some 40,000 U.S. auto workers were laid off. Nevertheless, support for the Canadian strike was strong among UAW members.

The workers in nine plants in Ontario and Quebec voted by 87 percent to ratify a

new contract.

The Canadian pact remains fundamentally in the framework of the U.S. concession contract. However, through the militancy of the ranks and the fight they put up, some improvements were won. The main improvement is that Canadian workers will get hourly wage increases in each year of the contract instead of the profit-sharing and lump-sum payments in the U.S. contract. Hourly wage increases of 25 cents for the first two years, and 24 cents in the third year will be added on to the COLA.

## British miner tours San Diego

BY KEAY DAVIDSON

SAN DIEGO — Steve Shukla, a striking British coal miner, raised funds for his comrades back home, addressed laborers, and walked a local picket line in support of seven striking unions at National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. (NAASCO).

Shukla spoke with strikers on the picket lines in front of NAASCO on the morning of October 7. He told them of the British coal miners strike, its importance for workers, and the need for worldwide labor solidarity.

"Many of these people are Latin American workers who've been ripped off basically by the company. They were really surprised to find out that British coal miners had been on strike for 30 weeks. They

had never heard about it," because the U.S. media has virtually ignored it, Shukla said.

Shukla also addressed members of International Association of Machinists Local 1125 who work at General Dynamics in San Diego. He spoke with local officials of the machinists union as well.

He also spoke to a sizable audience at the Militant Labor Forum, where a collection raised \$130 to help pay food and other bills incurred by the British miners and their families during the long work-stoppage.

The 180,000-member British National Union of Mineworkers has been on strike for 10 months in protest of the government's attempt to close mines and lay off 20,000 mine workers.

**Subscribe to  
the Militant**



## ARIZONA

### Phoenix

**Nicaragua: Democratic Elections vs. U.S. Sabotage.** Panel of speakers who have recently visited Nicaragua: Gustavo Gutierrez, director, Maricopa County Organizing Project; Dr. Michael Gray, director Department of Occupational Health, Kino Hospital; Ada El-Khahi, Causa; representative of Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m. 3750 W McDowell Rd. #3. Donation \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 272-4026.

## CALIFORNIA

### Oakland

**Elections and Education in the New Nicaragua.** Speakers: Tom Tomasco, recently returned from four-month stay in Nicaragua; Miguel Angel, professor, Chicano studies, Laney College; Froben Lozado, professor, Chicano studies, Merritt College. Both recently returned from educators tour of Nicaragua. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. 3808 E 14 St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 261-3014.

**U.S. Concentration Camps: Japanese-Americans Fight Against Racism.** Speakers: Don Tamaki, National Coalition for Redress and Reparations; Ernie Iiyama, executive board member, Northern California-Nevada-Western Pacific District Council, Japanese-American Citizens League. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. 3808 E 14 St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 261-3014.

### San Francisco

**Report-back on the Nicaraguan Elections.** Speakers: recent visitors to revolutionary Nicaragua. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. 3234 23 St. (near Mission). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 282-6255.

### San Jose

**Campaign Celebration.** Live national telephone hook-up with Mel Mason and Andrea González, Socialist Workers presidential and vice-presidential candidates. John Harris, SWP candidate for Congress will phone from Nicaragua. Translation to Spanish. Tue., Nov. 6, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Chili dinner served. 46 1/2 Race St. Donation requested. Ausp: SWP campaign. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

**Defend a Woman's Right to Abortion.** Speakers: Terry Applegate, member International Association of Machinists Local 562; others. Sat., Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. 46 1/2 Race St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

**Workers and Unions in the New Nicaragua.** Speakers: Meta Mendel Reyes, member Service Employees International Union Local 715; Ray Baeza, SEIU Local 715; Sandra Cooper-Morgan, California president, SEIU Local 535. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Nov. 16, 7 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 N 2 St. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Labor Committee on El Salvador and Central America. For more information call (408) 258-1764.

## INDIANA

### Indianapolis

**Democrat Andy Jacobs vs. Republican Joe Watkins: No Matter Who Wins, Working People Lose.** Speaker: Dave Ellis, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress, 10th C.D. Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m. 4850 N College. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (317) 283-6149.

## KENTUCKY

### Louisville

**Socialist Workers Campaign Rally: Stop the U.S. War Against Nicaragua!** Speakers: Dave Welters, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate; Peggy Kreiner, SWP candidate for Congress, 3rd C.D. Sun., Nov. 4. Reception, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. 809 E Broadway. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Kentucky SWP Campaign. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

**Election Night Party.** Mel Mason and Andrea González, SWP presidential and vice-presidential candidates, on videotape and live national telephone hook-up. Tue., Nov. 6, 7 p.m. 809 E Broadway. Ausp: Kentucky SWP Campaign. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

## LOUISIANA

### New Orleans

**Abortion: A Woman's Right to Choose.** Speaker: Lisa Potash, Socialist Workers Party; others. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Nov. 9, 8 p.m. 3207 Dublin. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 486-8048.

## MARYLAND

### Baltimore

**What Strategy for Black Liberation.** Speaker: Mac Warren, Socialist Workers Party National Committee. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation:

\$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

**Socialist Campaign Open House.** Meet Maryland's Socialist Workers congressional candidates Ted Leonard and Joey Rothenberg. Videotape speeches and live national telephone hook-up with Mel Mason and Andrea González, SWP candidates for president and vice-president. Translation to Spanish. Tue., Nov. 6, 6-10 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Ausp: Maryland Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

## OHIO

### Cincinnati

**Women and the 1984 Elections: A Socialist View.** Speaker: Kathleen Denny, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress from Ohio's 1st C.D. Sun., Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Pittsburgh

**A Socialist View of the U.S. Elections.** Speaker: Fred Feldman, Socialist Workers Party National Committee member. Sat., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. 141 S Highland. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

# Abortion rights on trial in Canada

BY PAT GROGAN

A crucial trial in the fight for women's rights opened on October 15 in Toronto, Canada.

Doctors Henry Morgentaler, Robert Scott, and Leslie Smoling are on trial on charges of conspiring to perform abortions. The charges carry a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

The Canadian Criminal Code permits abortions to be performed only in certain hospitals, and only after approval by a hospital committee. As a challenge to these restrictive laws, Morgentaler and his colleagues attempted to set up a nonhospital abortion clinic.

The doctors appeared before Ontario's Supreme Court in November 1983. They charged that the restrictive abortion laws were in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms which is supposed to protect women from discriminatory treatment. But in July a Supreme Court judge in Ontario ruled that the provisions in the charter protecting a person's right to liberty and security did not apply to the right of a woman to control her own body. The judge did think, however, that some rights were worthy of protection. Chief Justice William Parker said in his ruling, "The decision to marry and have children might be granted constitutional protection, because they are considered deeply rooted in our traditions and fundamental to our way of life."

When the ruling came down, opening the way for the continuation of the trial, Morgentaler pledged to continue the battle. "The struggle for reproductive freedom, the struggle for dignity for women, is con-

tinuing."

On October 4, over 300 supporters of a woman's right to reproductive freedom came to a rally in support of Morgentaler and the other doctors, organized by the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics.

Women's rights supporters are being

## UTAH

### Price

**British Coal Miners Strike.** Videotape presentation. Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m. 23 S Carbon Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party. For more information call (801) 637-6294.

### Salt Lake City

**The 10th Anniversary of Karen Silkwood's Murder: Workers and Farmers Speak Out on Nuclear Power.** Fri., Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m. 767 S State St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

## WASHINGTON

### Seattle

**Defend Abortion Rights!** A panel discussion on Initiative 471, with representatives from Seattle Reproductive Rights, Taxpayers for Choice, Everett Feminist Women's Health Center, National Lawyers Guild, and Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m. 5517 Rainier Ave. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

## WISCONSIN

### Milwaukee

**High Stakes in Morenci.** Film of Arizona copper strike. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Nov. 4, 7 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

urged to attend the trial and mobilize support in this crucial test of women's rights.

Lawyers for Morgentaler opened the trial by calling witnesses documenting that the restrictive abortion laws are "discriminatory, arbitrary, cruel, unusual, and unfair" to women.

# Balto. Black party conference

Continued from back page

Democratic presidential nomination? What are the perspectives for building an independent Black political party?

Here again the NBIPP charter offers the proper framework in which to hash out these questions. The Black party's program explains that "The National Black Independent Political Party aims to attain power to radically transform the present socio-economic order, that is, to achieve self-determination and social and political freedom for the masses of Black people. Therefore, our party will actively oppose racism, imperialism, sexual oppression and capitalist exploitation."

"Both major parties (the Democratic and Republican parties)," continues the NBIPP charter, "have betrayed us because their interests essentially conflict with ours. They have consistently used power and government to create policies for Black economic underdevelopment, political exploitation and cultural destruction. Their policies reveal contempt for the interests of Black

people, and have existed solely for the maintenance of the existing political and socio-economic system."

This program is a radical break from the political stance of traditional civil rights leaders and trade union officials, who all view politics within the framework of reforming the capitalist parties.

The NBIPP charter correctly explains that this is a deadend strategy because the Democratic and Republican parties are designed to maintain the capitalist system, where a tiny handful of super-rich employers reap profits off the racial oppression of Blacks and the exploitation of all working people.

For this reason, the NBIPP charter is a document that should be studied by every worker, farmer, women's rights activist, and fighter for Black equality. The conference at Morgan State is an important contribution to this discussion on independent working-class perspectives, and its deliberations can aid in winning new layers of Black activists to the program of the NBIPP.

# —IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP—

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

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

**ARIZONA: Phoenix:** SWP, YSA, 3750 West McDowell Road #3. Zip: 85009. Tel: (602) 272-4026.

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

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

**FLORIDA: Miami:** SWP, YSA, 663 Martin Luther King Blvd. (NW 62nd St.) Zip: 33150. Tel: (305) 756-1020. **Tallahassee:** YSA, P.O. Box 20715. Zip: 32316.

**GEORGIA: Atlanta:** SWP, YSA, 504 Flat Shoals Ave. SE. Zip: 30316. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

**ILLINOIS: Chicago:** SWP, YSA, 3455 S Michigan Ave. Zip: 60616. Tel: (312) 326-5853 or 326-5453.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MINNESOTA: Twin Cities:** SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

**MISSOURI: Kansas City:** SWP, YSA,

4715A Troost. Zip: 64110. Tel: (816) 753-0404. **St. Louis:** SWP, YSA, 3109 S. Grand, #22. Zip: 63118. Tel: (314) 772-4410.

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

**NEW YORK: Capital District (Albany):** SWP, YSA, 352 Central Ave. 2nd floor. Zip: 12206. Tel: (518) 434-3247. **New York:** SWP, YSA, 79 Leonard St. Zip: 10013. Tel: (212) 219-3679 or 925-1668.

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

**OHIO: Cincinnati:** SWP, YSA, 4945 Paddock Rd. Zip: 45237. Tel: (513) 242-7161. **Cleveland:** SWP, YSA, 45105 St. Clair Ave. Zip: 44110. Tel: (216) 451-6150. **Toledo:** SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

**OREGON: Portland:** SWP, YSA, 2732 NE Union. Zip: 97212. Tel: (503) 287-7416.

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

**RHODE ISLAND: Providence:** YSA, P.O.

Box 261, Annex Station. Zip: 02901.

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

**UTAH: Price:** SWP, YSA, 23 S. Carbon Ave., Suite 19, P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. **Salt Lake City:** SWP, YSA, 767 S. State. Zip: 84111. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

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

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

**WASHINGTON: Seattle:** SWP, YSA, 5517 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

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

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



## Protest INS arrest of Williams

In an outrageous and detestable attack on democratic rights, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) cops in Washington, D.C., assaulted and arrested Desima Williams, former Grenadian ambassador to the Organization of American States under the revolutionary government headed by slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. (See news story on back page.)

Williams had just finished speaking at an October 26 Howard University conference on Central America and the Caribbean when the INS cops grabbed her.

INS officials falsely claim Williams lives in the United States illegally. The actual aim of the arrest was to silence opposition, to the continued U.S. occupation of Grenada and to intimidate activists in the Grenada and Central American solidarity movements.

The political timing of the arrest was calculated. It underlined the anniversary message that the capitalist rulers and their government are by no means reluctant to take the gloves off in dealing with opponents of its nakedly reactionary takeover in Grenada, and those who stand

against its whole war drive in Central America and the Caribbean.

The victimization of Williams also underscores the role of the INS as a repressive cop agency.

Nonwhite immigrants in this country, particularly the undocumented, have good reason to hate and dread the agents of the racist INS, the despised *la migra*. By the scores of thousands they have been victimized in brutal Gestapo-like *migra* factory and neighborhood sweeps.

INS cops are used to crack down on undocumented workers, hamper union organizing drives, and victimize opponents of the employers' war in Central America. Democrats and Republicans in Congress are near agreement on how best to strengthen this repressive apparatus.

Every antiwar and Central American solidarity organization, women's rights group, fighter for Black equality, and the entire labor movement should vigorously protest the INS harassment of Williams. For the sake of her democratic rights and those of all working people.

## 'Libel' and democratic rights

Freedom of speech and of the press is one of the targets in the mounting drive against the democratic rights of working people in this country.

In the recent period there has been a growing number of libel suits filed against working-class activists, particularly by cops. For example, in July five Milwaukee cops filed a \$3.5 million libel suit against Black city alderman Michael McGee. They alleged McGee defamed them when he implicated the police department in the May 3 hanging of a 19-year-old Black youth in the city jail.

Even the capitalist media, which serves big business so loyally, is not exempt from the moves to further restrict the flow of information.

One increasingly popular weapon against the media is libel suits by officeholders and "public figures." Gen. William Westmoreland's \$12-million libel suit against CBS is the most widely publicized example of this.

Despite the extensive documentation, Westmoreland is claiming CBS libeled him when it reported that in the Vietnam war he deliberately filed false reports on the numerical strength of the Vietnamese liberation forces.

Westmoreland's court action has been undertaken by the Capital Legal Foundation, a "public interest" law firm that anticipates spending \$2.5 million on the case.

It is one of a growing number of reactionary foundations offering legal and financial backing to public officials and public figures who assert they've been "libeled" by the media.

These outfits are financed by corporations and/or well-heeled right-wing foundations.

Defense against such high-powered libel actions is extremely costly, and time consuming as well. Editors and reporters can be compelled to spend countless days answering questions in prolonged pretrial discovery procedures.

These things alone are enough "to intimidate and silence many reporters and publishers on controversial issues," observes the executive editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

And for working-class, Black, and women's rights publications the threat to their constitutional rights is obviously far greater.

The tightening of the screws on the media is directly related to the criminal activity by the ruling rich of this country, at home and abroad.

The escalating political, economic, and military offensive to crush liberation forces in Central America and worldwide is the kind of gangsterism that demands coverup and lies.

And the equally reactionary drive against the rights of working people, women, and oppressed nationalities at home is no more conducive to a free press.

As the U.S. ruling families expand and deepen their wars, attacks on democratic rights must increase.

The goal of such libel suits is clear: curtailment of freedom of speech and press to intimidate and silence opponents of U.S. war and employer assaults.

The labor movement must aggressively lead the fight against all attempts to undermine and weaken these rights.

## Vote Socialist Workers Party

Continued from front page

campaign to explain what real politics is and isn't. They explained that fundamental social change is not achieved at the ballot box, but in mass struggles by working people and the oppressed that they wage against the employers and their government. Through participation in the elections, Mason and González have helped advance this revolutionary perspective.

When campaigning among U.S. workers, Mason and González discuss the employers' attacks at home and the imperialist wars abroad as two sides of the same offensive.

When they've traveled to other countries, they've discussed how the fight for workers' rights and the rights of Blacks and women in the United States, is in the interests of striking British miners and workers and peasants in Central America.

Mason and González have traveled to Ireland, Britain, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Quebec to learn firsthand the problems working people there face, and to bring solidarity from U.S. workers. Both have traveled to revolutionary Nicaragua to condemn U.S. aggression and express support to the workers and peasants government there.

The socialist candidates call for an end to the U.S. war against Nicaragua. They say stop the U.S. intervention in El Salvador, and end the U.S. occupation of Grenada.

Mason and González campaign for jobs for all through shortening the workweek with no reduction in pay and through a massive public works program. They reject the anti-imports, "Buy American" campaign as a chauvinist drive by the bosses that is echoed by the top officials in the labor movement.

They demand an end to racist cop terror and a halt to the harassment and deportation of undocumented workers. They hit the employers' drive against women's rights, particularly the attack on the right to safe, legal

abortion.

Most importantly, Mason and González have explained to U.S. workers that a tiny handful of super-rich employers extract profits through squeezing the lifeblood out of workers and farmers. This capitalist class owns and controls — lock, stock, and barrel — the Democratic and Republican parties.

Rather than relying on the parties of big-businessmen, Mason and González have explained, workers should look to the power of our own class and our allies among exploited farmers. The socialist candidates urge the formation of a labor party, based on a fighting trade union movement, to help lead these struggles and chart a working-class political course. We need to mobilize through united struggle and advance toward the establishment of a workers and farmers government.

Such a government, which will arise out of a successful revolutionary upheaval in this country, will rule in our interests. It will place the human needs of working people before the profit needs of the employers. It will use the vast wealth and resources of this country to put an end to hunger, poverty, and disease throughout the world. A workers and farmers government will be a powerful weapon in our hands both to sweep away capitalism in the United States and in the worldwide struggle for socialism.

For these reasons, the *Militant* urges its readers to support and vote for Mason and González and the other SWP candidates on November 6. (See listing on page 4.)

Readers who agree with the socialist campaign's perspectives should join the SWP or the revolutionary youth group, the Young Socialist Alliance. The 1984 elections will be over on November 6, but the struggle for workers and farmers government — which will open the door to building a socialist society free of war, racial and sexual discrimination, hunger, and poverty spawned by capitalism — will continue.

## Role of family in women's oppression — a Marxist view

In 1979 the World Congress of the Fourth International (a revolutionary socialist organization founded in 1938) passed an historic document, "Socialist Revolution and the Struggle for Women's Liberation." This was the first time in almost sixty years that the international Marxist movement adopted a major resolution that sets out the Marxist analysis of the nature of women's oppression and the role of the women's liberation struggle as part of the fight for socialism.

Reprinted here are excerpts from the section that takes up the role of the family.

The resolution is available as part of a collection of major resolutions and reports from the 1979 World Congress. It is available from *Intercontinental Press*, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. \$1.00.

The family system is the fundamental institution of class society that determines and maintains the specific character of the oppression of the female sex.

In class society the family is the only place most people can turn to try to satisfy some basic human needs,

## OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

such as love and companionship. However poorly the family may meet these needs for many, there is no real alternative as long as private property exists. The disintegration of the family under capitalism brings with it much misery and suffering precisely because no superior framework for human relations can yet emerge.

But providing for affection and companionship is not what defines the nature of the family system. It is an economic and social institution whose functions can be summarized as follows:

a. The family is the basic mechanism through which the ruling classes abrogate social responsibility for the economic wellbeing of those whose labor power they exploit — the masses of humanity.

b. The family system provides the means for passing on property ownership from one generation to the next. It is the basic social mechanism for perpetuating the division of society into classes.

c. For the ruling class, the family system provides the most inexpensive and ideologically acceptable mechanism for reproducing human labor. Making the family responsible for care of the young means that the portion of society's accumulated wealth — appropriated as private property — that is utilized to assure reproduction of the laboring classes is minimized. Furthermore, the fact that each family is an atomized unit, fighting to assure the survival of its own, hinders the most exploited and oppressed from uniting in common action.

d. The family system enforces a social division of labor in which women are fundamentally defined by their childbearing role and assigned tasks immediately associated with this reproductive function: care of other family members. Thus the family institution rests on and reinforces a social division of labor involving the domestic subjugation and economic dependence of women.

The family system is a repressive and conservatizing institution that reproduces within itself the hierarchical, authoritarian relationships necessary to the maintenance of class society as a whole. It fosters the possessive, competitive, and aggressive attitudes necessary to the perpetuation of class divisions.

It molds the behavior and character structure of children from infancy through adolescence. It trains, disciplines, and polices them, teaching submission to established authority. It then curbs rebellious, nonconformist impulses. It represses and distorts all sexuality, forcing it into socially acceptable channels of male and female sexual activity for reproductive purposes and socioeconomic roles. . . . It distorts all human relationships by imposing on them the framework of economic compulsion, personal dependence, and sexual repression.

Under capitalism, as in previous historical epochs, the family has evolved. But the family system continues to be an indispensable institution of class rule, fulfilling all the economic and social functions outlined.

Among the bourgeoisie, the family provides for the transmission of private property from generation to generation. Marriages often assure profitable alliances or mergers of large blocs of capital, especially in the early stages of capital accumulation.

Among the classical petty bourgeoisie, such as farmers, craftsmen, or small shopkeepers, the family is also a unit of production based on the labor of family members.

For the working class, while the family provides some degree of mutual protection for its own members, in the most basic sense it is an alien class institution, one that is imposed on the working class, and serves the economic interests of the bourgeoisie not the workers. Yet working people are indoctrinated from childhood to regard it (like wage labor, private property and the state) as the most natural and imperishable of human relations.



# 'Worker involvement' schemes aimed against union

BY KIP HEDGES

Boston — "If the workers and the foremen are partners, then who needs a union." So reads the headline in a recent article in a local newspaper, *The North Shore Sunday*, about the Worker Involvement Program at General Electric's Lynn, Massachusetts, Riverworks Plant.

One year ago GE introduced the Worker Involvement Program into its aircraft engine manufacturing operation with the agreement and cooperation of International Union of Electronic Workers (IUE) Local 201. The

## UNION TALK

groups were to be made up of a dozen or so workers on a voluntary basis, a union steward, and a foreman. They would be allowed to discuss anything except contractual matters such as wages, hours, health and safety issues, and productivity.

Indeed, requests for ice cream machines, more water fountains, and picnic tables by the worker involvement groups were met with agreement by management. In fact, pizza parties and Chinese food dinners and baseball caps were frequently given to workers by management. Few workers understood exactly where these groups were headed or why GE wanted them so badly, but more and more union members have decided to oppose them. The evidence mounts that GE wants to use these groups to, if not break the union, then bypass or "housebreak" it.

"The problem is us [workers]," reads the headline of a

leaflet recently put out by a worker involvement group. Another group in the West Lynn Plant has stated in one of its regular meeting minutes that, "members of the group will be visiting each work station to determine how each job can be done more efficiently." As a shop steward in the area put it, "Union members are spying on union members."

At the same time that the company has promoted its joint problem-solving and cooperative approach, they have also forced two wildcat walkouts. One involved 150 workers over the suspension of a union steward, and the other involved 1,000 workers over the cutting of piecework wages. During negotiations over the so-called "factory of the future," GE also forced concessions, such as a 42-hour workweek, job combination, and speedup. The factory of the future will be a super-automated plant of 140 workers doing the work that now requires 400-500 workers — another concession.

According to several stewards and other union officials, the company has also directly intervened in union affairs. One steward said, "At the last union meeting we voted on a proposal to expand the groups [worker involvement] from 6 to 16. We could've defeated it except the company allowed second shift workers from one area to come to the union meeting to vote for expansion. Later someone found a memo from the plant manager to a couple of foremen asking them to allow these workers to leave work and go to this meeting. They've never done this before. Nothing against the guys who came down, but we just don't like the company stacking our meetings to get what they want."

Some union members worry that the worker involvement groups will have an impact on the 1985 contract negotiations. Says one union official, "The whole idea of these groups contributes to concession bargaining. Soon you'll have 100 little junior achievement groups going around the plant, all trying to reduce costs to keep the company competitive. That translates into workers cutting each others' throats. The company wants us to have the same attitude toward the Japanese [workers] and the aircraft workers at Pratt and Whitney [GE's major competitor]. We need solidarity, not this crap." A steward who has participated in the groups says, "Now the company can have an organized base to sell the 1985 contract."

In the face of this attack, union members are looking for ways to fight back. What's the solution? Says one steward, "We need new leadership. But not just new faces. We need leaders who will fight and get the membership to fight. We need to explain to members who aren't convinced, where the involvement program is going. Today, just to protect your union and job, you have to fight like hell."

Not only fight like hell. That's not enough. We must also begin to consider what program the union movement should fight for today: that of class collaboration as currently practiced by the top labor officialdom, or class struggle policies that advance the interests of the working class.

Kip Hedges is a member of IUE Local 201.

## LETTERS

### Free speech movement

Spates of articles appear in the daily press describing the "new conservatism" on the campuses today. But recent events at the University of California at Berkeley (UCB) indicated the opposite.

In early October the UCB Graduate Assembly sponsored a commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the 1964 Free Speech Movement (FSM) — the mass struggle by students at UCB for basic rights that preceded the anti-war movement. Veterans of that successful struggle returned to campus to lead rallies, workshops, and informal gatherings for the entire week. They recounted what had occurred in 1964.

A noon rally on October 2 set the tone for the remainder of the week. Over 4,000 students packed the Sproul Hall area where the Free Speech Movement originated. They listened to FSM leader Mario Savio devote the major part of his talk (his first in 20 years) to the need for today's students to fight against the escalating war by the United States in Central America. The concern with the U.S. war became the theme that every speaker took up and it indicated what they viewed as today's major task.

While Savio was being cheered, the press and TV was busy interviewing fraternity and sorority members on the outskirts of the crowd. They talked about how the university today was no longer a scene of activity and militancy.

The noon rally was followed by another event that evening at Wheeler Auditorium featuring Savio and other FSM leaders — Bettina Aptheker, Michael Rossman, Art Goldberg, and Suzanne Goldberg. They spoke on "The Story of the Free Speech Movement."

A sign of the audience's mood was the reception given Aptheker, a central leader of the FSM and an acknowledged member of the Communist Party.

She described how in 1964 a leading campus official said that an FSM demonstration that occurred then was composed of "forty-one percent of Maoists, Castroists, and Communists." She said that in response to this rather obvious misstatement, Savio and the others then insisted that she become a main speaker at the rallies that followed.

Aptheker devoted most of her

talk to the role women played in the FSM and how this preceded and contributed to the women's liberation movement of the 1970s. At the end of her talk the entire audience rose and gave her an ovation lasting well over a minute.

While sprinkled through the audience were old "vets" of the FSM, the majority of those present were new students. Their true "apathy" was demonstrated when the chairperson, an obvious Mondale-Ferraro supporter, gave a rousing little pep talk on how "we will vote for freedom this November" — the audience remained completely silent.

Mondale supporters were present and spoke at most of the events, but in most instances they came on like wet blankets. One of the many examples of this was when Roberto Moran, a member of MECHA and representative of the Associated Students Academic Affairs Council, said, "students need to mobilize to oppose Reagan in the November election," but "Walter Mondale cut his own throat" by "refusing to address the problem of American intervention in Central America."

The week's activities offered much for the students to think about. The press here seems to have dropped its playing up of the "new conservatism" developing on campus. This was not a very "conservative" week at UCB.

Paul Montauk  
Oakland, California.

### 'Improper Conduct'

I wanted to tell you how effective Harry Ring's review of the reactionary film *Improper Conduct* was recently at the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, which was held at the Biograph Theatre in Washington, D.C.

Six days before the event I had come across a front-page interview with Néstor Almendros in the *Blade*, D.C.'s Gay Community newspaper, in which he plugged the film by slandering Cuba as getting the "Oscar" for gay oppression in the Western Hemisphere. A companion ad revealed that he would be present at the film's screening.

I reprinted 200 copies of Harry Ring's review, and along with *Militants* showed up at the theater that night.

There was a substantial layer of gay and lesbian activists drawn to the film as a result of a spate of recent literature attacking the Cuban

revolution on the question of gay rights. But virtually everyone gladly accepted and read the reprint. The impact was perhaps made more apparent by Almendros appearing at the door, tersely asking for several copies, which I proudly gave him.

Good discussion followed with several people after the first showing. One gay man who had attacked me earlier agreed that the film had not shown the "whole picture" about Cuba, and several lesbian women dismissed the movie outright. I sold three copies of the *Militant*.

I could tell that the quality of the article impressed people. The thoroughness with which Ring exposed the many lies and political backgrounds of the "sources" in the film, as well as the important points about the causes of gay oppression (i.e. class society), and the relevance of the film as propaganda in the U.S. war drive in Central America and the Caribbean, went a long way towards neutralizing the film's reactionary message.

As a gay communist, I felt a particular joy in carrying out this intervention, since it is clear that the only solution to gay oppression is solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of all the oppressed against the common enemy — the capitalist class. That's why I joined the Young Socialist Alliance.

So, many thanks to Harry Ring for the "weapon" in this discussion.

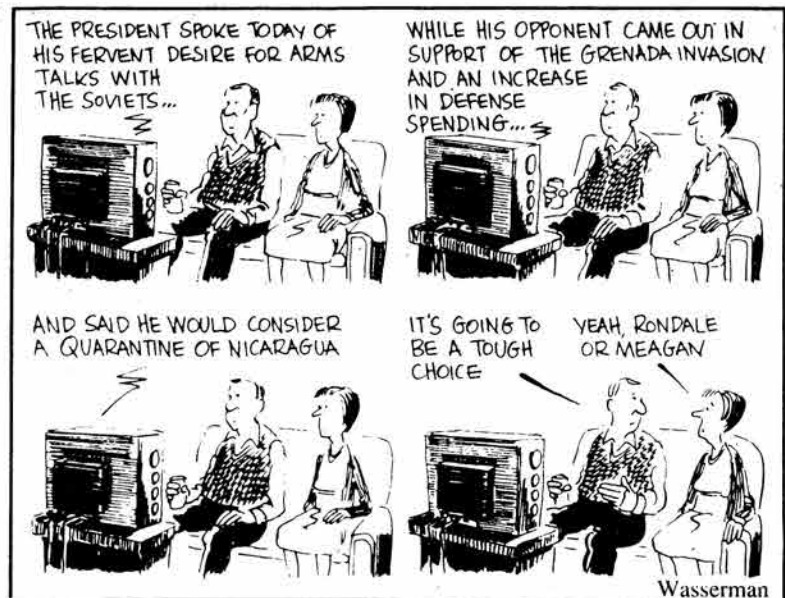
Peter Anastos  
Baltimore, Maryland

### Puerto Rican prisoners

We are writing to you because your support for Kathy Boudin indicates both your concern that all prisoners be treated with human decency and dignity, and an awareness of the special dangers of repression based upon a person's political beliefs and actions.

As a sentenced prisoner at Bedford Hills, Kathy now has an opportunity for work, outdoor recreation, educational programs, and contact with her son in a playroom environment. At the moment, however, we are especially concerned about the conditions in which other prisoners are held, particularly those involved in the Puerto Rican independence movement.

Haydee Torres, age 29 and mother of a young child, and Lucy



Rodríguez, age 34 and also the mother of a young child, have both been held since April 1984 at the federal women's prison in Alderson, West Virginia, in what is euphemistically called "administrative segregation." They are locked in soundproof, windowless, sensory-deprivation cells for 20 hours a day, allowed no contact with any other prisoners, and allowed to speak to each other only during a three hour sewing class each day. They are surveilled every 15 minutes, and handcuffed whenever they are taken out of their cells. Haydee has been denied permission for treatment by her own physician; she has serious health problems which are not being adequately treated.

Prison officials justify the treatment of Haydee and Lucy by classifying them as "security risks" because of their political association with the FALN (Fuerzas Armadas de Liberación Nacional), a militant independence organization. Twenty-three other Puerto Rican *independentistas*, as well as a growing number of independence advocates serving criminal contempt sentences for grand-jury resistance, have been subjected to punitive treatment. This includes arbitrary transfers, strip and body-cavity searches of women tantamount to sexual abuse, denial of visits, interference with mail, and denial of medical treatment.

We are particularly alarmed because the treatment of these prisoners with techniques of isolation and sensory deprivation is similar to, but worse than Kathy's treatment during the initial period of her pretrial detention. A further cause for concern is the apparent decision of the Bureau of Prisons and the Alderson Prison adminis-

tration to subject all political prisoners to harassment and special punitive conditions.

Linda Backiel  
Marge Grevatt  
Kathy Roberts  
John Roberts  
Ruth Hubbard  
Daniel Berrigan, S.J.

### Prison censorship

I am writing concerning a censorship issue here at the Jackson hell-hole in southern Michigan.

On October 21 correctional officers (prison guards, or rather goons) confiscated copies of the *Revolutionary Worker*, the *Militant*, and *Workers World* newspapers; books; magazines; and pamphlets from my cell under the guise of "suspected" contraband and under "color of state law."

I have taken steps to start a Civil Rights Complaint against the culprits.

A prisoner  
Jackson, Michigan

The *Militant* special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. Where possible the fund also tries to fill prisoners' requests for other literature. To help this important cause, send your contribution to: Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

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.



## INS cops seize Grenadian in D.C.

### Seek to deport Dessima Williams for opposing U.S. occupation

BY NANCY BROWN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Dessima Williams, the former Grenadian ambassador to the Organization of American States, was arrested here by agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) on the evening of October 25.

Williams had just finished speaking at a Tribute to Maurice Bishop and the October 19 Martyrs, a program which culminated a two-day conference on Dialogue for Peace in the Americas taking place at Howard University.

As Williams and her supporters left the auditorium at 10:30 p.m. and moved toward a car to take them to dinner, three or four armed INS agents followed them; they grabbed Williams from behind around the neck and groin, and shoved her into a waiting, unmarked car. One agent hit Williams on the shoulder as she was grabbed. Another agent ran around to the opposite side of the car, grabbed her around the neck, and pulled her across the seat with her head down.

One witness said he was hit in the chest when he said, "I am her escort. Where are you taking her?" Another reported being knocked to the ground.

Only a handful of conference participants were left when the arrest took place — most were packing up literature tables. The stunned and horrified supporters had no idea who had abducted Williams.

Two agents had flashed badges; thrust a crumpled piece of paper in her face; told her to read it; and then had taken it away, shoving it into her pocket. The paper turned out to be an unsigned arrest warrant.

Most witnesses, however, had seen no badges, no warrant, or heard any explanation given. Just hours before, Williams had told a packed news conference of the surveillance and death threats against her following the overthrow of Grenada's



Militant/Lou Howort

Dessima Williams, former Grenadian ambassador to the Organization of American States, speaking at June 1982 antinuclear protest in New York City. U.S. government hopes her arrest will intimidate opponents of Washington's war in Central America.

People's Revolutionary Government in October 1983.

Within minutes of her arrest, her attorneys were notified and supporters were on the phone trying to locate her. For more than two hours the INS refused to deny or confirm they had arrested her — even after they were told the licence tag of the car that she was taken in.

Finally, Williams' attorneys were told by the D.C. police that "no, she has not

been kidnapped." She had been arrested by the INS and was being held in the Fairfax County (Virginia) Detention Center.

#### Supporters organize

A bond hearing was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on October 26. Supporters spent the night calling the media, organizations, and individuals across the country informing them of Williams' arrest.

By morning the Fairfax County jail had been inundated with phone calls. At 10:00 a.m. 75 people packed the INS hearing room, and another 100 picketed outside with signs that read "Stop INS terror. Free Dessima." The media and supporters waited throughout the two-and-a-half-hour hearing. More than \$1,000 was raised on the picket line to be used for bail.

The formal charge brought against Williams was that her visa had expired and she was in the country "illegally." INS agents claimed she had been in hiding.

INS spokesman Greg Leo told the press that Williams is "an illegal alien... without legal status in this country." Leo stated that Howard University police assisted his agents in the arrest. Howard officials have refused to confirm or deny this.

INS District Director Robert Neptune set Williams' bond at \$3,500. Attorneys for Williams argued that no bond was justified and that she should be released on her own recognizance.

INS agent William Kramer told the hearing that the INS had been trying to find Williams for several weeks. They had used "standard INS procedures" to try to locate her, he said, but she had been in hiding.

Kramer explained that he and Agent Roberts went to Howard University the morning of October 24 and got a copy of the flyer publicizing Williams' participation in the Tribute to Maurice Bishop. Then on October 25, they entered the auditorium after 9:00 p.m. and kept her under surveillance.

The reason they didn't attempt to arrest her earlier — before the crowd dispersed — was because Williams' safety was involved, Kramer said.

They pushed her into the car, he testified, because of her safety. "The crowd was getting rowdy," Kramer stated. He

Continued on Page 11

## Calif. protests hit killing of Vietnam supporter

BY JAN ARAGON

LOS ANGELES — The October 13 shooting of Edward Cooperman on the California State University campus in Fullerton, has led to growing protests demanding a public investigation of this killing.

More than 250 people attended an October 22 memorial service for Cooperman at Cal State where he had taught physics. Those present included antiwar activists, religious figures, civil libertarians, and academics from Los Angeles and Orange County.

There is growing concern that a cover-up is in the works. After the shooting the Fullerton police immediately seized Cooperman's files. They refused to allow Cooperman's brother to see the body for five days, and a cop autopsy report was denied the family and press.

#### Supporter of Vietnam

Cooperman was a longtime activist in promoting friendship and cooperation with Vietnam. He was the chairman of the U.S. Committee for Scientific Cooperation with Vietnam (USCSCV). In this capacity, he helped promote the exchange of scientists and students with Vietnam, and visited Hanoi on several occasions.

Other activities included promoting the exchange of books, supplies, and equipment; setting up dental clinics in Indochina; and developing a microchip for a hearing aid for deaf children there.

Last year the USCSCV, jointly with the U.S./Vietnam Friendship Association, which Cooperman was also a member of, sent a fully equipped ambulance and 20 tons of medical and scientific books to Vietnam.

According to the October 16 *Los Angeles Times*, "With each exchange, Cooperman had to receive permission from the U.S. State Department because 'we have a general ban on exchanges with Vietnam,' said Joe Snyder, deputy director of the [State] department office for Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia." Snyder added that the role of the U.S. government is to "isolate and put pressure (on Vietnam) to come around."

Despite government hostility, Cooperman persisted in his efforts.

His commitment to providing scientific aid to Vietnam was explained by Rodger Dittman, a close associate at Cal State: "Ed had a strong empathy for the oppressed and poverty-stricken people in the world. He realized that scientific help was possible, but that if there was a corrupt government, you could not really assist the people. He felt the struggle in Vietnam was a struggle for liberation. He believed that the present government in Vietnam now offered hope for the lives of many people."

In addition to his support for Vietnam,

Cooperman had recently joined a campus organization called Faculty Concerned with Human Rights in El Salvador.

According to the Cal-State Fullerton Student Association, Cooperman was popular with Vietnamese students and went out of his way to help them. After the killing, one student, Hhuong Nguyen, told the press: "Every (Vietnamese) student who had a problem would come to him."

A leader of the Orange County Vietnamese community, who spoke to the press on

Continued on Page 12

## Balto. Black party hosts strategy meeting

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

On November 3 the Baltimore chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) and the Morgan State Student Government Association is inviting Black activists from around the country to gather in Baltimore for a conference on Black political perspectives. This conference, to be held at Morgan State University, will discuss a range of important questions facing not only the NBIPP, but the entire Black and labor movements.

How to advance the fight against Washington's war in Central America and the U.S. rulers' intensifying aggression in southern Africa? How to battle against the national oppression of Blacks right here in this country? How can Blacks and other workers struggle against the U.S. employers' assault on their wages, working conditions, and standard of living?

The morning session of the national gathering will be devoted to a panel discus-

sion titled "From Grenada to Southern Africa." It will take up the U.S. invasion and occupation of Grenada and how this aggression fits in with the employers' war moves throughout Central America and the Caribbean.

The NBIPP program clearly opposes U.S. intervention in the region. "We believe," explains the NBIPP charter, "that no Black person should be forced to fight in an imperialist war of aggression for the U.S. against people who are oppressed and fighting for freedom as we are here in the U.S."

The charter says that "Black people have the right to refuse induction into the U.S. Armed Services." The NBIPP program goes on to demand "An end to draft registration and the draft. The right of Black people in the services to organize and fight racial discrimination and repression."

In the section on "International relations" and "Solidarity with oppressed

peoples," the charter explains the importance of supporting "the heroic and just struggle of the people of Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean against colonialism and neo-colonialism and for freedom, national liberation, self-determination, sovereignty, and independence."

In addition to NBIPP spokespeople, there will be representatives of African national liberation organizations and Caribbean activists on the panel.

An afternoon panel will take up the fight for independent Black political action today. This discussion, occurring on the eve of the 1984 elections, will focus on questions such as: Can the Democratic and Republican parties be reformed to meet the needs of Black people? Should Blacks support so-called progressive or independent candidates who run as Democrats or Republicans? How should Black activists assess the Jesse Jackson campaign for the

Continued on Page 13