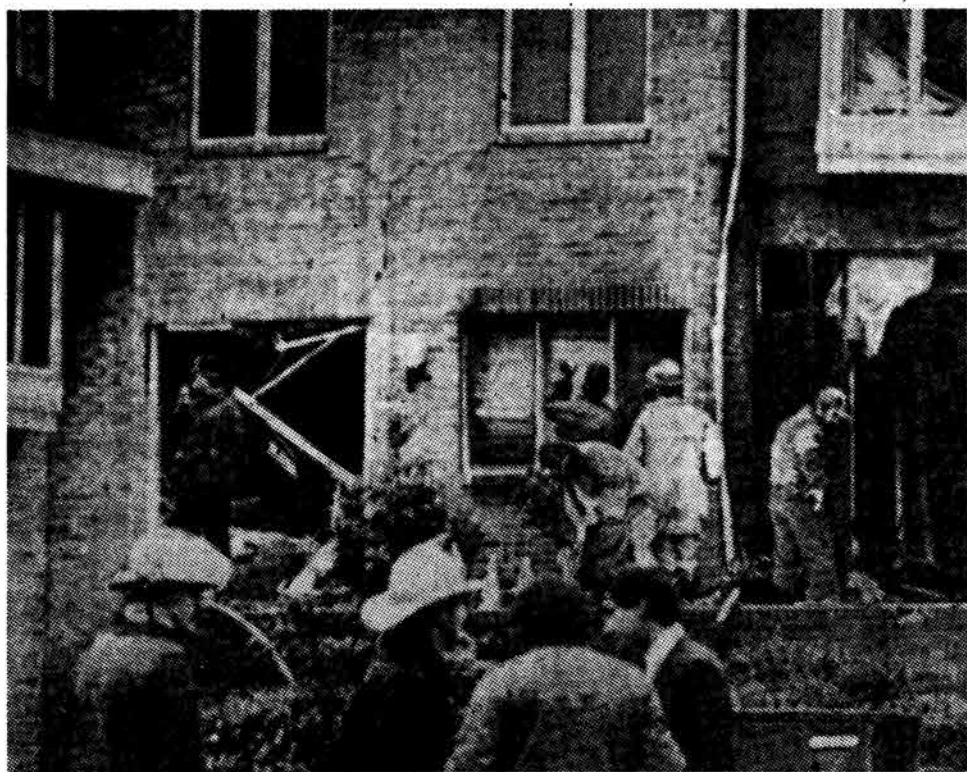


Antiabortion terrorists bomb Maryland clinics



Officials examine Wheaton, Maryland, abortion clinic after it was bombed by rightist opponents of abortion rights.

BY NANCY BROWN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Terrorist opponents of women's rights struck again when bombs ripped through a women's medical center and a Planned Parenthood office near here early on the morning of November 19.

At 6:15 a.m. a powerful bomb exploded at the back door of the Metropolitan Medical and Women's Center in Wheaton, Maryland. The center provides women's medical care and abortions. The back of the clinic was blown apart, and windows in the front of the building were shattered by the force of the blast. The two-alarm fire triggered by the bomb destroyed the clinic. Police estimated the damage at \$350,000.

Five minutes later a second bomb exploded at the back door of the Randolph Medical Center a mile away in Rockville, Maryland. Planned Parenthood has an office on the third floor of the building and provides contraceptive information and counseling there. That blast shattered windows in the building and showered the parking lot with debris. Damage may run as high as \$200,000.

No one was injured in either blast.

Abortion-related facilities in the Wash-
Continued on Page 11

Salvadoran liberation fighters speak in U.S.

BY DAVE PRINCE

NEW YORK — More than 200 people attended a reception here on November 19 for leaders of El Salvador's rebel forces. Guillermo Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), and Salvador Samayoa and Héctor Ouelí of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the FDR and Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) attended the reception.

FDR representatives in the United States, Central America solidarity activists, and members of a number of United Nations diplomatic missions were on hand to show their support for the Salvadoran people.

Samayoa and Ouelí had just arrived from Los Angeles, where they participated in a November 14 debate with officials of the Salvadoran government.

FDR leader Rubén Zamora was also slated to participate in the debate, but Washington denied him a visa.

The Los Angeles debate was carried live on National Public Radio and broadcast on public television stations.

The Salvadoran leaders of the FDR and FMLN utilized the opening provided by the debate to come to the United States and get out the truth to people in this country about the struggle of the Salvadoran workers and peasants against the U.S.-backed government there.

Ungo told the reception that since the initial meetings between the FDR-FMLN and the government of José Napoleón Duarte in El Salvador in October, there has been an increase in bombings of civilian territories by the U.S.-financed Salvadoran military, a step up in attacks on rebel forces by Honduras, and a deepening of Washington's involvement in the war.

Ungo reiterated the FDR-FMLN's support for a dialogue with the government.

In his brief greetings, Samayoa reaffirmed the unity of the FDR and FMLN and pointed to the willingness of the Salvadoran people to continue their armed struggle and to resist U.S. intervention.

The rebel leaders expressed their appreciation for the international solidarity their struggle has received and urged those

Continued on Page 10

Nicaragua organizes defense, harvest

BY JOSÉ G. PÉREZ

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Speaking here at a news conference November 13, Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega explained the national military State of Alert decreed in Nicaragua the day before. He said the country would remain on alert as long as U.S. threats and menacing military maneuvers continued.

Ortega, who is also one of the nine members of the National Directorate of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), detailed the numerous threats, provocations, and military deployments carried out by the U.S. government against Nicaragua since the beginning of November.

This situation, he said, "does not allow us the luxury of not decreeing this State of Alert, since we cannot allow at any time that our people, our armed forces, be caught by surprise by a possible direct military attack by the United States."

Ortega appealed to the Nicaraguan people to "take up this National State of Alert as always, calmly, responsibly, so as to not affect the different tasks that our revolution has to confront in other economic, productive, and social levels in the midst of this difficult situation."

"We must strengthen our combat morale, our combat readiness, our level of military organization," he said, "but we should do this without giving an opening to the enemy's diversionary strategy, which on the one hand tries to make fun of, tries to minimize the situation we are living through, while on the other hand tries to provoke panic among some sectors."

Ortega said the State of Alert "permits us to pass rapidly to the general mobilization of all the armed forces of the country, of the entire people . . . should the situation turn graver still." He appealed to the people of the country "to defend Nicaragua brick by brick, house by house, block by block, road by road, city by city."

He said Nicaragua's military preparations did not mean the country had abandoned political and diplomatic efforts to stop U.S. aggression.

"To the degree we show each day that all Nicaraguans are ready to die to achieve peace, to defend our homeland, to not have our revolution capitulate — to that degree we will be contributing to the efforts the revolutionary government is carrying out so that there is no war of intervention" by the United States.

At the same time, if Washington does impose a full-scale war on Central America, he explained, "we are preparing ourselves; we are willing to confront and defeat such a crime."

Ortega asserted that "Nicaragua defends her right to defend herself," responding to the recent U.S. threats of aggression against Nicaragua if Nicaragua acquires MIG jets.

"Nicaragua affirms its readiness to con-

tinue seeking the moral support, the political support, the diplomatic support, and the military support that our government has been pushing forward in the international community."

He said that Nicaragua could not accept as a given the constant violations of their airspace and territorial waters by U.S. warships and planes, nor the CIA's use of Honduras and Costa Rica as springboards for mercenary raids against the country. In the past few weeks, attacks by mercenaries against Nicaragua have stepped up.

In the wake of the declaration of the State of Alert, military preparations throughout Nicaragua have gone into high gear, especially in the capital of Managua.

Meetings have been held by all the neighborhood Sandinista Defense Commit-

Continued on Page 2

Boston-area workers rally for Yale strikers

BOSTON — More than 300 unionists demonstrated here on the evening of November 16 in support of the two-month-long strike by clerical workers at Yale University.

This strike, which poses the issue of comparable pay for the largely female workforce, is of national significance. Reagan administration figures, including the head of the so-called Civil Rights Commission, have attacked the concept of comparable worth for women as "looney tunes."

The picket line was held outside the Harvard Club. Inside, Yale University President Giamatti was the guest at a dinner being held on the eve of the annual Harvard-Yale football game.

The action was hosted by Boston Local 26 of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, a largely female union which is involved in a number of hard-fought strikes over the past couple of years.

Busloads of Yale strikers came from New Haven, Connecticut, to picket the Harvard dinner. Carrying signs reading, "Strike for respect" they led the picket in

chants and in songs that have grown out of the increasingly bitter confrontation with Yale's owners.

The Federation of University Employees Local 34 represents Yale's 1,600 striking workers. The strike began on September 26. The union is demanding a 29 percent wage increase over three years plus partial cost of living raises. The workers also want an end to what they call the "economic discrimination" which is suffered by the 82 percent female and 13 percent Black clerical and technical staff.

Yale management is offering a 17 percent wage increase over three years to these low-paid workers. It is demanding modifications in the pension plan and dental and health-care benefits. Administrators say that the issue of comparable pay is a national one that cannot be settled in a local contract.

After picketing, a rally was held on the steps of the club and Yale strikers described the hard-line stance of the university officials and the stakes involved in the fight. Dominic Bozzotto, president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers local,

chaired the rally and offered solidarity to the strikers. He explained the importance of their fight for his union and all unionists, women and men alike.

Other participants at the picket included activists from United Auto Workers District 65, which organizes clerical workers at Boston and Harvard universities; an area Steelworkers local that organizes the school bus drivers; members of the International Union of Electronic Workers Local 201 from Lynn, Massachusetts; and other union and student supporters.

Numerous drivers honked their solidarity with the strikers as they drove by. A number of Yale alumni attempted to meet with Giamatti inside the club to express their support for the strike and demand his reasons for refusing to negotiate a fair contract. These alumni told the rally Giamatti had refused to see them.

One of the most popular chants on the picket line was "Beep beep, Yale's cheap."

A victory in the strike and the precedent it would set in beginning to close the gap between women's and men's wages would be a big step forward for all workers.

BY TOM LEONARD

Discussions that plant-gate sales teams are having with workers buying the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, show that the U.S. government's war against Nicaragua is the main political question being thought about, discussed, and debated by many workers. Reports from socialist workers on the job inside the plants confirm this.

In Racine, Wisconsin, a *Militant* sales team sold at the Racine Steel Castings plant in the middle of this month during bitter cold weather. This is a United Auto Workers-organized plant that was recently raided by cops from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (see story page 4).

The team held up copies of the *Militant*, as well as the Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial*, which had the headline "No more Vietnams!" Seven workers rolled down their car windows to buy

PM and another worker did the same to get the *Militant*.

One Milwaukee socialist said that after the recent escalation of Washington's threats against Nicaragua, the number of papers he sold decreased a little because some workers shied away when he tried to talk about the war.

On the other hand, *Militant* salespeople report that many workers around the country are quite open to discussing the war and want to voice their opinions. An example is a discussion with an older member of the auto union who works at the General Electric plant in Cincinnati, where we have regular plant-gate sales.

He told a coworker who's a socialist, "The Nicaraguans are probably okay because our government says they are bad." He reminded her of how the government had broken the air traffic controllers strike in 1981 and said, "This government is for union-

busting. That's what they are doing down there, and that's what they are doing to us here."

Sales teams ran into workers who support Washington's war. At a plant-gate sale in Linden, New Jersey, where we sell the *Militant* to members of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers at the Merck pharmaceutical company, one worker grabbed a leaflet out of the hand of one *Militant* salesperson, and ripped it up.

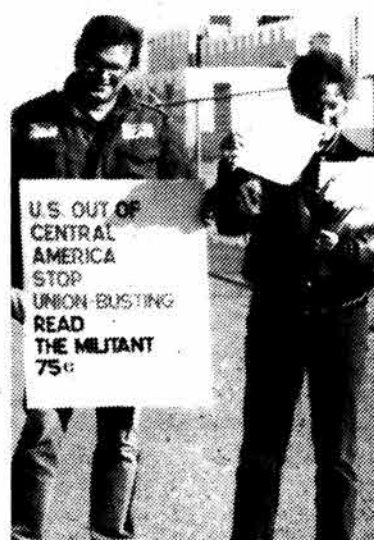
From St. Paul and Minneapolis, we got a report that many workers have been buying the *Militant* because of the reports on Central America. But a lot of them also buy the paper because they want to know about other union struggles in the United States. In recent weeks they've taken special interest in the articles on the British coal miners strike.

At the Lynn, Massachusetts, General Electric plant organized by the International Union of Elec-

tronic Workers, there is also much interest in the miners strike. Socialist workers in the plant decided to initiate serious discussions with workers about solidarity with the British miners and, in one week, sold 21 *Militants* to coworkers. In addition, several more were sold at the plant gate at Lynn.

In New Orleans, we've begun to have regular sales at a big garment plant organized by the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. Most of the workers are Black and Latina women.

Several of them have been buying the *Militant* because of the articles on Central America. On a recent sale, however, we sold nine papers mainly because they wanted to read a *Militant* article on the fight against sexual harassment on the job. This fight had been carried out by their fellow garment workers in San Francisco, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.



Militant/Lee Martindale
Militant sales team at Utah Power and Light's Hunter plant. Socialists are finding that many workers they talk to at the plant gates want to discuss Nicaragua and are interested in *Militant* coverage.

Nicaraguans organize military defense, harvest

Continued from front page

tees to make concrete plans and assignments for air raid shelters, first aid brigades, and other civil defense needs.

Some 43 enlistment centers have been opened for people wanting to join the militia in the capital. Most of the 20,000 junior high school and high school students who had volunteered to go pick the coffee crop in northern Nicaragua are instead staying in the city to serve as the backbone of the strengthened militia.

Adding to the spirit of military mobilization has been the deployment of tanks, armored personnel carriers, and anti-aircraft batteries throughout Managua. These are especially concentrated along the Carretera Norte, the industrial zone between the

center of the city and the airport.

On a drive to the airport, this reporter saw 11 Soviet-made T-55 tanks and several artillery pieces. Passers-by waved greetings to the Sandinista gunners. Far from being an intimidating presence, the Sandinista artillery is affectionately referred to as "the people's hardware."

Carrying out the State of Alert increases the already high defense costs imposed on the country by the war being waged by U.S.-backed counterrevolutionaries. Nevertheless, "it is preferable to elevate this

cost than to lose the revolution," Humberto Ortega said.

The Nicaraguan government is making big efforts to bring in the coffee harvest, which accounts for about 30 percent of Nicaragua's \$400 million in yearly export earnings.

To help compensate for the students assigned to militias, some 10,000 of the 30,000 civilian government employees in Managua are being mobilized to pick the crop. In addition, a part of the Student Production Battalions originally scheduled to

do the harvest will be joining the state employees after receiving military training.

In a November 14 speech to leaders of the Student Production Brigades, Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock explained, "We have to put in readiness all our forces for defense, but not allow production to drop." He said that in addition to government employees and students, both the Sandinista Workers Federation and the farm workers union will be mobilizing special, high-productivity departments for the harvest.

'Militant' sales team visits Navajo miners

BY LEE MARTINDALE

KAYENTA, Ariz. — On the day before Election Day, a team of socialist campaigners brought the *Militant* and literature for the Socialist Workers Party presidential and vice-presidential candidates, Mel Mason and Andrea González, to this Navajo Indian town in northern Arizona.

We found a great deal of openness to the antiwar message of the socialist campaign among members of the United Mineworkers of America (UMWA) who work at the Black Mesa and Kayenta mines here.

Apart from coal mining and raising cattle, sheep, and goats, there's not much work on the reservation. A "Navajo Indian Political Attitudes and Behavior Poll" published in a local paper reported that "Navajos believe unemployment is the most serious issue they face, with 53 percent of those responding saying they were unemployed."

The survey also reported that Navajos "believe the government spends too much money on the military and not enough money on improving their way of life."

The Black Mesa and Kayenta mines,

owned by the Peabody Coal Co., are strip mines. The mines are a series of deep, ugly gashes in the middle of the Navajos' grazing lands. Peabody's owners lease 65,000 acres from the tribe. By law, and according to an agreement with the tribal council, the company is required to restore the land to its original contours and fertility after they've dug out the coal.

These mines are Peabody's biggest operation. They produce 12 million tons of coal a year for use at two northern Arizona power plants. About 1,000 UMWA members work at the mines. Eighty-five percent of the work force is Navajo. A significant number of women work at the mines, including as operators of the huge draglines which scoop coal out of the pits.

Earlier this year, the UMWA locals at Kayenta and Black Mesa were forced to strike for a month against company demands that they accept health care cuts and a two-tier wage system in their new contract. The strike won a contract with no backward steps, and health-care benefits for Native American miners whose preferred source of health care is an Indian

medicine man.

In addition to Peabody's attacks on the union, management at the mine practices racist discrimination against Indian workers. This is so blatant that a supervisor who gave us a tour of the mine told us that "Navajos don't like to work."

A mine worker we met campaigning door to door in the town told us more about the company's racism. He explained that all the supervisors are white. Navajos are never promoted to supervisory positions. He speculated that this is because they might gain access to information on how Peabody cheats on its agreement with the Indian nation.

He told us he's seen land that had to be "reclaimed" three or four times before anything could grow on it. He described the constant conflicts between farmers and the company over grazing rights. "It's our land," he told us. "The mine is the intruder."

In addition to campaigning door to door, the team distributed campaign literature and copies of the *Militant* at shift change to 50 miners at the entrance to the mine road.

Why U.S. Is At War With Nicaragua

Eyewitness report from Nicaragua

Olga Rodríguez

Member International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Local 23-25
Socialist Workers Party National Committee

Rodríguez, who just recently returned from a two-week tour of Nicaragua, will report on the mobilization of Nicaraguan people to defend their revolution against the U.S. war.

Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. (Preforum dinner at 6:30 p.m.). 79 Leonard St., New York City (212) 226-8445. Donation — \$2.00.

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SWP vote in Cincinnati sparks discussion



The Cincinnati Enquirer/Mark Treitel
Kathleen Denny, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in Cincinnati's 1st C.D. One Republican lawyer told Enquirer, "I think votes for her were due to disenchantment with the two other candidates..."

BY MORRIS STARKSKY

CINCINNATI — Despite all the obstacles the state authorities placed in her way, Kathleen Denny, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in Cincinnati's 1st C.D., got out the ideas of the socialist campaign to the working people who live on this city's west side. In the November 6 elections, Denny received 10,207 votes — 4.6 percent of the vote cast.

While the political power of the ruling rich will not be broken through elections, the Denny vote is significant. It reflects the fact that many working people in the Cincinnati area were willing to vote for a socialist candidate as a positive electoral alternative to the Democrats and Republicans.

In community meetings, factory-gate and street-corner *Militant* sales, political events, and discussions with coworkers, the Denny campaign explained the fundamentals of class-struggle politics.

Denny made the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean a central issue in the campaign. She explained that workers in the United States are part of an international working class. The austerity drive against workers and farmers in the United States, said Denny, is but one front of the same war Washington is waging against the people of Nicaragua and El Salvador.

As a worker in the war industry, employed by General Electric, Denny's call for the abolition of the U.S. military budget sparked considerable discussion among her coworkers and in the community.

And Denny and her supporters had to wage quite a political fight to win a spot on

the ballot.

The Denny vote has been a topic of discussion here since the election. The *Cincinnati Enquirer*, one of Cincinnati's daily newspapers, ran a front-page story on the socialist vote. The headline questions, "Workers of the west side uniting?" While the article was intended to discount the Denny vote, it quoted remarks on the election by all three candidates. Thomas Luken, the Democrat, said that Denny's support for abortion rights may have won her some votes. "Where was the pro-choice vote going to go?" he asked. "They didn't have a choice."

The *Enquirer* reported that, "because of Denny's good showing, the party plans to start selling its newspaper, the *Militant*, and handing out leaflets throughout western Hamilton County." As a result of the *Enquirer* article, there were several letters and phone calls to the campaign office expressing interest in the Socialist Workers Party.

One person wrote a letter to the editor responding to the article and explaining his vote for Denny. "There is a constituency in the 1st District that has been ignored and taken for granted. We are angered by Mr. Luken's support for the continuing insanity of our arms buildup. We are angered by his antifeminist views, his anticonsumer votes, his lack of concern for the environment, and his docile acceptance of the

Reagan administration's gunboat diplomacy and support of extremist right-wing dictators in Central America and throughout the world."

Another letter to the editor, by a right-wing foreman at GE, protested the front-page treatment of a socialist candidate.

The socialist vote prompted a local all-news and talk-show radio station to invite Denny to participate in a one-hour listener call-in program.

At a post-election meeting of the local chapter of the National Organization for Women, several members told Denny they had voted for her because "as feminists" they had no choice in the election. The Democratic incumbent and his Republican challenger both oppose the Equal Rights Amendment and abortion rights for women.

Several of Denny's coworkers at GE and coworkers of campaign supporters at other plants in the Cincinnati area reported voting for her.

The election is over. But the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance here continue to reach out to working people who are looking for an explanation of the capitalist crisis and a strategy for fighting back. The publicity around the Denny campaign will provide a continuing opportunity to discuss class-struggle politics with working people, not only on Cincinnati's west side, but throughout the city.

Ky. socialists get 7,600 votes

BY YVONNE HAYES

While the *Militant* has yet to receive vote totals from many places around the country, initial reports indicate some of the impact of the Socialist Workers Party election campaigns.

In Kentucky, the news media has said that socialist senatorial candidate Dave Walters swung the election away from the incumbent Democrat Walter Huddleston. Huddleston lost to his Republican opponent, Mitch McConnell, by slightly over 5,000 votes. Walters received 7,640 votes.

In response to charges that Walters "stole" votes from Huddleston, socialist campaign supporters explain that "in fact, they stole votes from us by not letting us in the debates and not letting us get the media coverage they got."

The election results reflect the lack of difference between the program of the Democratic and Republican candidates in the race. "In the final weeks of the campaign," says Walters' campaign manager, "Huddleston called for bombing Nicaragua. He's a ranking member of the Senate Intelligence Committee."

Peggy Kreiner, the SWP candidate for Congress in Kentucky's 3rd District, received 1,260 votes.

In another hotly contested Senate race between North Carolina's notoriously right-wing incumbent, Jesse Helms, and the current Democratic governor of the state, James Hunt, socialist Kate Daher polled more than 3,000 votes — a third of which she got in a single county. On November 2, amidst strong protests, the liberal Hunt presided over the execution of Margie Velma Barfield, the first woman legally murdered in the United States in 22 years.

Greg McCartan, the SWP candidate for governor of North Carolina, received 2,258 votes. The socialist presidential ticket polled 749 votes in the state.

Kathleen Denny, the SWP candidate for Congress in Ohio's 1st District in Cincinnati, polled more than 10,000 votes. "We ran on a platform that there was no difference between the Republican and Democratic parties — both are pro-big business," said Denny, a machinist who works for General Electric.

The socialists campaigned against the escalating U.S. war in Central America. "We received a very good hearing from

working people," Denny explains.

Because of this and the good showing in the election, the Cincinnati branch of the Socialist Workers Party plans to step up its presence through sales of the *Militant* and publicity about its activities in the area. And in Nebraska, Mason and González received 1,006 votes.

Broadening the influence of socialist ideas through the 1984 election campaigns was made possible, in part, by the financial contributions to the socialist campaign effort. Over the fall period, \$88,835 was donated to the campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González, socialist candidates for president and vice-president. And contributions continue to come in.

The socialist campaign plans to meet its goal of raising \$100,000 within the next few weeks. Contributions can still be sent to the Socialist Campaign Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, NY 10014.



Militant/Katy Karlin
Dave Walters, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate from Kentucky. News media claimed he was "spoiler" for defeated Democrat Huddleston, who had called for bombing of Nicaragua during his campaign.

Interest in Nicaragua, S. Africa boosts sales

BY TOM LEONARD

The national drive to sell a total of 15,000 *Militants* and *Perspectiva Mundials* in five weeks, and to be part of the political discussions around the presidential elections, ended on November 17. All together, we talked to thousands of workers, Blacks, Latinos, farmers, women, and youth. Many bought the *Militant* or *Perspectiva Mundial* for the first time. We don't yet have the final figures for how many we sold.

In the last two weeks of the drive, especially, most sales teams found that interest in learning more about Nicaragua was what convinced many people to buy the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Socialists in Newport News, Virginia, reported excellent sales at a November 10 meeting of 150 people for Francisco Campbell, the counselor in charge of political affairs for the Nicaraguan embassy in Washington, D.C.

"Many people at the meeting were happy to see us," said one sales team member, "because of the *Militant*'s coverage of Nicaragua and the Nicaragua pamphlets we brought with us. We sold all 30 *Militants* we had and all the pamphlets."

At Hampton Institute, a Black campus, the Newport News team also found a lot of discussion and activity around racist attacks in South Africa. Socialists have been selling about 10 *Militants* a week on the campus during the drive, and plan to continue selling there.

During the drive, they also sold 50 *Militants* to United Steelworkers union members at the Tenneco shipyard in Newport News. The Socialist Workers Party branch there took a cumulative goal of 250 *Militants* for the five weeks of the drive and wound up selling 293.

Atlanta socialists sold 105 *Militants* and two *Perspectiva Mundials* during Saturday street sales on November 17. Most of the discussions they got into were about Nicaragua, but a lot of people were also interested in the *Militant*'s coverage of South Africa and the front-page article on school desegregation in Boston.

The Atlanta sales teams gave out their last copies of the SWP's national election campaign brochure. They report a lot of people were disappointed in both Mondale and Reagan.

In addition to sales on street corners, at Central America and Caribbean solidarity actions, campuses, and worksites, some teams have had good door-to-door sales. From New Orleans, a sales team traveled to Norco, Louisiana, to sell in a working

class community near the big Shell oil refinery there. The socialists told people the *Militant* defended the gains of the Nicaraguan revolution and opposed the U.S. government's war against that country.

The response was better than they expected. They sold 20 *Militants* at about 20 houses in less than half an hour.

In Cincinnati, members of the Young Socialist Alliance traveled to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, on November 18 and sold six *Militants* and 25 *Young Socialists* to students who wanted to find out more about Nicaragua. One student told them he is seriously thinking about joining the Young Socialist Alliance.

Socialists in Houston called in to report they had gone over their sales drive goal of 1,000. In five weeks, they sold 760 *Militants* and 246 *Perspectiva Mundials*. In the final week, they sold a total of 218 of the Spanish-language paper and the *Militant*, again with the most interest expressed in the coverage of Nicaragua.

One interesting response they got was that people were aware there was something happening in Nicaragua they didn't know about. "Does this paper tell the truth?" was a question salespeople were often asked.



Militant
***Militant* is source of information on South African apartheid terror. Discussion and activity around recent events there has led to new interest in paper.**

CLUW conference demands end to U.S. war in Central America

BY CAROLINE LUND

NEW YORK — A New York state conference of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) took place here the weekend of November 10-11. It brought together 255 women and men, the majority of whom are Black and Latino, from 18 unions.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, and the Communications Workers of America were among the unions that had a big presence.

CLUW was formed in 1974. It aims to increase the involvement of women in their unions, fight for affirmative action for working women, organize the unorganized into unions, and to involve union women in political action.

The New York state conference took up one of the most important questions being

discussed and debated within the U.S. labor movement: what should labor's policy be toward the escalating U.S. war drive in Central America.

Much of the liveliest discussion took place around the speech by John Hudson, assistant to the secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union and a leader of the Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador.

Opposition to AFL-CIO prowar policy

He described the development of organized opposition within the union movement against the position on Central America held by the AFL-CIO officialdom. He called the AFL-CIO position a "cold-war posture" in which "anticommunism is the main determinant" of all policy.

A major tool of this policy, Hudson said,

was the formation 20 years ago of the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD). Through AIFLD, he said, the AFL-CIO officialdom works hand in glove with the U.S. government and CIA to "build unions that are tools of U.S. State Department interests" in Central America and elsewhere.

Hudson described the formation three years ago of the New York Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador, which vowed to fight to change this policy. He said AFL-CIO Pres. Lane Kirkland sent a representative to the Labor Committee's founding meeting to try to strong-arm them into not forming an organization, claiming that such a committee would only be "a tool of communist subversion."

The Labor Committee refused to be intimidated, and has since grown into a national organization.

Hudson's presentation provoked a lively discussion among CLUW activists, who identified strongly with the efforts of the Labor Committee.

Barbara Bowman, a member of International Union of Electronic Workers Local 401, described her recent trip to Nicaragua. Bowman reported that leaders of the Nicaraguan women's organization, AMNLAE, had urged her to encourage other women unionists from the United States to come to Nicaragua and see for themselves the gains working people have made there — gains which Washington is trying to destroy.

Anti-intervention resolution

Bowman moved that the conference send a telegram to President Reagan demanding "the withdrawal of every single U.S. soldier and adviser from Central America, the removal of all U.S. warships and spy planes from Nicaraguan territory, and the cutoff of funds to the dictatorships of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, as well as to the *contra* mercenaries attacking Nicaragua." This passed with only two votes against.

Other issues taken up in panel discussions were child care, comparable worth, persecution of undocumented workers, and "the global workplace."

In the discussion on child care, participants pointed to the recent attacks on child care and child-care workers. Right-wingers and opponents of government funding of child care have launched a scare campaign to portray child-care centers as dens of child abuse. Some child-care workers have been framed up on phony child-abuse charges. The aim of this campaign is to stop government funding for child care and to convince parents that they shouldn't put their children in child-care centers.

One member of a local that organizes child-care workers in New York City reported that the workers here are being

Denver protesters back unionist's right to job

BY MAUREEN McDOUGALL

DENVER — In an escalation of their two-year attack against Sally Goodman, the Defense Investigative Service (DIS), an agency of the Defense Department, has recommended to the top brass of the Defense Department that her security clearance be "suspended." This would jeopardize her job as one of only three women electricians at Martin Marietta Corp., a major Pentagon contractor. The only "charges" against Goodman are that she is a supporter of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance and that she is gay.

On November 2 more than 20 supporters picketed the DIS office in downtown Denver to protest the recommendation that Goodman's security clearance be taken away. Among those participating in the action were Palestinian and Central America solidarity activists, members of the Kiko Martinez Defense Committee, and activists from the coalition opposing a state anti-abortion referendum.

A delegation presented DIS with a petition containing more than 500 signatures, which demanded an end to the investigation of Goodman.

A press conference was held at the picket line, featuring Goodman; John Tredennick, the attorney assigned by the American Civil Liberties Union to defend her;

and Kathleen June, president of the Central Denver chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). The event was reported by several radio stations and by the *Rocky Mountain News*.

DIS's pretext for their latest move is that Goodman "did not fully cooperate" with their investigation. This was in reference to DIS's demand that Goodman submit to an interrogation about her personal life and political beliefs. "But asking questions about someone's politics or sex life is a violation of the constitutional right to free speech, freedom of political association, and privacy," said Goodman at the press conference. "I am a member of the SWP, but it's none of the Defense Department's business and I shouldn't have to tell the government if I'm a lesbian, either."

"The Department of Defense is not allowed to ask about political affiliation," Tredennick affirmed.

According to Goodman her real "crimes" are that she is a trade union militant; an outspoken opponent of the U.S. war drive, which includes Martin Marietta's MX missile contracts; and a fighter for women's rights who holds a nontraditional job. "I'm an active trade unionist with antiwar views who works in a bomb factory," said Goodman, "and the company and the government hate the possibility that other workers might be drawn to my ideas and join the growing opposition to the U.S. war in Central America."

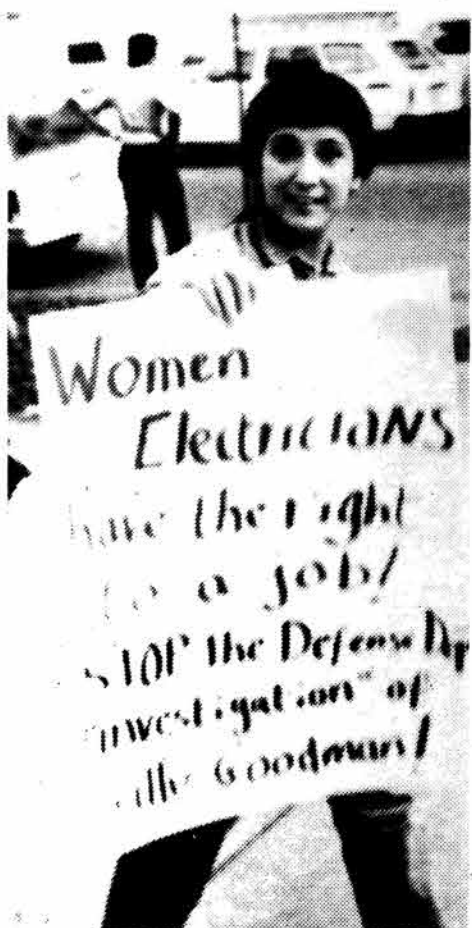
She pointed to the harassment she faces as an attack on other women also. "We are accused of being lesbians in order to drive us out of jobs traditionally held only by men," she said.

Goodman's union, United Auto Workers Local 766, has stood behind her. One of the grievances filed by the union argued that the investigation constituted harassment of an employee because of her union activity. Goodman feels it is no coincidence that the latest move against her occurred in the midst of contract negotiations, during which she has been a vocal supporter of the union.

"Many of my coworkers see the attack against me as part of the company and government attack against our local and the labor movement as a whole," she said.

Goodman's determination to stand up to the Defense Department has won her broad support, particularly among feminists. At the press conference, Kathleen June reaffirmed Central Denver NOW's support for Goodman. "Women and men of all political and lifestyle persuasions are endangered by the recent recommendation by DIS to the Defense Department to deny Goodman her security clearance at Martin Marietta," she said. "This situation portends a grave danger to the basic freedoms of workers across the nation."

Funds are urgently needed to continue publicizing and building support for this case. Contributions should be sent to: Political Rights Defense Fund, 130 W 12th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80204.



Protester at Denver Defense Investigative Service office protesting its attempt to take away security clearance of woman electrician.



Militant/Lou Howort Chinese garment workers of ILGWU Local 23-25. For the first time Chinese women workers attended conference as part of new Chinese committee of CLUW and Local 23-25's delegation.

forced to submit to fingerprinting as a way of allegedly weeding out people with criminal records involving child abuse. She noted how this police-state measure was a threat to everyone's democratic rights.

Comparable worth

During the panel discussion on the fight for equal pay for jobs of comparable worth, Ann Hoffman of the Communications Workers of America noted that women now earn on the average 62 cents to every dollar that men earn, which is up from 59 cents a few years ago. However, she said, this increase has not come from women earning more but from male workers earning less, due to the increase in concession contracts and outright union-busting.

The conference ended with a talk by Kathy Andrade, education director of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) Local 23-25 on the question of labor's policy toward undocumented immigrant workers. Andrade is from El Salvador, and she estimated that some 400,000 workers from El Salvador have been forced to flee their homes and come to this country over the past several years — most without proper documents.

She called the official AFL-CIO position on undocumented workers "horrible and shameful," urging that CLUW become "the conscience of the AFL-CIO" on this question. The AFL-CIO opposes equal rights for the undocumented.

Andrade spoke out against New York

Continued on Page 10

UAW local wins back jobs of victims of INS raid at plant

BY HÉCTOR MARROQUÍN

RACINE, Wis. — The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) carried out another raid at Racine Steel Castings on September 26. They arrested two Mexican workers who are members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 553.

In previous raids in June and July, the INS had arrested 17 auto workers at the same plant. All of them were later released on bond after an outpouring of protests from union officials and community leaders.

Following the release of the workers arrested during the last raid, the INS sought to have them fired from Racine Steel Castings. Local 553, however, has continued to oppose such pressures from the INS.

At the union's insistence, Racine Steel Castings management had to reinstate all 17. In addition, "we'll continue to fight for the reinstatement of these two men," said Richard Fought, UAW Local 553 president. "They can't be denied their contractual rights until they are deported," he said. "We aren't going to stand for it," re-

sponded Donald Radcliffe, assistant director of the INS's Milwaukee office. "The U.S. government takes precedence over what the union feels," he warned.

The INS raids have sparked sharp criticism from union and Latino leaders in the area. They have charged that the raids are designed to scapegoat immigrant workers for the high unemployment rate. On September 30, Fought was one of the featured guests on a two-hour radio call-in show in Milwaukee on the subject "Are immigrant workers taking jobs from Americans?" Fought condemned the racist and antiunion nature of the attacks on immigrant workers.

In a letter published in *Racine Labor*, the AFL-CIO newspaper in the area, Gilberto Delgado, a member of UAW Local 180 at J.I. Case, blasted the racist nature of the INS raids and the chauvinist propaganda aimed at blaming foreign-born workers for unemployment.

Local 180 has been supporting Local 553 at Racine Steel Castings in its fight against the INS's victimization of its foreign-born members.

British Black activists discuss miners strike

BY KIPP DAWSON

On November 25, the London-based Black Delegation to the Mining Communities is sponsoring a solidarity visit to striking coal miners in Nottinghamshire.

While in Britain in late October I had a chance to talk with some of the organizers of the Black Delegation.

Zheng Weepit is a young Malaysian immigrant who has been active in the Black movement for most of the 10 years he's been in Britain. He's known here by his nickname, Tay.

"There are a lot of opinions within the Black community as to the significance of the miners' strike to the struggle of Black people in this country," he told me. "There is a tremendous amount of support coming from the Black community — but still a lot of questions."

Black Delegation

The Black Delegation was formed in June by a number of Black groups that came together to support the striking miners and to help them, and the entire labor movement, learn more about the oppression Black people face in Britain.

Their first activity was a solidarity visit to Kent mining villages. Over the last weekend of August they helped Black miners put together a highly effective presence in the traditional Carnival in the Notting Hill area of London. Here the more than one quarter million participants gave a warm welcome to the miners' booths, literature, and National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) float, which featured a Black band and a party of miners.

Brother Featherstone, an NUM miner, later reported in the *Notts Striker*, "As usual the police had to stick their noses in. At one stage they tried to take the money we had collected on the grounds of 'illegal collecting.' As the police moved in, so did the Black Delegation and many supporters, forcing the police to make a quick retreat."

The miners learned a lot that day. As Featherstone wrote, "Many people told us of the riots in Brixton and Notting Hill, frustrations of high unemployment, and constant, daily harassment and intimidation, and watching their civil liberties disappearing. It sounded all too familiar."

And the miners were able to talk to a receptive crowd. "Many people we talked to understood the media's attempt to suppress our struggle and the police's constant harassment of our families regardless of color. They understood our stand to save jobs and safeguard our communities. We enjoyed the carnival, not as Blacks and whites, but as people, brought together through prejudice and harassment, aiming for the same goals — the right to work."

Just the beginning

While this Black support has been very important both for the miners and for the Black community, Black Delegation activists see it as just the beginning of a process that will be critical for Black people and for the labor movement.

Tay and his friends Suresh Grover, an East-African born Asian, Pragna Patel, from Kenya, and Ho Bo, a Chinese from Hong Kong, explained to me the many forms racist oppression takes in Britain. There the Black community is made up largely of immigrants from Africa, the Caribbean, the Indian subcontinent, and Asia, as well as children of immigrants.

They face what these activists describe as institutionalized racism in the form of anti-immigrant legislation and discrimination in housing, education, and jobs. Police violence against Black neighborhoods is a

constant problem. Right wing organizations, including the fascist National Front, have staged police-protected provocative marches on London Black neighborhoods.

Unemployment, a growing problem in Britain, is highest among Blacks, especially Black youth. Black women face all these problems plus special discrimination as women.

Tay told me that some Blacks still resist the idea of backing the miners' strike because "there's tremendous dissatisfaction with the trade union movement in terms of their support for the specific problems faced by Black people in this country." Ho Bo has been active in the Black struggle since he came to Britain in 1973.

Why we support the miners

He explained: "When we actually discuss within the Black community, the first thing a lot of people ask is why do we support the miners, because they are white. One of the major things we have consistently argued is as far as we're concerned the miners' union is one of the few unions in this country that actually does take up the issues of the Black struggle. The most important one would be the Grunwick strike in 1975-76, basically a strike by Asian women for trade union recognition, and the miners became very prominent in that struggle."

"And it's also important that within the last few years Black caucuses have developed in the unions. In England a larger portion of Black workers are unionized than white workers."

Tay developed this: "Ho Bo and I belong to one of these, the Camden Black Workers Group. These caucuses of Black people fighting within the labor movement, asking for much more democratized trade union structures, these sort of people tend to quite clearly want to support the struggle of the miners, first of all as workers, and also because miners are being hit by the state's oppressive apparatus."

"Initially it was hard for many of the miners to understand state oppression. A lot of people within the mining communities in the past saw the British bobby [cop] as the citizen in uniform, the symbol of the middle road."

"But now that the police are forcing the situation where they lose their appearance of political neutrality, and a lot of miners have become victims of police violence, a lot of miners have become convinced that police are not neutral, and cannot be neutral in the situation where the industrial unions have become politicized. Having that understanding helps to bridge a lot of gaps."

"For instance, the miners themselves are giving talks to various meetings expressing solidarity with the Black community in terms of their oppression from the state, and that is very important to Black people."

"If you look at the Labor Party conference [in September 1984], the NUM was the only major trade union which supported the proposal for Black Sections [independently organized bodies of Black members of the Labor Party]," said Ho Bo. "The NUM is the only trade union which supported the women's demands there."

Links with South African miners

"One thing is quite clear with the miners' strike," said Ho Bo. "There are a lot more links in dealing with the question of South African Black miners, which has not usually been discussed here over the last few years. But now those links have actually been begun, there will be long-term gains for the working class."

The new awareness is illustrated by a feature article in the November, 1984, issue of the *Yorkshire Miner*, the local NUM journal. Entitled "Uphill struggle for the South African miners", the article describes a resolution unanimously passed by the Yorkshire Area Council of the NUM expressing "solidarity with the struggle of our brothers for a living wage." The article also reports at length on a speech by George Johannes, secretary of the youth section of the African National Congress, to a rally in Leeds.

Black miners

Later that same evening I talked with Joe Mohammed, a Black leader of the Nottingham strikers who's been a miner for 13 years.



G.M. Cookson

Cops at London miners' demonstration last June. Common problem of cop violence has helped striking miners and Black activists to see that both have interest in supporting each other's struggles.

ham strikers who's been a miner for 13 years.

"I've found it pleasurable to be a miner because of the fact that you can do the job in dignity, because of the strength of the union that's behind you. And that's what the Tories [Conservative Party] are out to crush right now when they attack our union."

Joe told me that there are between 2,000 and 3,000 Black miners in Britain, mainly working in the central coalfields.

"Dignity and solidarity," he said, "are

big questions for the miners and for Black people as well. It's the unity of the miners, who, after all, are a relatively small group of people nationally speaking, and it's the solidarity of the miners, that they act as one, that has given them strength. It's a lesson that Black people can learn from, both from the miners and from the civil rights movement."

Kipp Dawson is a laid-off miner and member of the United Mine Workers of America.

Miners offered holiday bonus in new move to break strike

BY CLIVE TURNBULL

SHEFFIELD, England — The "back to work" offensive launched by the National Coal Board (NCB) and the Conservative government has been in top gear since the beginning of November. Pre-Christmas payments of up to £1,400 (£1 = US\$1.20), tax-free, are being offered to try and break the spirit of coal miners who have been striking in defense of their jobs for nine months.

The NCB claimed on November 12 that 1,900 miners had returned to work that day. This was in addition to 2,200 who had gone back over the previous week.

In response, National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) Pres. Arthur Scargill stated, "The Coal Board has been claiming that the strike is crumbling ever since it first started."

"The figures today are 140,000 miners on strike, 131 pits [mines] at a standstill, 68 million tonnes of lost production, and the cost to the British people so far of 4.5 billion pounds."

The miners have responded to the employers' offensive by redoubling their efforts to mobilize the ranks. Throughout South Yorkshire, the number of miners coming forward for picket duty has been increasing.

A massive police operation has accompanied the strike-breaking drive. In the early hours of November 12, pickets clashed with highly mobile squads of riot police, drafted to escort scabs through the picket lines.

At more than a dozen mines in South Yorkshire, barricades were built to block charging police horses or police vehicles driven at high speed. At Maltby, Binnington, and Dodworth, local police stations were besieged as miners and local unemployed youths demonstrated their anger at the arrests and violence indiscriminately committed by the state.

South Yorkshire Chief Constable Peter

Wright claimed that the day's violence was the worst of the strike. Speaking on Radio-4, Scargill said, "The chief constable should be an expert on violence. His police force and that of others have intimidated my members throughout the past eight months in an almost unbelievable way. The very presence of police in massive numbers in villages, not only in Yorkshire but throughout Britain, has caused the problems."

NUM leaders have been speaking at "a series of rallies up and down the coalfields. In Sheffield, more than 5,500 people overflowed the City Hall, with loudspeakers relaying the speeches outside. At each one of the meetings there has been a miner's wife speaking on behalf of the tens of thousands of women in the mining communities, who have mobilized in support of the strike."

Representatives from miners wives' action groups in all the coalfields met in Chesterfield, North Derbyshire, for a three-day conference November 9-11. The 42 delegates present voted to establish a national coordinating committee and a six-point plan of action:

"1. To consolidate the National Women's Organization and ensure victory to the National Union of Mineworkers in their present struggle to prevent pit closures and to prevent protect mining communities for the future."

"2. To further strengthen the organization of women's groups which have been built up during the 1984 miners strike."

"3. To develop a relationship between the NUM and the women's organization at all levels."

"4. To campaign on issues which effect mining communities, particularly peace, jobs, health, and education."

"5. To promote and develop education for working-class women."

"6. To publicize all the activities of the National Women's Organization at all levels."

Independent Black Political

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Militant/Deb Shnookal

Textile workers on strike in Philippines

Picket line at Artex textile factory in Manila

BY DEB SHNOOKAL

MANILA, Philippines — A determined and hard-fought battle is under way on the picket line at Artex, a textile factory in Manila. I visited the picket line at Artex in September.

The Artex strike is part of a strike wave that has hit the Philippines this year under the pressure of the mounting economic crisis, exacerbated by the country's \$25 billion foreign debt. Shortly after the strike began on April 24, the Filipino labor movement showed its growing strength in a May Day rally of 60,000 people. Then, on May 28, a general strike took place in the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) or "free trade zone" in Bataan. The 24-hour general strike involved 16,000 workers from 19 companies. It was held in response to the violent repression of a strike at Inter Asia Container Industrial Corporation and union-busting by bosses at several other factories in the area. The strikers demanded decent wages and an end to harassment by the police and military.

Increased repression

Pres. Ferdinand Marcos' government has increased its repression to meet the rise of the workers movement. Two striking workers were shot dead on the picket line at Foamtex, a rubber factory, in April. Six leaders of the free trade union coalition, May First Movement (KMU), were arrested June 22. Several other union leaders, including Crispin Beltran, secretary general of the KMU, have been detained since a general police round-up of unionists in August 1982.

The strike at Artex has had a national impact because of the number of workers involved and because it has lasted so long. With a work force of more than 2,000, the factory is large by Philippine standards.

In December 1983, Artex's contract with the company union expired. So the Artex workers decided to form their own union, United Artex Workers (SAMAR), and to affiliate to the KMU.

As we sat in a cramped little house with a dirt floor near the factory, some of the workers explained to me how the strike began.

"Before the strike," said Lando, "it had become very difficult. The management kept giving us higher and higher production quotas. The salary was very low — only 23 pesos [1 peso = US\$0.06] a day — including the cost-of-living allowance. Moreover, the management dismissed four of our union officers. So we went on strike. We wanted the government's wage decrees imposed."

Workers receive half minimum wage

The minimum wage as decreed by President Marcos is 35 pesos a day, plus a 14-peso Emergency Cost-of-Living allowance.

Artex Development Corp., the Taiwanese-Filipino company that owns the factory, has applied for exemption from the wage order, but this has been denied. Nevertheless, it continues to pay its workers only half the mandated minimum wage.

The working conditions in the textile factory are also appalling. "There is no ventilation inside," said Lando. "In the weaving department they are putting in water showers to protect the yarn. But for us there are only a few blowers. They don't issue us masks, aprons, or gloves, and there is a lot of dust."

Teddi, a yarn controller, added, "It is very hot inside the factory. There are also problems with chemicals. Many chemicals are used to strengthen the yarn. They make breathing difficult and cause itching skin."

Artex has a policy of only hiring younger workers. A notice on the front gate announces that only workers under 25 years of age need apply for employment. The company has also increasingly been using "apprentices" to undermine wages and conditions. These workers are only paid 14.40 pesos a day and are prohibited from joining the union.

Women workers face big problems

Only single women are hired, and women make up about half the work force. Noni told me that women face big problems in getting their maternity pay. "Here we say that the baby will be grown up by

the time the mother gets her maternity leave!" she said. "No consideration is given to women — even when we are pregnant," she said.

At the same time, women face serious problems of sexual harassment, according to Noni. "The supervisors always go into the special department for the newly hired apprentices to look at the young women," she said. Later when I spoke with KMU public relations officer Lolita Guzam, she told me that harassment against women is a big problem on the job. They even have a special name for it: "laid off, or laid down."

Housing is another problem at Artex. The company provides some housing within the factory compound. But the foremen hold the contracts and sub-let the apartments, reaping significant profits for themselves, while the housing is overcrowded.

Those workers living in the surrounding area of the northern Manila suburb of Malabon fare no better. Every year in the rainy season, the area floods. People have to stay in their homes, keeping their chickens and other animals on their roofs, as they have nowhere else to go. The children swim around in the putrid water. Disease is rife.

Most strikers from rural areas

As they spoke about conditions at Artex, the workers revealed their shattered expectations. Most had come from the provinces, from peasant families. Teddi, 32, had come from the sugar-producing island of Negros. His first job in Manila was in a cement factory, "but my body couldn't take the dust," he said. Then he worked as a waiter where "the management treated me like a slave," he said. He started at Artex 14 years ago on a wage of four pesos a day.

"We came here expecting to earn more money," explained another worker. "But this was wrong. Now it's too late. We can't go back. Before, I was a farmer and a fisherman," he said, "but that wasn't sufficient to earn the daily necessities of life."

Now, while on strike, many of the Artex workers have had to send their families back home to the provinces, to ensure they

get enough to eat. This adds to the strain on the strikers. "The separation is very, very hard," said Teddi. "Two months ago I went home to my province because I was very lonely. My son and daughter were crying because they wanted to come back to Manila with me."

There have been brutal clashes between the police and the strikers. The worst confrontation was on July 9. About 1,000 soldiers and cops were mobilized with rifles, truncheons, and firehoses. They attacked the picket line under the pretext of enforcing the so-called "Anti-sab and Peaceful Picketing Law." This law, passed in 1981, protects the entry and exit of products and non-striking workers.

On that day, the pickets were given 20 minutes to disperse, but they refused. "It was mostly women on the picket line," related Felipe. "The women in the front line were singing nationalistic songs. Then the cops used rubber truncheons, shields, guns, and water cannon."

Community supports battle with cops

"We fought back with stones," said Teddi. "The local community supported us. The workers didn't start it. We had to defend ourselves, so we fought back. They [the police] retreated. When they realized they couldn't force us to retreat they used their guns — armalite rifles."

The police set up checkpoints in the surrounding area to prevent other workers from coming to the aid of the Artex strikers. But the local residents joined the pickets. Then the military went on a rampage through the community in their search for strikers, breaking down doors, smashing windows, and riddling walls with bullets. Scores of people were injured, several seriously, including local residents, and 23 people were arrested.

Despite the police success in breaking the picket line July 9, the pickets were reestablished the very next day.

I asked whether such violent repression deterred workers from taking strike action. "The workers are learning from their experiences," replied Teddi. "They are not afraid. We think it is better to die fighting for our legitimate rights than to die for nothing."

The Artex strikers see themselves as taking a stand for all Filipino workers. "If we win," said Lando, "workers in other factories will demand more. That is why Artex is fighting so hard against us."

"The problems of the Artex workers are the problems of the workers in other companies," said Teddi. "And the workers' problems are the same as the urban poor. In every sector of this country, there is one problem: imperialism. In my opinion Nicaragua is a second Vietnam. Nicaragua and the Philippines both suffer from U.S. imperialism, and we are both semicolonial, semifeudal countries. Imperialism owns all the vital industries. You can start from the bubble gum, chiclets, up to the gasoline. Who is the owner of these things? Not the Filipinos."

"The Filipino workers are not angry with the people of the imperialist countries," Teddi continued. "We don't hate the Australian people, but we hate the imperialists. The same goes for the United States, Britain, and Canada. We must unite with all the workers of the world because they also suffer the exploitation of the capitalists. This is the message of the Artex workers and the workers of the Philippines."

Messages of support and donations to the striking Artex workers can be sent to the KMU, Room 332, Regina Building, Escolta, Manila, Philippines.

From Intercontinental Press

Brazilian union documents in 'IP'

Since the late 1970s, the military regime in Brazil has been confronted with massive struggles by Brazilian working people, including major strike waves. Workers have been calling for an end to the dictatorship, for the right to organize, for improvements in their abysmal living conditions, and for democratic rights.

Out of this upsurge have emerged two key organizations of the working class: the Workers Party (PT), a political party independent of the capitalist class; and the United Workers Federation (CUT), a new union body of nearly 12 million members that is independent of government control and that has a class-struggle perspective.

The upcoming, December 10, *Intercontinental Press* features two documents from the recent congress of the CUT. In them, the union federation discusses the impact of Brazil's economic crisis on working people, the erosion of the military regime and the bourgeoisie's efforts to contain and channel

the mass unrest, and the perspectives facing working people in their fight for democratic rights and economic demands.

The current, November 26, *IP* includes, among other things, an article from New Zealand assessing the first three months of the new Labour Party government there.

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How Bolsheviks fought for proletarian line on national question

(Third in a series)

BY CINDY JAQUITH

Are the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America the allies or enemies of workers in the imperialist countries? Is the goal of socialists to help advance the colonial revolution as part of the world socialist revolution, or is it to collaborate with imperialist governments in "civilizing" the colonial world by force to better extract its resources for the benefit of the industrialized capitalist countries?

These questions were debated by socialists in the Second International at their 1907 congress in Stuttgart, Germany. The remarks on colonial policy by Hen-

such countries as India, Iran (then called Persia), and China.

The Second International at this time was made up almost entirely of workers parties in the imperialist countries. Only a few nuclei of socialist parties had been formed in the colonial world, mainly under the impact of the 1905 Russian revolution.

Most parties in the Second International were also based on relatively privileged layers of the working class, which received a few extra crumbs from the imperialists table. This affected not only perspectives on the colonial question, but on the related issue of immigrant workers.

Lenin's Struggle for a Revolutionary International carries excerpts from the discussion of the immigration commission set up at Stuttgart.

Commission member Morris Hillquit, a leader of the U.S. Socialist Party's right wing, proposed that the International support restrictions on the immigration of Asian workers. Unlike European immigrants, he said, immigration from Asia "threatens the native-born with dangerous competition and . . . unconscious strike-breakers. Chinese and Japanese workers play that role today, as does the yellow race in general.

"While we have absolutely no racial prejudices against the Chinese, we must frankly tell you that they cannot be organized. Only a people well advanced in its historical development, such as the Belgians and Italians in France, can be organized for the class struggle. The Chinese have lagged too far behind to be organized."

Asian revolution

While bending to the racist, anti-immigrant propaganda from the employers, the opportunist current in the Second International also ignored the powerful revolts against imperialist oppression taking place in such countries as China. Lenin, on the other hand, considered these revolutionary democratic struggles to be of extreme importance, and a sign of the revival of the class struggle on a world scale.

In his 1913 article "The Awakening of Asia," Lenin pointed out that "Today China is a land of seething political activity, the scene of a virile social movement and of a democratic upsurge. Following the 1905 movement in Russia, the democratic movement spread to the whole of Asia — to Turkey, Persia, China. Ferment is growing in British India. . . .

"The workers of the advanced countries follow with interest and inspiration this powerful growth of the liberation movement, in all its various forms, in every part of the world. . . . The awakening of Asia and the beginning of the struggle for power by the advanced proletariat of Europe are a symbol of the new phase in world history that began early this century."

The Russian Bolsheviks set a model for workers parties in imperialist countries, championing national liberation struggles in colonial and semicolonial nations as well as within the borders of the imperialist countries themselves. The Bolsheviks condemned in particular national oppression within the borders of Russia's tsarist empire. They called for self-determination for



U.S. occupation troops march through Santiago, Cuba, in early 1900s. Right wing in the Second International supported colonial policy of imperialist powers, claiming it was in interests of industrial working class and "civilization."

oppressed nations, including the right to secession.

Debate with other revolutionaries

Lenin's view on the national question was by no means shared by all revolutionaries in the Second International, or even in the Bolshevik Party.

Several leaders of the Bolsheviks, including Nikolai Bukharin and Yuri Pyatakov, argued that the demand for national self-determination would encourage illusions in capitalism. (See "Learning About Socialism" column on page 14.)

Revolutionaries such as Rosa Luxemburg, a leader of the left wing in the German Social Democratic Party, disagreed with Lenin's view that wars of national liberation would play a major role in the coming confrontations with capitalist rule. While condemning the colonial policies of the imperialists and their backers in the Second International, these revolutionaries felt that championing the demand for national self-determination would contradict the struggle to unite the workers of the world in the battle against capitalism and imperialism.

In "The Socialist Revolution and the Right of Nations to Self-Determination," Lenin argued that "Socialist parties which did not show by all their activity, both now, during the revolution, and after its victory, that they would liberate the enslaved nations and build up relations with them on the basis of a free union — and free union is a false phrase without the right to secede — those parties would be betraying socialism."

Revolutionary socialists, he explained, must recognize that under imperialism, the nations of the world are divided into oppressed and oppressor nations. The

nationalism of the former is progressive; that of the latter, reactionary. Moreover, he explained, it is false to think that the divisions between oppressor and oppressed nations will disappear overnight once workers and peasants have overthrown capitalist rule. "In the same way as mankind can arrive at the abolition of classes only through a transition period of the dictatorship of the oppressed class, it can arrive at the inevitable integration of nations only through a transition period of the complete emancipation of all oppressed nations, i.e., their freedom to secede."

Easter uprising

An acid test for revolutionaries on the national question was the 1916 Easter uprising in Ireland against British rule. The first major rebellion in Europe since the beginning of World War I, the uprising did not lead to the hoped-for general insurrection. It was crushed by British troops and its leaders executed.

Lenin hailed the rebellion and the heroism of the nationalists who led it. He saw the uprising as a portent of bigger class battles to come in the near future.

Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky and Polish revolutionary Karl Radek, both of whom later joined the Bolshevik Party, took different stands than Lenin's.

Lenin's Struggle for a Revolutionary International includes articles on the Irish rebellion by Lenin, Trotsky, and Radek. In "The Song is Played Out," Radek argued that the Irish national struggle no longer had the support of workers and farmers in Ireland. The Irish nationalist group Sinn Féin, he wrote, "was a purely urban petty-bourgeois movement, and although it caused considerable commotion, it had little social backing." The uprising it helped lead "amounted only to a putsch that the British government easily disposed of."

Lenin replied that "Whoever calls such a rebellion a 'putsch' is either a hardened reactionary, or a doctrinaire hopelessly incapable of envisaging a social revolution as a living phenomenon. . . .

"To imagine that social revolution is conceivable without revolts by small nations in the colonies and in Europe, without revolutionary outbursts by a section of the petty-bourgeoisie with all its prejudices, without a movement of the politically non-conscious proletariat and semiproletarian masses against oppression by the landowners, the church, and the monarchy, against national oppression, etc. — to imagine all this is to repudiate social revolution. . . .

"Whoever expects a 'pure' social revolution will never live to see it."
(To be continued).

LENIN'S STRUGGLE FOR A REVOLUTIONARY INTERNATIONAL

drick Van Kol, a leader of the Dutch Social Democratic Labor Party, revealed the racist, proimperialist line of right opportunists in the International. Van Kol said:

"Suppose that we bring a machine to the savages of central Africa, what will they do with it? Perhaps they will start up a war dance around it or increase by one the number of their innumerable holy idols. Perhaps we should send some Europeans to run the machines. What the native peoples would do with them, I do not know. . . . perhaps the natives will destroy our machines. Perhaps they will kill us or even eat us. . . . If we Europeans go there with tools and machines, we would be defenseless victims of the natives. Therefore, we must go there weapons in hand. . . ."

Excerpts from the debate over colonialism at this congress are reprinted in the book *Lenin's Struggle for a Revolutionary International*. Lenin, the leader of the Russian Bolshevik party, fought for the Second International to embrace the struggle of oppressed nations against colonialism. Right-wingers in the International, like Van Kol, argued that workers in the industrialized countries had an interest in the exploitation and subjugation of working people in the colonial world. Centrist delegates at the congress leaned more toward a policy of reforming the colonial practices of the imperialists to remove the most barbaric features.

'Socialist' colonization

The congress commission on colonialism brought a draft into the meeting that asserted: "The congress . . . does not reject in principle every colonial policy. Under a Socialist regime, colonization would be a force for civilization." By a close vote, 127 to 108, this outrageous paragraph was struck from the resolution.

The debate on colonialism at the Stuttgart congress occurred in the context of several decades of grabbing colonies by the imperialist governments of Europe, the United States, and Japan, and massive revolts against imperialist domination in

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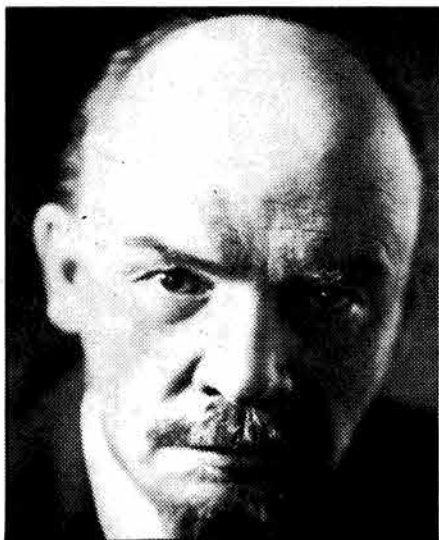
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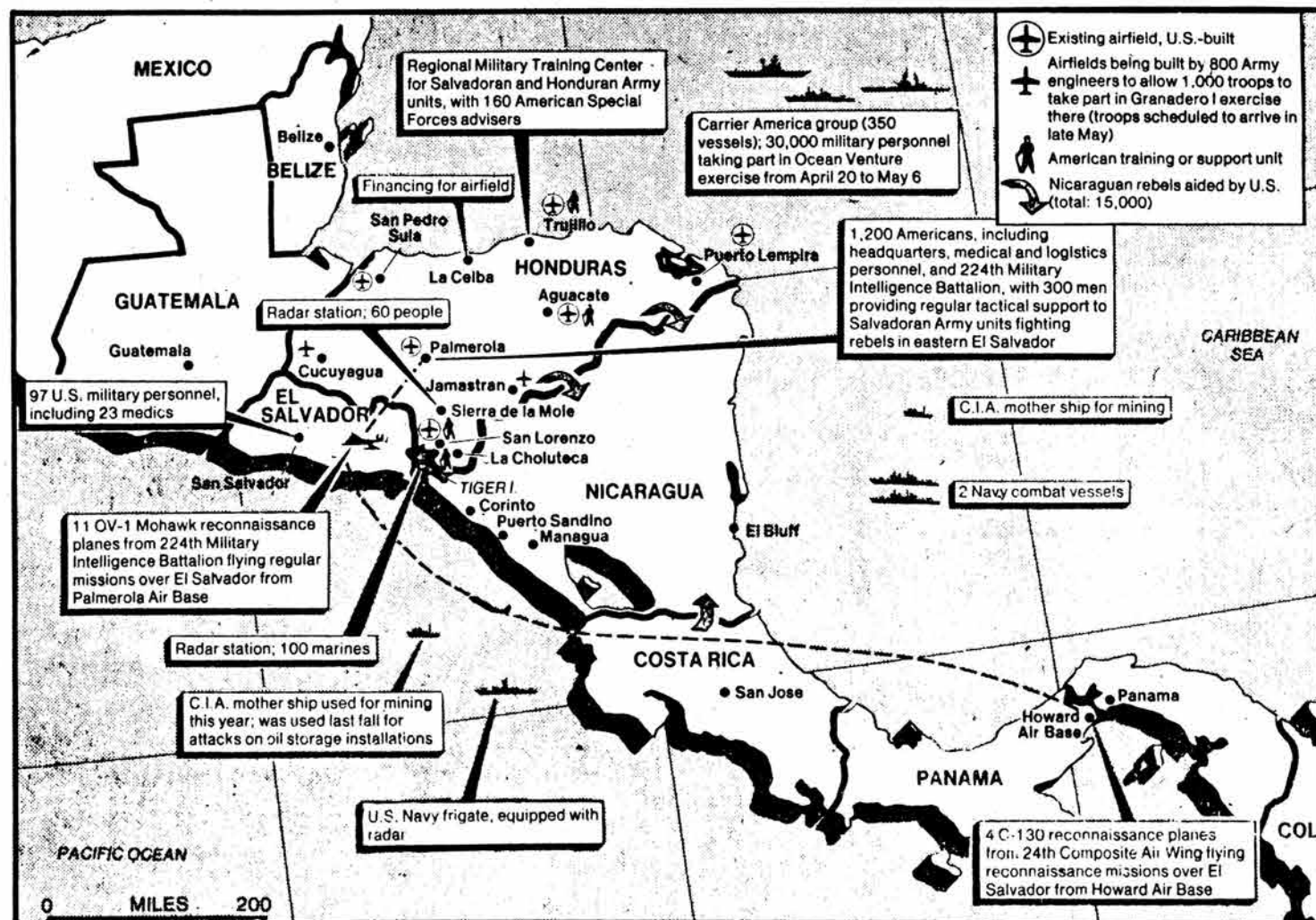
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BY WILL REISSNER

By contrast, Nicaragua's air force now consists of only 12 combat planes, most of which are Korean War-vintage craft. Nica-



Huge deployment of U.S. forces in Central America as of April 1984, according to government's own figures.

Since 1980 the Reagan administration

Military aid to Honduras has climbed from \$4 million in 1980 to \$77.5 million this year as Washington has turned that

The CIA-financed contras have been given large numbers of aircraft for their war against the Sandinista revolution. In some cases, U.S. citizens are piloting those aircraft.

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

Grenada revolution

The U.S. government sent troops to Grenada to stamp out the last vestiges of that country's revolution. In March 1979, the Grenadian workers and farmers rose up in a mass insurrection led by Maurice Bishop and his party, the New Jewel Movement (NJM). The U.S.-backed dictatorship of

Coard's regime lacked popular support. Once his clique had toppled the Grenadian workers and farmers government, the U.S.

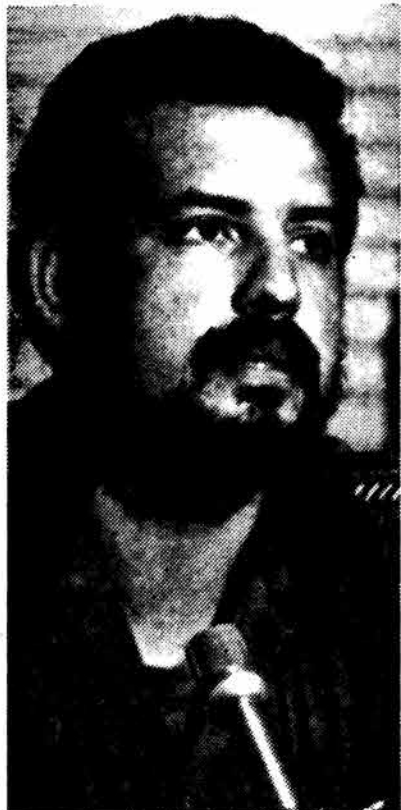


Nidya Córdoba, a Managua worker:
"We will fight with sticks, with knives,
with whatever there is, but the invaders
shall not pass."

The situation in Nicaragua is totally different. Nicaraguan workers and peasants still hold political power — their most po-

It was later revealed that the U.S. Air Force had given the three planes involved

Nicaraguans honor leader slain in combat



Enrique Schmidt (left), Assistant Commander of the Revolution, fell in November 5 battle against U.S.-backed *contras*. At right, hundreds of Nicaraguans accompany Schmidt's funeral cortege.

A top leader of the Nicaraguan revolution, Enrique Schmidt, fell in combat November 5 in a battle against a CIA-organized mercenary task force in El Corozo in the department of Boaco. The Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction declared a national day of mourning in honor of Schmidt, who was an Assistant Commander of the Revolution and Minister of Telecommunications.

At the time of his death, Schmidt was serving with the Pablo Ubeda military unit

of the Ministry of the Interior. In the battle in which Schmidt died, the Sandinistas wiped out the mercenary task force, killing 73 and wounding three.

Schmidt's funeral was attended by ministers and vice-ministers of the government and representatives of the mass organizations. The honor guard included the president-elect and vice-president-elect, Daniel Ortega and Sergio Ramírez; Rafael Córdova Rivas; and minister of foreign affairs, Miguel D'Escoto. Also in attendance

were Commanders of the Revolution Luís Carrión, Bayardo Arce, Humberto Ortega, Víctor Tirado, Tomás Borge, and Henry Ruiz.

The workers of TELCOR (the government telephone, telegraph, and postal service) held a memorial meeting for Schmidt. Cuban Vice-minister of Communications René Hernández, representing the Cuban government and its people, arrived in Nicaragua for the funeral.

By order of Minister of the Interior

Tomás Borge, Schmidt was posthumously awarded the Medal of Valor—Pedro Aráuz Palacios.

Prior to the funeral, Borge told the press that Schmidt had been killed by a bullet during combat while he was "in the front line of fire." A foreign journalist then asked, "Are the Sandinista commanders always in the front line of fire?" Borge responded, "Without any doubt."

Below is an article translated by the *Militant* from the November 7 Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) daily *Barricada*. The article is titled "Biographical sketch of a combatant."

Assistant Commander of the Revolution Enrique Schmidt Cuadra was born in Corinto in the province of Chinandega on May 11, 1949. He joined the FSLN in June 1970.

Between 1973 and 1975 he took advantage of his post as business manager of SIEMANS [a West German electronics company] to provide logistical support to the revolutionary struggle. In late 1975, under the direct responsibility of Commander of the Revolution Tomás Borge, he took part in the formation of the intelligence network that the Sandinista Front developed at that time.

It was during these years that he participated as an internationalist in the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people, along with Pedro Aráuz, René Tejada, Patricio Argüello, and Luís Enrique Romero, among others.

On Dec. 16, 1975, he was captured by Somoza's Office of National Security (OSN) and during his 15 days of interrogation he was mistreated and tortured by Somoza's thugs. Following that he was sentenced to 18 months in prison by a war council. He was released in April 1977.

Between 1977 and 1978 he was one of the central organizers of the Solidarity Committees formed in Europe, under whose pressure the West German government cancelled a \$15 million loan it had granted the Somoza government. The Spanish government then did the same thing regarding the sale and arming of aircraft for Somoza's National Guard. At the same time Schmidt also worked to secure direct financial aid to the FSLN in his capacity as its representative in Europe.

In May 1979 he returned to the country to participate in the final offensive against the dictatorship. Following the revolutionary victory he became one of the main organizers of the Ministry of the Interior, first in his capacity as secretary-general, and later as chief of the Sandinista Police in Managua, in which post he helped develop what is today the General Administration of Sandinista Police.

In 1981 he was appointed minister of TELCOR, an institution that one year later was designated Vanguard of the State by the Government of National Reconstruction.

Assistant Commander Enrique Schmidt was president of the National Basketball Federation.

The University of Bremen in West Germany recently awarded him the title of doctor of economics.

On November 5 he fell in combat against a counterrevolutionary task force. The task force was completely wiped out.

Three kidnapped Sandinistas are set free; Miskitu leader accepts government amnesty



Barricada Internacional
Miskitu leader Brooklyn Rivera on his arrival at Managua after three years outside the country.

After 55 days in captivity, three Nicaraguans kidnapped by counterrevolutionaries on the Atlantic Coast were freed October 30. Ray Hooker, Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) candidate for National Assembly from Bluefields; Patricia Delgado, FSLN zone secretary; and Santiago Mayorga had been abducted while campaigning September 5. They were held in camps of the counterrevolutionary Miskitu group MISURASATA, which has carried out armed actions against the Nicaraguan government.

Brooklyn Rivera, who has been a leader of MISURASATA, helped arrange the release of the three Sandinistas. Rivera had just returned to Nicaragua a few days earlier, taking advantage of a government amnesty decree for those involved in counterrevolutionary activity. The following article on Rivera's return is taken from the October 25 *Barricada Internacional*, published by the FSLN.

"Attaining peace and the reunification of Nicaragua's Indian communities is a duty

which cannot be eluded, but can only be brought about through justice and recognizing and establishing indigenous rights to land and autonomy, within the Nicaraguan state."

This statement was made by Nicaraguan Miskitu leader Brooklyn Rivera on October 21, following his return after three years outside the country. Rivera came back to visit indigenous communities and Miskitu settlements, "to talk with my brothers and hear their concerns, to find a solution to the problem of division among us."

Rivera took advantage of an amnesty decreed by the government for those who, since December 1980, had become involved in counterrevolutionary activities. "We trust in the government's offer for us to visit the country without problems or conditions, and we're following through with our mission," he stated.

The Miskitu leader was greeted at Managua's international airport by Father Fernando Cardenal, minister of education; José León Talavera, deputy foreign minister; and Reverend Sixto Ulloa, head of the Evangelical Committee for Aid and Development (CEPAD). Accompanying him were representatives of the French government and U.S. indigenous rights organizations.

Soon after his arrival, Rivera met with Government Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega and Deputy Minister of the Interior Luís Carrión to discuss his plans to visit the Atlantic Coast. "I requested freedom of movement, expression and press; the Commanders gave me those guarantees on behalf of the government," said Rivera.

A former leader of the now dissolved indigenous organization "Miskitu, Sumu, Rama, Sandinistas United" (MISURASATA), Rivera became involved in counterrevolutionary activity under the guidance of Steadman Fagoth, a former security agent of the Somoza regime.

Rivera says that in 1981 he was pressured by various sectors to define his position regarding the Revolution, and thus, he left for Honduras to be near fellow Miskitu

who had gone into exile. "I couldn't just leave it up to Fagoth or other irresponsible leaders to do whatever they wanted with the people. So we decided to join forces with other Nicaraguans who claimed they wanted to rescue the Revolution." Under these circumstances, Rivera hooked up with Edén Pastora.

Now Rivera recognizes that the government has changed its policies toward the indigenous communities, and feels that there isn't necessarily a contradiction between the interests of the Miskitu and the position of a nationalist, popular Revolution. "Rather, I think they're complementary: the hopes of indigenous peoples have to be the pillars of revolution in Latin America," he asserted. "The Sandinista government, or any other, must give a fair response to land claims and recognize a territory on which the Indians can govern their own lives and communities, within the framework of the Nicaraguan state."

In addition, Rivera explained that he also came to study the new Miskitu organization MISATAN an find out for himself if its leaders are truly what they claim to be.

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'Nicaragua won't be another Grenada'

Continued from Page 8

tent weapon in pushing forward their revolution and defending it.

As in Grenada, the Nicaraguan workers and peasants made a revolution. In July 1979, led by the FSLN, the Nicaraguan people overthrew the hated dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza. They set up a workers and peasants government, which, as happened in Grenada, led in the economic development of the country, educated the people, and organized them into unions and other mass organizations. The Sandinista government armed the Nicaraguan people and mobilized them in order to defend the revolution from imperialist attack.

The U.S. rulers have tried to create a Grenada-type situation in Nicaragua. In August, the Sandinista government exposed CIA plots aimed at fomenting divisions within the FSLN leadership. "All attempts to create symmetries with other unfortunate experiences," said Tomás Borge, Nicaragua's Minister of the Interior, "are destined to failure and ridicule."

Nicaraguan toilers see the government as their own and are prepared to fight for it. "We are ready for whatever call the government makes to us," Roberto Vivas told *Barricada*.

'The invaders shall not pass'

Nidya Córdoba, a cashier in Managua said, "We will fight with sticks, with knives, with machetes, with whatever there is, but the invaders shall not pass."

At Córdoba's factory, and others throughout the city, workers are practicing air raids and other drills. "Here, everybody is alert and ready for the defense," said Adolfo Sirias. The Nicaraguan government is distributing more arms to the people — another indication of the firm bond between the revolutionary government and Nicaraguan workers and peasants.

Nicaraguan mass organizations are mobilizing for the defense effort. The Sandinista Defense Committees, the massive network of neighborhood associations, are carrying out a number of important tasks. These include building or refurbishing air raid shelters, first aid training and laying in of medical supply stocks, setting up civil defense brigades, and keeping an eye on known enemies of the revolution.

The unions and other mass organizations are carrying out similar tasks. Tens of thousands of high school and college youth, for example, have volunteered to be part of Managua's militia.

The U.S. rulers intend to overthrow the Nicaraguan government and turn back the gains of that revolution. The U.S.-backed *contras* (counterrevolutionaries) are waging a war of terror against the Nicaraguan people today. They are preparing the way for the U.S. imperialists, who eventually

CLUW conference calls for end to U.S. war

Continued from Page 4

Democratic Rep. Mario Biaggi, a so-called "friend of labor," who gave a speech claiming that if all the undocumented workers were thrown out of New York, 1 million jobs would be created.

Andrade ended her talk by saying, "These [undocumented] workers are not taking our jobs — imports are taking our jobs," and urging CLUW members to "buy American" when they do their Christmas shopping.

There was no opportunity at this conference to have a full discussion on the way in which the imports scare — like the anti-immigrant propaganda — has been used to cover up for those really responsible for unemployment: the employers.

An inspiring aspect of the conference was the presence, for the first time, of Chinese garment workers, five members of ILGWU Local 23-25 who listened to the deliberations with simultaneous translation. They are members of the newly formed Chinese committee of CLUW. Of Local 23-25's 28,000 members, 18,000 are Chinese.

Caroline Lund is a sewing-machine operator and a member of Local 23-25.



Militant/José G. Pérez

Part of mass rally in Managua, Nicaragua, celebrating fifth anniversary of revolution. Overwhelming majority of Nicaraguan workers and peasants support Sandinista government and are mobilizing to defend it.

will intervene directly with U.S. troops.

But a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua will be met with massive resistance. It won't be a six-day operation like the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Nor will it be confined to Nicaragua, but will engulf all of Central America. When Washington's war against Nicaragua escalates to the point of the rulers sending massive numbers of U.S. troops, the ensuing struggle will be more like the Vietnam war than the Grenada invasion.

Vietnam

The U.S. government began sending military "advisers" to Vietnam in 1959 to support the puppet dictatorship it had put into place. The Vietnamese National Lib-

eration Front was formed in 1960 and began its 15-year-long battle against U.S. domination. The U.S. rulers sent 3 million troops to Vietnam. Hospitals, homes, and schools were bombed. The Vietnamese countryside was marked by thousands of craters from carpet bombings. Millions of Vietnamese workers and peasants died in the war, and 60,000 U.S. soldiers were brought home in caskets.

But the Vietnamese people's determined resistance defeated the U.S. imperialists.

As Fidel Castro explained in a November 14, 1983, speech to more than a million people in Havana, the imperialists "will not find in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Cuba the particular circumstances of

revolutionaries divided among themselves and divorced from the people that they found in tiny Grenada. . . . In Nicaragua, the imperialists would have to confront a deeply patriotic and revolutionary people that is united, organized, armed, and ready to fight and that can never be subjugated. With regard to Cuba, if in Grenada the imperialists had to bring in an elite division to fight against a handful of [Cuban construction workers] . . . struggling in a small stronghold, lacking fortifications, a thousand miles from their homeland, how many divisions would they need against millions of combatants fighting on their own soil alongside their own people?"

Does Nicaragua threaten Central America?

Continued from Page 8

in the attack to "another government agency" at no cost. That other agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, then delivered the planes to the *contras* in Honduras.

U.S. aircraft

Not only must Nicaragua defend itself from air attacks mounted by the *contras*, it must also defend itself against the large numbers of U.S. aircraft stationed in Central America.

The Pentagon has built or improved airfields in Honduras at Palmerola, Trujillo, San Lorenzo, Aguacate, Cucayuga, and Jamastrán.

From Palmerola, where 15 U.S. OV-1 and OV-2 spy planes are stationed, and from Howard Air Base in Panama, home to a fleet of SR-71s, the Pentagon regularly sends planes over El Salvador and Nicaragua to gather information on the location of Salvadoran guerrillas and Nicaraguan government units. That information is passed on to the Salvadoran military and the Nicaraguan *contras*.

Recently, the U.S. aircraft carrier *John F. Kennedy*, with 85 combat aircraft aboard, was stationed off Nicaragua's Caribbean coast.

Campus prowar actions flop

BY STEPHEN MILLEN

BLOOMINGTON, Indiana — October 25, the first anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Grenada, was targeted for rallies, media events, and other activities on 100 different U.S. campuses by supporters of the U.S. invasion.

Two foundations, the USA Foundation and the American Opportunity Foundation, working through the College Republicans, projected a massive media blitz for the day of the anniversary.

Following an October 24 White House Rose Garden ceremony honoring U.S. medical students "liberated" by the invasion, some 75-100 U.S. students were flown to selected campuses across the country to add their praise to the invasion and to efforts to reelect Ronald Reagan.

Fortunately, Grenada "Student Libera-

tion Day," as it was dubbed, was a failure. At the Indiana University-Bloomington campus, pinpointed by the College Republicans as among the 25 or so "priority" campuses, virtually no publicity preceded an early morning talk by a former U.S. medical student. The audience consisted of seven people and one student newspaper reporter.

In contrast, the Committee for Democracy in Latin America held a forum that same evening, around a screening of *Waiting for the Invasion — U.S. Citizens in Nicaragua*. It drew some 50 people. According to Vann Gosse, campus work director for the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, this experience was similar to most campuses across the country. The College Republicans held minuscule, poorly publicized, and poorly attended events.

Salvador liberation fighters in U.S.

Continued from front page

present to redouble such efforts.

Ouelí pointed to recent U.S. threats against Nicaragua as an example of Washington's increased intervention in Central America. The director of MADRE, a solidarity organization, introduced the FDR and FMLN leaders. They condemned the State Department's recent refusal to grant visas to four activists from the Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Prisoners, Disappeared Persons and Politically Assassinated Persons of El Salvador, who were supposed to receive the Kennedy Memorial prize for their work in defense of human rights. Washington claimed the women posed a threat to U.S. "national security."

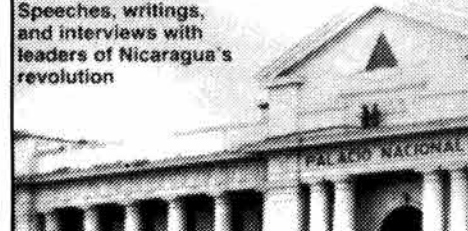
Michael Ratner of the Center for Constitutional Rights also chaired the reception. Ratner himself was recently a victim of Washington's restrictions on the right to travel. He helped organize a tour by U.S.

lawyers to Cuba. Invoking the Cuba travel ban, Washington unsuccessfully tried to prevent the group from visiting Cuba.

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Abortion: the issue is women's rights

BY PAT GROGAN

On January 22, 1973, women won their most important victory in decades.

The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Roe vs. Wade*, ruled that women had the constitutional right to have abortions. The ruling legalized abortion through the first 24 weeks of pregnancy and struck down all laws that restricted that right.

For the first time the right of women to decide whether or not to bear children — not the state, church, husband, father, or priest — was recognized.

The women's liberation movement saw reproductive freedom as the most fundamental right of women, a precondition for full equality and liberation. Without the right to control her own body, a woman could not exercise effective control over her life.

When abortion was illegal

Beginning in the 1960s contraception was becoming more available and accepted, but it was not foolproof — and still isn't. Advances in medical science had made abortion a safe, simple, medical procedure. But in most states, abortion was against the law. Women were forced to bear children against their will, or risk dangerous — and often deadly — illegal or self-induced abortions.

In 1969, the year before New York State adopted liberalized abortion laws — a step that laid the basis for the later Supreme Court victory — approximately 210,000 women entered city hospitals due to abortion complications.

The restrictions on abortion were powerful and barbaric chains on women. Black women and Latinas suffered the most from the illegal status of abortion. Eighty percent of the thousands of women who died each year were Black and Spanish-speaking women.

And many Black women and Latinas were forced to submit to sterilization as a means of obtaining an abortion.

Prior to the emergence of the feminist movement in the late 1960s, many supporters of legal abortion presented their arguments in terms of population control — arguments that are used to bolster the racist practice of forced sterilization.

The feminist movement put the axis for the fight to legalize abortion where it belonged — on the right of women to control their own bodies. It was on this basis that majority support for legal abortion was won.

A right never secure

Because of the stakes involved in the fight for abortion rights, this right was never secure.

In the past several years, Democrats and Republicans alike began to attack the right to abortion.

The Hyde Amendment, passed by Congress in 1976, was the most serious blow. It cut off Medicaid funding for abortions, except in cases of rape, incest, or when a woman's life is in danger. In May 1981, Congress cut off funds even in cases of rape and incest.

In October of this year, Congress once again denied abortion funding for victims of rape and incest.

Since the Hyde Amendment was passed, 36 states have killed state funding for abortions.

This strikes hardest at Black women, Latinas, and the poorest women. And it is part of the attack against the right of all women to abortion and lays the basis for further attempts to restrict abortion rights.

In the years 1978 and 1979 alone, almost 1.5 million women were unable to obtain abortions either because of lack of facilities or inability to pay.

These attacks against women's rights have sharply escalated in the last few years.

There have been 180 incidents of violent attacks by right-wing foes of abortion rights on abortion clinics so far this year. This includes 20 arsons and firebombings.

Women seeking abortions are harassed, threatened, and called "murderers" by "right-to-lifers" who try to create an at-

mosphere of fear and intimidation at abortion clinics. They are the shock troops of a broader assault on abortion rights.

1984 elections

The 1984 presidential elections were used as a staging ground for a major escalation in the ideological offensive against women's rights. The main theme sounded was "abortion is murder!"

The Catholic archbishops pressed to make abortion the "key issue" in the elections. Fundamentalist Protestant preachers like "Moral Majority" leader Jerry Falwell stepped up their antiabortion propaganda.

Reagan and the Republican Party convention openly endorsed legislation that would "make clear that the 14th Amendment protections apply to unborn children."

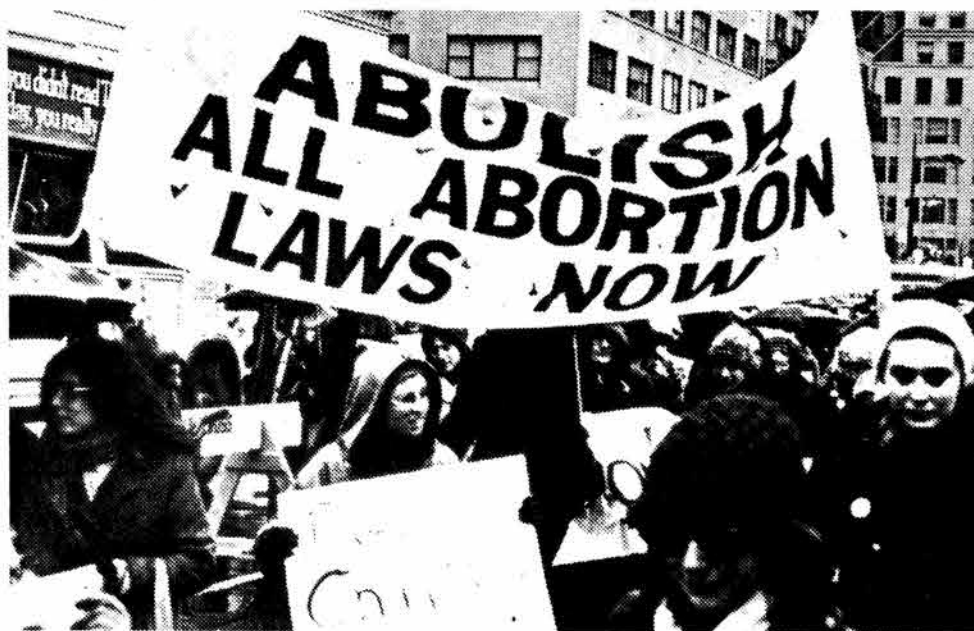
Prominent liberal Democrats like Geraldine Ferraro responded by agreeing that abortion is murder, but that as long as a majority supports abortion rights, it shouldn't be made illegal.

"I do not believe in abortion," Ferraro emphatically told the press. "I am opposed to abortion as a Catholic... but I will not impose my religious views on others."

The question, however, is not separation of church and state. The question is a woman's right to abortion.

Throughout the campaign, Ferraro stressed her abhorrence of abortion, helping to strengthen the reactionary "abortion is murder" campaign against women.

The racist nature of Ferraro's reactionary position came through when she explained why she voted for some Medicaid funding for abortions: "The cost of putting an unwanted child through the system far outweighs the cost of funding abortion on demand." This reeks of the ra-



December 1970 women's rights demonstration in New York City demanded an end to laws that made abortion a crime.

cist, population control arguments that are used to justify forced sterilization.

Week after week, the anti-woman propaganda is spewed out in the big business media.

Abortion is discussed as a moral, religious, ethical, and scientific question; a private, public, personal, medical question. But the real issue is the right of women to decide if and when to have children.

Aim is to reverse gains

The torrent of antiabortion propaganda does not come out of a big victory by the capitalist rulers against women's rights. Rather it is aimed at launching a fight to reverse the gains women have won in the last 15 years.

The steps taken towards equality by both the women's movement and the civil rights movement have strengthened the whole working class in its ability to struggle against the employers.

In order to lay the basis for ever deeper attacks against the rights and living standards of the working class — and as part of

the preparation for full-scale imperialist war in Central America — the ruling class must pit worker against worker, using racist and sexist prejudices to undermine the unity and strength of the working class.

The ruling class ideological offensive is aimed at undermining the powerful idea that women should have equal rights. It is aimed at convincing both men and women that a woman's place is in the home, and that the family, not the government, should bear the cost of caring for children, the sick, and the elderly.

It is aimed at justifying lower pay for women who work and making unemployment of women more acceptable.

The fire is aimed particularly at abortion rights because the right of a woman to choose whether or not to bear children is recognized by millions of women as an elementary precondition for their liberation.

This ideological offensive must be met and answered. In next week's *Militant*, we will take a look at some of the main arguments aimed against abortion rights.

Rightists bomb two Maryland clinics

Continued from front page

ington, D.C.—Maryland area have been under such intense attack that the first reaction of the police was to immediately check all other abortion facilities for bombs.

This is the fifth bombing of an abortion or Planned Parenthood clinic in the area since February 1984. At that time an abortion clinic in nearby Prince Georges County was the target. On July 4 the offices of the National Abortion Federation in Washington, D.C., were bombed. Three days later the Annapolis Planned Parenthood clinic was bombed. That blast tore a four-foot hole in the front of the building and hurled tons of bricks into the street. Windows were shattered and cars as far as 450 feet away were damaged.

The latest bombings are being investigated by the Montgomery County police, fire department officials, and the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). Since May 1982, ATF agents have investigated 25 arson or bombing incidents at abortion clinics nationwide — 20 of them this year.

So far, no one has claimed responsibility for the two bombings. The police reported that it was not a job done by amateurs.

The Wheaton clinic has been a regular target of harassment by right-wing foes of abortion rights. Every Saturday, antiabortion protesters picket the entrance to try to prevent women from entering. In May, 140 antiabortion picketers were arrested at a clinic in nearby Gaithersburg for blocking the entrance.

Two days before the bombing, on November 17, the Pro-life Nonviolent Action Project — an antiabortion coalition — brought 100 people to the Wheaton clinic to barricade the entrance and prevent women from going inside. The antiwoman picketers carried pictures of fetuses and chanted "Baby killers" and "Don't murder your babies" as people entered the clinic. Forty-six of the antiabortion picketers were arrested.

About 60 supporters of abortion rights organized by the Coalition for Choice and Marylanders for the Right to Choose observed the antiabortion actions and es-

corted women into the clinic. No one was turned back by the antiabortion pickets.

The November 17 rightist action had been billed as the "largest pro-life sit-in in the country," and the leaflet was titled "Rescue those being dragged to the slaughter."

Neighbors standing in the early morning sleet and rain told reporters that the blast shook their nearby homes and that they knew immediately it was the clinic because of the intense harassment campaign by opponents of women's right to abortion.

A news conference called by abortion-rights supporters several hours after the bombing demanded a full-scale investigation by the Justice Department and FBI into the attacks.

"This is not a local incident," said Barbara Radford of the National Abortion Federation, "but the latest in a list of orchestrated attacks by common criminals carried out from Seattle to San Diego, to St. Petersburg, to Washington, D.C."

Rosann Wisman, executive director of the Metropolitan D.C. Planned Parenthood, called the act an "act of terrorism."

Wisman reported that Planned Parenthood would keep its offices open and not be deterred by threats of violence. Gail Francis, owner of the Metropolitan Medical and Women's Center, also told reporters that the clinic would not close and that they would continue to see patients in another facility.

Other speakers included Leslie Watkins of the American Civil Liberties Union who called on President Reagan to "speak out forcefully on this matter."

Judy Goldsmith, president of the National Organization for Women, also spoke. "If any other institutions — churches, schools, or even commercial enterprises such as McDonalds were being bombed at the rate of one every two weeks, President Reagan would certainly repudiate it strongly, publicly," she said. "Instead, by his own inflammatory rhetoric — including invoking words like 'murder' and 'holocaust' in the context of abortion — he certainly gives aid and comfort to these people who are engaged in vigilante

tactics."

Leaders of anti-abortion-rights groups praised the bombings.

John Cavanaugh-O'Keefe, of the Pro-life Nonviolent Action Committee, defended the bombing to reporters saying, "yes, it is just. Is it prudent? No... it's just to respond to violence against people by destroying property."

Another member of the group stated, "I don't know who they [the bombers] are. I know no babies will be killed today. I'm not sad the clinics are not in operation today. I would be just as happy if it were struck by lightning."

Michael Connolly of the Covenant Life Christian Community Center, which participated in antiabortion protests at the clinic said, "I would have a hard time speaking out against the bombing... I think abortionists are murderers. I think they should go to jail."

Utah miners strike pushes back company

Continued from back page

and pensioners joined them on the picket line at the company headquarters. This kind of support throughout the strike strengthened the miners picketing the mines. UMW members learned they were not alone in this contract struggle.

The strike also made it clear who mines the coal and who keeps the mines operating. UMW members returned to work to mines needing immediate attention to improve safety conditions, and to machinery needing repair.

Some miners are already thinking about the next contract. One member of the Wilberg local said that he expects the next contract fight to be "longer than all the others put together." Many members of these three locals know that even though this strike was a relatively short one, there are bigger battles to come.

Cecelia Moriarity is a member of UMW Local 2176 at the Wilberg mine.

See, everything's fine — A grouping of university and medical school researchers found little evidence that toxic waste dumps are bad for your health. DuPont's



Harry Ring

vice-president for safety, health, and environmental affairs was "encouraged" by the findings, noting that they "support our position that we don't need any mechanism to compensate alleged victims." The study was sponsored by the

Chemical Manufacturers Assn. **Screw that in your light socket** — In two years, General Electric pocketed \$6.5 billion in domestic profits, paid not a thin dime in federal income taxes, and is claiming a \$283 million refund.

P.S. — Just in case you thought it was only GE, it's estimated that for every dollar corporations pay in taxes, they save \$1.47, courtesy congressional corporate tax loopholes.

American Way of Death — It's six months since the federal regulation requiring that funeral costs be itemized but still no evidence of lower prices. Some undertakers say they have raised their prices because of the added

paperwork expense of itemizing. The director of the Funeral Directors Assn. says that in many neighborhoods the director has to force families to read the new price lists rather than just trusting him.

Roughing it in a Bach suite — As a moonlighting project, a bustling young New York ad person is offering camping facilities for the Tanglewood music festival in the Berkshires. A king-size tent with a mod Japanese bed. Fresh cut flowers. Bedtime chocolates on your pillow. A lunch basket of wine, cheese, pâté, and chicken. \$275 for the weekend. Concert tickets extra.

Close is good enough — Long Island officials appealed a deci-

sion authorizing operation of the Shoreham nuclear plant, pointing to various design flaws. But a panel of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission decided the plant met "most" federal safety standards and gave it the green light.

Blessed are the poor — A University of Minnesota researcher finds that poor people tend to get more energy value and nutrients per food dollar than rich people. One reason, the study finds, is that poor people tend to buy more beans, grains, eggs, and milk. They also buy less meat, poultry, fish, and alcoholic beverages.

Shopping tip — Bijan's of Beverly Hills and New York offers a designer pistol embossed in 24-karat gold. \$10,000. Gold bul-

lets optional and extra.

Semantics dep't. — A Duquesne Light & Power press release announced an "unusual event" at its Beaver Valley, Pa., nuclear plant — a 17-minute shutdown due to a loss of power. A note to editors explained that an "unusual event" is the lowest classification for incidents at a nuclear plant.

Diabolical, those Russians — Olympic athletes who agreed to wear Nike shoes were promised bonuses for any medals they might win. With the USSR not participating, U.S. athletes took an unexpected number of medals, which set Nike back more than \$2 million in bonuses. Complained a Nike exec: "The Russians screwed us."

CALENDAR

ARIZONA

Phoenix

South Africa: Black Majority in Revolt. Film showing and speakers. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Dec. 1, 7 p.m. 3750 W McDowell Rd., #3. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 272-4026.

Latin America: Military Dictatorships Crumbling. Speaker: Barry Fatland, member of Socialist Workers Party recently returned from tour of Latin America. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Dec. 8, 7 p.m. 3750 W McDowell Rd., #3. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 272-4026.

COLORADO

Denver

The Elections in Nicaragua: an Eyewitness Report. Fri., Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. 126 W 12 Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor

Forum. For more information call (303) 534-8954.

LOUISIANA

New Orleans

Reagan's Reelection: A Mandate for War? Speakers: Raphael Cassimere, associate professor of history and executive board member on New Orleans NAACP; Herman Muse, international representative, Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Local 4-447; Lynne Renihan, president, New Orleans National Organization for Women; Steve Beren, member, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union Local 1002 and Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Nov. 30, 8 p.m. 3207 Dublin St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 486-8048.

MISSOURI

Kansas City

No More Vietnams! U.S. Out of Nicaragua. Speakers: Isabella Listopad, member Young

Socialist Alliance and United Auto Workers Local 93; Dick Geyer, member Socialist Workers Party and UAW Local 31. Sun., Dec. 2, 7 p.m. 4715 A Troost Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (816) 753-0404.

OREGON

Portland

Nicaragua Today. Presentations by recent visitors to revolutionary Nicaragua. Sat., Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. 2732 NE Union. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 287-7416.

UTAH

Salt Lake City

World Hunger — Why? Speakers to be announced. Fri., Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. 767 S State, 3rd floor. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

British Coal Miners Strike. Showing of three videotapes made by the striking National Union

of Mineworkers. Fri., Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. 767 S State, 3rd floor. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Nicaragua: A Struggle for Peace. Speaker: Jorge Granera, vice-president, Nicaraguan Committee in Solidarity With the Peoples of the World. Sat., Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. Piggott Auditorium, Seattle University. Donation: \$3. Ausp: El Centro de la Raza. For more information call (206) 329-2974.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fight for Freedom in the Philippines. Speakers: Lourdes Marzan, Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP); Mike Fitzsimmons, member Young Socialist Alliance and International Association of Machinists. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Dec. 1, 8 p.m. 3106 Mt. Pleasant NW. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

Chicago protest hits racist attack on Black family

Continued from back page

brick landed where he had just been lying.

Goffer's phone had not yet been connected, so he could not call for help. For the next six hours plus, the family huddled behind furniture barricades.

"It was more than terrifying," said Goffer, a 31-year-old auto mechanic. "There were pistols waving, and bricks and bottles and pipes and tire irons flying like rain."

During the siege, at about 3 a.m., Goffer spotted a white Cicero cop talking to the attackers. "I was kneeling in the corner of the living room peeping out the window and I saw the police officer get out and greet these guys like he knew them. This policeman saw their guns and they were throwing rocks while he was talking to them. He stayed about five minutes and then just drove away."

About 9 a.m., Goffer, Franklin, and

their son were finally able to escape through an alley. They said they would not return.

Goffer did get the police car number, 204, and the officer was later identified as Jack Oden. Goffer also said he saw another, unmarked police car on the scene. This was later verified by a police commander.

The Cook County State's Attorney's office, the U.S. attorney's office, the FBI, and the Chicago and Cicero police have all said they will investigate police complicity in the attack.

Cicero has a long history of racist violence and discrimination against Blacks. In the 1960s it was the focus of open-housing marches led by Martin Luther King, Jr. It is presently the subject of a U.S. Justice Department civil rights suit for racist discrimination in employment and housing.

As a result of this litigation the entire Cicero police force was required to take a two-day human relations training seminar. A representative from the group that filed the suit and who attended the November 10 protest reported that almost the entire force boycotted the seminar.

The local press has played up the fact that none of the neighbors came to Goffer's and Franklin's aid. But it was an area resident who initiated the protest and a number of people from the immediate community joined it. During the picket, three people crossed over from the Cicero side of Roosevelt Road to join the protest. On the picketline, one neighbor, Tony Ragana, said he and his companion have called the police a number of times when they have seen racist incidents. But, he said, they've never gotten any response.

Pat Bangs, who lived in the same building

as Goffer and Franklin for four years before moving a few blocks away, also attended both the picket and a get-together held afterwards. "My husband and I have called the police dozens of times," Bangs said, "including once when we saw a Black man's car being torched. The only time the Cicero or Chicago police ever came was when we told them someone had a gun."

Prisoner fund

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

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

Grenadian women made big gains in revolution

The following is a guest column by Miesa Patterson

Before its overthrow, the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) of Grenada, under the leadership of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, fought to liberate Grenadian women from the nightmare of oppression they had suffered under the U.S.-backed dictatorship of Eric Gairy.

Until 1979 Gairy ruled Grenada, a tiny island in the eastern Caribbean with a population of 110,000.

To get a job, women had to sleep with Gairy or his henchmen. Once hired, the demanding of sexual favors



BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

Mohammed Oliver

was a common form of intimidation and harassment of women. This degrading treatment of women was one of the most gross aspects of women's oppression in Grenada, and it fit completely with the undeveloped economy and rape of the island's resources by imperialism.

Under Gairy's regime 70 percent of the nation's women were unemployed. Overall unemployment was 50 percent. Women were not given equal pay for doing the same work as men, and they were victimized for having children because there was no maternity leave. There were no such things as day-care centers.

Because of their hatred of Gairy, Gairyism, and every-

thing it represented, women were active in the struggle to overthrow his dictatorship and build a new Grenada.

Women helped build the New Jewel Movement, the revolutionary party led by Bishop. They distributed the party's newspaper under conditions of illegality. They were active in the struggles to democratize the unions and to win the right to union representation. They organized a campaign against the high cost of living. They printed and distributed pamphlets calling for equal pay for equal work.

On March 13, 1979, the New Jewel Movement called on the Grenadian people to come into the streets to help overthrow the Gairy regime. A crowd of 200 people, mostly women, marched on the St. Andrew's parish police station, captured it, and forced the cops to run up the white flag. These women were joined by thousands of other workers and farmers throughout the island.

From the very beginning, the new People's Revolutionary Government's approach toward building a just society included doing away with the fundamental conditions of women's oppression. The PRG announced its intention to adopt a maternity-leave law in the early days of the revolution in 1979. The law was drafted in April 1980, and passed that October. The PRG did not rush to impose the measure, but rather took the proposal to the Grenadian people, who discussed it in each parish, in women's groups, trade unions, community organizations, professional groups, and employers' associations. It was modified in the course of these discussions to reflect what the people really wanted.

The law required employers to shoulder the cost for maternity pay. The PRG paid the cost for small businesses employing less than five people. Unlike many laws in the United States that are supposed to protect workers'

rights, the Grenadian maternity-leave law had teeth. Employers who didn't comply were liable for six months in jail or a stiff fine. Employers who fired pregnant workers were liable for one year in jail or an even heavier fine.

The revolution provided women and all Grenadians with educational benefits, too. Women were a special focus of the literacy campaign, and were also given training in plumbing, bus driving, fishing, and other trades.

Making day care available was essential to the plan of the PRG. The first day-care center was built in 1981 and the revolutionary government planned to set such centers up throughout the island.

Because of these and other gains, thousands of Grenadian women became staunch defenders of the revolution, which was reflected in the growth of the National Women's Organization. At the time of the revolutionary triumph, the NWO, which had been founded during the Gairy dictatorship to involve women in the revolutionary struggle, had 13 chapters with about 150 members. By 1981 the membership had swelled to 7,000, making the NWO the largest mass organization on the island.

Women also participated in the military defense of the revolution. The militia was 35 percent women, and more and more women participated in community construction projects. They spearheaded efforts to raise money for the new airport, and volunteered as teachers in the ongoing education programs of the revolution.

These heroic sisters have suffered a major defeat with the overthrow of the workers and farmers government of the PRG followed by the U.S. invasion and continued occupation of Grenada.

When Grenadian working people again rise up in struggle against imperialist domination, Grenadian women will be there in force.

Protests erupt over priest's murder in Poland

BY ERNEST HARSCH

The October 19 kidnapping and murder of Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko by members of Poland's secret police was a blow aimed at the entire Polish workers movement. Whether officially sanctioned or not, it was an act of political repression designed to intimidate and silence those who oppose the government's anti-working-class policies.

Its effect, however, has been to galvanize public protest and renewed expressions of support for the outlawed Solidarity union movement.

Popieluszko had been popular because of his open support for Solidarity. In close contact with the workers of the giant Huta Warszawa steelworks north of Warsaw, he gave regular monthly sermons that criticized violations of democratic rights and that often drew 10,000 or more workers.

Because of his outspokenness, Popieluszko ran into some opposition from the church hierarchy. He was also a target of criticisms in the government-run news media.

Popieluszko's murder was thus widely viewed as a politically motivated act by particularly virulent opponents of Solidarity within the police apparatus.

On November 3, Popieluszko's funeral turned into one of the largest political demonstrations in Poland in more than two years. More than a quarter of a million Poles filled the streets surrounding the church in the northern Warsaw suburb where Popieluszko was buried.

Solidarity flags and banners were carried by workers' delegations from factories, mines, and ports throughout the country. One of those who delivered a eulogy was Lech Walesa, Solidarity's national chairman, who vowed that "we shall never bow to oppression." When he declared, "Solidarity is alive," he was answered by chants of "Solidarity! Solidarity!" and a sea of hands raised in V-for-victory signs.

Following the funeral, more than 10,000 people marched past the Warsaw police headquarters at Mostowski Palace.

Some Solidarity figures, such as Andrzej Gwiazda, have called for further protest demonstrations, as well as strikes. Others, including Walesa, have appealed for calm, stating that such actions could bring new police attacks. "We won't let anybody pull us into brawls in which we will lose," Walesa said.

The government of Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, fearful of the mass outcry over Popieluszko's murder, has sought to dodge blame. It launched a prompt investigation and portrayed the killing as an isolated event, carried out by "a few criminals, provocateurs."

Even before Popieluszko's body had been found, three officers of the Interior Ministry, which oversees the police, were arrested. According to the government, they admitted kidnapping Popieluszko outside of Torun and throwing his body into a reservoir. One of the three, Capt. Grzegorz Piotrowski, reportedly said they were motivated by what they viewed as the government's lenient treatment of Solidarity supporters.

Shortly after, another officer was arrested, and Gen. Zenon Platek of the Interior Ministry was suspended for "lack of supervision" in the affair. The government has hinted that other officials may be implicated as well.

Jaruzelski has sought to present the murder as an effort by factional opponents within the governing Polish United Workers Party (PUWP) to discredit his government and policies.

There is a wing of the PUWP leadership that has been critical of Jaruzelski's approach of sweetening the antiworker repression with some modest concessions. It

opposed the amnesty proclaimed in July, under which all but several dozen Solidarity activists were released from prison. In general, it has counseled greater reliance on force.

But it is the policies of the PUWP leadership as a whole that have set the stage for terrorist attacks like the one against Popieluszko. As a privileged bureaucratic caste that feeds off the Polish workers state, it opposes any efforts by working people or their supporters to fight for their rights or decide on the country's affairs. And it is prepared to use any methods — even the most brutal — to maintain its control. That is why Jaruzelski proclaimed martial law in December 1981, sent the cops against striking workers, and outlawed the 10-million-member union.

This overall policy of repression, officially sanctioned by the top government and party leadership, has provided the framework in which "unofficial" police reprisals against Solidarity supporters take place. Popieluszko was not the first fatality. According to accounts in the under-

ground Solidarity press, as many as 50 people have been killed since December 1981 in police beatings or under suspicious circumstances pointing to police involvement. The government's refusal to punish those responsible has further encouraged such attacks.

The murder of Popieluszko — the most prominent victim thus far — has spurred democratic rights activists to propose the creation of public committees to investigate cases of police brutality.

Government spokesperson Jerzy Urban reacted sharply to this, accusing Solidarity figures of seeking to "politically prey" on the priest's death and stating that the authorities would not allow such committees to arise.

While the bureaucracy may be forced to punish a few scapegoats in the killing, it is determined that the police not come under any form of public supervision. Repression is a central weapon in its arsenal of political control, and it wants no fetters on its ability to use it.

From Intercontinental Press

Governor loses in Puerto Rico's elections

BY ROBERT KOPEC

Carlos Romero Barceló, in his attempt to occupy the Puerto Rican governor's office for a third consecutive time, was defeated in the November 6 elections held in that U.S. colony. Romero, the candidate of the New Progressive Party (PNP), got almost 45 percent of the more than 1.7 million votes cast. The winner was Rafael Hernández Colón from the Popular Democratic Party (PPD). He received 48 percent.

The other two candidates, Fernando Martín from the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP) and Hernán Padilla from the Puerto Rican Party of Renovation (PRP), obtained around 3 percent of the votes each. The PRP is a split-off from the PNP.

The PNP promotes the idea that Puerto Rico ought to become the 51st state of the United States. The party gave this question an important place in its election campaign.

The PPD defends the current "autonomy" of the Free Associated State of Puerto Rico, a set-up created by Washington and PPD leaders in the 1940s and 1950s in order to block real independence for the island.

Both Romero and Hernández Colón resolutely support the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean. Puerto Rico plays an essential role in this war as the most important U.S. military base in the region.

The PNP was hurt in these elections by numerous cop and government corruption scandals in which Romero's administration was involved.

Also aiding its defeat was the scandal of Cerro Maravilla. 1978 Puerto Rican police agents killed two young independence activists in cold blood after an undercover cop entrapped them at Cerro Maravilla.

The PPD, taking advantage of its control of the Puerto Rican legislature and faced with a public outcry for justice in this case, organized a Senate investigation of the incident. The investigation hasn't been completed, but it has already revealed a police conspiracy to kill the activists. There are indications that the Puerto Rican governor's office and the U.S. government are complicit in the crime.

Meanwhile, the dissatisfaction of a broad sector of the Puerto Rican people with the colonialist parties was reflected in the vote obtained by the legislative candidates of the PIP. Rubén Berrios, the PIP president and candidate for the Senate, got more than 210,000 votes. David Noriega, PIP candidate for the House of Representatives, obtained 160,000 votes, assuring the PIP two seats in the legislature for the first time in several years. The vote for Berrios exceeds the total vote ever received by any single legislator in Puerto Rico's history.

During the election campaign, the PIP denounced the militarization of Puerto Rico by the United States and Washing-

ton's intervention in Central America.

The Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), which also favors independence for Puerto Rico, didn't field candidates in this election.

"The Puerto Rican Socialist Party, in this election as we did in the last one, points to Romero and the PNP as the main enemy," wrote PSP General Secretary Carlos Gallisá in the October 12-18 issue of *Claridad*, a weekly published in Puerto Rico which reflects the views of the PSP.

Gallisá concluded his article by stating that "we socialists will abstain from voting." As for the voter who is still trying to decide between the PNP and the PPD, Gallisá said, "the socialists tell him to vote for the PPD in order to defeat the main enemy."

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Why U.S. doesn't like Cuba

While U.S. government officials were threatening to bomb Nicaragua if they bought MIG-21 jet fighters from the Soviet Union, U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger was asked on a television interview program if the United States, referring to Nicaragua, could tolerate a "second Cuba."

"It is apparent that Cuba is a big problem and a second Cuba would be twice that kind of problem," responded Weinberger.

The "big problem" with Cuba, as far as capitalist government officials like Weinberger are concerned, is the fact that for 25 years Cuba has successfully defended its right to determine its own internal and foreign policy without being dictated to by Washington. It is the Cuban workers and farmers — not U.S. bankers, employers, generals, and government officials — who decide what kind of economy and what kind of international relations Cuba has.

From the beginning of their revolution in 1959, the Cuban people have faced U.S.-inspired and -led economic and military aggression, like the 1969 Bay of Pigs invasion. They have beat back every such attack.

In order to do this, the workers and farmers of Cuba have put a lot of their precious human and material resources into defense preparations against these repeated threats from Washington — and they have been very successful.

Cuba has a powerful army, and 1.2 million workers and farmers are organized into Territorial Troop Militias.



Cuba's Territorial Troop Militia

Prensa Latina

As of 1981, Cuba had 200 combat aircraft in its air force, its navy had 130 ships, and its army included more than 600 tanks.

Cuba is the second strongest military power in the Western Hemisphere. That is why Washington has not been able to overthrow the Cuban revolution.

Washington has decided that it will do its utmost to make sure that Nicaragua never reaches that same level of military power.

Why?

Not because tiny Nicaragua poses any kind of military threat to the United States. But because Washington is trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government and re-establish U.S. domination of that independent nation.

In 1979, the Nicaraguan workers and farmers carried out a successful revolution. Like Cuba 20 years before, this revolution made Nicaragua a truly sovereign nation for the first time. No longer could Washington run Nicaragua for the greater profit of U.S. capitalists. "Nicaragua finally exists" is how the Sandinistas put it.

The U.S. imperialists, with the racist arrogance that makes them so hated by oppressed peoples throughout the world, declare that Nicaragua does *not* have the right to decide its own foreign policy, what kind of economy it wants, and who its friends are.

So, Washington arms and finances an army of thousands of counterrevolutionaries to wage war against Nicaragua on both its northern and southern borders. Washington is building up a massive military machine in neighboring Honduras. And U.S. personnel carry out spy flights over Nicaragua's air space.

Having militarily surrounded Nicaragua, Washington then proclaims that it will not allow Nicaragua to get the kind of weapons it needs to defend itself against this escalating aggression.

It's like having the town bully aim a gun at your head and tell you that you can only use a knife to defend yourself.

But Nicaraguan government leaders have rejected this outrageous violation of the country's independence. They say they have the right to acquire any weapons they want — jet fighters and anything else — to defend their country from outside aggression.

The U.S. war against Nicaragua has already resulted in the deaths of more than 7,000 Nicaraguans and serious destruction of the country.

Washington wants to prevent Nicaragua from acquiring more arms so that there will be more deaths, more destruction, and — Washington hopes — an end to the revolution.

But the Nicaraguan peoples are mobilizing their forces to defend their new-found freedom. And U.S. working people should be in the forefront of those voices that defend Nicaragua's right to self-determination.

U.S. hands off Nicaragua!

V.I. Lenin on national question and democracy

In 1915 a debate took place among Russian Bolsheviks over the party's stand in favor of the right of oppressed nations to self-determination. Yuri Pyatakov, Yevgeniya Bosh, and Nikolai Bukharin submitted a resolution to the Bolshevik Central Committee arguing that "the slogan 'self-determination of nations' is first of all *utopian*, as it cannot be realized *within the limits* of capitalism. It is also *harmful*, as it is a slogan that *sows illusions*."

Using the pen name "P. Kievsky," Pyatakov subsequently wrote an article along these same political lines. Bolshevik leader V.I. Lenin polemicized against

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Pyatakov's position in a 1916 article titled "Reply to P. Kievsky." Both articles were circulated among Bolsheviks in exile.

By dismissing the democratic demand for national self-determination, Lenin wrote, Pyatakov was showing contempt for all democratic demands, a dangerous error for a revolutionary socialist. The fight for democracy, including the liberation struggles of oppressed nations, will be a central aspect of popular uprisings against capitalist rule, said Lenin. Following the successful seizure of power by working people, the *expansion* of democracy — including the freeing of subjugated peoples — will be key to the working class' ability to lead the transition to socialism. (For more on this debate on the national question, see the article on page 7 of this issue.)

The following are excerpts from Lenin's article, taken from *Lenin's Struggle for a Revolutionary International*, a 604-Page book available for \$10.95 from Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please enclose \$.75 for postage and handling.

* * *

Capitalism in general, and imperialism in particular, turn democracy into an illusion — though at the same time capitalism engenders democratic aspirations in the masses, creates democratic institutions, aggravates the antagonism between imperialism's denial of democracy and the mass striving for democracy. Capitalism and imperialism can be overthrown only by economic revolution. They cannot be overthrown by democratic transformations, even the most "ideal".

But a proletariat not schooled in the struggle for democracy is incapable of performing an economic revolution. Capitalism cannot be vanquished without *taking over the banks*, without repealing *private ownership* of the means of production. These revolutionary measures, however, cannot be implemented without organizing the entire people for democratic administration of the means of production captured from the bourgeoisie, without enlisting the entire mass of the working people, the proletarians, semi-proletarians and small peasants, for the democratic organization of their ranks, their forces, their participation in state affairs. . . . [T]he awakening and growth of socialist revolt against imperialism are *indissolubly* linked with the growth of democratic resistance and unrest. Socialism leads to the withering away of *every* state, consequently also of every democracy, but socialism can be implemented only *through* the dictatorship of the proletariat, which combines violence against the bourgeoisie, i.e., the minority of the population, with *full* development of democracy, i.e., the genuinely equal and genuinely universal participation of the *entire* mass of the population in *all* state affairs and in all the complex problems of abolishing capitalism.

The Marxist solution of the problem of democracy is for the proletariat to *utilize* all democratic institutions and aspirations in its class struggle against the bourgeoisie in order to prepare for its overthrow and assure its own victory. Marxism teaches us that to "fight opportunism" by renouncing utilization of the democratic institutions created and distorted by the bourgeoisie of the *given*, capitalist, society is to *completely surrender* to opportunism!

We tell the masses now (and they instinctively feel that we are right): "They are deceiving you in making you fight for imperialist capitalism in a war disguised by the great slogans of democracy. You must, you shall wage a *genuinely* democratic war *against* the bourgeoisie for the achievement of genuine democracy and socialism." The present war unites and "merges" nations into coalitions by means of violence and financial dependence. In our civil war against the bourgeoisie, *we* shall unite and merge the nations *not* by the force of the ruble, *not* by the force of the truncheon, not by violence, but by *voluntary* agreement and solidarity of the working people against the exploiters. For the bourgeoisie the proclamation of equal rights for all nations has become a deception. For us it will be the truth that will facilitate and accelerate the winning over of all nations. Without effectively organized *democratic* relations between nations — and, consequently, without freedom of secession — civil war of the workers and working people generally of all nations against the bourgeoisie is *impossible*.

Pay equity isn't 'looney tunes'

"This is probably the looniest idea since Looney Tunes came on the screen."

"This" was a reference to the demand of women workers for pay equity.

The speaker was Clarence M. Pendleton, Jr., the head of the so-called U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Linda Chavez, staff director of the commission, joined Pendleton at a November 16 news conference in Washington, D.C., to also condemn the fight for higher wages for women in predominantly female jobs.

Pendleton and Chavez counterposed fighting for affirmative action to the fight for pay equity, or comparable worth, as it's called.

Chavez claimed that pay equity goes "against the grain of what the women's movement has stood for the last 20 years," referring to the fight to get jobs in industries that employ only men.

"If a truck driver makes more than a secretary, she should be able to apply for a job as a truck driver," Pendleton chimed in.

Pendleton and Chavez forget to add, however, that they both oppose affirmative action quotas, which are key to forcing employers to hire, train, and upgrade significant numbers of women and Blacks.

But the fight for pay equity and the fight for affirmative action are not counterposed. They are both part of the fight for equality for women workers.

The relatively small number of women who broke the barriers of formerly all-male jobs in the coal mines, steel mills, rail yards, and oil refineries took a giant step forward for all women. The defense and extension of such affirmative action gains is crucial for women, for Blacks, and for the entire labor movement. Every step toward equality helps undermine the race and sex divisions that must be overcome by the labor movement.

The overwhelming majority of women workers, meanwhile, are still segregated into low-paying, traditionally female jobs. Most employed women are clerical workers,

*and nurses, and in service jobs and the lowest-paid factory jobs.

In industries where the majority of the work force is women — like garment shops — or in departments and categories of jobs traditionally held by women, wages are kept low because of deeply-rooted patterns of sex discrimination. Bosses rely on and promote sexist prejudices that place little value on "women's work" in order to make the low pay more acceptable. The employers use the low pay of women in turn to keep down the wages of all workers.

The struggle of women workers to raise their wages to a par with men threatens the billions of dollars of extra profits the bosses squeeze out of women workers.

That's why management at Yale University is taking such a hard line against the demand by striking women workers there to "Pay us what we're worth!"

And that's why the bosses' mouthpieces on the Civil Rights Commission are heaping ridicule on women workers who are fighting for comparable worth. "I think you just cannot begin to do things to the marketplace that has served this country so well," Pendleton said.

But the marketplace has not served women well. Of the almost 10 million families headed by women, one-third live at or below the poverty level. For families headed by Black women, it is over 50 percent!

Pendleton explained that if the government were to adopt a policy of paying women wages comparable to those of male workers, it would have to come up with more money, and that, he said, "doesn't come from the tooth fairy."

Women workers, like those at Yale, are showing that they are ready to stand up and fight for the higher wages and dignity they deserve. Those unions that are waging a fight for pay equity are striking a blow at the employers, and against inequality and discrimination.

For working people and women, this is far from a "looney" idea.

—YSA CAMPAIGNS FOR SOCIALISM—

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

In a speaking tour I did in Denmark in October, I had a lot of discussions about the U.S. presidential elections.

The tour was sponsored by the Socialist Youth Alliance, a youth organization affiliated to the Fourth International. The Fourth International is an international revolutionary socialist organization.

A number of the people who participated in my meetings were political activists from peace organizations and Nicaragua solidarity groups. Participants included students and trade unionists.

Their questions and opinions about the U.S. elections were affected by the coverage of U.S. politics in Denmark's capitalist press. Many were unaware that the Socialist Workers Party was running candidates for president and vice-president.

A common opinion was that there is a fundamental difference between the Democratic and Republican parties. The Democrats, many believed, had a more "progressive" program than the Republicans. The Democratic Party was more a party for working people, Blacks, and women, they thought. The Republican Party, on the other hand, was a party for rich

people and had reactionary politics.

I explained that both parties were capitalist parties. That is, they were owned and controlled by the tiny handful of super-wealthy families that run the United States. Both parties jointly run the government in the interests of this ruling class. This means they are fundamentally hostile to the needs and interests of the working class and oppressed layers of the U.S. population. That's why it wouldn't matter whether Walter Mondale or Ronald Reagan was elected.

The Democratic Party, however, does have a different image than the Republican Party, an image that has existed ever since President Franklin Roosevelt inaugurated the New Deal in the 1930s.

During his administration, the trade union movement waged mass struggles which resulted in important gains for the working class, like Social Security. But Roosevelt — and the Democratic Party — took credit for those victories, which were actually wrested from them through struggle.

Since then, the exploiting class has utilized the Democratic Party to derail social movements of the

oppressed and exploited.

Since World War II, U.S. foreign policy has been bipartisan. Now, because of the capitalist economic crisis, the domestic policy of both the Democratic and Republican parties has become substantially the same — austerity and attacks on democratic rights.

Another discussion I got into a lot was about the Democratic Party campaign of Jesse Jackson.

"Don't you think Jackson's campaign was good?" people asked. At least he raised issues that really affect working people and Blacks, many thought.

I explained that Jackson was a capitalist politician, fundamentally the same as Mondale and Reagan. He claimed that the problems of Blacks and other working people could be solved within the capitalist system. His campaign did nothing to advance the political thinking of Blacks and other working people. Rather, it helped to reinforce illusions that who is elected is what decides important social, political, and economic questions.

The fact that Jackson was the first Black to run a serious presidential campaign in one of the two parties of U.S. imperialism was a distorted reflection of the impact of the Black struggle. But his cam-

paign served to set back that struggle.

The socialist presidential campaign of Mel Mason and Andrea González argued that the elections don't decide anything, but rather it is the struggle between the capitalist class on the one side and the workers and their allies on the other that decides the basic course of events.

The Socialist Workers Party candidates pointed to the concrete battles of workers defending their unions, Blacks, Latinos, women, and working farmers fighting for their rights, and protests against the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean as examples of important political actions.

When I had explained what the socialist campaign stood for, and what kind of political ideas we were raising in the elections, many asked what kind of response we were getting. They wanted to know if we were restricted by the state in any way. Some stated they thought it must be hard to be a socialist in the United States.

I talked about the tours of our candidates around the country, speaking in mining towns, and in the cities around the steel mills and auto factories. The candidates talked with workers, Blacks, Latinos, women, and family farm-

ers.

I explained that we had gotten a serious hearing from thousands of working people, especially young workers, to our ideas. There are workers who are searching for solutions to problems they see and are open to discussing the far-reaching ideas raised by the socialist campaign.

As for restrictions, I explained that it was very hard to get coverage in the capitalist media, although not impossible.

A big obstacle we faced was in trying to get our candidates on the election ballot in different YSA

The Young Socialist Alliance played a central role in publicizing the socialist campaign. In the course of doing that, I told my Danish audiences, we won some of the best young fighters in the United States to socialism and to the YSA.

Judy Stranahan is a National Committee member of the Young Socialist Alliance.

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

—LETTERS—

Marion prison

Despite intense harassment of lawyers seeking to assist prisoners confined at the United States prison at Marion, Illinois, a class action complaint has been filed in federal court in an effort to restrain guards from continuing their abuse of prisoners at that institution. The suit was filed by attorneys Nancy Horgan, Donna Kolb, and James Roberts on behalf of a number of Marion prisoners, including two Washington State involuntary transfer victims.

Marion was designed to replace Alcatraz as the government's super-security prison. Marion also serves as a rent-a-prison for the states, which send their troublesome and politically conscious prisoners there.

All prisoners are held under "control unit" conditions which include a maximum of one hour per day out-of-cell time. Whenever a prisoner leaves his cell for anything other than exercise or a shower, it is now required that he be handcuffed, waist shackled, and wearing leg irons, and escorted by at least two club-wielding guards.

Contact visits have been eliminated, and non-contact visits are limited to four or five hours a month. The prisoner and his visitor are separated by a plexiglass wall and must talk over a telephone. The conversation is monitored by a guard sitting within 10 feet of the visitor and is tape-recorded.

While the above mentioned practices of Marion's administrators are clearly illegal, the real crime has to do with the wanton and unnecessary infliction of various forms of violence against prisoners. It is these crimes against prisoners to which the suit is primarily addressed.

In August, 1984, the attorneys for the Marion prisoners filed a motion for an injunction to restrain the prison administration "from beating, torturing, and abusing" prisoners, and from the "unwarranted use of strip searches and illegal rectal searches as a means of humiliating and terrorizing" prisoners.

For readers who are prisoners, who already understand that Americanism equals terrorism against the poor, it is urged that

steps be taken to establish a national prisoners' newsletter — steps aimed at eventually building a prisoner fightback organization, one that can link up with other oppressed segments of capitalist society for the purpose of implementing a radical transformation of existing class relations.

At present Marion is the front line of the prisoner aspect of that struggle. All support to the Marion Brothers!

A prisoner
Monroe, Washington

Marion prison II

For the 350 prisoners at Marion, life has changed little in the last year. They get 7 to 11 hours per week outside the 6 X 9 foot cages in which they live — two hours at most outdoors per week, one hour a day on the tier outside the cells, and up to two hours a week in an indoor gym.

For an average of 22.5 to 23 hours per day, general population prisoners sit in their cells. They eat from trays pushed through a slot in the door and placed on the floor or on the toilet.

Meanwhile, Leonard Peltier, Albert Garza, and Standing Deer, three prisoners who began a religious fast in April to protest the denial of religion at Marion, are still being held at Springfield Medical Center. Three other prisoners: Geovani Montey de la Cruz, José Santiago, and Tomás Santos, who speak no English, began fasting this summer to protest conditions at Marion. They are being forced twice a day, and are now held at Springfield and Atlanta. Because of the language barrier, they are virtually isolated from the outside world.

The administration's policy of control through force, isolation, and degradation continues, with beatings now confined mostly to the segregation unit, the control unit, and the reception unit, as an initiation for new prisoners.

Prisoners who are too loud are still chained down — some for up to 30 hours or more. Rectal searches are now established policy for any prisoner who is placed in the control unit or who returns to it after any movement outside the prison — like a trip to the hospital or to court.

Two prisoners pleaded guilty to criminal charges rather than endure a series of these rapes, administered by "medics" while five to 15 guards hold the prisoner down, to an accompaniment of intense verbal harassment — explicitly sexual — and sometimes a beating. Strip searches are still used throughout the prison as an opportunity to harass and humiliate the prisoners.

The prison administration's response to criticism has been to assert that Marion prisoners are all crazed, violent predators who have to be treated this way.

But a little examination reveals that Marion's primary purpose is not to contain violent prisoners, but to "break" prisoners viewed as "management problems," leaders, and litigators.

We do not have the money to keep the pressure on, to push this case as it ought to be pushed.

The financial cost is high, but not so high as the personal and emotional cost to prisoners of the denial of religion, of contact with their families, and of humanity. Prisoners have given generously of what little they have, and so have many free people.

If you can give more, please send a check or money order, made out to Capp Street Foundation, to Marion Prisoners Special Litigation Fund, P.O. Box 678, Carbondale, IL 62903. It is tax deductible. As attorneys for the plaintiffs in *Bruscino v. Carlson* we appreciate your support.

Nancy Horgan
Donna H. Kolb
James B. Roberts

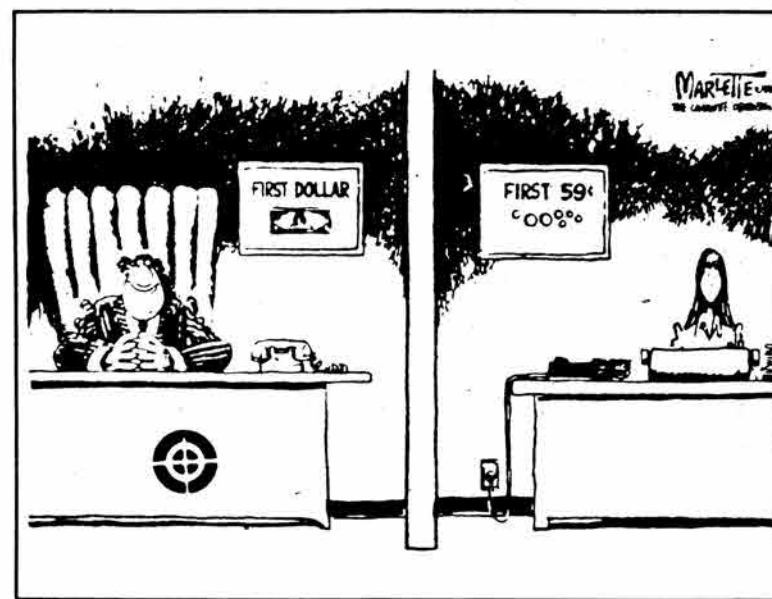
Jackson County jail

I am a prisoner at the Jackson County Jail.

The news media — the *Kansas City Star* and *Channel Four News* — were very impressed with our brand new Jackson County Jail and especially with our courageous director, Charles Megerman, chief jailer.

As a publicity stunt to raise funds for United Way, he spent the night in a jail cell. (That's where most inmates believe he belongs.)

Dressed in inmates clothing with a box in his hands, he directed the parade of news men and women and cameras to the cell



where he was going to stay.

We, the confined, were threatened beforehand with solitary confinement and loss of privileges if we even acted like we wanted to cry out our oppression to the news media.

A month ago we were punished for calling the news media to report a hunger strike over the food problems here.

Within the walls of this brand new modern facility the same old mockery of injustice exists. Prisoners are beaten, placed in solitary confinement for food strikes, mail is stolen, no staff doctors or nurses treat emergency ailments.

A prisoner
Kansas City, Missouri

Lenin on insurrection

In your editorial entitled "U.S. Out of Grenada Now" in the November 2, 1984, *Militant*, you state, "Grenada's workers and farmers took power in 1979 not through elections, but through a popular insurrection, which [Maurice] Bishop led. This lesson is true not only for Grenada but...here in the United States."

In the pamphlet entitled *Letters on Tactics*, Lenin noted that on April 22, 1917, (just five months before the November Russian revolution) the left trend demanded the immediate overthrow of the government.

Lenin wrote, however, that the slogan, "Down with the Provisional Government" was incorrect, since if we did not have the majority of people behind us the

slogan would be either an empty phrase or adventurism. Your editorial writer might ponder this.

A reader
New York, New York

Honduras maneuvers

If you think the Pentagon is not seriously preparing for the eventual direct involvement of U.S. troops in Central America, consider the following.

One little known, but chilling, aspect of the current military exercises taking place in Honduras is a training exercise for a medical clearing company sent from Ft. Stewart, Ga., to the U.S.-built and -operated hospital at the Palmerola air base in Honduras.

The medical clearing company would be responsible for conducting triage on the wounded in the event of large numbers of U.S. casualties. Triage is sorting out the wounded so that those in immediate danger of death get emergency treatment first.

Their exercise, from November 7 to November 20, enabled them to get familiar with conditions at Palmerola and to get any kinks out of their operation before the real casualties begin pouring in.

G.K. Newey
Hoboken, N.J.

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.

Massive crackdown in Chile



Chilean cop arrests young demonstrator in Santiago, Chile, earlier this year.

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

In a massive crackdown on opposition to his brutal dictatorship, Gen. Augusto Pinochet, head of Chile's military regime, ordered troops to sweep through working-class neighborhoods on November 15. Thousands were arrested and hundreds were thrown in jail. The mass arrests are part of a state of siege that Pinochet imposed on November 6.

Under the state of siege, Pinochet's

U.S.-backed regime imposed broad media censorship, closed six opposition publications, raided the offices of opposition political parties, and banned public meetings and demonstrations.

Pinochet came to power in September 1973 in a bloody U.S.-directed and financed coup that overthrew the government of Pres. Salvador Allende. Pinochet's troops murdered Allende and thousands of other political activists and unionists.

Thousands more were jailed, or forced into exile.

Opposition to Pinochet's rule was drowned in blood by this brutal repression. For nearly a decade there was relative quiescence in the struggle against the regime by Chilean workers and peasants. That situation has changed dramatically in the last year.

Fueling the renewed protests has been the worsening living conditions of Chilean working people. The U.S. imperialists imposed the Pinochet regime in order to ensure the superprofits they were squeezing out of workers and peasants there. Under Pinochet, unemployment has risen to at least 30 percent. Among youth in the poorer neighborhoods that figure approaches 65 percent. Skyrocketing prices, which in October alone rose 8 percent, have eaten away the buying power of the wages earned by those lucky enough to have a job.

Meanwhile, Pinochet devalued the Chilean peso 23 percent in September and imposed import duties. As a result, food prices have risen 55 percent. The price of fuel and other vital consumer goods has also been hiked.

Driven by these conditions, Chilean working people have increased their actions against the Pinochet dictatorship. Since the beginning of 1983, Chile has been rocked by a wave of protests. Strikes by the copper miners — who work in Chile's most important industry — truck drivers, and others have swept the country. Regular protest marches have taken place, and the clamor of pot-banging has swelled in the streets.

The state of siege was imposed in response to a new wave of such anti-Pinochet demonstrations. An ad hoc coalition of opposition groups, called the National Committee for Protest, set mass rallies for September 4. The committee also urged workers to stay home on the following day.

A massive mobilization of cops and troops broke up most September 4 protests. Nevertheless, Chilean shopkeepers shut their doors over the two-day period. Bus and truck drivers stayed off the streets, and

youth in the poor and working-class neighborhoods built barricades to try to keep out the armed forces. Widespread street fighting occurred in Santiago, the capital, and other cities.

The following weeks were marked by continued strike activity, street protests, and skirmishes with cops and troops. Pinochet's troops killed at least 15 people and arrested hundreds, many of whom were sent into internal exile in remote areas of the country.

On November 10, Chilean troops swept through the Raúl Silva Henríquez shantytown south of Santiago. They herded more than 3,000 teenaged and adult males into buses and took them to a nearby military base. At least 363 remain jailed as "delinquents" or "subversives." Some 150 other people were jailed in separate operations by Pinochet's secret police.

On November 15, Pinochet's troops fell on the La Victoria shantytown. This poor neighborhood in Santiago has been a center of opposition to the U.S.-backed dictatorship. Thousands of Chilean troops carried out the house-to-house search of this district of 32,000 people. All males between the ages of 16 and 60 — numbering some 5,000 — were dragged away, thrown onto waiting buses, and carted off to a nearby stadium.

"They had us standing for hours on the field while the soldiers looked down from the bleachers, pointing their machine guns," one youth told the Associated Press.

Francisco Cuadra, a government spokesman, said 227 people from La Victoria had been jailed. Pinochet and his imperialist backers hope this repression will quash the resurgence of opposition to military rule. But the underlying oppression and exploitation that results from imperialist domination ensures that Chilean working people will continue to fight — especially the youth.

"The younger people have more sympathy for the more radical parties," said Enrique Palet, a Catholic church official in Chile, "because of the desperation, the anguish, the lack of any possibilities in their lives."

Utah miners push back company attack on pensions

BY CECELIA MORIARTY

PRICE, Utah — The United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) has pushed back attempts by the owners of the Emery Mining Corp. to stop payments into the union pension fund and dictate to the union what contract its members will work under at the Deer Creek, Wilberg, and Des-Bee-Dove mines.

After a four-week strike, members of UMWA locals 1769, 2176, and 1859 returned to work November 5 with a new contract.

The strike began when Emery Mining, the mine management company of Utah Power and Light Co. (UP&L), refused to sign the new national wage agreement negotiated between the UMWA and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA) in September. The 635 miners at the UP&L mines had ratified the national agreement, which included a 10.25 percent wage increase and minor improvements in pension and widow benefits and sickness and accident pay.

Under the national contract, the companies also agreed to increase royalties paid per ton of coal mined for pension benefits. The union won advances in miners' individual safety rights and the right to more frequent company-paid inspection done by union safety committees.

The new contract won by the UMWA locals at Emery Mining is similar to this national contract, with some additional benefits and a change in the terms of the

companies' royalty payments into the UMWA 1950 pension fund.

Emery miners will receive a back-to-work bonus of \$250. The company agreed to pay miners' health insurance premiums for the month of the strike. The company also agreed to provide the unions with copies of all accident reports and allow the union to investigate serious mine fires. Miners laid off during the life of the new contract will receive a supplemental benefit of \$100 a week for half the year and will have recall rights at any new mines opened by the company.

Miners who get leave from the company are guaranteed the right to return to their previously held jobs. The company also agreed to drop charges it had filed with the National Labor Relations Board charging the union with unfair labor practices.

Miners will also be paid their new wage increase retroactive to the last week worked before the strike.

The change in the UMWA-Emery contract from the national UMWA contract is that Emery will pay royalties into the 1950 UMWA Health and Retirement Fund on a tonnage basis for the first half of the contract, but then on a man-hour basis for the second half. This means that for the second half of the contract Emery will be paying a lower rate than companies which signed the national contract. According to a union spokesperson, the change will not affect the benefits of miners who retired under the 1950 plan.

Almost all miners here were expecting a long strike following Emery Mining's threats earlier this year against the pension fund. The company said that if the union did not allow Emery Mining to terminate its obligation to pay the 1950 pension fund royalties, the company would demand probation for new hires, the two-tier wage scale, a mandatory seven-day workweek, elimination of seniority for job bids and re-

call rights during layoffs, and the right to call miners to work any time day or night.

Miners were generally surprised that the company signed a contract after only four weeks. Determined to stay out until they got a contract like the national agreement, many miners had expected to be on strike longer.

Union members were pleased that wives

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Chicago protest hits racist terror

BY JOHN VOTAVA

CHICAGO — On 24-hours notice, about 100 people picketed an apartment building here November 10 to protest racist attacks on Black residents.

Three days before, a gang of racist thugs had terrorized a Black family in the building for more than six hours, throwing bricks, bottles, and bricks, and waving guns. That attack was the second such incident. The first took place on November 5 and resulted in minor damage to the apartment.

The assaults took place within a block of the intersection of Roosevelt Road and Austin Avenue. This intersection is where the cities of Chicago and Cicero, and Oak Park, come together in a four-block-square white enclave known as "The Island."

The protest was initiated by an Oak Park resident who was enraged by the racist attack. She contacted the South Austin Coa-

lition Community Council (SACCC). In less than 24 hours a number of local residents and various community organizations worked with the SACCC to organize the picket. One of the most common chants there was "Hey, hey, ho, racism has got to go!"

During the protest a number of people began to gather on the Cicero side of Roosevelt Road. They formed a counter-picket that was later joined by some Nazis. At first they were quiet. But by the end of the protest they had begun shouting racist remarks and carrying their own placards.

The terror attack in the building began around 2 a.m. November 7. Spencer Goffer, his companion Patricia Franklin, and their eight-year-old son were awakened by the sound of crashing glass in their second-floor apartment. The son narrowly escaped injury by quickly jumping out of bed. A

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