

Protest cop bombing of Phila. Black community

BY RUTH ROBINETT
AND LYNN ALLEN

PHILADELPHIA — Parts of 11 bodies were unearthed Wednesday, May 15 from the rubble of a two-story row house in a West Philadelphia Black working-class community. The dead, including at least four children, were the victims of the May 13 murderous police bombing. The body search continues at the scene of this mass murder.

Described by witnesses as "just like Vietnam" hundreds of cops were deployed across a four-block area. The pretext for this murderous attack on the Black commu-

See editorial on Philadelphia police bombing on page 14.

nity was the eviction of members of MOVE, a Black countercultural organization, from their home on the 6200 block of Osage Avenue.

The siege began Sunday, May 12, when some 250 uniformed and countless plainclothes cops were deployed along with a massive arsenal. Over 150 fire fighters and equipment were also mobilized in the assault. Barricades were erected. At 10 a.m. Sunday police gave residents 12 hours to evacuate their homes. At 11 p.m. the cops went house to house threatening anyone who refused to leave. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* quoted Devor Arnold, 62, as saying he left his home willingly but the family next door did not want to leave. Arnold says the police began pounding on the door with a crowbar and threatening to



Cop bombing set fire that destroyed 61 homes in W. Philadelphia Black community

break it down if people refused to evacuate. Cops threatened others with arrest if they did not leave.

At 3:30 a.m., Monday, May 13, the Bomb Disposal Unit moved into the blockaded area. Other cops erected a wall of sandbags behind the MOVE house. Five fire trucks and unmarked tractors also moved into the area.

At 3:40 a.m. the Philadelphia Electric

Co. cut off power to the 6200 block of Osage. At 5:35 a.m. Police Commissioner Gregore Sambor gave MOVE 16 minutes to surrender. MOVE refused, demanding the release of their members in prison.

At 5:50 a.m. fire-fighters began to spray the house with 64,000 gallons of water. At 5:53 the shooting began. Cops fired 7,000 to 10,000 rounds of ammunition.

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Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition offers face-lift for bosses' system

BY FRED FELDMAN

Since the presidential election last November, Jesse Jackson, who was an unsuccessful contender for the Democratic Party nomination, has been trying to drum up support for his Rainbow Coalition. He is paying special attention to cultivating his image in various protest movements.

In Glenwood, Minnesota, April 1 he spoke to thousands of farmers and their supporters who were protesting the impending sale of a foreclosed farm.

Then he moved on to Plattsburg, Missouri, where he joined another farmers' protest April 8.

In Washington, D.C., April 20 he spoke to tens of thousands of antiwar, anti-apartheid protesters.

On May 5 he spoke to 1,300 people at a New York City celebration of the 10th anniversary of Vietnam's victory over U.S. intervention.

He then went to Europe, addressing a peace rally in West Berlin, anti-apartheid protests, and a session of the European parliament in Strasbourg, France.

He carried a single message. "Today I see a Rainbow Coalition," he told the April 20 rally, "a coming together of ideas, interests, backgrounds, anxiety, and agony."

"Today we see present before us the Rainbow Coalition," he told the participants in the Vietnam celebration.

What is this Rainbow Coalition, which Jackson proclaims all opponents of U.S. government policies to be a part of?

Jackson's 45-minute address to the New York Vietnam celebration gives a clear answer. His political message there was the same one he brought to the April 20 dem-

onstration and the farmers' protests.

His words reveal the Rainbow Coalition to be a wing of the Democratic Party that seeks to advance the interests of U.S. imperialism through liberal policies.

Many on the left view Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition as a radical departure from capitalist politics as usual. In its reporting on the April 20 rally in Washington, the Communist Party's *Daily World* praised his opposition to what it called "the efforts of right-wing elements of the Democratic Party to take it over and remake it in the image of the Republican Party."

A May 8 article in the social-democratic weekly *In These Times* stated that Jackson's "analyses are head and shoulders above the usual pabulum mouthed by so-called responsible politicians."

The prevalence of this illusion reflects the rightward shift in the spectrum of capitalist politics. Today mainstream Democratic Party liberals take the lead in calling for a trade embargo against Nicaragua, push for stepped up military intervention in Indochina, and initiate a freeze on social security. Liberals like Jackson and the Congressional Black Caucus appear more progressive to some because they still advocate the same liberal pabulum that was the stock in trade of such "responsible politicians" as George McGovern, Hubert Humphrey, Robert Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, James Carter, and Lyndon Johnson.

Jackson's appearance at the New York Vietnam rally was greeted enthusiastically by most of those present.

Jackson, however, stated his disagreement with the purpose of the meeting,

which was to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Vietnam's victory over the U.S. war machine.

"We cannot look back with any sense of joy as if a victory has occurred," he said. "Let there be no sense of joy." He said he holds this view because of the death and destruction caused by the U.S. war.

But Jackson did hail the U.S. victory in World War II. Tens of millions died and a

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L.A. comparable worth victory

BY PAM BURCHETT

LOS ANGELES — In a victory for both women and the union movement, the Los Angeles City Council on May 10 approved by a vote of 12-1 an agreement that will bring the salaries of 3,900 women in lower-paying city jobs up to the pay level of men holding jobs considered to be of comparable worth.

The settlement negotiated with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) will adjust the salaries of secretaries and clerks — at least 70 percent of whom are women — to levels near those of certain male-dominated job classifications, like gardeners, garage attendants, drivers and maintenance personnel. Librarians' pay will more closely match that of administrative assistants.

Under the agreement, which will cost the city \$12 million per year in salary increases, women will get raises averaging

Nicaragua seeks new markets, economic aid

BY JOSÉ G. PÉREZ

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Víctor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaragua's vice-minister of foreign relations, has denounced attempts in the U.S. Congress to renew open funding to the CIA-run mercenaries, called *contras*, who are waging war against this country. He also condemned attempts by Congress to justify aiding the *contras* because of Nicaraguan president Daniel Ortega's visit to the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries.

Speaking at a breakfast with foreign correspondents here May 11, Tinoco explained that the objective of Ortega's trip is to seek emergency economic aid.

"Nicaragua is a Latin American and Third World country," he explained, "and is subject to the same problems of the international economic crisis as those countries."

"In addition, Nicaragua is also subject to the problems produced by the war of aggression" being waged by Washington. This war has caused losses of more than \$1 billion in four years.

Tinoco said that Nicaragua's export income this year will be about \$350 million, less than had been hoped, due to the economic disruption caused by the war. In addition, Nicaragua has a foreign debt of \$4.2 billion, of which \$1.3 billion is scheduled to be repaid this year. "We want to pay the debt," he stressed, "but we don't have the money."

On the recently announced U.S. trade embargo, Tinoco explained that no estimates could yet be made on the cost to Nicaragua of this latest aggression. "That will depend on the response of Western European and Latin American countries."

He said the revolutionary government was encouraged by the 13 to 1 vote in the United Nations Security Council condemning the embargo, even though the resolution was not adopted because the United States, which cast the sole no vote, has veto power.

He also noted that Washington had decided not to veto a part of the resolution calling on the U.S. government to renew the negotiations with Nicaragua in Manzanillo, Mexico. At the same time, he said, the U.S. government signaled that it has no intention of resuming the talks, by abstaining on that part of the resolution instead of voting for it.

He also pointed out that Washington had

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26 percent over a three-year period. The raises will mean that some women will earn \$250 per month more by 1987.

This landmark agreement is the result of a four-year battle that began in 1981, when the AFSCME union filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission charging that the city's wage structure discriminated against employees in certain female-dominated job categories. In July of that year the city council agreed to provide the union with access to records and statistics concerning the city work force, which resulted in the 1982 Comparable Awards Study. The study showed that female city employees on the average earned 51 percent of what male city employees earned overall, and that while women constituted 44 percent of the entire work force in Los Angeles, they were vastly underrepresented in the city work force, comprising only 20 percent of city work-

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BY DAVE MORROW

MILWAUKEE — Socialists in Milwaukee had an exciting week selling the May 10 issue of the *Militant* to American Motors Corp. (AMC) workers in Milwaukee and Kenosha, Wisconsin. These workers are members of the United Auto Workers union.

The May 10 issue had a back-page article on AMC's attempt to weasel out of repaying the UAW workers \$140 million owed them under the so-called Employees Investment Plan. EIP was actually a package of concessions rammed down workers' throats in 1982 with the false promise to begin paying back the money in 1985.

AMC is now threatening to close the huge Kenosha plant unless workers agree to forget about the thousands of dollars each that is owed to most of the workers.

Four *Militant* sales teams sold a total of 49 papers at AMC plants in Kenosha and Milwaukee. Sixteen papers were sold at the Milwaukee plant alone even though it employs only some 400 workers, most of them middle aged. Socialists haven't sold regularly at the Milwaukee plant in the past.

The *Militant* article aroused special interest because it was written by a worker at AMC's Jeep plant in Toledo, Ohio. Sales-

people also distributed leaflets for a Militant Labor Forum in Milwaukee to be given by Toby Emmerich, a Toledo Jeep worker who is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of that city. In addition a campaign statement by Emmerich denouncing AMC was also distributed.

The company's owners had made special efforts to pit Toledo and Kenosha workers against each other — with some success. But *Militant* sellers encountered almost no hostile remarks about Toledo workers. One worker who bought a paper remarked, "Now this is rabble rousing!"

Another summed up the senti-

ments of many workers, "It's about time somebody stood up for the workers instead of the company."

When one sales team ran short of campaign statements, clumps of workers clustered around one statement and read over each other's shoulders. Other workers came back and asked for extra leaflets to give to their friends.

As is often the case when we first begin selling at a factory, a number of workers at the Milwaukee plant made anticommunist remarks. But many of them took leaflets just the same and the predominant mood was friendly. One worker captured the indignation

with AMC felt by many when he said, "What is this anyway? We loaned them money and they refuse to pay it back. We should make like the mafia and put them underground!"

Some workers were also interested in the Nicaragua coverage in the *Militant*. One commented, "We need to send some people down there to help them fight Reagan's people."

Militant salespeople also had friendly discussions with three Milwaukee AMC workers whom they recognized from having been on the same bus to the April 20 anti-war march in Washington, D.C.

Florida growers, farm workers live worlds apart

BY HAROLD MANNING

BELLE GLADE, Fla. — Palm Beach and Belle Glade, located on the eastern and western edge of Palm Beach county, graphically show the extremes of wealth and poverty in this part of the country.

A *Militant* reporting team, made up of Haitian and U.S.-born workers from Miami, recently visited both these sites. We wanted to learn more about the lives of farm workers in Belle Glade and to find out what we could about one of the biggest capitalist farmers in Florida — the Fanjuls of Palm Beach.

Our team began its trip in Palm Beach, an exclusive coastal island developed for the pleasure of the very rich. Its commercial districts are lined with banks, investment houses, and plush shops. Its residential areas are made up of secluded mansions and stately ocean-front homes.

The Fanjuls live, according to the *Miami Herald*, "in several houses lining elegant Wells Road in the north end of town."

The Fanjuls made their money in sugar. First in Cuba, until the workers and farmers led by Fidel Castro and the July 26 Movement overthrew the Batista regime and took political power in 1959. With the establishment of the Cuban revolutionary government, the Fanjuls moved to Palm Beach.

E.T. Smith, the U.S. ambassador to Cuba under the Batista regime, described the Fanjuls' arrival in Palm Beach. "They were social leaders in Cuba. I gave them a party when they first got to town so they would meet people and ever since they've been very popular."

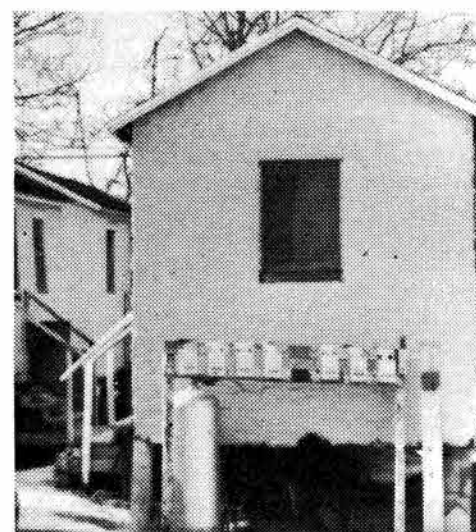
The Fanjuls soon reestablished themselves in the sugar industry, buying 50,000 acres of rich sugar lands south of Okeechobee. Until 1984, their plantation — Osceola Farms — was second in size only to the farms owned by U.S. Sugar Corp. and Gulf and Western.

In October 1984, the Fanjuls expanded their holdings, buying all of Gulf and Western's land in Florida and the Dominican Republic. This added 90,000 acres of cane fields to the Fanjuls' empire.

In the Dominican Republic, the Fanjuls



Palm Beach home of the Fanjuls (left), owners of massive Osceola Farms sugar plantation in Belle Glade, Florida. Farm workers' housing (right) is located 50 miles west of Fanjuls' mansion. Superprofits are made off backs of these workers, while owners live life of luxury.



Militant photos by Irene Kilanowski

took over 240,000 acres of canefields — one third of the country's total sugar lands — 65,000 head of cattle, three resort hotels, and major interests in cement, real estate, and horse raising. According to the *Miami Herald*, the Fanjuls now dominate the local economy in that country.

How could one family amass such wealth?

A trip 50 miles west from Palm Beach to Belle Glade gives the answer.

To get to Belle Glade, you drive through miles of flat cane land, the horizon broken only by the smokey shapes of the sugar mills.

Belle Glade is a small town, entirely surrounded by canefields. Most of the people there are farm workers — either permanent or seasonal. They work in the sugar fields or the mills, or in the citrus groves and vegetable fields that are farther away.

While most of the sugarcane is now harvested by machine, a lot of the work still has to be done by hand, including cutting cane in areas where the machines cannot be used.

The bulk of this back-breaking work is

done by thousands of Jamaican workers brought into the country by the growers. They are sent back to Jamaica when the harvest is over. The Jamaicans live in dormitories owned and operated by the growers. They are paid \$5.50 an hour if they cut their daily quota of cane. Haitian workers who worked in the canefields told us that the daily quota is impossibly high. The growers prefer hiring migrant workers who know no one in this country. They have even fewer rights than the Haitian or other workers living permanently in the area.

While in Belle Glade we spoke to Jean, a Haitian worker who, like many others, fled the repression and poverty imposed by the U.S.-backed dictator, Duvalier. Like most Haitians, Jean lives with an uncertain, temporary legal status — an immigrant classified as an entrant, but having no permanent right to remain here. Farm work is often the only hope for a job.

A *Miami Herald* survey found that of the 1,100 Haitians released from Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) detention by court order in 1983, most earn less than \$3 an hour. Many average as little as \$1 or \$2 an hour. Jean explained that while con-

ditions are bad in Belle Glade, they are worse for the tens of thousands of Haitians who go east to the Dominican Republic to cut cane in the fields now owned by the Fanjuls.

He told us that Haitians like himself must look for work either in the citrus groves, which are further away, or cut cane for some of the smaller growers, where wages are generally based on piece rates and conditions are much worse.

While the luckier workers are able to get public housing, other farm workers are crammed into a run-down hodge-podge of small houses and apartments in the southwest of town. Jean, for example, lives with his wife and infant child in a one-room house about 12 feet by 8 feet. There is no running water or bathroom. For this they pay \$215 a month.

The Belle Glade Housing Authority has land available on which it could build more housing, but it rents the land to sugar growers instead.

Although only 50 miles separates the Fanjuls from those who work for them, conditions of life are worlds apart.

SPECIAL OFFER TO MILITANT SUBSCRIBERS

Break the embargo on the truth!

The U.S. government is cracking down on trade and travel between the United States and Nicaragua. In the words of 14 Sandinista leaders themselves, find out the truth that Washington wants to hide from the U.S. people. This 412-page book, containing more than 40 speeches and documents from 1982-84, is an invaluable tool in the fight against the escalating U.S. war in Central America.

The *Militant* is offering this book to subscribers for a special price of \$6.00 (a \$1.95 discount). All you have to do is buy or renew a subscription for 6 months or 1 year to the *Militant*.

- ☐ 6 months/\$15 ☐ 1 year/\$24
- ☐ I am enclosing an additional \$6.00 for "Nicaragua: The Sandinista People's Revolution"
- ☐ Enclosed is \$3 for a 12-week introductory subscription (book offer not included).

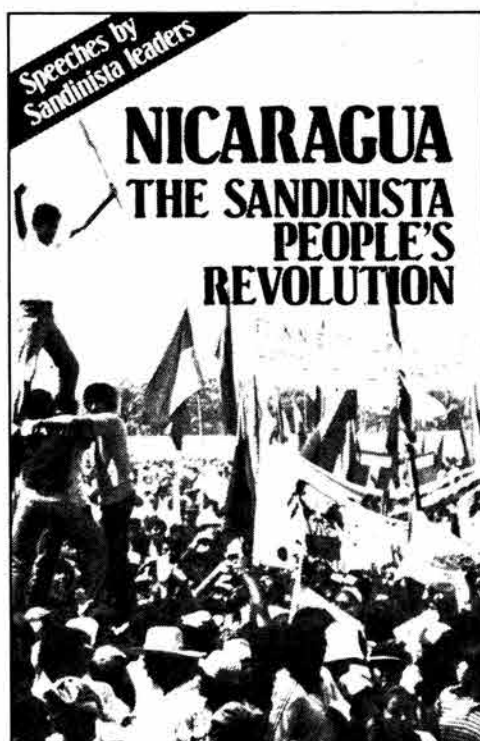
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San Jose rally set to protest rightist attack

BY LYNDA JOYCE

SAN JOSE, Calif. — A community meeting was held here May 8 to respond to the recent right-wing attacks on the socialist bookstore. During the last week of April and the first week of May, right-wing Vietnamese mobs gathered outside the bookstore. They attempted to disrupt the functioning of the bookstore and political meetings organized by the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, which have offices there.

On April 28 a crowd of 200 thugs put the bookstore under siege and the 17 people inside had to be evacuated in police cars.

A week later, May 4, the bookstore successfully reopened. This marked a big victory for supporters of democratic rights. The rightists had said the bookstore would be blockaded until the socialists "say publicly that they no longer support communists in Vietnam."

In response to these attacks, plans are under way for a June 14 rally for democratic rights. It will have as its focus the right to discuss United States foreign policy — whether it be in Southeast Asia, Central America, South Africa or anywhere else — free from violent attacks and intimidation.

Leading representatives from the Santa Clara County Council of Churches, Nihonmachi Outreach Committee, Committee in Solidarity With El Salvador, Rainbow Coalition, Asian Law Alliance, Socialist Workers Party, American Civil Liberties Union, Free South Africa Movement, National Lawyers Guild, Young Socialist Alliance, Labor Committee on El Salvador and Central America, All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and others attended the May 8 community meeting. Many of the participants are also members of trade unions, and the meeting was held at the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 265 hall.

The discussion at the meeting expressed the outrage participants felt about the attacks. Speakers took up the inadequate response on the part of the police, and especially their allowing one of the right-wingers to search the bookstore after the staff was evacuated April 28. The need to isolate the ultraright elements — who do not represent the views of the majority of Vietnamese — was expressed, as was the sig-

San Jose cops harass socialists, refuse to investigate rightists

BY KEVIN KELLOG

SAN JOSE, Calif. — San Jose mayor Tom McEmery has refused to meet with representatives of the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance and other concerned representatives of the community about right-wing attacks against the socialist bookstore. McEmery has not issued a public denunciation of the attacks. A petitioning campaign is under way to force action by the mayor and the police to conduct an investigation into this violence and to bring those responsible to justice.

Some members of the community groups and unions who are outraged by these attacks will accompany the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance to a meeting with San Jose police chief Joseph McNamara Friday, May 17. Mayor McEmery's aide Barbara Barego arranged this meeting and will represent the mayor's office.

Police chief McNamara has appeared recently on national TV news shows such as "Good Morning America" as a "model" police chief. McNamara presents the San Jose police force as one of the best in the country, with the least amount of citizens' complaints.

The Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance have a claim against San Jose police Sergeant Joe Stewart for escorting one of the right-wing thugs through the headquarters and bookstore after the staff was forced to evacuate April 28. Such claims are not of-

Continued on Page 5

nificance of these attacks as a threat to all progressive groups in the labor movement.

Other incidents of right-wing violence in San Jose were also reported at the meeting. Gertrude Welch of the Council of Churches explained that Vietnamese right-wingers tried to disrupt a meeting where U.S. congressman Don Edwards spoke about his visit to Vietnam. James McEntee, director of the Human Relations Commission for the city of San Jose, said that the San Jose *Mercury News*, which ran a series of articles on Vietnam over the past few weeks, was being overwhelmed by phone calls from right-wingers attacking these articles. McEntee offered to contact Vietnamese civic groups that are opposed to violence and intimidation and ask them to be a part of the response to the attacks on the bookstore and support the right of political expression.

Tom Tomasko of the Committee in Solidarity With El Salvador pointed to other

victims of attacks on democratic rights who might be included in the proposed June 14 rally. He listed representatives of the sanctuary movement, individuals and groups who have been harassed by the FBI for visiting and reporting about Nicaragua, draft resisters, and antiwar vets such as the ones in the Santa Cruz post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which had its charter revoked by the national VFW because of its public antiwar stance.

The meeting also supported the right of the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance to host a weekend educational conference on Vietnam and Kampuchea to be held May 18 at the bookstore. Many suggested that they would be willing to help with the political defense of this meeting so it could take place free from violent attacks and threats.

The next planning meeting is scheduled to confirm the speakers list and place for the June 14 rally.



Militant/Roberta Frick

Support for democratic rights is growing in response to attacks on socialist bookstore by right-wing Vietnamese. Above, Jody Calvert, San Jose NOW, at press conference protesting attacks.

With month to go in Socialist Fund, big job ahead is to collect pledges

BY PAT GROGAN

In the last two weeks, we've taken a giant step forward in our drive to raise \$75,000 for the Socialist Publication Fund by June 15.

As you can see from the chart below, we have now received pledges of more than \$90,000 — over the top on pledges with more to come! And we have collected some \$23,000.

This represents a real turnaround in the last two weeks in response to our appeal to step up the pace and organization of the drive. Of the total pledged, \$60,000 was pledged since May 1, and the amount we collected over two weeks was \$15,000.

This means that with a big effort in the month remaining, we can reach our goal of collecting the full amount on time.

Many of our supporters have pointed out that the April 20 antiwar actions were the turning point in the fund drive and were real consciousness raisers on the vital role of our socialist publications.

In addition to selling out of our new book of speeches by Sandinista leaders, more than \$7,500 worth of socialist books were sold, as well as 4,000 copies of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Elen Lauper, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Phoenix, explained, "All of us were really inspired by the April 20 actions — to be part of tens of thousands marching against the U.S. war in Central America and apartheid in South Africa. And we were inspired by the tremendous response to the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, the new Nicaragua book, and the rest. It underscored how important the Socialist Publication Fund is, so we can keep on getting the truth to people."

Lauper said Phoenix is planning a Socialist Publication Fund rally on May 18. It will feature the film, *Maurice*. The rally will draw attention to the role played by the publication of *Maurice Bishop Speaks* in helping to draw the lessons of the Grenada revolution, as well as the unequaled coverage of the Nicaraguan revolution made possible by the Socialist Publication Fund. At the rally, there will be a special offer, for that night only, of a three-month subscription to the *Militant* and *Nicaragua: The Sandinista People's Revolution*, for \$10.00 even.

Many areas are planning rallies, barbecues, or parties to give the fund a boost, to step up circulation of the socialist publications, and to organize educational programs.

Houston plans a barbecue and a short program that will spotlight three books: the new book of Sandinista speeches, *Maurice Bishop Speaks*, and *South Africa, White rule, Black revolt* by Ernest Harsch.

New York City is planning a June 8 benefit for the fund. One of the speakers will be Joachim Mark of the Grenada Foundation.

Activities like these are good opportunities, not only for members and supporters of the SWP and YSA, but for the many other fighters and activists who appreciate the role of the socialist publications and

want to help support them.

Contributions and pledges, large and small, have come in from members and supporters, subscribers to our publications, people who read the *Militant* on the job, come to forums and to the socialist bookstore, antiwar activists and anti-apartheid fighters in the unions and the campuses, supporters of women's rights, and others.

With just one month to go in the drive, we still have a big job ahead of us. The enthusiastic response in the last two weeks has put us over the top in pledges. But in many ways, the hard part is still ahead: collecting the pledges in full and on time.

In order to reach our goal, it means that about \$13,000 has to be collected each week for the next four weeks. That's not an easy job, but with organization and plan-

ning, and the kind of spirit shown in the last two weeks, it can be done.

Checks should be made out to: Socialist Publication Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, NY 10014

Enclosed is my contribution to the Socialist Publication Fund of \$ _____.

I pledge a contribution of \$ _____ to the Socialist Publication Fund to be paid by _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Organization/Union _____

Socialist Publication Fund Progress

City	Pledged	Paid
Albany, N.Y.	250	—
Atlanta	2,500	785
Baltimore	1,510	450
Birmingham, Ala	960	585
Boston	2000	—
Charleston, W.Va.	691	341
Chicago	2,770	385
Cincinnati	1,240	—
Cleveland	2,245	1,165
Dallas	2,490	1,032
Denver	2,020	1,635
Detroit	5,025	1,495
Greensboro, N.C.	656	—
Houston	5,050	1,150
Kansas City	4,255	2,200
Los Angeles	7,000	2,003
Louisville	705	200
Miami	1,365	215
Milwaukee	1,705	—
Morgantown, W.Va.	565	50
New Orleans	1,915	150
New York	5,045	805
Newark	5,155	1,371
Newport News, Va.	930	930
Oakland, Calif.	1500	—
Philadelphia	2,645	—
Phoenix	890	—
Pittsburgh	846	176
Portland	2,000	530
Price, Utah	200	—
Salt Lake City	995	370
San Diego	2,240	—
San Francisco	1,960	1,070
San Jose, Calif.	2,700	925
Seattle	3,915	935
St. Louis	3,850	1,275
St. Paul, Minn.	4,446	100
Toledo	1,580	270
Washington, D.C.	1,975	125
Other cities	623	623
Totals	90,412	23,346

Jackson's Rainbow: liberal proimperialism

Continued from front page

large part of the world was devastated in that war, yet Jackson praised "the ethical standards that ended the Third Reich in Germany."

Jackson sees a victory for "ethical standards" when U.S. imperialism triumphs, at great cost to the workers and farmers of the world, over German and Japanese imperialism. But he sees no cause for joy when Vietnamese workers and peasants win out at great cost over U.S. imperialism.

A different view on Vietnam was expressed by every other speaker at the rally — ranging from pacifist Dave Dellinger to the Vietnamese ambassador to the United Nations. They correctly pointed to the Vietnamese victory as a gain for humanity.

Jackson used the meeting to try to whip up support for his efforts to pressure Muslim-led groups in Lebanon into releasing hostages they reportedly hold. Jackson called them U.S. "prisoners of war." He introduced the families of two of the reported hostages.

He demanded that the Muslim-led rebels in Lebanon "break the cycle of pain and give peace a chance" — as though the fighters against U.S. and Israeli imperialism were barring the road to peace.

Jackson said nothing May 5 in defense of the rights of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples who are fighting to get the U.S. and Israeli governments off their backs. Nor did he criticize the Israeli terrorists who killed, maimed, or imprisoned thousands of Palestinians and others in Lebanon.

Jackson criticized U.S. policy in Central America, but his standpoint was not that of a supporter of the Nicaraguan revolution. "The embargo against Cuba did not work," he said. "the one against Vietnam has not worked, just created more hardship. The embargo against Nicaragua will not work and should not work."

"A nation as strong as our nation must talk it out and not fight it out," he said.

At a May 3 news conference held to build the Vietnam rally, Jackson explained why he thinks the embargo "will not work." He said the trade sanctions would force the Nicaraguan government "into the arms of the Soviet Union."

Most of the participants in the rally did not hold this anticommunist view, but identified with the Nicaraguan people's struggle against U.S. intervention. Their demand was not for a policy against Nicaragua that will work, but for an end to all U.S. attacks on Nicaraguan sovereignty.

Jackson on other side

In contrast, Jackson spoke as a participant in the debate among proimperialist politicians of both parties over how to contain the Vietnamese revolution, how to preserve U.S. dominance in Central America, and how to isolate and weaken the Soviet Union.

Jackson does not oppose imperialism's goals in Central America, but what he and other liberals see as counterproductive tactics.

This is shown by his call for Washington to use negotiations, rather than military means. Jackson assumes that Washington has some right to a voice in such issues as the composition of Nicaragua's government and its foreign and domestic policies. But this is a violation of the Nicaraguans' democratic right to run their own affairs and determine their own government.

The drive toward war is dictated by the needs of imperialism, and the defense of imperialism is the liberals' starting point, as with all capitalist politicians. Their criticisms are no alternative to the escalating bipartisan war against Nicaragua.

A 'Great Society'

Jackson's liberal Democratic views are also highlighted by his estimate now of Pres. Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" of the 1960s.

"We had a great vision, a great society, a commitment to wipe out malnutrition, a commitment to aid women, infants, and children...."

"Somewhere along the way we became

blurred in our vision.... The war on poverty shifted its battleground from America to become a war on Vietnam."

This view of Johnson's "Great Society" is a staple in the mythology of liberal capitalist politicians.

The "Great Society" and the "war on poverty" were the names the U.S. rulers gave to concessions wrested from them by the struggles of millions of Blacks in the civil rights movement and urban revolts of the 1960s. Some of these concessions, like the winning of voting rights by Blacks as well as Medicare and other social programs, were important gains for all working people.

Contrary to Jackson's version of history, the war in Vietnam was already well under way when these programs were proclaimed. And the war continued to escalate throughout the programs' heyday.

Johnson used these concessions to help contain the struggles of Blacks and other working people within bounds tolerable to the capitalists. The rulers used these reforms to integrate many civil rights leaders — like Jackson — more deeply into the capitalist Democratic Party machine.

In addition, President Johnson and the ruling class sought to buy the social peace needed to pursue the bloody war against Vietnam.

Farmers and the Rainbow

Jackson frequently refers to his recent participation in farmers' protests.

But what does the Rainbow Coalition offer exploited farmers?

In Plattsburg, Missouri, on April 8 he told a rally of 1,000 protesting the sale of Perry Wilson's farm that bankers and cops were their "unnatural adversaries." He called on the farmers to reach an understanding with these supposed allies who steal their farms and attack their demonstrations.

In Glenwood, Minnesota, Jackson participated in the April 1 protest by thousands of farmers against the sale of Jim Langman's dairy farm.

The day before the rally, Jackson met with Minnesota governor Rudy Perpich and reportedly asked him to declare a moratorium on foreclosures. Perpich refused.

But instead of denouncing the liberal governor for backing the loan sharks against working farmers, Jackson praised Perpich for endorsing Jackson's proposal to form a coalition to discuss the problem.

According to the leading St. Paul daily, Jackson's projected coalition "will include rural and urban legislators, governors, mayors, minority group representatives, women, and members of the agricultural movement."

The coalition will provide a fine sounding board for the speeches of Republican and Democratic politicians, while working farmers continue to go under.

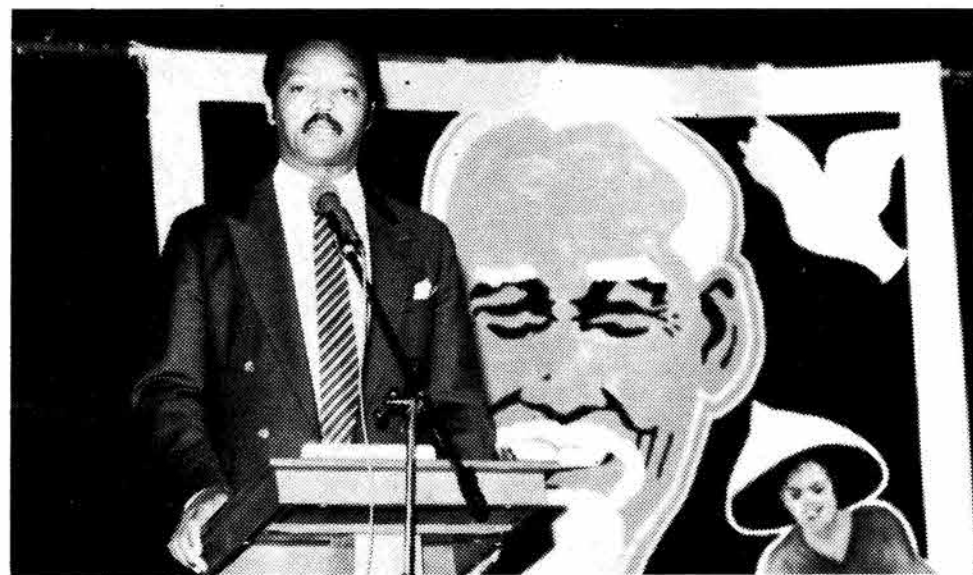
Jackson told the May 5 Vietnam meeting in New York that the farmers' request for his support signified that "when it's real dark you cannot determine the race or the sex of the helping hand. It's time for the Rainbow Coalition."

This is an underestimation of the political level of many of the farmers who are fighting today. It suggests that they are racists who have, as a result of their economic difficulties, put aside their racism to seek Jackson's support. What this approach overlooks is that far from being blind to the race of "the helping hand," farm activists are actively seeking Black support.

Jim Langman, whose Minnesota farm was being sold, for example, pointed out that "the struggle that we're in in agriculture right now has a lot of similarities to the Black struggle."

Roger Allison, a farmer and a leader of the American Agriculture Movement, was at the Plattsburg, Missouri, rally. He said, "Farmers are building coalitions with labor and with Blacks. We have things in common.... It's a matter of survival."

Many farmers fighting the banks and the government look to Jackson because they are inspired by the big achievements of the civil rights movement, want an alliance with the Black community, and want the support of Black fighters whose militancy



Jesse Jackson at May 5 rally in New York City held to celebrate 10th anniversary of Vietnam victory over U.S. military intervention.

and leadership capacity they respect.

They mistakenly see Jackson as a representative of that struggle, militancy, and leadership capacity.

Vietnam veterans

At the May 5 celebration of Vietnam's victory, Jackson spoke about Vietnam veterans.

He did not challenge the big-business media's current portrayal of Vietnam veterans as prowar warriors.

"We reject the premise of the war. We do not reject the warriors," he declared. "We love the warriors, not the war." He described the GIs in Vietnam as fighting in "blind fealty" and "commitment to a government that betrayed them."

Today, he said, "they walk the streets, trapped on drugs with no GI bill of rights."

Barry Romo, a leader of Vietnam Veterans Against the War who was an infantry lieutenant in Vietnam, told the real story.

He described the role of Vietnam-era soldiers in the movement against the Vietnam War — such as the 1971 protest when thousands of Vietnam veterans threw their medals on the Capitol steps. He explained how the government and big-business media responded to the veterans' antiwar stand by creating the stereotype of Vietnam veterans as "crazy drug addicts."

The great majority of GIs in Vietnam were not imperialist "warriors." Whether drafted or enlisted, they were young workers and farmers forced to fight in an imperialist war.

The GIs' opposition to the war grew, like the antiwar movement at home, as the resistance of the Vietnamese people helped expose the nature of the war. The growing unwillingness — and even outright refusal — of many GIs to fight an unjust war was an important factor in forcing Washington to withdraw.

Downplaying Black struggle

A striking aspect of Jackson's speeches is the downplaying of the importance of the Black struggle. It is treated primarily as history — with references to Martin Luther King, Jr., the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, marches, and other figures and events — but not as a liberation battle that is still going on. It is used to demonstrate Jackson's credentials as a participant in past battles, but not to point a way forward for working people.

In Washington April 20, Jackson said, "Today we mature from a history of racial battleground to an economic common ground."

This view ignores the fact that the struggle of Blacks, Chicanos, and other oppressed nationalities in the United States against their national oppression is an integral part of the fight of working people against the economic attacks of big business and its government.

To take one example, the cops murder hundreds of Blacks each year. When the Black community opposes this, it is defending the most elementary democratic rights of all working people.

The fight for the economic needs of working people is not advanced when Jackson keeps quiet about killer cops, or puts affirmative action and busing for school desegregation on the back burner.

Jackson's position is the liberal one that the achievement of equality is best advanced through electing liberals who promise to win economic reforms. According to this view, an uncompromising, independent mass struggle of Blacks or other oppressed nationalities against their op-

pression only "divides" the needed liberal coalition.

Whenever this electoralist strategy has been put into practice, however, the racist capitalist rulers have gained and the oppressed nationalities have lost.

Who's 'we'?

"Most people in the world are yellow or brown, or black, poor, non-Christian, and don't speak English. We must learn the configuration of the real world," he declared.

Who is the "we" who is not "yellow or brown, or black, poor, non-Christian" and speaks English?

Who is the "we" who "must talk it out and not fight it out" with Nicaragua? Who is the "we" who can find "no joy" in Vietnam's victory over U.S. imperialism?

Jackson's "we" is not the toiling and oppressed people of the world, including the United States. His "we" is the U.S. ruling class and its political servants in the Republican and Democratic parties. It is this "we" that he identifies with and pleads with for more sensitivity to the "real configuration of the world."

Jackson comes to rallies of farmers, antiwar activists, Black youth, and supporters of the Vietnamese revolution in order to convince them to subordinate their struggles to the building of a liberal, proimperialist Rainbow Coalition in the Democratic party.

And he attempts to inspire those who already regard themselves as supporters of the Rainbow Coalition to become more active Democrats.

The response to Jackson among farmers, antiwar activists, and others reflects a real desire for change and the hope that he really represents something different than the old capitalist politics. But this is an illusion.

Jackson, the Congressional Black Caucus, and other Democratic politicians in the Rainbow hope that it will help elect more liberals to Congress in 1986 and win more support for liberal legislation. Jackson hopes that the Rainbow will provide an initial base for a second campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988.

He wants to persuade the ruling class — the billionaires who have the final say over who wins the capitalist party presidential nominations — that he can more credibly defend U.S. interests than Reagan or the current crop of 1988 contenders.

He presents himself as better able to win support from workers, farmers, and antiwar youth.

He seeks to prove that he can provide U.S. imperialism with a more credible image abroad, and that he can win more concessions at less cost from oppressed peoples in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Another road

The struggles of working people against war, racist oppression, union-busting, the ripoff of the farmers, and other manifestations of capitalism can only advance along a course that is completely opposed to the one proposed by Jesse Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition of the Democratic Party.

An effective struggle against the war means building independent, mass protests in opposition to U.S. imperialism's claims to the right to decide anything for Nicaragua and El Salvador, whether by force or by negotiations under the threat of force. It

Continued on Page 10

Atlanta socialists launch mayoral campaign

BY SUSIE WINSTEN

ATLANTA — At a May 1 news conference the Socialist Workers Party here officially announced its candidate for mayor, Sara Jean Johnston. A 34-year-old sewing-machine operator and a member of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, Johnston spoke out strongly against the just-declared U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua.

"While we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the historic and heroic victory of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression, Washington is once again waging war to defend the profits of the rich," she began. "The embargo, which includes suspension of flights, is a serious escalation of the U.S. government's drive to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. It is also an attempt to keep the U.S. people from visiting that Central American country and seeing for themselves the social gains the people of Nicaragua have made."

Johnston went on to express her solidarity with a local emergency picket line demanding: Drop the embargo! No U.S. intervention in Central America!

Along with several campaign supporters, Johnston had also been a participant in the April 29 protest at the national IBM stockholders meeting demanding corporate divestment from the racist apartheid regime of South Africa.

Interest in her campaign has been generated at Arrow Shirt Co. where Johnston has worked for several years. Coworkers have attended one of her campaign forums.

Leading up to contract negotiations she and her coworkers have recently been subjected to stepped-up harassment, speed-up, and the threat of plant shutdown.

"We all got a lesson recently about what is important to the company bosses," Johnston explained at the news conference. "There was a bomb threat just prior to shift change. There was only a cursory search, the bomb squad wasn't even called, and the supervisors made themselves scarce. But they wanted us to sew shirts that night. Of course, very few did."

This incident sparked a discussion about why the company puts profits ahead of workers' lives. As a result several more coworkers learned about the socialist perspective.

Johnston explained that as long as both the Democrats and Republicans maintain political domination, working people face a dead end because both parties represent major Atlanta corporations such as Cluett-Peabody (Arrow's owner), Coca-Cola, and Lockheed. She explained that working people need their own party — an independent labor party — to fight for their interests.

Another perspective is advanced by two other likely candidates in the mayoral race: Mayor Andrew Young and State Rep. Tyrone Brooks, who is also a leader of the Rainbow Coalition. Both are Democrats, and, like other capitalist politicians here, they further the myth of Atlanta as a "mecca" for Blacks and other working people. They say advances can be made by getting a bigger slice of the Democratic Party pie.

Johnston's news conference was covered by one TV station and several local radio stations.



Sara Jean Johnston, a member of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, is socialist candidate for mayor of Atlanta.

Candidate demands investigation of attack on Atlanta SWP headquarters

BY JIM BLACK

ATLANTA — The socialist bookstore and campaign headquarters for Sara Jean Johnston, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Atlanta, was shot into during the night of May 12.

On Monday morning, May 13, Atlanta socialists found a single 38-caliber bullet hole in the front-door window of their headquarters. The bullet was lodged in a book at the rear of the bookstore. No one was in the bookstore at the time. So far no group or individual has claimed responsibility for this terrorist attack.

When R.L. Lindsey, one of the cops sent to investigate the shooting, was asked if the police would add more patrols to catch the perpetrators, he essentially said that the police can do nothing. He then turned the discussion on its head. He asked, "You had a lot of trouble here

lately, right? Aren't you the group that organized the IBM demonstration?" referring to the anti-apartheid demonstration here April 29.

Most Atlanta socialists had been in Greensboro, North Carolina, for the weekend. They were attending an educational conference on the history of the civil-rights movement. Before they left Atlanta on Friday, two anonymous, threatening phone calls were received. Recently Sara Jean Johnston has received sexually harassing letters placed on her car. The letters, clearly from a racist, show hatred toward the fact that she (who is white) is married to a Black man.

Johnston explained that the attack was a "cowardly act" against her campaign for mayor. She said, "I call upon Atlanta mayor Andrew Young and Georgia governor Joe Frank Harris to act with deliberate

speed to apprehend these criminals. We are holding an emergency defense rally to protest this terrorism on Sunday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. at our headquarters. It's clear pressure is needed on both the mayor's office and the governor's office. A representative of the mayor's office has stated 'We don't have to contact them because this is a police matter.'

"We disagree. The mayor and governor are responsible. We are asking that telegrams and letters be sent to the offices of the governor and mayor." (Mail to: Mayor Andrew Young, City Hall, Atlanta, Ga. 30303; and Gov. Joe Frank Harris, State Capitol, Atlanta, Ga. 30334)

Immediately responding to calls for support were Joe Beasley of the Georgia Rainbow Coalition; Willia Ray Harris of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression; and a representative of the Atlanta chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party. All three came to the headquarters to show their support.

Support was also received from Ardy Blandford, cochair of the Atlanta NBIPP; Leamon Hood, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Prof. Mac Jones, Political Science Dept., Atlanta University; Rev. Emory Searcy, Jr., Clergy and Laity Concerned; and Janet Callum, Feminist Women's Health Center.

South African woman repudiates Reagan

The April 4 issue of the *Sowetan*, a legal Black-run newspaper from the Black township of Soweto, South Africa, ran a letter to the editor from a woman in response to remarks made by Reagan immediately after the March 21 cop attack on a funeral procession which left at least 19 Blacks dead. Reagan had accused Blacks of rioting and therefore causing the massacre. He also commented on the "significant" participation of Black cops in the bloodbath.

The letter read in part: "Allow me to express my anger at the irresponsible statement made by American President Ronald Reagan over the Uitenhage massacre.

"I'd like to make him aware that we regard those policemen as whites and traitors in black skins. I want him to know that we love freedom like other human beings, and therefore we shall fight for our liberation.

"He must stop intellectualizing about our suffering. He is a capitalist and imperialist with selfish interests in the wealth of our country and not in the people who toil endlessly to produce the riches he is taking from our country. Let him know that we don't expect any help from him or any capitalist regimes in the Western world. They have raped South Africa of its riches and unashamedly continue to do so. We shall free ourselves of the shackles of oppression. Victory is certain!"

San Jose steps up sales of the 'Militant'

BY KEVIN KELLOGG

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The increased attention that the San Jose Young Socialist Alliance and Socialist Workers Party have received due to the attack by a group of Vietnamese right-wing thugs has sparked a lot of interest in the *Militant* newspaper. Fellow unionists and coworkers are buying the *Militant* to find out what is happening to the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance.

Most have seen the TV and newspaper coverage of the attack and look to the *Militant* as a more reliable source for what really happened.

Many members of the YSA and SWP work at FMC, which makes tanks, amphibious assault vehicles, and troop transports for the military. The attempts by right-wing goons to prevent the SWP and YSA from speaking out about U.S. foreign policy have generated a lot of discussion in

the plant.

The attacks on the socialists became such a topic of discussion that FMC management decided to try its hand at harassing the socialists. On Monday, May 6, a supervisor confiscated a copy of the *Militant* and told the worker who had it, "You know you can't read this type of newspaper here." The worker asked for his paper back and was told to go see the general foreman. When he went to see the general foreman he was told the paper had been handed over to Labor Relations.

The worker filed a grievance with his union, Local 562 of the International Association of Machinists, asking for a formal apology, the return of his paper, and any copies they may have made of it.

This attempt by FMC management to join with the thugs who are trying to prevent the socialists from getting out their ideas outraged coworkers in the shop. Nine

Militants were sold to this crew. Twenty-five copies of that issue of the *Militant* were sold throughout FMC as word spread that this was the paper that FMC supervisors don't like.

At the local union meeting, a shop steward bought a subscription to the paper after hearing about this case of harassment.

At the San Jose bus barn, 14 *Militants* were sold to members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 265.

Many bus drivers' routes take them past the street where the attacks took place, and they saw and heard the mob threatening and attempting to intimidate people entering the bookstore.

One bus driver pulled his bus up to the door of the bookstore and asked if he could get a *Militant* and a petition protesting the complicity of the cops in not arresting any of the thugs.

As he was buying the paper, all three of his passengers asked for copies also.

On Saturday, May 11, teams of *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* salespeople went door to door selling subscriptions. The most common response was, "That was you folks on TV." Five subscriptions were sold along with 45 single issues.

Sales were also reported to be brisk at anti-apartheid actions that took place at Stanford, San Jose State University, University of California at Berkeley, and at meetings for South African Nobel Prize winner Rev. Bishop Tutu, which were held all over the Bay Area.

The San Jose branch of the Socialist Workers Party and chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance see the sales drive as one of the best ways to help beat back the attempt by the bosses and these thugs to silence us. As the U.S. government escalates its war in Central America, getting out the truth becomes all the more important.

Police harass San Jose socialists

Continued from Page 3

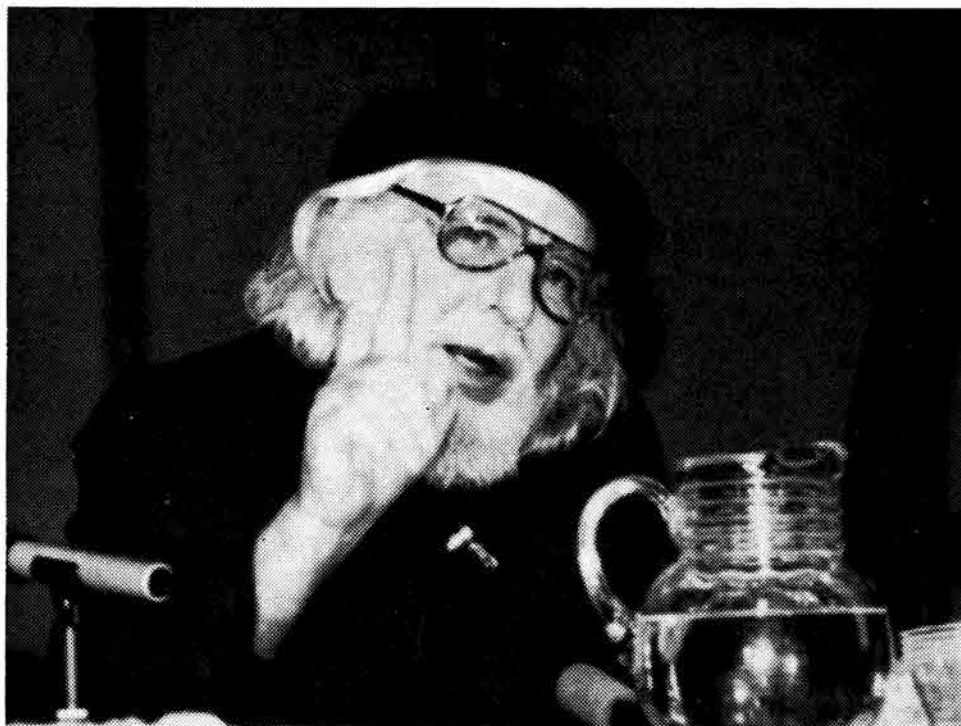
officially registered as a complaint until a little known, second-step complaint is filed, a procedure about which the police did not readily inform the socialists.

The police have begun a campaign of harassment directed against members of the SWP and YSA. Over the last week, two SWP and YSA members were pulled over and ticketed: one for dirty license plates and the other for a cracked windshield. One, John Harris, was warned that if he was going to Race Street, where the socialist bookstore is located, he would be ticketed again. He was directed back home.

The most serious incident occurred

when the cops threatened two members with arrest for leafleting outside a large community flea market, telling them they needed a permit to pass out literature.

Patrol cars have been observed taking down license-plate numbers of cars parked outside the socialist bookstore. A continuing campaign is needed to demand the cops end the harassment of the socialists and to prosecute organizers of the gang of right-wingers who attempted to break in and who threatened violence. All letters should be sent to Mayor Thomas McEmery, Office of the Mayor, 801 N. 1 St., San Jose, Calif. 95110, and to Joseph McNamara, Chief of Police, 201 W. Mission, San Jose, Calif. 95110. Copies should be sent to SWP, 46 1/2 Race St., San Jose, Calif. 95126.



Militant/Sara Lobman

Ernesto Cardenal, Nicaraguan minister of culture, at meeting in Boulder, Colorado. He told meeting that U.S. "trade embargo is as serious as a declaration of war."

Broad opposition in Norway to U.S. support of 'contras'

A quarter-page ad from the Norwegian Solidarity Committee for Nicaragua appeared in the May 10 issue of the *New York Times*. It was titled "Support Nicaragua" and was signed by hundreds of journalists, artists, professors, religious figures, various political parties, youth organizations, the Norwegian Women's Union, and two national unions — the Union of General Workers and the Union of Chemical Industry Workers.

The text of the ad read: "The Norwegian organizations and individuals listed below disassociate themselves strongly from the United States covert war, and their aid to the counter-revolutionary groups in Nicaragua."

"That a small country like Nicaragua with its population of 2.7 million should be a threat to the United States is as absurd as if Norway should be a threat to the Soviet

Union. As Norway, Nicaragua also must be granted their right to territorial integrity and political independence.

"Nicaragua enjoys much support and sympathy in Norway, as reflected in the many private and governmental aid projects — among others in health, education and fishing sectors.

"We look upon the counter-revolutionary groups as terrorist movements, which inflict great suffering on Nicaragua and its people.

"In the name of democracy we urgently request the US Congress to support the work of the Contadora Group and immediately stop all aid to the counter-revolutionary groups in Nicaragua."

The ad explained that the signatures were collected in only one week, April 23-29.

Outrage in Puerto Rico leads to indictment of undercover killer cop

BY ANDREA GONZÁLEZ

The District Court in Utuado, Puerto Rico, indicted former undercover cop Alejandro González Malavé on perjury and kidnapping charges on April 30.

The charges stem from González Malavé's role in the 1978 murder of two independence activists by the cops at the Rikavisión television towers at Cerro Maravilla, as well as his role in the six-year cover-up of these murders.

González Malavé was the agent provocateur who forced public-car driver Julio Ortiz Molina to take him and the two activists, Carlos Soto Arriví and Arnaldo Darío Rosado to Cerro Maravilla, where the youths were murdered by the cops.

González Malavé gained notoriety as the key witness for the cops during the various investigations into the murders over the last six years. There was a public outcry when, in the course of the investigation, it became known that González Malavé had been recruited as an informer by the cops while a minor, and that this was in fact a common practice on the island.

In the course of the investigation, González Malavé admitted that after many years as an informer, which produced no evidence against the independence movement, he became a provocateur, manufacturing the actions for the cops to use to harass the independence movement.

During the investigations into the executions at Cerro Maravilla, González Malavé supported the cops' story that there had been a shoot-out with the activists, in which they were killed. As the cover-up unwound and it became known that the cops had murdered the activists in cold blood, the outrage of the Puerto Rican people forced the government to indict the cops involved on perjury and murder charges. González Malavé, however, was

not charged along with the other cops.

Only after he brought a million-dollar lawsuit against the government of Puerto Rico for the loss of his job as a provocateur did the district attorney seek an indictment.

González Malavé was indicted in absentia. As of May 1, the authorities admit that they still have not been able to locate him on the island.

Nicaraguan leader tours United States

BY DANIEL ADAMS AND DAVID MARTIN

DENVER — Widespread support and public outcry forced the U.S. State Department to grant Ernesto Cardenal — Nicaragua's minister of culture and a well-known poet — a visa for a scheduled tour in this country.

Cardenal's visit was an important opportunity for working people in Colorado to hear first hand a leader of the Nicaraguan revolution.

An estimated 2,000 people heard Cardenal in three Colorado cities. His tour was sponsored by a broad array of political and religious organizations including the Justice and Peace Office of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Denver, American Friends Service Committee, and the Boulder/Jalapa Friendship City Project. The city council voted to make Boulder the sister city of Jalapa, Nicaragua, helping to raise funds for construction and other aid projects there.

Cardenal's visit here began April 28 in Alamosa, a predominantly Chicano city in an important agricultural area of Colorado. Three hundred people there greeted him with balloons and music.

Later that day he spoke to an enthusiastic crowd of 800 at Denver's Montview Presbyterian Church. Introductory remarks at the Denver meeting were given by Rita Montero, for Witness for Peace, as well as Chicano activist and well-known poet Lalo Delgado and Colorado state senator Richard Castro. Greetings were also read from Democratic congresswoman Patricia Schroeder and Denver mayor Federico Peña. Cardenal spoke the next day in Boul-

der. All three Colorado events were poetry readings that included discussion periods where Cardenal answered questions from the audience on the Nicaraguan revolution and U.S. war against that country.

Many people wanted to know why the U.S. government was so hostile to Nicaragua. Cardenal pointed to the gains made by the Nicaraguan people since the revolution such as free health care, literacy and education, land grants and abolition of the farmers' debt, and the right to form mass organizations. He said that these gains, along with an independent foreign policy, served as an example for all Latin America. It was this example, Cardenal explained, that the U.S. government opposes.

At a Denver press conference April 29, Cardenal spoke about the U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua. It was, he said, "just as grave a threat as military war." He continued, "according to some international laws, a trade embargo is as serious as a declaration of war." Cardenal pointed out that the trade embargo was not a substitute for a U.S. invasion of his country. "We know that Reagan is just waiting for the right moment. . . . We know that he is not interested in international law."

At the Denver meeting, Cardenal received a copy of the new Pathfinder Press book *Nicaragua: The Sandinista People's Revolution*. Fifteen copies of the book were sold at the public meetings.

Cardenal's visit to Colorado was a blow to Washington's war against Nicaragua. It showed the powerful response Nicaraguan leaders can expect from the North American working people when given the opportunity to hear the truth about the Sandinista revolution.

Houston anti-apartheid forum

BY WILLIE M. REID

HOUSTON — A forum on the struggle against apartheid in South Africa held here in the Black community April 27 was attended by 60 people.

The forum was sponsored by the Free South Africa Movement (FSAM) and the Houston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The national sorority has adopted a resolution in support of U.S. economic sanctions against South Africa's apartheid regime.

FSAM, along with unionists, students, and Black churches, has been organizing solidarity activities since last November. These activities have included a press conference held by Don Horn, president of the Houston Central Labor Council, at the South African consulate; protests at Texas Southern University; a slideshow on

women and apartheid at a meeting of the Coalition of Labor Union Women; and educationals on apartheid at union meetings. An April union meeting of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 4-227, ARCO Group, for example, included an educational attended by 40 unionists, most of them Black.

The forum speakers included Franklin Jones, professor of African studies at Texas Southern University; Judge Harold Gordon Tillman; C.T. Wint, retired Jamaican engineer and author of *Through Black Eyes*; and Bishop Aombaye, administrator of the Shrine of the Black Madonna.

Francisco Campbell, a Black Nicaraguan who is consul for political affairs for the Nicaraguan embassy, gave the keynote address that opened the two-hour program.

'IP' documents FSLN reply to embargo

Last week's *Militant* included a report from Managua on the response of the Sandinista leadership to President Reagan's embargo on U.S. trade with Nicaragua. The official FSLN statement, read by Vicepres. Sergio Ramírez, was issued May 4, the anniversary of the day in 1927 when Gen. Augusto C. Sandino refused to lay down his arms before the invading U.S. Marines. The Sandinistas today respond with the same defiance of imperialism as Sandino did nearly 60 years ago.

The current, May 27, issue of *Intercontinental Press* contains the full text of the May 4 declaration, along with a May Day message to the workers of Nicaragua from the FSLN National Directorate.

The May Day message states, "The military aggression carried out through the mercenary forces has not achieved its objectives nor has it broken the people's morale."

This failure of the U.S.-backed *contras* forces Washington to resort to other means of attacking the Nicaraguan revolution, including the embargo, which Ramírez refers

to as "a blind reprisal . . . aimed at trying to destroy all our efforts, our dreams, our hopes."

Nevertheless, as the May Day message declares, "They will never bring us to our knees!"

The current issue of *IP* also includes direct reports from Greece, Senegal, New Zealand, Iran, Burkina, and other countries.

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**Speech by Fidel Castro
Women in the Cuban Revolution Today**

U.S. Rally Hails Vietnam Victory

Report From Senegal: Cracks in Neocolonial Bastion

You are still able to visit Nicaragua

BY PATTI HIYAMA

The U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua increases the importance of working people visiting that country and coming back to help answer the lies of the U.S. government.

One of the aims of the embargo, in fact, is to slow down the increasing numbers of U.S. citizens who want to see Nicaragua for themselves. Many thousands of U.S. citizens have already done so — young antiwar activists, volunteers for harvests, trade unionists, farmers, Black rights activists, members of religious groups, and others. As it becomes clearer that the U.S. government is preparing a major war against this small country, more people are interested in visiting Nicaragua and finding out the truth.

Some activists wonder if the embargo means such trips are still legal. The answer is yes — *the embargo does not ban travel to Nicaragua and it does not limit the amount of money a U.S. citizen can spend there.*

The embargo does prohibit Nicaraguan planes from landing in the United States. This means it is no longer possible to fly directly from this country to Managua on Aeronica, the Nicaraguan airline most U.S. visitors have used. But numerous groups are planning trips to Nicaragua via other means, mindful of the importance of continuing this link with the Nicaraguan people.

Eventually, the U.S. government plans to ban most travel to Nicaragua, and has even raised this idea as a trial balloon. So the more U.S. working people who visit Nicaragua now, the better. They will come back and help explain what Nicaraguan workers and peasants are accomplishing with their revolution — the truth the U.S. government is trying to hide.

The Nicaraguan government is encouraging as many U.S. citizens as possible to come down and see for themselves the policies that the U.S. government fears. U.S. citizens do not need a visa to enter Nicaragua.

As part of the effort to help working people go to Nicaragua, Militant/Perspectiva Mundial Tours, Inc., is organizing a tour to Nicaragua in July. Because of anticipated demand, the original tour is being expanded to two tour groups, both of which will have the opportunity to visit the Atlantic Coast port of Bluefields, in addition

to visiting factories and agricultural cooperatives, the northern war zones, and meeting with leaders of mass organizations. (See ad below.)

A one-week trip sponsored by Militant/Perspectiva Mundial Tours, Inc. just returned from Nicaragua. Members of the tour — most of them industrial workers — met with the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST), the largest union federation in Nicaragua. They toured a steel fabrication plant in Managua, where they talked with members of the CST and the plant's director. They also met with railroad workers and with representatives of the Sandinista Defense Committees, who took them on an evening visit to people standing vigilance in a barrio of Managua.

Tour members went to the cities of Jinotega and Matagalpa in the northern war zones. They met with members of a rice cooperative and with the National Union of Farmers and Ranchers, and toured an agricultural mechanics school that is training peasants to repair tools and machinery.

They also talked with the regional director of AMNLAE, the women's organization. The Sandinista Youth met with them and a representative of the Sandinista People's Army gave them a briefing.

The tour participated in May Day celebrations and picketed outside the U.S. embassy in Managua after the decision on the trade embargo was announced. In addition, tour members had many informal discussions with Nicaraguans they met.

People on the tour were inspired by what they saw in Nicaragua. In spite of the hardships imposed by the U.S. war, Nicaraguan workers and peasants are determined to defend the many gains they have



Militant/Michael Baumann

Nicaraguan textile workers wave goodbye to Militant/Perspectiva Mundial, Inc. tour members on earlier visit. Two tours are being organized for next July.

made in their standard of living, their health, their education, and their freedom. Tour participants came back strengthened in their determination to get out the truth about Nicaragua and to help build a movement here against the U.S. war.

As a first step in their campaign, members of the tour denounced the U.S. embargo at a well-attended press conference when they landed in Miami. Some of the people on the tour have already been in-

vited to give slideshows and talks before solidarity groups, churches, and other organizations. Others are planning more informal get-togethers with coworkers in their homes. Some are writing articles or columns for their union papers or for local newspapers.

To sign up for the July tour, contact Militant/Perspectiva Mundial Tours, Inc., 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone (212) 929-8994.

Central American teachers tour U.S.

BY LISA HICKLER

SEATTLE — This was the first stop of the West Coast Central American Teachers Tour by five visiting Central American teachers. The tour had the support of over 100 organizations.

The teachers came to the United States to give a firsthand account of the social realities in their respective countries. They spoke to students, unionists, religious, and community groups in Seattle, Portland,

San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

While in this city Mayor Charles Royer honored the teachers by declaring April 7-14 Central American Teachers Week.

The teachers are members of the Federation of Central American Teachers' Organizations (FOMCA). FOMCA, established in 1982, currently represents the majority of teachers in Central America. Its goals include improving the situation of teachers through gaining union rights and better teaching resources. It seeks to stop violations of teachers' human rights and assists teachers and their families who face repression. It works for a democratic system of education that would benefit the poor and eliminate illiteracy in Central America.

Yolanda Lagos, current FOMCA president and a founding member of the Nicaraguan teachers union, ANDEN, is part of the teacher delegation. The other teachers come from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama.

During their visit here the Central American teachers spoke to more than 3,000 people at meetings on six college campuses and at 14 public and private schools. They received an especially friendly response from the students. At University Heights Elementary, students gave them letters to take back to students in Central America.

A Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* columnist, Ivan Goldman, claimed that the tour presented students with a one-sided version of the situation in Central America. Singling out "entities such as the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, the Seattle chapter of the National Lawyers Guild" he claimed that the tour was promoting leftist views.

At a community meeting addressed by the teachers, tour organizer Roberta Lindeman explained that this was "nothing other than the red-baiting that took place during the McCarthy era." She explained that the tour was getting out the truth about Central America to students who "cannot get the truth from this administration."

Nicaragua seeks new markets and economic assistance

Continued from front page

failed "to drag Central American countries into blockading Nicaragua." This flows not only from pressure from governments that oppose the embargo, but also from the fact that such a move would damage the economies of other Central American nations.

As members of the Central American common market, different countries specialize in providing certain products for the entire region, the Nicaraguan official explained. For example, Nicaragua is a major source of plastic products. Further disruption of this regional economic integration — limited as it is — would be costly to every one of the countries.

Tinoco reported that, upon concluding his visit to Eastern Europe, President Ortega was also scheduled to visit several capitalist European countries. "The trip to Western Europe will be very important," he explained, because this region now becomes "the major potential market for Nicaraguan meat, shrimp, lobster, and bananas." He said Nicaragua preferred to sell such products to Western Europe and Canada rather than the Soviet Union because they are nearer and shipping costs would be lower, thus maximizing the country's income.

"But we will sell our products wherever we can."

Tinoco also said that the government hoped that Latin American countries would be able to sell Nicaragua many supplies that previously came from the United States, again because shipping costs would be lower.

He reported that the next round of negotiations sponsored by the Contadora Group (made up of the governments of Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela) would be held May 14-16. He said the U.S. decision to impose an embargo on trade with Nicaragua was proof once again that the main obstacle to these negotiations is U.S. unwillingness to stop its war of aggression against Nicaragua.

Tinoco noted that there is much speculation about supposed policy differences within the Reagan administration, but that, in fact, the U.S. government has followed a consistent and unwavering policy.

"That policy is the destruction of the Sandinista People's Revolution. That is why there is no room [for the United States] to make concessions" as part of the Contadora negotiations.

He noted that Nicaragua, as a gesture to reduce tensions in the region, had sent home 100 Cuban military advisers on May 2. The U.S. government in contrast has responded by sending military advisers to Costa Rica; carrying out the largest military exercises thus far in Honduras; and declaring the embargo of Nicaragua.

In response to insistent charges from some U.S. reporters that Nicaragua is leaping into the "Soviet camp" as a result of the embargo, Tinoco responded: "The reorientation of our markets will depend on the international response. But we have, just like the United States has, a sovereign right to maintain political and economic relations with all the nations of the world, including the socialist countries."

Answer the U.S. embargo on the truth — Come see Nicaragua for yourself!

Learn the truth about the revolutionary process in Nicaragua that Washington is so anxious to hide from U.S. working people. Our tours focus on discussions with workers and farmers in Nicaragua in order to understand the accomplishments of the revolution. You will visit factories and agricultural communities; meet with activists from the unions, farmers', women's, and youth organizations; learn about economic planning, health care, education, the media and the arts. You will visit a war zone so you can see firsthand the effects of the U.S.-sponsored war against Nicaragua and see the efforts the people are making to defend their country.

There will be two tours celebrating July 19th, the sixth anniversary of revolution and overthrow of the dictator Somoza. Both tours will include a visit to the Atlantic Coast at Bluefields.

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Tentative cost: \$950

Send in your \$150 deposit to reserve space (full payment due 30 days prior to departure). Space on each tour is limited to 20 people. Participants must have a passport valid for at least six months after the date of entry into Nicaragua. For further information, write to: Militant/Perspectiva Mundial Tours, Inc., 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone (212) 929-8994.

Young Socialist Alliance: 25 years fight

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

This year's Young Socialist Alliance national convention will mark the 25th anniversary of the YSA's founding. (See accompanying ad.)

The YSA is the only socialist youth organization in the country with that long a continuous history. This is testimony to the power of its ideas and its activist approach to winning young people to the fight for socialism.

The YSA was formed in response to big developments in the class struggle — the triumph of the Cuban revolution in January 1959, and the explosion of the civil rights movement in the United States. Every step along the way, the YSA has met the test of events.

The YSA's history has rich lessons for today's generation of youth who are moving into action against the U.S. government's war in Central America and in opposition to the apartheid regime in South Africa. A valuable way of studying these lessons is through the pages of the YSA's newspaper — the *Young Socialist*.

Impact of Khrushchev revelations

The post-World War II period of the late 1940s and early 50s was a time of economic prosperity and political reaction in this country. The "cold war" and anticommunist witch-hunt reigned supreme. However, in the mid and late 1950s, several world-shaking events created new opportunities to attract youth to revolutionary socialist ideas.

In February 1956, Soviet Premier Khrushchev denounced some of Joseph Stalin's most outrageous policies. In June and October of that year, masses of workers in Poland and Hungary revolted against the bureaucratic regimes there demanding workers democracy as the road forward toward socialism. Struggles against colonialism were spreading throughout Africa and Asia. Here in the United States, Blacks were organizing protests demanding their rights.

In October 1957, a group of young people published the first issue of the *Young Socialist* as a monthly newspaper. These people came from various political tendencies, including young members of the Socialist Workers Party, ex-Communist Party youth, the left wing of a group called the Young Socialist League, supporters of the *National Guardian* newspaper, as well as various independent socialists.

The YS helped organize YS supporter clubs around the country and geared its supporters towards participating in the newly emerging civil rights movement. Supporters of the YS helped build actions like the Youth March for Integration that brought 10,000 young people to Washington, D.C., on October 25, 1958, and drew another 26,000 on April 18, 1959.

Kissing case

One of the first national campaigns of the Young Socialist came around the issue

known as the kissing case. This involved two Black male children — eight and nine years old — who were kissed by a seven-year old white girl while playing on their way home from school in the town of Monroe, North Carolina. The Black children were charged with "assault upon a white female" and thrown into a reformatory with plans to keep them there until they reached 21 years old.

The YS sent reporters to Monroe to get the facts about what had happened and helped to rally support for the embattled Black community there. In response to a well publicized defense effort, the children were released in February 1959.

The trip to Monroe brought the YS into contact with Robert F. Williams, who was president of the local NAACP. Williams had helped organize Monroe's Black residents into a legal rifle club that successfully defended itself against violent attacks by the Ku Klux Klan. Williams and other Black activists in Monroe were later framed by the government. The YSA played a big role in this defense effort.

Student sit-ins

In February 1960, Black students throughout the South took the lead in demanding an end to the racist Jim Crow segregation laws. They initiated sit-ins demanding to be served at "whites only" sections of restaurants such as Woolworths. These actions rapidly spread to the North. The YS became a central organizer of this movement. Each issue provided extensive coverage of sit-in actions throughout the country. Young socialists also helped organize picketing and solidarity actions in many cities.

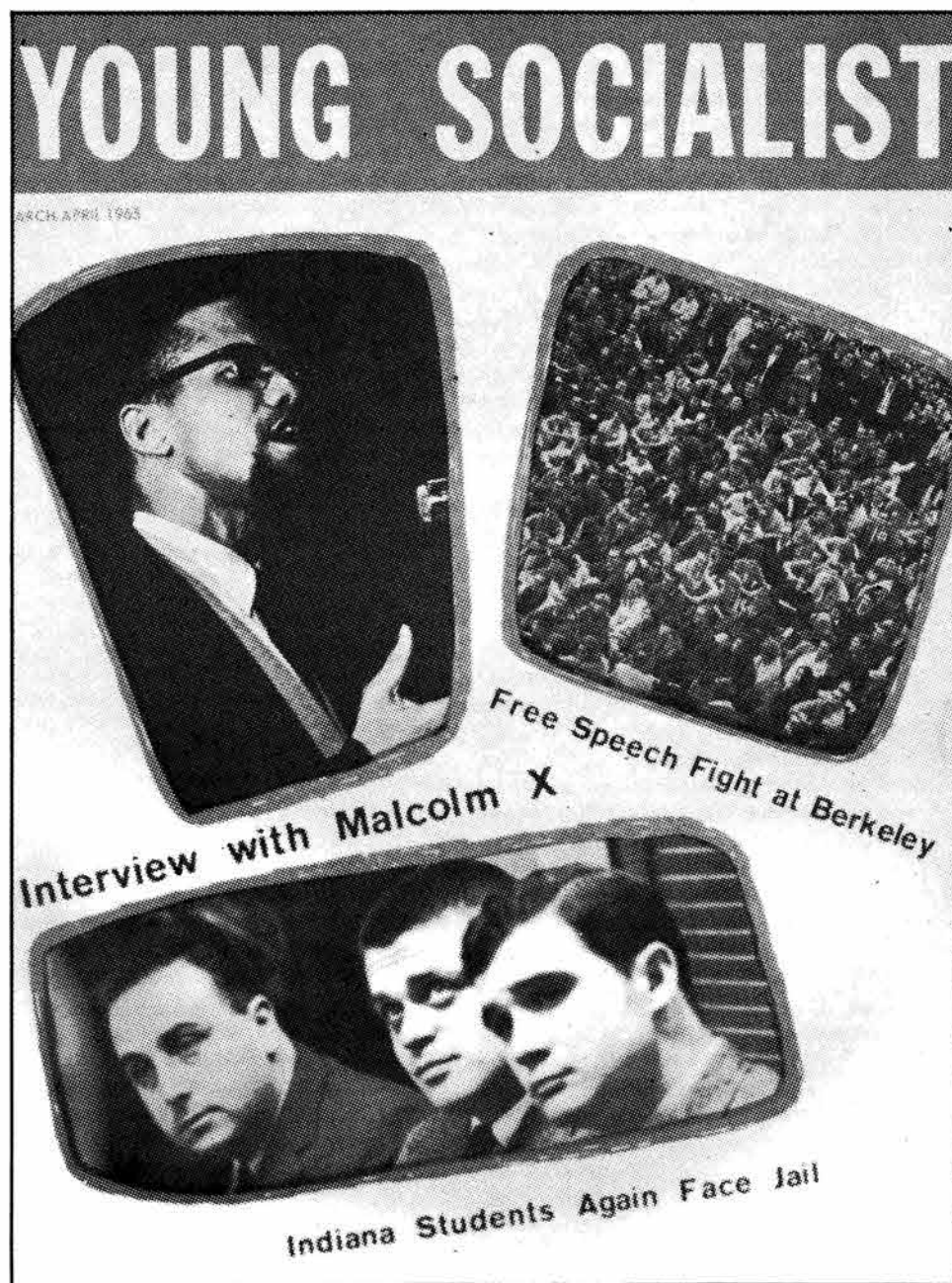
In the midst of these developments, the Young Socialist Alliance was founded at an April 1960 national conference in Philadelphia attended by approximately 100 delegates and supporters. "Young Socialists Launch Movement," reported the May 1960 YS.

The YSA declared its political solidarity with the Socialist Workers Party and set itself the task of "bringing revolutionary socialist ideas to a new generation. This is necessary for building a revolutionary movement which can lead the working class to socialism," stated the YSA's founding document.

Defense of Cuba

From its founding through today, the YSA has a proud, consistent record of defending the Cuban Revolution. Just as the Nicaraguan revolution has deeply influenced radical youth today, so the unfolding Cuban Revolution in the 1960s inspired a new generation of young people. The best of them joined the YSA.

As the U.S. government stepped up its slander campaign against Cuba, the YSA responded by telling the truth. The April 1960 YS provided eyewitness coverage of the first anniversary celebration of the revolution in an article entitled, "I saw a Cuba Where the People are Running the Show."



March-April 1965 YS featured interview with Malcolm X, Free Speech Movement at Berkeley, and Bloomington defense case.

In the summer of 1960, seven YSA members were delegates to the first Latin American Youth Congress in Havana.

In the fall of 1960, Fidel Castro paid a visit to the United Nations and stayed at the Hotel Theresa in the middle of New York City's Harlem. The YSA joined the thousands of supporters at the nightly rallies by the hotel.

In a November 1960 article entitled "Castro Has Shown the Way to Freedom," the YS reporter on the scene recorded conversations by Harlem's Blacks about Castro's visit. "I tell any one of you of any color or any religion to go to Cuba to the best places and you won't see discrimination and you won't see signs in Cuba that say for colored only." With the banner headline "Hands Off Cuba," the YS was well-received by the Harlem demonstrators.

The YSA became deeply involved in building the Fair Play for Cuba Committees (FPCC) that were springing up across the country. These committees involved people from different political persuasions who joined together to protest Washington's growing economic and military threats against Cuba.

One of the first major activities of the FPCC was to sponsor a Christmas vacation trip to Cuba in 1960. In spite of mounting threats by the U.S. government, more than 330 people participated, including representatives from the YSA. The February 1961 YS aptly described their impressions of revolutionary Cuba as "the spirit of youth set free." Several days after the tour ended, Washington broke diplomatic relations with Cuba.

On April 17, 1961, Democratic Pres. John F. Kennedy's administration sponsored an invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs. This attack was soundly repulsed within 72 hours by the Cuban masses. In this country, the YSA took the lead in condemning this aggression. The May 1961 YS headlines stated "Hands Off Cuba," and "Kennedy: We Condemn You."

A major editorial entitled "Stand with Cuba" explained what was really behind the invasion. "What is the 'crime' commit-

ted by the Cuban people and Fidel Castro for which Kennedy wants to punish them? It is the crime of ridding the country of poverty, of unemployment, of race hatred, of illiteracy and of all aspects of domination by U.S. big business. In short, Fidel Castro has committed the 'crime' of not betraying the Cuban people and their revolution."

Tribute to Che

In response to new threats of a U.S. invasion, Cuba obtained military aid from the Soviet Union, including defensive nuclear missiles. In the fall of 1962, Washington imposed a naval blockade against Cuba and brought the world to the brink of nuclear war over this issue.

Through all these events, the YSA never hesitated to speak out for Cuba and draw the lessons of this revolution for all U.S. youth. The July-August 1967 YS devoted its entire issue in tribute to the Cuban revolution and its internationalist policy. The December 1967 YS was a special tribute to Che Guevara, who had just been killed by the U.S.-backed military dictatorship in Bolivia. The YSA sent a delegation to Cuba to participate in the celebration of the revolution's tenth anniversary in 1969.

Because of its political ideas and activities in defense of the Cuban Revolution and Black rights, the YSA became a target for government attack.

Bloomington case

On March 25, 1963, YSA members at Indiana University in Bloomington organized a public meeting for Black YSA national leader Leroy McCrae on "The Black Revolt in America." One hundred twenty-five people attended and heard the YSA's viewpoint that Black people had the right to defend themselves against racist attacks.

Attendance at this meeting was the basis for indictments brought against three Indiana University YSA members. They were charged under the state's 1951 Anti-Communism Act with "advocating and teaching the doctrine that the government of the United States and the state of Indiana

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- Stop farm foreclosures.
- Defend democratic rights.
- Jobs, education, health care for all.
- For a labor party. For an independent Black party.
- For international working-class solidarity.
- For a workers and farmers government.
- For socialism.

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ing imperialism at home and abroad

ould be overthrown by force, violence, and any unlawful means." If convicted the socialists could have been sent to jail for six years each. Because of the witch-hunt atmosphere that still existed in this country, the YSA couldn't even find a lawyer in the state of Indiana willing to take the case.

Defending its members in Bloomington became a national focus for the YSA during the next four years. The Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students (CABS) was formed. It coordinated a massive public defense effort that included fundraising and national tours of the defendants. CABS secured more than 1,300 endorsements nationwide for the right of the defendants to hold socialist ideas without victimization. As a result of this mounting pressure, the state of Indiana finally dropped the case in December 1966. The YSA had scored a tremendous victory for democratic rights.

Malcolm X and Black nationalism

Throughout the 1960s, the YSA embraced and explained the significance of developing Black nationalist sentiment as a powerful vehicle of struggle against racist oppression. The YS carried coverage of one of America's greatest revolutionaries — Malcolm X. Shortly before his assassination, Malcolm raised with the YSA the idea of helping to organize a tour of the nation's campuses for him.

One of Malcolm's last acts was to give the YS an interview, which appeared in the March-April 1965 issue. In this interview Malcolm explained: "The Democratic Party is responsible for the racism that exists in this country along with the Republican Party. It is impossible for capitalism to survive, primarily because the system of capitalism needs some blood to suck. . . . As the nations of the world free themselves, then capitalism has less victims, less to suck, and it becomes weaker and weaker. It's only a matter of time, in my opinion, before it will collapse completely."

In a tribute to Malcolm X printed in the May-June 1965 YS, Jack Barnes, then national chairman of the YSA, explained the significance of Malcolm's life for revolutionary youth today. "Malcolm challenged American capitalism from right inside," stated Barnes. "He was living proof for our generation of revolutionists that it can and will happen here. Our job, the job of the YSA, is to teach the revolutionary youth of this country to tell the difference between the nationalism of the oppressed and the nationalism of the oppressor . . . to teach them to refuse to give an inch to white liberalism and to reach out to Malcolm's heirs, the vanguard of the ghetto, as brothers and comrades."

Malcolm's ideas lived on after his death in the rising cry for "Black Power." This led to the formation of some important local groups, such as the Lowndes County Freedom Organization in Alabama, which organized political action — including running a slate of candidates independent of and in opposition to the racist Democratic and Republican parties.

In the spring of 1966, YS reporters went to Lowndes County and spoke firsthand with leaders of the Freedom Organization, and wrote extensive articles about the significance of political developments there.

The YS provided many invaluable firsthand accounts of other struggles for Black rights. The June 1968 issue carried an interview with Oakland-based Black Panther Party leader Huey Newton who had been thrown in jail on trumped-up government charges. The March 1969 YS interviewed leaders of the Detroit-based Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement, which was composed of Black auto workers who organized militant protests against racist harassment on the job.

Anti-Vietnam War movement

One of the YSA's proudest chapters is the central role that it played in helping to build a massive movement against the U.S. government's war in Vietnam.

As early as April 1961, in an editorial entitled "Hands Off Laos," the YS warned about the dangers of U.S. military intervention in Southeast Asia. "In a small southeast Asian country with a suffering

economy may lie the jungle where thousands of American boys will lose their lives fighting people they don't know and for reasons they won't be too sure of."

The fight against the Vietnam War impressively spans 13 years of YS articles. In May 1962, the YS condemned the undeclared war in Vietnam that then involved 7,000 U.S. soldiers. In May 1975 after the U.S.-installed South Vietnam puppet government collapsed, the YS published a special victory poster stating: "Vietnam: They won their freedom. So can we. Join the YSA."

In the early 1960s there was a movement for peace and disarmament in this country, but it consciously ignored the growing war in Vietnam. The YSA attempted to get this peace movement to oppose the Vietnam War.

In 1965 the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) called for an April 17 national march on Washington to oppose the Vietnam War. The YSA threw its entire membership into building and organizing this protest, which drew 20,000 participants. For SDS, this was the first and last anti-Vietnam War demonstration they called. For the YSA, it was just the beginning.

The YSA focused on building a massive action-oriented movement in the streets demanding "Bring the troops home now." The YSA sought to build a broad, non-exclusionary movement involving people of many differing points of view who were willing to work together against the Vietnam War. The YSA believed that the antiwar movement had to remain independent of the so-called capitalist "peace" candidates, who attempted to transform the movement into a vehicle to support their election campaigns.

To carry out its perspective, the YSA played the central role in building the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (SMC). The SMC



YSA was formed at time of Cuban revolution. The YSA has actively defended that revolution against U.S. imperialist aggression for last 25 years. Above, YSA members in Cuba in 1969.

functioned on hundreds of college campuses and succeeded in involving thousands of high school students as well. Through the late 1960s and early 1970s, the SMC helped build massive antiwar protests that reached millions of students and working people.

The YSA also won other antiwar activists to seeing the GIs as a powerful potential ally of the antiwar movement. YSA members drafted into the army fought for their democratic right to express their views and organize other soldiers against the war. Many successful defense cases were fought when the military brass attempted to clamp down on antiwar GIs.

Through all these activities, the YSA recruited hundreds of young antiwar activists.

In 1979 the YSA made a decision to get

the majority of its members into the most powerful industrial unions in this country. This decision places the YSA in the best position to win young workers and students to revolutionary socialism as the crisis of capitalism continues to deepen.

Today, the YSA is taking up the challenge of helping to build a new antiwar movement against Washington's deepening intervention in Central America. The successful April 20 national antiwar protests point to a new generation of youth stepping forward to oppose Washington's wars.

This new movement will be led by young workers and a revitalized union movement. We can be confident that the YSA, as it has so often through its history, will play an important leadership role in these upcoming class battles.

Review of 1985 YSA Draft Political Resolution

BY ANDREA GONZÁLEZ

Hundreds of young unionists, farmers, antiwar fighters, and activists in the struggle against apartheid from across the country will be gathering in Chicago May 25-27 for the 25th National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance, a revolutionary socialist youth organization.

The convention will include classes and workshops on a variety of topics. It will focus on how to advance the fight against the U.S. war in Central America and apartheid in South Africa in light of the gains registered by the April 20 demonstrations in Washington, D.C., and other cities.

In preparing for the convention, YSA chapters across the country are discussing the Draft Political Resolution entitled "The fight against imperialist war and building the YSA today."

The resolution begins with the YSA's role in building the April 20 demonstrations that brought broad forces into the fight against the U.S. war in Central America.

After reviewing the significant support won in the labor movement for the action, the resolution says: "There is a debate going on today in the labor movement over what stance the unions should take on U.S.

intervention in Central America. The top AFL-CIO officials support the U.S. government's policies. They also actively opposed union involvement in the April 20th actions. . . .

"At the same time, a growing number of rank-and-file unionists are beginning to see the connections between the attacks on working people in the U.S. and Washington's drive toward war in Central America and the Caribbean. Some of these unionists saw April 20th as an important action for the unions. This was reflected in the union support that developed. . . .

"Because of April 20th, antiwar forces inside the unions were able to take a few important steps forward."

The resolution points to the need for the April Actions coalitions to build on these gains and "make a decision to move forward by calling nationally coordinated local actions in the fall of this year."

In discussing this proposal with antiwar activists, the resolution points out that the YSA will want to explain the centrality of the U.S. war in the region for U.S. and world politics. As supporters of the Nicaraguan revolution YSA members will explain the gains the Nicaraguan workers and farmers have made by establishing the workers and farmers government and the aim of the U.S. war — "to prevent further revolutionary advances . . . and reverse the gains that have already been made."

Tied to the war, the resolution explains, are the government-employer attacks on the rights and living standards of U.S. working people. "For the U.S. rulers," the resolution says, "the war in Central America and the offensive at home form two fronts in one war. They recognize that victories or defeats on either front affect their aims on the others."

"The YSA," the resolution continues, "will need to point out that history shows that the only way to effectively fight against the U.S. government is to mobilize our class and its allies in our own interests to fight for our own demands. Independent working class political action, not partici-

pation in capitalist politics, has brought us the most gains."

This orientation is counterposed to one that seeks to subordinate protests to the Democratic Party, such as Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition. The resolution points to Jackson's speech at the April 20 action where he said, "We'll translate the protest into politics, and organize enough votes in 1986 to defeat the MX missile." The resolution explains, "For Jackson, turning the movement to 'politics' means getting protests out of the streets or subordinating such protests to relying on the capitalist political parties and elections to bring about change."

Turning to the struggle against apartheid, the resolution explains that the massive rebellions by Black workers and others in South Africa "are shaking the apartheid system to its foundations" and inspiring millions of workers and farmers around the world. In the U.S. this has meant stepped-up protests by Blacks, unionists, and students against U.S. support for apartheid. This has led to the "most sustained and politically advanced student protests in almost ten years," which have forged solidarity between unionists, Blacks, and students.

The resolution notes the growing connection between the fight against apartheid and the U.S. war in Central America and how these protests "reinforce each other and strengthen the overall fight against the U.S. government."

The resolution ends by explaining: "As we meet these challenges, we are also confident that we will find more young fighters who like ourselves want to bring an end to imperialist war, racism, sexism, exploitation and the system that breeds these ills — capitalism. What we offer these young fighters is a chance to join the struggle against capitalism today and a socialist perspective that can lead the working class and its allies to victory."

If you are interested in attending the YSA convention, call the chapter nearest you for information (see directory on page 12).



Militant/Lou Howort
April 20 demonstration in Washington, D.C.

'That enormous debt has not resulted in development'

Castro interview on foreign debt

This is the third part in a series in the *Militant* in which we are reprinting the entire text of Cuban president Fidel Castro's major interview on Latin America's foreign debt.

The interview was conducted by Regino Díaz on March 21 for the Mexican daily *Excelsior*. It is entitled "How Latin America's and the Third World's unpayable foreign debt can and should be canceled and the pressing need for the new international order."

The Cuban government has issued the interview as a pamphlet, put out by Political Publishers, Havana. This underlines the importance they attach to the ideas and proposals in the interview, which are having a broad impact throughout Latin America.

In the first two sections of the interview, published in the May 10 and May 17 issues of the *Militant*, Castro gives a detailed breakdown of the crushing \$360 billion foreign debt that imperialism has saddled on Latin America. He explains that it is impossible — as well as unjust — for Latin American countries to pay the debt off.

Castro shows how imperialist policy works to rob the wealth of the Latin American countries and begins to describe the political and social effects of the intolerable economic conditions imposed on working people because of imperialism's economic stranglehold.

In the following section, Castro continues his exposition of how the imperialist system works to exploit the underdeveloped countries.

Information in brackets is by the *Militant*.

* * *

(Third of a series)

Question: Commander, weren't some corrupt public officials to blame for the creation of this foreign debt?

Answer: I'll tell you. That is an element to take into account, because it was a factor, and I've tried to explain how the policies of the governments of those three countries [Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay] that I've mentioned aggravated the crisis in each of them. It's an example of how the governments' actions can be better or worse and, of course, have an influence on the situation.

Several factors had a bearing on the creation of that debt. They included the policies mentioned: if you open your doors to foreign competition and ruin your national

industry, you will have to pay fabulous amounts each year for imports and, as a result, will be forced to ask for loans.

Q. Or if the money is misdirected, Commander.

A. I'm trying to explain things in an orderly way.

Those countries' foreign debts — which are a result of their increased imports — are one of the factors. Also, much of that money went for weapons and other military expenditures. Another part served to make a lot of people rich — that is, much of that money was stolen — and a lot of it was sent abroad in various ways. The money-lenders didn't care what was done with it. That period coincided with an enormous accumulation of funds, much of which came from the surpluses that were created in several big oil exporting countries and deposited in banks in the United States and Europe. There was so much money that the moneylenders, the banks, went running after debtors, offering them loans. The usual situation was reversed; generally, it's the debtors who go to the banks to ask for loans, but, in many countries in Latin America, the bankers went around looking for debtors in order to lend them money at interest rates that were much lower than they are now — that is, money was lent at lower interest rates, and much higher interest is charged now. I can say more: a dollar that had a certain value was lent, and now a dollar that is overvalued by nearly 40 percent, according to some experts, is collected. It's as if I lent you a kilogram of gold and then asked you to return 1.4 kilograms of gold, apart from the higher interest charged for those 1.4 kilograms of gold.

In short, a part of that money may have been invested in a more or less useful way; another part was squandered on various things, apart from arms — it served to support absurd, antinational policies that were ruinous for local industries or was stolen or was sent abroad or was misspent on arms or squandered on other things — and some of it, in theory, may have been invested in something useful.

Q. Such as?

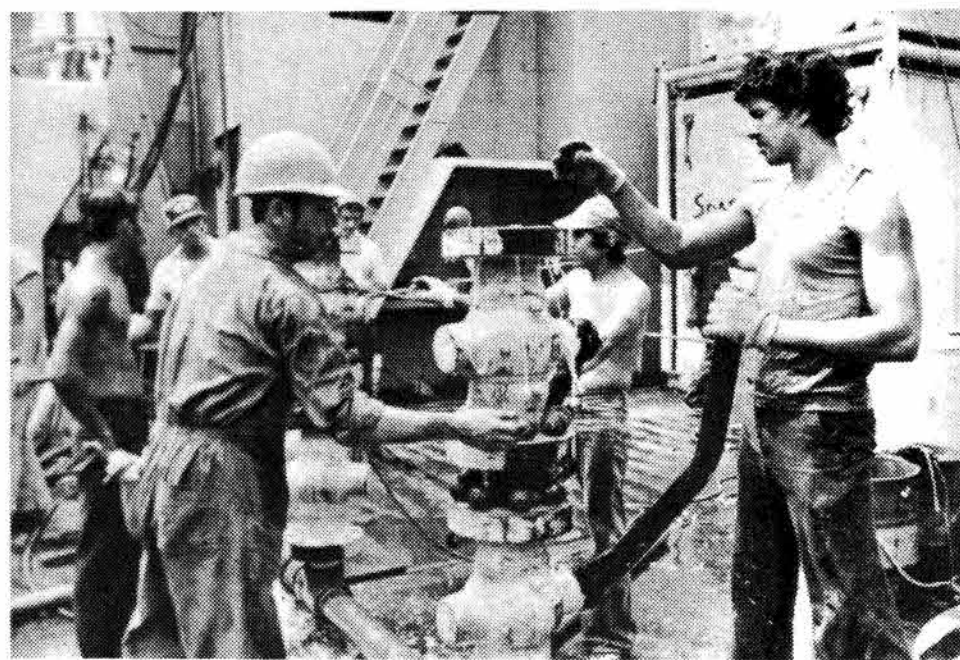
A. Well, some industrial equipment may have been purchased and installed somewhere, or perhaps it was used to pay for an infrastructure project or a road or a hydroelectric power plant was built — investments of that sort. But, in fact, that enormous debt didn't result in develop-

ment for Latin America.

When I was talking about inflation associated with the flight of capital, I tried to explain that the 175.4 percent rate of inflation for the group of countries in 1984 — which is quite generalized inflation that affects all of Latin America, to a greater or lesser degree — resulted in loss of confidence in national currencies. The natural tendency of everybody who has an amount of money and wants to protect it is to change it for dollars and deposit them in U.S. banks. Even though various measures have been taken in different countries to protect their foreign currency income and keep it from being sent abroad, there are always many ways of getting dollars. I talked with some Dominicans, and they said that anybody who has money in national currency could obtain dollars without any great difficulty, either through the banks or in the street, though you always get a little more in the street.

Anyway, when confidence is lost in a national currency — which is the case in the Latin American countries — many people who want to make their money more secure — usually they belong to higher-income sectors and have the equivalent of \$50,000, \$100,000, \$500,000, or a million dollars in national currency — exchange it, deposit it in the United States at a high interest rate, and have their money and interest guaranteed.

Even though, in this situation of inflation, countries tend to pay higher domestic interest rates, precisely in order to attract money and prevent the flight of capital, the present high levels of inflation in several Latin American countries practically make it necessary to use a computer to get weekly estimates (daily estimates in the case of Bolivia) of how much the national currency has been devaluated, so you can know what the interest paid by the local banks really means and what is happening to your money. On the other hand, people have the alternative of exchanging their money for the foreign currency of a country that pays high interest rates so that, far from being devaluated, it will rise in value, and they exchange it and deposit it in a safe place. Latin American countries with underdeveloped economies don't have an easy time of it, and they are beset by traps on all hands.



Mexican oil workers. Mexico has oil reserves of over 40 billion barrels. Castro explains that one reason loans by imperialist banks to Latin American countries have not resulted in development is that rising cost of imports has meant purchasing power of exports, including oil, dropped almost 22 percent between 1980 and 1984.

ment for Latin America.

Even though, in this situation of inflation, countries tend to pay higher domestic interest rates, precisely in order to attract money and prevent the flight of capital, the present high levels of inflation in several Latin American countries practically make it necessary to use a computer to get weekly estimates (daily estimates in the case of Bolivia) of how much the national currency has been devaluated, so you can know what the interest paid by the local banks really means and what is happening to your money. On the other hand, people have the alternative of exchanging their money for the foreign currency of a country that pays high interest rates so that, far from being devaluated, it will rise in value, and they exchange it and deposit it in a safe place. Latin American countries with underdeveloped economies don't have an easy time of it, and they are beset by traps on all hands.

Flight of capital

I am pointing this out because, as I told you, to the figures given on interest payments and profits — to all those figures — we must add the money that leaves those countries every year, because all countries are affected, to a greater or lesser degree, by the flight of capital, mainly to the United States.

Flight of capital

You are Mexican. Just today, I read an international wire service report that contained information issued by the National Bank of Mexico, stating that the Mexican economy had lost more than \$7.6 billion through the negative flow of foreign currency in the first nine months of 1984, not only for interest on its debt (which accounted for 67 percent of the nearly \$13 billion that left the country), but also because, between January and September, the flight of foreign currency rose to more than \$2 billion. In contrast, income from loans amounted to only \$5 billion or so, with \$192 million coming in as foreign invest-

ments. At least the Central Bank of Mexico has a clear view of the foreign currency that is leaving the country.

Well, I was talking about the flight of capital. This has occurred not only in Latin America but in Europe and Japan, as well. In 1983, \$40 billion flowed to the United States, partly in response to the policy of high interest rates paid there. I understand that between \$4 and \$5 billion were transferred from the Federal Republic of Germany, which is a great industrial power, to the United States last year because interest rates there are 4.5 points higher than in the FRG. With that kind of monetary policy, money flows toward the United States from all quarters. During that same year, 1983, \$170 billion in foreign capital was invested in stocks and bonds in the United States. In order to be able to support a budgetary deficit of nearly \$200 billion and a trade deficit of another \$123 billion, you have to drain money away from the rest of the world.

And, if there is a flight of capital from such highly industrialized countries as Japan and the FRG (not to mention Spain, Italy, France and England, all of which unquestionably have industrial development — some more, some less — but which fall short of the levels achieved by the FRG and Japan), what can you expect to happen in countries with weak economies that are struggling for development and have a lot of economic and social problems, such as the countries of Latin America? What could happen? How could the Latin American countries defend themselves more successfully against a policy that is adversely affecting the rest of the more developed industrial powers?

Unequal terms of trade

Other factors have also contributed to this crisis and to this debt, and I'm going to mention them to you. One of them — a really decisive one — is unequal terms of trade. This phenomenon has existed throughout history and can be traced precisely during the last four decades. I believe that economists should study and analyze this phenomenon more deeply in order to understand its essence and mechanisms better. It is a kind of law that operates in trade between the developing and the industrialized countries. I've already mentioned this: the constantly rising prices for the equipment, machinery, and other finished products we import from the industrialized countries, together with the declining purchasing power of the developing countries' basic exports.

The purchasing power of those products as a whole, including oil, dropped 21.9 percent — almost 22 percent — between 1980 and 1984. This means that, if you take these products as a whole, some of whose prices dropped more than others, if with a given amount of those products you could buy 100 units of something in 1980, in 1984 you could buy only 78 with the same amount.

This is a very important element. If Latin America's exports in 1984 were worth \$94,790 million, the near 22-percent drop in their purchasing power, in itself, meant a loss of nearly \$20 billion just because of the deterioration in the terms of trade.

To this must be added what we have lost through high interest rates — rates that are

Continued on next page

Jackson: liberal proimperialism

Continued from Page 4

means looking not to liberal politicians, but to millions of workers and farmers who — unlike the capitalist politicians, whether liberal or right-wing — have a class interest in opposing imperialism's war in Central America.

Farmers seeking to combat plunder by the banks and grain merchants will get no help from capitalist "friends of the farmer" like Jesse Jackson. They will advance by relying on their own strength, and reaching out for fighting alliances with the unions, Blacks, and other oppressed and exploited people.

Blacks and other oppressed nationalities will advance by a militant fight for their own demands, not by dropping them in deference to liberal "allies." This fight will inspire growing support from other workers, farmers, and oppressed people, many of whom increasingly look on Black working people, and those of other oppressed nationalities, as an example and as leaders in their own struggles.

Working people need to break with the electoralist illusion that progress comes from electing "good" capitalist politicians

and then "lobbying" them to adopt progressive legislation.

Progress comes from the organized, massive independent power of the working people. The working class and its allies will continue to pay the price of imperialist wars and capitalist exploitation until that independent power is organized politically to fight to bring a workers and farmers government to power.

An example of a step in this direction is a small vanguard organization, the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP), that puts forward an anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist program.

NBIPP is an indication of the direction that not only Black working people, but the entire labor movement needs to take. The formation of a labor party based on the unions, as part of a consistent struggle against all the attacks on working people by the employers and their government, would open the road to forging an alliance between workers and exploited farmers. This alliance would overturn capitalist political rule, establish a workers and farmers government, and expropriate the ruling families and all their holdings.

Ghana: defense committees fight imperialism

BY ERNEST HARSCH

ACCRA, Ghana — The square in front of the old Parliament House here was packed on March 9 with several hundred activists of the popular Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDRs).

Workers from the nearby Tema industrial complex, women in jeans or traditional dress, youths with T-shirts proclaiming "Power to the People," uniformed members of the People's Militia — they all turned out to mark the opening of the new offices of the CDRs' National Secretariat. Symbolically, it was the Parliament House itself that was being turned over to the CDRs for their national headquarters.

Known until this past December as the People's Defense Committees and Workers Defense Committees, the CDRs are the mass-based organizations that provide the backbone of this West African country's struggle against imperialist domination. For the past three years — ever since a group of left-wing and anti-imperialist officers and political activists seized power on Dec. 31, 1981 — the CDRs have played a major role in mobilizing the population to take an active part in that struggle, whether it is in their workplaces, villages, military units, or residential areas.

Grace Smith, a member of the CDR National Secretariat, declared in her opening address to the March 9 gathering that the various programs initiated by the CDRs since they were reorganized and renamed in December "are ample testimony to their indomitable will to succeed in the tasks of mobilization, production, education, and defense of our country and to inculcate the spirit of self-reliance in the minds of Ghanaians, which is essential to our survival." She said that "there is no limit to the contributions they can make to the national welfare."

One important contribution is in security. On a modest scale, CDR activists are being trained for certain military duties.

This was demonstrated during the ceremony with a brief inspection drill of a unit of uniformed militia members (both men and women) of the Accra District CDRs. Their banner, declaring "No U Turn," expressed their determination to push forward Ghana's anti-imperialist struggle.

400,000 activists

The day before the ceremony, Yaw Ak-rasi-Sarpong, a member of the secretariat of the governing Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) headed by Rawl-

ings, spoke to a group of 18 North American activists (including myself) at the CDRs' old national offices. He explained that while the CDRs have many more formal members, some 400,000 of them are "active, militant, core members." He estimated that the CDRs were thus the largest mass organization in the country.

Thousands of CDRs are organized in villages, factories, offices, markets, schools, military units, and urban neighborhoods. Each one comprises from 40 to 100 people and elects four leaders for one-year terms. Local CDRs are then represented on higher coordinating bodies at the district, regional, and national levels.

In Ghana today, the term "defense" encompasses a wide range of activities, from political and cultural events to economic development projects. So CDR activists carry out a variety of tasks.

In urban areas, they help in the distribution of essential goods through the CDR-run People's Shops. Along the borders they keep guard against smuggling. In the villages and rural areas they organize literacy classes and provide assistance to farmers.

Ferment in the factories

The workplace CDRs have been especially militant, often more so than the trade unions (though many workers belong to both).

In both privately owned and state-run enterprises, they have fought in defense of workers' living standards and in opposition to abuses and profiteering by management personnel. In 1982 and 1983 in particular, defense committees in several enterprises booted out corrupt managers and installed new ones in their place. While the government has sought to discourage the spread of such actions, it has not opposed those that have occurred.

The CDRs today are officially open to everyone who supports Ghana's anti-imperialist struggle. Originally, when they were first formed in 1982, traditional chiefs, managers, and technical staff could not belong, but these formal restrictions were later lifted at the insistence of the PNDC.

In a discussion with the North American delegation, one national CDR leader explained this change, stressing that at the current stage of Ghana's struggle, "there is a need to bring in everybody who has something to contribute. We've got to work together."

He added however, that the CDRs still



Militant/Ernest Harsch

Militia unit in March 9 celebration in Accra, Ghana, marking opening of new national offices of Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.

do not want as members "chiefs and others who use their positions to take their 10 percent [in kickbacks], those who abuse their powers, those with foreign bank accounts, the *kalabule* people." *Kalabule* is the Ghanaian word for corruption and illegal economic dealings.

"They are enemies," he said.

A sharp struggle

Indeed, since their inception, the CDRs have come into sharp conflict with those social layers that benefit from exploitation and oppression: big cocoa farmers who smuggle their crops to neighboring Ivory Coast and Togo; reactionary chiefs opposed to any weakening of their influence in the countryside; wealthy merchants and sectors of the commercial bourgeoisie; imperialist corporations; and policemen, soldiers, and officials in state enterprises who engage in graft and corruption.

CDR activists have done much to combat the activities of these elements — and have come under attack as a result. Some have been killed by right-wing gangs and others dismissed from their jobs by management.

A major right-wing slander campaign has been underway against the CDRs for some time, occasionally taking advantage of bureaucratic or adventurist actions by some of the CDR leaderships. These slanders have not always been answered adequately.

The CDRs face other difficulties as well: meager material resources, a shortage of experienced cadres, and the lack of a national political organization that could provide a clearer focus for the anti-imperialist struggle.

Mobilizing against imperialist attack

Nevertheless, the CDRs serve as an important bulwark against attempts by imperialism and reactionary Ghanaians to overthrow the Rawlings government. On several occasions when there have been coup attempts or incursions by armed Ghanaian exile groups, CDR militants

have poured into the streets to set up roadblocks or to help round up the armed bands.

They have also helped mobilize hundreds of thousands of Ghanaians for demonstrations and rallies in support of the government's progressive measures. This has been especially important in face of the tremendous political and economic pressures Ghana is under from imperialism.

From time to time, Rawlings and other leaders have criticized the activities of some CDRs, accusing them of carrying out rash or premature actions. These criticisms have caused disquiet among a layer of CDR and political activists.

In an effort to allay such anxieties, J.Y. Assasie, the political counselor for the economic development of the CDRs (the top CDR position today), declared in a national radio and television broadcast on March 5 that "the vitality of the CDRs is irrevocably bound up with the socio-political and economic development of this country."

"It cannot be denied," Assasie continued, "that whatever their past weaknesses and mistakes, the Defense Committees have made an important positive impact on many aspects of our lives."

"We cannot fail to observe that over the past three years your Defense Committees have exerted the most militant expressions of patriotism, dedication and creativity, and have applied themselves to the task of attempting to build a society exploited by none, and exploiting nobody."

Speaking to the North American delegation a few days later, Ak-rasi-Sarpong struck a similar note, stating that the CDRs were "organs of popular power" and that "the government is committed to using them as an effective forum of the working people."

Despite the difficulties they face, it is clear that the CDRs are a major force in Ghanaian politics today. They have drawn ordinary Ghanaians — farmers, workers, market women, unemployed youth — into active political life on a scale unprecedented in Ghana's history.

Castro on foreign debt crisis

Continued from preceding page

higher than the ones that were in effect when the debt, or a large part of it, was contracted and which remain artificially high. Because of this, we have already lost more than 10 billion — in the interest that is superimposed each year.

To this, we must add the loss consisting of the real increase in the debt and its corresponding interest caused by the overvaluation of the dollar. If you received \$100 billion, and dollars are now overvalued by 30 percent — I'm going to say 30, not 40, percent here — your debt objectively increased by \$30 billion, plus the interest on that \$30 billion.

Then, in just these four ways — because of our being charged extra for their products and being paid less for ours, compared to the situation in 1980; because of the artificially high interest rates, a consequence of the United States' monetary policy; because of the flight of capital; and because of the fact that we are paying with more expensive dollars, inflated ones, that have been overvalued — the Latin American countries' economies were illegitimately stripped of more than \$45 billion in 1984; \$20 billion for the deterioration in trade relations, \$10 billion for excessive interest, \$10 billion for the flight of capital and \$5 billion (a conservative estimate) for the overvaluation of the dollar. Adding it all up, including what can be considered normal interest on the debt, in just one year the Latin American countries have turned values equal to around \$70 billion over to the rich, developed world. And \$50 billion of that was in cash.

Can the Latin American countries'

economies withstand that drain? Can they continue to withstand it? Can anyone think about political and social stability in the Latin American countries, when they are subjected to such unheard of, ruthless extortion? Can such demands be upheld from the moral point of view? Is this policy — of overvalued dollars; of exorbitant interest rates; of the unfair trade relations that are imposed on all of us; of the promotion of and support for repressive, bloody governments, which has happened in several states; of the economic theories and formulas and the monetaristic formulas that advisers recommended be applied in those countries; and of the irresponsible lending of fabulous sums without any concern about what that money was invested in or what it was used for — is this policy fair or defensible?

If you consider and analyze the fact that this phenomenon of the deterioration in the terms of trade has occurred, historically, for decades and that it is a problem that has been discussed in the Third World, in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and in the United Nations when the need for the New International Economic Order or a new world economic order was expressed, and if, to this and to everything else I have already pointed out, you add the protectionist policies of the richest industrialized countries, plus the dumping and unfair competition with subsidized products which those same industrialized countries habitually engage in, how can you fail to understand the difficulties and the terrible crisis to which Latin America is now subjected?

(to be continued)

Tour to celebrate 2nd anniversary of revolution in Burkina Faso

This summer, political activists will have an opportunity to see firsthand the unfolding anti-imperialist revolution in the West African country of Burkina. For two weeks, from July 30 to August 13, a solidarity tour will be visiting Burkina, organized by the Burkina Faso Cultural Project.

According to an invitation letter, "It is a tour organized as an answer to the call issued by President Thomas Sankara during his visit here last year, to see a group of progressive and politically minded people come and discover the realities of the country and its revolution."

The tour is being organized in conjunction with the second anniversary celebrations of the Aug. 4, 1983, mass anti-imperialist upsurge that brought Sankara's National Council of the Revolution to power. Besides attending the celebrations,

participants will have a chance to meet political leaders, talk to activists in the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, see economic development projects, and visit Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso, and other parts of the country.

The \$935 cost for the tour includes round-trip airfare from New York City and lodging, food, and ground transportation in Burkina. A space can be reserved with a \$100 nonrefundable deposit. Full payment is due by July 10.

Make checks or money orders payable to: The Burkina Faso Cultural Projects Fund, c/o Burkina Faso Mission to the United Nations, 115 E. 73rd St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

For reservations and further information, call Mounoubai: (212) 288-7515 (weekdays) or (914) 948-4196 (weekends and evenings).

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Malcolm X Forum. Showing of film, *Tribute to Malcolm X*. Speakers: Akua Buda, Free South Africa Movement; representative of the Republic of New Africa; Samuel Farley, National Black Independent Political Party. (NBIPP) Sun., May 19, 5 p.m. Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyers at Curtis. Ausp: NBIPP. For more information call (313) 892-2428.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Anti-apartheid Divestment Movement. Speakers: Tanaquil Jones, steering committee, Columbia Coalition for a Free South Africa; Lisa Williamson, chair, Rutgers New Brunswick Divestment Coalition; representative of Young Socialist Alliance. Translation to Spanish. Wed., May 22, 7 p.m. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

An Evening Dedicated to the Salvadoran Women. Event will include four videotapes, poetry, and serving of typical Salvadoran foods. Sat., May 25, 7 p.m. Casa de Las Americas, 104 W 14th St., 3rd floor. Ausp: El Salvador Media Project. For more information call (212) 989-0541.

Memorial Tribute to Ethel and Julius Rosenberg. Wed., June 19, 7 p.m. Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, 30 W 68th St. Donation: \$5. Ausp: National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case. For more information and reservations call (212) 228-4500.

OHIO

Toledo

Socialist Publication Fund Rally and Bookstore Open House. Speakers: John Gage, Socialist Workers Party National Committee member; Randy Warren, member United Auto Workers Local 12, recently returned from Nicaragua. Sat., May 18, Reception, 6 p.m.; rally, 7:30 p.m. 2120 Dorr St. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (419) 536-0383.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Nicaragua: The Sandinista People's Revolution. Rally to celebrate publication of book by Pathfinder Press. Speakers: Martin Koppel, editor, *Perspectiva Mundial*; Benjamin Ramos,

Nicaragua tours

Socio-educational tour on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Tour dates: July 16-29. Cost \$900 from Miami.

Sponsored by Casa Nicaragua, which will conduct three seminars prior to tour to help participants understand developments in Nicaragua. For more information write Casa Nicaragua, 1239 Broadway, room 802, New York, N.Y. 10001. Or telephone (212) 696-4792.

Performers, artists, and writers tour of Nicaragua. Sponsored by VENTANA, a cultural workers organization in solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution. Tour hosted by Sandinista Association of Cultural Workers (ASTC) in Nicaragua.

Tour dates: July 17-28. For application forms contact VENTANA, 250 W 54th St., room 800, New York, N.Y. 10019 or telephone (212) 586-3700.

Forums on Vietnam 10 yrs after victory

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Vietnam: Victory for Humanity. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Victory Over the U.S. War. Sat., May 18, 7:30 p.m. 205 18 St S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (205) 323-3079.

CALIFORNIA

Oakland

Vietnam: An Eyewitness Report. Presentation and slideshow by Diane Wang, member of National Committee of Socialist Workers Party and a garment worker, toured Vietnam and Kampuchea in 1984. Coauthor of *Report from Vietnam and Kampuchea*. Translation to Spanish. Wed., May 22, 6 p.m. 3808 E 14 St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (415) 261-3014.

San Francisco

Vietnam: An Eyewitness Report. Presentation and slideshow by Diane Wang, member of National Committee of SWP and garment worker, toured Vietnam and Kampuchea in 1984. Coauthor of *Report from Vietnam and Kampuchea*. Translation to Spanish. Tue., May 21, 7 p.m. 3284 23rd St., 7 p.m. Dona-

tion: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (415) 282-6255.

San Jose

Vietnam and Kampuchea Today: The Lessons for the New Antiwar Movement. Speaker: Diane Wang, coauthor of *Report from Vietnam and Kampuchea*, based on her tour there in 1984, garment worker and member National Committee of Socialist Workers Party and executive committee of Vietnam 10th Anniversary Committee.

In two parts: "Revolution in Vietnam," Sat., May 18, 11 a.m. and "Women in Vietnam," Sat., May 18, 1 p.m. 46 1/2 Race St. **Socialist Publication Fund Rally.** Slideshows and presentations on Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Nicaragua by Diane Wang and Janice Lynn, just returned from Nicaragua. All events translated to Spanish and sponsored by San Jose Young Socialist Alliance. Donations requested. For more information call (408) 998-4007.

KENTUCKY

Louisville

Vietnam: Why the U.S. Fought, Why the Vietnamese Won. Speakers: Morris Starsky, professor fired for his antiwar views during Vietnam War; Dean Athans, member Socialist Workers Party. Sun., May 19, 7:30

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Alaska Airlines Strike. Speaker: Chuck Easley, general chairperson, IAM District Lodge 143 and a chief negotiator for IAM Lodge 2202; others. Sat., May 18, 4 p.m. 5517 Rainier Ave S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

p.m. 809 E Broadway. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh

Commemoration of 10th Anniversary of Victory of Vietnamese Revolution. Speaker: Dave Ferguson, member Socialist Workers Party. Sun., May 19, 7 p.m. 402 N Highland. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

UTAH

Salt Lake City

Vietnam: The Fight Against U.S. Imperialism and the Lessons for Today. Speaker: Fred Halstead, member National Committee Socialist Workers Party and author of *Out Now!*, a participant's account of the movement against the Vietnam War.

Two classes: "History of the Vietnam War," Sat., May 18, 1 p.m. "The Anti-Vietnam War Movement and Its Lessons for Today," Sat., May 18, 3 p.m. Translation to Spanish. 767 S State St., 3rd floor. Donation: \$2 per class. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (801) 355-1124 or 637-6294 (Price).

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

Nicaragua: An Eyewitness Report. Speaker: Marge Sorensen, Socialist Workers Party, just returned from tour of Nicaragua. Sat., May 18, 7:30 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

president, Puerto Rican Alliance; Bernie Dinkin, Philadelphia Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; Leonel Cepeda, ISTMO; Mario Davila, Salvadoran. Translation to Spanish. Sun., May 19, 7 p.m. 2744 Germantown Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 225-0213.

L.A. comparable worth is victory for unions

Continued from front page

ers. The study also showed that in the highest paid jobs, such as skilled crafts, officials, and administrators in certain community development services jobs, women constituted only 1 percent to 7 percent of the work force, while in the lowest-paid jobs, particularly "clerical and office" jobs, women constituted 74.9 percent, and in paraprofessional jobs, 66 percent. In fact, the only low-paid category in which women did not predominate was in janitorial classifications. The union noted that while this category was predominantly male, it was also more than 80 percent minority workers.

In perhaps the clearest example of generalized wage discrimination, the study showed that while 82 percent of women

city workers earned less than \$25,000 a year, 62 percent of male city workers earned more than \$25,000 a year.

In 1984 the city finally agreed to negotiate based on the union's study. The May 10 vote is the culmination of a nearly four-year battle by the union to tackle institutionalized wage discrimination against women.

In a phone interview with the *Militant*, Luis Rodriguez, public affairs associate for

AFSCME in Los Angeles, said that the mood among the union members here, both male and female, is one of elation. Rodriguez said that the unity forged around this fight for one section of the union's membership has strengthened the union as a whole. At the same time, he said, the union understands that this victory must be safeguarded and strengthened. "This does not close the door on sex discrimination," he said.

N.Y. campaign rally hits U.S. war

Continued from back page

pledges at the rally. Some of the biggest applause of the evening came for two special guests who addressed the rally briefly, longtime Irish freedom activist George Harrison and Puerto Rican community leader Nic Sanchez.

Harrison said it was a privilege for him to endorse the Socialist Workers candidates and that he considered this "the correct position for a supporter of the Irish freedom struggle." He had reached this conclusion in part, he said, because of his view that "the fight for Irish freedom is not an isolated phenomenon but part of the entire human struggle. I've always considered that Puerto Rico is America's Ireland — the U.S. has no more right to be there, or to blockade Cuba, or to deal with the

apartheid regime in South Africa than the Brits have to be in Ireland."

Introduced along with Harrison was another longtime Irish fighter, Tom Falvey. Both successfully fought a government attempt several years ago to imprison them for helping to get material aid to the Republican rebels in Ireland. Several other Irish activists also attended the socialist rally.

Also speaking at the rally was Mark Satinoff, SWP candidate for governor of New Jersey. Satinoff, a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance chapter in Newark, discussed the anti-apartheid movement on the campuses and other struggles of young people and urged those present to attend the YSA's upcoming convention in Chicago.

YSA convention bus N.Y./northern N.J.

Activists in New York and northern New Jersey interested in attending the 24th National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance can contact New York or Newark YSA chapters.

A bus to the convention will leave New York City on Friday evening, May 24, and will return late evening Monday, May 27. For more information call (212) 226-8474 or (201) 643-3341.

—IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP—

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

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

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

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

COLORADO: Denver: SWP, YSA, 25 W 3rd Ave. Zip: 80223. Tel: (303) 698-2550.

FLORIDA: Miami: SWP, YSA, 137 NE 54th St. Mailing address: P.O. Box 370486. Zip: 33137. Tel: (305) 756-1020. **Tallahassee:** YSA, P.O. Box 20715. Zip: 32316. Tel: (904) 222-4434.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NORTH CAROLINA: Piedmont: SWP, YSA, 2219 E. Market. Greensboro. Zip: 27401. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO: Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 4945 Pad-dock Rd. Zip: 45237. Tel: (513) 242-7161. **Cleveland:** SWP, YSA, 15105 St. Clair Ave. Zip: 44110. Tel: (216) 451-6150. **Columbus:** YSA, P.O. Box 02097. Zip: 43202. **Toledo:** SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

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

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: SWP, YSA, 2744 Germantown Ave. Zip: 19133. Tel: (215) 225-0213. **Pittsburgh:** SWP, YSA, 402 N. Highland Ave. Zip: 15206. Tel: (412) 362-6767.

TEXAS: Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Tel: (512) 452-3923.

Dallas: SWP, YSA, 132 N. Beckley Ave., Zip: 75203. Tel: (214) 943-5195. **Houston:** SWP, YSA, 4806 Almeda. Zip: 77004. Tel: (713) 522-8054.

UTAH: Price: SWP, YSA, 23 S. Carbon Ave., Suite 19, P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. **Morgantown:** SWP, YSA, 767 S. State, 3rd floor. Zip: 84111. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.: SWP, YSA, 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699.

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

WEST VIRGINIA: Charleston: SWP, YSA, 422 Shrewsbury St. Zip: 25301. Tel: (304) 345-3040. **Morgantown:** SWP, YSA, 221 Pleasant St. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

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

Taking care of business — What with 45 of the nation's major war contractors under criminal investigation, the Pentagon is mak-



Harry Ring

ing sure it doesn't get ripped off on the Star Wars project. So, a group of companies has been assigned to check out its feasibility. The investigators include six of the ten

top Star Wars contractors.

Clip artists — A war contractor billed taxpayers \$10,713 for operating losses suffered by its executive barber shop.

2 cheers — Another contractor, with 15,000 employees, put in a \$12,333 tab for two season tickets to a local sports arena. It was a legit expense, they explained, because it boosted employee morale.

Stretch for Jesus — Cardinal O'Connor led a "Youth Alive in Christ" rally at Yankee Stadium. The program included something called "sacred aerobics." What's that? According to one news ac-

count it "consisted mostly of waving arms up and down and opening them to the sky to recorded inspirational music."

Oh — A Coca Cola official says the "new" Coke has the same ingredients as the old one, but they've been "optimized."

Brief ego trip — We were thinking of putting in for an American Express Platinum Card, which among other things, will get you a cut-rate country club membership. We didn't blink at the \$250 annual fee or that to qualify you had to have run up bills of at least ten thou for each of the past two years. But then we learned

50,000 other people have them, so the hell with it.

Working both sides of the street — Kraft foods has acquired Frusen Glädjé, the calorie-soaked ice cream. And also Borg, a manufacturer of bathroom scales.

And meet new friends — It started in L.A. but aims to become nationwide. The Doggery Animal Center. After a hard day on the living room couch, take the pooch down for an aerobic workout on the treadmill with a followup in the sauna or Jacuzzi. A snack or drink on the patio and then browsing in the collar and leash boutique. Or, perhaps, sit for a

portrait.

For the record — As an afterthought, we'll try to stop calling Quaker State an oil company. A press statement admonishes that it's to be called, "a consumer marketing company serving the automotive aftermarket."

Would you buy a used bus from this man? — After persistent breakdowns, New York (Edward Koch, mayor) ordered 851 Grumman buses off the street and sued for \$324 million. Now the city is offering the buses for sale — strictly "as is" — and with the stipulation they not be used in the city. So far, no takers.

Protest cop bombing of Philadelphia Black community

Continued from front page

As a signal of what was to come, Mayor W. Wilson Goode stated at a 3:30 p.m. Monday news conference, "We intend to take control of the house by any means necessary. I am totally convinced that the group is bent on violent confrontation."

Two hours later at 5:27 p.m., in a dramatic escalation of the violence, a state police helicopter dropped a bomb on the MOVE home. Within minutes the house burst into flames. By 6:15 the fire had spread to the adjoining houses. But the fire chief did not declare the first alarm. By 9:30 p.m. the fire had reached six alarms. The blaze was finally declared under control at 11:41 p.m. By that time 61 homes had been destroyed, leaving 240 people homeless.

Refused to fight fire

Once the fire began fire fighters and their battery of equipment withdrew. On Wednesday, May 15, while the ruins of the 61 buildings were still smoldering the fire department acknowledged that their retreat was a conscious decision. Fire Commissioner Richmond described a plan to subordinate the fire department's role to the tactical considerations of a military assault.

As the fire raged, the cops kicked in the front door and windows of the MOVE home. At that point Ramona Johnson Africa, 30, and a small child identified as Birdie Africa with burns over 20 percent of their bodies, fled the flaming wreckage. They were tackled by the cops. Six cops and two dogs were assigned to the child at the emergency room of Children's Hospital. Ramona Africa, taken separately to Misericordia Hospital, was treated briefly by five paramedics and then hustled in hospital gown and slippers, her arms bandaged, to the police administration building. She was arrested on 16 different charges. In a three-minute arraignment bail was set at \$3 million.

Throughout the siege, the press and witnesses were detained by force behind police barricades. Police searched reporters and confiscated tapes and notes. Photographers had film and camera equipment seized.

In the days leading up to the siege highly charged reports appeared in the media describing MOVE as a radical, filthy group that used obscenities and harangued the neighborhood.

Mayor Goode charged the MOVE group with being "dedicated to the destruction of our entire way of life."

History of cop attacks

The cops and city government's harassment of MOVE goes back over an extended period of time. In 1977 and '78 for 15 months the city maintained a massive police blockade involving 250 cops around

Protest meeting

The Philadelphia Militant Labor Forum is sponsoring a speak-out against the mayor's and cops' murderous attack on MOVE and the burning of 61 homes in West Philadelphia. Forum will be Saturday, May 18, 8 p.m. at 2744 Germantown Ave. (near Lehigh). Featured speaker will be Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York City.

a different MOVE home. The blockade was designed to "starve out 18 members of the group." Although a negotiated agreement had been reached between MOVE and the city administration, the cops launched a predawn military raid on the house on August 8, which left five people wounded and one cop dead. Ten MOVE members were charged with murder in the death of the cop and sentenced to prison.

In the aftermath of this attack the cops continued their harassment of MOVE. Since 1981 different MOVE members have been charged with "criminal conspiracy" and "making terroristic threats." In December 1982 two members were convicted of these charges and sentenced to up to 12 years in prison. The city admits it has kept MOVE under surveillance for over a year.

Community angry

Despite the big-business media's attempt to blame MOVE for the devastation in the aftermath of the fire, community anger is growing and focusing on the police.

Boston forum celebrates Vietnam anniversary

BY JANE ROLAND

BOSTON — "Nothing could stop the people of Vietnam from fighting for their freedom, and nothing will stop the people of Central America either," said Frank Ramirez at the Militant Labor Forum held May 11 commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Vietnamese revolution. Ramirez, a pro-Sandinista Nicaraguan living in the United States, explained he is proud to be the brother of one of the martyrs and heroes of Nicaragua — his sister was a guerrilla commander who died in combat.

His comments typified the discussion at the forum as a number of speakers drew the connection between the U.S. war against Vietnam and the U.S. war against Central America.

A special guest at the forum was Maybelin Larios, assistant director of primary schools in Bluefields on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and a Miskito Indian. She is currently touring here with the Educators Organization of Central America.

Larios explained how important the example of Vietnam is to the people of Nicaragua. "I place the problem in your hands," she said, "to stop your government from turning Central America into another Vietnam."

The very fact that this Militant Labor Forum took place with no disruption or harassment and that 60 people attended it was a victory. Forum supporters had launched an emergency campaign to defend the meeting and ensure its safety after similar meetings in San Jose, California, and St. Paul, Minnesota, were the focus of attacks by groupings of right-wing Vietnamese thugs. The campaign gained support for the right of the forum to proceed from a broad layer of movement activists, civil libertarians, and trade unionists.

For example, Howard Zinn, professor of political science at Boston University, released a statement asking that the city of Boston "defend the constitutional right of the SWP [Socialist Workers Party] to peaceably conduct its activity in this area and that you ensure its protection against at-

The *Militant* interviewed a group of young Blacks watching the smoldering homes. One young resident said, "that fire burned for an hour before they did anything. If this was a white neighborhood do you think they would have let it go like that?" Another young man commented "this was racism, open racism, just like in South Africa."

Anger was directed at Goode as well as at the cops. One man told the *Militant* "Goode may be Black but he's the same thing." Another man said that "Wilson No Goode should be his name."

A woman told *Militant* correspondents that "young people are angry seeing all these houses burned. The cops say with this they can burn up anybody's house they don't like."

Inside the huge GM assembly plant in nearby Wilmington, Delaware, Black workers on the assembly line were following on car radios the developments in West Philadelphia. Word spread quickly that the police had bombed the MOVE home. Alison Davis, a GM worker, told the *Militant*

that one woman's immediate response was, "they just bombed us."

Another worker said "they did this for the same reason they bombed Grenada. They want to make an example of anyone who tries to stand up to this government. This lets you know they are willing to blow you away if necessary."

Reports have begun to appear about protests during the siege. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* reported that as the fire raged a car with a loud speaker circled the block calling on Mayor Goode to "stop this mass murder because that's what it is — mass murder." Onlookers applauded these statements and were angered when cops detained the passengers.

A statement by the Philadelphia Socialist Workers Party condemned "the murderous attack on MOVE and the Black community." The socialists called on "all trade unionists, Black rights fighters, opponents of the U.S. war in Central America and supporters of democratic rights to condemn this brutal, racist attack."

tack." Other messages came from Mobilization for Survival, Oxfam America, the *Indochina Newsletter*, the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, and the Boston Alliance Against Registration and the Draft. A number of unionists called the mayor's office, including local leaders of the Coalition of Labor Union Women who learned about the forum at a recent public meeting launching a CLUW chapter here.

After a week of phone calls and messages, a meeting was set up between an aide to the mayor and forum organizers. Although the city would not provide enough police to prevent a possible attack from taking place, they did send squad cars into the area. The real defense of the meeting was the political campaign waged both in Boston and around the country, which made any right-wing Vietnamese thugs considering an attack think twice.

Many people volunteered to help marshal the meeting, including activists from the Committee to Aid the Salvadoran Teachers Union, the NICA Language School, Lawrence Central America Solidarity Association, the Grenada Solidarity Committee, Artists Brigade, and other sol-

idarity groups, as well as student activists from area colleges and high schools, and a number of unionists. Many of these volunteers came not only out of solidarity with the right of the meeting to proceed, but also to listen to the truth about Vietnam for the first time.

Don Gurewitz, speaking for the Socialist Workers Party, explained the big government and media campaign of lies about Vietnam. Another parallel to Vietnam was drawn by Dominique Ghossein, an Arab-American activist. She pointed out that even as we celebrate this victory in Vietnam, we can also celebrate another victory — that of the powerful resistance movement growing in Lebanon. "The Israeli army is scared," she said. "To them every Palestinian and Lebanese man, woman, and child is a Vietcong."

Other speakers included Felix Arroyo, a well-known Puerto Rican community activist, and David Stratman, former director of the National Coalition for Public Education and former consultant to the Massachusetts Teachers Association. Vietnam Veteran Artists, who were unable to attend, sent a message.

Kansas farm activists fight frame-up

Continued from back page

Other speakers at the rally included Dwight Kershner, former Kansas state spokesperson of the American Agriculture Movement; Doug Thompson, attorney for the defendants; the Jensens; and Margaret Ringer.

"Unless this is done, farmers will continue to lose, we'll continue to see family-type agriculture destroyed."

In his speech to the rally, Hansen drew parallels with the history of the fight for Black equality in the United States. Referring to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s letter from a Birmingham jail, Hansen pointed out, "Freedom is never given, it has to be taken. One day we will look back and be proud of the role we played here today."

Darrell Ringer closed the rally. He explained that at the trial the defense would

address the following questions: "Do people have a right to protest the abuse of power? Was U.S. farm policy to blame for the sellout of family farmers? Was it intended for this to happen?"

"We must fight this battle for future generations," he said. "Cowardice will not help the farmer. We must struggle valiantly, unafraid of the abuse we will face. The sales will stop when we stop them."

The Jensens and the Ringers face a tough fight. It is one they are confident they can win. But they need all the help they can get. Farm organizations, unions, and civil rights groups should get behind them. For information, and to contribute to the defense effort, contact North American Farm Alliance, P.O. Box 2502, Ames, Iowa 50010; telephone: (515) 232-1008.

Cops terrorize Black community

Opponents of racist government-cop terror and all supporters of democratic rights around the country should strongly protest the murderous attack carried out by the Philadelphia city government and city and state cops against the Black community and the predominantly Black group MOVE on May 13. (See front page story.)

At least 11 people, including four children, were killed in a cop helicopter bombing and subsequent fire that destroyed 61 homes in a working-class neighborhood of West Philadelphia. Why? Because the mayor and cops said MOVE was a "bizarre," "radical," and "militant" organization "bent on violent confrontation."

Prior to the bombing, Mayor W. Wilson Goode told reporters, "We intend to take control of the house by any means necessary." After the terror bombing, deaths and massive destruction, Goode said that if he had the decision to make again, "I would do it again."

He referred to the fire, which the fire department would not fight for more than an hour and a half, as an "accident."

In fact the fire department, which had been mobilized as part of the siege, withdrew as the fire began. Later the department admitted they had agreed to subordinate fire fighting to the cops' military tactics. As one youth explained, "The fire burned for an hour before they did anything. If this was a white neighborhood, do you think they would have let it go on like that?"

Clearly part of the purpose of the terrorist attack on MOVE was aimed at intimidating the entire Black community. The racist nature of the attack has been covered

up by the big-business news media and supporters of Goode, the first Black elected as mayor of the city.

Despite the claims of the cops and city officials, MOVE had not planned a violent confrontation or attacked anyone. If they had, they surely would have been charged and arrested by the cops. That's why the city government had to find a pretext to launch the criminal attack: an eviction notice, failure to pay back utility bills, and complaints by area neighbors.

Once the pretext was found, the city's rulers used a military-type force of hundreds of cops to violently smash the group and terrorize the Black community. MOVE's relative isolation made this easier to do.

While MOVE is the victim of this combined cop and government assault, the ultimate target is the rights and lives of working people and others who hold or advocate ideas that the capitalists consider beyond the pale. This can include groups and individuals organizing for Black rights, supporting Puerto Rican independence, solidarizing with unions on strike, and fighting the U.S. war in Central America — in brief, anyone opposing U.S. government policy at home or abroad.

A muted response to the bloody violence in Philadelphia can only give the capitalists encouragement to step up their attacks on Blacks and other working people. The killings there should be roundly condemned by all supporters of democratic rights.

The cops and city officials responsible should immediately be brought to justice.

How Trotsky saw trade union tasks under imperialism

There are no simple answers on how trade unionists can mobilize to fight back against the combined capitalist government-employer attacks against workers in this country and internationally. But a good beginning is understanding the relationship of trade unions to the capitalist government and to imperialist war.

This is discussed by Leon Trotsky, a leader of the 1917 Russian revolution, in an article he wrote at the outset of World War II, called "Trade Unions in the Epoch of Imperialist Decay." The excerpts from that article below are taken from the pamphlet, *Leon Trotsky on the Trade Unions*, © Copyright 1969 by Merit Publishers; reprinted by permission of the publisher.

There is one common feature in the development, or more correctly the degeneration, of modern trade union organizations throughout the world: it is their drawing closely to and growing together with the state power.

Monopoly capitalism does not rest on competition and free private initiative but on centralized command. The capitalist cliques at the head of mighty trusts, syndicates, banking consortiums, etc., view economic life from the

OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

very same heights as does state power; and they require at every step the collaboration of the latter. In their turn the trade unions in the most important branches of industry find themselves deprived of the possibility of profiting by the competition among the different enterprises. They have to confront a centralized capitalist adversary, intimately bound up with state power. Hence flows the need of the trade unions — insofar as they remain on reformist positions, i.e., on positions of adapting themselves to private property — to adapt themselves to the capitalist state and to contend for its cooperation. In the eyes of the bureaucracy of the trade union movement, the chief task lies in "freeing" the state from the embrace of capitalism, in weakening its dependence on trusts, in pulling it over to their side. This position is in complete harmony with the social position of the labor aristocracy and the labor bureaucracy, who fight for a crumb in the share of super-profits of imperialist capitalism. The labor bureaucrats do their level best in words and deeds to demonstrate to the "democratic" state how reliable and indispensable they are in peacetime and especially in time of war.

Colonial and semicolonial countries are under the sway, not of native capitalism but of foreign imperialism. However, this does not weaken but, on the contrary, strengthens the need of direct, daily, practical ties between the magnates of capitalism and the governments which are in essence subject to them — the governments of colonial or semicolonial countries. Inasmuch as imperialist capitalism creates both in colonies and semicolonies a stratum of labor aristocracy and bureaucracy, the latter requires the support of colonial and semicolonial governments as protectors, patrons, and sometimes as arbitrators.

From the foregoing it seems, at first sight, easy to draw the conclusion that the trade unions cease to be trade unions in the imperialist epoch. . . . Such a position, however, would be false to the core. We cannot select the arena and the conditions for our activity to suit our own likes and dislikes.

It is necessary to adapt ourselves to the concrete conditions existing in the trade unions of every given country in order to mobilize the masses, not only against the bourgeoisie, but also against the totalitarian regime within the trade unions themselves and against the leaders enforcing this regime. The primary slogan for this struggle is: *complete and unconditional independence of the trade unions in relation to the capitalist state*. This means a struggle to turn the trade unions into the organs of the broad exploited masses and not the organs of a labor aristocracy.

The second slogan is: *trade union democracy*. This second slogan flows directly from the first and presupposes for its realization the complete freedom of the trade unions from the imperialist or colonial state.

In other words, the trade unions in the present epoch cannot simply be the organs of democracy as they were in the epoch of free capitalism and they cannot any longer remain politically neutral, that is, limit themselves to serving the daily needs of the working class. They cannot any longer be anarchistic, i.e., ignore the decisive influence of the state on the life of people and classes. They can no longer be reformist, because the objective conditions leave no room for any serious and lasting reforms. The trade unions of our time can either serve as secondary instruments of imperialist capitalism for the subordination and disciplining of workers and for obstructing the revolution, or, on the contrary, the trade unions can become the instruments of the revolutionary movement of the proletariat.

Two-party budget swindle

"I have always believed from all my past experience as a negotiator that you recognize that the other fellow is probably going to offer less than whatever you ask. And I've always kind of believed in leaving a cushion for dealing. . . . This was a deal. . . a budget that was acceptable to the Senate as well as ourselves."

That was Reagan's response to the Senate vote slicing nearly \$300 billion from federal spending the next three years, mostly from programs that offer some meager benefit to working people.

For a change, the "great communicator" was telling some part of the truth. It was a deal. And when the Democrat-controlled House votes on the budget, the congressmen will prove as much a part of the deal — swindle would be more precise — as the senators.

To be sure, House Democrats will engage in an extra bit of sleight of hand to demonstrate their pious concern for the poor. House Budget Committee chairman William Gray III (D-Pa.) says they want to spread "the burden of the spending more fairly."

No one even pretends that the House version of the budget will be substantially different from the Senate's. And the Senate version is bad news for virtually everyone in this country except the ruling rich.

The much ballyhooed "cut" in war spending is a fake. A thumping \$302.5 billion was voted for 1986, including an increase of \$9.1 billion assertedly to keep up with inflation.

And in each of the two following years, it will be an inflation increase, plus three percent.

Meanwhile, the Senate voted to skip a 1986 cost-of-living increase for Social Security, veterans benefits, and

civil service and military pensions.

This is palmed off as a "one-year" freeze in payments. Actually, of course, the amount denied increases each and every year that follows.

In addition there will be a \$16.3 billion "savings" on Medicare. Part will come from another hike in premiums. Plus a freeze on doctor and hospital payments.

For the most poor, Medicaid payments will be cut \$102 billion in the next three years.

And in the face of an escalating crisis for exploited farmers, financing for farm programs will be slashed \$15.3 billion over the next three years. If the House agrees, the farm credit emergency loan program will be scrapped.

In his original budget message, Reagan assured the cuts would not "touch the safety net for needy Americans."

One item alone, the one-year freeze on Social Security payments, will push another 400,000 people below the official poverty line. And the official definition of poverty is \$120 a week for an elderly couple.

That "safety net" already has gaping holes in it.

In the past four years, 4 million people have been disqualified for food stamps, Aid to Dependent Children, Medicaid and Supplemental Social Security Income.

Those who weren't cut off Aid to Dependent Children found their already sparse checks reduced by 9.3 percent during this time.

Meanwhile, over the next three years, the "reduced" war budget will total a mind-boggling \$1 trillion.

That's what the two ruling capitalist parties call spreading the burden more fairly.

No U.S. arms to Afghan rightists

The U.S. government is beefing up its open support to the war being waged by reactionary bands based in Pakistan against the government of Afghanistan. It is giving \$4 million in open aid to the antigovernment forces. The Senate has voted to authorize giving \$15 million.

These moves have bipartisan support. Earlier this year, Congressional Democrats successfully proposed an increase to \$250 million for 1985 in covert military aid to the proimperialist groups.

Washington is using Afghanistan to further legitimize U.S. military intervention in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The moves came as Washington imposed an economic embargo on Nicaragua, and as Congressional Democrats moved to reopen the question of voting aid to the U.S.-organized *contras* (counterrevolutionaries) against Nicaragua.

Reagan's proposal came as liberal Democrat Rep. Stephen Solarz pushed for open U.S. arms shipments to the proimperialist bands that attack Kampuchea from across the Thai border.

Washington also sees an opportunity to bleed the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. The Soviet government supports the government of Afghanistan, which borders on the Soviet Union, and has tens of thousands of troops there.

The large-scale U.S. intervention in Afghanistan has further undermined the independence of Pakistan, where

discontent is growing against the U.S.-supported military dictator, Zia ul-Haq.

Zia has received \$2.5 billion in U.S. arms since Washington began to more openly aid the Afghan rightists in 1980. In addition, most of the aid for the rightists is channeled through the Pakistani government.

The rightists hold bases in Pakistan, along its border with Afghanistan. They use these bases to launch raids into Afghanistan and to raise more money through the international heroin trade.

Despite the repressive atmosphere in Pakistan, a growing number of people openly oppose Zia's all-out support to what they call "an American war" in Afghanistan. They demand that Zia stop aiding the reactionaries and begin normalizing ties with the Afghan government.

The big-business media complain about the fact that the various rightist Afghan groups have not only not been unable to unite, but are often in violent conflict with each other. This stems in part from their reactionary character — they oppose literacy campaigns, free education, women's rights, land reform, and every other progressive idea. They burn down schools and hospitals and murder advocates of progress.

Working people in this country should stand with the working people of the world in opposing all U.S. military intervention, including U.S. aid to the rightists in Afghanistan.

Latino garment workers fight for union rights

BY PAM BURCHETT
AND FRANCISCO PICADO

LOS ANGELES — In a city with more than 100,000 garment workers and less than 5,000 of them organized into union shops, an important struggle is being waged by militant Latino workers to organize a union at the Angel Echeverria Co., Inc. The company manufactures Somma waterbeds.

Last January the workers voted 113 to 48 to affiliate with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) after an eight month organizing campaign.

The organizing began when a handful of workers began meeting off the job — often at soccer games.

UNION TALK

Through discussions and education on the job, more and more workers became convinced that a union represented a powerful weapon in their fight for dignity on the job, an end to arbitrary company discipline, an end to speed-up and wage discrimination, and for a contract that could force the company to improve working conditions.

The campaign was so well organized that it was only shortly before the election that the owner, Echeverria — who was recently named Hispanic Businessman of the Year in 1984 — got wind of how widespread the support was for the union.

After that he and his son would schedule 45 minute

mandatory chats with the workers to warn them of the dangers of unionization. They told workers that "the union is easy to get in, but difficult to get out."

They said that if the workers didn't pay union dues on time, thugs would be sent to their homes to collect them, and might even take their cars or other personal property. Despite this campaign of lies, the union was voted in by the over two-to-one ratio.

After this union victory, Echeverria responded by firing 23 of the more skilled workers and replacing them with outside contractors. Most of these fired workers were the backbone of the union organizing drive. The company also moved to prevent the fired workers from getting unemployment compensation and filed a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) suit challenging the union election results, which the union later won.

The ILGWU responded to these firings and company legal stalling by launching a public campaign to expose this union-busting and win support for the fired workers. The 23 fired workers began to picket the shop 12 hours a day, five days a week. The picket lines have been spirited and on lunch breaks workers from the plant joined the pickets, who are also supported by ILGWU members from other garment shops around the city.

The picket line also received important support from the Latino community. On the first day a community support religious ceremony was held outside the plant. Later a fund-raising dance at the union hall was attended by over 500 workers and more than \$1,500 was raised for

the union fighters. Workers inside the shop have made contributions and longshore and railroad workers who handle Somma products have been supportive.

The union also organized a boycott of Somma water beds, which included picketing stores that sold them. So far 35 stores have agreed not to sell them while the boycott is on.

On Tuesday, April 30, an NLRB ruling forced the company to rehire eight of the 23 fired workers with full back pay. The next day, Wednesday, Echeverria responded to this new union victory by firing another member of the union.

The local ILGWU organizing committee responded by calling a full strike of all the workers in the plant on Thursday morning. All but 35 joined the picket line. This forced the company to back down and by noon on Friday they were compelled to rehire the fired worker and take back all the workers who had joined the strike.

The ILGWU is planning to continue the picket line at Echeverria's plant and boycott of Somma beds until the remaining 15 workers who were initially fired get their jobs back. This includes continuing to organize support for the struggling Echeverria workers in the Latino community.

A union-initiated community coalition held its first meeting on May 8. It was attended by some 35 young community activists who are eager to build this important prouion campaign in the Latino community.

Pam Burchett and Francisco Picado are members of ILGWU Local 482 in Los Angeles.

AMC demands 'unconditional surrender' of the UAW

BY TOBY EMMERICH

TOLEDO, Ohio — American Motors Corporation (AMC) has stepped up its plans to close its Kenosha and Milwaukee plants in Wisconsin and permanently lay off over 6,000 workers. In fact, AMC has already begun preparing the press shop in Toledo's Jeep plant to receive machinery from Milwaukee-Kenosha. This includes major sheet-metal presses.

Local 72 of the United Automobile Workers (UAW) in Kenosha reports that Department 813, which builds axles for AMC cars and jeeps, is being permanently eliminated and the work out sourced to the Dana Corp. in Toledo. In the interim, however, a new axle line is being built at Jeep.

The union says in its plant newsletter that "AMC's strategy is to out source all machining from Kenosha and make Kenosha strictly an auto assembly plant with no connection to Toledo Jeep production."

In a May 3 letter to the UAW's AMC department head at Solidarity House, Ray Majerus, AMC vice-president of personnel and industrial relations, Richard Calmes, demands the following "specific commitments" from the union:

- Remain in the AMC profit-sharing plan.
- Reduce the number of union representatives.
- Reduce health-care coverage.
- Eliminate one week of yearly vacation and four paid bonus and personal days.
- Reduce wages for all workers (a minimum of \$.37 cents an hour immediately).
- Deepen two-tier wages for new hires.
- Install no-strike clause in AMC grievance procedure modeled on GM/UAW accord.
- Revise seniority, bidding, bumping, transfer, work assignment, layoff and recall rights.
- Raise production standards.
- Reduce relief time.
- Revise right to subcontract in-plant work done by nonunion personnel.
- Revise working agreement and plant work practices to make plants more efficient and competitive.

AMC ends the ultimatum by stating that if all these commitments are not met by May 24, Kenosha and Milwaukee will be shut within 60 days.

Rudy Kuzel, Local 72 UAW president in Kenosha, said AMC rejected the union

proposal to bargain the issues as part of contract talks. The current contract expires September 15, 1985.

Informed UAW sources at Jeep told this reporter that the union had prior knowledge of AMC's plans to close the plants and this list of takebacks will just be the pretext if the UAW refuses to buckle under.

On May 9, UAW leaders in Wisconsin called AMC's bluff on the plant closings, saying AMC is demanding "unconditional surrender."

Kuzel said, "We are not going to meet their deadline. It's impossible and they knew it when they said it."

AMC's latest plan sent shock waves through the Toledo Jeep plant. Workers here know that AMC is trying to sell the Jeep plant or even file for bankruptcy. Unionists are concerned about losing their jobs. They empathize with the plight of their sisters and brothers in Wisconsin but are not being organized into any solidarity actions.

The Jeep UAW committee is in fact against laid-off Kenosha workers coming to Toledo with full seniority rights, and is not demanding that Kenosha remain open.

They are silent as AMC brings Kenosha machinery to Jeep.

Management supports the Jeep UAW leadership on the question of seniority for Kenosha workers. They have a lot to gain by bringing in new hires under the new two-tier wage plan instead of high seniority Wisconsin workers at full wages and benefits. AMC strategy is to use the Kenosha and Milwaukee plant closings to beat down Jeep workers in Toledo, who have repeatedly shown their willingness to fight AMC through in-plant job action. What's happening in Wisconsin is a forewarning of AMC's plans for Jeep.

Increasing numbers of Jeep workers are realizing that the three AMC UAW locals must stand and fight together or AMC will pick us off one by one, whipsawing us right out the door. There's no separate road for Jeep workers, no scam or maneuvering that will separate the future of all AMC workers. Union unity and solidarity is crucial.

Toby Emmerich is an assembly line worker at Jeep and a member of UAW Local 12.

LETTERS

YSA demands justice

The shooting of a Black youth by a plainclothes cop in Pittsburgh on February 22 has caused an outcry from local Black leaders. Sixteen-year-old Gerard Hardick was shot in the lower back while fleeing from a white man in an unmarked police car. The shot was fired from a distance of 5 to 15 feet during a chase on foot. Hardick, who was fleeing from a car, was able to run an additional quarter mile before collapsing and surrendering to his pursuer.

The plainclothes cop, Phillip Dacey, claims that he fired his weapon only after he saw a metallic object that appeared to be a gun. The metallic object was only a flashlight. Hardick was totally unarmed.

Hardick, who was a weight lifter and a basketball player, was recently readmitted into the General Hospital because of abdominal pains. It is expected that the bullet wound will continue to hinder his physical abilities. However, Dacey was reinstated without any charges after a cop investigation cleared him.

The Pittsburgh chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance is calling for justice for Gerard Hardick. We demand the full prosecution of the

cops involved. Politicians and the media say that Blacks, and Black youths in particular, are the source of crime. The aim of their campaign is to attack the democratic rights of all working people.

The real criminals are the ruling rich of this country. Their crimes include the gunning down of hundreds of Blacks and Latinos by racist police forces; the shattering of thousands of lives by shutting down steel mills; the murder of dozens of coal miners by violating safety rules; the bombing of abortion clinics; and withholding food from millions in Africa while propping up the racist South African government.

*Chako Bendella
Young Socialist Alliance
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

Central America unions

As a union member, I was really struck by a speech I heard by Dave Dyson, the national secretary of the National Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador. Dyson is the union label director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU), which sponsored his tour to Chicago in late March.

Dyson told a meeting of trade unionists from many different unions that when the labor committee made their tour to El Salvador they found a trade union movement under severe repression. He described talking with El Salvadoran unionists who told of meetings disrupted, offices bombed, members who had been tortured, "disappeared," and murdered. He spoke with pride of the successful campaign to free the imprisoned STECEL electrical union workers.

By contrast, Dyson reported that the labor committee tour to Nicaragua found a very different situation. He said that in Nicaragua, the unions are growing.

The labor committee delegation got a firsthand view of the devastation caused by the U.S.-organized *contra* war when they traveled to a coffee plantation in Jinotega Province.

He said they met peasants who had survived a battle against 350 *contras* who had invaded their coffee fields. The *contras* murdered 17 of them, cut their throats, and burned their fields and homes.

Dyson was in Chicago to help build a chapter of the labor committee, which does an excellent job of educating U.S. workers

about the truth in Central America.

*Diane Roling
ACTWU Local 39-C
Chicago, Illinois*

Union Carbide

I heard on the radio this morning that Union Carbide is reopening its Institute, West Virginia, plant to make methyl isocyanate (MIC). Their MIC plant in Bhopal, India, had a massive leak last fall that killed 2,500 or more people. At the time of the so-called incident, Union Carbide put the blame on "operator error" for the disaster, in the corporate tradition of blaming workers for the company's crimes. Union Carbide also assured people that their West Virginia plant was perfectly safe, and that there was no cause for alarm.

Now the plant has been reopened — with \$5 million worth of new safety equipment installed. This is an admission that indeed the plant wasn't safe before. But these new devices were not installed to protect the workers and nearby residents. It was done to protect Union Carbide's corporate image and its profits from even further damage. It took 2,500 lives

and a world-wide scandal to get this equipment put in.
*Michael Pennock
Jersey City, New Jersey*

Correction

In last week's *Militant* article on the Alaska Airlines strike the author was mistakenly identified as a member of the striking union, International Association of Machinists Local 2202. He is a member of International Union of Electronic workers Local 1002.

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

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

End U.S. war against Nicaragua!

N.Y. socialist campaign rally hits U.S. war, police violence

BY FRED MURPHY

NEW YORK — At the center of a well-attended Socialist Workers campaign rally here May 11 was the need to defend Nicaragua against the U.S. rulers' united course toward direct military intervention to overthrow the Sandinista-led workers and farmers government there.

In her keynote speech at the rally, SWP candidate for mayor Andrea González blasted President Reagan's recent declaration of a state of national emergency to impose a trade embargo against Nicaragua.

"This is not a state of emergency over the several million people who continue to be unemployed in this country," González noted, "and it's not been called to deal with the some 1,000 family farmers a week who are being driven off their land. Nor has it been declared to end the murderous field day on Black youths by cops and racist individuals."

"Instead," González continued, "Nicaragua has been declared a threat to 'our' national security — simply because Nicaraguans have declared themselves to be an independent, sovereign people who will decide their own government, their own policies, and their own future."

The emergency for the U.S. rulers, González said, results from the fact that in Nicaragua, the big U.S. corporations and the local capitalist businessmen have lost their right to "rob the country's wealth and dictate the policies of its government."

The trade embargo, the national emergency, and the recent wave of media efforts to rewrite the history of the Vietnam War all form part of a campaign of "psychological warfare against U.S. working people" to get them used to the idea of going to war in Central America, González said.

In this context, she pointed to the phony debate in Congress over aid to the terrorist *contras* who attack Nicaragua from Honduras. The debate, she said, "was over who thought the Nicaraguans were worse." González added that Democratic Congress members had rushed to embrace the embargo.

González connected the government's course toward an invasion of Nicaragua with its offensive against the rights of working people here at home — the arrests of anti-apartheid protesters on campuses, the FBI harassment of persons who have visited Nicaragua, the Justice Department's onslaught against affirmative action programs, the bombings of abortion clinics, factory raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the police killings of Black and Latino youths.

"All these attacks," she said, "are aimed at weakening our ability to fight back against the war in Nicaragua and to defend ourselves at home. The fight against the war in Nicaragua is part of the fight against these attacks at home."

In waging this fight, González explained, working people cannot rely on the parties that represent those who benefit from the attacks — the Democratic and Republican parties. Rather, she said, more actions in the streets, like the antiwar marches on April 20 and the large picket lines protesting the Nicaraguan embargo on May 7, are what's needed.

This, González said, was how the Vietnam War was ended: "It was our ability to make the political price too high for the U.S. rulers. That was how we won the war — together with the Vietnamese people, who fought heroically, U.S. working people won the war."

Both González and the evening's other featured speaker — newly announced SWP candidate for New York city council president, Rashaad Ali — criticized Jesse Jackson's recent statements that there was no victory to celebrate in the end of the Vietnam War 10 years ago. Rather than hailing



Socialist Workers Party candidates: Andrea González for mayor of New York, Rashaad Ali for New York City Council president, and Mark Satinoff for governor of New Jersey.

the victory of the Vietnamese workers and peasants against U.S. imperialism, Ali said, "Jackson [a prominent Democratic Party politician] claims no one won the war."

In referring to farmers fighting to keep their farms, Ali explained that "Jackson said they should ally with the bankers who are foreclosing the mortgages on their land." This, he said, "sums up the strategy of Jackson's Rainbow Coalition."

Ali pointed out how Democratic Party politicians in New York who are Black and Latino have sought to divert attention toward replacing Democratic mayor Edward Koch and away from the disastrous situation facing the city's working people —

police torture and systematic brutality, an acute shortage of affordable housing, and the government's war preparations.

The SWP candidates, Ali said, would focus on explaining how real social change is achieved — not through voting every four years, but through "the self-organization, mobilization, and politicization of the workers and farmers and their allies."

In taking up the mounting revelations of police killings, brutality, and torture in New York City, Ali pointed to how the Nicaraguan revolution had dealt with the problem: by sweeping away the Somoza dictatorship's hated police apparatus and replacing it totally with a new police force drawn from armed workers and peasants.

Chairing the rally was Pat Hayes, the SWP's candidate for president of the borough of Brooklyn. Hayes is a member of the United Auto Workers at the Linden, New Jersey, General Motors assembly plant.

In appealing for financial contributions, Hayes pointed to the big effort that will be mounted in coming months to assure the SWP candidates a spot on the November ballot in New York. In 1984, state election officials managed to block the SWP from the ballot here. A major political campaign in defense of the socialists' right to ballot status is being mapped out. Approximately \$4,500 was raised in contributions and

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UMW wins round in Massey strike

BY JOAN RADIN

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — After six months of stalling, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) issued a ruling on April 24 directing the owners of A.T. Massey Coal Co. and its subsidiaries in West Virginia and Kentucky to bargain directly, as the common employer, with the United Mine Workers (UMW). The ruling resulted from a UMW campaign to expose Massey's lies about its corporate structure.

More than 2,000 UMW members in the Appalachian coalfields have been on strike against Massey since Oct. 1, 1984, when the company refused to sign the union's national contract negotiated with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA).

Massey Coal is the nation's fifth largest coal company and is owned by two giants, Royal Dutch Shell and the Fluor Corp. Fluor is the nation's largest construction company and has extensive holdings in South Africa.

A central demand of the strike is that Massey sign a contract guaranteeing the same intra-company recall and seniority rights as those guaranteed to UMW miners under the BCOA contract. These hard-won union rights are of critical importance in the Appalachian coalfields, where 50 percent of the miners are laid off in several union districts. Massey has claimed throughout the eight-month strike that it is not a common employer, but simply a "broker" for its string of "independent affiliates." The subsidiaries all claim to be too small and poverty stricken to pay union wages.

The NLRB ruling also charged that several Massey operations refused to furnish "financial information in support of their claims of financial inability to meet wage demands." This ruling significantly strengthens the hand of the union at the negotiating table.

Massey and its allies, including West Virginia and Kentucky government offi-

cials, are continuing a union-busting war against the UMW. The miners have faced automatic weapons, helicopters, battalions of cops, military-style occupations of coal communities by company gun thugs, attempted murder frame-ups of union leaders, and procompany truck drivers running down pickets. Hundreds of UMW members and their families have been arrested for the "crime" of peacefully demonstrating their support for their striking brothers and sisters.

The union has not been intimidated. Local newspapers and radio talk shows

have been flooded with letters and calls from rank-and-file miners and their wives and children urging solidarity with the UMW and linking the UMW struggle to the struggle of Blacks in South Africa. As one miner put it in a letter to the *Williamson Daily News*, "Isn't it amazing how Lobata [West Virginia] now looks so much like the work camps in South Africa with the guards and the ten-foot chain link fences?"

Joan Radin is a member of UMW Local 2271 in Sundial, West Virginia.

Farmers fight frame-up

BY DUNCAN WILLIAMS

GOVE, Kansas — Darrell and Margaret Ringer of Quinter, Kansas, and David Jensen of Gove, Kansas, are facing numerous charges arising out of a protest of the forced sale of David and Virginia Jensen's home and 1,120 acres of farmland here.

The charges and possible penalties arising from the protest are among the most serious ever handed down against farm activists. Darrell Ringer, for example, faces seven separate counts, with a maximum penalty of 10-20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for "incitement to riot."

A witness told the *Militant* that a peaceful crowd of more than 100 people had gathered, "just exercising our civil rights." Faced with chants of "No sale," Sheriff Dean Baum ran back through the county courthouse and down the fire escape. This is the "riot" that Darrell Ringer is charged with inciting.

No one saw or heard the sheriff sell the land, but a previously submitted bid from the Wichita Federal Land Bank, which had foreclosed on the Jensens' land, was accepted.

The farmers had a preliminary court appearance April 25. The court set May 28 as the hearing date for the Ringers, and June 9 for David Jensen.

On that same day, the foreclosure sale of the belongings of David and Virginia Jensen's son, Davil L. (Duke) Jensen, took place. In a clearly vindictive action, the bank had called in Duke Jensen's \$21,000 loans even though he was current on his notes. In yet another vicious action, the courts garnished David and Virginia Jensen's only source of income, a small oil royalty.

More than 60 farmers and others showed up to demonstrate their support for the victimized activists. After the court appearance, Darrell Ringer told the crowd, "This is a set-up, it's very obvious. We want to keep this case out in the open, in the public eye, to keep the farm question before the American public."

At a lunchtime rally, Merle Hansen, president of the North American Farm Alliance (NAFA) announced that a national Ringer-Jensen Family Farm Defense Committee was being formed to win support and raise money for the defense effort.

"We consider this a benchmark case," Hansen told the *Militant*. "We consider this one of the really important legal fights in establishing some new rights and overturning some old ones that have allowed corporate America to overrun the farmers."

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