

## Nicaraguan president hits U.S. war plans

BY CINDY JAQUITH

ESTELÍ, Nicaragua — In seven years of aggression sponsored by the U.S. government, 31,290 Nicaraguans have been killed or wounded. Nicaragua is a country of only 3 million people.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega reported these figures to the July 19 rally here celebrating the seventh anniversary of the Sandinista revolution. Ortega is the coordinator of the executive commission of the National Directorate of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Some 14,260 of those killed or wounded were victims of the U.S.-armed counter-revolutionaries, or *contras*. And 16,925 were Nicaraguans who had joined or been forced into the contra bands organized by Washington.

The chief civilian targets of Washington's war — in addition to defenseless children — have been those Nicaraguans growing food to feed the nation, building roads to link the countryside to the cities, and teaching people to read. Of the more than 4,300 Nicaraguans killed by the counterrevolutionary terrorists, the majority were workers and peasants serving in the armed forces. But 103 were teachers, 293 were students, 194 were construction workers or farm workers, 103 were technicians, and 420 were farmers. Another 879 were children under 12 years of age.

The president said that with the U.S. House of Representatives' approval of \$100 million more for the mercenaries, Washington has a five-point strategy for tightening the squeeze on Nicaragua militarily, economically, and politically.

First, he said, there will be "a significant escalation of military activity throughout Nicaragua, possibly including attacks on the capital."

Second, Washington will try to achieve "more disciplined combat with fewer civilian victims and human-rights abuses" by its paid killers, in order to give the war a better image internationally.

Third, the U.S. government is attempting to

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## U.S. gov't aids S. Africa war on freedom fighters

BY FRED FELDMAN

"I've known about it for a long time, that we target the African National Congress," the Reagan administration official said. "We've always considered them to be the bad guys."

A former Reagan aide declared: "Our interests require helping the South Africans."

The officials, quoted in the July 23 *New York Times*, were commenting on the role of U.S. intelligence agencies in helping the South African government wage war on the ANC, the leading organization in the freedom struggle against apartheid. The ANC, outlawed by the white rulers, is recognized by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and many governments as the legitimate representative of the South African people.

"What is important about the revelations in the *New York Times*," said Neo Mnumzana, the ANC's chief representative to the United Nations, "is that they establish two related facts: namely that the Reagan administration regards the ANC and the people of South Africa as the enemy and apartheid as the friend."

After the Reagan administration took office in 1981, current and former officials told the *Times*, U.S. intelligence operations against the ANC and its allies steadily increased at the request of the apartheid regime's Directorate of Military Intelligence. A 1977 regulation supposedly barred collaboration with South African intelligence agencies, but the ban was simply ignored.

The article described "tasking" meetings that divided the common labor of policing



South African youths protest apartheid. Reagan claims anti-apartheid fighters, not government, have committed atrocities.

Southern Africa between U.S., British, and South African intelligence agencies. One official who attended such a meeting expressed surprise at how "extensive" collaboration with the apartheid regime was.

South African intelligence is assigned

such tasks as spying on Soviet shipping in waters off southern Africa and monitoring developments in Angola, where the apartheid regime is waging war against an independent government.

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## Aug. 4-7 nat'l antiwar actions set

BY LISA AHLBERG

Opponents of the U.S.-sponsored mercenary war against Nicaragua have important opportunities to protest Washington's aggression. National antiwar actions have been called for August 4-7 in Washington, D.C., to protest the U.S. government's attempts to secure \$100 million in aid to the *contras*.

Nationally coordinated regional protests

are also set for October 25.

At a July 17 meeting, leaders of national antiwar and solidarity organizations formed an ad hoc coalition and issued a call for the August 4-7 actions. The coalition includes SANE, the Pledge of Resistance, the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES), Witness for Peace, and the National Network in Solidarity with Nicaragua.

The protests have been called to take place when the U.S. Senate is scheduled to decide whether or not to approve \$100 million in aid to the *contras*. The U.S. House of Representatives voted on June 25 to approve the contra aid.

The organizers of the protest are calling the actions the "People's Filibuster," and see the debate in the Senate as an opportunity to build an antiwar movement.

"The approval of contra aid is an act of war," reads a letter sent out by the coalition. "It is a violation of international law. It is a death sentence for thousands of Nicaraguans. Silence is complicity. The opposition of American people must be heard."

Four days of actions have been planned around various themes and will begin each day at noon. On August 4 a rally entitled "Contra Aid — Act of War" will be held on the Capitol steps. This rally will be the focus of the four days.

The rally will be followed by an August 5 action designed to draw attention to the World Court's ruling that the U.S.-organized contra war violates Nicaragua's national sovereignty. On June 27 the World Court, an agency of the United Nations, found the U.S. government guilty of intervening in the affairs of another country through its "training, arming, equipping, financing, and supplying the contra forces."

The National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee placed an ad on the op-ed page of the July 20 *New York Times*, signed by Leonard Boudin, Corliss Lamont, and Edith Tiger, condemning the U.S. government's repudiation of the World Court's ruling. "Such military aid would violate the Court's order that the Reagan Administration cease and refrain immediately from such unlawful action," said the ad.

August 6 is the 41st anniversary of the devastating atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, by the U.S. government. The protest will focus on the immorality of the U.S. war on Nicaragua, bringing together religious and disarmament organizations.

August 7 is the anniversary of the day in 1964 when Congress voted to support the bombing of North Vietnam, an action which followed the Gulf of Tonkin incident, a U.S. government-staged provocation. Vietnam veterans and unionists are being especially encouraged to participate on this day.

Local actions in conjunction with the August 4 rally are also being encouraged for those who can't make it to Washington, D.C. For more information on the People's Filibuster call SANE at (202) 546-7100.

The October 25 regional antiwar actions have been called by a coalition sponsoring the Actions for Peace, Jobs, and Justice. In April 1985 a similar broad coalition organized national antiwar protests mobilizing over 125,000 people.

The actions coalition comprises many organizations, including peace, anti-apartheid, antiwar, labor, student, and religious groups. The fall demonstrations will demand an end to the U.S. war on Nicaragua, breaking of all U.S. ties to the apartheid regime in South Africa, abolition of nuclear weapons, and creation of jobs by cutting

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## 28,000 sign to put socialist candidates on New York ballot

BY MICHAEL BAUMANN

NEW YORK — More than 60 petitioners for the Socialist Workers Party ticket celebrated the seventh anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution by hitting the streets of New York City to get out the word on the antiwar, anti-apartheid campaign. Another 10 people mobilized to campaign in the state capital of Albany. And what a response they got!

Weary but elated teams reported back July 19 from two Nicaraguan solidarity festivals, a Queens meatpackers' picket line, Albany, shopping centers on Long Island, and working-class neighborhoods across the city. They turned in:

- 6,250 signatures on petitions to place the SWP candidates on the New York ballot;

- 350 copies sold of the two campaign newspapers, the *Militant* and the Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial*;

- \$950 from sales of revolutionary books, pamphlets, buttons, and T-shirts (a one-day local record for street-corner campaigning);

- And dozens of names of young people who want to know more about the campaign and the youth group supporting it — the Young Socialist Alliance.

"We got so many more names of interested people than we expected," says Theresa Delgadillo, a 26-year-old garment worker who is a leader of the YSA and the SWP candidate for governor of New York, "that we had to begin by calling only those who said they wanted to join the YSA."

Mike Shur, a 30-year-old sheet metal worker who is the SWP candidate for U.S. Senate, spent the day campaigning in Albany.

"The big event of the day," said Shur, "was a parade celebrating the 300th anniversary of Albany. But we found a contingent we could march with — a Central American solidarity contingent, sandwiched in between National Guard tanks, that marched under a banner reading '300 years of Albany — seven years of freedom in Nicaragua!'"

"At the parade and across the city we

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# St. Louis electrical workers fight concessions

BY JIM FOSTER

ST. LOUIS — Socialists here have been selling the *Militant* at the entrances of the world headquarters of Emerson Electric on

sign reading "News on Hormel Strike. The Militant, 75 cents," and the other holding up the paper and collecting money from the people stopped at the light. Some-

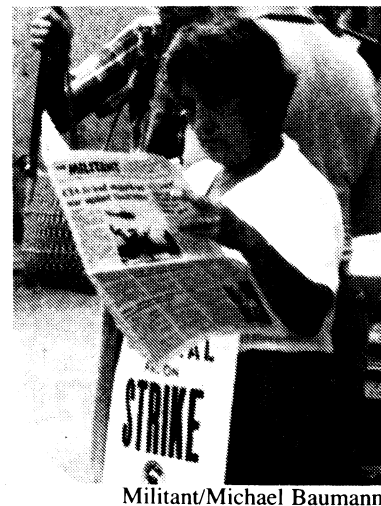
tried, one worker reaching for his change explained, "Did you hear what they're doing to us?" The Emerson workers, organized by International Union of Electronic Workers Local 1102, recently overwhelmingly rejected a concession contract calling for cutting wages for some workers and freezing wages for others. They are looking to the fight of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 in Austin, Minnesota, as a model for their own struggle. Many had their 75 cents out when they drove up, and 19 papers were sold.

*Militant* sales at Emerson in the

past had met with limited success.

But the contract struggle at the plant and the paper's coverage from Austin have combined to change that.

Now the team sells an average of half a dozen papers every week, and some repeat customers are developing. It's especially inspiring to sell on "T-shirt Wednesdays" when workers drive in wearing union and anticoncession T-shirts. Particularly militant are the women workers, most of whom belong to the classifications that would be hardest hit under the rejected contract.



Militant/Michael Baumann

## SELLING OUR PRESS AT THE PLANT GATE

a weekly basis for about two months.

Two salespeople have generally been standing at the traffic light by the front gate, one holding up a

times, other salespeople sell at a shopping mall across from the plant where some workers leave their cars and at the rear gate.

The first morning this sale was

## Book reception at NAACP convention draws 100



From right, Joseph Madison and Helen Meyers with two NAACP convention delegates. They discussed Mandela's writings at Pathfinder Press reception.

BALTIMORE — Pathfinder Press hosted a reception for its latest publication, *The Struggle Is My Life*. It was held in Baltimore July 1 during the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's national convention. More than 100 participants attended the reception at the Omni Hotel.

The featured speaker at the reception was Joseph Madison, NAACP national director of voter education. He had just led an NAACP cross-country march for human dignity and against apartheid from Los Angeles to the convention.

Madison talked about books by Pathfinder that had contributed to an understanding of the struggle. The works of W.E.B. DuBois, he said, "helped to bring to life the fight against slavery," and Malcolm X's speech "The Ballot or the Bullet" (originally published by Pathfinder Press) taught us "the importance of the fight for

one man, one vote."

Madison told how the marchers had gotten a copy of the Mandela book in Atlanta and that it became "our Bible during the march. . . . It has a practical use, I'm not selling it, I don't get a commission, but that book brought South Africa to life."

Helen Meyers, representing Pathfinder Press, chaired the program. Meyers explained that "*The Struggle Is My Life* was published as part of the worldwide campaign to win Mandela's release and the release of all other political prisoners held by the racist Pretoria regime."

She also introduced *Habla Nelson Mandela*, a collection of his speeches in Spanish.

Pathfinder Books of Baltimore had a table at the NAACP convention. They sold more than \$1,100 worth of literature, including 95 copies of *The Struggle Is My Life*.

## 'The Struggle Is My Life' reviewed

"Pathfinder Press issues collection of Mandela speeches" is how *Publisher's Weekly* introduced its review of *The Struggle Is My Life* by Nelson Mandela. Mandela is the jailed leader of the African National Congress of South Africa.

The review was the lead item in the paperback books section of *Publisher's Weekly*, which is the most important book trade journal for retail store buyers in the United States. The review is reprinted below.

*The Struggle Is My Life* is a collection of speeches and writings by South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela, just published by Pathfinder Press (paper \$6.95). The book, originally published in England in 1978, has been updated to include recent statements by Mandela, as well as material by others related to his imprisonment and the political movement of

which he is still the acknowledged leader.

The book was originally published by the International Defence and Aid Fund for South Africa as a tribute to Mandela on his 60th birthday. "The Fund makes this revised and updated version available as a further tribute to Mandela, and as a contribution to the many campaigns throughout the world calling for his release and for the release of all other political prisoners held by the apartheid regime." One of the features of the new edition is a section of photographs of Mandela. The book has now been indexed, as well, and includes a catalogue of Mandela's published writings.

Pathfinder Press publisher Helen Meyers says that the publication of this book represents "the first time that the speeches and writings of Nelson Mandela will be widely available in the United States."

Pathfinder is located at 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; (212) 741-0690.

## Salvadorans arrested in N.Y.

NEW YORK — Forty-six undocumented Salvadoran refugees in Long Island were arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in factory raids on Long Island, shackled in chains, and sent to a new INS detention center in Oakdale, Louisiana.

The Oakdale detention center is already notorious for the lack of legal representation available to those imprisoned.

The 46 Salvadorans were arrested in INS raids at Austin Productions in Holbrook, Long Island, and American Tissue Corp. in Farmingdale, Long Island.

In the course of the raids, all exits to the factories were blocked, and only "foreign-looking" persons were questioned. Following questioning, those detained were taken in handcuffs to the INS offices in Manhattan. They were informed of proceedings in English, were not allowed to make telephone calls, and were not fed, even though they were held overnight in the waiting room.

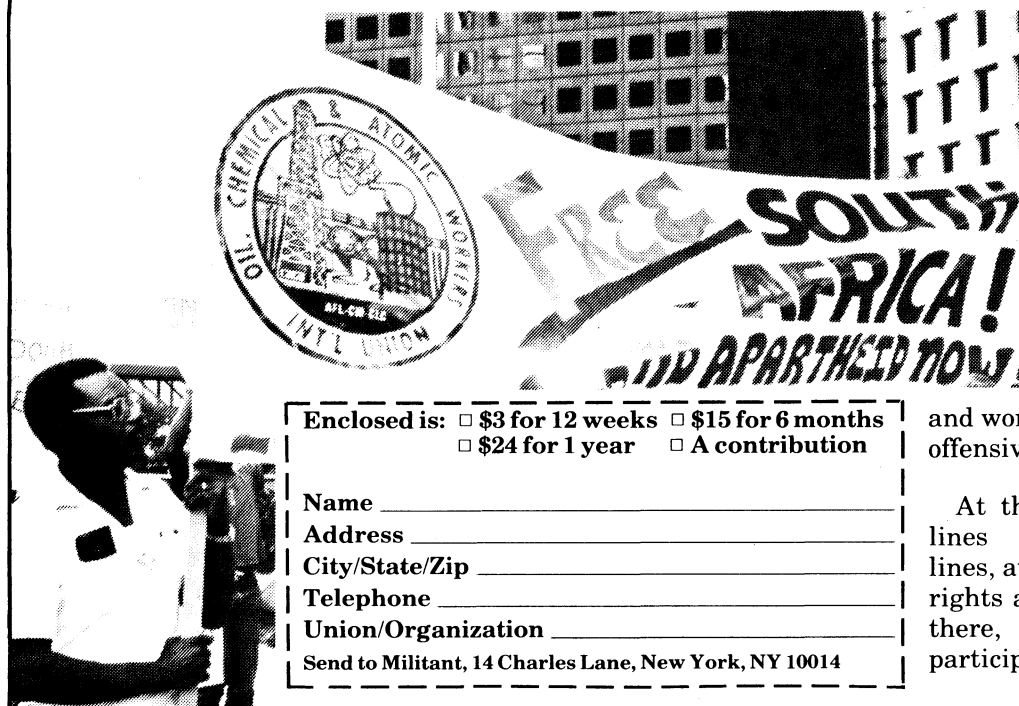
The following morning, the detainees

were put into waist chains, which were attached to the handcuffs already in place, and they were flown via INS plane to the Oakdale detention center. On the plane, they were not fed or allowed to use the bathroom and were not informed of where they were going.

Monica Schurtman of the Center for Immigrants Rights and the coordinator of the New York Central American Legal Defense Committee said, "We are very concerned that the basic legal rights of the Salvadoran refugees sent to Oakdale have already been violated and will continue to be violated. They may be deported back to El Salvador without any opportunity to demonstrate that they deserve political asylum here in the United States."

The Center for Immigrants Rights, along with Central American refugee organizations and civil liberties groups, has launched an effort to defend these refugees. For more information, call Monica Schurtman, Center for Immigrants Rights, (212) 505-6890.

## The Militant tells the truth — Subscribe today!



That's the way you'll get facts about Washington's war against working people at home and abroad: from South Africa and Nicaragua, to embattled workers and farmers in the U.S. Read our ideas on how to stop apartheid, war, the oppression of Blacks

and women, and the employer offensive against all workers.

At the plant gates, picket lines and unemployment lines, at antiwar and abortion rights actions, the *Militant* is there, reporting the news, participating in struggle.

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Editor: MALIK MIAH

Managing editor:

MARGARET JAYKO

Business Manager:

LEE MARTINDALE

Editorial Staff: Rashaad Ali, Susan Apstein, Fred Feldman, Andrea González, Pat Grogan, Arthur Hughes, Tom Leonard, Harry Ring, Norton Sandler.

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# Minnesota meatpackers fight heats up

## Battle is over who will represent workers in Hormel plant in Austin

BY NORTON SANDLER

As the two accompanying leaflets demonstrate, the battle over which union will represent meatpackers at the Geo. A. Hormel & Co. plant in Austin, Minnesota, is heating up.

On one side stand the rank-and-file workers, who recently formed the North American Meat Packers Union (NAMPU). On the other side stands the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) top officialdom and those loyal to it.

Both sides are focusing their attention on winning the hearts and minds of hundreds of workers inside and outside the Hormel plant who will be eligible to vote in an expected upcoming union bargaining election.

A petition signed by 600 workers calling for a "recertification" election was filed with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in July. No date has been set for an election.

The petitioning effort was carried out by members of UFCW Local P-9 determined to win a decent contract from the giant meatpacking firm.

Local P-9 members were forced to strike in August 1985 to resist a union-busting drive by Hormel. While on strike, the 1,500 P-9 members had to stand up to police violence, the use of National Guard troops, and court rulings invariably favorable to Hormel.

In addition, they have had to overcome the obstacles the top International officials of the UFCW have placed in their way at every step of the struggle.

The UFCW tops are determined to crush the rebellious local and keep its example of democratic, fighting unionism from spreading.

In May the UFCW International officials imposed a trusteeship on P-9 and appointed UFCW District 13 Director Joseph Hansen trustee over the local union.

Backed up by a federal judge's order in June, Hansen suspended P-9 President Jim Guyette and the other officers of the local and abruptly called an end to the strike.

Since that time the members of the union have had no rights.

As the NAMPU leaflet being distributed in Austin explains, the "North American Meat Packers Union was formed to address the specific needs of meat packers and to promote rank and file trade unionism and solidarity among all workers."

The union was formed by "rank and file members who believe that our representatives should be elected and directed by the will of the majority, not appointed by a self-perpetuating group of bureaucrats accountable only to themselves."

"We are a new labor organization formed to democratically represent all Austin Hormel plant production and maintenance workers," the NAMPU leaflet says.

A NAMPU meeting for in-plant workers was held July 23. A group loyal to the UFCW International calling itself the "UFCW P-9 Organizing Committee for Unity and a Fair Contract" held meetings the day before.

On July 17 Hansen and Hormel Vice-president for Labor Relations David Larson spoke together at a St. Paul forum entitled, "Hormel — Quirk or Quintessence." The forum was sponsored by an organization called Association of Labor Relations Agencies. A report of the meeting in the *Minnesota Daily* gives an indication of the slanders the UFCW International will use in the coming election.

Hansen focused his attack on suspended P-9 President Guyette and former P-9 consultant Ray Rogers, an approach that is designed to drive a wedge between the membership of the union and its elected leaders.

Hansen claimed that Guyette had never wanted a settlement of the strike and had manipulated the members of the union into opposing concessions.

### 'Militant' Prisoner Fund

The *Militant's* special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who need help paying for the paper. Please send your contribution to: Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

### NORTH AMERICAN MEAT PACKERS UNION

#### 1. WHAT IS NORTH AMERICAN MEAT PACKERS UNION?

We are a new labor organization, formed to democratically represent all Austin Hormel plant production and maintenance workers.

#### 2. WHY WAS IT FORMED?

North American Meat Packers Union was formed to address the specific needs of meat packers and to promote rank & file trade unionism and solidarity among all workers.

#### 3. WHO FORMED THE NEW UNION?

It was formed by rank & file members who believe that our representatives should be elected and directed by the will of the majority, not appointed by a self-perpetuating group of bureaucrats accountable only to themselves.

#### 4. DO WE INTEND TO REKINDLE THE STRIKE?

No, the strike is over! It was terminated by the UFCW's trustee, Joe Hansen. It can only be revived by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership or through the initiative of the UFCW trustee.

#### 5. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

North American Meat Packers Union is located at 103 4th Ave N.E. Stop in or call us at 437-8580.

### SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

An Informational Meeting Will Be Held for All In-plant Hormel Workers

CEDAR CREST HALL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

7:00 P. M.

A Labor Attorney Will Be Present To Answer Your Questions.

### MEETING NOTICE

For Current Hormel Workers

## You Have a Right to Know

That's why the UFCW is holding **FOUR** meetings to answer your questions about:

- ★ ★ The upcoming Labor Board Election
- ★ ★ Hormel Chain Bargaining
- ★ ★ UFCW's plans to move forward

**ANY AND EVERY QUESTION IS IMPORTANT, SO PLEASE JOIN US AT THE MEETING BEST SUITED FOR YOU!**

The Austin Labor Center  
Tuesday, July 22, 1986

- #1 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- #2 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- #3 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- #4 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

AND GIVE US A CALL IF YOU WANT TO HELP THE IN-PLANT ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. OR IF YOU'D LIKE A UFCW HAT AT 437-6989, 437-8848, 437-8694, 437-7122. ALSO, THE UNIONIST IS ON ITS WAY!!!

Issued by: UFCW P-9 Organizing Committee for UNITY AND A FAIR CONTRACT!

Rogers, he said, "expertly played on their [workers'] emotions."

According to Hansen, the UFCW tops had decided not to support P-9 because of a difference in philosophy. He said Guyette and Rogers had a theory that workers should get more money because the company was profitable, while the UFCW officialdom wants to stabilize the entire in-

dustry and slowly bring wages back up.

Hansen told the group that he questioned how Guyette managed to get some of the signatures on the recertification petition.

He also said that workers hired by Hormel in January to replace the strikers dislike P-9 and are unlikely to vote for it.

Hormel's Larson echoed many of the same charges, stating that "from day one,

Ray Rogers did not want an agreement."

Both Hansen and Larson agreed that the Hormel strike had been a "quirk."

Guyette responded to the slanders, explaining that he supports the effort to have the new union certified and intends to vote for it. But, he explained, a committee of workers circulated the petition, and he was not involved in the effort.

## Talks on U.S. and world politics to be featured at socialist conference

BY NORTON SANDLER

Daily talks on the struggles of working people, from Austin, Minnesota, to Johannesburg, South Africa, will be a major feature of the upcoming Socialist Educational and Activists Conference.

Sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance, the conference will be held in Oberlin, Ohio, August 9-14.

Jack Barnes, national secretary of the SWP, will open the conference with a talk on "Why We Need a Revolution in the United States." That talk will explain why it is crucial to the forward march of humanity for the workers and farmers to topple the tiny handful of billionaire ruling families who control the United States government — the main bastion of worldwide political reaction. He will explain why it is important for workers and farmers to be in-

involved in this struggle today.

"Class Struggle Trade Unionism" will be the subject of a talk by Mac Warren, coordinator of the SWP's trade union bureau.

Warren will speak on the battle being waged by members of the North American Meat Packers Union against Geo. A. Hormel & Co. in Austin, Minnesota. He will explain how the involvement of the ranks of the union at every stage of that struggle is pointing the road forward for working people who want to resist employer and government attacks on their living standards and rights.

*Militant* managing editor Margaret Jayko will speak on "Women's Liberation and Socialism." Jayko will explain why socialists seek to build a powerful movement for women's liberation; the growing involvement of women in the union movement, including in the potentially powerful

industrial unions; and why the struggle for women's liberation is an essential part of working people's fight to establish a workers' and farmers' government.

Cindy Jaquith will give a talk on "The Nicaraguan Revolution Today." She is a member of the *Militant-Perspectiva Mundial* bureau in Managua, Nicaragua.

Jaquith's talk will explain how Nicaragua's workers and peasants are advancing their revolution and how they are combating the U.S.-organized war and seeking to deal with the hardships imposed on the country by it.

"The Coming Revolution in South Africa" is the title of the talk that will be given by *Militant* editor Malik Miah.

Miah will explain how the South African people are fighting to establish a democratic, nonracial republic with one person, one vote; the leading role played in that struggle by the African National Congress; and why Washington and London prop up the South African government.

SWP leader Mary-Alice Waters will speak on "Revolutionary Cuba." She covered the Third Congress of the Cuban Communist Party for the *Militant* earlier this year.

Waters will describe the advances Cuba's workers and peasants have registered since they made their revolution 27 years ago. She will also explain the role revolutionary Cuba plays in leading the worldwide struggle to end imperialist oppression and exploitation.

In addition to the major talks, a wide variety of classes is being prepared. There will also be numerous panels and workshops.

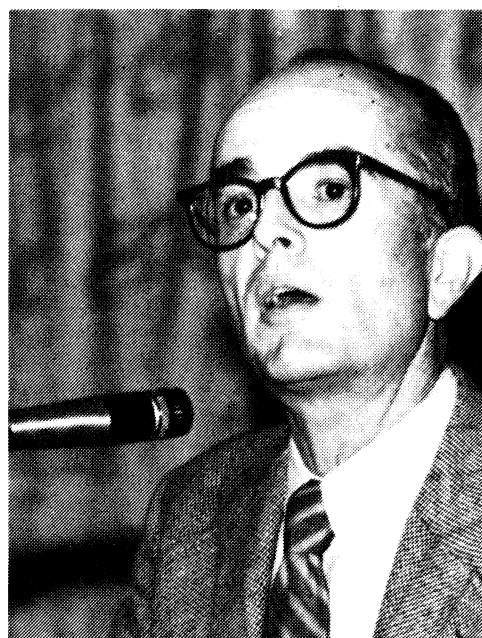
Evening entertainment will include concerts, movies, and dances.

If you are interested in attending the Socialist Educational and Activists Conference, contact the SWP nearest you. (See directory on page 16.)



Militant/Lou Howort

Left, Mac Warren, coordinator of Socialist Workers Party's trade union bureau. Right, Jack Barnes, national secretary of SWP.



Militant/Holbrook Mahn

# Weyerhaeuser threatens scab use as strikers vote on new offer

BY TIM MAILHOT

ABERDEEN, Wash. — After four days of negotiations between representatives of the International Woodworkers of America (IWA) and Weyerhaeuser Co. officials, another contract has been sent to the union membership for their consideration.

According to many union members, the four days of negotiations have resulted in no serious changes from the previous offer, which was voted down by a four-to-one margin earlier this month.

IWA members in the Washington cities of Raymond, Centralia, and Aberdeen, after voting on the contract in a secret ballot, also took a public straw poll. They unanimously rejected it in a show of hands.

With the majority of the locals yet to vote, the outcome is up in the air. Vote totals were to be announced July 25, the day Weyerhaeuser has threatened to begin hiring scabs to replace the strikers.

July 25 is also the day the strikers are holding a rally in Olympia, the state capital. The rally comes at the end of a number of four-day marches being organized from logging towns.

Hundreds of supporters will caravan into the capital as well. The strikers have been quite active in keeping their case before the public and putting pressure on the company to negotiate.

During the six-week strike, they have organized mass picketing to stop logging trucks and trains from entering the mills, and they have set up picket lines at non-struck Weyerhaeuser Pulp and Paper mills. They have sent roving pickets to the ports of Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia, in Canada to block shipments of lumber.

This latter action resulted in a complete one-day shutdown of a pier that served a number of non-struck shipping firms in Vancouver.

The British Columbia Federation of Labor has issued a "hot" edict prohibiting the handling of Weyerhaeuser Co. lumber from the United States by union members.

At issue in this strike is an all-out attempt by the lumber industry's leading company to impose major concessions in wages, benefits, and work rules on the loggers and mill workers. Takebacks the company is demanding total \$4.30 an hour.

One of the concessions that has received much media attention is the company demand for a profit-sharing plan.

Weyerhaeuser runs its mills on a so-called "independent" basis. The amount of profit "shared" would vary from mill to mill.

The company has issued a schedule showing how much profit has to be made at

each mill for the workers to make up the pay cuts.

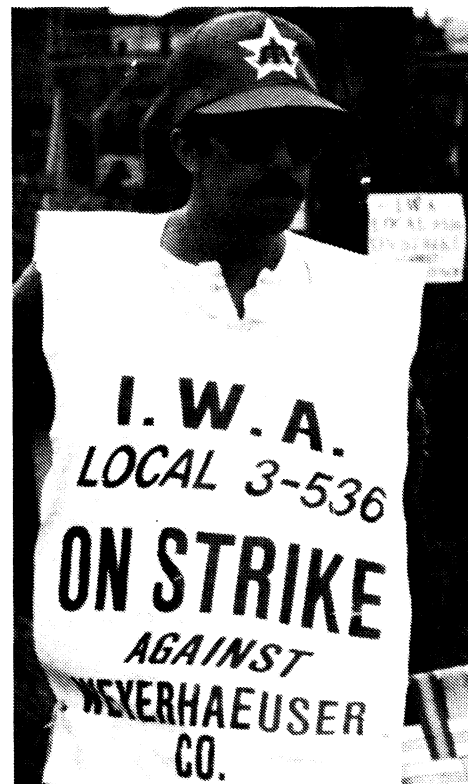
At the White River Mill near Enumclaw, Washington, Don Malgarini, president of IWA Local 157, explained that the company would have to make \$8 million a year in profits for the workers to maintain their current wages.

"We are already breaking all production records. Last year we made \$4 million in profits for them. Under this new contract we would be left \$1 an hour short of our current pay. Anytime we get close to catching up, they will just juggle the books to cut their profit. There is no way we will be able to make it back."

Weyerhaeuser is threatening to eliminate 2,300 logging jobs if this contract is not approved. This threat is an attempt to try to split the loggers away from the mill workers in order to get the contract ratified.

In Aberdeen, spirits on the picket line are very high. The strikers have won broad community support. The picket lines are staffed not only by striking members of the IWA and members of the Lumber Production and Industrial Workers (LPIW), but also by longshoremen, machinists, retired unionists, and the wives and children of the strikers.

Through effective radio and telephone communications systems the workers are



Lumber workers are fighting Weyerhaeuser's attempt to impose concession contract.

monitoring the movement of all trucks in and out of the town.

The company has tried to provoke confrontations on the picket lines by telling independent truckers that the lines are informational only.

But once the drivers approach the picket lines loaded with lumber, they are confronted with a mass picket line of between 200 and 500 strikers and supporters.

Most drivers insist that their trucks be unloaded and then leave the area empty. Local police, at first aggressive about enforcing court injunctions, have been forced to back off because of the support.

Negotiations have also been going on between the IWA and LPIW and other logging companies in the northwestern United States and in British Columbia, where there are more than 30,000 IWA members.

## Detroit workers strike for pay raise

BY KIBWE DIARRA

DETROIT — On July 16, some 7,000 city workers went on strike here to demand a decent contract.

The striking workers are members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union (AFSCME) District 25. Those on strike include public health employees, clerical workers, bus mechanics, and zoo workers. Trash-truck drivers and bus drivers are honoring the picket lines.

Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, once a union organizer and the AFL-CIO's choice for mayor in the 1985 election, is now showing that he is no friend of labor.

Young just had his salary raised from \$80,000 to \$115,000.

"We don't pay our top personnel enough money. That's an entirely different problem from what we pay people to drive buses," Young said. It is this attitude that Young took into the negotiations with AFSCME.

In a leaflet distributed to the community and other Detroit-area unionists, AFSCME pointed out that its members had not received a significant increase since 1977.

The fact sheet explained that a beginning typist earns wages at poverty level for a family of four.

Since 1983 the city has eliminated one-

fourth of the union's jobs. The workers have had to live with job speed-ups that followed reductions of the work force.

The union points out that the \$53.3 million budget surplus is a direct result of the concessions union members have made. Lucrative tax breaks given to industry in Detroit have not saved jobs.

Included on the AFSCME leaflet was the demand, "Money for jobs and services rather than for the military budget."

Thousands of other city workers not on strike will be directly affected by the strike's outcome.

Young, still considered by many to be a friend of labor, has thrown the courts and cops into the battle to crush the strike. Court injunctions have been issued against the unions, and Detroit cops have arrested 10 strikers.

Ed Wilson, director of the Detroit Board of Elections, is threatening to have the National Guard brought into town to protect scabs he wants to hire in preparation for the August 5 primary election.

Young is also insuring that the public receives a steady diet of supposed horrors that await Detroit if the garbage is not picked up. Young's antilabor lawyers have developed a sudden concern over the water and air quality in Detroit. They have filed papers to get back-to-work orders from the courts. And the judge hearing the case ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to insure that no sewage is dumped in the Detroit River because of the strike.

So far all the actions by Young and his cronies have failed to budge AFSCME and its supporters.

Many Detroit citizens are finding alternative ways to move about since the bus drivers are not crossing AFSCME's picket lines.

At a small union-organized garment shop in Detroit, where wages are only slightly above the minimum, workers who rely on the city bus service expressed solidarity with the AFSCME strike despite the hardships it presents them. One worker told this reporter, "The AFSCME workers have not had a raise in years. They should stay out till they get one."

The official union leadership has come out against Young. James Glass, AFSCME Council 25 director, said, "If Young is that concerned about getting us back to work then he should be at the bargaining table instead of in the courts." Glass added, "What we are trying to achieve is the complete closure of this city just to make the mayor understand."

Tom Turner, president of the Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO, said, "When Mayor Young offers employees an unfair contract, he is calling their work unimportant." Turner

added, "Labor and the Detroit community know the mayor is wrong."

Mark Phillips, president of AFSCME Local 229, said, "We've looked at all the ramifications and we feel that now is the time for justice."

## Philadelphia gov't forces workers back to jobs

BY HALKET ALLEN

PHILADELPHIA — The 13,000 members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) District Council 33 voted to return to work July 19 without a contract. They had been on strike for 20 days.

(As we go to press, a tentative contract between the union and the city has been announced. The tentative pact calls for a 10 percent pay increase over two years and a 32 percent increase in the monthly health-care benefits paid by the city. The union has agreed to allow an independent audit of its health and welfare fund.)

The sanitation and health workers, who are the heart of the union, were issued a contempt citation that would have fined the union \$40,000 a day. Mayor Wilson Goode had threatened to fire all workers who defied the injunction.

The mayor forced the workers on strike by demanding that they take concessions. The main issues in the strike were wages, health benefits, contracting out union work to private contractors, and the length of the contract. The union is asking for a one-year contract.

The city administration refused to pay back a \$48-million debt it owes to the union's health and welfare fund. Philadelphia city workers have a medical plan that is so poor many hospitals and doctors make the workers pay up front before they can get health care.

The city administration is demanding the right to audit the union's health and welfare fund. The city claims that it owes the union only \$15.9 million.

The union has refused this demand, saying it would open the door to the city taking control of the fund away from the union.

Area media have violence-baited the strikers and the union.

Sanitation workers had initially defied the back-to-work order issued by common pleas court Judge Edward Blake. The workers instead demonstrated at the trash-disposal sites. Not one of the 2,420 sanitation workers reported to work. "No contract, no work," shop steward Ed Boykin

replied to the police reading the back-to-work order.

The cops were out in force, with dogs and horses at many trash sites. Said one striking worker, "I kind of get the feeling that I'm in South Africa."

Another said, "Hey, it's not our fault. We have to live too. We have bills to pay."

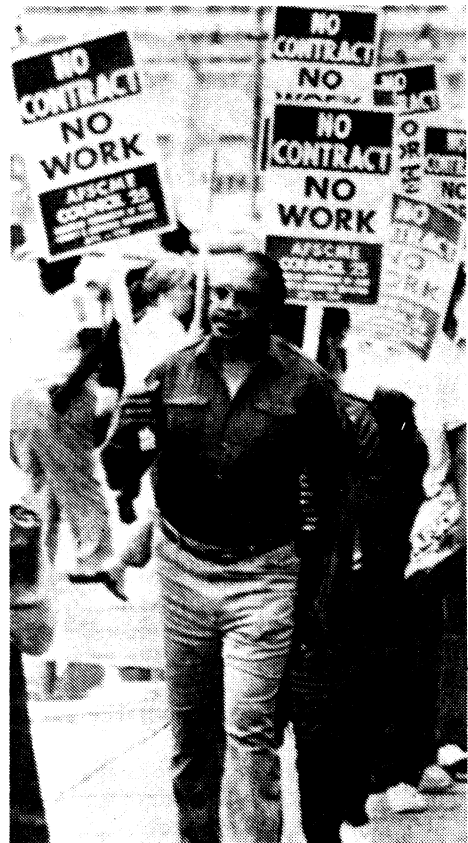
The strike did not receive much solidarity. The clerical workers in AFSCME District Council 47 settled their contract after an 11-day strike. They got a 10-percent wage increase and gains in benefits. The contract also includes a "me too" on any gains that the larger city unions, including the sanitation workers, may get. The president of the clerical workers, Thomas Paine Cronin, asked the workers in his district to honor the picket lines of striking District 33, but he warned that "there is a limit to solidarity," and many crossed the lines.

Goode conferred with local leaders of the AFL-CIO during the strike. Julius Uehlein, president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, confirmed that he had spoken with Goode. "I did talk to the mayor," he said. "I did tell him that he was in a difficult situation and that he was doing what had to be done."

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* quoted Henry Nicholas, president of District 1199 of the National Union of Hospital Care Employees, saying he had talked to the mayor on a daily basis since the strike began. "The mayor has to manage the city," Nicholas said. "Obviously, we don't want anyone to lose their jobs. We are not in favor of people getting fired. But we understand the mayor has to do what the mayor has to do."

District 33 held a meeting at the civic center, where workers voted to go back to work without a contract. After the meeting, they discussed the last 20 days and what had happened. "I hate going back to work," said Henry Gordon, a sanitation worker. "But I have no other choice. I felt as though we were left out in the cold, and I think that stinks."

There was one group that started a chant of "Strike, strike, strike." Another responded, "Work, work, work."



Detroit city workers picketing July 16



# Houston socialist certified for ballot

HOUSTON — Joanne Kuniansky was certified July 11 to appear on the Texas ballot as the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the 18th district in Houston. Supporters had collected more than 2,300 signatures during a hot and rainy four-week petition drive.

Kuniansky, 33, is an operator at the ARCO oil refinery. She is a member of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union Local 4-227.

Thirty-seven ARCO refinery workers were among the signers.

With the drop in the price of crude oil, unemployment in Houston has risen to over 10 percent. Many of Kuniansky's coworkers remember the "oil crisis" of 1979, when the oil monopolies created a shortage in order to sharply increase prices. Some companies reported 200- to 300-percent profits at that time.

Now with the oil glut in the world market and the drop in prices, these companies are demanding concessions and laying off oilfield production workers.

State and city governments have responded to the loss of taxes from oil production by drastically cutting education and other vital social services.

The 18th Congressional District covers central Houston and includes the poorest Black and Chicano neighborhoods, which have been particularly hard hit by unemployment, deteriorating housing, and cuts in social services. The incumbent, Mickey Leland, is the head of the Congress-

sional Black Caucus.

This year, as in the last several elections, the Republicans decided not even to field a candidate against him.

Leland's response to the "oil crisis" has been to support legislation that would help the oil companies improve their profit position, such as proposing taxes on oil imports.

Kuniansky opposes such legislation. "It puts money in the pockets of the oil barons. It divides U.S. workers from our brothers and sisters in other countries. And it won't do a thing to help the thousands who are facing joblessness or wage cuts here," she says.

Kuniansky has a socialist perspective on this new "oil crisis." She says, "Working people should not be required to sacrifice anything for the billionaire owners of the oil companies or the rest of the ruling rich." She calls for a massive public works program to provide jobs for all at union wages and opposes all cuts in education and other basic social services.

She demands ending U.S. funding for

the *contras* and an end to all U.S. acts of war against Nicaragua now. Instead of spending billions to create weapons of destruction for oppressing people abroad, all the money now in the war budget should be used to meet basic human needs here.

During the petition drive, campaign supporters found openness to a socialist oil worker running against a liberal capitalist politician like Leland.

There was overwhelming support for the socialists' right to be on the ballot. In particular, many signed up on learning of the socialist campaign's support for the South African freedom struggle and the fight for breaking all U.S. ties with the apartheid regime.

Kuniansky participated in Shell Boycott Day, organized by the Houston Free South Africa Movement. She campaigned at picket lines set up by the Communications Workers of America during their strike against AT&T. Petitioners attended a picket line against aid to the Nicaraguan *contras* and met a high school student who has since attended socialist forums held at the Pathfinder Bookstore.



Militant

Joanne Kuniansky, SWP candidate for Congress.

## U.S. aids war on S. Africa freedom fighters

Continued from front page

The South African spies, in turn, assigned U.S. spy outfits tasks that, the U.S. officials said, tended to grow in number with each tasking meeting.

U.S. intelligence agencies were assigned the task of spying for the apartheid regime on the movements of ANC President Oliver Tambo. In addition, "we got a list of 10 people of Tambo's staff — the ANC high command — and they wanted information from us." Messages transmitted by the ANC were to be turned over to the South African government.

The officials indicated that the apartheid regime had been given "specific advance information on planned bombings and disruptions by the congress." The term "disruptions" appears to refer to nonmilitary actions against apartheid, such as demonstrations the ANC is involved in.

The apartheid regime "tasked" the U.S. National Security Agency to provide intelligence information on Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia, and Tanzania — five of the six Frontline States bordering on South Africa. All but Tanzania have been recent victims of South African military attacks or of terrorist attacks bankrolled by the apartheid regime.

### U.S. sanctions violated

To improve the apartheid regime's spying capabilities, U.S.-made computer chips were secretly shipped to South Africa by way of West Germany and Britain. Under U.S. law, such transfers of computer technology to South Africa were illegal.

On July 23, Secretary of State George Shultz told Congress that Central Intelligence Agency chief William Casey denied the statements made by the present and former U.S. officials to the *Times*. But Casey himself secretly visited South Africa in March to discuss the delivery of U.S. weapons to South African-backed terrorists in Angola.

In recent months the Reagan administration has been probing for ways to take a more aggressive stand in defense of the South African regime, while continuing to urge the regime to make more concessions.

Washington views the South African state as a vitally needed cop for U.S. imperialist interests throughout southern Africa.

### Backing South African aggression

In January Washington indicated no opposition to the South African military blockade of Lesotho, a country surrounded on all sides by South Africa. Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker met with South African President Pieter Botha in South Africa while the blockade was going on. The blockade resulted in a military coup, bringing to power a government that expelled supporters of the African National Congress from the country.

In February U.S. officials publicly announced that Washington was "covertly" shipping arms to the so-called National

Union for the Total Independence of Angola, an organization that operates as part of the South African regime's war against Angola.

And Assistant Secretary of State Crocker has pressured U.S. oil companies to divest from Angola, while firmly opposing divestment or any other meaningful sanctions against apartheid.

On July 9 Washington cut off aid to Zimbabwe, one of the targets of South Africa's May 19 military aggression in southern Africa. The pretext was a July 4 denunciation by a Zimbabwean official of Washington's complicity with the apartheid regime.

### Apartheid a 'flaw'

President Reagan's July 22 speech on U.S. policy toward South Africa was a defense of this course. He conceded that the regime in South Africa was "flawed." But he denounced proposals to impose economic sanctions as "immoral" and "utterly repugnant." He urged the regime to establish a "timetable" for ending apartheid.

The heart of the speech, however, was a smear job on the African National Congress, which Reagan accused of "calculated terror" aimed at "racial war."

Reagan portrayed the "necklace" executions of some of the apartheid regime's cops, police informers, and officials by anti-apartheid fighters as an "atrocious" — a word he has never used to describe any action by the white rulers.

He supplemented the terrorist-baiting with red-baiting, denouncing "Soviet-armed guerrillas of the African National Congress."

### Apartheid state's race war

It is not the ANC that wages "race war" in South Africa but the apartheid state, which is a war machine set up by the South African ruling class to smash the resistance of tens of millions of Blacks to oppression and superexploitation.

It is the apartheid state that has forcibly removed millions of Blacks from their homes, compelling 11 million to live in desolate, tiny reservations called Bantustans. It is the apartheid state that has set up the system of slave-like migrant labor in the mines and factories, and that has stolen the land of Black peasants and turned it over to white exploiters. It is the apartheid state that deprives Blacks of all political rights, and slaughtered thousands who demand human rights.

The killing of informers and other collaborators and enforcers of apartheid in the Black townships and Bantustans, which Reagan attributes to the ANC, is not viewed by the Black masses as an "atrocious." Even the *Washington Post* conceded July 18 that many Blacks "believe it has served to erode and frighten off the vast network of police informers that has been a major factor for the state in the past in undermining the organization of an effective opposition."

The ANC is leading a struggle to put an end to the apartheid state and its race war by establishing a united, democratic, non-racial republic in South Africa.

Reagan left no doubt about which side the U.S. government stands on in this battle. "In defending their society and people, the Southern African government has a right and responsibility to maintain order in the face of terrorists."

Reagan indicated sympathy for the South African government's refusal to negotiate with the African National Congress. Echoing the apartheid regime's fabrications about the liberation group, he stated:

"But the South African government is under no obligation to negotiate the future of the country with any organization that proclaims a goal of creating a communist state — and uses terrorist tactics to achieve it."

The official leaks about U.S. intelligence operations against the ANC appear to have been timed to coincide with Reagan's speech.

The Reagan administration's determination to defend the apartheid state does not mean that Washington cannot be compelled to take further steps against the apartheid regime.

The demands of Republican leaders such as Sen. Richard Lugar and top Democrats such as Sen. Edward Kennedy for more sanctions against the regime reflect both the mass support in this country for economic sanctions and important tactical divisions in the ruling class over how to respond to the anti-apartheid revolt in South Africa.

But the U.S. government's complicity in attacks on the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa shows the need for more protests demanding that Washington break all its ties with apartheid.

## Tutu denounces Reagan stand on sanctions

The South African government had high praise for Reagan's July 22 speech. But South African foes of apartheid were outraged.

Desmond Tutu, one of the most prominent leaders of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, told one interviewer:

"Your president is the pits as far as Blacks are concerned."

"I found the speech nauseating," he said to another. "Black trade unions have said they call for sanctions. Over 70 percent of our people in two surveys have shown that they want sanctions. No, President Reagan knows better."

"He sits there like the great big white chief of old can tell us Black people that we don't know what is good for us. The white man knows."

"I am quite angry," he said. "I think the West, for my part, can go to hell."

Secretary of State George Shultz dismissed Tutu's response as "nuts."

## SWP campaign at aid concert

BY DICK McBRIDE

MANOR, Texas — The Farm Aid II concert in this town near Austin attracted 45,000 people who wanted to show support for working farmers in this country. The July 4 concert featured 80 prominent musicians.

Farm Aid II was organized by singer Willie Nelson and patterned after the Farm Aid concert held last year in Champaign, Illinois.

Supporters of the Socialist Workers Party's slate of candidates in the 1986 election here in Texas saw the concert as an opportunity to show support for the working farmer and to offer a socialist perspective on the farm crisis.

Driving all night, 16 campaign supporters from Dallas and Houston were able to catch a few winks of sleep, rise at the crack of dawn, gulp down some coffee, and get stuck in a six-mile traffic jam leading to the concert. We didn't just sit there and stew in our juices. We got out and started leafletting the cars with a statement by Steve Warshell, socialist candidate for Texas agriculture commissioner.

Roni Lerouge, a member of the Young Socialist Alliance from Dallas, said, "People were responsive to our campaign and to the idea that farmers shouldn't have to pay for an agricultural crisis they didn't create."

After three hours we got to the entrance of the concert, set up a campaign table, and unfurled our banner: "Farm aid, not *contra* aid." This caught everyone's eye. Some yelled, "right on." Many came to the table to get into discussions.

By the end of the day more than 4,000 leaflets were distributed, and 20 copies of the *Militant* were sold.

In a statement to those attending Farm Aid II, Steve Warshell said, "This event shows the potential that's out there to build an alliance of workers and farmers. An alliance to get rid of the government of bankers and bosses that we all suffer under today and replace it with a government of workers and farmers."

"My Democratic opponent, Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower, wants to head off such confrontations between the farmers and their exploiters. He tells farmers to put on business suits and lobby in Washington. Here in Texas where 10,000 will lose their farms this year, he proposes that farmers can end the crisis by changing their crops and getting deeper into debt by investing in expensive food-processing equipment. But the farmers' homes and the land they work won't be saved without a struggle."

# South Africa: rural revolt sweeps Bantustans

BY ERNEST HARSCH

South Africa's countryside is in revolt. The massive popular mobilizations that have been rocking the major cities for the past two years are now spreading increasingly to remote rural areas that had not previously been swept up in the anti-apartheid upsurge.

Virtually every one of the 10 Bantustans — the impoverished rural African reservations — has experienced clashes between villagers and Bantustan police in recent months.

The grievances that have fired these rebellions stem from forced population relocations, grinding poverty, inadequate educational facilities, and land shortages.

By law, some 87 percent of South Africa's land is reserved for white occupation and farming, while Africans — the big majority of the population — are only allocated the 13 percent that comprises the Bantustans. Under such conditions of extreme overcrowding, the more than 12 million Africans confined to the Bantustans are unable to subsist from their tiny plots of land — if they have any land at all.

Besides being driven to protest by their own wretched conditions, these Bantustan residents have also found inspiration in the broader upsurge against the apartheid state.

So have the 4 million Africans who live and work in rural areas outside the Bantustans, where only farmers who are white have the legal right to own land. More and more of these Africans are refusing to accept the abysmally low wages and long hours of hard labor imposed on them.

Currently, the area of greatest rural ferment is in the northern and eastern Transvaal, which includes the Bantustans of Lebowa, Venda, KwaNdebele, Gazankulu, KaNgwane, and parts of BophuthaTswana. The United Democratic Front (UDF), the massive anti-apartheid coalition that is leading many of the countrywide protests, has been experiencing significant growth there. A northern Transvaal regional branch of the UDF was established at the beginning of 1986, and by April it had about 100 affiliated organizations.

## ANC flags in Lebowa

The UDF's northern Transvaal region is centered in Lebowa.

A part of that Bantustan that has a long legacy of political turbulence is Sekhukhuneland, where a peasant organization known as Sebatakgomo led a revolt in 1958. One of the leaders of that revolt, Peter Nchabeleng, was chosen as the pres-

ident of the UDF's northern Transvaal region. A longtime activist of the African National Congress (ANC), Nchabeleng had been jailed in 1962 and sent to the notorious Robben Island prison for eight years. Upon his release he was banished to Sekhukhuneland, where he eventually resumed his political activities.

Political ferment in Lebowa has been on the rise since late 1985. The protests have been directed in large part against the Bantustan administration, which implements Pretoria's policies there. Government buildings and homes of Black policemen and other collaborators have been burned down. Students have boycotted schools. Protesters have demanded that members of the Lebowa Legislative Assembly resign, and a few have.

Reprisals have also been taken against tribal chiefs who support the Lebowa administration or who have used their positions to exploit the people. Some have been killed or have had their homesteads burned down.

Not all chiefs have sided with the authorities, however. A layer has joined the ongoing protests. This is especially true in Sekhukhuneland, where some of these chiefs had played leading roles in the 1958 rebellion.

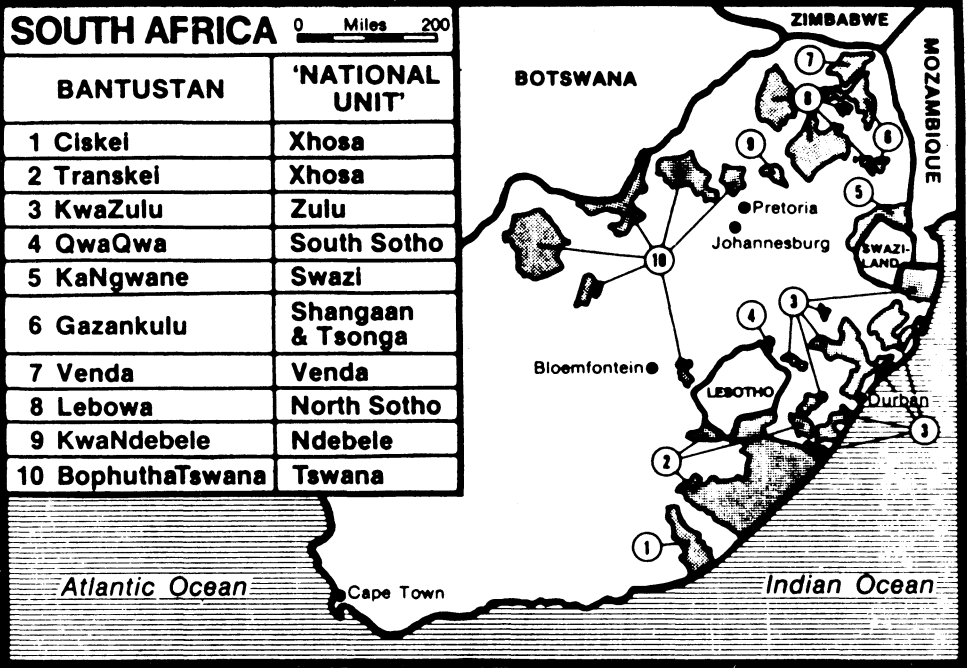
In seeking to stem this upsurge, the administration of Cedric Phatudi has unleashed a wave of terror against political activists, conducted by the Bantustan police — who are under a white commander — as well as by right-wing vigilantes.

Phatudi has called for the dismissal of all employees deemed to be members of "subversive" organizations, in particular the UDF and the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo), which also has some influence in the area. Lebowa police stormed a regional Azapo congress held in Seshego in March, beating many of the participants.

Dozens of anti-apartheid activists have been murdered, and many others detained and tortured in police cells.

In April police seized UDF leader Nchabeleng from his home in Apel, Sekhukhuneland. Within hours he was dead.

Nchabeleng's murder provoked the most massive outpouring yet in Lebowa. On May 3, some 30,000 people flocked to the tiny village of Apel for Nchabeleng's funeral. UDF leaders Henry Fazzie and Albertina Sisulu addressed the crowd, and speakers from Sekhukhuneland called for the resignation of all Lebowa assembly members and for a boycott of white-owned shops in the region. Participants sang free-



South African Bantustans

dom songs and hoisted flags of the outlawed ANC and South African Communist Party.

## Protesting 'independence deathtrap'

The nearby Bantustan of KwaNdebele has witnessed an equally dramatic upsurge.

KwaNdebele is one of the smallest and most recently established of the Bantustans. It is also one of the poorest. Most of its 200,000 inhabitants were forcibly expelled from other Bantustans or from the white-owned farming areas.

Yet Pretoria has declared that this impoverished enclave will become "independent" on December 11, the fifth Bantustan to be accorded that status (the others are Transkei, Ciskei, BophuthaTswana, and Venda). Such fraudulent "independence" proclamations are designed to deny Africans assigned to those Bantustans their few rights in South Africa as a whole. All the "independent" Bantustans remain under Pretoria's overall domination.

In an effort to give KwaNdebele some credibility, at least by the standards of South Africa's other Bantustans, Pretoria is moving to significantly increase its total land area before December 11. This has involved incorporating other African-occupied areas into KwaNdebele, including a part of Lebowa called Moutse.

But the 120,000 residents of Moutse have put up stiff resistance to this.

Opposition to incorporation has been spearheaded by the Moutse Youth Congress, a UDF affiliate. It has called on the population to fight the "independence deathtrap."

To crush the Moutse resistance, as well as other opposition, Chief Minister Simon Skhosana formed a rightist vigilante force called Imbokotho. It is headed by Skhosana himself, and many of its executive council members are local businessmen who support his administration.

On New Year's Day, Moutse was invaded by Imbokotho goon squads, who kidnapped, tortured, and killed residents and burned down homes and shops. In just three weeks more than 30 people in Moutse were murdered by Skhosana's thugs.

Although this crackdown succeeded in terrorizing Moutse for a while, active opposition to Skhosana's policies soon spread into the rest of KwaNdebele. This was provoked by the "independence" plans, as well as by the brutalities of Imbokotho, which carried out widespread kidnappings and beatings of schoolchildren.

A key element in this opposition has been the stance of a layer of tribal chiefs, including the royal family, the Mahlangus. Although some hold positions in the cabinet and legislative assembly, they have resented Pretoria's appointment of Skhosana and other "commoners" to dominant positions in the administration, a move that runs against the traditional authority of the tribal chiefs. To retain popular support, these chiefs have joined in resisting "independence."

On May 12 more than 20,000 people — one-tenth of KwaNdebele's resident population — rallied at the royal *kraal* (compound). This mass assembly issued three main demands: that the "independence" plans be scrapped, that Imbokotho be disbanded, and that all tribal representatives resign from the legislative assembly.

Then on May 14 some 30,000 people again rallied at the royal *kraal*, despite the fact that the meeting was banned. Police attacked the crowd, using helicopters to drop tear gas. This provoked widespread fighting throughout KwaNdebele, as police and vigilantes confronted large crowds of protesters. Workers staged a general strike.

By early June, beleaguered cabinet ministers and the parliament building had to be protected by a newly constructed fence and by round-the-clock armed guards.

Pretoria's imposition of a countrywide state of emergency on June 12 has not halted this upsurge. Although severe press censorship has prevented details of the struggle within the Bantustan from leaking out, the government's own Bureau for Information has acknowledged ongoing clashes in KwaNdebele, including actions by armed insurgents.

In BophuthaTswana, an "independent" Bantustan, major protests have been under way in the Odi and Moretele regions since mid-November. They have included demonstrations, school boycotts, and other actions.

On March 26, at the end of a three-day general strike, some 15,000 people gathered for a rally in Winterveld, a huge shantytown north of Pretoria, to demand the release of a large number of detained children. The crowd was predominantly elderly. BophuthaTswana police Col. Makanye Molohe ordered his men to open fire, killing 11 and injuring up to 200.

This massacre provoked widespread outrage. Consumer boycotts were launched against white-owned businesses. Youths engaged in running battles with police.

## 'The ANC has majority support'

KaNgwane, a Bantustan set up for South Africa's Swazi-speakers, has also been rocked by school boycotts, demonstrations, and other protest actions. On March 22 more than 15,000 people rallied in

Continued on Page 17

## 'IP': Borge on Bay of Pigs invasion

The upcoming August 11 issue of *Intercontinental Press* will feature Sandinista leader Tomás Borge's recollections of the role Nicaraguans played in defending Cuba during the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion.

In this fascinating first-person account, Borge relates his experiences, along with those of other Nicaraguan revolutionaries, in the early days after the victory of the Cuban revolution, when counter-revolutionary groups were still carrying out armed struggles inside Cuba.

Borge and other Nicaraguans had taken part in the mop-up operations against counterrevolutionaries in the Escambray Mountains.

When the Bay of Pigs invasion began, the Nicaraguans played a role in the front-line defense of the Cuban capital, and a Nicaraguan pilot was killed flying missions against the invaders for the Cuban air force.

The present minister of the interior of Nicaragua also recounts the crucial intelligence aid that Nicara-

guan revolutionaries provided the Cuban government about the activities of the Bay of Pigs invasion force, which set sail from Puerto Cabezas on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast.

Borge also compares the Bay of Pigs invasion with the *contra* war being waged against his country.

The Sandinista leader recalled Cuban President Fidel Castro's speech at the time affirming the socialist character of the Cuban revolution. "That speech of Fidel's was a premonition for Latin America," Borge said.

The issue of *Intercontinental Press* with Borge's article can be ordered for \$1.25 by filling out the coupon below.

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# 500 march in K.C. against S. African apartheid regime

BY WELLS TODD

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Unionists, students, and women's, civil rights, and farm protest activists joined together here June 28 in the Kansas City United Effort to Free South Africa demonstration.

Braving 93-degree heat, more than 500 people joined the mile-long march to the rally site at Freedom Fountain at Benton and Brush Creek boulevards. Members of the Independent Federation of Flight Attendants, who are fighting TWA's union-busting, participated. Many people along the parade route joined the march.

The action was called by the Kansas City Anti-Apartheid Network, a coalition that includes the Greater Kansas City Central Labor Council, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Black United Front, American Friends Service Committee, and the Socialist Workers Party.

Nomazizi Sokudela of the African National Congress of South Africa was presented with a key to the city. "The U.S. government is on the wrong side in Central America and is on the wrong side in South Africa. But when history is rewritten in South Africa," she told the rally participants, "it will say 'you were on our side.'"

"Our people are determined to fight until the bitter end for our objectives," she said. "We, together with the Namibian people and SWAPO [South West Africa People's Organisation], will continue to engage the enemy in the battlefield, and we ask you to engage your government in the institution of sanctions." She closed by pledging the solidarity of the ANC with the fighting people of Palestine led by the Palestine Liberation Organization, with the fighting people of Nicaragua under the Sandinista government, and with the rebel fighters in

El Salvador.

Roger Allison, a Missouri farmer and executive director of the Missouri Rural Crisis Center in Chillicothe, Missouri, spoke about the crisis of the Black farmer in the United States. "I liken President Reagan's [policy of] constructive engagement to his golden rule," Allison said. "Those who have the gold, rule. But what Mr. Reagan forgets is he doesn't have the support of the people."

Other speakers included Matt Snell of the Kansas City United Auto Workers Community Action Program Council; Rev. Mac Charles Jones, coordinator, Black Community Coalition; Bertha van Sittert, Coalition of Labor Union Women, and Carol Coe, Jackson County legislator. The rally was chaired by Rev. Nelson "Fuzzy" Thompson of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Some auto workers at the demonstration were able to have a good political discussion with Sokudela of the ANC. One of the questions they asked was about U.S. government propaganda that the ANC is a communist organization. She explained that within the ANC there are members who belong to the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, and many other organizations, who have joined together in a common effort to rid South Africa of the racist apartheid system and establish a non-racial, democratic society.

More than \$1,000 was collected and presented to Sokudela.

*Wells Todd is an activist in the Kansas City Anti-Apartheid Network and a member of United Auto Workers Local 93, Kansas City, Missouri.*

## La. chemical workers continue fight against lockout

BY NELS J'ANTHONY

GEISMAR, La. — After a two-year lockout by BASF, a giant chemical firm based in West Germany, members of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW) Local 4-620 here are hanging tough.

BASF locked out the unionists in 1984 when the local turned down a company demand for big cuts in wages, benefits, safety conditions, seniority rights, and other contract provisions.

The union marked the second anniversary of the lockout June 22 by organizing a march and rally that drew 350 supporters.

The march stopped outside the plant gate, where a brief rally was held. OCAW International Representative Ernest Rouselle and other speakers denounced the lockout and subsequent company actions as an attempt to bust the union. At the end of the rally marchers released hundreds of balloons to warn the surrounding community of the danger of chemical releases from the plant.

The union has joined with environmentalists to protest the dangerous chemical releases from the plant. BASF produces chemicals similar to those made at the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India. Just one week prior to the march a huge release of toluene went unchecked for over 55 hours. Two months ago a phosgene gas release threatened the community.

The union's position has led the Green Party of West Germany to support the locked-out workers. Leaders of the Greens came to Louisiana in April to show their support. A picket line was held at the plant gate, organized by the women's support committee. BASF refused to let the

Greens' parliamentary representatives tour the plant.

The Greens pledged to continue building opposition to the lockout in West Germany.

A solidarity committee has been organized in BASF's main plant in Ludwigshafen, West Germany. OCAW has recently received \$10,000 from the chemical workers' union that represents BASF workers in West Germany.

On June 10 the locked-out local held a solidarity meeting of union members and their families that packed the Prairieville Firehouse. Speaking at the event were Aman Musani, a leader of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union in South Africa; Stanley Fisher, president of OCAW Local 8-760 in Freehold, New Jersey; and Todd Remker, a Hormel worker from Austin, Minnesota.

The importance of international solidarity was the theme of the meeting. A videotape was shown depicting 3M workers in South Africa on a solidarity strike with 3M workers in Freehold, New Jersey. The Freehold workers are facing plant closure. Musani said, "Workers in South Africa and the U.S. face the same enemy and must unite in struggle." Leaders of the locked-out local pledged to support the fight against apartheid.

Fisher called for worker solidarity with struggles against apartheid, farm foreclosures, and plant closures and for solidarity with the Austin Hormel workers' union.

Hormel worker Todd Remker spoke on Hormel's complicity with apartheid. He was given a warm welcome by leaders and other members of OCAW 4-620 who expressed their determination to continue to refuse to buy Hormel products.

*Nels J'Anthony is a member of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 4-750. He is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Louisiana.*



Militant/Jeff Powers

Farm protest activists, unionists, students participated in June 28 march

## Petitioning for Seattle socialist is big success

BY DAN FEIN

SEATTLE — Supporters of Jill Fein, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senator from the state of Washington, completed June 19 the gathering of 1,751 signatures on petitions to place her on the ballot.

That's 1,000 more than the 751 signatures the state requires of candidates who are not well-heeled enough to pay a \$751 filing fee.

The next step in the process of nominating Fein for the senate seat now held by Republican Slade Gorton will be a nominating convention. It will be held July 26 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Pike Place Market in Seattle.

The petitioning drive was announced at a June 26 news conference attended by reporters from Seattle's daily morning newspaper, three radio stations, and the *Militant*. Fein promised to campaign hard against "the U.S. government's dirty mercenary war against the people and government of Nicaragua." She pointed to the filing fee as one example of "how the capitalist government stacks the electoral process as part of keeping the capitalist class in power and keeping workers and farmers out."

The first day of petitioning was June 28. More than 790 signatures were collected, and 70 copies of the *Militant* newspaper were sold at the Gay and Lesbian Parade, March, and Freedom Rally. The socialist campaign distributed a statement to the 8,000 people at the rally entitled "Defend lesbian and gay rights! Vote no on 490, 479, and 30."

## W. Va. socialist denied place on ballot, hits 'swindle' by officials

BY JULIETTE MONTAUK

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — On July 14 the West Virginia secretary of state's office informed the Socialist Workers' campaign that it didn't submit "enough" signatures to gain ballot status for the November 1986 election. Needing 1,844 signatures, the secretary of state claimed the socialists were "a few hundred short." This decision was based on what the state described as an "initial" check.

The Socialist Workers Party is running Dave Salner for Congress in the Third Congressional District and Kathy Mickells for Congress in the Second Congressional District. Salner is a member of the United Steelworkers of America. Mickells is a coal miner and member of the United Mine Workers of America.

Speaking at a campaign barbecue celebrating the seventh anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution on July 19, Salner described the state's action as a "swindle." Socialist campaign supporters submitted 3,000 signatures, along with paying an exorbitant \$751 filing fee. "The state officials will do whatever they can to keep a working-class candidate off the ballot. They don't want working people to have any alternative," Salner said to campaign supporters. Salner is the only challenger in the Third Congressional District to Democratic incumbent Bob Wise.

The energies of campaign supporters

Initiative 490 would institutionalize barring gays and others from tens of thousands of jobs. It forbids any person defined as "deviant" from holding jobs involving direct or indirect contact with children, the elderly, disabled persons, persons in state custody, and other categories of people.

Initiative 479 is a Washington state version of the federal Hyde amendment that bars the use of public funds for abortion.

Initiative 30 would reverse Seattle's proclamation of itself as a sanctuary city for refugees from Central America.

In addition to opposing attacks on gay rights, speakers at the rally spoke against the U.S. government's *contra* war against Nicaragua and collaboration with the apartheid regime in South Africa.

One woman who signed a petition for Jill Fein wore a T-shirt on which she had printed the slogan, "Boycott Hormel — support P-9 — Austin, Minnesota."

During the following week Fein and campaign supporters petitioned at the gate of the Boeing plant where she works. Twenty-four signatures were collected, and four copies of the *Militant* were sold.

On the weekends of July 4 and July 11, campaign supporters drove to Aberdeen to show solidarity with Weyerhaeuser Corp. workers who have been forced on strike against the company's takeback demands.

On the July 4 weekend, they collected signatures at a grocery store where many of the strikers and their families shop. A lot of people were pleased to hear that a union member (Fein is a member of the International Association of Machinists) is running for U.S. Senate.

across the state will now turn to building support for the SWP's democratic right to appear on the ballot. Initial endorsers of this fight include Rev. Sandy Drayton, president of the Charleston NAACP; Rev. Nathaniel Turner Lacy; Pat Hussey and Barbara Ferraro, sisters of Notre Dame; David Evans, Chapter 38 of Vietnam Veterans of America; Bobbie Adams, president of the Charleston National Organization for Women chapter; and Chuck Wright, founder of Students for Human Rights. Endorsers from Morgantown, West Virginia, include Sister Mary Brendan Conlon, Order of Saint Ursula; Tim Sindelar, attorney; Al Morris, shop steward United Food and Commercial Workers Local 347; Andy Klatt, Latin American Solidarity Project; Eugene Harner, senior citizen activist; Mary Kenney, attorney; and Tom Shaw, Latin American Solidarity Project.

Building a broadly supported fight for ballot status is not new for the Socialist Workers' campaign in West Virginia. "Every year since 1980, the state has placed big obstacles in the way of our attempts to get on the ballot," Salner said. "But each time we've been able to get on the ballot because of the big support among working people for our democratic rights."

Protest letters and telegrams can be sent to Ken Hechler, Secretary of State, state of West Virginia, Charleston, West Virginia 25305.

### Labor news in the *Militant*

The *Militant* stays on top of the most important developments in the labor movement. You won't miss them if you subscribe. See the ad on page 2 for subscription rates.

# Union buster loses shot at S. Africa post

BY RICH STUART

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The consideration of Robert Brown for the post of U.S. ambassador to South Africa is the latest attempt by the Reagan administration to convince us that they have the interests of Black South Africans in mind. Even though consideration has been withdrawn, there are some important lessons we can learn from it.

Brown, who is Black, lives in Highpoint, North Carolina. I work in Highpoint in a textile mill. Brown doesn't work. He is a millionaire businessman. He used to be a Highpoint cop. Then he was a narcotics agent for the federal government.

Highpoint is like a 20th century plantation. The slaves today are wage slaves — Black and white — working in furniture, textile, and other factories here. Highpoint calls itself the furniture capital of the world, but its dozens of furniture plants are all nonunion. And of the many textile mills, only two are unionized.

There are two sides of the tracks in Highpoint. Our side, the side of the workers, Black and white, and Brown's side, the side of the rich. Their side does real well for themselves. They have the only Rolls Royce dealership in the Southeast. In Highpoint, where there's them and there's us, Brown is one of them.

Brown owns an outfit called B&C Associates. He calls it a public-relations firm. But by their right name B&C Associates are union-busters.

Brown hires himself out to companies such as R.J. Reynolds and Haines Hosiery, both based in Winston-Salem; Cannon Mills, based in Kannapolis; and Thomasville Furniture Industries in Thomasville. These are all known as rabid antiunion companies. Brown helps them stay that way. Reynolds is the only nonunion tobacco company in the United States.

Brown helped Haines defeat a union organizing drive by my union, the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU), several years ago.

Brown's specialty is turning Black workers against their union brothers and sisters, Black and white, to defeat union organizing efforts. A smooth operator, Brown passes himself off as a Black rights activist, a lie that helps cover up his anti-



**Union-buster Robert Brown was Reagan's initial choice as U.S. ambassador to South Africa. He was in line to continue U.S. government's support to apartheid regime.**

unionism. B&C's dirty work is important because Black workers in the South are the backbone of many unions and are among the strongest supporters of unions and union organizing drives. B&C is also used nationwide in strikes and organizing drives where Black workers are involved.

A good example of how Brown makes his money was the job he did against the

mill workers at Cannon in 1985 when they were trying to win union representation with ACTWU.

In the spring of '85, during the organizing drive, Cannon brought Brown in and sponsored an affair for the Black ministers in the area.

After wining and dining the ministers, Brown and his cronies went to work in the Black community around Cannon's mills. They arranged for big ads in the area papers signed by some of the Black ministers and a Black school board member.

These ads and even sermons from the pulpit argued against ACTWU's efforts, telling the workers they should work together with the company against imports in these troubled times for textile workers. The ads said the union would be a divisive force in the community. Who paid for these ads has never come out, but it's not hard to figure it out.

These ads and sermons played an important role in poisoning the atmosphere against the union and covered up the real issues at stake for Cannon workers, Black and white. Low pay, safety, stretch-outs, and some dignity in their lives were what was important, not imports nor so-called togetherness between workers and bosses at Cannon.

The workers lost the union election by a margin of 63 to 37 percent.

Brown has political friends in both of the bosses' political parties — Democrats and Republicans. In 1984 Brown contributed \$10,000 to Jesse Helms' Senate campaign. In the same year he organized a fundraising affair for Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign.

If Brown's record hadn't come to light

and been so embarrassing, he would've been a good ambassador to South Africa — for the rich, including the South African rulers. He has done nothing for the masses of Blacks in Highpoint and would do nothing for South African Blacks.

But that's the idea behind Reagan's wanting to send Brown to South Africa — to put a Black mask on U.S. imperialism's face. It would help them buy time for the big-business profits being made in South Africa by companies such as two of B&C's clients, Reynolds and Sarah Lee, which both have big investments in South Africa.

There should be no ambassador to the apartheid regime. The only ties between the U.S. and South Africa should be between working people ourselves, through our unions such as ACTWU and the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

Robert Brown and people like him are enemies of working people and unionism, whether in North Carolina or South Africa. Genuine Black rights organizations and activists, not imposters like Brown, are working together with unions, farm groups, students, and others to fight U.S. ties to apartheid. The anti-apartheid demonstration of 100,000 in New York City on June 14 was a good example of unions leading the fight for solidarity with the freedom struggle in South Africa.

The lesson to be learned from this experience is that it is not the color of the person that is most important but what class he represents, rich or working people.

*Rich Stuart is a member of ACTWU Local 319-T at Highland Yarn Mills and is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from North Carolina.*

## 28,000 sign for N.Y. SWP candidates

Continued from front page

collected 750 signatures supporting our right to be on the ballot. And that included almost every member of the antiwar contingent."

Jim Callahan, SWP candidate for Congress from Albany's 23rd Congressional District, spent the day campaigning in New York City. Highlights of his tour with Delgadillo were campaign stops at a Nicara-

gua solidarity celebration in Manhattan and with strikers picketing the Hebrew National meatpacking plant in Queens. (See article on page 3.)

Saturday's campaigning came on top of an enormously successful two-week drive by a full-time team of members of the SWP and YSA and a mobilization of more than 80 campaign supporters the previous Saturday. It confronted the socialists with an unusual question so early in a drive: should we quit or keep going?

Campaign supporters have already collected 28,000 signatures, 40 percent more than state law requires to place the socialist ticket on the ballot. But given the history of New York, where officials have often twisted the legal technicalities to keep working-class parties off the ballot, they decided to go way over the top with one more big week-long push.

"The state may still try to throw us off the ballot," said Delgadillo. "But the more support we can show we have, the harder it will be for them to keep us, other working-class parties, and the issue of Nicaragua

and South Africa out of the election.

"They make us collect an outrageous number of signatures. We don't have any choice about that.

"But we do a lot more than sign people up on a long sheet of paper. We explain why we're running in the election, why we like Nicaragua, which I recently visited as part of a volunteer work brigade, and why we like Cuba. We distribute tens of thousands of leaflets explaining the SWP program, and we let thousands of people know about our candidates, our newspaper, our weekly public forums, and our bookstore.

"If we had a choice, we would never have tried to do all this in three weeks. But with the help and hard work of our supporters, we've been able to turn a restrictive legal requirement into something the Democratic and Republican lawmakers never dreamed of — a statewide socialist campaign blitz."

The New York Socialist Workers campaign headquarters is located at 79 Leonard St. in New York City.

## Hebrew National meatpackers strike against takebacks; boss uses scabs

NEW YORK — Two hundred fourteen production workers at the Hebrew National meatpacking plant here were forced out on strike June 13 when management tried to unilaterally impose a takeback contract that workers estimate would cost each one of them \$2,800 a year. Under the proposed new contract, average pay would be cut \$3 an hour.

The strikers, members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 174, have been picketing the plant daily for more than five weeks. When socialist candidates Theresa Delgadillo and Jim Callahan visited the picket line July 19 to show their support, they were greeted warmly by picket captain Leon Joseph, who has worked at Hebrew National for 21 years, and by the more than a dozen other workers picketing.

The strike has received limited coverage in the New York media, and workers were eager to get out their story. A support rally, backed by other city unions, has been scheduled for July 21.

Efforts to herd scabs in were initially turned back, Ralph Soriano, a 17-year veteran of the plant, told the candidates. But now "we can't do anything," said Soriano, referring to the substantial presence of cops. "We've got a wall of blue around us every day."

Workers, who had the facts and figures at their fingertips, were particularly angry at the fact that Hebrew National has made no secret of its huge profits — \$60 million in 1980, \$120 million in 1985, and a projected \$250 million in 1989.

"We gave our best years to the company," said Laura Schubert, a member of the negotiating committee who has worked at the plant 18 years. "Now they have forced us out on strike even though we offered to continue working another two years under the old contract."

"I'll tell you one thing," she said to Delgadillo. "I won't work for them for \$7 an hour. The work is too hard."

A number of strikers signed the candidates' petitions, and two bought subscriptions to *Perspectiva Mundial*.

*Do you know someone who reads Spanish?*

## 'PM': The U.S. escalates war

After the House of Representatives approved \$100 million to finance the U.S.-armed, -trained, and -organized *contra* army, which seeks to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution, there were more than 100 protests demanding, "No aid to the contras." A poll was published the day of the vote revealing that 62 percent of the population is opposed to the mercenary war.

Also in response to the House vote, tens of thousands of Nicaraguans participated in protests throughout different regions of that Central American country.

Meanwhile the World Court declared the U.S. government guilty of violating the national sovereignty of Nicaragua. It called on the U.S. government to stop breaking international law and desist from trying to overthrow the Sandinista government.

The current issue of *Perspectiva Mundial* has reports from our Managua Bureau on terrorist attacks by the U.S.-sponsored counterrevolutionaries, as well as the advances the Nicaraguan people have made in fighting to retain their sovereignty.

*Perspectiva Mundial* is the Spanish-language socialist magazine that every two weeks brings you the truth about the struggles of working people and the oppressed in the U.S. and around the world.



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# The LaRouchites: anatomy of an American fascist outfit

BY DOUG JENNESS

In the past several months the news media have substantially increased coverage of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), headed by Lyndon LaRouche. This attention has been sparked by the results of the Illinois Democratic Party primary in March, in which NDPC candidates won nomination for lieutenant governor and secretary of state. These two candidates defeated the handpicked choices of gubernatorial nominee Adlai Stevenson III.

The Illinois events were followed by the nomination of NDPC members as Democratic Party candidates for Congress from California's 40th District, Ohio's 4th District, and Texas' 7th and 22nd districts. In all of these primary races the NDPC nominees ran unopposed. In many other races NDPC candidates, while not winning, have obtained sizable vote totals. Altogether the NDPC has fielded more than 750 candidates in the 1986 Democratic primaries.

Amid consternation in the upper echelons of the Democratic Party over the NDPC's primary victories, newspaper columnists, television commentators, and political pundits of all varieties have been attempting to explain what the NDPC is and what its recent showing in the electoral arena represents.

Editors have termed LaRouche's followers "extremists," "far rightists," "whackos," "zombies," "totalitarians," "radicals," and "anti-Semites." The NDPC has also been described as "lunacy rampant" and as an advocate of a "bizarre agenda."

While some of the labels aptly describe aspects of the NDPC's positions and its supporters, these reporters generally present the LaRouche-led organization as a fluke, as something outlandish and totally aberrant. The *New York Times* editors go so far as to say the policies of the NDPC "defy description in conventional political terms."

At the same time the media coverage reflects an embarrassment in ruling circles about the LaRouchites and their inability to simply brush them aside. Why is this? The

Far from being undefinable in conventional terms, as the *New York Times* claims, there is precisely a conventional term to define the LaRouchites: fascist. Most currents in the workers' movement have for more than a decade pointed to evidence that the LaRouchite outfit is a fascist organization that has emerged out of the particular features of U.S. political life in recent years.

It is also one of the groups that is part of an incipient fascist movement in the United States today. (I'm making a distinction here in terminology between a fascist group and an incipient fascist movement. The NDPC's positions and behavior show that it is fascist, but its size and influence, like other contemporary fascist groups, is only part of an embryo, an incipient stage of what could become a big fascist movement.)

More than other small fascist outfits today, the LaRouchites have succeeded in attracting public attention — even more than their relatively small numbers might indicate they could — because they have carved out a small niche in the mainstream of electoral politics in this country.

The LaRouchites also have an international following, with active groups in several West European and Latin American countries.

## Fascism: 20th century movement

Fascism first arose as a major force in Europe following the October 1917 Russian revolution, where the workers and peasants for the first time took political power, established a workers' and peasants' government, and expropriated the landlords and capitalists.

This historic conquest inspired working people and helped give them confidence to try to overturn capitalist rule in a number of other European countries. Revolutionary uprisings occurred in Germany and Italy. In both countries the workers and peasants could have taken power had they not been betrayed by the Social Democratic misleaderships, which the majority of workers

open to their demagogic appeals that only radical solutions could restore "security," "order," and "prosperity" for the "little man." The fascists feasted both on the failure of the mainstream bourgeois liberals and conservatives to provide any solutions and on the refusal of the Social Democrats to act decisively and provide a class-struggle alternative to the capitalist parties.

## A conspiracy theory

The fascists' demagogic explanation for the social crisis was that it was caused by a conspiracy of big bankers and Jews. The fascists proposed radical remedies, often couched in anticapitalist rhetoric, to counter this "evil" combination. At the same time, they presented themselves as the parties of order. The growing social, economic, and political chaos, the fascists preached, resulted from strikes, demonstrations, and the general moral decay of society. They attempted to pin the blame for the evils of capitalism on labor militants, Jews, communists, homosexuals, bohemian artists, and so forth.

Revolutionary communists argued that this was no explanation, but rather a concoction of prejudices and false claims. They offered a different evaluation of the origins of the social crisis; they explained that it originated in the capitalist system itself.

This system is based on the exploitation of wage labor by capitalist employers. And it is based on the exploitation of working farmers — as well as small shopkeepers and other middle-class layers — by capitalist landlords and bankers, that is, by the rents and mortgages system.

This capitalist profit system breeds within itself the irreconcilable conflict between the exploited and exploiters, a conflict that during gigantic social convulsions can open the door to the exploited classes taking political power and forming their own government.

Armed with a scientific understanding of the capitalist system and its crises, the communist vanguard is the party of revolutionary hope for the working class. And when this hope embraces big sections of the working class, it will inevitably pull behind it on the road to socialism the farmers and sectors of the middle classes.

Fascism, on the other hand, becomes a mass movement by appealing to despair, obscurantism, irrationality, and conspiracy and presents itself as the party of counter-revolutionary determination.

Decisive sections of the capitalist ruling classes of Italy and Germany, faced with the loss of their rule because of gigantic working-class struggles, found it necessary at a certain stage to finance and support the fascists. They sought to use them as a battering ram against the combative workers in order to take advantage of their character as an extraparlimentary goon force.

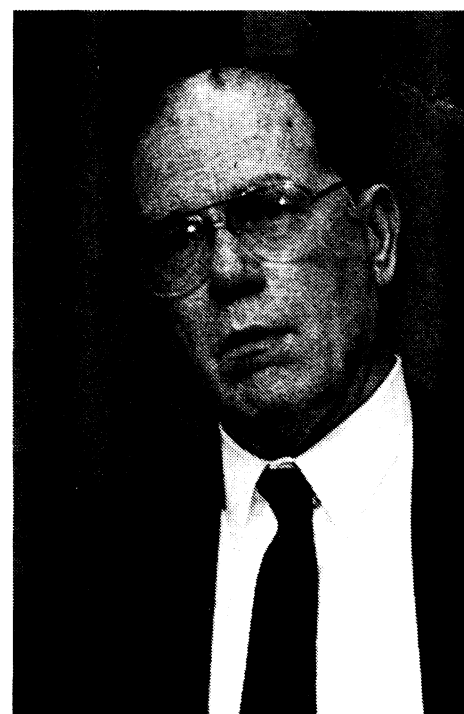
When the Italian Fascists and German Nazis established their regimes they quickly smashed the trade unions and working-class political parties, which they had been attempting to terrorize for several years. They imposed a brutal police dictatorship in the interests of the big capitalist bankers, industrialists, and landlords. They then carried out bloody purges against the most "radical" wings of their own movements, including their paramilitary storm troopers, and integrated and subordinated the most reliable forces into the regular military and police apparatus.

In the era of socialist revolution opened by the Russian revolution, fascist movements will rear their ugly heads whenever the capitalist system is wracked by crisis and the working class begins engaging in mass class combat that heads in a revolutionary direction.

## Class polarization today

Today, in the United States, the workers are neither headed in a revolutionary direction nor engaged in mass class combat.

But since the mid-1970s, deepening economic stagnation has replaced the long post-World War II boom, and ruling-class attacks on the standard of living of working



Lyndon LaRouche as 1984 presidential candidate running on a fascist program in the Democratic Party primaries. His political odyssey led from functioning in radical left to establishment of fascist grouping.

people have intensified. Farm foreclosures are ruining tens of thousands of exploited farm families every year.

As a result of this ruling-class offensive, capitalist politics continues to shift to the right. This, along with general social discontent, which is in its initial stages, is encouraging outfits like the NDPC.

While a big hunk of the vote that NDPC candidates have received recently, including in Illinois, undoubtedly resulted from voter ignorance about the LaRouchites, a certain number of voters were attracted to one or more of the NDPC's "radical" positions. This is one reflection of the deepening class polarization in the country.

This process, however, is still at an early stage. The LaRouchites and other outfits of their ilk are still very much only an incipient fascist movement. They are not a mass force today, nor are they on the verge of becoming one. Moreover, there is no sign that any section of the U.S. ruling class is bankrolling them.

All indications are that the LaRouchites receive most of their funds from their own members and supporters — many of whom are highly paid professionals — and from business operations, sales of their publications, and contributions from wealthy individual capitalists. They also have collected hundreds of thousands of dollars from the federal government in election campaign matching funds.

As the social and economic crisis worsens and working-class combativity increases, however, groups like the NDPC can pick up steam. The LaRouchites are already probing for openings and are trying to insert themselves into arenas where they can be a political factor.

As will be shown more fully later in this article, they have oriented to farm protests in order to confuse and divert farmers into thinking that as "small businessmen" their interests lie with other businessmen, including big capitalists, rather than with wage workers.

For more than a decade they have also intervened in labor struggles, slandering unionists and attempting to disrupt strikes, meetings, and other union activities. The list of unions targeted includes, among others, United Steelworkers, Teamsters, and United Auto Workers. Most recently the struggle of meatpackers against Geo. A. Hormel & Co. in Austin, Minnesota, has been added to the list.

## Radical left origins

LaRouche and the central core of his followers originated in the radical left. LaRouche was in or around the Communist Party for a while in the 1940s. In the late 1940s he joined the Socialist Workers

Continued on next page



LaRouche's estate outside Washington, D.C., serves as his headquarters. Armed guards defend 172-acre spread, showing violence-prone character of LaRouchites.

NDPC certainly doesn't threaten their political rule nor their domination of the Democratic Party.

## An ugly face

The reason is that the LaRouchites expose the ugly face of a tendency that exists in the mainstream of capitalist politics, in what is considered to be "legitimate" politics, in this country. The NDPC grabs hold of right-wing and reactionary positions and attitudes that are held by both some Democrats and some Republicans and takes them one or two steps further to the right.

For example, when President Reagan bombed Libyan cities in April, the NDPC cheered this brutal action and called for bombing Libyan oilfields and declaring "total war on terrorism." "Legitimate" conservative William Buckley has proposed tattooing AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) "suspects," a code word for homosexuals; the NDPC goes further and presses for rounding up the "suspects" and placing them in detention centers.

still looked to.

As the social crisis deepened and the possibility of workers' and peasants' power seemed to be posed, growing sectors of the capitalist ruling class — in the early 1920s in Italy, and increasingly in Germany throughout that decade and the early 1930s — turned to fascist movements as a way to counter working-class combativity and crush the labor movement.

Fascist organizations were formed in other countries as well. Their degree of success in attracting a mass following and support from bourgeois layers was related to the depth of the social crisis of capitalism in each country. Especially in those capitalist powers that had emerged the weakest out of World War I, fascist demagoguery was pitched at peasants and middle-class layers, feeding on their despair in the face of seemingly unexplainable and unstoppable ruin.

The fascist outfits especially attracted disillusioned and discontented middle-class and lumpen social layers, which were

Continued from previous page

Party, which he left in March 1966 with only one supporter, his wife at the time.\* LaRouche had tried hard to win a following in the SWP but found that it is an inhospitable place to build any kind of sect or cult.

After a short time, LaRouche and his wife entered the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) in New York City, where they drew some students around them. Active in an SDS task force known as the Labor Committee, the LaRouchites were expelled in 1968 for supporting the United Federation of Teachers' bureaucracy headed by Albert Shanker in its New York strike against attempts by Black and Puerto Rican parents to gain greater control over the schools in their communities. LaRouche and his supporters subsequently set themselves up as the National Caucus of Labor Committees (NCLC).

Although the NCLC did not totally renounce its Marxist pretensions until the end of the 1970s, it soon began to be more and more open about its shift to the right.

A turning point was evident in 1973 when the NCLC launched "Operation Mop-up," a series of violent thug attacks against meetings and individual members of the Socialist Workers Party, Communist Party, and Congress of African People, a Newark-based Black nationalist organization. In the course of these assaults with clubs, pipes, and other weapons, several people were seriously injured and hospitalized. Anticommunist rhetoric accompanied this hooliganism.

An article in the Nov. 28, 1975, *Militant*, looking back over the previous half decade, noted that the NCLC has "evolved steadily to the right. Today it has been transformed into an organization with many of the characteristics of a fascist outfit."

## Historical precedents

While LaRouche's particular odyssey from the radical left to the radical right has its own peculiarities, this kind of crossover is not unique. While neither the bulk of the cadres of fascist organizations nor their mass followings have historically come from the left or been workers, some fascist figures and initial cadres of fascist organizations have had experience in socialist, communist, or anarchist organizations.

The Italian Fascist leader Benito Mussolini, for example, was a leader of the Italian Socialist Party and from 1912 to 1914 was co-editor of its principal organ *Avanti!*

In France, Jacques Doriot, a prominent leader of the Communist Party and mayor of a "red" suburb of Paris in the early 1930s, broke with the CP and formed the fascist French People's Party in 1936.

A former French socialist, Marcel Déat, founded the fascist National Popular Assembly in the 1930s and served as secretary of state in the pro-Nazi Vichy regime during World War II.

The principal British fascist leader of the

1930s, Oswald Mosley, served seven years as a Labour Party Member of Parliament before breaking with that party and setting up the British Union of Fascists in 1932.

In the United States, however, the central figures of fascist formations up until now have not come out of organized currents in the workers' movement. They include Father Charles Coughlin, Jersey City Mayor Frank Hague, and Gerald L.K. Smith in the 1930s and '40s and the groups making up the incipient fascist movement that operated under the umbrella of the 1950s witch-hunt spearheaded by Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

## Hooliganism

The goon-squad attacks on working-class political vanguard organizations that signaled the NCLC's shift to the right in the early 1970s established a pattern of physical intimidation and violent and provocative behavior that continue to characterize the LaRouche outfit. "Operation Mop-up" subsequently branched out to include disrupting meetings and news conferences of liberal Democratic politicians and union officials. Many instances have been documented over the past decade of

## As social and economic crisis worsens and working-class combativity increases, groups such as LaRouchites pick up steam . . .

the LaRouchites' thuggery.

One example was recounted in the June 1986 *Machinist*, published by the International Association of Machinists. The *Machinist* article tells the story of labor representatives and their families in York, Pennsylvania, who were harassed by NCLC goons in 1975.

Ed Clinch, then directing representative of IAM District 98 and president of the York Central Labor Council, was a primary target because the NCLC opposed his participation in labor and community activities against unemployment.

The NCLC members harassed Clinch's family with obscene phone calls and bomb threats for months. They threw a garbage can through his front window and tried to set his house on fire. At one point the LaRouchites held Clinch's two sons hostage for several hours when they attended a meeting organized by supporters of the NCLC.

While the LaRouche organization's physical attacks have decreased in the past few years, the violent and provocative tone of its press, leaflets, TV interviews, and speeches and its norms of physically intimidating behavior have not changed.

A case in point is its vitriolic campaign against the NBC television network. This began in 1984 when LaRouche sued the network for libel. NBC replied with a countersuit to force the fascist leader to divulge where his money came from.

Ever since then, the NDPC has kept up a steady stream of attacks against NBC, trying to link it to an alleged international terrorist and drug conspiracy. In May, when NBC's "Today Show" interviewed Mohammed Abbas, a Palestinian who Washington accused of masterminding the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* cruise ship in 1985, the LaRouchites' twice-weekly paper, *New Solidarity*, featured an article headlined, "NBC-TV Poses Terrorist

Threat to Reagan." The following issue ran an editorial entitled, "If You Hate Dope and Treason, Boycott NBC!"

The editors stated, "Clearly, we can't rely on the State Department to prosecute NBC, at least not right now. Patriotic citizens must come up with their own actions."

"It's time to begin a National Boycott of NBC-TV. NBC-TV must be taught a lesson."

The editorial added that "watching NBC, the 'Nothing But Cocaine,' 'National Bolshevik Corporation' network, is the moral equivalent" of letting "your child walk into a local porn shop" or giving him "the okay to spend an hour or two with prostitutes employed by organized crime."

With this language blaring from the pages of their paper, it's not too surprising that NDPC members would get the message and take action themselves to "teach NBC a lesson." And — on at least two reported occasions — they did.

On May 11 NDPC member William Ferguson attacked NBC talk show host Phil Donahue and his wife Marlo Thomas as they walked by an NDPC table at LaGuardia Airport in New York. Ferguson began shouting obscenities and yelling,

"Donahue and his wife ought to be murdered." When Donahue went over to the table, he was assaulted by Ferguson.

A few days later, an NDPC photographer provoked an altercation with an NBC cameraman at the Dirksen Federal Building in Chicago.

Intimidation, threatening phone calls, verbal abuse, harassing lawsuits, and other forms of provocative behavior are the stock-in-trade of the NDPC. Today, for example, their members often belligerently confront reporters and demand that they take a test for AIDS before being admitted to NDPC news conferences. They accuse reporters, TV hosts, questioners in audiences, and others who express disagreement with the NDPC of being dope pushers, terrorists, mafia agents, homosexuals, and so forth.

LaRouche's headquarters in Leesburg, Virginia, gives an indication of the nature of this group. The NDPC operates a 172-acre complex with a publishing company, a printing plant, and what it describes as an intelligence-gathering operation. It maintains a heavily armed guard around the place, which LaRouche contends is necessary to keep out assassination teams. "If they come," he boasted in a leaflet, "there will be many people dead or mutilated within as short an interval as sixty seconds of fire."

## Americanization of LaRouchite demagoguery

Ever since the LaRouchites made their turn to the right, they have disassociated themselves from previous fascist movements in other countries. (Although at times they have shown an almost obsessive fascination in writing about them.) The horrendous crimes of the Nazi regime in Germany and the Fascists in Italy are widely known and despised in the United States. To defend these discredited and hated movements would be an obstacle for a U.S.-based fascist organization that is attempting to appeal to people who are demoralized by social crisis and the failures of both the liberalism and conservatism of the Democrats and Republicans.

Instead the NDPC has wrapped itself in its own homespun American cloak. It has created a scenario in which it roots its continuity in the American anticolonial revolution and in the writings of Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton. The LaRouchites say their American continuity also includes such political figures as Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt.

## The NDPC is launched

This Americanization took on its most effective dimension in late 1980 when the NCLC decided to orient toward the mainstream of U.S. politics by setting up the National Democratic Policy Commit-

tee. A transitional step to this move was LaRouche's presidential candidacy in the 1980 Democratic primary elections.

Previously the LaRouchites' electoral activity had, for the most part, been conducted in the name of the U.S. Labor Party, the designation it used for ballot purposes.

Forming the NDPC was aimed at appearing more legitimate and at getting a hearing from milieus in and around the Democratic Party.

When the NCLC launched this new course, LaRouche published a pamphlet entitled, "Rebuilding the Democratic Party National Committee Around a Keystone Posture of Proposing a Bipartisan Economic Policy."

In this document LaRouche said the NDPC was part of the "American Whig tradition, the tradition flowing from Benjamin Franklin's immediate circles through the Whig currents of both the Democratic and Republican parties.

"In its fully conscious expression," he continued, "'American Whig' has meant identification with the American System of political economy and has also come to mean the notion of an underlying 'harmony of interest' among industrial entrepreneurs, farmers, and labor."

It may appear paradoxical that a virulently right-wing organization such as the NDPC should choose to orient to the Democratic Party rather than the Republican Party. Of the two parties over the past half century, the Republican Party, outside the Deep South, has taken more conservative stands and has tended to be the one most likely to attract right-wingers.

But this orientation makes sense when we look at who the NDPC is trying to influence and win: the discontented and disillusioned, especially farmers and middle-class layers who have mistakenly looked to the Democratic Party because of its claim to be the party of working people and the poor.

The Republican Party, on the other hand, has been winning support from sectors of society that are doing well. They include better-off workers and farmers, small businessmen, professionals, and so on, who have not been adversely affected by the recessions and other crises of the past decade. This is what is behind the NDPC's decision to wear the Democratic mantle in the electoral arena.

This is not the first time fascists have operated in the Democratic Party. In the 1930s Frank Hague, the Democratic mayor of Jersey City, New Jersey, turned to fascist methods to prevent union organizing. Combining political pressure with ultrapatriotic, anticommunist demagoguery, Hague mobilized mobs of cops, city employees, special deputies, war veterans, and others to smash union and socialist meetings.

The Russian revolutionary leader Leon Trotsky, while in exile in Mexico, followed the activities of this fascist demagogue closely. In a discussion with leaders of the SWP in 1938, he noted that although Hague "has nothing to do with Mussolini and Hitler . . . he is an American fascist." Trotsky argued that, if the capitalist crisis in the United States deepened, Hagueism could spread, and "in two or three years you can have a powerful fascist movement of American character." (*The Transitional Program for Socialist Revolution*, New York: Pathfinder, 1977)

## Appeal to 'forgotten majority'

The NDPC orients to what LaRouche refers to as the "unrepresented majority, the forgotten majority." As is standard with fascist groups, the NDPC contends that this majority is the victim of a gigantic conspiracy.

In an article in the Aug. 23, 1985, issue of *New Solidarity* LaRouche asserted that there is a "three-way connection among the drug-traffic, international terrorism, and certain wicked and politically powerful financial interests." According to the LaRouche litany, drug dealers, terrorists (according to him, primarily instigated by Moscow), and the big bankers are an interlinked cabal that is responsible for exorbitant interest rates, unemployment, famines, massive drug addiction, and most other social afflictions.

Opposition to this conspiracy is the axis of the NDPC's propaganda, and it is the framework in which it presents its demagogic solutions to specific issues. It has

### IAM—LaRouche horror story

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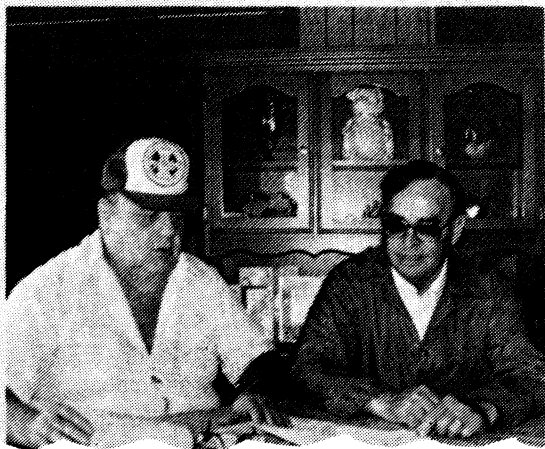
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proved the group was capable of stooping to even lower levels.

When the boys were discovered, they were immediately surrounded and physically held hostage by the group. Clinch received a phone call stating that the boy's infiltration would cost them their lives and if he tried to intervene he would also be killed.

Clinch countered with an ultimatum: release the boys by 10 p.m., or he was coming in — armed.

Clinch was restrained at the meeting site by the FBI. At one minute to ten the boys were released and several members of the group arrested. They were later released on a legal technicality.



Article in *Machinist* described LaRouchite violence against unionists. Fascist group has history since 1973 of goon-squad actions against working-class and other groups.



adjusted its themes and its emphases over the past decade, depending on what is going on at the time and what it thinks will help get it the best hearing.

In the 1970s, for example, when campaigning against drugs and unemployment, the LaRouchites often did not disguise their reactionary and racist hostility to Blacks and Puerto Ricans.

In *New Solidarity* and in leaflets, they often labeled Black and Puerto Rican activists as "cannibals," "jungle bunnies," "zombies," "faggots," and "rapists." They have more recently cleaned up their public language as part of their attempt to attract some Blacks and Latinos, especially around the issue of drugs.

In line with this they carried major articles last year hailing the achievements of the civil rights movement and the leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr. And a few of the NDPC public spokespersons and candidates are Black. Despite this tactical orientation, which has led to some Black recruits, it is out of the question that the NDPC will establish a significant foothold among Blacks.

The Black population is overwhelmingly working class. Moreover, the political history of Blacks the past quarter century has been marked more by progress, especially the smashing of the Jim Crow form of legal segregation, than it has by big demoralizing defeats.

Likewise, the NDPC's recruitment of a small number of Jews is no sign that it will ever win much support from this sector of society. It links certain Jewish organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, with its international conspiracy of dope pushers, bankers, terrorists, and the Soviet government. In this context, the NDPC's repeated claim to be "anti-Zionist" is the opposite of support for Palestinian self-determination through the replacement of the imperialist state of Israel by a democratic, secular Palestine, but instead is a cover for anti-Semitism. Their usage turns the term "Zionist" into a code word for Jews in general.

History has taught us that the capitalist rulers and reactionary movements in areas of the world that were historically part of Christendom have attempted to make Jews a scapegoat for the problems created by the social crises of capitalism in this century.

LaRouche proposes that a formal declaration of war be called against drug traffic and that all necessary military steps be taken. His proposals include making sales of illegal drugs an act of "treason in time of war." Anyone caught purchasing illegal drugs or advocating their legalization would be tried under wartime measures for "giving aid and comfort to the enemy." The U.S.-Mexico border should be "hermetically sealed," he says, and a massive concentration of U.S. troops located there.

Alliances with governments in Latin America and other regions should be made and joint military forces used to destroy drug-producing fields and processing plants. All businesses involved in the illegal drug trade should be broken up and their assets confiscated and used for economic development.

The LaRouchites' presentation of drug trafficking as a conspiracy that involves various banking interests, Jewish groups, the Soviet and Cuban governments, and the British monarchy reinforces the mystery and intrigue around the drug trade.

While there is certainly secrecy and plotting in the drug trade, it is basically not very mysterious. Drugs are commodities that are produced, transported, wholesaled, and retailed.

Big capitalists make huge profits off the unpaid labor time of tens of thousands of workers and peasants who are involved in growing and harvesting drug-producing plants and in processing and circulating these commodities. The fact that the marketing of many addictive drugs is illegal only helps to drive up the price and the profits of the capitalists engaged in this traffic.

Illegal drugs find a ready market because the pushers prey on the misery, generated by capitalist society, of millions of people.

This not only victimizes many working-class youth, but has also become a hollow pastime for self-indulgent individuals from middle-class and professional layers.

The LaRouchites propose tossing out the Bill of Rights in order to conduct a no-

holds-barred military dragnet to snag the culprits. Yet their economic schemes would keep the capitalist system, including the capitalist market, intact. And it's precisely this system that breeds the entire traffic in illegal drugs and recycles and invests its enormous profits.

Only by working people taking political power from the capitalist rulers and eliminating the ability to profit from the production and trade of drugs will this scourge be eliminated. Moreover, this revolutionary change will open important new opportunities to young people, eliminating the hopelessness and despair many feel in today's capitalist society.

#### Antihomosexual campaign

Like most all fascist political organizations, the NDPC wages a venomous campaign against homosexuals and the right to privacy.

They vigorously campaigned against passage of the gay rights bill adopted by the New York City Council in March of this year.

An article in the March 28, 1986, *New Solidarity* blasting adoption of this bill favorably quoted former Manhattan Borough President Hulan Jack. Jack, formerly one of the most prominent among those New York politicians who are Black, is now a member of LaRouche's Schiller Institute. He asserted that the gay rights bill was "contrary to the spirit of the traditional relations of family life." He added that it "promotes sexual habits which introduce promiscuous behavior, often leading to the dreaded fatal disease AIDS."

As to be expected, the NDPC also hailed the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 decision June 30 that declared state antisodomy laws to be constitutional. The court majority "reasserted the link between morality and law," *New Solidarity* cheered.

The NDPC is now utilizing the widespread and public concern over AIDS to press its attack on democratic rights in general and the right to privacy in particular. It is attempting to do what it can to contribute to the general hysteria that other right-wing forces are whipping up around the AIDS issue.

The NDPC approach is expressed in the headline of an April 4, 1986, *New Solidarity* editorial: "Time to Spread PANIC!" PANIC is the acronym for the LaRouchites' newly created front group, Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee. This group spearheaded a drive to collect more than 680,000 signatures to put a re-

**“Their economic schemes would keep capitalist system. It's precisely this system that breeds entire traffic in illegal drugs . . .**

ferendum on the November ballot in California that would impose rigid controls on anybody suspected of having AIDS.

The NDPC has also been campaigning to impose mandatory testing for AIDS and establish detention centers for all "suspects."

#### Biological 'Star Wars'

The LaRouchites are also urging the federal government to develop a program for the production of biological weapons — a biological counterpart to "Star Wars" — that they claim would advance the medical research and scientific knowledge necessary to help fight the AIDS virus.

As on other questions, the LaRouchites' demagoguery around AIDS is nourished by the pitiful inaction of the government. AIDS is a serious problem, and millions of people are justifiably concerned about its continued spread. Precious little education, however, has been forthcoming from the government to explain clearly to people on a mass scale what the risks are, what precautionary measures should be taken, and what steps are being made to combat this deadly disease.

There is no question that a full-scale research program, provided with all the funds and equipment it needs, should be a top priority. Such a program needs to be coordinated on an international basis to pool all efforts to fight AIDS.

The NDPC also strongly opposes the right of women to use birth control and



Militant/Peggy Winter

**A special target of LaRouchites is farm protest movement. While claiming to support embattled farmers, outfit directs its fire at those in movement who demand, "Farms, not arms!" such as in this Minnesota Groundswell action against foreclosure.**

have abortions if they choose. However, at the present time they are not waging a head-on attack on this issue. Instead, they are trying to confuse their position on abortion with more complex and emotionally charged questions such as euthanasia in order to avoid dealing directly with the right of women to control their bodies.

One recent attack on abortion rights, however, appeared in the May 19, 1986, *New Solidarity*. The article protested a court suit filed by "proabortion fanatics" against the Catholic hierarchy for using tax-exempt church funds to lobby against abortion rights.

#### Economic nostrums

The LaRouchites present themselves as champions of the oppressed and downtrodden. They denounce the victimization of farmers. They rail against high unemployment and the bad working conditions faced by wage workers. They call for a halt to

enterprise," the NDPC candidate for governor of Pennsylvania wrote in the April 11, 1986, issue of *New Solidarity*, "necessarily, inexorably propel a society toward becoming Sodom and Gomorrah, no matter how self-righteous and nominally moral a person might claim to be, who adheres to the dogma of 'free enterprise.'

The NDPC calls for government intervention against the banks. In a 1985 resolution, it called on the president to use his emergency powers to "nationalize" the Federal Reserve System. Specifically it proposed suspending the Federal Reserve Bank's powers over currency and interest rates and transferring them to the president. The president should set interest rates and establish policies for lending to "approved categories of borrowers" through the national banking system.

This lending should be restricted to purchase of machinery, tools, equipment, and research for production of goods in industry and agriculture and developing and maintaining transportation, the resolution said.

Related to their various economic nostrums, the LaRouchites promote a major expansion of nuclear power, despite the fact that there is currently no known way to make it safe. Their enthusiasm was not at all dampened by the disastrous accident at the Chernobyl reactor in the Soviet Union in April.

LaRouche issued a statement April 30 declaring, "The type of nuclear power-plant failure which has occurred outside Kiev, in Russia, could never have happened to a nuclear generating facility in the U.S.A., France, or West Germany. The Soviet Russians have a different culture and morality than we do. . . ."

#### 'Build 1,000 MX missiles'

Although the LaRouchites mouth a few platitudes about expanding production to provide for social needs, when they get down to specifics the heart of their proposal is to massively increase arms production.

This was highlighted in an article in the June 17, 1985, *New Solidarity* headlined, "NDPC Demands: Reagan Reopen Auto Plants to Build 1,000 MX Missiles!"

The NDPC proposes to retool the extra capacity in the country's auto plants to grind out 1,000 missiles a year, assembly-line style.

It calls for establishing a "defense economic mobilization authority," similar to what was set up during World War II, to oversee conversion and production. "The reasons for doing this should be obvious," *New Solidarity* stated. "The MX missile, now nearly 14 years under development, and still not available for deployment, is the only timely option available to the

Continued on next page

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United States to reduce the crushing military force the Russians are putting together in their war mobilization."

The NDPC also strongly pushes the development and expansion of other weapons systems, including President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, commonly called "Star Wars." It promotes it with the slogan, "Beam the Bomb."

When farm protest organizations have raised such slogans as "Cut Defense — Not Deficiency [price supports]" and "Farms Not Arms," the LaRouchites have savagely denounced them. "That won't put a single farmer back in business or as much as a turnip on a family's dinner table," *New Solidarity* reporters wrote after a February 1985 rally of protesting farmers in Ames, Iowa.

It's not surprising then that the LaRouchites have conducted a scurrilous campaign against many of the most militant and uncompromising organizations fighting farm foreclosures, including Groundswell in Minnesota and the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition. They have slandered these organizations for allegedly having connections with the international grain monopolies, the food processing cartels, and even the Benedictine order of the Roman Catholic church.

LaRouche has also attacked Cuban President Fidel Castro's proposal that the imperialist governments finance the cancellation of the huge debts in the Third World countries by reducing military expenses 10 percent. In a 36-page attack on Castro's proposal published in July 1985, LaRouche declared, "Castro faithfully follows the long-standing Soviet line: that the solution to all economic problems of the developing sector flows from U.S.A. and NATO general disarmament, redirecting military expenditures into aid." He called for more military spending to help develop the technologies needed for development in Latin America.

## Backstabbing policy

The NDPC also tries to give the impression that it supports strikes by workers fighting against cuts in wages and benefits and erosion of working conditions. Take, for example, the strike of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 against the Hormel meatpacking company in Austin, Minnesota.

"Certainly, the intent of the strike, when it began," *New Solidarity* wrote May 19, 1986, "was coherent with the economic policies advanced by LaRouche and the NDPC. The strike rejected a large wage cut by Hormel, and demanded adequate workmen's compensation and improved health and safety conditions in the plant. . . . P-9's opposition to the top AFL-CIO bureaucracy's capitulationist policy was also commendable."

After enumerating several supposed failings of the leadership of P-9, *New Solidarity* raised its biggest complaint: the union recognized Hormel as its principal enemy in this conflict instead of leading "the strike as part of an international fight against the austerity policies" of the AFL-CIO bureaucracy and the International Monetary Fund.

"Hormel Meat Co. is no 'big, evil corporation,'" *New Solidarity* declared. "It is one of the few unionized companies left in the meat-packing industry, and it is fighting for survival against one of the biggest enemies of labor and of the United States — Armand Hammer — whose Iowa Beef Co. is a notorious union-buster."

The point is clear: stop fighting the owners who directly profit from the exploitation of wage labor at Hormel in Austin. They are not the real enemy.

While the NDPC's backstabbing policy toward the struggle against Hormel is particularly flagrant, it is not unique.

The LaRouchites' general stance toward strikes and other labor fights is to try to take the fire off the employers and direct it somewhere else. When transit workers in Philadelphia and Boston went on strike in March of this year, the NDPC accused the unions of "fighting the cuts as though they were only victims of an unfair company. Indeed, the cuts are conditionalities, ordered by the banking houses. . . . The companies are merely carrying out orders, taking out the cost of paying their debt from the hides of their employees."

*New Solidarity*, in fact, expressed greater concern over "traffic crises," "commuter

problems," "work and school-time losses," and "chaos," allegedly resulting from the strike, than it did for the demands of the striking transit workers.

The same issue of *New Solidarity* carried an article on the breakdown of airline safety. According to the NDPC, the heightened competition resulting from government deregulation of the airlines a few years ago has driven the airlines to the wall and forced them to cut costs. And debt-burdened airlines have come under increasing pressure from creditor banks. "Once upon a time," *New Solidarity* noted, "we used to invest our way out of such problems, paying the work force decent wages, and permitting companies to invest in capital improvements. Airline regulation protected that kind of approach, and thus protected people's lives."

## Can capitalism be made to work?

As the above examples show, the NDPC's objective is to fight to make the "American system" — that is, capitalism — work, to be more productive. This, it says, requires forging an "alliance" of industrial capitalists, farmers, and workers against the big bankers.

But this scheme covers up the key social relation in U.S. capitalist society — the exploitation of wage labor by capital. The wage that workers are paid for their hours of labor amounts to only a fraction of the

“**LaRouchites' objective is to fight to make 'American system' work, to be more productive. But this scheme covers up key social relation in U.S. capitalist society — exploitation of wage labor by capital . . .**”

value they produce during that time. The remainder of their hours of labor actually goes unpaid. The value produced during that unpaid labor time ends up as profits in the coffers of the capitalists — the wealthy families that own industrial enterprises, land, commercial businesses, and banks — who compete among themselves for the biggest shares.

This exploitation is the source of the irrepressible class struggle between wage workers and the capitalists. Even if LaRouche's notion that the banks should get off the backs of "productive capital" were realized, this would not do away with the exploitation of the working class and its need to fight to advance its economic, social, and political interests.

In reality, however, it's false to counterpose banking and industrial capitalists. For nearly a century they have been intertwined and interdependent. The country's few dozen ruling families dominate industrial, commercial, and banking capital. The Rockefeller and Mellon banking empires, for example, grew out of and remain deeply involved in industry, including oil, coal, and steel. Moreover, the ruling families are also by far the largest private landowners.

To pose the problem for working people as one of banking capital versus industrial capital covers up the central cause of cyclical recessions and mass unemployment.

The real cause of recessions and depressions is the overproduction of industrial and agricultural commodities — not in relation to what the majority of people need, but in relation to the ability of the capitalists to sell them at what they deem a suitable profit. Upturns occur after the stockpiles of goods are reduced and less efficient productive capacity is eliminated.

More than 150 years of experience with capitalist business cycles have proved that no government fiscal or banking policies can prevent them. That's why workers have no stake in such attempts to regulate the business cycles, but rather fight to get the government to take measures that are possible to alleviate the effects of capitalist crises.

## 'Capital must exist'

The counterposing of bankers and industrialists was a prominent theme in the demagoguery of both the Italian Fascists and the German Nazis. Daniel Guerin wrote in *Fascism and Big Business* (New York: Monad Press, 1973), "Most of the radical demands of the [Italian] fascist program of

1919 were directed against the banks and loan capital: 'The dissolution of corporations; suppression of all sorts of banking and stock market speculation; state credit through the creation of a national organization for credit distribution; confiscation of idle income; a special graduated surtax on capital. . . .'"

Guerin also quoted Gottfried Feder, the Nazis' principal economic theoretician: "We recognize clearly that the capitalist system — capital itself — is not the scourge of the human race; the insatiable thirst for interest of big loan capital is the curse of all toiling humanity."

"*Capital must exist, and Labor too, . . .*" Feder continued. "Bolshevism imagines it can cure the malady by a surgical operation, whereas the real cause is the poison that should be eliminated. . . . To overturn economy as in Russia is useless, but there should be a united front of the whole producing population — from the manual worker crushed by indirect taxes, to the functionaries and office employees, artisans, peasants, inventors, and managers of industrial enterprises, intellectuals, artists, and scholars — against the slavery of interest."

As we've already seen, this "producers' front" is also the touchstone of LaRouche's demagoguery. In their efforts to create an alliance based on the "harmony of interests" of the "productive" sectors, the LaRouchites today particularly focus on debt-burdened farmers. They try to appeal to

working farmers as "businessmen" who face the same problems of credit, mortgages, taxes, and prices as other businessmen, including capitalist farmers and industrial employers.

But what their demagoguery hides is the qualitative difference between, on the one hand, independent farmers who exploit no wage labor and are themselves exploited by capital, and, on the other hand, capitalist farmers and industrialists who exploit wage labor and working farmers.

The big majority of independent farmers depend solely on their own labor and that of other family members. Like wage workers, they create a product with their labor. But unlike wage workers, they own this product and they either consume it or sell it on the market. Like wage workers, however, working farmers do not end up with the equivalent value of the labor time they have put into producing these commodities. This surplus labor, for which they too go unpaid, is expropriated — stolen from them — by the owners of the banks, land, farm equipment and supply manufacturers, and food processing monopolies.

## Road forward for workers and farmers

This exploitation lays the foundation for a true harmony of interests between exploited farmers and wage workers. The entire system of rents and mortgages is totally intertwined with and grew out of the rise and consolidation of the system of wage-labor exploitation. Thus, the road forward for both workers and farmers is to join forces to organize their own mass, independent struggle to overturn the govern-

ment controlled by the ruling families and replace it with a government of workers and farmers.

With political power in their hands, working people will expropriate the capitalist profit-makers. By taking over the banks and industry and nationalizing the land, they can use the productive resources of society to serve the social needs of working people.

Workers and farmers will prove that every able-bodied person can be guaranteed a job without the massive arms buildup advocated by LaRouche. Millions of jobs would be created by building new housing, hospitals, schools, and recreation facilities.

Moreover, a workers' and farmers' government would put America's vast power and productive capacities to use in supporting the struggle by working people in other countries to combat poverty, hunger, disease, and the underdevelopment caused by centuries of colonial and imperialist exploitation and domination. It would emulate the example of revolutionary Cuba and send internationalist volunteers to every corner of the globe — skilled workers and farmers, technicians, teachers, doctors, and nurses.

As the ruling-class offensive deepens, we can anticipate further growth and probing of fascist and right-wing organizations. But at the same time, this process will result in a growing tendency for the irreconcilable conflict between the capitalists and working people to find expression more openly in political life. It will be reflected in the unions being drawn into involvement in struggles such as that by the P-9 workers in Austin, who are fighting to win the right to a certification election in the Hormel plant where the workers — both those currently employed and those who were forced on strike — can choose the union they want to represent them.

Workers will fight to transform their unions into fighting instruments. This will open up the possibility of establishing and building an independent labor party based on the union movement in alliance with the mass protest organizations of working farmers. A labor party could help lead the struggles to defend the Bill of Rights; to win democratic and social rights for Blacks, Latinos, and women; to gain immediate relief for unemployed workers and to fight for a shorter workweek with no reduction in pay; to win cost-of-living escalator clauses to give some protection against the effects of inflation; and to oppose U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua and other countries.

Mobilizing workers and farmers around these demands would lay the basis for connecting day-to-day struggles with a course toward the fight for political power.

This is the road forward, not the NDPC's crank schemes or its proposed alliance with big business. In the course of this struggle, workers' and farmers' organizations will have to fight to defend themselves against fascist outfits.

The joint action that unions and farmers have begun conducting, including in support of the meatpackers' struggle in Minnesota and the expressions of solidarity with each others' struggles, help lay the basis for the political alliance of workers and farmers that is necessary.

As they advance along this road, working people will discover the need to learn about the history of fascist movements and to recognize the need for a revolutionary socialist party to lead the fight to defeat the fascists and the threat they pose to the conquests of workers and farmers.

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# Miskito Indians demand reparations from U.S. gov't

"Notes from Nicaragua" is a column prepared by Cindy Jaquith, Harvey McArthur, and Ruth Nebbia of the *Militant's* bureau in Managua.

The Miskito Indian group MISATAN has condemned the \$100 million approved by the U.S. House of Representatives for the mercenary war against Nicaragua. MISATAN is an organization that

## NOTES FROM NICARAGUA

works within the Sandinista revolution to achieve the demands of Miskito Indians.

In a statement condemning the war funds, MISATAN explains that for decades the U.S. mining, fishing, and lumber companies that operated on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast "plundered our most precious resources, including gold, silver, zinc, copper, bronze, pine wood, carob, cedar, gum, and banana, as well as marine life, such as lobsters, shrimp, fish, turtle, and lizards."

In the mining industry, "human lives were destroyed by silicosis, tuberculosis, and mutilations," the statement says. "[Families] of those who died in underground mines were never compensated. Pollution upset the ecological balance of the rivers and plains where our indigenous people live. Finally, one of the last of these companies, ATCHEMCO, voraciously tore up our forests, roots and all."

MISATAN calculates that the

total damage, not including the human lives lost, amounts to \$800 million, which it is demanding from the U.S. government. This money would be used to benefit the indigenous communities of the Atlantic Coast.

The approval of the \$100 million for the mercenaries, the statement continues, "endangers our right to autonomy as a people of the Atlantic Coast. This aid opens the door to direct U.S. invasion to reestablish the U.S. system of domination. It is necessary for all the groups of the Atlantic Coast, regardless of our differences, to establish a common front against intervention."

\* \* \*

A New Song music festival was held in Managua July 12-15 as part of celebrations of the seventh anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution. Participating in the festival were Nicaraguan singer Luis Enrique Mejía Godoy and the musical groups Mancotal, Pancasan, Igñi-Tawanka, Pueblo, and others.

Musical groups from Cuba, Guatemala, Chile, and El Salvador also participated and expressed their solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution.

From the United States, Thiago de Mello, the Brazilian jazz musician, and Roy Brown, the Puerto Rican singer, performed.

In the past month, several other artists from the United States have toured Nicaragua and spoken out against the U.S.-backed mercenary war. These included the musical trio Peter, Paul, and Mary; Ed Asner, the lead actor in the TV show "Lou Grant"; and Martin Goldstein, film director and pro-



Militant/Harvey McArthur

**French aircraft maintenance workers, members of the Orly Committee of Solidarity with Nicaragua at Orly international airport near Paris, give class to Nicaraguan airline workers.**

ducer. Goldstein will be working on a film based on the book *Fire from the Mountain* by Omar Cabezas, a leader of the Sandinista National Liberation Front.

\* \* \*

Seven French aircraft maintenance workers are spending their vacation this year working with Aeronica, Nicaragua's airline. They are members of the Orly Committee of Solidarity with Nicaragua at the Orly international airport near Paris.

In an interview at Aeronica's maintenance facilities in Managua, Air France mechanic Joel LeJeannic explained that they are giving classes on electricity, hydraulics and flight controls, engines, and fuel. Eric Grognet, general secretary of the General Federation of Workers (CGT) at Air Inter, France's domestic airline, said that this is the first time

the Orly committee has sent a group to Nicaragua.

"Most airline workers don't know anything about Nicaragua," Grognet said. "But many want to hear more about our work with Nicaragua's airline, and we will use this professional interest as an opening to explain about the revolution as a whole."

Last year, the Orly committee produced and distributed 250 copies of a pamphlet on Nicaragua and made presentations to union plant committees throughout the airport.

Luis Torres, general secretary of the union at Aeronica, said that Nicaraguan airlines workers are trying to establish relations with unions and solidarity committees throughout the world.

\* \* \*

The Nicaraguan Association of Friendship with the Socialist

Countries (ANAPS) reported that the 10 countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance donated \$270 million in economic aid to Nicaragua during 1985.

Cuba led the list in 1985 with \$96.5 million in food, clothing, medicine, toys, and machinery. Some \$74 million of the Cuban aid was in the form of labor, materials, and machinery for Nicaragua's new Victoria de Julio sugar mill.

The Soviet Union donated \$17.2 million. Czechoslovakia donated \$16.6 million; Bulgaria, \$14.9 million; and East Germany, \$10 million.

\* \* \*

"A revolutionary is a poet who sings while he builds, a man with the right to dream and at the same time the obligation to not pass away his life dreaming," states the introduction to a new collection of Nicaraguan poetry. Titled "Sowing Days and Nights for Peace," the collection is published by the Political Directorate of the Nicaraguan Ministry of the Interior (MINT).

The poems are all written by women and men in the police, state security, special armed forces, and other branches of the MINT. The works deal with war, revolution, love, and fallen comrades in the struggle.

The "new poetry" of the Sandinista revolution, states the introduction, means "being an excellent combatant in order to one day be a good poet. The new poets are obliged to unsparingly fight the enemy, to shoot tirelessly at the past. But their sights must be set on the future, the future of the people, together with whom they write their poems."

# Workers prepare for harsher conditions due to war

BY CINDY JAQUITH

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — When union leaders in the textile, clothing, and shoe industry met here July 12, the first point on their agenda was the U.S.-organized war against Nicaragua.

Special tribute was paid to two union militants who had recently fallen in combat against the mercenaries financed by Washington. A woman textile worker who had just been wounded fighting at the front was also honored.

About 100 workers from more than a dozen plants met. All of them were leaders of unions affiliated to the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST). They assessed the first three months of 1986 in terms of mobilization of union members for the armed forces and factory production.

Textile, clothing, and shoe workers are central both to Nicaragua's economy and its military defense. These are the women and men who produce the clothing for the nation's working people. They also make the uniforms and boots for the army, Ministry of the Interior, and militias. And they themselves are regularly mobilized to serve in the armed forces.

CST leader Donald Silva reported that in the first three months of 1986, 371 young workers from the industry entered the draft army, and another 462 workers signed up for the reserves. There are about 12,000 textile and clothing workers nationally.

The textile unions, Silva continued, dispatched another 61 workers to serve in special combat battalions. This was an exemplary effort, he said, although he noted that "some of the comrades deserted the front lines in the face of the natural problems that are present at the war fronts."

The heart of the meeting was how to increase factory production at a time when U.S.-inspired military aggression and economic sabotage have seriously disrupted the industry.

Silva announced that production in the industry fell short of the projected goals for the first trimester of this year. He attributed

this to lack of spare parts and raw materials due in large measure to the U.S. trade embargo, power blackouts, inadequate transportation for workers, and indiscipline and absenteeism in the workforce.

The amount of clothing and shoes produced in Nicaragua has increased steadily since the 1979 Sandinista revolution. But the level of worker productivity in the industry remains lower than it was before 1979. Reaching and surpassing the pre-1979 productivity levels has long been a goal of the CST.

The union federation and the government have been mapping out productivity norms for each branch of industry in order to correct the problem. Silva said the established norms in clothing and shoes were still "too loose." In some cases, a worker can complete the norm for eight hours' work in half that time.

Silva called on the government to both revise the norms and improve the incentive-pay program to stimulate workers to produce more. He criticized "the lack of initiative of some functionaries of the revolutionary State to make decisions on this."

Despite the obstacles caused by the war, workers at several factories did an outstanding job in production. The Kikatex factory was awarded for having achieved its production goal, accomplished in part by the workers putting in an hour and a half of voluntary overtime each day.

The workers at the Cotexma plant also received an award. They were commended for high productivity rates, the degree of worker participation in production plans, doing voluntary labor without pay, planting a garden to supply the factory cafeteria, and building a child-care center.

Union leaders shared a general concern about the high price of clothing and shoes. There was agreement that the chief way to bring down prices is to increase the amount being produced.

But a related problem was also raised: the big jump in the price of clothing between the time it leaves the factory and when it arrives in the stores. A pair of underpants that cost 180 córdobas when they



Militant

**Garment workers are central to Nicaragua's economy and defense. Textile, garment, and shoe workers met to discuss how to increase production in face of U.S.-inspired military aggression and economic sabotage.**

leave the Tricotextil plant winds up costing 300 córdobas in the government-run supermarkets, where prices are supposed to be kept to a minimum. A towel that leaves the Nicarao factory costing 700 córdobas ends up at 4,000 córdobas in the supermarket. Four thousand córdobas is more than many garment workers make in a week.

The government agency Dinatex is supposed to purchase textile and clothing products and put them on the market at prices working people can afford. The agency was set up precisely to compete with capitalist merchants who buy up clothing and put it on the black market.

For some time, textile and clothing workers have been protesting the fact that the Dinatex-distributed products are often just as expensive as black-market products.

Silva called for both Dinatex and the government supermarkets to lower their prices. "Dinatex must carry out its role as a regulator of the distribution of products, not the role of one more speculator with a business mentality," he said.

At the close of the meeting, CST General Secretary Lucio Jiménez laid out what

workers should expect in terms of the war and its effects on production and workers' standard of living for the coming year.

The U.S. government is trying to bring about the "maximum destabilization" of the Sandinista revolution, he said, not only through outright military aggression but also by bleeding the country economically. The goal is "to turn the people against the revolution, using the economic and social problems" that exist, he explained. Thus increasing clothing and shoe production is a vital part of national defense.

Jiménez said there were no magical solutions to the economic crisis of the country. "The only solution is work," he emphasized, pointing to a productivity campaign in the farm workers' union that has resulted in a 77 percent increase in productivity on farms in the recent months.

He also explained that even with higher production, workers should not have illusions that their current low standard of living will improve in the short run. "We have to work very hard [but] we are not going to feel the effects of our work this year," he warned.

# Workers and peasants celebrate advances

## Seventh anniversary commemoration of Nicaraguan revolution

BY HARVEY McARTHUR

ESTELÍ, Nicaragua — "Las Segovias. 320,000 patriots. 2,966 square miles of free and sovereign land," reads a big sign at the southern entrance to this city.

Other colorful billboards highlighted the gains made by the people of Nicaragua's Las Segovias region since the 1979 Sandinista revolution: 210,165 acres of land distributed to 5,759 peasant families; 53 child-care centers and 4,003 new homes built; 3,602,600 medical checkups in 1985 alone; 15,000 participating in adult literacy and basic education courses.

This area, now known as Nicaragua's Region I, is where Augusto César Sandino led a guerrilla army against U.S. Marines who occupied Nicaragua from 1926 to 1933. Since 1981 it has been a major target of the U.S.-backed counterrevolutionary terrorists (*contras*) attacking Nicaragua.

Two other billboards captured this history: "nothing will erase the hatred Las Segovias has for the Yankee" and "Las Segovias will be the tomb of the counter-revolution."

On July 19 the city of Estelí was the site of the national celebration of the seventh anniversary of the Sandinista revolution. On July 19, 1979, a popular insurrection, led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) overthrew the U.S.-backed Somoza dictatorship and established a workers' and peasants' government.

"In selecting Region I as the site of the seventh anniversary, the FSLN National Directorate is recognizing that the people, the workers, peasants, teachers, professionals, and youths of this region are setting an example for all of Nicaragua," said Carlos Manuel Morales in a July 18 press conference here. Morales is FSLN coordinator and presidential delegate for Region I. In the press conference and in an interview printed in the July 18 issue of the FSLN daily *Barricada*, Morales reviewed the progress of the revolution in this region and the challenges that remain.

### Contras driven back

Region I shares a 190-mile border with Honduras, where most of the U.S.-backed mercenary forces are based. Estelí itself is only 25 miles from Honduras.

Morales reported that in 1983 and 1984, the *contras* maintained up to 1,500 fighters in a territory of Region I. Today, they have no permanent bases and operate in small units that enter from Honduras, attack, and then retreat to bases across the border.

In 1985, he said, there were 107 communities under *contra* influence in the region. Only four remain today.

In 1984 the mercenaries kidnapped 500 peasants in Region I. In 1985 there were only 35 such victims.

At the same time, an average of 300 mercenaries have deserted each year and

turned themselves in to the Sandinista government in the region. Under an amnesty program decreed by the government, they were released to their families and communities to work and resume their lives here. During the last 18 months, 1,500 families that were kidnapped or that had fled to Honduras have returned to Nicaragua.

During the first years of the war, Morales said, "the United States did manage to find people who would take up arms — due to confusion, family relations, or for other reasons."

Many of those were peasants who had little contact with the revolutionary government, he said. At first, the government did not have a clear approach to organizing individual peasant farmers, especially those with medium-sized holdings. It focused instead on cooperatives and farm workers on state farms. This left many peasants, especially those in isolated areas, open to *contra* pressure and propaganda, Morales said.

Morales reported that 9,000 peasant families in the region have been forced to flee their land because of *contra* attacks. Of these, 3,000 have received land and have been organized into 46 new settlements. They are among the 5,700 families that have received land under the agrarian reform program. About 9,000 more families are still waiting for land in the region.

At the beginning of the war, the FSLN concentrated on military operations in response to the growing mercenary attacks, Morales said. However, the United States was waging a war "on the military, economic, and political-ideological front." The FSLN later corrected their one-sided approach and paid greater attention to politically winning over peasants influenced by the *contras* and the U.S. propaganda.

Morales stressed the importance of this political-ideological work, which he said meant "explaining to the people, discussing with the people about the origins of this war, of the consequences of this war, and about who is causing this war."

Strengthening the military defense and advancing the land reform have helped win more support for the revolution. "The revolution gives the peasant the secure opportunity to live, giving him land and the possibility that the *contras* will not shoot him or slit his throat," Morales said.

More than 46,000 peasant families in the region are now affiliated with the National Union of Farmers and Ranchers (UNAG). Of these, 19,000 are organized in cooperatives and 27,000 are individual farmers. The government has armed the cooperatives and organized peasant militias to fight against *contra* attacks.

The Isiqui Cooperative, for instance, located in the mountains 15 miles east of Estelí, has had four battles with the *contras* since it was organized in 1983. José Francisco Parrilla proudly showed the M-79 grenade launcher they had captured from the mercenaries in the first fight. He explained that they coordinate observation and defense posts with nearby cooperatives and have a radio to call for army reinforcements as soon as any attack begins.

## 'Number one task is military defense'

Continued from front page

ing to "breathe life into the internal opposition" in Nicaragua.

Fourth, U.S. strategists want to provoke "fissures in the Sandinista leadership. They think they can bring about division in the FSLN."

Fifth, they hope to "reduce aid to Nicaragua from what they call the Soviet bloc."

In light of this escalation, Ortega continued, the number one task of Nicaraguans remains military defense. "Defense means guns in the hands of the people, in the hands of peasants, workers, toilers, women, all the Nicaraguans ready to defend their revolution," he said.

### State of emergency

Defense also requires taking special legal measures, he continued, to prevent the development of an internal front for Washington's mercenaries. He said Nicaragua's state of emergency measures, which restrict freedom of press, speech, and organization, have "been implemented to confront the aggression coming from the United States." He said that they were "not to radicalize the process [here]. The state of emergency has been imposed to preserve political pluralism and the mixed economy, within the institutional framework."

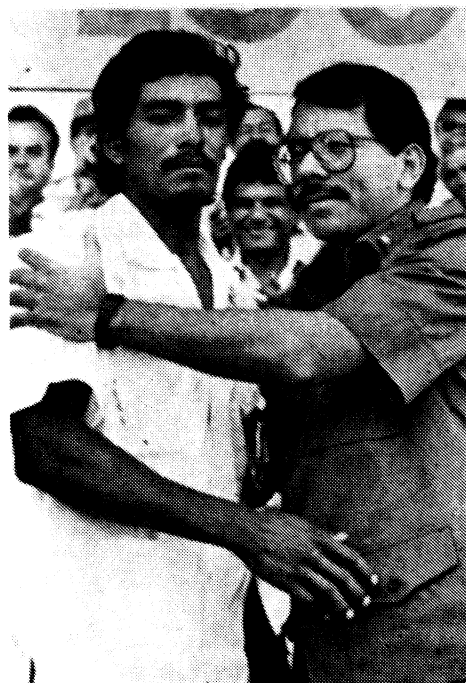
In Nicaragua, said Ortega, "you can think what you want, you can have differences with the government, with the FSLN. This is not a crime. But if someone departs from the institutional framework and goes and allies himself with those attacking Nicaragua, that's another question."

Ortega said this was the crime of the capitalist daily *La Prensa*, which has been temporarily shut down, and of Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, who the Nicaraguan government expelled to Honduras, denying him the right to return to Nicaragua as long as the U.S. aggression lasts.

During World War II, said Ortega, the U.S. government "put all the Japanese living in the United States in jail. They built enormous concentration camps with barbed-wire fences and put all the Japanese in there solely because they were Japanese and because Japan had formed an alliance with Germany. It was a truly brutal action, but they justified it because, well, there was a war."

A few days before July 19 of this year, he added, the U.S. government sentenced Richard Miller to two life terms plus 50 years in prison on charges of spying.

"In Nicaragua," Ortega explained, "we



Barricada  
**President Daniel Ortega (right) at anniversary congratulates a vanguard worker who received an award for outstanding work.**

have not and we will not commit the barbarities that are committed in the United States.

"In Nicaragua, the maximum sentence is 30 years," he said. "We can't impose the sentences that the United States imposes on traitors and spies." Nevertheless, he continued, the owners of *La Prensa* and Bishop Vega "ought to be in jail, and for 30 years."

The measures that Nicaragua has taken against promoters of the aggression have nothing to do with persecution of religion or of freedom of expression, the president emphasized. "We have never persecuted the church nor will we persecute the church," he said.

### Coping with economic problems

The president also took up the need to increase farm and factory production to offset Washington's economic sabotage.

Ortega said that the Sandinista Assembly, the highest consultative leadership body of the FSLN, has been meeting with the party's National Directorate to discuss how to increase production and organize the distribution of scarce consumer goods.

While he did not report any concrete measures coming out of these meetings, Ortega did outline the general policy that

will be pursued in terms of providing basic necessities — especially food — to the population.

Food will go "in the first place, to the combatants of the armed forces," he said. "Second, to those who are producing in the countryside and in the cities — in production centers, in factories, in [farm] cooperatives, in state enterprises.

"After that, food will go to the other comrades who are in the service sector, who play an important supporting role."

By defending the Nicaraguan revolution, the president said, "we are defending a bastion of democracy in Latin America."

Elections, he explained, are not what define democracy in Nicaragua or anywhere else. "What good would it do to talk about democracy here, if we had elections every year or every two years but didn't take any other concrete measures in favor of the people?" he asked.

"Here we are carrying out an integral democracy, which is not just holding elections every few years, but is giving education to the people; giving health care to the people; giving housing to the people; giving land to the people. That's democracy."

### Land reform

In the 1960s, after the triumph of the Cuban revolution, he explained, the governments of Central America rushed to carry out fake land-reform programs. The total amount of land they distributed from the 1960s to today — much of which was later stolen back — amounted to 3.5 million acres, Ortega said.

In the seven years of the Nicaraguan revolution, by contrast, 4.8 million acres have gone to peasants. Today large landlords own about 10 percent of the country's land.

"This is democracy," Ortega declared. "I would issue an invitation to President Azcona of Honduras: Let's compete to see who can give out more land to the peasants. Let President Azcona give land to the peasants. Let him hit the pocketbooks of the latifundists, who own 28 percent [of the land] in Honduras.

"Let the government of Costa Rica, President Arias, do the same. There, 41 percent of the land is in the hands of the latifundists. Let them give it to the poor peasants. To the squatters who are demonstrating, demanding land. What he does is turn them over to the Costa Rican Guard or beat them or even kill them.

"Let's compete in that field, and in the field of health, education, housing. And then we will be making democracy."

### Increasing production despite war

"In choosing Region I for the celebration," Morales told the July 18 press conference, "the National Directorate wants to show that it is possible to defeat the enemy militarily and economically. . . . The workers, the peasants of this region have demonstrated that they can both fight and work — and fight and work well."

While agricultural production has been hurt by the war, the region is now producing more of some important crops than it did before the war. Corn production is up from 30 million pounds in 1980 to 120 million this year. Bean production this year is projected at twice last year's.

Coffee production fell by 50 percent as the mercenary attacks escalated and many farms were abandoned. This year, however, coffee production is expected to increase 40 percent over last year.

This increase reflects Nicaragua's success in driving back the *contras* and reclaiming land for production. "Workers used to be afraid to go to many areas for fear of being kidnapped," Morales said. "But from 1984 and 1985 on, in line with our military victories, we have reestablished the confidence of the workers and their willingness to return to work."

As thousands of men were mobilized for defense, women stepped forward to fill their places in the fields and processing plants. "Women are now incorporated in tasks that used to be exclusively for men," Morales said. "They used to have a lower [production] norm than men. Today, the women are meeting the higher norms."

Region I farm workers have also set an example for the rest of Nicaragua by working a minimum of six hours a day, Morales said. This is the norm the government and unions are trying to establish throughout the country to raise production.

### Workers and peasants celebrate

The enthusiasm and pride felt here in these achievements were evident in the days leading up to July 19.

Many buildings in Estelí displayed the red-and-black seven, the symbol of the anniversary, or were decorated with FSLN and Nicaraguan flags. Many had handmade signs or banners hanging in front: "After seven years, we will keep fighting for peace," "The revolution means land for the peasants," "People power," "Sandino lives," and "Wherever the Yankees come,





Seventh anniversary celebration took place in Estelí in Las Segovias region. City is 25 miles from Honduran border. Sign reads, "Peoples of the world, welcome to the grave of imperialism. Las Segovias greets you."

they will die."

The same was true at small farms and cooperatives along the winding mountain road outside of Estelí. "Women salute the seventh anniversary by joining the cooperatives," read one banner.

July 16 was the anniversary of the liberation of Estelí — the date when the dictator Somoza's National Guard was driven out of town. Thousands turned out for a spirited parade and country music festival to mark the occasion.

Several hundred peasants, mounted on horseback, led off the parade. At their head rode Julio Ramos, an FSLN leader who helped organize the insurrection in Estelí. Peasants proudly pointed him out, explaining that they had collaborated with him and other FSLN leaders during the fight against the dictatorship. Others noted the relaxed discussions and joking between the FSLN leaders and the peasants — something that never happened with leaders of the Somoza regime, they said.

Next in the parade were two dozen floats prepared by the neighborhood committees throughout Estelí. The elaborate and colorful displays showed gains won through the revolution: a school class, a health clinic, an adult literacy course, a meeting to discuss a new constitution for Nicaragua. One float portrayed the International Court of Justice, with the nations of the world condemning an arrogant Uncle Sam for his attacks on Nicaragua.

#### 'Bishop Vega kills our people'

Many of the floats caricatured Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, who was recently expelled from Nicaragua for his actions in support of the contras. One float had Vega standing in front of three coffins. The coffins were labeled "12 women, 12 children, and 8 workers" — all victims of a recent mercenary attack. A big sign behind Vega read, "Judas killed our Master. Vega kills our people."

Another float, built on a long flatbed trailer, depicted Vega at the White House, drinking whiskey and passing dollar bills back and forth with President Reagan and prominent contra leaders.

July 17 was the national Day of Happiness — the anniversary of the day the dictator Somoza fled Nicaragua in 1979. It is celebrated with parties and festivals throughout the country.

In San Nicolas, a small rural town 22 miles southwest of Estelí, there was a lively party with prizes and candy for the local children. Nearby, a dozen peasants, members of the Evangelical church, worked as volunteer laborers to build a bridge.

Saul Sala Games, head of the municipal government, proudly showed off the municipal building they have almost finished, and listed the health clinics, schools, and drinking-water projects that have been built since the revolution.

San Nicolas is the center of a rural area of 8,000 inhabitants. Many people there had collaborated with the FSLN before the insurrection, and many were now active in

the UNAG and in the militias and reserves, Games said.

When asked about their reaction to the recent expulsion of Bishop Vega, he replied that "most here didn't understand the question at first. They did not follow the question closely. Most are peasants who do not know how to read, or have just learned a little. So we organized assemblies and small meetings in the different communities, and now the peasants understand."

#### Contras threaten celebration

Contra radio stations broadcasting from Honduras warned people not to go to the July 19 celebration, saying that they would be attacked, and calling the Sandinistas irresponsible for holding the rally in Estelí.

These threats were taken seriously since, despite their military defeats, the mercenaries were still able to mount bloody terrorist attacks. Earlier this year, they had attacked cooperatives and travelers in the region and bombed the electric power lines to Estelí.

Extra units of army and Ministry of the Interior troops were deployed to block possible contra attacks. The bulk of the defenders were workers and peasants however. Organized in the militias and reserves, they turned out to guard roads and bridges, farms, cooperatives, and villages throughout the region.

On July 20 the Ministry of the Interior reported that they had intercepted and captured three contra terror teams: one assigned to assassinate Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, one sent to attack economic targets in Managua, and another group of 18 caught with 90 pounds of C-4 explosives.

The security measures and popular mobilization proved successful: tens of thousands of people traveled from war zones to the rally and returned home without any reported incidents.

#### 'Demonstrate against U.S. war'

Smoldering ruins of old tires, left over from neighborhood bonfire rallies the night before, lay in the streets of Estelí the morning of July 19. Shortly after sunrise, contingents formed up from each neighborhood and began making their way to the new stadium south of the city. The city contingents were joined by large groups of peasants, who arrived in long caravans of trucks and buses.

A group of farm workers from La Mia, mostly women, said that they had traveled for eight hours standing up in the back of dump trucks to get to the rally. The La Mia farm (whose name in Spanish means "It's Mine") used to belong to the dictator Somoza. "Now it is ours," said the women, as they marched off waving FSLN flags and carrying a banner that read, "We will continue forward in defense and production."

Peasants from San Juan del Río Coco marched by, chanting, "In Nicaragua it will always be the 19th of July" and "Listen! Listen! San Juan is in the struggle."

Another popular chant was: "This is my land. This is my water. No Yankee SOB is going to trample it underfoot!"

A contingent from the Rene Barrante neighborhood in Estelí marched by, chanting, "We tell the Yankees: We're not warmongers here. We fight for peace and for a socialist nation."

One of the leaders of this group, Aura Lila Solis, a school teacher, said that they had spent the previous day meeting with soldiers from the army "to give them our support. They are part of the people." They also organized housing for hundreds of peasants who arrived a day early for the rally.

Solis said she had recently seen a copy of the *New York Times* "and the lies they printed about repression and persecution here. Tell the North American people the truth about our revolution," she insisted. "We know that it is the Reagan administration that is the aggressor, and that the

## Cuban President Fidel Castro sends message of solidarity

ESTELÍ, Nicaragua — Cuban President Fidel Castro saluted the seventh anniversary of the Sandinista revolution in a message sent to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and the National Directorate of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

"The bands of Somozaist assassins have not been able to destroy the revolution," said Castro's message. "Neither have the mercenaries paid by the Yankees, nor the internal reactionaries who are playing the game of the imperialist aggressor, nor the other accomplices and agents of Reagan in Central America, nor the slander campaigns, nor the terror, nor all the millions of dollars that the Congress, the CIA, and the executive branch of the United States



Fidel Castro

United Nations/Saw Lwin

North American people do not agree. Tell them to support us, to demonstrate, to show their solidarity."

#### 50,000 at rally

At the rally site, more than 50,000 filled the plaza, waving FSLN and Nicaraguan flags. Many groups had their own banner, identifying their village or cooperative.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega began the rally by presenting awards to outstanding workers, cooperatives, and farms.

Julian Salinas, a tobacco worker who spoke for these vanguard workers, called on "Nicaraguan workers to follow the example of the workers of the Segovias—vanguard in production, in defense, and because we are working 7.5 hours a day [in the fields]."

The crowd listened carefully to Ortega's speech and broke into applause when he denounced U.S. aggression and reaffirmed the measures taken against the right-wing daily *La Prensa* and Bishop Vega for supporting U.S. intervention in Nicaragua.

The crowd also applauded Ortega's explanation that, given the economic hardships caused by the war, they would give top priority to soldiers, peasants, and workers in the distribution of scarce goods. They cheered when Ortega challenged other Central American presidents to see who could distribute the most land to peasants.

Juan Polanca López, secretary of a cooperative, had come to the rally with a group of peasants from Telpaneca. He said that "the revolution brought us many benefits: health care, education, land, financing. Now we don't have to work for the rich landlords. All because of the help of the FSLN."

Asked if he had a message for U.S. workers and farmers, López replied: "Tell them that we do not want war. Without it we would have made much more progress."

"But tell them that if the Yankee marines come," López added, "we are ready to give our lives to defend our revolution."

can shamelessly approve.

"Neither will they be able to liquidate it by direct military intervention, the danger of which increases to the same degree that the Yankee government blocks a political solution to the conflict.

"A people, a vanguard, and a leadership tightly united, plus the solidarity of all the revolutionary and progressive peoples of the world, will be the guarantee that nothing and no one can divert the Sandinista revolution from its historic course," Castro said.

Representing Cuba at the July 19 rally here in Estelí was Jorge Risquet, a member of the Political Bureau of the Cuban Communist Party.

Risquet was interviewed by *Barricada*, the daily paper of the FSLN. He pointed out that the Nicaraguan people are going through "hard years" right now, just as the Cuban people went through difficulties "in the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth years of our revolution. And now in the 27th year, we still suffer the [U.S.] blockade and Yankee aggressions.

"We are twin peoples in the struggle, in the heroism, and the unbreakable decision to fight to the last man and woman in defense of our right to create our own destiny," said Risquet. "Cuba is at Nicaragua's side as more than just a brother. Cuba is a friend who is sincere, loyal, and completely identified with [Nicaragua's] cause, which is ours."

He said that "in spite of the war imposed by imperialism and the criminal U.S. economic blockade, the social project of the Sandinista revolution is advancing. In the midst of all these difficulties, you can see the gains and the fruits . . . which would be 10 times greater if they weren't blocked by Yankee ambition."

# —THE GREAT SOCIETY—

**A radiant idea** — “With millions of Americans forgoing foreign vacations this year and traveling in the United States, the



Harry Ring

Atomic Industrial Forum has a suggestion: Take an energy break during your trip and visit a nuclear power plant.” — A nuke industry press release.

**Washington-educated officials?** — According to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, the Mexican government built a wall to hide a slum from tourists attending World Cup soccer games at a nearby stadium. People living in the slum were billed for the wall.

**And avoiding sociology profs** — A University of Louisiana professor is said to be the first to study boredom, including discovering how assembly line workers deal with the problem. According to the prof, said workers cope by daydreaming, whistling, and humming.

**And a lot of the people** — The air force is working overtime

training attack dogs for the various branches of the military. A training officer says they get a balanced diet, good medical attention, and lots of affection. “Military dogs,” she said, “get better attention than 90 percent of the pets in the United States.”

**A steal** — Spending on the civil and criminal justice system totaled \$39.7 billion in 1983. Per capita, we pay \$37 for judicial services, \$44 for correctional services (slammers, etc.), and \$88 for police protection (?).

**Pretty clever** — We don't know if it was a variant of the old “bait and switch” advertising ploy,

but a Boston-area neighborhood paper headlined an article, “Improved health services for Vietnam veterans.” The story announced a military open house featuring the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron.

**Supply-and-demand dep't** — Doctors' income more than doubled from the 1950s to the 1970s, and then stabilized at a mere average \$108,400. To remedy that critical situation, the medical industry has organized to limit the growth of the annual crop of new doctors.

**Down to their last Jaguar** — That \$108,400 annual take for M.D.s, highest of any profession,

is net income, after all expenses, including malpractice insurance.

**Answer to obesity** — Samuel Salmasian, M.D., invented a plastic bubble that assertedly dulls your appetite by pressing uncomfortably against your gut. The doc opines: “If we ate only four times a week, we wouldn't have any weight problem in the world.” Sure. And if we stopped altogether, we wouldn't have problems of any kind.

**Thought for the week** — “It isn't both cruel and unusual because it's taking place every week.” — Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger on capital punishment.

## —CALENDAR—

### GEORGIA

#### Atlanta

**Let Nicaragua Live! A Celebration of the Nicaraguan Revolution.** Report and slide show by Kate Daher, member of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union Local 365 and Socialist Workers Party. Sat., July 26. Dinner, 6 p.m.; presentation, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: program, \$2; dinner, \$4. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

### LOUISIANA

#### New Orleans

**Fidel Castro and Religion.** Speaker: Brett Merkey, member Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union Local 4-447 and Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., July 26, 7:30 p.m. 3207 Dublin. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 486-8048.

### MINNESOTA

#### St. Paul

**Everything You Wanted to Know About the Cuban Revolution — But the U.S. Government Was Afraid to Tell You.** Discussion, celebration, and showing of Cuban film *The Moncada Program*, which documents the goals of the Cuban revolution. Sat., July 26. Open house, 7 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m., party to follow. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

**Fashions, Cosmetics, and the Exploitation of**

**Women.** A presentation and discussion by a panel of feminists and socialists who are active in the struggle for women's rights and the labor movement. Sat., Aug. 2. Social, 7 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

**Labor's Turning Point: Minneapolis Teamsters Strike of 1934.** Film by John de Graaf depicts upheaval created by strike of Local 574 of International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Presentation to follow by Maggie McCraw, reporter for the *Militant* newspaper during the Local P-9 fight for justice against the Hormel Co. Sat., Aug. 23, 7 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

### MISSOURI

#### St. Louis

**Socialist Workers Party Campaign Kick-off Rally.** Speaker: Bob Miller, 1986 Missouri SWP candidate for U.S. Senate, member United Auto Workers Local 2250. Sat., July 26. Reception 5-7 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$2. Ausp: 1986 Missouri Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

**Farming in Revolutionary Nicaragua.** Report from a participant in Nicaragua's National Union of Farmers and Ranchers conference. Speaker: Kathie Fitzgerald, member of United Auto Workers and Socialist Workers Party, active in Missouri farm protest movement. Sat., Aug. 2, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

**A Rally for Labor Fighting Back!** Hear Hormel workers, TWA flight attendants, and family farmers explain their fightbacks and their importance for all workers. Speakers: Jim Guyette, leader of Hormel strike; Larry McClurg, member, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 431; Jerry Parks, Farm Alliance of Rural Missouri; Vicki Frankovich, president, Independent Federation of Flight Attendants; Larry Bastain, recording secretary, United Auto Workers Local 325; Tim Barnes, president, Teamsters Local 600; Lew Moye, president, St. Louis Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Pam Ross, president, St. Louis Central National Organization for Women; Richard Dockett, National Black United Front; and an anti-apartheid fighter from South Africa. Sun., Aug. 3, 1 to 6 p.m. 9144 Pershall Rd. (east of Lindbergh, south of 270 near the airport), Hazelwood. For more information call UAW

Local 325 at (314) 731-0490; IFFA, 731-7922; Teamsters Local 600 at 388-4400.

**Protest the Change in the U.S.-British Extradition Treaty.** Picket U.S. Sen. Thomas Eagleton. Mon., Aug. 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Adam's Mark Hotel, 12 N 4th St. Ausp: St. Louis Committee for a Free Ireland. For more information call (314) 776-0539.

### NEW YORK

#### Manhattan

**Festival to Celebrate the 33rd Anniversary of Attack on Moncada Barracks in Cuba, July 26, 1953.** Sat., July 26, 9 p.m. 104 W 14 St. Donation: \$7. Ausp: Casa de las Americas. For more information call (212) 675-2584.

### NORTH CAROLINA

#### Greensboro

**Celebrate and Defend the Cuban Revolution.** See video of interview with Fidel Castro. Sun., July 27, 7 p.m. 2219 E Market St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (919) 272-5996.

## Aug. 4-7 nat'l antiwar actions set

Continued from front page  
the arms budget.

Initial supporters of the October 25 actions include CISPES, Washington Office on Africa, Mobilization for Survival, Nicaragua Network, U.S. Peace Council, Democratic Socialists of America, American Committee on Africa, Young Socialist Alliance, and the *Guardian* newspaper.

“In response to Congress's support for war in Nicaragua and on the seventh anniversary of Nicaragua's revolution, we all need to rededicate ourselves to peace and solidarity,” said a July 23 *Guardian* editorial endorsing the Actions for Peace, Jobs, and Justice.

Judy Freiwrth from Mobilization for Survival reports that a mailing has gone out to hundreds of national organizations and the response to the call has been good. “Local organizers see a real need for nationally coordinated actions and see a real need to be part of a national movement,” she told the *Militant*. She said the protests can be a “bridge between the issues — between opposition to the contra vote, to con-

tinuing nuclear testing in Nevada, to apartheid in South Africa, to domestic issues, particularly attacks on civil liberties.”

The next meeting of the national coalition for Peace, Jobs, and Justice is July 30 at 11:00-3:00 p.m. at the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom office, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia. To list your organization as an endorser or for more information call (212) 533-0008.

Coalitions have begun to meet to discuss plans for regional antiwar actions this fall in a number of areas: Washington, D.C. (Mid-Atlantic area), meeting on July 27, 1:00-6:00 p.m. at the Washington Peace Center, 2111 Florida Avenue NW, (202) 234-2000; New York-New Jersey, meeting on July 31 at 6:30 p.m. at 225 Lafayette Street, New York City, (212) 673-1808; Los Angeles, meeting on July 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Hollywood Congregational Church, 4603 Prospect Avenue, (213) 558-3511.

*Lisa Ahlberg is the Young Socialist Alliance's representative on the October 25 actions steering committee.*

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# S. Africa: rural revolt sweeps Bantustans

Continued from Page 6

KaNyamazane township to bury three youths killed by the police. ANC flags were unfurled.

This funeral reflected one of the differences between KaNgwane and the other Bantustans. Sharing the platform with several prominent UDF leaders was KaNgwane's chief minister, Enos Mabuza, the only Bantustan leader thus far to openly align himself with the anti-apartheid struggle.

That same month, Mabuza, who also heads the 100,000-member Inyandza movement, traveled to Lusaka, Zambia, to meet with Oliver Tambo and other exiled leaders of the ANC. In a joint communiqué with the ANC, Mabuza pledged to campaign for the release of imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela and to support the struggle for "majority rule in a united, democratic nonracial South Africa."

Since then, Mabuza has called for the withdrawal of South African troops from KaNgwane and has criticized the repressive policies of the South African police.

In an interview in the Johannesburg *Star* in early May, Mabuza indicated support for international economic sanctions against Pretoria. He also declared that among the people of KaNgwane "there is latent as well as overt support for the ANC.... There is no doubt in my mind that the ANC has majority black support today."

Mabuza's stance has brought him into conflict with a former ally, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, who heads the KwaZulu Bantustan in Natal Province.

Although Buthelezi seeks to portray himself as an opponent of the apartheid system, he has emerged as one of Pretoria's most valuable African collaborators. His speeches are filled with attacks against the UDF and ANC, as well as condemnations of those who call for international economic sanctions. Armed thugs from Buthelezi's Inkatha movement have beaten and killed scores of UDF supporters, particularly in the African townships around Durban, some of which are within or near KwaZulu.

Following Mabuza's talks with the ANC, Buthelezi launched a stinging attack on him. He hit Mabuza's refusal to condemn "the terror tactics now being employed by the ANC," as Buthelezi terms the ANC's armed struggle.

Buthelezi's strong-arm methods, combined with anti-apartheid demagoguery, have succeeded so far in heading off the emergence of the same kind of massive opposition within KwaZulu that most other Bantustan leaders now confront. But sup-

port for the UDF and ANC remains strong in the urban townships around Durban.

Nor have other parts of KwaZulu been immune from political ferment.

In Sibongile, in the heart of KwaZulu, residents have been refusing to pay rent since April 1985. According to the Johannesburg *City Press*, "The unrest in Sibongile shocked many observers, who thought Natal would not be affected by unrest because of the 'strong leadership' of Inkatha's Chief Gatsha Buthelezi."

## Farm workers strike, organize

The rural revolt has not been confined to the Bantustans alone. Blacks are also beginning to conduct political and social protests in other areas of the countryside.

Thousands of landless African squatters have in recent years poured into the Upper Kubusie area in the narrow strip of white-owned land between the Transkei and Ciskei. They are living there illegally. Hundreds have vented their anger at the wealth of the white capitalist farmers in the area by attacking white farming businesses and farmhouses.

The political turbulence in Lebowa and other Bantustans in the Transvaal has spilled over into nearby farming regions where white-owned farms dominate. In Steelpoort, across the river from Lebowa's Sekhukhuneland, white capitalist farmers have been hit by a trade boycott and by frequent work stoppages by agricultural laborers recruited from Lebowa. During a national general strike on May Day, virtually all African farm workers in Steelpoort stayed away from work.

Pietie du Plessis, a cabinet minister whose parliamentary constituency includes Steelpoort, accused ANC and UDF "agitators" of seeking to destabilize the Bantustans and of fomenting unrest among agricultural laborers. ANC pamphlets were said to have been distributed in the area demanding a R5 minimum daily wage for farm workers (1 rand = US\$0.40). The average wage for agricultural laborers in Steelpoort is now R2 a day.

Because of the isolated and repressive conditions in the countryside, farm workers are among the few sectors of the Black working class that have not yet been able to

organize any recognized trade unions. But when the half-million-member Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) was launched late last year, one of the tasks it set for itself was to begin organizing Black farm workers.

In an interview in the May 18 Johannesburg *Sunday Star*, COSATU General Secretary Jay Naidoo vowed that the union federation would "fight tooth and nail" to eliminate the widespread use of child labor and to expose the "feudal conditions and slave labour" on white-owned farms. The newspaper reported that already "thousands of workers in South Africa's last bastion of conservatism — the farm-lands — have been quietly recruited into trade unions outside the official collective bargaining framework."

The extension of the anti-apartheid mobilizations to the countryside, on a scale not seen since the 1950s, is adding a powerful new social force to the revolutionary struggle to bring down the apartheid state. As the oppressed of the towns and countryside are drawn closer together, the apartheid authorities will face an even greater challenge to their continued rule.

## FBI frames proindependence Puerto Ricans

BY TOM O'BRIEN

CHICAGO — The movement for Puerto Rican independence came under attack here July 3 when the FBI arrested three Puerto Rican activists, charging them with conspiracy to assist in a prison escape and to transport explosives across state lines.

The accused are Jaime Delgado, a counselor at Northeastern Illinois University; Dora García López, a social worker at Cathedral Shelter; and Viola Salgado, a paralegal at West Town Community Law Office. They are accused of plotting to free Oscar López, who has been serving a 55-year sentence for "seditious conspiracy" since 1981. The FBI claimed that he was the leader of the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN).

A 23-page FBI affidavit sought to sensationalize the charges, describing a plot involving hand grenades, plastic explosives, automatic rifles, and a helicopter. The escape attempt that was allegedly plotted never occurred; it was supposedly planned for August of last year. Another six people, all from California, were also supposedly involved in the plot. They have not yet been arrested.

Delgado, García López, and Salgado

were initially held without bail. Following a hearing on July 7, however, they were released on bail. Oscar López has been transferred from Ft. Leavenworth federal prison to the infamous maximum-security U.S. prison at Marion, Illinois.

In a telephone interview July 12, Delgado told the *Militant* that he sees these charges as part of a "broader and bigger" attack on the movement for Puerto Rican independence. No matter how incredible the charges, he said, the government will go ahead with further indictments and possibly convene a grand jury.

Grand juries have been used to victimize Puerto Rican activists and others; anyone can be subpoenaed to testify and then jailed for contempt of court if the prosecutor claims he or she is not cooperating. The jail sentence runs for the life of the grand jury and is imposed without trial.

This government attack, Delgado said, is connected to the jailings of 13 Puerto Rican activists charged with an armored-car robbery in Hartford, Connecticut. (These 13 were arrested on Aug. 30,

1985.)

The immediate political response of the accused activists and their supporters to the attack on the independence movement will be threefold, Delgado said. First, they will participate in preparations for hearings on Puerto Rico sponsored by the UN Commission on Decolonization. These hearings are to take place August 11-13.

Second, they will continue working in the campaign for political asylum for William Morales in Mexico. The U.S. government has been trying for the last three years to extradite Morales, an independence activist who is now imprisoned in Mexico.

Third, they will build and participate in the international conference and mobilization that will take place in Puerto Rico August 27-30 to protest the arrest of the 13 Hartford defendants.

The conference, called by former political prisoner Rafael Cancel Miranda, will include delegates from the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and seven other countries. It will culminate in a mass demonstration on August 30.

## U.S. officials won't act to stop kidnappers of immigrants

BY BARRY FATLAND AND DAVID ZILLY

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Harold Ezell, western regional director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, once said of the many people who attempt to immigrate into this country without documents, "If you catch 'em, you should skin 'em and eat 'em."

Given this brutal anti-immigrant attitude, it was no surprise when he indicated that the armed vigilantes who trapped, kidnapped, and mistreated 16 Mexican and Central American immigrants and refugees July 5 would not be prosecuted.

U.S. Attorney Daniel Knauss cynically added that there were no witnesses to the crime since the victims, who had been seized by the U.S. Border Patrol after the kidnapping, had been deported.

Since then, several of the victims who escaped back into Mexico or were deported have described their experiences in interviews.

Some were chased by the vigilantes, who were dressed in camouflage uniforms and carried AK-47 and M-16 rifles, into Mexico. Thinking they were safe when they got over the fence, the victims quickly realized that the gunmen had not stopped at the border fence. The vigilantes chased them deeper into Mexico for 15 minutes.

One of the fleeing people heard one vigilante ask another if they should kill the escapees.

This invasion was the second violation of Mexican sovereignty by the vigilantes.

The armed gang, a unit of the ultrarightist Civilian Matériel Assistance (CMA), which participates in the U.S. wars against Nicaragua and El Salvador, earlier set up infrared night vision devices inside Mexico to spot refugees and other immigrants as they approached the border from Mexico.

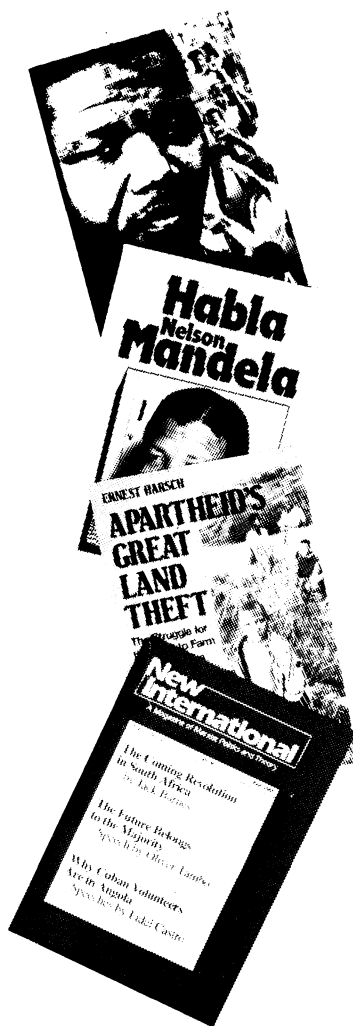
But many people in this region are outraged. Forty people picketed the Federal Building in Phoenix carrying signs that read, "The border patrol is criminal" and "Uncle Sam: what about terrorism in Arizona." Chants included, "Vigilantes got to go" and "Raza sí, migra no."

Oscar Moran, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), which was having its national convention in Las Vegas when the attack took place, condemned the vigilante action and said LULAC was considering legal action to prevent a repetition.

These reporters visited the church of Rev. Dagoberto Quiñones, one of the recently convicted sanctuary activists. Quiñones, though he could speak only briefly, expressed his grave concern over the operations of the CMA goons, but remains determined to continue aiding refugees.

One of the people we spoke to at the church was an 18-year-old Guatemalan who had been picked up in the United States by a vigilante-type group in an incident that has not yet been reported in the media. After being held in the basement of a house for several hours, he was driven across the border into a remote desert region and dumped.

## Invaluable for anti-apartheid activists!



In **Nelson Mandela: The Struggle Is My Life** the imprisoned leader of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa explains the goals of the African National Congress (ANC). 280 pages, \$6.95.

**Habla Nelson Mandela.** Contains in Spanish the Freedom Charter and Nelson Mandela's statements before the court in a 1962 trial and in the famous Rivonia Trial of 1963-64. 100 pages, \$3.95.

**Apartheid's Great Land Theft: The Struggle for the Right to Farm in South Africa** by Ernest Harsch. Tells the story of the fight over land, which has been at the center of the struggle between South Africa's white rulers and its subjugated Black majority. 56 pages, \$1.25.

The dynamics of revolution in South Africa is the featured subject of the Fall 1985 issue of **New International**, a magazine of Marxist politics and theory. Articles and speeches by Jack Barnes, a leader of the Socialist Workers Party; Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC. Reprints South Africa's Freedom Charter. 198 pages. \$5.00.

All available at Pathfinder bookstores (see directory on p. 16). Or, for mail orders write New International, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014 for the magazine. For books and pamphlets: Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. For all orders, please include 75 cents for handling.

# No extradition of Irish patriots

The U.S. Senate vote in favor of a revised extradition treaty with Britain is a blow to the right of political asylum and to all democratic rights in this country.

The 87-10 vote July 17 dealt a blow to democratic rights in British-occupied Northern Ireland as well. It will make it easier for the British government's assassins, secret police, informers, and kangaroo courts to strike at Irish freedom fighters.

The new treaty virtually eliminates the political-offense exemption that allowed the courts to refuse to extradite those charged with political actions carried out during civil wars or popular insurrections.

According to the New York weekly *Irish People*, this provision led "judges like John Sprizzo to conclude that given the nature of the Irish conflict, when Joseph Doherty fought against British crown forces in his native Belfast, he did so as a soldier in a civil insurrection. The casualties in that battle were the tragic casualties of war." A similar ruling also blocked the extradition of Liam Quinn.

The new treaty provides for virtual automatic extradition of anyone charged with murder, kidnapping, or other violent acts — regardless of the circumstances. Among other things, this gives free rein to the use of informers by British occupation authorities to trump up charges against opponents of the occupation who seek refuge in this country.

The governments of West Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, and Israel are now negotiating similar treaties. The result would be a massive gutting of the right of political asylum.

One of the antidemocratic features of the new treaty is that it is retroactive. It applies to cases like those of Doherty and Quinn where the courts have already ruled against extradition under the former treaty. It is expected that the British government will seek the rapid extradition of these opponents of colonial rule in Northern Ireland.

Following the terror bombing of Libya last April, the Reagan administration pressed harder for Senate adoption of the treaty. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher allowed U.S. air bases in Britain to be used for the attack, which took the lives of dozens of Libyan civilians, including many children.

Reagan said that refusal to adopt this treaty and turn

over Irish freedom fighters to Thatcher would be an affront to her government, which "stood shoulder to shoulder with us during operations against Qaddafi's terrorism."

He denounced efforts by some senators to exempt those accused of killing British soldiers and cops in military clashes from the treaty. Reagan insisted that anyone accused of armed resistance to British rule must be extradited as a terrorist.

To sweeten the package, the Reagan administration linked the treaty to a proposal to provide \$250 million in U.S. economic aid for Northern Ireland. Both have a single purpose — to help the British rulers put down resistance to their oppression of the Irish population.

The new treaty is part of the campaign by Washington and its imperialist allies to outlaw struggle against their domination as terrorism.

The pact won strong backing from both Democrats and Republicans. Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) gave a typical justification for gutting the political exemption from extradition. "Violence should never be deemed part of the political process," intoned Lugar. "You can bring about change through the ballot box. The bomb and the bullet have no place."

But the British conquest of Ireland was not accomplished through the ballot box, nor do the British rulers maintain their occupation by the ballot box. The Palestinians were not driven out of their homes by the Israeli occupiers through the ballot box, but with bombs and bullets. It was bombs and bullets and other violent means, not ballots, that were used to rob South African Blacks of their human rights.

Yet the U.S. rulers place the terrorist label on the Irish Republican Army, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the African National Congress — but never on the British, Israeli, and South African governments.

As an editorial in the *Irish People* stated in reference to the new treaty, "All resistance has been criminalized as terrorism."

The implementation of this imperialist treaty against human rights must be opposed. The right of asylum for Irish freedom fighters and other victims of oppression and persecution must be defended.

The threatened extradition of Joseph Doherty and Liam Quinn must be vigorously protested.

# Protest 'English only' campaign

The labor movement should take the lead in opposing the reactionary campaign under way in many U.S. states to have English declared the official language.

Supporters of an organization called U.S. English are heading the drive aimed at restricting the rights of Latinos, Asians, and others who do not speak English as their first language.

A million signatures were collected in California recently to put a measure on the ballot requiring state legislators to "take all steps necessary to insure that the role of English as the common language of the State of California is preserved and enhanced."

Backers of these measures cannot conceal the racist, anti-immigrant sentiment that is propelling the drive.

"We have Hispanic politicians who have an unstated or hidden agenda to turn California into a bilingual, bicultural state," said Stanley Diamond, chairperson of the California ballot drive.

"Communities are changing very, very quickly, and I think that what has happened is that there is a great deal of frustration about it," Gerda Bickales, executive director of U.S. English, stated.

"America can accept additional immigrants, but we must be sure that they become American," says Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm. "We can teach English through bilingual education," he added, "but we should take great care not to become a bilingual society."

Forces that have joined together to oppose the "English only" drive in California include the American Civil Liberties Union, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and several Latino and Asian organizations.

Opponents of "English only" correctly point out that the passage of such measures will be used to deepen the drive to gut bilingual education programs, bilingual election ballots, and social services offered in languages other than English.

Millions of working people have flocked into the

United States from Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa in recent years. They are forced here to escape grinding poverty and exploitation and to find jobs. Many are political refugees fleeing U.S.-backed regimes.

The responsibility for the misery endured by millions of workers and peasants around the world each day lies at the doorstep of the tiny handful of billionaires who own the U.S. corporations. Those corporations plunder the globe for superprofits and are backed up by the U.S. military arsenal.

Once in this country immigrants are preyed upon by the same employers who view them as a ready source of cheap labor. This in turn helps the bosses drive down the standard of living and expectations of the entire working class.

Measures such as "English only" are carefully designed by the employers and their mouthpieces to help them deepen divisions in the working class.

The bosses want workers born in the United States to blame their problems on people who come here from abroad looking for work.

The basic right to function in your first language in order to get a job, participate in politics, or to be eligible for social service benefits should be defended by all working people.

What's really needed in this country is not a chauvinist "English only" drive but a nationwide push to expand a totally inadequate program of bilingual and bicultural education. People must not be stripped of their language and heritage in order to live and function in this country.

It is in the interest of the organized labor movement to take the lead in overcoming the divisions the bosses seek to sow among working people. It is by joining with civil rights and civil liberties organizations and others who oppose measures such as "English only" that the labor movement can attract into its ranks millions of working people new to the United States. In doing so it will help strengthen the overall fight against the employers' offensive.

# July 26 marks 33rd anniversary of Moncada attack

On July 26, 1953, a small group of Cuban revolutionaries led by Fidel Castro launched an attack on the Moncada army barracks in Santiago de Cuba. Though defeated, that attack marked the opening of the Cuban revolution.

Led by the July 26 Movement, Cuba's workers and peasants came to power in January 1959. They began to shape the economic, social, and political needs of the country to meet the needs of the majority instead of the tiny handful of millionaires who had dominated the island previously in partnership with U.S. corporations and the U.S. government.

Excerpted below is a speech delivered by Castro in Santiago in 1967 on the 14th anniversary of the Mon-

## OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

cada assault. The speech is taken from the book *Fidel Castro, Major Speeches* published by Stage I press.

The attack on Moncada can be said to have been the first attack on one of the many fortresses to be taken. There were many Moncadas to be stormed. Among them were the Moncada of illiteracy, which our people lost no time in attacking — they stormed and took it — the Moncada of ignorance, the Moncada of inexperience, the Moncada of underdevelopment, the Moncada of a shortage of technicians, the Moncada of a shortage of resources in all fields.

And our people have not hesitated to storm those fortresses. But another and more difficult Moncada was left to be taken — that was the Moncada of old ideas. And that Moncada of old ideas, of old, selfish feelings, of old ways of thinking and looking at things and solving problems has still not been completely taken.

There is a vanguard that has entered victoriously, that is taking the first outpost and is advancing unswervingly along that road. And that vanguard is made up, without doubt, of our youth, our young workers, our students, those who have joined the ranks of our growing youthful "agricultural columns," those who are taking part in productive tasks for part of the year, in larger and larger groups, through the School Goes to the Countryside program, the young people in our workers' technological institutes, who, like many men in our glorious Rebel Army, pitched into the sugar harvest for 90 days.

That ever-growing legion is without doubt in the vanguard of the struggle against old ideas. There is no doubt — and we can proclaim it on this 26th of July — that our young people are worthy followers of the combatants of Moncada, the combatants of the Sierra Maestra and the combatants of Playa Girón. They are proving this through their attitude toward life, their attitude toward work, their attitude toward the Revolution.

And it is incumbent upon us to add that just behind that vanguard, also advancing on that fortress, is the female sector of our population, the Cuban women, who in ever-increasing numbers are joining in the creative tasks of the Revolution.

Some people may ask, "What? You're talking about age; aren't you talking about classes?" There'll be those very learned in Marxism who will ask why it is that we talk about age. We sincerely believe that to talk about age is very Marxist; to talk about age as well as class.

One must not forget that many generations — including the whole generation that was living in our country at the time of the triumph of the Revolution — were completely formed under the influence of capitalist ideas, methods, and attitudes. And even within our working-class sectors many of these vices existed, many of these concepts were deep-rooted.

Of course what Marx said was that in the historic process the workers and the exploited are pitted against their exploiters, that the working class is the class whose social function makes it standard-bearer and enables it to understand socialism and put it into practice. This is absolutely true, but it is also absolutely true that the exploiters and ruling class exert influence over the minds of all the people.

And the Revolution has eradicated a great number of these ideas from the minds of all the people, but it is specifically in the virgin minds of the new generation growing up with the Revolution where we find less of the thinking of the past, where we most clearly perceive revolutionary ideas.

There are many who wondered what would become of our young people. Many were worried as to whether these young people, who never suffered the horrors of the past, who never knew the sacrifices of the past, would be capable of understanding the Revolution, of being revolutionary, of working and sacrificing. And through our Cuban experience we can say with deep satisfaction that we are seeing how an even more revolutionary youth is growing and developing here.



# Documentaries on S. African anti-apartheid fighters

BY PAT HUNT

Recently PBS-TV in New York showed three related documentaries on the South African anti-apartheid movement. If they're shown in your area, make sure you see them.

The feature film is entitled *Winnie and Nelson Mandela*. It's mainly a fascinating presentation by Winnie Mandela, a central leader of the South African freedom struggle, who is married to imprisoned liberation fighter Nelson Mandela.

In her discussion, Winnie Mandela covers much of the ground she goes over in her wonderful book *Part of My*

## TELEVISION REVIEW

*Soul Went With Him*. But that doesn't make it any less fascinating.

Winnie first met Nelson Mandela when he asked her to help raise funds for the defense in the notorious Treason Trial, which ran through the last half of the 1950s. A total of 156 people were charged with trying to overthrow the government and being inspired by "international communism." Eventually they were acquitted.

At the same time that she became active in the fight against apartheid, Winnie got involved in the fight for women's rights. It was in the struggle that she met and married Nelson.

Until the 1950s only Black men were required to carry the hated apartheid passes. Then the government moved to make women carry them too. Winnie jumped into the big fight that broke out against this.

She and 21 other women went to jail for refusing to carry passes. In taking their stand, Winnie felt, they were striking a double blow. The struggle of African women, she says, is twofold. They fight against the oppression of the apartheid regime, and, as prisoners of their own culture, they battle all the way against the traditional belief that women's place is in the home.

Winnie first emerged as a leader of the Women's League, an arm of the African National Congress (ANC). The League worked on the issues of high rents, bus fares, and other bread-and-butter issues.

In the days since, she's been thrown in jail so many times she's lost count.

One of the most compelling parts of her narrative is a description of the 16 months she was once held in solitary confinement.

She says the South African police's attempt to break her once and for all hardened her into the soldier she is today.

Testimony to her stature as a political leader, as well as soldier, is the account of what she did when the government banished her to the isolated, bitterly impoverished town of Brandfort.

She immediately set to work organizing desperately needed food and medical care projects, which also served



Demonstration against passes for women, Johannesburg City Hall, 1957. Anti-apartheid leader Winnie Mandela describes her participation in movement against passes in documentary *Winnie and Nelson Mandela*.

as an effective tool for building the ANC there for the first time.

Because he has been jailed or underground most of his political life, there isn't too much film footage of Nelson Mandela. But this documentary includes a rare piece of footage in which he eloquently explains why the South African regime has closed the door on any possible peaceful road to abolishing apartheid.

The second film, *Maids and Madams*, is a very effective presentation about the situation of the many Black South African women who are compelled to work long and hard, for almost nothing, as housemaids. These women are forced to leave their own children unattended while they take care of the children of white women.

The film is introduced by the noted white South African writer Nadine Gordimer. Her introduction offers an excellent summary, and it's worth quoting:

"Even if white women were to begin cleaning their own homes and taking care of their own children, they would still not be absolved of their responsibilities for the oppression of Black women.

"If they really are to be sisters, white women must struggle with Black women to bring about the breaking up of apartheid.

"The hardships of Black women can be seen by the types of jobs available to them. One third of all Black women work as domestic servants. It's the largest source of employment for women besides agriculture.

"Sixty percent of all white families have at least one domestic servant. The Black domestic worker has little or no rights. They get no unemployment benefits, no medical benefits, and can be instantly dismissed, sometimes without getting paid.

"They have organized themselves into the South African Domestic Workers Association with the hope that if they can come together and speak with one voice, they could overcome their grievances."

In the film we hear some of these women speak eloquently.

In *South Africa Under Siege* the leadership role of the ANC is the topic. It goes back to 1912 when the ANC, South Africa's oldest anti-apartheid organization, was founded.

It began as a nonviolent civil rights organization, in some ways like the NAACP.

In a historic meeting in 1955, the ANC and three other anti-apartheid organizations adopted the Freedom Charter, which stands today as the ANC's program for the liberation of South Africa.

Key moments in South African history like the Sharpeville massacre of 1960 and the Soweto uprising of 1976 are shown as events that propelled the ANC further into the leadership of the struggle. Its ranks grew, and it developed a younger, revitalized leadership.

They come as young as 14, and ready to fight, says Ruth Mophati of the ANC executive committee. She cites one youth who told her, "I'm not too young to die."

The ANC is a powerful unifying force, says Thabo Mbeki. While the regime works to divide the races and pit them against one another, the ANC works to unite all races around the goal of the Freedom Charter — a non-racial, democratic South Africa.

These are three powerful films. Seeing the commitment of these fighters and the strength they demonstrate is a wonderful assurance that apartheid hasn't got much time left.

## LETTERS

### Philippines

I recently returned from the Philippines and would like to respond to a letter by Stansfield Smith criticizing a *Militant* article on that country.

First, it is not Marxist "idealism" to note that the 1983 [Benigno] Aquino assassination brought the middle class into the "parliament of the streets." A similar event occurred with the murder of Pedro Joaquín Chamorro in Nicaragua in 1978.

Smith also objects to the vague term "middle class." Although this term is vague, it is more understandable to many readers than the term "petty bourgeoisie."

The Philippines is much wealthier than the countries of Central America to which it is compared; there are many businessmen, merchants, landowners, and others who were caught between the militant opposition of the National Democratic Front and the "crony capitalism" of Marcos. [Benigno] Aquino was especially appealing to these sectors. As the nationalist writer Leticia Constantino notes, Aquino was "orthodox politically and a bonafide member of the political elite." He had been an officeholder since his early 20s, a political prisoner and exile, and had married into one of the largest landholding families in the country.

In fact there was a change in the opposition movement when this hope of the middle class was murdered. The demonstrations grew,

were better funded and more media conscious. The middle class was making common cause with the labor and student movements. The murder investigation further exposed the dictatorship's incompetence and desperation. Even the cronies were trying to forge links with the opposition. To ignore this process is to misunderstand the unfolding Philippine revolution.

On a lighter note, Smith wonders if Gen. Ramos and President Cory Aquino really gritted their teeth during the singing of the communist anthem "The International" at May Day. I, alas, couldn't see their faces but the daily *Malaya* said Ramos remained silent, his eyes fixed on the sea of red flags and banners. Aquino sat quietly. There was a full-scale war in the northern provinces with gunships and bombers. The NPA (New Peoples Army) has 20,000 regular troops operating in most of the 73 provinces. Ramos and Aquino probably were gritting their teeth. Keep up the excellent coverage.

Eric Huffman  
Chicago, Illinois

### New York campaign

The July 11th issue of the *Militant* states that the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of New York State, Theresa Delgadillo, will be barred from the ballot since she is under 30 years old, the age required by New York State law. Also it states that the Socialist Workers Party will

mount a write-in campaign for her.

I think it would be far more effective to run a candidate who meets the age requirement. A candidate who is on the ballot gets far more coverage and exposure than a write-in candidate. The views of the SWP on the critical issues of Nicaragua and South Africa will thus be better heard.

Diverting the focus of the campaign to the age requirement issue is unwise and not of paramount importance. Of course I do not imply any personal criticism of Delgadillo who is, I am sure, an otherwise excellent candidate.

Concerned reader  
New York, New York

### Major difference

The real major difference I have with the *Militant* line is the viewing of labor or the U.S. labor movement as central to social change. The essence of labor and the ownership of the means of production is of great importance, but for now it has moved into a secondary contradiction.

The primary contradiction is the neocolonial strategy, even inside of the U.S. borders. The National Rainbow Coalition (NRC) is an example of this. It is like offering up the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador without the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front. The NRC is simply the left wing or will act as the left wing of U.S. imperialism.

Thanks again for my prisoner

sub. The *Militant* is a necessary tool in helping to raise socialist consciousness.

A prisoner

### Ghana

A few weeks ago, news reports in several big-business newspapers cited ousted Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos claiming that three African governments — those of Ghana, the Ivory Coast, and Gabon — had offered to give him asylum if he would help them build their economies.

Harry Ring, in his "Great Society" column, referred to this in the July 25 *Militant*.

Whatever Marcos may or may not have said, the Ghanaian government, which has often taken anti-imperialist stands on international questions, issued a prompt denial. Its United Nations mission declared "that the Republic of Ghana has neither been requested nor will she consider granting political asylum to deposed President Marcos of the Philippines." It described the claim as "false, absurd, and a ridiculous fabrication."

Ernest Harsch  
New York, New York

### Antigay ruling

I was very glad to see the editorial on the Supreme Court antigay ruling on the front page of the *Militant* dated July 11. I also think the editorial is correct in saying that upholding the Georgia antisodomy law is "a blow to everyone's con-

stitutional right to privacy" and has broad implications.

However, I believe this law will be used specifically against gays and the ruling is a specific attack on gays. It will have the overall effect, just as the AIDS hysteria has, of driving gays and lesbians back into the closet.

These laws and propaganda, of course, are used by the ruling capitalist class not only to promote prejudice in society, but to introduce an element of fear of deviating from the "norm." Attacks on gays and lesbians are aimed at upholding the institution of the family — homosexuals violate this "normal way of life" by not participating in the reproduction of the species.

In the sense that an injury to one is an injury to all, our class, the working class, and its allies have been injured greatly by this ruling. This is indeed a setback to the progress that has been made in the past period in combating discrimination. But again, I think the focus of this ruling is to attack gays and lesbians primarily.

Sonja Franeta  
New York, New York

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.

## 'Solidarity is not a crime'

### Hundreds at Minnesota rally protest frame-up of meatpackers

BY MAREA HIMELGRIN

ST. PAUL, Minn. — On July 13 more than 300 people gathered at the United Auto Workers Local 879 hall here at a rally to defend labor rights and free speech in Austin, Minnesota.

As they entered the hall, rally participants signed a 20-foot-long petition that began, "Drop the charges! Solidarity is not a crime!"

The petition will be presented to officials of Mower County, where Jim Guyette, suspended president of Local P-9; Ray Rogers, former consultant to P-9; 16 other members of P-9; and unionists from around the country who responded to P-9's call for solidarity face "felony riot" charges. They all face jail sentences.

The defendants were arrested after peaceful demonstrations at the Hormel plant in Austin were attacked and tear-gassed by police on April 11.

The St. Paul rally kicked off a national emergency fund drive for the legal defense of the accused unionists.

Endorsements for the appeal are being collected from national and local union and civil liberties leaders.

Endorsers already include: former Minnesota Judge Miles Lord; former U.S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy; entertainer Pete Seeger; retired UAW official Victor Reuther; actor David Soul; and former Watergate Prosecutor Richard Ben-Veniste.

At the rally attorney Kenneth Tilsen drew attention to the fact that Jim Guyette is charged with asking for solidarity.

The actual charge against Guyette reads, "That Local P-9 and defendant have organized and promoted a 'Shut-down' Hormel national march and rally urging persons from throughout the country to come to Austin on April 9, 10, 11, 12, for the purpose of demonstrating at the Hormel company."

"The defendant has mailed posters to people throughout the country. The defendant has held press conferences and made



Rally in St. Paul protests attack on free speech. Prosecutors charge union backers with organizing march and rally, holding news conferences, and other so-called crimes.

news releases to various news media throughout the country and the defendant has made speeches throughout the country urging people to come to Austin to demonstrate against the Hormel company on the days above stated.

"That it was reasonably foreseeable from past demonstrations by P-9 at the Hormel plant that law violations would occur and that possibly injuries to participants, Hormel employees, and law enforcement personnel would result."

Tilsen entered a motion with the court on July 7 asking that all the felony charges be dismissed. It will probably be a month before action is taken on the motion.

Tilsen told the press before the rally that he had not seen charges filed with such complete disregard for the constitution since the civil rights movement in the

1960s.

The felony arrests are not an isolated abuse of constitutional rights in Austin.

Peter Rachleff, chairperson of the Twin Cities Hormel Strikers Support Group, began the rally with a long list of civil rights violations that have occurred in Austin.

Jim Guyette told the rally, with cheers from the audience, "There are many people who are saying 'enough is enough, but it's time that the labor movement stood up for what's right.' And certainly one can never determine who's right until one determines what's right."

"The fight in Austin is a fight that needs to be fought, a fight that needs to be won. And it is a fight that is going to be won because a lot of people are involved in it."

"It is a fight that people will look back upon and hopefully say that this was the turning point for the labor movement to become a movement again," Guyette stated.

Other speakers at the rally included Dick Blin, editor of the *Duluth Labor World*; Pete Kelly, president of United Auto Workers Local 160 in Warren, Michigan; Tony Mazzocchi, former health and safety director of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union; and Twin Cities Support Committee members Cynthia Burke and Jake Cooper.

The audience recognized the presence of Guillermo De Paz, a representative of the Revolutionary Democratic Front-Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front of El Salvador, with applause.

Ray Rogers concluded the rally with an update on the situation in Austin and plans for the future.

He outlined the campaign to go door-to-door in Minnesota raising money and spreading the word on the new union — the North American Meatpackers Union — being organized at the Austin Hormel plant.

Along with many members of P-9 and their families, a wide range of other unionists and supporters came to the rally from Minnesota and nearby states.

About a dozen people from Madison, Wisconsin, brought with them a resolution recently passed by the executive board of the Dane County Central Labor Council endorsing the Austin Emergency appeal.

There were United Food and Commercial Workers members at the rally from Fremont, Nebraska.

Organizers of the Austin Emergency Fund expect the fund to grow rapidly and plan to expand their activities to defend the members and families of P-9 facing hundreds of charges.

All funds will be used solely for legal defense purposes.

Endorsements and contributions can be mailed to Austin Emergency Appeal, P.O. Box 65673, St. Paul, Minn. 55165.

## U.S. operation in Bolivia: a phony war on drugs

BY HARRY RING

When the government announced it was sending 160 GIs to Bolivia to deal with drug traffickers, it emphasized it was acting at the request of the Bolivian government.

But now the Bolivian government has bluntly declared it did not ask for troops.

"We would have liked assistance of a different nature, entirely run by the Bolivians," said Jacobo Liebermann, principal adviser to Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro. "But instead we got the invasion of Normandy."

At the White House, an unidentified "senior official" conceded the Bolivians had not "specifically asked for military help."

In mid-June the U.S. government withheld \$7.2 million in economic aid until the Bolivian government agreed to its "anti-drug" campaign.

Liebermann candidly explained what happened. "We in Latin America, especially Bolivia with all its weaknesses, have to accept certain things from the north that we might not accept if we were stronger."

During this decade, Bolivia's Gross National Product has fallen by as much as 10 percent a year, and its inflation rate has been astronomical.

With poverty endemic throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, Bolivia is the second-poorest nation in the Western hemisphere. Only Haiti is worse off.

In this situation, coca, from which cocaine is extracted, has become Bolivia's principal cash crop, with an estimated 90,000 acres devoted to growing it.

Bolivia's income from the export of legal commodities is \$500 million a year. Meanwhile, according to President Paz Estenssoro, cocaine brings in \$600 million a year.

Last winter, under U.S. pressure to curb cocaine exports, the Bolivian government offered farmers \$350 for every hectare (about 2.5 acres) of coca they took out of production. According to the *New York Times*, farmers can make up to \$10,000 a year for every hectare of coca sold to drug traffickers.

But it is not the peasants and workers involved in growing and harvesting coca who make huge profits. It's the big-time capitalists in the imperialist countries who reap the super-profits. They exploit the workers and peasants. They are the ones who process and market cocaine and other illegal drugs. The fact that the drugs are illegal only ups the price and increases the profit level.

Meanwhile, more than half the Bolivian people suffer malnutrition. Close to 50 percent of the workforce is unemployed or underemployed.

To see how much escalating drug abuse is tied up with the capitalist system one need only look 90 miles away for an oppo-

site example.

In revolutionary Cuba, where imperialist domination was ended more than 25 years ago and where capitalist profit-making and capitalist corruption are increasingly a part of the past, there is no significant drug problem. Genuinely committed to promoting the health and welfare of the Cuban people, the government there has made it clear that drug-trafficking is off-limits and, with no great difficulty, has kept it that way.

The steadily expanding market for addictive drugs — so debilitating to health and well-being — in the United States and other capitalist countries marks the extent of the decay of capitalist society and the terrible alienation and frustration it breeds.

The current show-the-flag operation in Bolivia cannot do anything meaningful about that problem. The real purpose of the Bolivian operation was expressed in the phrase conjured up by a White House official who spoke of the administration's drive against "narco-terrorism."

"Terrorism" is the prevailing code word for any kind of rebellion against capitalist authority, at home or abroad. In establishing its rights to deploy troops in other countries, Washington does not intend to be limited to "narco-terrorists."

The present move is an arrogant slap in the face of the Bolivian people, who recognize the presence of U.S. troops as a blow

to their national sovereignty.

It is also hypocritical. A few weeks ago President Reagan met in the White House with leaders of the reactionary insurgents in Afghanistan and promised them more guns and money.

A major source of financing for these outfits is the international heroin trade. The State Department told Congress that the poppy fields of the rightist Afghan landlords are "the world's leading source of illicit heroin exports to the United States and Europe."

One effect of the hoopla about the supposed drive against cocaine in Bolivia is to obscure Washington's ties to the heroin trade in Afghanistan.

The U.S. military operation in Bolivia has implications for the working people of this country. The use of the military as a law-enforcement agency is a reactionary violation of a federal statute that has been in force since 1878.

Immediately after the troops were sent to Bolivia, New York's Mayor Koch, a partisan of "law and order" like Reagan, hastened into print demanding that the 1878 statute "be modified so that the military can be used for narcotics control."

The capitalist rulers of this country will not do anything meaningful about drug control. But they are on the prod to tighten their political control — in Bolivia, throughout the hemisphere, and here at home.