

# Break all ties with apartheid, isolate South African regime!

## New act passed by Congress targets ANC

BY ERNEST HARSCH

Under the guise of opposing apartheid, a new law has been added to the U.S. statute books targeting the very organization that is leading the freedom struggle in South Africa — the African National Congress (ANC).

Known as the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, it became law on October 2, after both houses of Congress voted to override President Reagan's veto of the bill. Reagan had objected to the act's inclusion of some economic sanctions against the apartheid regime.

According to the drafters of the act, its purpose is to "guide the efforts of the United States in helping to bring an end to apartheid in South Africa." But scattered throughout the text are repeated attacks on the ANC and provisions that give the White House legal authority to embark on a broad witch-hunt against the group and its supporters.

While objecting to the sanctions, Reagan, in his veto message, hailed these "useful and realistic provisions" of the act. South African officials have likewise praised what they consider the act's "positive" aspects. But these provisions have otherwise received little public attention so far.

To the drafters of the act, the African National Congress is guilty of "promoting terrorism" and of engaging in "unprovoked violence."

But to millions of South Africans, the ANC is not a terrorist organization. Rather, it is fighting against terrorism, the day-to-day terrorist methods of rule employed by the apartheid regime. The activists of Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the ANC's armed wing, are thus widely regarded as freedom fighters.

The ANC's growing support — both within South Africa and among opponents of apartheid around the world — is a matter of concern to the U.S. rulers. Despite routine public pronouncements abhorring apartheid, they have long collaborated with

Continued on Page 6

## October 10-11 protests demand full sanctions

"Sanctions now!" "Boycott South Africa!" and "Break all ties with apartheid!" are demands that are being heard more and more across the United States.

Demonstrations, picket lines, and teach-ins have been organized to focus attention on the cozy relationship that the U.S. gov-

## EDITORIAL

ernment and big business maintain with the oppressive apartheid regime. Students have erected shanties to symbolize the plight of South Africa's Black majority and student demands for divestment from South Africa. Trade unionists have extended solidarity to their South African brothers and sisters fighting to organize unions.

The deep sentiment among the U.S. people against apartheid was shown by the June action in New York City, when some 100,000 people marched and rallied in the largest anti-apartheid protest ever held in the United States.

That sentiment is international. Demonstrations and other actions have been held in many countries of Western Europe, demanding that those governments sever ties with apartheid.

In June, 250,000 people demonstrated in



Anti-apartheid protest at University of California, Berkeley.

London to demand "Sanctions now!" Currently, British trade unions are stepping up a campaign to press for a complete embargo on trade, commercial, financial, cultural, and sporting activities with South Africa.

On October 10 and 11, a new round of anti-apartheid actions is being held in cities and on campuses across the United States. They are demanding divestment and sanctions against South Africa, and will express solidarity with South African and Namibian political prisoners.

According to a news release from the

American Committee on Africa, one of the organizations helping to build the actions, "Protesters will gather on Wall Street in New York, at the White House in Washington, outside Coca-Cola headquarters in Atlanta, and in state capitols from Wisconsin to California to Hawaii on October 10. Campuses, from Yale to Kalamazoo to the University of Utah, will be the site of demonstrations demanding divestment of stockholdings in U.S. corporations aiding apartheid and for full sanctions by the federal government."

Continued on Page 14

# Nicaraguans capture U.S. 'adviser,' point to Vietnam War parallel

BY CINDY JAQUITH

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct. 8 — A U.S. military "adviser" based in El Salvador was presented to reporters here last night after he had been captured by Sandinista troops while trying to supply mercenaries inside Nicaragua.

Eugene Hasenfus appeared briefly be-

fore the press. "My name is Eugene Hasenfus. I come from Marinette, Wisconsin, and I was captured yesterday in southern Nicaragua," he said.

Lt. Col. Roberto Calderón of the Sandinista People's Army explained to the press that on October 5 his troops fired on a camouflaged plane that violated Nicaraguan airspace in the southern Nicaraguan province of Río San Juan. The plane crashed and three bodies were found inside. A fourth man was seen parachuting out before the crash.

On October 6, Sandinista soldiers captured Hasenfus, who admitted being on the flight.

In the plane's wreckage, soldiers found more than 100,000 rifle cartridges; RPG-7 grenade launchers; dozens of AK assault rifles; and military boots. All were destined for CIA-organized mercenaries, or *contras*, who are operating in the Río San Juan region.

Calderón showed reporters a Salvadoran air force ID card with Hasenfus's name and photo, identifying him as from the "USA" with the capacity of "adviser." The card admitted Hasenfus to restricted areas of El Salvador's Ilopango Airport. It listed his ID number as 4122.

Calderón said that in initial interrogation by the Sandinistas, Hasenfus has admitted to participating in four flights from El Salvador to Nicaragua to drop weapons and other supplies to the CIA-paid terrorists. His route was from the Ilopango Airport, down the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua, east

into Costa Rican territory, and then north again into Nicaragua.

Hasenfus's job was throwing the supplies out the plane door as it passed over the mercenary camps. He said there are five planes at Ilopango conducting these supply missions.

Hasenfus also offered information on two of three men killed when the plane crashed, said Calderón. The pilot was Capt. William Cooper, also a U.S. citizen. Calderón held up an ID card identifying Cooper as working for Southern Air Transport, a Florida-based outfit with connections to the CIA.

The co-pilot, according to Hasenfus, was Wallace Blaine Sawyer, also a U.S. citizen. He carried an ID card like Hasenfus's, listing him as a U.S. adviser with special rights at the Ilopango Airport.

Calderón said the third dead man was of Latin American nationality but has not been identified.

This morning's *Barricada*, newspaper of the Sandinista National Liberation Front in Nicaragua, featured a back-page photo display with the headline "Just like in Vietnam."

It showed a 1965 photo of a U.S. pilot captured in Vietnam by a 17-year-old militia woman almost half his size. Above it was a similar photo of Hasenfus and 19-year-old Nicaraguan soldier, José Fernando Corrales Alemán, who fired the land-air missile that downed the U.S. plane here three days ago. Corrales has been in the Sandinista army for just five months.

## Hormel workers tour Britain

BY KIPP DAWSON

SOUTH YORKSHIRE, England — "On behalf of the miners of Silverwood Colliery, let me say that much of what you told us here about your struggle is identical to what happened to us. We too faced the army in police clothes, we appreciate the position you're in."

Those remarks were made by Granville Richardson, president of the Silverwood Colliery branch of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM). Richardson and the other members of the Silverwood branch committee (the equivalent of a union local executive board in the United States) had just heard the story of the more than 1,200 workers who are fighting to get their jobs back at three Geo. A. Hormel & Co. packing plants in the United States.

Jim Guyette, Barbara Collette, Bill Cook, and Bob Langemeier had all made presentations to the mine workers' meeting.

Guyette is the suspended president of

United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 at the Austin plant. He is one of 850 workers who are being deprived of employment because of their participation in the strike that began at that plant in August 1985. The contract that Hormel imposed on the Austin plant in early September this year made no provision for reinstating these workers.

Collette is active in the Austin United Support Group. Cook is a meatpacker from Hormel's Ottumwa, Iowa, plant, and Langemeier is from the Fremont, Nebraska, Hormel plant.

Both Cook and Langemeier were fired for honoring picket lines set up by Austin strikers. An arbitrator has ordered Cook's reinstatement, but the company instead declared him laid off.

The Silverwood meeting was the first stop by the meatpackers on a trip to the Yorkshire coalfields.

Alfredo Represa, European representa-

Continued on Page 2

# Support group for British miners hears internat'l fighters

BY NORTON SANDLER

ROTHERHAM, England — "This room on a Monday night is the best forum you can get," Stephanie Gregory, chairperson of the Rotherham Miners Support Group said. She was describing her organization's regular weekly meeting to more than 80 people packed into a local pub here.

The agenda at this meeting included speakers from Britain, the United States, El Salvador, and Northern Ireland.

The Rotherham group formed as a miners support group during the 1984-85 British coal strike. Now its activities center on winning reinstatement to their jobs for miners "sacked," as people say here, by the National Coal Board at the end of the strike. At that time nearly 1,000 miners were fighting for reinstatement. Now there are 468 who have not gotten their jobs back.

Miners' wives, working miners, sacked miners, and other activists regularly attend Miners Support Group meetings. But the word was out that tonight's meeting would have a special program featuring representatives of struggles in different parts of the world, and so the number on hand was bigger than usual.

A dozen people from the Barnsley Women Against Pit Closures drove down to the meeting. Labour Party activists, local trade union council leaders, city officials, members of the teachers' union, and a member of Parliament were there also.

## Strip searches

The first speaker was Brid Brownlee from Belfast, Northern Ireland. She described the degrading strip searches that more than 30 female political prisoners, jailed for opposing British rule in Northern Ireland, are forced to endure.

Since 1982, Brownlee said, there have been more than 4,000 cases of women being forced to take off their clothes and searched by male guards in prisons in Northern Ireland. Some of the women have been strip searched more than 200 times.

"The main reason they give is security," she said, "but we dispute that all down the line. This is nothing but the latest step in a long line of terror designed to break the spirit and solidarity of the Irish prisoners," Brownlee said.

Johnny Goslin, a printer, spoke about the bitter nine-month strike workers from his union have been waging at News International's printing plant in the Wapping district of London. Goslin urged continued financial and political support for the several thousand strikers involved in the battle.

Alfredo Represa, a leader of the STECEL hydroelectric workers union in El

Salvador, was the next to speak. Represa was jailed for four years by the Salvadoran government. He and 10 other unionists were released from prison in 1984 after an international campaign was waged to free them.

He is now the European representative of FENASTRAS (the National Federation of Salvadoran Workers' Unions). Represa urged the audience to step up international pressure on the Salvadoran government to continue the dialogue with representatives of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front about an end to the war in El Salvador.

## Salvador visit

Dave Boyle, a member of the Rotherham Support Group and one of the sacked miners, visited El Salvador in early 1986. He has been speaking about his trip to groups of unionists in Britain.

The next speaker was Barbara Collette from the Austin, Minnesota, United Support Group.

"I am here to offer solidarity with the other speakers," Collette said. "I'll take their story from this meeting home, and I hope you will take ours home."

Jim Guyette, suspended president of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 at the Austin Hormel plant, also addressed the meeting.

Collette and Guyette described the fight that workers at the Hormel plants in Austin, Fremont, Nebraska; and Ottumwa, Iowa, have been involved in. Bob



G.M. Cookson

Miners march in London during 1984-85 strike. U.S. meatpackers today are linking up with British miners.

Langemeier and Bill Cook, workers fired at Fremont and Ottumwa for honoring roving picket lines set up by Austin strikers, were introduced to the audience.

## Invitation to conference

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants exchanged addresses, as well as buttons and photographs of the struggles they were involved in.

Represa invited the U.S. workers to at-

tend the November 13-15 conference of FENASTRAS, which is scheduled to be held in San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador.

A collection of \$75 was divided between the Hormel fight and FENASTRAS struggles.

Gregory promised that a collection at a future meeting would be divided between the striking printers and the struggle against strip searches in Ireland.

# Hormel workers tour British coalfields

Continued from front page

tive of FENASTRAS (National Federation of Salvadoran Workers' Unions), also spoke to the Silverwood mine workers. Both Represa and the U.S. delegation were warmly received by miners here.

The next day, Collette told 30 enthusiastic women at a seminar of the Yorkshire Women Against Pit Closures (WAPC), "Your strike and your struggle have been an inspiration to all of us and help keep us strong."

She described how the Austin United Support Group was organized and the activities it carries out. British women in the mining areas had carried out similar activities during the 1984-85 coal strike.

The WAPC is one of many organizations fighting to win reinstatement for 468 miners fired by the British Coal Board at the end of the strike.

The women nodded and applauded when Guyette told them, "We found that work-

ing people around the country and around the world are no different from us, and a fight like ours is not just one area's fight, but belongs to all of us. Because of what you've done and what we've begun to do, we can look forward to working people beginning to fight back."

The South Yorkshire tour was organized by WAPC activists Ann Scargill and Betty Cook. The two had attended the Coal Employment Project conference held in June in Kentucky. There they met Carl and Susan Benson, who are active in the Austin fight. Cook later spoke to a United Support Group meeting in Austin.

Other stops included a visit with the Labour Party mayor of Barnsley, a city of 226,000, and a presentation to more than two dozen miners attending classes on "Union-busting: American style" at the Labour Party's Northern College.

The final stop on the Yorkshire tour was a meeting of 80 people at the Rotherham

Miners Support Group.

Before coming to Yorkshire, the group spent a week at the annual Labour Party Conference in Blackpool. On the final day of his stay at the conference, Guyette addressed a meeting of more than 300 people sponsored by the Justice for Mineworkers Campaign, the organization heading the fight to win reinstatement for the fired miners.

Also speaking at that meeting were Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the NUM; Eric Clarke, general secretary of the Scottish NUM; Arthur Oxley, a fired miner; Tony Benn, a Labour Party member of Parliament; and Ann Lilburn, national president of the WAPC.

Benn wound up the spirited meeting saying, "From Minnesota to South Africa, from El Salvador to Nicaragua, and to our victimized miners, most of us know that this is one big struggle and that none of us can win until we all win."

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# Workers hit sandblasting of mural in Austin

BY JANICE PRESCOTT

AUSTIN, Minn. — The mural on the wall of the Austin Labor Center was destroyed by sandblasting October 8, despite efforts by meatpackers and officers of the Labor Center to get a court order blocking the action.

When the trustees of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local P-9 couldn't hire a sandblasting outfit to do the work for them, they rented the equipment and did the job themselves. They started with the mural's anti-apartheid slogans.

The mural, painted by Hormel meatpackers and their supporters, was dedicated to South African anti-apartheid fighter Nelson Mandela at a May 27 ceremony. It depicted the struggle by the meatpackers against the packinghouse company and had become a symbol to many here of workers' resistance to the antilabor actions of Hormel.

About 100 people had turned out at the Labor Center October 6 to protest preparations to destroy the mural.

Standing beside bags of sand stacked five feet high in apparent preparation for sandblasting the wall, Pete Kennedy protested "the further violation of this mural."

Kennedy, chairman of the board of the Austin Labor Center, is one of the meatpackers being denied their jobs by Hormel because of their struggle against the company's antilabor actions.

Kennedy said the planned sandblasting was an attempt "to eliminate further embarrassment for Hormel." A spokesman for Joseph Hansen, the trustee imposed on UFCW Local P-9 who now occupies the local's offices in the Labor Center, claimed he did not know why the sand had been put there.

The labor center offices were formerly used by members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9 to organize their struggle. In May top UFCW officials imposed trusteeship on the local, removing the elected officers and ordering an end to the battle with Hormel. The appointed trustee took control of the offices in July, after the trusteeship was upheld by a judge.

A reporter asked Kennedy at the October 6 protest why Hormel workers had taken up the issue of South Africa. He responded that the company has investments in South Africa and that "the elimination of social injustice is a cause that unites."

Two days earlier, the National Labor Relations Board dismissed a charge of unfair labor practices against Hormel. The Austin meatpackers had filed a complaint against the company for having stalled on paying \$1.2 million in profit sharing funds owed its employees.

The company mailed the profit sharing checks in July, only after UFCW officials yielded to Hormel's illegal demand that a number of grievances brought by Hormel workers be dropped in exchange.



Laura Flicker

Jim Guyette, suspended president of Local P-9 at Hormel plant in Austin, Minnesota, speaks at May 27 dedication of mural painted by Hormel workers and supporters. Mural was dedicated to South African liberation fighter Nelson Mandela. For many, mural was symbol of meatpackers' fight against Hormel's takeback drive.

## Hormel fighters get hearing at electronics union convention

BY KAREN RAY HORNER

MIAMI — Delegates attending the International Union of Electronic Workers convention here September 24-29 had many opportunities to discuss the fight by meatpackers against the Geo. A. Hormel & Co. in Austin, Minnesota.

There were nearly 400 delegates attending the convention representing 180 locals. The IUE has a membership of 175,000.

Rod Huinker, a Hormel meatpacker who has been touring the country telling the story of the fight against Hormel, attended the convention. Huinker is also a charter member of the North American Meat Packers Union. It was formed after the United Food and Commercial Workers union (UFCW) International leadership placed Local P-9 at Hormel in trusteeship and ordered an end to the struggle against the company.

Huinker and IUE members who are supporters of the Austin meatpackers fight distributed leaflets and talked to dozens of delegates. Nearly everyone who attended the convention walked away with information on the fight.

Most delegates did not know the details of the contract that was signed by the UFCW and Hormel a few weeks ago and were interested in learning more about the situation in Austin.

Many said that they had followed the struggle and thought that the fight was settled with the contract. Many were surprised and outraged to find out that the 850 workers who refused to cross the picket line had no guaranteed callback rights.

Over 50 IUE locals have contributed financially to the meatpackers in Austin since their 13-month battle began.

Many who attended the convention promised that their locals would send money to the United Support Group to help the 850 who are still out. "The boycott of Hormel products will be back in our local" was a typical response.

On September 27 a resolution was unanimously passed by the convention calling for the dropping of the felony riot charges that 16 members of Local P-9 and other unionists from around the country face for demonstrating against Hormel in April.

The resolution states that the IUE, "without taking sides in any internal union matters, but in the spirit of trade unionism and our desire to join with other supporters of labor rights and civil liberties, regardless of differing opinions on other related matters, join in opposing the Austin prosecutions and call on Mower County authorities to drop all charges against the defendants."

On the last day of the convention another resolution was brought up on the floor calling for support to the "UFCW Local P-9's

strike against the Hormel Co." This resolution was defeated, but not without debate.

IUE President William Bywater urged rejection because the IUE international cannot get "involved in the internal affairs of another international union."

Bywater reminded the delegates that they had passed a resolution opposing the felony riot charges a couple days before and stressed that many locals had supported the Austin meatpackers and were free to continue to support them.

In addition to the informal discussions on the convention floor with delegates, a hospitality suite was hosted for Huinker by Brad Johnson, president of Local 776 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Karen Ray Horner is a member of IUE Local 1002 in Seattle, Washington.

## FDL strikers win backing in Midwest

BY JIM LITTLE

ROCHELLE, Ill. — Faced with massive picketing by FDL workers and other unionists, FDL has publicly stated that it will not attempt to open its meatpacking plant here with scab labor for the time being.

The 550 members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1218 at the FDL plant in Rochelle and the 1,200 members of UFCW Local 150-A at the firm's plant in Dubuque, Iowa, went on strike September 11. The strikers are fighting for safe working conditions and to regain some of the ground lost during several years of wage takebacks by FDL.

Members of Local 1218 have traveled to many Midwest meatpacking plants, from Chicago to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking support. They have carried out plant-gate collections and informational leafleting. According to union spokespeople, more than \$10,000 was collected in one week to aid strikers' families.

Local 1218 President Harlan Johnson has filed a complaint charging Rochelle police with brutality. At least three picketers were beaten by cops September 23 during mass picketing aimed at preventing scab labor from being brought into the plant.

The two locals are holding a rally at the FDL headquarters in Dubuque October 10 to call attention to the issues in the strike. Members of the United Auto Workers union in Dubuque who are on strike against the John Deere corporation will join the rally in solidarity with meatpacking workers.

## Marchers demand end to attacks on rights of Puerto Ricans

BY JERRY FREIWIRTH

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Demanding justice and human rights for Puerto Ricans, 2,500 people marched here on October 4. The protest was organized by the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights.

A spirited rally was held in Lafayette Park, directly across from the White House. Lourdes Torres, co-chair of the rally and a leader of the rights group, said the marchers were "breaking the silence about civil rights abuses and racist violence" directed against Puerto Ricans.

The Statement of Purpose of the march declared that "we are tired of second-class jobs, second-class neighborhoods, second-class schools, and second-class services and treatment by our government."

Participants in the march came from New York City, Philadelphia, Newark, and other East Coast cities. Prominent were union contingents of hospital workers from Local 1199 and municipal workers from American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees District

37. Many of the demonstrators were high school and college-age youths.

Two principal demands of the marchers were freedom for the Puerto Rican independence fighters recently framed up by the FBI and U.S. government and an end to U.S. intervention in Central America.

Chants of "One struggle, one fight — South Africa, Puerto Rico" greeted Jesse Jackson, one of the rally's featured speakers. Jackson denounced continued occupation by the U.S. Navy of the island of Vieques off Puerto Rico.

Hilda Hidalgo, a professor at Rutgers University, condemned the widespread forced sterilization of Puerto Rican women in the United States and Puerto Rico.

She also exclaimed, "Basta ya to coat-hanger abortions. Puerto Rican women demand the right to control our own bodies!"

Other speakers included Dennis Rivera, executive vice-president of Local 1199; Angel Domínguez of CATA (Agricultural Workers' Support Committee), a prominent farm workers organization in southern New Jersey; and Juan Ramon Acevedo, the legal coordinator for the Puerto Rican independence activists currently imprisoned in Hartford, Connecticut.

## Ohio officials bar socialists from ballot

BY BILL KALMAN

CLEVELAND — William Bon, president of United Auto Workers Local 122, is among the prominent individuals who have condemned the barring of two socialist candidates from the November ballot in Ohio as a violation of democratic rights. Local 122 represents workers at the Twinsburg Chrysler plant.

The candidates are Roberta Scherr and Mark Rahn, Socialist Workers Party candidates for governor and lieutenant governor.

In May, Scherr and Rahn filed nominating petitions containing 9,200 signatures, nearly twice as many as required by law.

More than three months later, officials announced that the petitions fell short by 315 signatures. Among thousands of signatures disqualified on the basis of purported technical errors were those of 700 registered voters alleged to have moved without reporting their change of address.

Scherr and Rahn are continuing to campaign as write-in candidates.

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by James P. Cannon

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# Three new cities join subscription drive

BY MALIK MIAH

That's right. Supporters of the *Militant* and the Spanish-language monthly *Perspectiva Mundial* in Austin, Minnesota; Des Moines, Iowa; and Omaha, Nebraska, are adding their cities to the subscription scoreboard this week. The initial goals are 125 each for Austin and Omaha, and 200 for Des Moines.

We have now sold 5,234 subscriptions to the two working-class publications in the campaign to win 10,000 new readers by November 15.

For more than a year meatpackers in Austin; Ottumwa, Iowa; and Fremont, Nebraska, have waged a determined battle against the union-busting drive of the Geo. A. Hormel & Co. (Ottumwa is 90 miles from Des Moines and Fremont is close to Omaha.) Many of these workers, including leaders of the struggle to build a fighting union in the meat-packing industry, are subscribers to the *Militant*.

*Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* salespeople from Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, and other cities have regularly traveled to Austin, Ottumwa, Fremont, and nearby cities to sell the *Militant* to workers, farmers, and students. National subscription teams have also been to these areas.

The response has been great. In addition to hundreds of single issues of the papers being sold, 103 working people and students bought subscriptions in Iowa; 26 in the Omaha area; and 17 in the Austin area. These subscriptions will now be counted as part of the Austin, Omaha, and Des Moines goals, thus lowering the total attributed to the national teams.

*Militant* and *PM* supporters in the three cities will be selling subscriptions and the Pathfinder Press pamphlet, *The 1985-86 Hormel Meat-Packers Strike in Austin, Minnesota*, to meatpackers, other workers, farmers, students, and many other people seeking the truth about the policies of the government and the employing class.

In the last half year national sales teams have sold at plant gates and college campuses in Iowa and nearby towns in bordering states. Out of these efforts hundreds of working people know of the working-class publications and a few young people have asked to join the Young Socialist Alliance.

There are other changes in this week's scoreboard. A couple of weeks ago, we explained that the "other" category included 645 former subscribers to the international news magazine, *Intercontinental Press*, which merged with the *Militant* in August. Because we added the total number of former *Intercontinental Press* readers to the scoreboard at once, it distorted the actual week-by-week progress we're making in the subscription campaign.

To remedy that, we will now prorate

those subscriptions over the course of the campaign. Since we've just completed the fourth week of the drive, 258 former *Intercontinental Press* subscribers will be included in our total this week. Each week until the end of the drive another 65 will be added.

The "other" category also includes new international subscribers added since the campaign began, and readers in cities not listed on the scoreboard.

The subscription drive got off to an excellent start, but over the last three weeks the average number of subscriptions coming into the business office from areas that have taken goals has been declining. To reach the national goal, we'll need to average over 700 subscriptions per week from these areas for the duration of the campaign.

There is every reason to be confident that this can be accomplished. But with colder weather coming to the Midwest and East, a sustained, collective effort will be essential to stay on schedule and to meet our challenging national target on time.

Last week supporters in four cities — Detroit, Milwaukee, Portland, and Morgantown, West Virginia, raised their goals.

After six days on the road, the Louisiana-Texas team netted 38 *Militant* and 3 *Perspectiva Mundial* subscriptions and 108 *Militant* and 23 *Young Socialist* single copy sales.

According to team member Martha Pettit, one of the team's best sales was outside the plant gate of the General Motors Fisher-Guide plant in Monroe, Louisiana.

The four-member team sold 19 *Militants* and 2 pamphlets on the Hormel meatpackers' strike.

In Boston, three *Militant* subscriptions were sold at an October 4 rally in defense of democratic rights sponsored by the Political Rights Defense Fund.

\* \* \*

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Mail to: Militant Business Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. Or phone: (212) 929-3486.

## A Saturday with N.Y. sales teams

BY MALIK MIAH

NEW YORK — "How'd you do it?" I asked.

"I first get the person to stop. Then I give my pitch: 'The *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* are different from the local papers. They give you news and analysis that you can't get anywhere else, a political perspective. They tell the truth about South Africa, the U.S.-backed war against Nicaragua, and the struggles of working people here and around the world.'"

This is the way Holbrook Mahn, top subscription seller here this past Saturday, explained it. He had sold 14 *Perspectiva Mundial* and one *Militant* subscriptions in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn.

Mahn stressed that his technique isn't gimmicky or unique. "The papers sell themselves. The key is to get people to look through the papers and see what they'll be missing each week or month without the *Militant* or *PM*."

"It's important to urge the subscription offer on people who have agreed to get a paper. I say, 'Come on, for only an extra buck you can get four more issues of *Perspectiva Mundial*.' Most of the 14 *PM* subscriptions I sold came from people who initially agreed to buy only a single issue."

Selva Nebbia, circulation director of *PM*, and I were able to spend a day with New York supporters of the *Militant* and *PM* and learn how they sell subscriptions.

A typical sales Saturday begins at 10 a.m. with breakfast at the distribution office on 79 Leonard Street in lower Manhattan.

After French toast and eggs, supporters of the two working-class publications listened to an orientation report from Pat Hunt, one of the organizers of the campaign. She described what was in the current *Militant* and *PM* issues.



Militant/Selva Nebbia  
Williamsburg man signs up for *Perspectiva Mundial* subscription. Extra Spanish-language literature on this table helped boost sales in this Latino neighborhood of Brooklyn.

Afterwards salespeople picked up their literature boxes and folding tables. Each box contained a supply of *Militants* and *PMs*, socialist books and pamphlets, leaflets for an upcoming Fall Publications Fund rally, and a brochure on a Saturday afternoon class series sponsored by the Young Socialist Alliance.

The literature mix varies. If you are going to Harlem or the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, there is plenty of Malcolm X and Nelson Mandela. If you are off to Williamsburg, there are extra Spanish-language books and pamphlets. And those going to Church and Flatbush avenues in

Brooklyn take plenty of French-language literature because of the large Haitian community.

Copies of the booklet, *Decision: Government Spying and Disruption is Unconstitutional and Illegal*, distributed by the Political Rights Defense Fund, and the PRDF sponsor cards are also placed on literature tables. Mahn, who is the national coordinator of the PRDF, said many *Militant* and *PM* subscribers are also sponsors of the fund.

David Rosenfeld, chairperson of the New York Young Socialist Alliance, accompanied us to several sales sites. In Bedford-Stuyvesant we joined a team of four salespersons who sold 29 single copies, one *Militant* subscription, and \$30 worth of other literature.

One youth who bought two Malcolm X books told me he was glad to see us here. This was the first literature table-sales team to Bed-Stuy.

Down the road in Williamsburg, the sales table was swamped with people when we arrived. The table was set up on "Avenue of Puerto Rico" and did a brisk business in Spanish-language literature. A total of 20 *PM* and 2 *Militant* subscriptions were sold. While a salesperson knowing some Spanish had an advantage, others who simply held up a copy of *PM* attracted buyers.

Harlem wasn't the same hectic pace as Brooklyn. And we had competition from the local street preacher. Nevertheless, a bunch of singles and three subscriptions to the *Militant* were sold.

At the end of the day we went back to Leonard Street to see how other sales went. The team from Union Square in Manhattan had sold 6 subscriptions and 23 single issues; Fordham Road in the Bronx another 2 subscriptions; Fulton Mall in Brooklyn, 3 subscriptions and 22 singles.

Some 30 people participated in the sales effort that day, selling 40 subscriptions — 21 *PM* and 19 *Militant*. This was the second week in a row that more *PM* than *Militant* subscriptions were sold. Eight sales teams sold \$275 worth of other socialist literature.

## Fall Subscription Scoreboard

Goals		Sold		% Sold	Area	Goals		Sold		% Sold	
Perspectiva		Perspectiva				Perspectiva		Perspectiva			
Area	Militant	Mundial	Militant	Mundial		Militant	Mundial	Militant	Mundial		
Miami	100	15	78	12	78	Chicago	300	50	122	38	46
Milwaukee	100	30	67	22	68	Salt Lake City	105	15	53	2	46
Portland, Ore.	135	15	95	6	67	San Francisco	170	80	76	38	46
San Jose	200	100	133	65	66	Greensboro, N.C.	140	10	60	4	43
Cleveland	125	15	82	7	64	St. Louis	235	5	104	0	43
New York	500	250	296	185	64	Twin Cities, Minn.	250	20	110	5	43
Kansas City	150	10	93	8	63	Baltimore	120	5	51	1	42
Atlanta	140	10	88	3	61	Louisville	115	10	51	1	42
Philadelphia	175	50	124	11	60	Morgantown, W. Va.	130	—	55	—	42
Detroit	260	30	147	23	59	Oakland	200	30	75	19	41
Toledo	100	5	58	4	59	New Paltz, N. Y.	5	—	2	—	40
San Diego	85	45	42	33	58	Pittsburgh	100	5	40	2	40
Seattle	140	35	79	20	57	Dallas	225	75	71	34	35
Capital District, N.Y.	125	10	62	9	53	Washington, D.C.	160	40	57	12	35
Boston	225	50	116	28	52	Price, Utah	50	5	17	1	33
Des Moines, Iowa	200	—	103	—	52	Cincinnati	90	10	26	3	29
Newark	375	125	169	91	52	Denver	135	10	34	3	26
New Orleans	90	10	47	4	51	Columbus, Ohio	18	2	5	0	25
Houston	290	60	151	24	50	Omaha, Neb.	125	—	26	—	21
Charleston, W. Va.	100	—	49	—	49	Austin, Minn.	125	—	17	—	14
Los Angeles	300	200	137	110	49	Tidewater, Va.	60	5	5	0	8
Phoenix	100	60	47	28	47	National teams	—	—	506	175	—
Birmingham, Ala.	150	3	70	0	46	Other	—	—	276	31	—
Totals						8,500	1,500	4,172	1,062	52	
to be on schedule								3,400	600	40	



# Kiko Martínez on trial again

## Chicano activist fights 13-year government frame-up campaign

BY SUSAN APSTEIN

Francisco "Kiko" Martínez is on trial for the third time in six years. The trial, which began October 7 in a federal court in Tucson, Arizona, is a political frame-up like the previous two. Martínez is charged with giving the government false information.

The government has waged a 13-year campaign against Kiko Martínez.

Charges were first brought against him in 1973 at the height of a government campaign to discredit and disrupt the Chicano movement in the early 1970s.

This militant movement developed throughout the Southwest in the mid-1960s and early 1970s. The United Farm Workers organizing drive by Chicano farm workers won broad support. Chicanos organized a movement to regain stolen lands. They demanded bilingual education and community control of the schools and fought against police brutality and victimization by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. An independent party, La Raza Unida, was formed in several places in the Southwest.

The government launched "Operation CHAOS: Chicano Power Movement" in response to the Chicano upsurge. This campaign was part of Cointelpro, the FBI's disruption program against the Black movement, civil rights activists, opponents of the Vietnam war, and others.

Kiko Martínez, a Chicano activist and lawyer, was highly respected in the Chicano community for his defense of victims of police brutality and political frame-ups and for his support for the rights of farm workers.

He also represented the Crusade for Justice, a widely known Chicano organization

in Denver, whose militancy brought especially heavy police repression against it.

In March 1973 Denver cops attacked the Escuela Tlatelolco, a school run by the Crusade for Justice. One young Chicano was killed, and the school was badly damaged.

That fall there was a rash of bombings and attempted bombings in the Denver area. The district attorney called a news conference and accused Martínez of mailing three bombs, none of which had exploded. A "shoot on sight" order was issued and news media offered a bounty for his capture.

Martínez went into hiding and was arrested seven years later crossing the border into Arizona from Mexico.

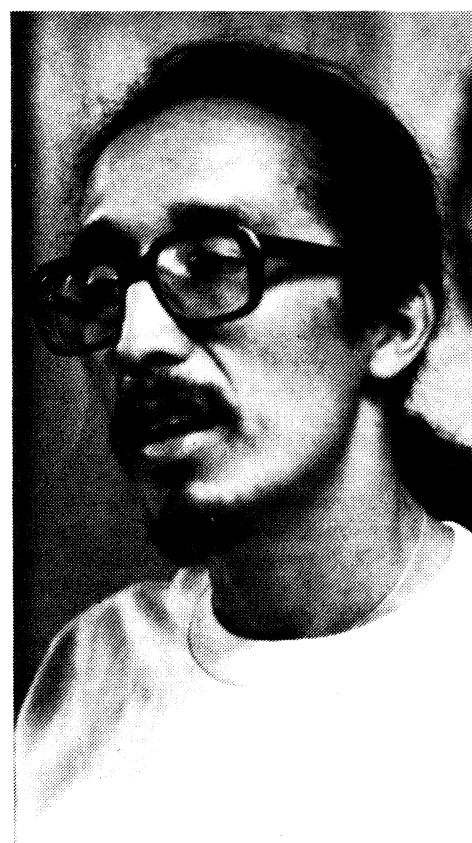
Over the next four years the government tried to get a conviction against Martínez. After six court battles, including the two trials, he was acquitted on two of the charges. Sixteen other charges were dismissed.

In January 1985, two months after the last charges were dropped, the FBI raided Martínez' home in Alamosa, Colorado. He was charged with giving false information because he had used a false name when arrested.

These charges were dismissed in May 1985 because of "vindictive prosecution" against Martínez by the government. But the decision was reversed on appeal.

Kiko Martínez has never stopped fighting racism and injustice. He has been an outspoken opponent of congressional anti-immigration legislation. And he has voiced his opposition to the U.S. government's war against Nicaragua and its attempt to crush the liberation struggle of the Salvadoran people.

All working people have a stake in defending Kiko Martínez. Financial contributions and statements of support can be sent to: Francisco E. Martínez Defense Committee, P.O. Box 753, Alamosa, Colorado 81101.



Militant

Francisco "Kiko" Martínez

## Volunteers get new subscriptions out fast

BY JIM WHITE

Amazing!

That's what it's been like the last month in the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* business office.

And very exciting.

Think of it. We've processed more pieces of paper in the last four weeks than we have in the entire preceding eight months of 1986. We now have more than 5,000 new readers to the two working-class publications. That's the highest number of subscriptions for both publications in years.

The total number of subscribers to the *Militant* is the largest it's been since October 1981.

The *PM* subscription total is the highest it's been since the end of 1977.

And we still have six more weeks to go in our campaign to win 10,000 new readers to the two publications.

What's been most interesting is where the subscriptions are coming from: big and small cities; factories; farms; college campuses; other countries; antiwar and solidarity activists; fighters for Black and women's rights; and opponents of apartheid in South Africa.

To understand the scope of what we're doing, consider the following: in last spring's sales drive we processed all the subscriptions for the week on Monday with two people.

Today we process subscriptions six and sometimes seven days a week.

On our normal Monday, we receive more than 250 new subscriptions. It takes more than three hours just to open and sort the mail. It takes another three hours to enter them into the computer so address labels can be made for the weekly mailing. Another 45 minutes per day is required to proofread the names and addresses so the new reader gets the paper.

Add it up. Excluding any breaks, including lunch, that's nearly seven hours a day for opening, sorting, and proofreading new

subscriptions. Never mind the bank deposits.

So how do we stay on schedule?

As we all know, it's not enough to sell a subscription. The new subscriber must get the paper as quickly as possible.

We do it with the same approach we use to sell subscriptions: a team effort. The team is primarily made up of volunteers from our supporters in the New York and New Jersey area.

The volunteers open the mail, sort, and enter subscriptions into the computer. They do it for 30 minutes, one hour, four hours, and sometimes late into the night. We're not particular. Whatever you can do, it's appreciated.

Those working on the subscriptions do so collectively, with the more experienced helping the less experienced. It often takes more than one set of eyes to decipher a name or address. We catch each other's mistakes and try to maintain a high standard of accuracy. The atmosphere is business-like.

But everyone who's done it says they like to do it.

## Publications Fund meeting will hear 'Militant' reporter on Zimbabwe trip

BY DOUG JENNESS

The first of many public meetings for the \$100,000 Fall Publications Fund is set for New York City October 10.

The main speaker will be Sam Manuel, who was the *Militant*'s correspondent at the summit meeting of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries held in Harare, Zimbabwe, last month.

It is very appropriate that Manuel be featured as a speaker at this event because it helps spotlight a particularly attractive feature of the *Militant*. That is the considerable amount of firsthand international coverage we carry in our paper.

In just the past two months, the *Militant* has carried articles from Australia, Britain, Canada, Iceland, India, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Sri Lanka, and Zimbabwe. And our next issue will have an on-the-spot report from the Third International Havana Book Fair held in Cuba last month.

Some of these articles are from *Militant* readers in those countries. And we hope more international readers will send us articles. Others are written by reporters we've sent to cover political developments in other countries.

We believe the effort to get on-the-scene reports is worth it. And we regret that we don't have the resources to get them from even more countries. Writing articles from our office in New York, based on dispatches from other newspapers and magazines, is necessary, but nowhere near as satisfactory as firsthand accounts.

One of the big differences is that when

Eric Huffman, a laid off rail worker from Chicago, recently moved to Newark. He's still on rail unemployment so with his "free" time he's down here sorting, entering, and proofreading subscriptions.

James Winfield, a leader of the New York Young Socialist Alliance, and Priscilla Schenk, chairperson of the Newark Socialist Workers Party, have also put in a few hours processing subscriptions.

Two members of the International Union of Electronic Workers union, Barbara Peterson and Mike Shur, have helped out after work. Shur is also the candidate for U.S. Senator from New York State.

All have told me that seeing new readers in Austin, Minnesota; Ottumwa, Iowa; Fremont, Nebraska; Watsonville, California; London; and many other places lets you know that the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* are really starting to get around. And that's great.

If you want to help out and volunteer some of your time to get the *Militant* and *PM* to new subscribers as rapidly as possible, give us a call at the business office at (212) 929-3486.

## Boston rally to push defeat of antiabortion referendum

BY MAGGIE PUCCI

BOSTON — A march and rally has been set here for October 18 to press for the defeat of a referendum that would place sharp restrictions on the right of women to choose abortions.

The action has been called by the Rosie Jimenez Day Committee, which includes the Boston chapters of the Reproductive Rights National Network, National Organization for Women (NOW), Mobilization for Survival, Alliance Against Women's Oppression, Gay and Lesbian Defense Fund, Socialist Workers Party, and Young Socialist Alliance.

Every year the committee organizes an action to commemorate the death of Rosie Jimenez, the first woman to have died from a backstreet abortion after federal Medicaid funding was cut off. This year the theme is "Women's lives are on the line — march to defeat the anti-abortion referendum."

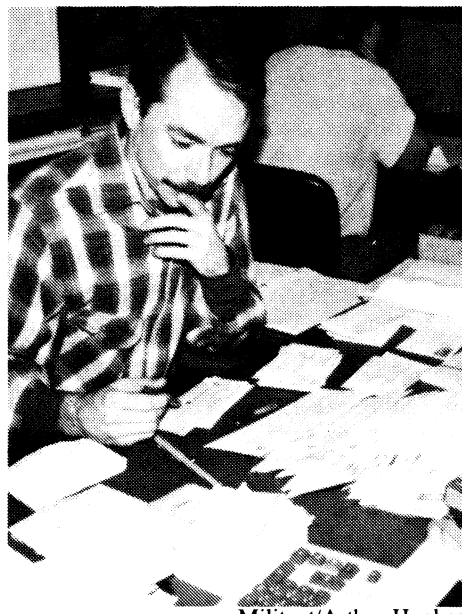
Marleen Fried of the Reproductive Rights National Network, who is one of the main organizers of the march, commented, "We must march in the streets to show our opposition. This march is going to be big, and our speakers' list reflects the diverse forces that are strongly prochoice. We're confident this march will be a huge success and an integral part of defeating this referendum."

Among those scheduled to speak are Carol Doherty, one-time head of the Massachusetts Teachers Union and current director of the Campaign for Choice, and Eleanor Smeal, national president of NOW.

The referendum, if it wins, will cut all Medicaid funding and private insurance coverage for abortions. This is called a tax-saving measure by its supporters.

Ellen Berman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Massachusetts, strongly opposes the referendum. She issued a statement declaring that "denying reproductive freedom is at the heart of efforts to maintain the second-class citizenship of women."

Calling for support to the October 18 protest, Berman said the action "will show that we are willing to mobilize to fight to keep abortion safe, legal, and accessible to all women."



Militant Business Manager Jim White

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# ANC targeted by new congressional bill

Continued from front page

the regime in Pretoria and fear that a victory of the struggle led by the ANC will jeopardize imperialist interests throughout the southern African region.

## CIA snooping okayed

A little more than two months ago, some administration officials revealed to the *New York Times* that various U.S. intelligence agencies had been spying on the ANC for years. "I've known about it for a long time, that we target the African National Congress," one intelligence officer told the *Times*. "We've always considered them to be the bad guys."

The information gathered by U.S. agents was then passed on to the South African Directorate of Military Intelligence.

This kind of collaboration with the South African authorities was formally prohibited by a 1977 regulation, but the ban was simply ignored.

The recently adopted congressional act prohibits any direct or indirect cooperation with the South African armed forces, "except activities which are reasonably designed to facilitate the collection of necessary intelligence." In effect, this amounts to official authorization for what had previously been done illegally.

## Demands for registration

Another section of the act calls for greater restrictions and controls on the ANC's ability to get out its views within the United States.

Within 180 days, it says, the attorney general must submit to Congress a report on "actual and alleged violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act" by "members or representatives of the African National Congress," as well as of other southern African groups and governments.

The Foreign Agents Registration Act, adopted in 1938, has typically been used to limit the activities of organizations and governments that Washington opposes. It requires any group or individual deemed to

be an "agent of a foreign principal" to provide the U.S. government with financial records, names, and copies of "political propaganda" distributed in the United States. Such information can then be used by the FBI or other police agencies to intimidate, harass, and disrupt a group's activities.

By seeking to apply this act to the ANC, which is not now registered as a "foreign agent," the White House and Congress are aiming to place obstacles between the ANC and the growing anti-apartheid movement in the United States. They want to make it harder for the U.S. people to hear directly what the ANC stands for.

## 'Terrorism' and 'necklacing'

To justify such moves, the act is filled with slanders against the ANC, falsely branding the ANC-led armed struggle as "terrorism."

Although the act calls on Pretoria to legalize the ANC, it makes this conditional on the ANC's willingness to "suspend terrorism" — that is, abandon its fight against the apartheid regime's repressive methods of rule.

In a section urging negotiations between Pretoria and representatives of the Black majority, the act declares that if the ANC and other groups "refuse to abandon unprovoked violence . . . then the United States will support negotiations which do not include these organizations." Moreover, the act states, Washington should "pursue diplomatic and political measures against those promoting terrorism and against those countries harboring such groups."

The act focuses particular attention on "necklacing," the practice by some Blacks of placing a tire around the neck of a suspected police informer or collaborator, soaking it in gasoline, and setting them on fire. This is repeatedly denounced in the act's text, complete with calls on the ANC to "strongly condemn and take effective action" against it.

At a news conference during the recent



South African protesters hold poster of Nelson Mandela. Masses view ANC activists as freedom fighters, not "terrorists."

summit meeting of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries in Zimbabwe, ANC President Oliver Tambo explained the group's stance toward this practice.

"The cause of necklacing," Tambo said, "is the apartheid system. It arises out of the extreme brutality of the regime."

"We are not for necklacing," Tambo went on. "But we will not attack or condemn people who are driven to this extreme method by the horrible brutality of the apartheid regime."

## Recipe for a witch-hunt

The ANC's alliance with the South African Communist Party (SACP) is another target of the U.S. rulers.

In a typical red-baiting fashion, the act declares "that some of the organizations fighting apartheid have become infiltrated by Communists and that Communists serve on the governing boards of such organizations." It calls on the ANC to "reexamine" its ties with the SACP.

The act also mandates Reagan, in collaboration with the CIA and other intelligence agencies, to prepare a report within 90 days on "the extent to which Communists have infiltrated the many black and nonwhite South African organizations engaged in the fight against the apartheid system."

This is similar to an earlier witch-hunt against the ANC organized by Senator Jeremiah Denton, who played a key role in inserting some of these clauses into the final text of the bill. Denton had previously presided over a series of congressional hearings in March 1982 at which both the ANC and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) of Namibia were attacked for receiving Soviet military assistance.

## ANC leader speaks on sanctions bill

BY RICH STUART

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Neo Mnumzana, chief United Nations representative of the African National Congress, greeted the U.S. Senate vote overriding the veto of a bill imposing sanctions on South Africa as a victory for the struggle against apartheid.

But Mnumzana, speaking to an audience of 100 at the University of North Carolina October 3, blasted sections of the bill that he called "sanctions on the ANC."

The ANC spokesperson said the overriding of President Ronald Reagan's veto reflected the gains made by the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa and around the world. "Ronald Reagan had his nose rubbed in the ground," he said. The sanctions imposed by Congress are not adequate, Mnumzana stated, but they "are a step in the right direction."

Other provisions of the bill, he explained, amount to redbaiting the ANC. These mandate the U.S. attorney general to investigate the ANC's compliance with the Foreign Agents Registration Act and call for an investigation of communist influence in the ANC.

Mnumzana charged that the measure's redbaiting of the ANC is an attempt to hide the U.S. government's support for the apartheid regime by portraying this support as a fight against communism. He said this approach is also used to make war on the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador and all those fighting for justice around the world.

The ANC has never hidden its alliance with the SACP or its acceptance of Soviet support. It has continually defended its right to receive aid from wherever it can, as well as the SACP's right to be part of the broad struggle against the apartheid regime.

"To take any other position," declared the ANC National Executive Committee in July, "would be to condemn to failure the very struggle which the ANC is waging."

Like the "terrorism" smears, the red-baiting attacks on the ANC are designed to sow divisions within the anti-apartheid struggle and to isolate the ANC internationally. Such charges also serve to divert attention from the brutalities of the apartheid regime and justify its repression against those deemed to be "communists" or "terrorists."

The apartheid authorities themselves have been highly appreciative of these aspects of the new act. According to Foreign Minister Roelof Botha, "There are sections in this bill dealing with the ANC's terror and violence which of course we could subscribe to."

Botha noted that for years his government had charged that the ANC was "infiltrated" by the SACP, but that such accusations received little recognition abroad. "Now this is acknowledged," Botha declared.

Despite its name, the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act contains dangerous provisions that seek to weaken the struggle to bring down the hated regime in Pretoria. Anti-apartheid activists in the United States have a responsibility to help defend the ANC against such attacks.

## South African miners stage 'unparalleled' show of strength

BY ERNEST HARSCH

In the biggest strike ever by Black mine workers in South Africa, some 300,000 stayed away from their jobs October 1. They did so to protest a disastrous accident at the Kinross gold mine that claimed the lives of 177 miners.

Marcel Golding, publicity secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the largest mine workers' union, said that this show of strength was "un-

paralleled in South African labor history."

The Chamber of Mines — the mine bosses' organization — had proposed that the workers, rather than striking, observe a five-minute silence to commemorate the dead. But Golding dismissed that suggestion, stating that it did not reflect the enormity of the disaster.

In some mines, not a single Black worker went to work on the strike day. That was the case, for example, in the gold and coal mines in the Evander area, where the Kinross mine is located.

In addition to the mine workers who struck — representing about half of all miners in the country — some 275,000 other workers also took part in the day of protest, their actions ranging from brief work stoppages to one-day strikes.

A week before the protest strike, some 5,000 miners gathered for a memorial service in eMbalenhle, a Black township near the Kinross mine.

Cyril Ramaphosa, the NUM's general secretary, referred to the mine bosses as "the bloodsuckers who murdered 177 of our comrades." He said that mine workers would "have to take control of all the mines in the country. That way we will make sure that our brother miners don't fall in accidents like the one at Kinross."

Winnie Mandela, a key anti-apartheid activist and wife of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress (ANC), also spoke at the memorial. "There may very well come a time," she told the miners, "when your leaders will ask you for greater sacrifices than a one-day strike."

"The moment you stop digging their gold, their diamonds, that's the moment we shall be free," Mandela said. "You dig the wealth. You hold that golden key for our liberation."



Workers at memorial rally for victims of Kinross mining disaster.

## From Pathfinder Press

**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.

This pamphlet is an important tool to help build the movement to break all U.S. ties with the apartheid regime.

It is available at the Pathfinder Bookstore nearest you (see directory on page 12) or from Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. 56 pp., \$1.25. Please include \$.75 for handling.



# Rights gain hailed by unionists, NOW

BY CATHERINE FRASER

Trade unionists, Central America solidarity activists, and fighters for women's rights were among those who spoke or sent messages of support to four rallies held over the weekend of October 4-5 to celebrate the recent victory in the Socialist Workers Party's lawsuit against FBI spying and harassment.

"The labor movement and governmental harassment and repression have always had a close and hostile relationship," Harry Adams, president of International Association of Machinists (IAM) Lodge 565, pointed out in a message to the rally in San Jose, California. The success of the SWP's suit means, he said, "that a precedent has been established that will enable progressive forces in this country to battle the dirty tricks and wars of the U.S. government and its apparatus of repression."

Another message of support came from Ron Lind, director of organizing, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 428. Referring to the Political Rights Defense Fund, which is raising money and support for the SWP lawsuit, Lind commented:

"During these dark days of Reagan, Shultz, and others who would like to rewrite our constitution to suit their beliefs, it's nice to know that there is an organization like the PRDF that fights for all of us."

Joel Aber, a member of the Montgomery County Educators Association and of the Washington, D.C. Labor Committee for Human Rights in El Salvador, was one of the speakers at a similar rally in Washington, D.C.

"We're all a little safer today to speak out against the government's intimidation because of the SWP's suit, which has put the spies, tricksters, and infiltrators on the defensive," he told the meeting.

## Statement from NOW

An important message of support to the Washington, D.C., rally came from Lois Galgay Reckitt, vice-president of the National Organization for Women.

"The National Organization for Women today reaffirms our support of the efforts of the Political Rights Defense Fund to stop



Militant/Lou Howort



Militant



Militant

New Political Rights Defense Fund sponsors. Left to right, Sonia Sanchez, Oba T'Shaka, and John George.

political spying and harassment in the United States," the statement began. Reckitt explained: "In the early years of the movement for women's rights and women's liberation, NOW members and others were subject to almost routine surveillance by the FBI and other government agencies."

Describing her own personal experience of this, she commented, "The most charitable thing that can be said about this action was that, when it was revealed to me, I was inspired to take more vocal protest."

At the October 5 rally in St. Louis, a message of solidarity from the Missouri affiliate of the National Abortion Rights Action League was read. The SWP's court victory "is especially important to those of us who are activists for a woman's right to choose safe, legal abortion," the statement said, "because it is a reinforcement of the constitutional right to privacy upon which the landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision is founded."

One of the speakers at the rally, Helen

Savio, a member of the St. Louis Teachers Union, described her personal experiences of harassment by government agencies. Savio was fired three times in three years from teaching positions because of her opposition to the war in Vietnam. Her phone was tapped, and she was followed by members of the Red Squad when she attended antiwar conferences in Chicago.

"They tried to make us feel like criminals," she told the meeting. "But as it turned out — after years of spying, harassment, and provocation — it was found that the lawbreakers were the FBI."

## Donations, new sponsors

In Boston the PRDF-sponsored rally was held at the Church of the Covenant. The 43 people present donated \$585 toward the costs of the next stage of the legal battle against the FBI — a court hearing to determine what happens to the millions of pages of FBI files on the SWP and Young Socialist Alliance.

Speaking on behalf of the Boston Com-

mittee for Puerto Rican Civil Rights, Juan Vargas told the meeting, "The victory of the SWP and YSA in the case against the FBI that we are celebrating tonight really inspires us. We are feeling now that if you did it, why can't we?"

Vargas and the other speakers at the meeting — Alan West, director of the Boston Central America Solidarity Association; Michael Avery of the National Lawyers Guild; and Steve Essig from the Massachusetts Democratic Socialists of America — all added their names to the rapidly growing list of PRDF sponsors.

Among other recent sponsors are Sonia Sanchez, a poet and an activist in the Philadelphia anti-apartheid movement; Oba T'Shaka from the National Black United Front; Pat Kenny, a member of the Committee for a Free Ireland; Phillip Crawford, from the St. Louis Latin America Solidarity Committee; Tim Kaminski of the Communist Party in St. Louis; and John George and Willia Gray from the Bay Area Free South Africa Movement.

# FBI kept list of those to be detained in wartime

The following is from the August 25 ruling by U.S. District Judge Thomas Griesa in the lawsuit against the FBI by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance. These excerpts are taken from the section on the security index.

Over a period of many years the FBI maintained certain lists of persons to be considered for detention in the event of a war involving the United States. Evidence on this point comes mainly from the so-called Church Committee Report. *Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities, Final Report, Book III: Supplementary Detailed Staff Reports on Intelligence Activities and the Rights of Americans* (1976).

The FBI established a Custodial Detention List in 1940. In 1943 the Attorney General ordered the termination of this list, stating that it lacked any statutory authorization.

Director Hoover did not abolish the list except to change its name to the Security Index. The list was considered by the FBI to be composed of persons potentially dangerous to the public safety and the internal security of the United States. In March 1946 the FBI advised a new Attorney General of the Security Index. No objection was made. In a memorandum of September 1946 the FBI listed membership in the SWP as a basis for inclusion in the Security Index.

The Department of Justice prepared and compiled numerous draft proclamations and orders for use in a national emergency. This was called the "Attorney General's Portfolio." In 1949 an Emergency Detention Plan was agreed to between the Attorney General and the Secretary of Defense. The plan provided for apprehending and detaining civilians listed in the Security Index in the event of war or other grave na-

tional emergency. The FBI was charged with the responsibility of investigating and apprehending the persons to be detained.

In 1950 Congress passed the Emergency Detention Act (Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950), which set forth specific standards for the apprehension of persons in the event of an internal security emergency declared by the President. The Attorney General advised FBI Director Hoover to disregard the legislation, and to rely on the Attorney General's Portfolio.

A Department of Justice memorandum summarized the differences between the provisions of the Emergency Detention Act and the Portfolio. The memorandum stated, among other things, that the FBI's Security Index contained the names of 19,577 persons, many of whom would not be subject to detention under the Emergency Detention Act.

As of 1950 at least 308 SWP members were listed in the Security Index. The evidence is that the FBI intended to include all SWP members and presumably all YSA members.

Inclusion in the Security Index had its consequences. An FBI agent testified at the trial that the FBI verified the residence and employment of SWP and YSA members every 45 days by interviewing landlords and employers for the purpose of keeping the Security Index up to date.

As discussed in section V.E.2 of this opinion dealing with certain disruption techniques, an FBI memorandum of September 1970 stated that the FBI intended that interviews with persons such as employers would "enhance the paranoia" of the leftist subjects of the interviews. It can be safely inferred that the FBI intended, or at least knew, that interviews every 45 days with landlords and employers of SWP and YSA members in connection with the Security Index would create difficulties for these members.

In 1971 Congress repealed the

Emergency Detention Act. Thereafter the FBI, with the consent of the Department of Justice, re-constituted the Security Index as the Administrative Index ("ADEX"), with a broader composition. The evidence at the trial was that the Department and the FBI took the view that, despite the repeal of the statute, a list should be continued, which would be of use in the event of a war

or broad civil disturbance.

SWP and YSA members were listed in the ADEX, as they had been in the Security Index, although, after the ADEX came into being, the FBI ceased the practice of the 45-day verification interviews. It is not clear what verification procedures, if any, were then put in place.

The ADEX was discontinued in 1976.

## PRDF Political Rights Defense Fund

### Help us win more victories for democratic rights

Now that a federal judge has ruled that the FBI's spying against the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance was illegal, the case is going back to court to determine what will happen to the millions of secret files the government spies accumulated.

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# 'An interview of historic importance' with Fidel Castro

**Fidel Castro: Nothing Can Stop the Course of History.** Interview by Jeffrey M. Elliot and Mervyn M. Dymally. Pathfinder Press, New York, 1986. \$7.95, 258 pages, paperback.

BY CATHERINE FRASER

Cuba is only 90 miles from the United States, but for most people living here it remains a mystery.

Almost everything we hear about Cuba in this country comes from sources hostile to the Cuban revolution — the Reagan ad-

## BOOK REVIEW

ministration, the big-business news media, liberal apologists for the State Department, and right-wing Cuban opponents of the government in Havana.

Very few of us ever get the chance to visit Cuba to see the truth for ourselves, because of the travel ban enforced by successive U.S. administrations.

This propaganda machine cranks out a distorted picture of the nature of the Cuban revolution, the Cuban government's policies, and its attitude to the United States. The gains won by the Cuban people in the 27 years since they made their revolution are kept hidden.

It is for these reasons that *Fidel Castro: Nothing Can Stop the Course of History* is such an important book. Recently published by Pathfinder Press, it describes Cuba's policies in the words of the revolution's most well-known leader — Cuban President Fidel Castro.

The book is the product of 25 hours of interviews with Castro conducted over a period of several days in March 1985 by U.S. Congressman Mervyn M. Dymally and Jeffrey M. Elliot, professor of political science at North Carolina Central University. Included is an attractive photographic section showing Castro working in his office, speaking in public, and with other leaders of the revolution.

In his preface to the book, Dymally hits on the key to its importance. Through its pages, he explains, "Castro speaks directly to the people of the United States on questions of vital importance to citizens of both our countries."

The result, as Dymally says, is "an interview of historic importance."

### Support for revolution

Anyone who does get an opportunity to visit Cuba quickly comes to realize that the vast majority of Cuban people take enormous pride in their revolution and its

accomplishments.

Explaining why this is so, Castro told Dymally and Elliot toward the end of the interview, "To understand the people's support for the revolution — their confidence, affection and respect for their leaders — you must take into account the work of the revolution. The whole spectrum of social, political, and material problems — problems of all sorts — has been solved for a population always neglected by its rulers and which still remembers the past."

What gains has Cuba's revolution brought to the 10 million people who live there? Here are some examples in the areas of health and education.

- Cuba today is first among all Third World countries in public health and rates better than a number of far more economically developed countries. Health care is free and available to everyone.

Before the revolution Cuba had 6,000 doctors — half of whom left for Miami soon after the fall of the Batista dictatorship. By 1985 there were 20,500 doctors — one for every 485 inhabitants. Over the next 15 years, 50,000 more doctors are expected to graduate.

### Emphasis on health

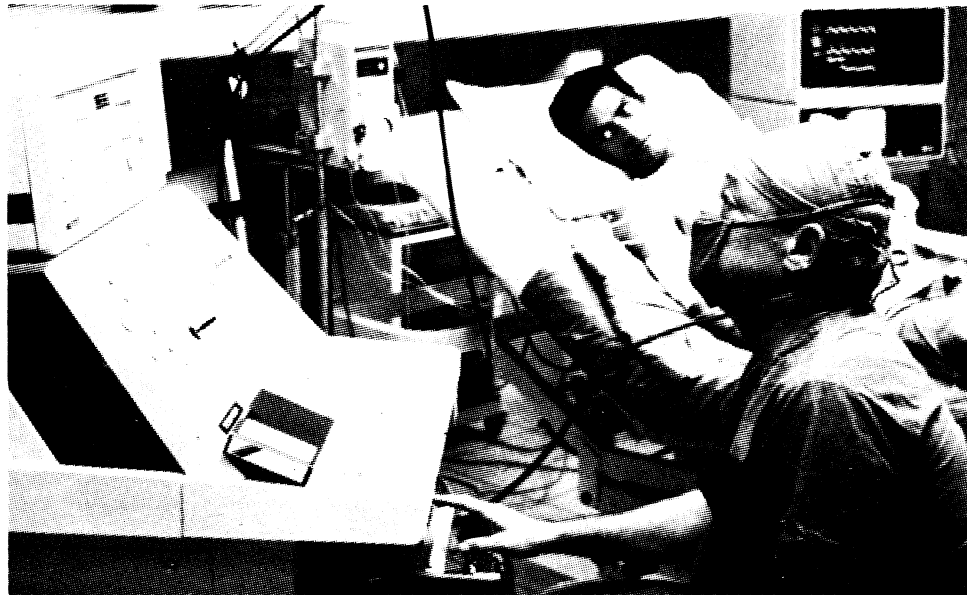
A network of polyclinics and hospitals cover the country. A new program has also been launched to put a doctor into every school and factory and to establish a system of "family doctors" who are each responsible for the health needs of about 120 families.

As a result of this emphasis on health care, life expectancy in Cuba is equal to that of the United States — a far richer and more economically developed country. Infant mortality levels are only three points higher than in the United States, putting Cuba among the 15 countries with the lowest infant mortality rates in the world.

Nutritional levels in Cuba are also among the highest in Latin America.

- In 1958 there were only 21,806 teachers in Cuba, and two-thirds of Cuban children had no access to primary schooling. One of the most important campaigns in the early years of the revolution was the literacy campaign. In 1961 this campaign — which mobilized 120,000 volunteer literacy teachers — reduced illiteracy from 24 percent (and an even higher percentage in the countryside) to 3 percent.

Today there are 255,000 teachers and professors — on average, one teacher for every 11 students. All children between the ages of six and 12 attend school, and 90 percent attend up to the age of 16. There are 200,000 university students — more than half of them workers. Education is



Prensa Latina

**In 1985 Jorge Hernández Ocaña became the first Cuban to get a heart transplant. Fidel Castro told interviewers that advances in medical care help deepen popular support for Cuban revolution.**

free for all students.

Similar progress has been registered in many other areas. But Castro also explained to the two U.S. interviewers that the power of a revolution cannot simply be measured by the material and social progress it brings. "There's a recognition of the dignity inherent in all the men and women who constitute the people the revolution embodies," he noted.

### Answers slanders

In saying this, Castro returned to a theme taken up earlier in the interview, that the Cuban revolution cannot be sustained in power by force "à la Pinochet" as in Chile today.

"Those methods could not be applied here," he emphasized. "If the revolution didn't have the support of the immense majority, it couldn't stay in power."

In the course of the interview Castro directly answers some of the most abusive slanders leveled against Cuba — that the government is involved in drug trafficking, for example, and that the country's prisons are filled with political dissidents imprisoned solely on the basis of their ideas, who are mistreated and tortured.

"We have defended ourselves and will continue to do so," he explains. "But, no matter what our enemies may say, or how much they may lie and slander us, the history of the revolution is free of cases of physical abuse or torture. All the citizens in this country, without exception, know this."

In reply to Reagan's picture of him as a cruel dictator he stated: "I think that the cruelest people on earth are those who are indifferent to social injustice, discrimination, inequality, exploitation of other human beings, illness, hunger, ignorance, and human suffering — people who don't react when they see a child without shoes, a beggar on the streets, or millions of people going hungry."

### Nicaragua, El Salvador

Among the dozens of topics discussed by Castro in *Nothing Can Stop the Course of History* are many aspects of the Cuban government's internationalist foreign policy. These range from the possibilities of easing relations between the U.S. government and Cuba to an explanation of the reasons behind the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

Discussing the possibility of direct U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua, Castro warned that "all the military conditions are established." But, he added, "I do think it's possible to find a negotiated political solution not only for Nicaragua, but also for El Salvador, because we must not forget about El Salvador. The people of that country live in a state of war, which cannot be separated from the peace-related problems in Central America."

The main obstacle to a negotiated political settlement in Central America, Castro told Dymally and Elliot, is "the stubbornness of the United States and its belief that the situation can be solved by force. It's as if the Reagan administration wants to teach an unforgettable lesson, so that nobody in Central or Latin America will ever again think of rebelling against the tyrannies which serve U.S. interests, or against hunger and exploitation. They want to teach a lesson so that nobody really fights for independence and social justice."

In one of the most interesting sections of the book, Castro describes the events lead-

ing up to the murder of Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in October 1983 and the subsequent U.S. military invasion of Grenada.

He analyzes the nature of the "ambitious and extremist sectarian group" led by Grenada's deputy prime minister, Bernard Coard, that killed Bishop and other revolutionary leaders, opened fire on the Grenadian people, and disarmed the militia. "Coard and his group served the United States, on a silver platter, ideal conditions for the invasion of Grenada," he commented.

In response to Dymally's question about the presence of Russian troops in Afghanistan, Castro gives one of the most complete explanations of Cuba's position to have appeared in print.

He describes the situation in Afghanistan before the 1978 revolution and the events leading up to the sending of Soviet troops into the country in late 1979. The Cuban government's position is for a political solution to the current situation, he explains.

"If I were asked," he declared, "I'd advocate trying to find a peaceful solution based on respect for Afghanistan's right to its sovereignty and its revolution."

### Third World debt

An important section of the book is devoted to a discussion of Castro's campaign for the cancellation of the Third World's foreign debt.

By 1985, that debt stood at \$950 billion. The countries of Latin America alone owed \$360 billion, with annual interest payments absorbing 44 percent of the continent's export revenues.

Mexico, for example, owes nearly \$100 billion, with just over half owed to U.S. banks. The annual interest on the debt is nearly \$10 billion.

In newspaper and television interviews, at international conferences, and in forums such as the United Nations and the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, Castro has been explaining that the payment of Latin America's foreign debt "is an economic impossibility, a political impossibility . . . a moral impossibility."

He has repeatedly predicted that there will be a generalized social explosion on the continent if this problem is not solved.

### A just solution

His proposal for the cancellation of the debt is that the banks of the creditor countries assume responsibility for it and that it be repaid by a 12 percent cut in military expenditure in those countries. As he pointed out to Dymally and Elliot:

"It's a simple accounting operation. It's not going to close a single factory. It's not going to stop a single ship along its route. It's not going to interfere with a single sales contract on the market. To the contrary, employment, trade, and industrial and agricultural output and products would be increased everywhere. It isn't going to hurt anyone. The only adverse effects would be on arms and military spending, neither of which provides food, clothing, education, health, or housing for anyone."

The alternative — "to force the people to go hungry; to live in poverty; to live in the worst material, educational, cultural, and health conditions in order to spend a trillion dollars on weapons and military activities every year" — is, he declared, "truly immoral, an act of bad faith, and practically a betrayal of mankind."

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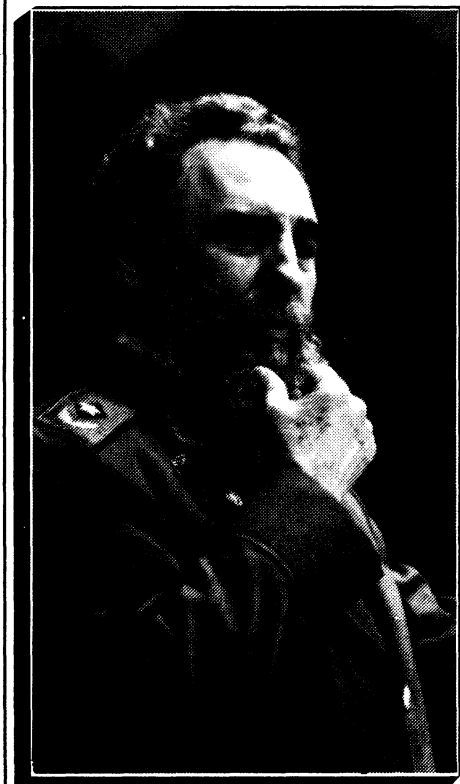
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# Sandinista party launches recruitment drive

## Affirms its roots in working class, among peasants

BY HARVEY McARTHUR

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) has launched a broad party-building campaign leading up to November 8, the 25th anniversary of the founding of the party. The campaign also commemorates the 50th anniversary of the birth of FSLN founder Carlos Fonseca and the 10th anniversary of his death in combat against the Somoza tyranny.

At an August 27 meeting here, FSLN leader Carlos Núñez explained that the FSLN needed to take a "qualitative leap forward" in its activities, especially in light of the escalating U.S. war against Nicaragua and the economic crisis brought on by the war.

The 25th anniversary campaign aims to strengthen the FSLN's ability to lead the workers and peasants as a whole. It will emphasize broad, public activity, rather than internal meetings, said Núñez. "The FSLN will affirm its class character with the workers, poor peasants, and other sectors and demand of all its members the qualities characteristic of the working class: selflessness in our work, a combative disposition, fraternity, initiative, etc."

### Common actions

The campaign will involve "common actions by all bodies of the FSLN," Núñez added. This will help "overcome uneven development and homogenize in practice styles, conceptions, and forms of work." Many party units are closely tied to the workers and peasants, but there are problems of "bureaucratic, top-down functioning" in others, he explained.

"We must pinpoint the weaknesses and overcome them, project the best of the men and women of the FSLN, and fight and exorcise complacency, bureaucracy, personal vices, sectarianism, subservience, and all types of liberalism," he added.

The 25th anniversary campaign will culminate in a mass mobilization in Managua, Nicaragua's capital, on November 8. Delegations will come from throughout the country, but the rally will primarily be a test of "the degree of influence of the FSLN and its capacity to organize and mobilize in the capital," Núñez said.

There will also be a major military parade, he announced, "so that the people will be familiar with the weapons that they will have to take up to fight their counter-revolutionary enemies or foreign intervention."

On September 9, Carlos Carrión, head of the FSLN in the Managua region, outlined more details of the campaign to a meeting of party leaders and leaders of mass organizations in Managua. This fall, he said, the FSLN will step up political education within its own ranks and in the unions and other mass organizations.

### New members admitted

The FSLN plans to admit to full membership all those who have been candidate members for more than three months, Carrión reported. This will be done in public ceremonies in each workplace and school. However, he added, anyone "who could not prove by October 15 that they were involved in the political and community activities of their neighborhood" would be dropped from the party.

During the two weeks prior to November 8, the FSLN and mass organizations will hold a series of assemblies to assess their progress and the challenges they now face. One day will be dedicated to evaluative assemblies in workplaces. Another will celebrate the land reform: with peasant fairs, distribution of land, and meetings between city workers and peasants.

A third day will be devoted to assemblies assessing the participation and advances of women in the revolution. The army and police will also have special days to present evaluations of their work. There will be a day of expositions about Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast, one for cultural celebrations, and two days of activities around themes of international politics.

As part of the 25th anniversary campaign, 500 local leaders of the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST) met here September 18. They reported progress in raising production and increasing worker participation in the unions and in factory administration. During the first half of 1986, workers in

Managua factories held 156 voluntary workdays, involving 25,000 workers. Ten plants have organized special work brigades, teams of workers that do regular volunteer work after their shifts and on days off.

Out of these experiences, 99 industrial workers recently became candidate mem-

bers of the FSLN. This recruitment will continue throughout the fall, said Managua FSLN leader Carlos Gallo. The evaluative assemblies held in each plant "must discuss who are the best workers, the most outstanding in production, so that they can be proposed for membership in the FSLN," he told the September 18 CST meeting.

## French gov't unleashes wave of repression

BY ERNEST HARSCH

Seizing on a series of bombings that rocked Paris in mid-September, the French government has unleashed a broad repressive crackdown.

Under the guise of fighting terrorism, it has sought to further limit the democratic rights of working people, particularly immigrant workers from the Middle East and Africa. Working-class neighborhoods in Paris and other cities have been hit by increasingly arbitrary police searches and detentions.

"Identity card checks are made all the time, especially in Paris, which resembles a city under siege," reported the September 29 London weekly *West Africa*, "and expulsions of foreigners, mainly from the Middle East, is often the result of police swoops carried out to combat terrorism."

Although the September bombings provided a pretext for a sharp escalation of such measures, they had already been on the rise for months, especially since the coming to power in March of a right-wing cabinet headed by Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

### Police 'terrorizing the citizen'

Chirac and Interior Minister Charles Pasqua accorded the police new powers to conduct random identity checks and to detain "terrorist suspects" for up to four days without charges. Complaints about arbitrary beatings, especially of Africans and Arabs, mounted.

"Pasqua's police," declared Gerard Boulanger, president of the lawyers' union, are "headed in the direction of terrorizing the citizen."

In addition, Pasqua has been promoting a new package of legislation in the French National Assembly that would make it much easier for the authorities to expel some of the estimated 4 million immigrant workers.

The September bombings in Paris, which killed nine people, provided the government, big-business media, and right-wing parties with an opportunity to whip up a campaign of hysteria against "terrorism."

"It is a real question of war," Chirac claimed, "a war against subversion," against which it is necessary to "take draconian measures."

The television networks and major newspapers featured saturation coverage of the bombings. Some campaigned for the reimposition of the death penalty, which



Sandinista youths celebrate revolution in July. FSLN drive will mark party's 25th year.

Managua factories held 156 voluntary workdays, involving 25,000 workers. Ten plants have organized special work brigades, teams of workers that do regular volunteer work after their shifts and on days off.

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Within France, support for Chirac's crackdown has not been confined to his immediate political supporters. Socialist Party leader François Mitterrand, the president of the country, has endorsed Chirac's "antiterrorist" drive. So have most of the parliamentary opposition parties, including the Communist Party.

The ultraright National Front has called on the government to adopt even sterner measures. At a September 22 rally, National Front supporters chanted, "The death penalty for immigrants!"

But there is opposition as well. On September 20 representatives from a range of antiracist and left-wing organizations met in Paris to map out a campaign of protest. They called for a day of national action on December 6 to protest the government's repressive laws and racist drive against immigrants.

"To react quickly to the racist threats, to oppose making North African immigrants the scapegoats for the current wave of bombings — that is the goal of all the antiracist organizations," declared the LCR's weekly *Rouge*. "At a time when the immigrants are being subjected to a major attack, everyone must act to halt a rise in discriminatory practices. A broad campaign of explanation and mobilization must therefore be launched."

Chirac has announced that the General Directorate for External Security, the secret police, would be used against suspected "terrorists." When asked whether this would involve assassinations, Chirac declined to comment.

While in New York for a session of the United Nations, Chirac met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to discuss collaboration with the CIA in combating those it considers to be "terrorists."

Some papers, such as *Le Figaro*, sought to smear left-wing political activists as "terrorist accomplices." Among those singled out by name was Martine Toulotte, a member of the Revolutionary Communist League (LCR), French section of the Fourth International. She had been jailed earlier this year on a similar frame-up and released following a public defense campaign.

Besides the stepped-up police sweeps, identity checks, and expulsions of foreigners, the government has imposed new regulations requiring visitors from most countries to obtain visas before arriving in France. This will mainly affect those from the Middle East and Africa.

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## Fidel book launched in New Zealand

Public meetings to launch the English-language edition of the book *Fidel and Religion* have been held in several New Zealand cities.

*Fidel and Religion* is the record of extensive discussions between Cuban President Fidel Castro and Brazilian priest Frei Betto. The original Spanish- and Portuguese-language editions have become bestsellers in a number of countries and the first English-language edition has recently been published by Pathfinder Press in Australia.

Speakers at the meetings have included trade union leaders, prominent religious figures, and representatives of Cuba Friendship societies and Latin America solidarity committees.

Helen Clark, a member of parliament for New Zealand's Labour Party government, spoke at the meeting held in Wellington, the capital, on September 10. Clark, who chairs the parliamentary Labour Party's committee on foreign affairs and who recently visited Nicaragua, described *Fidel and Religion* as "a significant book."

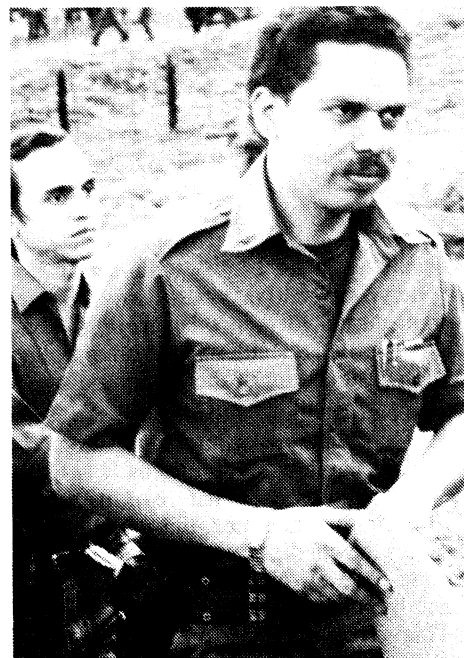
Also speaking at this meeting was Feder-

ation of Labour (FOL) Secretary Ken Douglas. The FOL is New Zealand's equivalent of the AFL-CIO. What he enjoyed most about the book, he told the meeting, was "the insight it gave me into the individual personality of Fidel Castro."

Another trade union official, Don Farr, chaired the August 29 Auckland meeting. Farr is secretary of the Auckland Trades Council, a body that consists of representatives of all the unions in the Auckland region. On the surface the book is based on questions of religion, Farr commented, but in reality it "finishes up being quite a remarkable book on Cuba today."

The Anglican Archdeacon of Auckland, John Millane, agreed. *Fidel and Religion*, he said, "is a book to listen to, to absorb and take in."

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Party leader Núñez said FSLN must make "qualitative leap forward" in light of U.S. war against Nicaragua.

# Argentina: three years after fall of military rule

## Interview with revolutionary leader

The following is an interview with Emilio Rubiati, a leader of Praxis, a revolutionary socialist organization in Argentina. The interview was granted to *Perspectiva Mundial* and appeared in *PM's* September issue. It has been translated and abridged by the *Militant*.

**Question.** After eight years of military dictatorship, the elected government of Raúl Alfonsín came to power in 1983. How has the struggle of the Argentine people for democratic freedoms unfolded over the last several years?

**Answer.** Basically, Alfonsín won the 1983 presidential election by riding on the people's profound rejection of the forms of political domination used by the genocidal dictatorship, in other words, state terrorism.

To the outrageous cutting off of all democratic freedoms, Alfonsín counterposed democracy. To public insecurity, he counterposed peace and tranquility. To the country's economic backwardness, he counterposed modernization, technology. In this way, he appeared before public opinion as the sharpest alternative to the dictatorship.

Struggles for democratic freedoms came to the forefront of national life during the dictatorship. Confronted with repression of all possible forms of political and trade union expression, social movements representing the most pressing demands led the fight against the dictatorship. The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, with their demand for the return of 30,000 "disappeared," were the indisputable vanguard of the fight against the dictatorship. Their slogan was, "They took them alive, we want them back alive."

Alfonsín's electoral campaign cleverly adopted a good part of the slogans of the movements for human rights. His campaign attracted a broad spectrum of the population. Once in power, Alfonsín tried to tie these human rights movements to the state, sow discord within them, and strip them of their role as instruments of struggle and mobilization.

Among the most burning demands of the popular movement in the area of democratic rights were: trial and imprisonment of everyone guilty of the repression, dismantling of the repressive apparatus still intact, and the right to divorce. Divorce is still illegal, which reveals once again the backwardness of Argentine society on democratic rights. Argentina is one of six countries in the world today that don't have this elementary democratic conquest.

In addition, the movement demanded freedom for political prisoners and the return of kidnapped children to their real families.

The conviction last year of nine members of the first three military juntas doesn't change the fact that the repressive apparatus continues to exist, with thousands of murderers implicated in the worst crimes. These nine members of the juntas were brought before civil court and tried publicly, where they received sentences, some of them ridiculously light. A few members of the third military junta were even acquitted, although two got life imprisonment.

Overall public reaction to this was to repudiate it. The trial and imprisonment of all of the guilty continues to be a demand of the movement for human rights as a whole.

**Q. How has the working class been affected by the economic crisis?**

A. The Alfonsín government has used two tactics in its economic policy. The first stage was characterized mainly by the application of classic free-market policies. The second stage was the "Austral Plan," which involved a wage-price freeze.

During the first stage, inflation rose to a monthly rate of 50 percent. In the first year of Alfonsín's government, wages decreased 15 percent because of inflation combined with increasing unemployment. (This was on top of the reduction under the dictatorship.)

The workers' movement was hit the hardest as a result of the continual transfer of capital from production to speculation, in a constantly shrinking Argentine economy.



Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo demand the return of 30,000 people "disappeared" by the military regime. With slogan, "They took them alive, we want them back alive," they led the fight against the military dictatorship.

The second stage arose after an infinite number of meetings with the International Monetary Fund came up with the Austral Plan. This plan consisted of a wage-price freeze and reduction of the interest rate and public spending. The plan's purpose was to shift investment from the financial to the productive sector and attract foreign investments to reactivate the economy.

The only thing that remains frozen of course are wages, not prices. Even if it wanted to, the state has no way of controlling prices at the retail end. And although inflation has decreased a lot, it remains high.

The government's plan recognized two sources for increased investments. On one hand, the denationalization of state enterprises. On the other, openings for investments in various fields, especially oil.

None of this has been concretized, despite the government's efforts. Alfonsín himself took on this task and even approached Houston, Texas, to offer about 20 locations for oil drilling. Not a single North American company responded to his offer.

Something similar happened with the state enterprises, sales of which were very difficult. The dictatorship had already begun denationalization by giving away the most profitable enterprises.

All this serves to demonstrate the interests of imperialism, which isn't willing to risk anything and is only interested in markets where it can make superprofits effortlessly and without putting anything into it. It's willing to support this economic plan and the government in general only to the extent that punctual payment of the interest on the debt is guaranteed.

The imperialists' political appraisal of the process that has opened up in Argentina is that this is not a secure country for medium-range investments, given its historic political and economic instability. It is secure, though, for capitalists who operate in the speculative market with short-term investments.

Imperialism is conscious of the fact that every month there are at least 700,000 workers involved in labor disputes with national or multinational bosses. And that the workers respond with extremely combative methods.

**Q. Can you describe the crisis of the foreign debt in Argentina, the country with the third-highest debt in Latin America?**

A. When the dictatorship took power in 1976, the foreign debt was about \$9.5 billion. Toward the end of the dictatorship, the debt was close to \$45 billion. Today, it has reached \$55 billion.

In addition, there is the interest on the debt. This is controlled by rates fixed by the international monetary market. But to this, other rates have to be added: the prime rate, and the strangest one of all, the "country risk" rate, that is, the economic

compensation imperialism considers necessary given the possibility of nonpayment. This is obviously a political variable, dependent on the estimate of the class struggle in each country.

Yearly interest payments are about \$10 billion.

Argentina's trade balance — generally favorable — doesn't cover even 30 percent of this amount. Therefore, imperialism grants standby credits to allow compliance with punctual payment on the debt.

This explains how there can be greater and greater indebtedness in the absence of a single significant investment in the country. On the contrary, the Argentine economy shrinks every month.

This is further aggravated by the unfavorable situation created by the constant fall in international prices for agricultural products, the main source of foreign exchange for the country. The fall in prices is a result of the increasingly protectionist policy of the imperialist countries, which unload the full weight of the crisis on the shoulders of the Third World.

**Q. What has been the Argentine people's response to the problem of the debt?**

A. The foreign debt is a question taken up by broad layers of the workers and popular movement.

The bourgeois press is forced to reflect this debate in its daily papers. The parliament has had to take up the question many times.

The General Confederation of Labor (CGT) carried out a national strike in which a moratorium on interest payments on the debt was one of the main demands. Popular mobilizations have also drawn in even some sectors of the big parties of the bourgeoisie, such as Alfonsín's Radical Party and the Peronist party.

The Argentine union movement has participated in various international forums on the debt question. The meeting with the greatest impact was the one of trade unionists opposed to the debt that was held in Havana, Cuba. Argentine unionists from the new, combative, and class-struggle current participated in this meeting. This shows the fundamental role the unions play in the politicization of the working class.

The participation of the broadest masses in this fight undermines the foundations of the entire capitalist structure as it reveals the corrupt and sell-out nature of the ruling classes. At the same time, this participation prepares the conditions for a continentwide action, since all of our countries are burdened by the debt scourge.

This struggle against the debt makes it possible to concretize the struggle of each country in Latin America against the general oppression by their common enemy: imperialism.

### Do you know someone who reads Spanish? 'PM' on Puerto Rico meeting

"Puerto Rico, with almost a century of U.S. colonial rule, aspires to have the right to self-determination," said Luis Rocha, a member of Nicaragua's National Assembly, at the opening session of the Latin American and Caribbean Conference for the Peoples' Sovereignty and Human Rights held recently in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The conference participants, from 16 countries and 35 Puerto Rican organizations, condemned the U.S. war on Nicaragua and discussed other struggles against imperialist rule, particularly in Haiti.

*Perspectiva Mundial* correspondent Selva Nebbia covered the conference and the 3,000-strong march in San Juan demanding freedom for independence fighters victimized by the United States. This issue also includes coverage on a simultaneous march in Hartford, Connecticut.

*Perspectiva Mundial* is the Spanish-language socialist magazine that every month 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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# Honduras: springboard for U.S. war

## Washington helps anti-Nicaragua contras take over Honduran land

The following article is taken from the August 24 issue of the English-language *Granma Weekly Review*, published in Havana, Cuba.

BY GREGORIO SELSER

On July 14, 1969, the Salvadoran army invaded Honduras. In the ensuing 100-hour war the Honduran army was defeated and some 5,000 persons were killed or wounded in the border area. The Salvadoran troops withdrew when the Organization of American States intervened.

In the aftermath of the war, the Central American Common Market collapsed and Honduras lost 417 square kilometers [161 square miles] of territory covered by six of the so-called border pockets — which are still in a sort of geographical political limbo.

El Salvador and Honduras remained in a state of war until October 1980, when a peace treaty was signed at the initiative of U.S. President James Carter, in the framework of a new U.S. strategy for Central America designed to destabilize the nascent revolutionary government in Nicaragua.

In order to appease the Honduran armed forces, Washington promised to pressure El Salvador into agreeing to settle the border dispute within a period of five years, as prescribed in the peace treaty signed in Lima, Peru.

The five-year period ended on December 31, 1985. In the meantime, the successive regimes that ruled El Salvador between 1980 and 1985 paid little heed to reconciliation attempts and established border limits in only half of one of the border pockets in question.

In June 1983 Gen. Gustavo Álvarez, chief of the Honduran armed forces, acting in collusion with Gen. John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, agreed to cede part of the land in Puerto Castilla [Honduras] to the United States for the construction of the Regional Center for Military Training.

The members of the all-powerful Higher Council of the Armed Forces of Honduras (COSUFA) are currently getting paid for the occupation by a foreign power of 450 square kilometers [171 square miles] (more than the area covered by the six border pockets), making up what is called New Nicaragua.

It was COSUFA that ousted Álvarez and the man who replaced him, Gen. Walter López. Despite its temporary eclipse in Álvarez' time, COSUFA — now composed of 39 high-ranking officers — is the real power over the executive, legislative, and judiciary branches.

These officers are the product of the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations in the armed forces and a limited number of them are viewed as "nationalists," in some sense.

### One more occupation

This area of 450 square kilometers is in El Paraíso department and its largest town, Capiro, has a new name: Reagan City.

The Voice of America (VOA), noted for its biased reporting, said during a special radio broadcast on July 24: "Access to El Paraíso, on the border, is controlled by the Nicaraguan rebels and the Honduran army and this has led to frequent arrests of journalists trying to visit the area. The Honduran government says that the presence of the armed Nicaraguan rebels in the area is only temporary but that the government lacks the military resources to control their influx."

Thus, presidents Roberto Suazo Córdova and José Azcona Hoyo of Honduras have consented, with the tacit approval of the Honduran Congress and armed forces, to the occupation of territory by the United States in exchange for large sums of money, part of which goes into high-ranking officers' bank accounts. Meanwhile, their own people pay the consequences of that occupation and the ranks of the needy grow constantly.

Long before the VOA made public the existence of the fledgling republic, considering it as temporary, *Newsweek* (June 30, 1986) revealed its presence to U.S. readers: "During the three years in which Hon-

duras has been the forward post in the Reagan administration's anti-Sandinista policy, the U.S. military has built an air base at Palmerola that is the envy of Central America."

According to public statements made by Hondurans ousted from their lands, "Honduras may lose a vast territory of 450 square kilometers as a result of the contras' increasing invasion of the area known as New Nicaragua."

This was made known in a letter presented to Carlos Montoya, head of the Honduran Congress, by Manuel Antonio Erazo and Francisco Campos Medina, president and secretary respectively of the Coffee Producers' Board in Danli. In their letter they also say, "Some 16,000 coffee producers have abandoned their plantations in the area of Cifuentes" and "most of us have had to either leave our plantations or take partial care of them at the risk of our lives." The only ones who are denounced as occupants of the lands are the contras. Not a single word is said about the Sandinistas. But Azcona and COSUFA pay no heed to what is published in the Honduran press.

### Defiance of International Court

The regime is not as interested in hiding the presence of contras in the area known as New Nicaragua as it is in preventing some incident that would reveal the presence there of dozens of U.S. and Honduran military advisers working for the CIA. Such a revelation would have disastrous political effects for Washington, although the Reagan administration's spokespersons are no longer bothering to deny anything.

COSUFA is hoping that the occupation of New Nicaragua by thousands of contras won't mean a repetition of the virtual loss of 417 square kilometers following the 100-hour war begun by El Salvador to lay its hands on the border pockets, and that the United States will hold the Salvadoran military at bay and force it to give back the occupied areas. But it seems to have ignored the fact that in the current Salvadoran Constitution the border pockets, like Meanguera and El Tigre islands in the Gulf of Fonseca, are treated as Salvadoran territory.

When Nicaragua accused Honduras at the International Court of Justice of being a springboard for the U.S. mercenary attacks on Nicaragua, President José Azcona Hoyo hastened to visit El Salvador. This was the first visit by a Honduran president to San Salvador since the 1969 war, an indication that a serious new problem had arisen, evidently caused by the suit filed by Nicaragua against Honduras. By following Washington's dictates and denying the International Court of Justice's jurisdiction, the Honduran regime has fallen into its own trap.

According to the treaty, if the Honduras-El Salvador border conflict was not settled by Dec. 31, 1985, the case should be placed before the International Court at The Hague within the next six months. Those six months have passed and it was expected that both sides would appear before the court to settle the conflict.

Whether or not they appealed to The Hague remains a mystery, but by saying that his government does not recognize the court's jurisdiction in the suit filed by Nicaragua, Azcona ruined whatever chance he might have had of winning the border case against El Salvador. Under international law, no party can agree to the court's jurisdiction in one case and ignore it in another. Some 26 years ago when Honduras and Nicaragua were in conflict over territorial rights on border areas, The Hague ruled in favor of Honduras.

Ironically, the border areas over which Honduras was granted territorial jurisdiction by the International Court of Justice ruling include the territory currently occupied by the mercenaries.

### Reagan City

Many places in Honduras now have new names. Capiro is now called Reagan City, Cifuentes is called Kirkpatrick and Arenales is called Casey. The contras don't seem to realize how grotesque all this

Continued on Page 13



## —WORLD NEWS BRIEFS—

### Filipino government arrests rebel leader

Peace negotiations between the government of President Corazon Aquino and the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) may collapse following the arrest of a top guerrilla leader by army intelligence agents.

On September 29, Rodolfo Salas, commander-in-chief of the New People's Army (NPA), led by the CPP, was arrested along with two companions. The Aquino government has refused demands for his release. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile warned that the military would "raise an objection" if Salas was released. Aquino herself described the arrests as "a commendable accomplishment on the part of our law enforcement agencies."

A statement issued by the NPA pointed out that the timing of the arrests wasn't accidental. Rather, it was "a deliberate action of the military to derail the peace negotiations." Army leaders and Enrile himself have been outspoken critics of the peace talks with the guerrillas.

On October 3, Vice-president Salvador Laurel told a press conference that Aquino was likely to make a major policy statement on the negotiations in the near future. "When peace efforts fail, the government has no choice but to defend itself militarily," he said. Asked if that foreshadowed a harder line from Aquino, he said it did.

### Solidarity in Poland aims to restore legality

Leaders of the banned Solidarity trade union have announced plans to take advantage of the political opening provided by the Polish government's September 11 amnesty for political prisoners.

A seven-person council has been formed that will work openly for the restoration of Solidarity as a legal trade union organization. The council will replace the Temporary Coordinating Commission, an underground group formed in 1982. Underground structures will remain in place, however, until the government's response to the new council and its demands is clear.

The Solidarity organization in Warsaw, Poland's capital, will also carry out more open work, although it too will maintain its ties to underground publishing and dues-collecting networks.

The government's initial response came in an October 3 statement warning that the new council was illegal and its members risked imprisonment for their activities. Leaders of Solidarity, including chairman Lech Walesa, have also been questioned by the police about their roles in the council.

### Suriname gov't condemns Dutch aid to rebels

Suriname, a former Dutch colony on the northern coast of South America, has accused the government of the Netherlands of supplying money and training facilities to a new guerrilla group operating in the eastern part of the country.

Led by ex-army private Ronny Brunswijk, the group is seeking to over-



Desi Bouterse

throw the government of Lt. Col. Desi Bouterse. Brunswijk has been linked with the right-wing Council for the Liberation of Suriname.

Based in the Netherlands, this council was set up by former officials in the regime of Henck Arron, Suriname's first post-independence government. In February 1980 Bouterse and a group of non-commissioned army officers seized power, overthrowing this corrupt and proimperialist regime.

A number of anti-imperialist policies adopted by the Bouterse government quickly earned it the hostility of the governments of the Netherlands and the United States. In late 1982 both imperialist governments suspended all economic and trade agreements with Suriname. There have also been several previous coup and invasion attempts, with evidence of both Dutch and CIA involvement.

### U.S. commandos to be stationed in Britain?

Washington is seeking the Thatcher government's approval to station Delta Force commandos in Britain, according to the September 14 issue of the British newspaper the *Sunday Telegraph*. The U.S. Defense Department hopes to "cut reaction times to terrorist incidents in Europe and the Middle East by up to 16 hours," the newspaper reported.

The Delta Force would be incorporated into a joint antiterrorist planning and control staff at the Special Air Service Brigade (SAS) headquarters in London. The SAS is Britain's elite military intervention unit.

# —THE GREAT SOCIETY—

**A funny coincidence** — The U.S. government ranks third in the world in revenue derived from individual income taxes. But, somehow, on revenue from corporate



Harry Ring

income taxes, we drop down to 58th spot.

**World view** — That White House disinformation operation in relation to Libya may have con-

fused some, but Ronald Burns, principal of Kennedale Junior High in Fort Worth, remained lucid as a bell. He's the chap who tossed Keitha Day out of school last spring. Day, who's 12 and weighs in at 90 pounds, assertedly ignored a school bra requirement. Declared Burns, "You've got to put your foot down at some point, just like Reagan did with Libya."

**Try Pepto-Bismol** — A Colorado Springs producer of TV commercials asked the courts to remove the town's only homeless shelter from next door to its place of business. One ad person testified the homeless made her feel "very uncomfortable," describing them as "unkempt, disheveled and

generally dirty in appearance." Funny, the words are a bit different, but her gut reaction is much like the one we get watching TV commercials.

**There goes the neighborhood** — True, it's hindsight on our part, but as soon as that TV commercial studio tried to move in, the homeless shelter should have demanded an environmental impact report, assessing the degree to which the company's activity would pollute the area.

**Look that up in your Funk & Wagnalls** — If we recall rightly, W.C. Fields used to occasionally mutter, somewhat coarsely, "Your grandmother's paisley shawl."

Now we see Gump's, the plush San Francisco shop, is offering pillows with woven paisley covers. \$150. That would have given W.C. pause for thought.

**Cultural note** — The Pentagon rejects some Hollywood requests for cooperation in filming war flicks. Like, scripts about accidental nuclear war are out. "An accidental nuclear war is an impossibility," a brass explains. "That's the policy."

**Grasping, not greedy** — Looking to tap into the growing Yuppie market for fruit-flavored schnapps, Glenmore Distillers is offering a concoction called Hot Shot. Commercial lyrics exhort:

"Hot shot, get what you're after. Hot shot, take it and run." Speaking fondly of the target audience, a spokesman said, "They're self-centered, rather than selfish."

**Never got that from Sears** — Neiman-Marcus and *Town & Country* magazine have combined forces to offer mail-order log cabin kits. \$18,400 to \$75,800.

**Our neighborhood thrift shop** — "Turn-of-the-century Viennese and French Art Deco antiques ... trompe l'oeil gardens ... elevators with silver leaf doors and lacquered interiors." A new museum? Nope. Just Barney's new Manhattan women's apparel store.

## —CALENDAR—

### CALIFORNIA

#### Los Angeles

**The 1985-86 Hormel Strike: Its Meaning for Labor Today.** Speaker: Fred Halstead, author of pamphlet "Hormel Meat-Packers Strike in Austin, Minnesota." Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. 2546 W Pico Blvd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (213) 380-9460.

### FLORIDA

#### Miami

**The Truth Behind Reagan's Phony War on Drugs.** Speakers to be announced. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Oct. 12, 6 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (305) 756-1020.

### GEORGIA

#### Atlanta

**Grenada: Three Years After the U.S. Invasion.** Speaker: Ras Nkomo, a Caribbean student who lived in Grenada after the revolution. Video showing of *Maurice*. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. Donation: \$2.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

### ILLINOIS

#### Chicago

**Meatpackers Fight for Justice.** A panel of speakers. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. 3455 S Michigan Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (312) 326-5853.

### KENTUCKY

#### Louisville

**Socialist Workers Campaign Rally.** Speakers: Jeannette Tracey, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress, 3rd C.D.; Marilee Taylor, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Sun., Oct. 12, 7 p.m. 809 E Broadway. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers 86 Campaign. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

### LOUISIANA

#### New Orleans

**Grand Opening! Pathfinder Press Celebrates Pathfinder Bookstore's New Location.** 3640 Magazine and Louisiana. Speakers, discussion, refreshments. Sat., Oct. 18, 6 p.m. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 865-1961.

### MICHIGAN

#### Detroit

**Update on Battle Against Hormel.** Speakers:

unionists just returned from Austin, Minnesota. Sat., Oct. 18, 8 p.m. 2135 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (313) 961-0395.

### MISSOURI

#### St. Louis

**The Philippines After Marcos.** Speaker: Dr. Arturo Taca, Movement for a Free Philippines. Sun., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. 4709 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

### NEW JERSEY

#### Newark

**Hazardous Waste and Radon Soil: What Are Answers for Working People?** Speakers: Margaret Hallaway, Kearny Environmental Committee of Concerned Citizens; Kathy DeRay, Save Our State; Adrienne Markowitz, New Jersey Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; others. Fri., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

### NEW YORK

#### Albany

**Women in South Africa.** Speakers: Tlaks Seepe, anti-apartheid activist from Soweto; Natasha Levinson, student anti-apartheid activist from South Africa. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. 114E Quail St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Young Socialist Alliance and Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (518) 434-3247.

#### Manhattan

**Benefit for the Nicaragua Construction Brigade.** Harvest Moon Dance featuring Johnny Colon and his orchestra. Fri., Oct. 24, 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. Manhattan Plaza, 66 E 4th St. (btw. 2nd and 3rd aves.). Donation: \$12 at door. For more information call (212) 475-7159.

### OHIO

#### Cincinnati

**Drug Testing: An Attack on Democratic Rights.** Speakers: Betty Jean Carroll, senior vice-president, American Federation of Government Employees Local 1198; Phil Amadon; Al Olverson, Cincinnati Environmental Health Department; Sarah Gardner, chairperson, Cincinnati Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Doug Fields, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 240.

Sun., Oct. 12, 7 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

**Celeste vs. Rhodes: Is There A Choice For Working People?** Speaker: Mark Rahn, Socialist Workers Party candidate for lieutenant governor of Ohio. Sun., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

### Cleveland

**Crisis in Steel: How to Fight the Attacks on Steelworkers.** Speaker: Bill Kalman, Socialist Workers Party, member of United Steelworkers of America Local 8625. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (216) 861-6150.

### Toledo

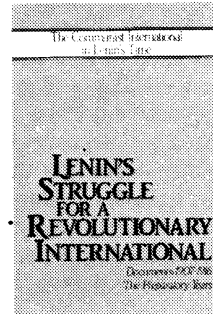
**A Panel Discussion on Racist Violence.** Speakers: Cassie Madden, president of Black Student Union at Bowling Green State University; Roosevelt Rudolph, Black resident of south Toledo whose home was attacked by racists; Abdul-Bashir Ali Rahim, broadcaster for WAMP radio and community activist; Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Michigan. Sat., Oct. 18, 7 p.m. 1701 W Bancroft St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (419) 536-0383.

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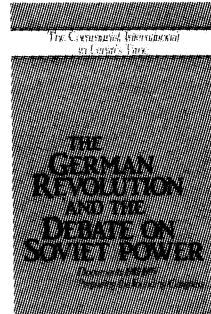


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# 'Tied her life to working class'

BY L PALTRINERI

NEWARK — More than 50 people attended an October 5 meeting here to celebrate the life of Lee Martindale, a member of the Socialist Workers Party for more than 10 years. Lee died on September 22, after a two-year battle against cancer. She was 31 years old.

Barbara Peterson, who collaborated closely with Lee when she worked in the business office of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, chaired the meeting. The speakers were Jim White, currently *Militant* business manager, and Al Budka, who spoke on behalf of the SWP's Political Committee.

Before illness forced her to give up her day-to-day responsibilities in the business office in the fall of 1985, Lee had also been active in the Newark branch of the SWP.

Budka recounted the contributions Lee made over her decade as a revolutionary communist.

"As a young woman," he noted, "she first became politically active in the fight against a form of oppression she knew firsthand — discrimination against women based on their sex."

"Lee was in the first class at Yale to admit women. But she quickly found that getting in was only part of the battle. She faced the daily prejudice of this institution. Lee decided to fight back, joining with other women to demand a women's studies department, as well as an end to all other barriers they faced."

## Important turn

Budka continued, "In 1974-75 Lee was in an exchange program that took her to London. It was here that her political development took an important turn. She continued to actively battle for women's rights, participating in a campus fight for a daycare center for students and campus workers. She joined 25,000 British students and workers in a demonstration to demand that the government not enact restrictions on a 1967 abortion rights law."

"Through her experiences she began to look more deeply at the causes of women's oppression," Budka said, "learning more about its origin — the fact that women's oppression began only after the beginning of class society. Today, women's oppression is part of a whole system of exploitation. Once she came to understand this, she decided the best way to fight her oppression as a woman was to fight this system — capitalism. She thereby tied her life to the struggle for the emancipation of the entire working class, the only class that can end women's oppression, racism, and all the other forms of prejudice and discrimination that Lee so despised."

Lee joined the International Marxist

Group in Britain, a sister group to the SWP. Later, in 1975, Lee returned to the United States to complete her studies. She joined the Young Socialist Alliance and then moved to New York, where she joined the SWP.

In 1979, shortly after the SWP decided that the big majority of its members would seek jobs in basic industry, Lee moved to Indianapolis.

"In spite of the fact that she was finishing her PhD in economics, she packed right up and moved," Budka explained. "Within two weeks, she was working in a United Auto Workers-organized plant. Later she became the full-time organizer of the Indianapolis branch of the SWP."

Two years later, she was asked to return to New York to help in the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* business office.

## Carried out all details

Jim White, who had worked with Lee in the Indianapolis branch and later came to work in the business office, recounted that this was a challenging period for the revolutionary movement.

"We were declining in size, and the circulation of the press was declining," White noted. "The campaigns to increase their circulation, which Lee helped to lead, likewise were modest. Lee's first responsi-

bility was to keep the financial records, not the most glamorous of tasks. But she carried out all details to perfection."

Lee spoke Spanish before she joined the SWP. And the party's activity among Spanish-speaking workers stimulated her to improve this skill. In 1984 she was part of a delegation that attended the convention of the Mexican Revolutionary Workers Party.

Sandi Sherman, another coworker of Lee's on the business staff, who now lives in Milwaukee, sent a letter to the meeting. "Lee was the business manager of *PM* and a member of the editorial board," Sherman wrote. "I can think of nothing that would please Lee more than Pathfinder's plans to publish more pamphlets in Spanish. So I can't think of a better tribute to her than to make a contribution to the fund that helps make that possible — the Fall Publications Fund."

Carol Heim, Lee's roommate at Yale and a professor of economics, also sent a letter to the meeting. "I've always respected Lee for what she chose to do with her life. She seemed to have found activity that was socially meaningful and that used all her special talents to the fullest."

In closing, Al Budka said, "The strength of the revolutionary party arises from its



Lee Martindale

Militant/Lou Howort

program. But that program is given flesh and blood vitality by the members of the party. It is the character, the conviction, the fighting spirit, the very lives of these members that makes the program become a living force. And Lee Martindale was an example of the caliber of these members."

# Honduras: springboard for U.S. war

Continued from Page 11

makes them look and they take it for granted that they're simply showing their employers in Washington how grateful they are.

The contras never even thought of giving those places such names as Azcona, Regalado, Montoya, and COSUFA in honor of the Honduran civilians and members of the military who gave them 450 square kilometers of Honduran territory for their New Nicaragua.

All those places were first camps for Somocista refugees, but soon became military strongholds, training camps, and bases for attacks on Nicaragua, and sanctuaries for those returning from such activities.

In the statements made by the president of the Coffee Producers' Board alluding to this situation, he also said that "The contras' presence has forced the exodus of inhabitants of more than 60 small towns, mostly peasants. They're victims of the war and, unfortunately, must accept charity from such U.S. institutions such as AID and CARE."

He recalled that two coffee planters, Mateo Hernández and Santos Salfado, had

been captured by Honduran troops several weeks previously because they had served as guides for three foreign journalists who had paid them for taking them to New Nicaragua. Traveling through national territory does not constitute a violation of the law, he said, and he wanted to know if the army had banned access to the area because it had ceased to be Honduran territory.

His question was never answered. All the government said was that one of the capital's newspapers had lied when it said that there were 16,000 displaced persons in the area. But it did not deny the existence of New Nicaragua, nor refuted the number of displaced persons set at 12,000 by *Newsweek* on June 30, nor the reports on the area issued by Armando Cerrato, the

Spanish ACAN-EFE news agency correspondent in Tegucigalpa.

In 1984 the Honduran armed forces canceled the United States' permit to operate the Regional Center for Military Training because twice as many Salvadorans as Hondurans had been trained by the Green Berets.

The Honduran military viewed the Salvadoran trainees as future invaders of their country and they were also irritated by the fact that Washington had not lived up to its promise to force El Salvador to give back the area still in dispute. But the 39 members of COSUFA are not bothered by such trifles. They're more interested in getting paid for services rendered to the Reagan administration.

## — 10 AND 25 YEARS AGO —

### THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

October 15, 1976

CLEVELAND — More than 100 steelworkers turned out here October 3 to meet and hear Ed Sadlowski, insurgent candidate for president of the United Steelworkers of America.

Sadlowski, who is director of District 31 in Chicago, said he was running because neither incumbent President I.W. Abel nor his handpicked successor Lloyd McBride is "responsive to the membership."

"We have to get back to the basic concepts of what the trade union movement is all about," Sadlowski said. "Not concerning itself with the profits of management, but addressing itself to the problems that confront the members. . . ."

After making a brief introductory statement, Sadlowski answered questions for nearly two hours. One of the first questions was about the "Experimental Negotiating Agreement," the no-strike pact Abel signed in 1973 covering the basic steel industry.

Sadlowski condemned the ENA as a throwback to company-union policies.

Deriding the ENA plan that submits disputes to an "impartial arbitrator," Sadlowski declared, "I've never met an arbitrator that was impartial."

Sadlowski was interrupted by applause when he said that a six-hour workday was "long overdue" in order to "create employment and create more leisure time for workers."

The life-and-death issue of safety, he said, "is not a bargainable question. I've seen safety issues projected across the bargaining table and then withdrawn in order to get another penny, another two pennies."

(signed)  
James M. White  
Business Manager

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The October 9 refusal of the Supreme Court to review its ruling that the Communist Party must register its members with the government under the terms of the 1950 Internal Security Act makes definitive a new stage in the crippling of the Bill of Rights.

Attorney General Robert Kennedy declares he will now proceed to compel the Communist Party to meet the act's harsh requirements. These include disclosure of membership lists, filing of financial reports, and an inventory of printing equipment owned by the party.

The act further requires that published material bear the stamp, "Communist propaganda." Party members are denied the right to federal or defense plant employment. Alien members are subject to deportation and any member may be prosecuted for even applying for a passport.

The leaders of the Communist Party have justifiably declared that they will not expose their members to persecution by turning over their names. They have taken this stand in the face of a proviso of the law imposing fines of \$10,000 for each day of noncompliance. Party leaders are also subject to imprisonment for defying the order.

# 'A bodyguard of lies'

The Reagan administration called it a "disinformation program" — code words for a deliberate campaign of lies directed against Libya and the government of Muammar el-Qaddafi.

The campaign began to unravel October 2 when a series of official memos were made public by *Washington Post* correspondent Bob Woodward. These show that in late August administration officials deliberately fed false information to journalists designed to give the impression that further U.S. military action against Libya was imminent, similar to the bombings and air strikes in March and April.

This "disinformation" was widely picked up by the news media, beginning with a front-page story in the August 25 *Wall Street Journal*. The story warned that there was "growing evidence" that Qaddafi "has begun plotting terrorist attacks" and that the Reagan administration was completing plans for "a new and larger bombing of Libya" than the April 14 air raids.

The following day's front-page headline in the *New York Times* read, "U.S. Says Libya May Have Plans for New Terror," and similar stories were carried on television news reports.

Speaking to journalists on October 2, President Ronald Reagan denied the existence of a "disinformation program" but admitted that he approved a plan in August designed to make Qaddafi "go to bed every night wondering what we might do."

Secretary of State George Shultz was even blunter. "If there are ways in which we can make Qaddafi nervous, why shouldn't we?" he asked journalists, adding that "insofar as Qaddafi is concerned, we don't have a declaration of war, but we have something pretty darn close to it."

Shultz quoted Winston Churchill's remark that "in time of war the truth is so precious it must be attended by a bodyguard of lies."

According to a memo written by John Poindexter, Reagan's national security affairs adviser, and adopted at a White House meeting on August 14, the "basic goal" of the disinformation campaign in the U.S. media was to make "Qaddafi think that there is a high degree of internal opposition to him within Libya, that his key trusted aides are disloyal, that the U.S. is about to move against him militarily."

A working paper circulated by the State Department on August 6 spelled out the Reagan administration's aims

even more clearly. It stated:

"The goal of our near-term strategy should be to continue Qaddafi's paranoia so that he remains preoccupied, off-balance . . . [and] believes that the army and other elements in Libya are plotting against him — possibly with Soviet help. Believing that, he may increase the pressure on the [Libyan] army, which in turn may prompt a coup or assassination attempt."

The memos made public by Woodward also outline other aspects of the administration's program. They included joint U.S. and Egyptian military exercises near Libya in August, deceptive aircraft carrier operations and radio communications to mislead Libya about the intention of U.S. forces to operate near its territory, placing false information in overseas newspapers, and publicity about two U.S. diplomatic missions designed to give the impression that their purpose was to discuss further actions against Libya.

Newspaper publishers and broadcasting officials responded to Woodward's revelations with outrage. But what the events in August clearly show is the lack of independence of the news media and the ease with which they can be fed information that they will then widely circulate.

Newspapers such as the *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times* accepted the administration's "disinformation" so readily because they share its hostility to Libya and want to see Qaddafi overthrown.

What's more, the use of the "big lie" technique is not new. It has been a constant feature of the Reagan administration's campaign against Libya — from the 1981 claim that Qaddafi had sent a "hit squad" to the United States to assassinate Reagan to the unsubstantiated assertions of Libyan government involvement in the terrorist attacks in the Rome and Vienna airports on December 27 last year. And the press dutifully carried all of these slanders as though they were the gospel truth.

The aim of these lies — and the most recent "disinformation program" — is not simply to intimidate the Libyan government. Reagan, Shultz, and other administration officials are determined to get rid of the Qaddafi regime, which has refused to be a puppet of U.S. imperialism. Each accusation that Qaddafi is a terrorist, each threat of military action, is designed to prepare the way for the next real escalation in the undeclared war against Libya.

# Break all ties with apartheid!

Continued from front page

These U.S. protests will be coordinated with a series of European actions against U.S. military aid to the South African-backed mercenary forces fighting in Angola, to be held October 10 in London, Dublin, Oslo, and other cities.

Already, this worldwide movement against apartheid has had an impact. Various governments — from Western Europe to Japan to southern Africa itself — have imposed economic sanctions of one kind or another.

Within the United States, 19 state and 70 municipal governments have been impelled to divest \$18.5 billion in public funds from corporations and banks doing business with South Africa. Some 120 colleges and universities have taken similar action, divesting holdings valued at more than \$3.7 billion.

The strength of this movement has been reflected as well in divisions among the U.S. rulers in Washington, resulting in the adoption by Congress of a series of economic sanctions against Pretoria. Those divisions were shown by President Reagan's inability to sustain his veto of the sanctions bill.

The debate within U.S. ruling class circles over what to do about South Africa is not only a result of the anti-apartheid movement here. Above all, it is because of the revolt of the Black toiling masses of South Africa, a revolt that the apartheid regime has been unable to crush with its imposition of a state of emergency and massive police killings and detentions.

For Washington — as well as the governments of Britain and other West European countries — the apartheid state is a vitally needed imperialist bulwark, protecting the interests of big business throughout southern Africa. Their goal is to stabilize the regime, in part by persuading it to adopt more reforms. They want to head off the creation of the united, democratic, nonracial republic that the masses of South African Blacks are fighting for under the leadership of the African National Congress.

That is why the sanctions law adopted by Congress also includes such virulent attacks against the ANC. Employing language frequently used by Reagan — and by

the apartheid regime itself — it slanders the ANC as a "terrorist" organization. By engaging in red-baiting diatribes against the ANC's alliance with the South African Communist Party, it seeks to sow divisions within the anti-apartheid struggle and undercut the broad international support that the ANC enjoys.

Just as seriously, the new act mandates Reagan to "investigate" the activities of ANC representatives in the United States, with the aim of hampering their ability to explain their views to the U.S. people.

It is vital that anti-apartheid activists defend the ANC from these attacks. They should champion its right to be heard, get out the truth about the struggle the ANC is leading, and demand that Washington keep its hands off the organization and its supporters.

The ongoing fight for sanctions is vital. Whatever concessions Washington and its West European allies have been forced to make on this issue, they will continue to resist, as much as possible, the imposition of a complete investment and trade embargo.

For the South African rulers, foreign investments and markets are vital to the survival of their oppressive system, bringing in the funds and technology needed to keep Pretoria's massive police and military apparatus functioning.

That is why the struggle for sanctions is so important. In an interview in the October 3 *Christian Science Monitor*, Neo Mnumzana, the ANC's chief representative at the United Nations, explained that comprehensive sanctions against South Africa would "help disarm apartheid and weaken its ability to go on imposing its rule."

Besides hitting at the apartheid regime, sanctions are also a concrete demonstration to the struggling people of South Africa that they are not alone, that the people of the world stand on their side. Such solidarity helps them withstand Pretoria's biting repression.

A good turnout for the October 10 and 11 anti-apartheid actions will help hammer this message home. It provides opponents of U.S. collaboration with apartheid an opportunity to express their solidarity with the people of South Africa, to defend the ANC from attack, and to demand the imposition of full economic sanctions against Pretoria now. "Break all ties with apartheid!"

# Do socialists advocate violence?

BY DOUG JENNESS

One of the most common questions socialists are asked is whether they advocate violence. In many cases, it's not really a question, but an accusation. During World War II, for example, 18 leaders of the Socialist Workers Party and the Teamsters union in Minneapolis were railroaded to jail by the Roosevelt administration for allegedly "conspiring" to "advocate overthrowing and destroying the Government of the United States by force and violence."

To deal with this question intelligently, it's not very helpful to discuss will-o'-the-wisp "conspiracies" to "advocate" violence. It's more useful to look at the violence

## LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

that is actually occurring in today's workaday world.

This means starting with the violence that's committed against working people every day by the employers. Workers sell their labor power to a boss for a specified time period. During those hours, the employers attempt to forcibly squeeze as much unpaid labor time as possible out of the laborer.

They speed up the line, flout safety and health measures, impose torturous shifts, enforce arbitrary work rules, and, in every way they can, attempt to enforce their authoritarian domination over the workplace.

The result is very violent. Hundreds of workers die every year from work-related accidents, and hundreds of thousands lose limbs or are otherwise maimed. Not to mention those whose lives are shortened by black lung, brown lung, asbestosis, chemicals, radioactivity, and other such workplace pollutants. Or just by the general wear and tear of the work.

If, in competing with other employers, the boss closes down his plant or relocates it, thousands of workers may suddenly be jolted out of work with no immediate prospect of a job. The livelihood of their families is jeopardized. They may lose their homes. This insecurity is a permanent condition for working people. That, too, is a form of violence.

The employers get as much out of us as they can and then toss us aside like squeezed lemons. Disabled and retired workers, unable to produce any longer, have no interest for them.

Not only are workers ground down physically, but the alienating and violent conditions imposed by the employer in the workplace violate their human spirit. They brutalize their emotional well-being.

When workers resist these inhuman conditions by collectively organizing to demand shorter hours, more pay, and better safety conditions and work rules, the employers retaliate. They call on the cops, the National Guard, and hired thugs to break up peaceful picket lines and herd scabs into the plant or mine.

When farmers attempt to prevent bankers or loan agencies from foreclosing on their farms, cops are called out to take over the farms by force and violence.

Moreover, there is widespread cop violence in working-class neighborhoods, particularly those where Blacks, Chicanos, and Puerto Ricans live. In addition to those who are shot down in cold blood, thousands are thrown into the country's prisons. And there, a growing number face the death penalty.

The toll of this everyday violence committed by the employing class is so huge that it's immeasurable. But even that isn't all.

The employing class also wages devastating wars and threatens war against peoples throughout the world who rebel against the miserable conditions imposed on them by big-business interests from the United States and other countries.

The boss government arms itself to the teeth in order to crush strikes and revolts of working people. Today, for example, it is financing the mercenaries who are conducting terrorist raids into Nicaragua, burning peasant villages and destroying health clinics, schools, and construction projects.

So, to the question: do socialists advocate violence, the answer is no. To the contrary, we call for cleansing our society from all the violence of the ruling classes. This gigantic task will require a mass revolutionary movement of workers and farmers to overturn capitalist political rule.

Socialists prefer that this be done peacefully. But history shows that no propertied class gives up its power to the exploited majority without a ferocious fight. Just as the employers violently resisted the formation of unions and are violently driving through takebacks today, they will even more fiercely utilize every fiendish means at their disposal to try to crush a mass movement that aims to remove them from their position of rule.

To counter this, workers will have to organize to defend themselves just as they have learned to defend their picket lines from violent attacks during a strike.

To paraphrase Patrick Henry, if advocating this is treason, then let the powers that be make the most of it.



# Discussions in the mines on abortion rights, religion

BY CLARE FRAENZL

Women miners who had participated in the massive March 9 demonstration in defense of abortion rights helped organize a special interest workshop at the Eighth National Women Miners Conference held last June. At this workshop we discussed the impact of the March 9 ac-

## UNION TALK

tion and how we could enlist the support of our union, the United Mine Workers of America, in defending our right to abortion.

We agreed that the government-inspired attacks on abortion rights had encouraged the bosses to step up harassment and discrimination against us. But the turnout of 100,000 women in Washington, D.C., set them back, one woman commented. "It let them know we are still here and still fighting," she said. Women miners also agreed that many miners supported abortion rights and that the march opened up a discussion in the mines, one we wanted to encourage.

One conversation I had in the mine where I work particularly stands out in my mind. A young Black miner asked me what I thought about the rising rate of teenage pregnancy among Black women. He said he was uneasy about government attacks on abortion and contraception. He felt it was an attempt to deepen the poverty among Blacks since young Black women had little hope of finishing school or finding jobs once they were forced to bear children.

But, this miner continued, he is a preacher, deeply devoted to his fundamentalist religion. The hierarchy of his church teaches that abortion is murder. He thinks cam-

paing to encourage teenage chastity is a progressive alternative, but doesn't think it will really work.

I explained that I thought the question of abortion is a political, not a moral or religious, issue. I agreed that the right of women to control our own bodies and decide if and when to bear children is fundamental to our struggle for equality and a better life.

I also explained why I think the government is attacking the gains of the civil rights and women's movements, particularly abortion rights and affirmative action—that it is part of their drive to deepen the exploitation of the most oppressed layers of the working class and to increase divisions among workers so we cannot unite to defend our common interests.

It was the first time this miner, or the other men on my crew, had heard the idea that the whole working class has a stake in defending abortion rights and that it is part of a broader struggle to defend ourselves against the attacks of the capitalist class. It made sense to the men, including my fundamentalist buddy. However, when I last talked to him he was still wrestling with his conscience, trying to reconcile his moral beliefs with his deep concern for the Black community and his class instincts.

I was reminded of this experience when I read the "Union Talk" column in the September 5 *Militant*. This article, "Wisconsin auto workers debate abortion rights," described a confrontation among members of a United Auto Workers local over the question of abortion. According to the writer of the column, some workers viewed it as a battle between workers who are fundamentalist Christians on the one hand, and the supporters of women's rights on the other.

I think this is unfortunate because posing the debate in this way obscures the real source of the attacks on abor-

tion rights: the employing class and the government that serves it.

As the employers' attack deepens, workers of all religious faiths are walking the picket line and getting hit over the head by cops. In fact, a good many workers with religious views are among the best union militants. They are driven to fight, however, by their experiences as workers, not by their religious beliefs.

If in the course of struggle their religious views come into conflict with their social and political goals, they will have to make some difficult choices, as in the case of my coworker. But workers with religious views, including fundamentalists, aren't helped in advancing along a progressive course by being treated any differently than other workers.

This is also an important question today in Nicaragua, where many workers are devout Catholics. Despite the Catholic Church hierarchy's opposition to abortion, many Nicaraguan women are insisting on the right to abortion. Without the right to decide if and when to bear children, they cannot fully participate in economic production and in defending their revolution against U.S. aggression. It would be pure folly for the Sandinista leaders to demand that women renounce Catholicism in order to fully participate in defending their country.

Defenders of abortion rights in the United States can learn from this Nicaraguan experience and focus the discussion of abortion on how it fits into defending our class interests. This will facilitate involving workers with deep religious feelings, like my buddy, in these struggles. In the course of these battles themselves, many workers will begin rethinking their political and religious ideas.

Clare Fraenzl is a member of United Mine Workers Local 1197 in Pennsylvania.

## LETTERS

### Let's unite

I've tried to stay abreast of the beautiful, important fight of the Austin, Minnesota, meatpackers. I heard Jim Guyette and women workers from TWA at the Oberlin solidarity conference. I endorse these struggles 100 percent.

Clippings are enclosed on a recent protest by workers at the Hummer vehicle plant in Mishawaka, Indiana, protesting a new absenteeism policy. A similar action occurred at the Allied Products Corp.'s South Bend, Indiana, plant. This is an excellent chance to sell *Militant* subscriptions and educate. Send someone!

In South Bend, Indiana, we too are facing the money barons. We need your support. Let's unite and throw off these shackles forever.

In solidarity,  
A.R.N.  
South Bend, Indiana

### Enact a special bill

I want to comment on the article "Ortega's N.Y. visit spurs opposition to contra war" in the August 8 issue of the *Militant*. The *Militant* is precise in its articles, both on the national and international level, and, in my opinion, is the dominant socialist newspaper in the United States and should be studied carefully by all its readers.

With respect to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's appearance before the United Nations Security Council, I believe it is necessary for the Security Council to support Ortega in his political fight against the refusal of the United States to recognize the World Court's jurisdiction.

The UN-related court doesn't have the force of law to stop the Reagan administration's attempt to overthrow the government of Nicaragua. Because of this, there should be a great amount of pressure from all nations that are against the illegal intervention. Needed are public petitions from people in the United States to the Congress to enact a special bill that would allow the majority on the national level to merge with the majority on the international level in opposition to United States aggression toward Latin America and the Caribbean.

Those in the House of Representatives who voted for the \$100 million to finance the illegal CIA

contra war against Nicaragua should be singled out and voted out of office for their willingness to disregard the opposition of the many American citizens who are sane enough to not want another Vietnam and who are the very people who entrusted them to office.

A prisoner  
Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

### Lee Martindale

I was shocked and saddened to read in the *Militant* of the death of Lee Martindale at the young age of 31.

While our acquaintance was short, I well recall Lee from when we were both members of the Socialist Workers Party branch in Albany, New York. Lee was living in Amherst, Massachusetts, and drove hours over the Berkshire hills to participate in the efforts of our small, struggling branch. Those were the first days of the SWP in the Capital District, and Lee made a definite contribution.

Lee Martindale stands out in my memory as a person who was politically talented but also as a warm and friendly human being. On both counts, I am sure she will be sorely missed by many comrades and friends.

Mark Chalkley  
Baltimore, Maryland

### 'Friends of the oppressed'

Congratulations to the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance in their victory over the U.S. secret police! As the government deepens its attacks on the democratic rights of working people, your victory becomes a tremendous weapon in the fight to maintain and extend civil rights.

The most recent symbol of the government's attack is in the person of William Rehnquist, chief justice of the Supreme Court.

In 1969 Rehnquist wrote a memo to then president Richard Nixon about army surveillance of anti-Vietnam War protesters. The memo calls for the FBI to collect "raw intelligence" and pass it on to the Department of Defense. The memo also puts the responsibility for collection, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of the intelligence on the attorney general.

It is clear that this information,

like the information about Rehnquist's harassment of Black voters in the early 1960s, was known to the senators of the 1971 hearings who confirmed Rehnquist as a Supreme Court justice, and the majority then were Democrats. All were aware, as well, of Rehnquist's right-wing views on civil liberties. It all makes the current bleating of Democratic "friends of the oppressed" pretty nauseating.

J.W.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

### Democracy in America

I have been reading your paper for some time and always enjoy it. It is refreshing to find a paper unafraid to tell the truth.

I am poor and am probably in the best position to understand the failings of capitalism. It is a fact that when a small minority control the majority of the wealth of a nation, a lot of its people are left with nothing. In order for these rich bastards to stay rich, the poor must be kept poor.

Capitalism encourages and perpetuates this system. You can't ever "do better" without a good education, and you can't get one without money.

America will never be free or democratic until all its people are truly equal. True equality, true freedom, and true justice come through socialism. Here the rights of a people to education, housing, food, and work are respected, supported, and encouraged. I look forward to the day when democracy finally comes to America.

M.R.  
Baltimore, Maryland

### The real criminals

In the unmerciful hands of the administration of the state correctional facility at Rockview, Pennsylvania, human beings need your support. We need you to call congressmen, state representatives, and senators with reference to prison reform and justice.

Men are robbed of education, their rights as human beings, their dignity, even their finances. They are frustrated by the cold cowardice of people who are supposed to represent truth.

You must ask for investigations as to what really goes on behind



these walls. The average person who wants to get himself or herself together in prison can't because they don't have the proper means.

Corruption bred in this system must be stopped in order to cut crime in the future and the staggering results of crime in here and in the streets. Don't go for that "take a bite out of crime and get tough" policy. That's trickery. Get to the root of it all. The capitalists breed crime. They need to be locked up. They are the root of crime.

Check out the prison nearest you. We need your help. The real criminals are getting away.  
Inmates in need  
Rockview Prison, Pennsylvania

### Political asylum

On the 15th of this month, four people on an Iberia airliner that was forced to land in Miami asked for asylum in the United States.

Two were Cuban. Two were Nicaraguan.

Whatever their reasons, do you think they will have as much trouble gaining asylum as Héctor Marroquín and thousands of other refugees from U.S.-backed dic-

tatorships?  
Jack Bresée  
Miami, Florida

### Thank you for sub

Thank you and all of your supporters once again for my subscription. Please mark your records, however, to indicate that I will be released on parole and will no longer be a prisoner of the state—at least not in the strictest sense of the term.

Upon my release and once I have relocated, I will contact you to begin my subscription anew. Thank you again for your support and in helping to make these past years of imprisonment both bearable and a worthwhile learning process.

A prisoner  
Norco, California

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.

## Tax reform scam: giveaway to rich

### 'No taxes on workers and farmers,' say socialist candidates

The following statement was issued October 4 by Theresa Delgadillo, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of New York; Tom Jaax, the SWP candidate for governor of Minnesota; and Sam Manuel, the SWP candidate for U.S. Senator from California.

The tax bill adopted by substantial majorities in the U.S. House of Representatives September 25 and the Senate September 27 has set off an avalanche of praise from top government officials, legislators, and the major newspapers and broadcasting networks.

President Reagan hailed it as "historic."

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, a Democrat from Illinois, said, "It brings a sense of justice to the way we tax income."

"Taxes are about more than money," gushed Oregon Sen. Robert Packwood. "They are about fairness, and this bill is fair."

The *Wall Street Journal* even tried to pass it off as "the most important antipov-erty legislation in more than a decade."

A close examination of the tax bill, however, reveals that it goes beyond its predecessors in ripping off working people and providing giveaways for the billionaire ruling families.

The new law strips down the previous 14 rates to two rates. The top rate at which individuals with high incomes can be taxed, which was 70 percent in 1978, will drop to 28 percent in 1988 — the lowest since the 1920s. Some additional charges will raise the rate to 33 percent for some higher incomes.

At the same time, those who have an income of \$30,000 a year before taxes also must pay the 28 percent rate. Millions of workers and farmers will be in the same basic bracket as the Rockefellers, duPonts, and Kennedys.

The wealthiest families in this country will get even richer.

The tax on corporate profits will drop from 46 percent to 34 percent. But this windfall, we are told, will be made up for by closing tax loopholes favoring big business.

But the facts are that tax loopholes were actually written into the bill for oil and gas investors, steel corporations, and many others.

Tax shelters in the form of purchases of land or other property for tax write-off purposes are portrayed as having bitten the dust. Not at all.

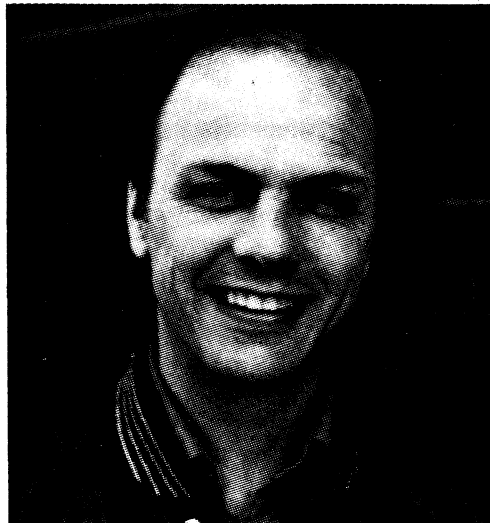
The September 29 *Wall Street Journal* reported that the sale of tax shelters is booming "because investors who buy shelters before President Reagan signs the bill will fall under a 'phase in' rule allowing them to use all their shelter write-offs this year and 65 percent of those write-offs next year (and dwindling percentages thereafter)."

Among the tax shelter operations that are still going strong is the purchase of chicken farms, pig farms, and cattle. The beneficiaries, for the most part, are corporations and other absentee landlords. Some farm groups have pointed out that the shelters help agribusiness but hurt working farmers.

The provisions of the tax reform that have been portrayed as helping low-income people will result in a cut of only \$36.79 in annual taxes for incomes under \$10,000 a year.

This, and much more, will be gobbled up by a 5 percent jump in social security taxes in 1988.

The bite that sales taxes take out of the incomes of working people will also get larger because of the elimination of the exemption for these payments previously granted by the federal government. Deductions for medical expenses have also been slashed.



Left to right: Sam Manuel, Tom Jaax, Theresa Delgadillo, Socialist Workers Party candidates in 1986 elections, who blasted new tax law as bipartisan ripoff of working people.

The grinding down of the income of workers and farmers through property taxes and other regressive taxes will not be affected by the new law.

This "tax reform" is part and parcel of the drive by the ruling rich to increase their wealth at our expense.

Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives in both houses of Congress, and the White House have united to put over this scam.

Despite the hoopla about simplifying the tax system so it can be understood by most people, the almost impenetrable provisions of the new code are sure to provide a bonanza for tax accountants and lawyers.

The tax program we advocate is quite different.

It is based on the simple idea that workers and working farmers should pay no taxes.

They should be exempt from the income tax. Sales taxes, social security taxes, property taxes, and other levies that target the incomes of working people need to be abolished.

The income of the superrich families and the profits of their big corporations should be steeply taxed. To help put a stop to their tax cheating, unions and farmers' organizations should be allowed to thoroughly inspect all their books.

Although working people provide most of the tax money that is used to finance the federal budget, that money is not spent in our interest. The biggest chunks are spent on arms, which are used to brutalize and bully people all over the world, and on payment of interest and principal on the national debt. The lush arms contracts and the debt payments go to the very same profiteers who are the beneficiaries of the new tax law.

Most of the wealth that workers and farmers produce is already plundered from us by the superrich. We should not be required to provide a single cent to pay for the government that protects their interests.

## Hundreds join Boston antiwar protests

BY JON HILLSON

BOSTON — Protests and meetings against Washington's escalating war against Nicaragua attracted nearly 1,700 people here in a five-day span. During these actions antiwar activists stepped up efforts to build the November 1 demonstration in Boston against U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and for peace, jobs, and justice.

At Northeastern University, Nicaraguan embassy Minister-counsellor Francisco Campbell, along with a panel of lawyers and academic figures, described the current debate in Nicaragua aimed at ratifying a new constitution. Some 250 activists and students attended the September 24 event.

Nearly 1,000 demonstrators converged on Boston Common September 28 to support four veterans, three of them with Vietnam service, entering their fourth week of fasting in protest against U.S. aggression in Central America. One hundred veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the 1965 invasion of the Dominican Republic came from across New England, garbed in fatigues, to support the fasting vets.

That evening more than 400 people stood and cheered as Dora María Tellez, Nicaragua's minister of health and a central leader of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, urged that opposition to the U.S. mercenary war against her country be an immense, popular cause that unites the people of Nicaragua and the United States.

Boston November Action for Peace, Jobs and Justice Coalition leader Beverly Treumann addressed all three gatherings as coalition activists leafleted the crowds. "We need the biggest possible, the broadest possible turnout on November 1," Treumann, the director of the Nicaragua-based Spanish-language school, NICA, told the gatherings. "A protest isn't for one day, it is the building of a public movement of opposition to the war that speaks for the majority," she said.

Center of Constitutional Rights lawyer

Arthur Kinoy, who joined Campbell and others to discuss the Nicaraguan constitution, told the assembled activists there, "We can't go home, slap our foreheads, say 'Oh, my God, *contra* aid passed,' and get drunk. We've got to fight, we've got to be in the streets, we've got to have mass actions."

The crowd burst into cheers.

Fasting Vietnam veteran George Mizo, winner of a Purple Heart and Gallantry Cross, told the 1,000 people at Boston Common he was not a "martyr" or "saint," but that the fast aimed to spur protest against a new Vietnam in Central America.

Nicaraguan teacher and trade-unionist Estela Rocha also stirred the crowd with an

urgent appeal for protests against the war. Rocha had begun a national speaking tour in Northampton, Massachusetts, on September 19 and was in New Hampshire on the weekend of October 4-6.

Dora María Tellez told the enthusiastic gathering on September 28 here that stopping a new Vietnam war was the overwhelming challenge to her people and those of the United States. "If, as a generation we have to do something," Tellez said to chants and applause, "let us do that."

The November 1 Boston march for Peace, Jobs and Justice begins at 11 a.m. at Copley Square. For more information call (617) 492-2284.

## Iceland's working people don't share in summit bonanza

BY GREYAR KRISTJANSSON

REYKJAVIK, Iceland — From newspaper reports, it sounds like a gold mine has been discovered here. They already claim the Icelandic people will earn some \$20 million from the summit meeting October 11 and 12 between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But who will get this money? Not the majority of the 240,000 Icelandic people. The newspapers don't mention that it's only the Icelandic business people, like the owners of the hotels and restaurants, who will profit from the summit.

The Icelandic government has shut down two schools for the foreign press, sending the students home. In some cases, parents will have to stay home from work to look after their children.

In Reykjavik, where there has been a housing shortage for decades, 500 apartments suddenly became available to foreign guests. Not surprisingly, the visitors

are offering up to \$2,000 for an apartment that in some cases will only be used for a day or two.

The government and major political parties in parliament are portraying the summit as an opening toward world peace.

But this is not the universal opinion.

The El Salvador Solidarity Committee is planning a meeting on October 10 to protest the U.S. government's war on Nicaragua and its support to the Duarte dictatorship in El Salvador. This committee includes long-time activists in the fight against the large U.S.-run NATO base in Iceland.

Moreover, the Icelandic Women's Peace Movement is collecting signatures demanding immediate disarmament.

If Washington really wanted peace, it would leave Nicaragua alone, end its support to the Salvadoran dictatorship, withdraw its missiles from Europe, and close down its naval air base in Iceland.