

## Thousands in Ireland greet Nelson Mandela

BY TIM RIGBY

DUBLIN, Ireland — African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela was welcomed here by crowds displaying banners and placards in English and Irish and wearing T-shirts sporting the spear and shield symbol of the ANC and the Irish shield. On many buildings, the Irish tricolor—green, white, and orange—flew alongside the black, gold, and green banner of Mandela's organization.

Throughout his two-day visit, the themes of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and the injustice done to the Irish people by the British government were intertwined.

On July 2 before the Dáil, the Irish parliament, Mandela reiterated the message he has taken to every country he has visited since his release from prison in February. "No one must mistake the promise of change for re-

ality," he said, urging the maintenance of sanctions against the apartheid regime.

He also made clear that he considered the lack of negotiation between the British government and the nationalist forces in Ireland to be unacceptable. The British government maintains an occupation army in the north of Ireland.

"What we would like to see is that the British government and the IRA [Irish Republican Army] should adopt precisely the line taken in regard to our own internal situation," he said. "What is the sense of continuing with that mutual slaughter when they could sit down and discuss this?"

Challenged by the press on why the British government should negotiate with a "minority group connected to violence," Mandela explained that the issue was not one of talking to a minority but of people dying.

The ANC leader's statements provoked an immediate response from politicians in Britain. "What would the British government discuss?" asked Ian Gowe, a former private secretary to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, stating that in Northern Ireland people have the vote and equal rights under the law.

Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party opposition in the British Parliament, said he would use his meeting with Mandela to stress there is no parallel between Northern Ireland and South Africa.

"As a friend," Kinnock said, "I owe it to him to tell him to make no mistake that the Provisional IRA are a bunch of gangsters—nothing more, nothing less. They deserve no concession or quarter."

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## Fight can be won says Eastern strike leader

The following is an interview with Ernie Mailhot, strike staff coordinator of Local Lodge 1018 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) on strike against Eastern Airlines at La Guardia Airport in New York. Mailhot was an aircraft cleaner before the strike started. The interview was conducted in New York on July 1 by Judy Stranahan.

**Militant.** On June 17 Martin Shugrue, the court-appointed trustee for Eastern Airlines, launched a massive television and newspaper advertising campaign to convince the public to give Eastern another try. He promises that "for the next 100 days Eastern is going to get a little better every day." How do strikers feel about this "100 days" campaign?

**Mailhot.** Strikers are angered by it and are insulted by the television ads that feature Shugrue talking with scabs and saying that these scabs, who have replaced strikers, are among the best workers Eastern has had.

Shugrue has super-cheap fares and "Y-not first class" fares in a desperate attempt to attract passengers in order to break the strike. But the ad campaign and special fare offers will be ineffective as long as we keep the strike solid.

**Militant.** What do you think is reflected by the new Eastern ad campaign? Is the airline still feeling the effects of the strike?

**Mailhot.** One thing is clear. The ad campaign shows that they are coming from a position of weakness. This is a slick attempt to convince people that there's a new Eastern out there.

But Eastern's got a lot of problems. They don't have the passengers. People are supporting our strike and not crossing our picket line. I think the ad campaign shows that management is in a very bad situation. The strike remains effective, so they are grasping at straws.

Also they are trying to convince people that their fears about safety are groundless.

**Militant.** You mentioned one of the reasons for the ad campaign is to try to get more passengers to fly on Eastern. The passenger load for May stood at 54 percent of available seats. Now some newspapers have reported that the number of passengers for June went up. What does this mean?

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## 'Keep the pressure on apartheid'



Crowd greets Mandela June 28 in Miami as part of 11-city tour of North America

Militant/Susan Zárate

### A report on Mandela's U.S. tour. For excerpts of his speeches see pages 8, 9.

Cheering Nelson Mandela's call to "keep the pressure on apartheid," a rally of 50,000 capped a busy tour stop by the ANC leader in Atlanta. Buses full of supporters came from across the Southeast and from as far away as Chicago for the event. Thirty-nine buses came from North Carolina alone to the event held at the stadium at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Thousands had lined the streets to welcome Mandela and express their support to the anti-apartheid struggle during the June 27 visit.

A brief thundershower did not disperse the crowd waiting for the ANC leader's arrival at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-violent Social Change. There, Mandela placed a wreath on the slain civil rights leader's tomb during a brief ceremony.

Southern Christian Leadership Conference President Joseph Lowery introduced Mandela at a civil and human rights tribute at Big Bethel AME Church.

Responding to President George Bush's demand that the ANC renounce the armed struggle against the apartheid regime, Lowery said, "We reject the constant nagging you have experienced about denouncing violence. We who espouse nonviolence nevertheless respect the right of oppressed people to seek their liberation." The SCLC leader denounced Washington's hypocrisy, pointing to U.S.-backed contra wars in Nicaragua and Angola and the U.S. invasion of Panama.

Emphasizing the need to continue the economic isolation of South Africa, Coretta Scott King told the Georgia Tech rally, Mandela "has challenged us to maintain strong sanctions against the racist apartheid government, and this we must do!"

In his speech Mandela hailed the struggles against slavery and racial discrimination in the United States. He explained the ANC was "inspired by the fact that in spite of your own awesome difficulties, you remain in the forefront of the anti-apartheid movement in this country."

Waving anti-apartheid placards, some 6,000 delegates at the national convention of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees gave the ANC leader a tumultuous welcome in Miami.

Following an introduction by AFSCME secretary-treasurer William Lucy, a 10-min-

ute film produced by the union entitled *Mandela* was shown. The film describes Mandela's "journey to freedom" from 1940s until

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## A letter to new readers

BY RONI McCANN

We are making a special appeal to all of our readers to renew your subscriptions, especially the 5,033 of you who signed up to get the paper during the recent international circulation drive.

For a few weeks now you have been receiving and reading the *Militant* regularly. Some of you were introduced to the paper on strike picket lines, at abortion rights demonstrations, at factory gates where you

work, in your neighborhood or on your college campus, or at activities in defense of Cuba or against apartheid in South Africa.

Many of you are strikers battling Eastern Airlines, Greyhound, Domsey Trading Corp., La Mode du Golf, coal companies, agribusinesses, and packinghouses. Even more of you are members of trade unions—some 24 percent of the new readers won during the March to May sales effort.

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### As we go to press . . .

The Iowa attorney general's office intervened in a civil lawsuit against Mark Curtis July 5 and convinced Iowa District Court Judge Arthur Gamble to reverse his earlier decision to allow Curtis, confined at the Fort Madison state prison, to come to Des Moines for the July 9 trial in the

lawsuit. This means that Curtis will not appear at the trial where a massive financial judgment could be ordered against him for a 1988 frame-up rape conviction. Gamble said he would instead appoint a "guardian" to protect Curtis' interests at the trial.



# Mandela tour marked by big sales of literature

BY RONI McCANN

By the time African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela boarded a plane July 1, destined for Ireland, tens of millions of working people in the United States, Canada, and around the globe had poured into the streets to hear him speak or watched him on TV as he toured North America.

In every city he visited socialist periodicals and books were introduced to participants in the Mandela welcome.

In the course of the two week visit, workers, young people, and others purchased \$40,000 worth of socialist literature, including at least 6,423 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid." The pamphlet, just published by Pathfinder a week prior to Mandela's arrival, features seven of the freedom fighter's speeches given since his release from prison earlier this year.

In addition, 269 participants in Mandela events decided to subscribe to the *Militant* and 1,896 bought copies of the paper. A highlight of the Pathfinder literature sales, which included books by Malcolm X, Fidel Castro, and Thomas Sankara, was the sale of 99 copies of *New Internationalist* issue No. 5 featuring "The Coming Revolution in South Africa" by Jack Barnes, and the 408 copies sold of *The Struggle Is My Life*, Mandela's autobiography.

Scores of young people also expressed interest in classes on the coming revolution in South Africa sponsored by the Young

Socialist Alliance.

In Washington, D.C., tens of thousands packed the convention center and participants bought \$2,000 in literature, including 500 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*.

In Atlanta, 10 teams of supporters fanned out to the several events slated for Mandela's one-day visit. Participants bought \$3,800 in literature, including 700 copies of the new pamphlet and 110 copies of *The Struggle Is My Life*. Two supporters packed their knapsacks full of books and canvassed sections of the stadium at the evening rally.

During Mandela's brief stop in Miami June 28, supporters sold 149 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990* and 74 copies of the *Militant* — \$900 in sales altogether. A member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union

from Los Angeles included the new pamphlet of Mandela's speeches at her booth inside the convention and sold 200 copies.

Participants in Detroit purchased \$3,500 worth of literature, including 466 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*, 212 copies of the *Militant*, and 36 subscriptions to the paper. After the Tiger Stadium rally members of the YSA sponsored an open house attended by 75 people, including members of Skinheads Against Racism, South African students, and coworkers.

At a welcoming at City Hall in Los Angeles and a rally at the Los Angeles Coliseum, participants bought \$5,818 worth of literature, including 1,000 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*, 52 *Militant* subscriptions, and 350 copies of the paper.

In Oakland, California, 100 supporters

from the West Coast helped get out books, pamphlets, and papers at the coliseum June 30 — the last stop of the U.S. tour. All told, participants purchased \$6,500 in literature, including 1,100 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*, 210 copies of the *Militant*, and 70 copies of *The Struggle Is My Life*. Also, 33 people subscribed to the *Militant* at the event.

DUBLIN, Ireland — A team of *Militant* supporters from Britain joined the crowd here welcoming Mandela to Ireland July 1. The team sold out of the 100 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990* it had brought and sold 85 copies of the *Militant* and other literature as well. "Great, this is what I want to see," said one young person from Libya who bought a copy of the pamphlet.

## Socialists file for disclosure exemption

NEW YORK — On July 2 the Socialist Workers Party filed a request for an advisory opinion with the Federal Election Commission, asking that the agency restore the right to withhold the names of financial contributors to and recipients of payments from SWP federal election campaigns.

Last year the FEC took away the party's exemption — won in 1979 — from disclosing the names of its contributors and the exemption — won in 1985 — from disclos-

ing the names of recipients. Seeking an advisory opinion from the FEC, a procedure requiring a majority vote by commission members, is the first step needed to regain the exemption.

The 25-page document, submitted by attorney Edward Copeland, outlines relevant court rulings prior to and after the 1979 decision that substantiate the legal case for exemption.

It also provides factual background on

SWP election campaigns, stating the party "has consistently nominated and run candidates for elective office since it was founded in 1938 and has had a candidate in every presidential race since 1948." Asserting its First Amendment right, the SWP has never disclosed contributors' names, the request states. The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 introduced the disclosure requirement.

The request documents the history of government and employer spying and disruption, as well as right-wing hostility, carried out against the SWP. This demonstrates that there is a "reasonable probability that disclosing the names of contributors... will subject them to threats, harassment, or reprisal," the letter states.

It notes "an equally open indicator of the reasonable probability of harassment is reflected in an article published in the *Midlands Business Journal* of April 21-27, 1989." The article promotes a security firm that specializes in "screening" workers and activists as it did during the 1985-86 strike by union meat-packers against Geo. A. Hormel Co. The firm, according to the article, identifies the SWP as "an example of the problems" it addresses.

The document ends by listing recent telephone threats and harassment the SWP has faced, therefore concluding that "the FEC should recognize, as it has in the past, that under the First Amendment the Socialist Workers Party campaign committees cannot be compelled to disclose information concerning their contributors or recipients."

Protest messages should be sent to the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463, demanding that the exemption be reinstated. Contributions earmarked for this fight can be sent to the Socialist Workers National Campaign Committee, 406 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

## Reba Hansen, longtime communist fighter, dies

BY GREG McCARTAN

Reba Hansen, a member of the Socialist Workers Party for over 55 years, died in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 3 following a stroke. She was 80 years old.

Born in 1909, Hansen grew up in a working-class family in Salt Lake City. Her untiring dedication to building the socialist movement marked the entirety of her adult life.

Like millions of other working-class youth in the 1920s, Hansen left high school after one year to seek work. Employed in various office jobs, she picked up skills that would later make a valuable contribution to the socialist newspapers and publications that she worked on and to the national offices of the SWP.

In 1931 Reba married Joseph Hansen. Both joined the Communist League of America, a predecessor of the SWP, in 1934. After several years of building the CLA in Salt Lake, the two young communists moved to San Francisco and became active in the labor battles in the city at the time.

In the latter part of the decade Reba and Joe moved to Mexico City where they were part of Leon Trotsky's secretariat and helped

organize defense of his household. Trotsky, a central leader of the October 1917 Russian revolution, was driven into exile by Joseph Stalin for fighting to maintain the continuity of communism.

Moving to New York City in 1939, Hansen took on responsibilities in Pioneer Publishers, a forerunner of Pathfinder, and then as business manager of the *Militant*.

As part of promoting and organizing the paper's circulation, Hansen wrote a weekly column, the "Militant Army," which described experiences of the paper's supporters in circulating the socialist weekly.

Beginning in the late forties Hansen worked in the party's national office, organizing fund-raising campaigns and speaking tours, and was secretary to the party's national secretary, James P. Cannon. She also served on the SWP National Control Commission for many years.

In the late 1950s, Reba and Joe moved to Los Angeles where they helped put out *International Socialist Review* and worked with Cannon in preparing book manuscripts for publication.

Hansen took on major responsibilities beginning in 1963 for a new international labor

press service published in Paris, *World Outlook*. The mimeographed weekly was a joint effort by a staff of revolutionary leaders and journalists from several countries. Her experience on the *Militant* contributed to the professionalism, accuracy, and readability of the new publication.

Returning to New York in 1965, *World Outlook* began to be published from the Hansens' apartment with the help of volunteers and Reba as business manager. Later renamed *Intercontinental Press*, it was merged with the *Militant* in 1986.

In the last years of her life, Hansen organized the library that serves the *Militant* and other editorial offices at the Pathfinder Building in New York.

Meetings celebrating the life of Reba Hansen and her contributions to the working class and revolutionary movement will be held on Friday, July 27, in Salt Lake City and on Sunday, July 29, in New York. Details on locations and times of the meetings, along with an article reviewing Hansen's contributions, will be published in a coming issue.

Messages can be sent to the SWP National Office, 406 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

**'The Militant isn't their paper — it's our paper. It's something every worker can contribute to. With other papers you have to read between the lines. With the Militant, you can take what it says.'**



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# Peasant leader in Philippines jailed on frame-up criminal charges

BY RUSSELL JOHNSON

MANILA, Philippines — Jaime Tadeo, chairman of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines (KMP), is in jail on frame-up charges of fraud. The jailing grew out of charges brought against the peasant leader by the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos and revived by the current government of President Corazon Aquino. The conviction for *estafa*, as fraud is called in the Philippines, was apparently confirmed by the Philippines Supreme Court April 25 without Tadeo or his lawyers being notified.

Tadeo was arrested May 10 when agents of the National Bureau of Investigation entered the KMP national headquarters posing as employees of the Department of Agrarian Reform. They forcibly "invited" the KMP leader to accompany them to the NBI headquarters for "investigation" in connection with a May 3 protest by the Peasants Forum that targeted the Department of Agrarian Reform.

The Department of Agrarian Reform here has been complicit in blocking distribution of land to Filipino peasants. Millions of landless people in the countryside were supposed to benefit from the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law adopted in 1988. The Peasants Forum protesters symbolically declared the department closed, sealing its doors with mud and red paint.

The Peasants Forum brings together the major farmers' organizations to press the government to sanction a thoroughgoing land redistribution, which has been blocked by the Philippines legislature, whose composition is at least 90 percent landlord.

Sedition charges were filed against Tadeo, but following his arrest, Franklin Drilon, Aquino's secretary of justice, announced that Tadeo was in fact apprehended to begin serving a sentence of four to 18 years for *estafa*.

Despite a broad public outcry over Tadeo's jailing and disbelief that he had committed the charges he was convicted of, the Aquino government rejected a pardon. "Extension of a pardon to one convicted of a crime involving misappropriation and grave abuse of confidence, who has barely commenced service of his sentence, is contrary to established policies," Aquino told reporters.

## First use of criminal charges

While many officials of organizations of working people have been charged with political crimes such as "sedition," this is the first time a prominent leader has been convicted and jailed on purely criminal charges.

"To be incarcerated for a political crime

in the Philippines today is an honor. To be incarcerated for *estafa* is a dishonor," Tadeo said in a May interview inside the prison compound at Muntinlupa. The charges were meant to discredit him and demoralize his organization, the peasant leader said.

The fraud charges had been politically motivated from the beginning, Tadeo said. In 1981 he was general manager of a farmers' rice milling cooperative in Central Luzon known as the Central Bulacan Area Marketing Corp. One of its customers was the Marcos-controlled National Grains Authority.

At that time, "all the peasant organizations supported the regime," he said. In November of that year, Tadeo had helped form the Farmers Alliance of Central Luzon. As its chairman, Tadeo played a key role in organizing an antigovernment peasants' rally. The National Grains Authority then instituted proceedings against him, alleging a rice shortfall of 127,488 pesos on stocks under his control. Soon after, a mysterious fire destroyed the cooperative's warehouse and all its financial records. Civil and criminal cases were filed against Tadeo.

The civil charges were dismissed by a court in 1985 for lack of evidence establishing Tadeo's responsibility for the missing rice. At this time, Tadeo was instrumental in founding the KMP as a nationwide farmers' organization. In response, he explained, Marcos pursued the criminal case against him, although it requires a greater burden of proof



Jaime Tadeo, chairman of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines, in 1987 interview with *Militant* correspondent Russell Johnson (right). Johnson recently visited Tadeo in prison.

than the dismissed case.

In 1986 Marcos was overthrown in a popular uprising after he attempted to steal a presidential election won by Corazon Aquino. The new president appointed Tadeo as a peasant representative to the commission to draft a new constitution.

Tadeo said he had been offered a substantial sum of money by the Aquino government to campaign for a yes vote in a national plebiscite on the draft constitution. Tadeo refused, saying the constitution had set aside the interests of the peasants. Instead, he returned to mobilizing tenant farmers and landless peasants in demonstrations and land occupations to demand redistribution of the land.

Then on Jan. 22, 1987, Tadeo led a 10,000-strong peasant march on the presidential palace. Government soldiers turned their guns on the demonstrators, killing 19. In the aftermath of this, Aquino revived the criminal charges against Tadeo.

In May of that year, Tadeo was convicted of *estafa* on the basis of evidence rejected by the Marcos courts in 1985. Tadeo's case was decided by judges appointed by President Aquino. Those were the same charges con-

firmed by the supreme court on April 25 this year.

Tadeo and the KMP were outspoken in their opposition to the 1988 land reform legislation sponsored by the Aquino government. They saw it as an extension of the fake land reform programs of the Marcos era. In particular, they continued to arouse the ire of the administration by exposing efforts by Aquino and others to avoid the redistribution of their family estates.

Aquino's family, Tadeo said, has the second-largest landholdings in the Philippines. They avoided distribution of their 15,000-acre Hacienda Luisita to its 6,000 workers by pressuring them to accept instead a one-third stock holding in Hacienda Luisita Inc., to be transferred over a 30-year period.

In a further effort to break the peasant leader's morale, the government is proceeding with the sedition charges against Tadeo.

His lawyers are continuing to pursue efforts through the Philippine courts to try to get him released, the peasant leader said. Once the legal remedies are exhausted, plans are afoot to take the case to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, he said.

## Black activist gets year for '70 bail jumping

BY HARRY RING

NEW YORK — Herman Ferguson, a Black rights activist framed up on a "conspiracy" charge, was given a one-year bail-jumping sentence June 27. This is to be served concurrently with the three-and-a-half to seven-year term he is serving in the conspiracy case.

In the 1960s Ferguson was a prominent figure in the movement of Blacks to win control of the schools in their communities in New York.

In 1968 he and a codefendant, Arthur Harris, were convicted on trumped-up charges of conspiring to assassinate two prominent civil rights figures of the time, Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young.

When their appeal of the conviction was denied, both Ferguson and Harris fled the

country in 1970.

In April 1989 Ferguson returned voluntarily because new evidence had become available proving he had been targeted for government victimization.

The new evidence came to light in the files of another victim of the government, Dhoruba al-Mujahid bin Wahad (Richard Moore).

A member of the New York Black Panthers, Dhoruba had been railroaded to prison on charges of shooting two cops.

In the course of obtaining government documents in his fight to be released, Dhoruba obtained a file which showed that well before the New York indictments came down

against Ferguson, he had been targeted for victimization under the FBI's Cointelpro disruption operation.

Dhoruba himself finally won release last March when his conviction was overturned. Key evidence in his favor had been suppressed.

But despite the evidence found in Dhoruba's files, the courts refused to grant Ferguson a new trial.

In sentencing Ferguson on the bail-jumping charge, the judge rejected the prosecutor's argument that he receive the maximum penalty of four years and that it be served consecutively to his "conspiracy" sentence.

## Filipino political activists pay homage to Cuban ambassador

MANILA, Philippines — Several organizations here joined Amistad — the Philippines-Cuba friendship association — in bidding farewell to Ana-Maria González. She had been Cuba's ambassador to the Philippines for the past six years and was returning to her country to take up a new assignment.

Crispin Beltran, chairman of the May 1 Movement (KMU) labor center, opened the going-away event, which was held here May 20. Beltran recently returned from a visit to Cuba where he had been a guest of the trade unions.

Dan Vismanos, president of Amistad, stressed González' role in developing relations between Cuba and the Filipino people through her enthusiasm for leaving the diplomatic circuit and mixing with ordinary Filipinos.

Jailed leader of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines, Jaime Tadeo, sent a taped message from his prison cell. He called for strengthening solidarity ties between farm-

ers' organizations in the Philippines and Cuba. This was even more important today, he said, because the crisis in Eastern Europe and China showed that Cuba was "now the strongest socialist country."

Lidy Nacpil-Alejandro, secretary-general of Bayan, stressed that Cuba is the Filipino people's strongest ally in the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Bayan is a leading organization in the campaign demanding Washington's military bases be removed from the Philippines.

Other organizations represented at the meeting included the League of Filipino Students, National Movement for Civil Liberties, and the Gabriela women's organization.

Over the past four years, González had been a regular speaker at functions in Manila held to promote books published by Pathfinder. Two of its many books by Cuban revolutionary leaders Fidel Castro and Ernesto Che Guevara were reprinted in newsprint editions in the Philippines. — R.J.

## Political Perspectives of the Socialist Workers Party 1990 Election Campaigns

- How Washington lost the Cold War and why labor needs its own foreign policy
- New stage in South African freedom struggle and the Cuban revolution and the challenge for U.S. labor
- Employers' offensive, growing class polarization, and the fight to use union power
- Labor's growing resistance and political challenges

— A panel of SWP candidates & campaign committee officers: Joel Britton, Craig Gannon, Wendy Lyons, Ernie Mailhot, Selva Nebbia, Heather Randle, Don Rojas, and Mac Warren

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# Team tours British coalfields, wins new backers

Mark Curtis is a unionist and political activist from Des Moines, Iowa, who is serving a 25-year sentence in the John Bennett state prison in Fort Madison on a frame-up conviction of rape and burglary.

The Mark Curtis Defense Committee is leading an international

to promote the defense effort and a steelworker from the United States who joined the group.

Many miners immediately understood what had happened to Curtis based on their own experience with the police and courts during their 1984-85 strike. They often talked about the constant attacks they have

Mineworkers and several union officials. Twelve other branches will be discussing endorsement at their next union meeting.

After hearing one team member address their meeting, all 13 members of the Nottinghamshire Area NUM panel signed up to get copies of the video documentary, *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis*, and more information about the fight.

Curtis supporters took up the disinformation campaign of an anti-labor outfit called the International Communist Party. It has joined the Workers League in the United States in aggressively peddling the Des Moines cops' frame-up story against Curtis.

Many miners had encountered these anti-labor disrupters for the first time through their attacks on Curtis. Others knew of them from their attacks on Arthur Scargill and Peter Heathfield, national leaders of the NUM. At Gascoigne Drift, miners said they were "well unimpressed" with the ICP after meeting them at the Yorkshire miners' gala.

At some mine pits officials were not convinced of the importance of supporting Curtis' fight. Team members explained to them how the frame-up was designed to put the fear of the billy club into other fighters who step forward for workers' unity and stand up to the bosses.

Curtis supporters around the world are turning the frame-up into its opposite through their international defense campaign. "Mark's case is a beacon," said Henry Richardson, secretary of the Nottinghamshire Area NUM. "We've not seen many cases yet, but we will. The whole way things are going under capitalism, they're forced to do this kind of thing more and more."

The team was given a gift for Curtis from the coalfields — a copy of the book *A Century of Struggle*, a history of the NUM. It was signed with a message of solidarity to Curtis by Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the NUM, and Anne Scargill, Joan Bland, and Maureen Stubbings of the Women Against Pit Closures.

Supporters of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee from Alabama and Georgia introduced hundreds of people to Curtis' fight for justice during the June 27 visit of Nelson Mandela to Atlanta.

At a meeting for Mandela at Big Bethel AME Church, Curtis supporters spoke with several political activists and civil and human rights leaders. A member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from Thomaston, Georgia, drove several hours to see Mandela. He took a packet of de-

fense materials and exchanged addresses and phone numbers with defense committee supporters.

Curtis activists also spoke with Emory Searcy, executive director of Clergy and Laity Concerned, leaders of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, American Bar Association Legal Services workers, and leaders in a fight for housing for the homeless who recently occupied an abandoned hotel. Searcy is already an endorser of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee.

A Curtis literature table was set up outside the mass rally for Mandela at the Georgia Tech football stadium. More than 1,000 pieces of literature were distributed there, and more than a dozen people signed up for more information. The larger-than-life photo of Curtis after his beating by Des Moines police on March 4, 1988, attracted people to the table.

The two most popular pieces of literature were a brochure — "Who is Mark Curtis?" — and the "International Youth Appeal for Justice for Mark Curtis," which lists some members of the African National Congress Youth Section as endorsers of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee.

Marcella Fitzgerald from London and Chris Remple from Atlanta contributed to this week's column.

## DEFEND MARK CURTIS!

campaign to fight for justice for Curtis. For more information about the case or how you can help, write to the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311; telephone (515) 246-1695.

If you have news or reports on activities in support of Mark Curtis from your city or country, please send them to the *Militant*.

Hundreds of British coal miners learned about Mark Curtis' fight for justice when a team of his supporters toured the Yorkshire coalfields at the end of June. Many miners made financial contributions to the defense effort and others said they would look forward to the case being raised for backing in their union branches.

The team was made up of rail and engineering workers from Britain who were using their vacation time

been under through safety speedups and productivity bonuses that create widely different pay levels in the same mine pit.

The constant threat of pit closures and job losses have most miners "brassed off," the term in Britain for being fed up. They saw the similarities between their situation and that of U.S. workers, particularly in the meat-packing industry where Curtis had worked. For most of this decade the packinghouse bosses in the United States have been on a drive to lower wages and working conditions. In Wistow, one miner explained that conditions get to the point where a fight becomes inevitable.

Ten new endorsers of Curtis' defense campaign were won during the week, including the Bentley, Armthorpe, Manton, and Treeton branches of the National Union of

# Iowa's high court will not hear unionist's appeal

BY PETER THIERJUNG

The Iowa State Supreme Court decided June 29 that it would not review Mark Curtis' appeal to overturn his 1988 rape and burglary conviction and grant him a new trial. The decision exhausted appeal in the Iowa court system.

Attorneys are now preparing to take the case to U.S. federal court on grounds that Curtis' rights under the U.S. Constitution were violated at his trial.

On another legal front, attorney William Kutmus was unable to get an out-of-court settlement in a civil lawsuit brought against Curtis by Keith and Denise Morris, the parents of the woman he was accused of assaulting.

The suit comes to trial on July 9 and the Morrisses want the jury to award them a financial judgment against Curtis for the "pain and suffering" they claim he inflicted on their daughter.

A June 25 pretrial ruling by Iowa District Court Judge Arthur Gamble found Curtis' 1988 criminal conviction established his guilt as fact and ruled he was financially liable in the lawsuit. The judge's action limits the jury to determining how large a judgment Curtis would have to pay.

In directing his attorney to seek a settlement, Curtis aimed to minimize financial losses coming from a potentially large judgment against him and legal fees incurred during a trial. The effort to settle out-of-court was, however, rejected by the plaintiffs.

### Framed for defending immigrants

Curtis, a Des Moines unionist and political activist, is currently serving a 25-year jail term at the John Bennett Correctional Center in Fort Madison, Iowa. His frame-up by city police stemmed from his participation in efforts to defend 17 Latino coworkers arrested by immigration police at the Swift

meat-packing company.

Cops arrested Curtis on the evening of March 4, 1988. Earlier that day he had joined a meeting to organize protests against the victimization of the 17 coworkers. At the police station following his arrest, officers beat him and called him a "Mexican-lover, just like you love those coloreds." He suffered a shattered cheekbone and required 15 stitches.

The prosecutor's case against Curtis hinged on testimony from Des Moines police officer Joseph Gonzalez, who arrested Curtis and testified that he had caught him with his pants down at the scene of the alleged crime.

The prosecutor was otherwise unable to present physical evidence of sexual contact between Curtis and the woman he was accused of assaulting. The woman's description of her attacker did not match Curtis. And undisputed testimony at the trial placed him miles away at the time the woman insisted she was raped.

### Victim of an unfair trial

Information that the arresting officer had been suspended from the police force for lying in a previous arrest was excluded from the trial by the judge, as was other information that would have helped Curtis show he was framed.

The judge failed to inform the jury that Curtis' undisputed alibi was grounds for acquittal. The trial judge also ignored a series of irregularities involving the jury.

International support for Curtis' fight for justice has been building. An effort led by his wife Kate Kaku and the Des Moines-based Mark Curtis Defense Committee to get the unionist's case before the United Nations has gathered momentum. Kaku recently returned from an international human rights conference in Denmark, and in the first six months of this year she toured six southern U.S. states, Canada, and seven European countries.

More than 8,000 unionists, prominent political figures, defenders of democratic rights, and others from the Philippines to Sweden and from South Africa to Québec have signed up as supporters of the defense campaign.

"We are winning this case in the court of international public opinion," said John Studer, coordinator of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee in a phone interview with the *Militant*. "And supporters around the world are now redoubling their efforts to reach out to win thousands more to Mark's cause."

### Aim of July 9 trial

"Only further injustice will be done Curtis

at the July 9 trial," said Studer. "Through inflicting serious financial hardship, the trial is aimed at shutting Mark and Kate up. Its goal is to get them to drop their fight. But that effort will not succeed and the international campaign will continue to register important gains."

"We will continue to pursue Mark's appeal in the federal courts until justice is done," the defense committee coordinator added. He reported that building for a July 7 "Defend Mark Curtis!" rally in Des Moines has picked up. Several supporters from around the United States and Canada have gone to Des Moines to participate in special efforts to publicize Curtis' fight for justice.

### Defense committee activities

The defense committee recently mailed notices to 500 supporters in the Iowa area for the July 7 rally. Some supporters are organizing calls from the defense committee office to follow up on the mailing. Others have posted leaflets in the community where Curtis lived and where the defense office is located. Campus literature tables have been set up in Des Moines and Ames, Iowa.

Supporters are also distributing literature at supermarkets and to workers at the largest factories in the Des Moines area, including the Firestone and Armstrong tire plants, the John Deere farm implements factory, and the Swift/Monfort beef slaughterhouse.

"People remember Mark's case from his criminal trial two years ago," said Angel Lariscy, a young supporter from New York who arrived in Des Moines a week ago. "Many want to know what's happened to him since and a lot of them think Mark got a raw deal." Lariscy is part of the team traveling across Iowa to win support for Curtis.

Defense committee activist Linda Marcus reported that meetings have been organized between Kaku and several potential backers of the defense effort. Jane Harlan, a Des Moines attorney, endorsed the defense campaign after meeting Kaku. She is currently defending women inmates at the state prison in Mitchellville who have been subjected to brutal treatment by prison authorities.

"It stunk from the very beginning," a Des Moines shopkeeper told Marcus about Curtis' frame-up. He and his wife have been following the case in the local press. They posted leaflets for the defense rally in their storefront, made a financial contribution to the defense committee, and got a copy of the video documentary, *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis*, produced by Hollywood director Nick Castle.

## DES MOINES

### Rally to Defend Mark Curtis!



#### Hear: Kate Kaku

A leader of Mark Curtis Defense Committee, just returned from Denmark where she attended a conference on human rights.

- Protest lawsuit to harass and inflict financial hardship on Curtis and his wife Kate Kaku.
- Support international campaign to get Curtis' fight for justice before the United Nations.
- Defend Curtis' right to be politically active in prison.

Sat., July 7, 7:30 p.m.

Park Inn, 1050 6th Ave., top floor

Donation \$5

Sponsor: Mark Curtis Defense Committee



# 'Keep the pressure on apartheid!'

Continued from front page today and chronicles AFSCME's participation in the U.S. anti-apartheid struggle.

"The audience we are addressing today is unique," Mandela told the delegates, "because you are the voice of the working people."

"The more than 1.2 million of you not only have the moral power, but the physical capacity to ensure that pressure is kept on the apartheid state."

Bringing "warm regards" from the Congress of South Africa Trade Unions (COSATU), Mandela reported the giant union federation's desire to establish bilateral relations with sister unions in the United States.

Victory is in sight, Mandela said. "With your support we can attain it now. So let us keep the pressure on. Sanctions must stay in place until fundamental and irreversible change has taken place in South Africa. In the meantime, we ask for both political and material support."

Lucy announced the union had raised \$274,500 for the work of the ANC. Delegates then approved a resolution pledging continued anti-apartheid efforts.

Right-wing organizations and some elected officials opposed to the Cuban revolution openly attacked Mandela's visit. They were enraged by Mandela's refusal to back down on the ANC's solidarity with Cuba.

Despite a massive campaign by the anti-Cuba groups to organize a protest at the convention site, only 100 demonstrators appeared.

## 'Not a stranger here'

In Detroit the same day Mandela told cheering and chanting auto workers, "The man who is speaking is not a stranger here. The man who is speaking is a member of the UAW. I am your flesh and blood, I am your comrade."

Mandela and COSATU vice-president Chris Dlamini had just been presented a lifetime membership in the union by United Auto Workers International President Owen Bieber. The ceremony took place inside Ford's giant River Rouge plant. Hundreds of workers watched on a large screen in break areas and at the nearby union hall. So many workers left the line that production was halted for an unprecedented 18 minutes.

"The UAW is proud of the fact that we have long supported the proposition that the apartheid government system in South Africa has to go, and we pledge our aid to do it," Bieber said.

Speaking to the gathered workers Mandela said, "It is you who are responsible for the greatness of any particular country. . . . It is you who will ensure that the foreign policy of this country is one that is designed to reduce international tensions and

to promote peace. It is you who will ensure that its riches are used for the purpose of promoting the welfare, not only of the people of the USA, but of the people of the world."

At a rally of 60,000 at Tiger Stadium that evening he said, "It is the working people of the industrial heartland of America who have helped make this country a great industrial power. . . . It is with pleasure that I bring you solidarity greetings of your fellow workers in South Africa and their powerful trade unions."

Among the most enthusiastic participants in the rally were hundreds from Detroit's Arab community. One section held a banner that read, "Palestine, South Africa — one struggle," and waved ANC and Palestinian flags.

Strong support was evident in the Arab community in Dearborn. On the streets, in stores, and in restaurants people were clustered around radios waiting for news of the visit.

A group of teenagers gave the thumbs-up sign when asked what they thought about the ANC leader. One said, "He is a man of principle, standing up for his beliefs. He will do that till the day he dies."

## Message to youth

"Tonight I have a message to the American youth, indeed to the youth of the world," Mandela said at a sold-out event of 70,000 in the Los Angeles Coliseum June 29.

"The world may seem such an imperfect place, holding out no promise for your future. We too have experienced your joy and pain. As youth in the land of apartheid, our joy was short-lived and our pain was made worse by subhuman conditions apartheid cruelly imposed on us," Mandela said.

"Your counterparts in South Africa continue to suffer the pain we have known as young people. As youth we learned as you should learn, too, that the essence of our humanity is the struggle to make the world a better place."

"We learned that the solution was not to escape reality by resorting to drugs and other deforming substances," said the ANC leader.

"We went to prison for so long, but we never gave up hope. It is our responsibility to never give up hope. We can and must make the world a better place," he said.

Thousands of students and other youth had marched four miles to the Coliseum from Jackie Robinson Park. Among the banners of the anti-apartheid youth action was one reading "Intensify the struggle — sanctions now!" carried by members of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Saluting the support from California to the anti-apartheid struggle, Mandela said, "It was the International Longshoremen's Union, under the leadership of Harry Brid-



Militant/Ike Nahem  
Nelson Mandela being welcomed by supporters on his arrival at Washington National Airport on June 25. Behind him is Randall Robinson, executive director of Trans-Africa.

ges, which in the 1950s refused to load goods destined for South Africa. This we will never forget."

For hours prior to Mandela's speech, the audience watched a variety of entertainers — from gospel singer Andre Crouch and actor-singer Kris Kristofferson to rappers Tone Loc and Ice-T, who brought much of the crowd to their feet with a tribute to Mandela. Brief remarks calling for renewed commitment to the anti-apartheid struggle came from several speakers, including Ed Asner, Dick Gregory, Jesse Jackson, and state assemblywoman Maxine Waters.

Many prominent elected officials and entertainers packed the platform at an earlier rally of 5,000 outside City Hall. Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley presented Mandela with the key to the city and said, "Sanctions will remain in force until the scourge of apartheid has been banished for once and for all."

An early morning special session of the city council had decided to place before voters a measure strengthening restrictions on city contracts with firms doing business in South Africa. The proposal had been stalled for months prior to Mandela's visit.

## 'Our visit has succeeded'

"Our visit to the United States has succeeded beyond our wildest dreams," Mandela told the 70,000 people who turned out June 30 at the Oakland Coliseum in Northern

California to hear the last speech of the tour.

"This visit has succeeded both from our central message that the United States should keep sanctions in place" and in fundraising for the ANC, he said.

Throughout Mandela's historic and unprecedented 11-city tour of the United States and Canada, fund-raising events were held, responding to the ANC's request for financial assistance in rebuilding the organization inside South Africa. Contributions from rallies, private fund-raising dinners, unions, religious organizations, and others poured in. Millions of dollars were raised during the 14-day visit.

"Despite my 71 years, at the end of this visit I feel like a young man of 35," he said. "I feel like an old battery that has been recharged. . . . It is the people of the United States of America who are responsible for this," he added to resounding applause.

Banners were hung and carried in the stadium welcoming Mandela and linking the fight for a free South Africa to other struggles for justice. They included "Africa called, Cuba answered — free Leonard Peltier," "Boycott Shell, fuel of apartheid" and "AFL-CIO welcomes Mandelas."

Mandela's defense of the Palestinian people's struggle was reflected in hundreds of pennants with both the ANC and Palestinian flags. Big applause greeted the banners "Palestine and South Africa, two peoples, one struggle," and "American Jews in solidarity with the ANC and intifada."

## Eastern strikers turn out

Members of the International Association of Machinists on strike against Eastern Airlines passed out 5,000 leaflets linking their struggle to the fight against apartheid and urging people to join their picket line at the San Francisco airport July 6.

The ANC leader devoted part of his remarks to the plight of Native Americans. Since his arrival, he said, he had received several letters and gifts from the "first American nation — American Indians. And I must assure you, these letters have left me very disturbed."

"I will return in October," Mandela said, to "visit the Indian areas of this country, exchange views, and see what I can do to help them in their struggle."

In listing the "great Americans" who have been part of the fight to "expunge racism once and for all from our society," Mandela's inclusion of Malcolm X drew the loudest approval.

The ANC leader concluded his address saying, "We celebrate with you the imminent birth of a new South Africa, a South Africa in which all shall be equal irrespective of gender, race, or religion."

*Salm Kolis in Atlanta, Nancy Cole in Miami, Kathie Fitzgerald in Detroit, Nelson Blackstock in Los Angeles, and Margaret Jayko in Oakland contributed to this article.*

# Mandela visit stirs debate in Miami

## Supporters of the ANC outdo right-wing foes of freedom struggle.

BY NANCY COLE

MIAMI — Supporters of Nelson Mandela and the freedom struggle in South Africa outmobilized right-wing opponents of the African National Congress by 50 to 1 here June 28. The show of support came at the end of a week-long debate that extended to every corner of Dade County.

Some 3,000 welcomed Mandela outside the convention of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Another 2,500 rallied in the Black community's Gwen Cherry Park later the same day.

The right-wing opponents managed to muster just 100 protesters to denounce Mandela.

As Mandela continued to reiterate the ANC's solidarity with Cuba, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Libya during the first days of his U.S. tour, Cuban members of the Miami City Commission, along with Miami Mayor Xavier Suarez, backed off from an earlier proclamation welcoming

Mandela to the city. Four days before Mandela's arrival in Miami four other Cuban-American mayors of cities in Dade County joined Suarez in a public denunciation of Mandela for his failure to condemn Cuba.

Only the cities of Opa-Locka in Dade County, and Ft. Lauderdale north of here, issued official welcome proclamations.

Right-wing groups called for protests at the convention sight. Reactionary Spanish-language radio stations were ablaze with attacks on Mandela and the ANC. "Out with Mandela," one caller demanded. "We have enough communists here."

The Committee for Cuban Liberty — co-chaired by the mayor of Dade County's second-largest city, Hialeah — ran a full-page ad in the *Miami Herald* on the day of Mandela's visit. The ad denounced Mandela for his stand on Cuba and the ANC leader's "150 acts of sabotage" that he was accused of in South Africa and for his support to "violent tactics" in the freedom struggle.

At a news conference to respond to the uproar, AFSCME International President Gerald McEntee said Mandela, "is a man of many opinions, the strongest of which is to bring democracy and freedom to those Black people in South Africa. He will do what he

has to do to get it, and we agree with that position."

As outrage boiled over the official snubs, a call was issued by prominent individuals in the Black community for welcome Mandela rallies at the convention center and the park.

The Antonio Maceo Brigade, a group of Cuban-Americans who support the revolution in Cuba, held a news conference to call on Cubans to join other supporters of the anti-apartheid struggle at the convention center.

When a contingent of 15 Cubans from the Brigade and the Alliance of Workers in the Community (ATC) arrived at the June 28 demonstration with signs reading "Miami Cubans welcome Mandela," and "Cubanos say, Viva Mandela," the crowd erupted in cheers of support. Similar responses greeted a banner of the New Jewish Agenda and protesters waving Palestinian flags.

Two airplanes rented by the right-wing protesters trailed banners reading, "Kadafy, Arafat, and Castro are pigs," and "ANC + Mandela, partners in Communism." They were upstaged, however, by a plane displaying a banner reading "Welcome Nelson Mandela — Miami Cubans, ATC"



# 'Our strike is 96% solid nationwide; 100% in D.C.'

Some 8,500 International Association of Machinists members struck Eastern Airlines March 4, 1989, in an effort to block the company's drive to break the union and impose massive concessions on workers.

As of the *Militant's* closing news date, Wednesday, July 4, the strike was in its 488th day.

The Eastern workers' fight has

now!" more than 80 Machinists and other strike supporters joined the picket line at the Eastern Airlines terminal at Washington National Airport on June 28. The pickets came from IAM locals across the country. Unionists also came from the IAM's leadership school in Placid Harbor, Maryland. They were joined on the picket line by members of the United Food and Commercial Workers,

Frank Lorenzo, but Mr. Shugrue is following Lorenzo's script. We have to let him know that he cannot get Eastern into the air again safely until he deals with us and gives us a contract."

Strikers collected almost \$400 in button and T-shirt sales at the action.

Eastern and Greyhound strikers participated in the 12th Women Miners Conference held in Norton, Virginia, June 22-24. The conference, sponsored by the Coal Employment Project, was attended by 200 people. Striking Machinist Nancy Brown from IAM Local 796 in Alexandria, Virginia, and striking Greyhound bus driver George Myers from ATU Local 1493 in Birmingham, Alabama, spoke to the "Voices of Celebration and Solidarity" rally during the gathering.

"Lorenzo wanted to break our union," said Brown, "Instead we are breaking his airline. It was a victory when we got rid of Lorenzo. It shows the power that the labor movement has when we stand in solidarity with each other. Now we need to turn the

noise up again."

Brown and Myers told the conference that the Eastern and Greyhound strikers need the kind of solidarity shown to coal miners when they were on strike against Pittston Coal for more than 10 months. Both encouraged people to participate in the picket lines at the airports and bus terminals.

"Eastern Airline strikers salute Nelson Mandela and our union brothers and sisters in South Africa," was the headline of a flier distributed by striking Machinists at the rallies for Nelson and Winnie Mandela in Washington, D.C.

More than 50 Eastern strikers and family members from the area participated in the rally of 20,000 people at the Washington Convention Center for the leader of the African National Congress.

Eastern strikers in New York recently received a message of support from Bernie Kavanagh on behalf of 125 workers on strike against Reynolds Power Transmission in Car-

diff, Wales, since June 6.

Kavanagh writes, "We recently heard of your struggle with Eastern Airlines and wish to send our fraternal greetings to your members. We have only been on strike for three weeks in defence of our trade union rights, and while we hope our victory will be soon, your members' struggle for nearly 500 days remains an inspiration to us."

"Keep the pressure on!" and "No contract! No peace!" are the headlines of a flier from Philadelphia announcing a picket line for Eastern and Greyhound strikers. The flier explains the event, sponsored by IAM Local 1776 and ATU Local 1210, is called to "Stop Lorenzoism and union-busting!"

"The Eastern and Greyhound strikers are on the front lines of the battle against union-busting," the flier said. "We can win with your continued support. Join us on the picket line!" The rally is set for July 7 at the Greyhound terminal, 10th and Filbert Street in Philadelphia and begins at 12:00 noon.



## SUPPORT EASTERN STRIKERS!

won broad support from working people in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, Canada, Bermuda, Sweden, New Zealand, France, and elsewhere in the world. Readers — especially Eastern strikers — are encouraged to send news of strike solidarity activities to this column.

Chanting "We want a contract

Teamsters, and Amalgamated Transit Union on strike against Greyhound.

Paul Baicich, president of IAM Local 796, which is on strike against Eastern, told the crowd, "Our strike is 96 percent solid nationwide. Here at Washington National Airport, it is 100 percent. Not one Machinist has crossed the picket line. We had a big victory in April when we got rid of

# NATO talks show U.S. role in Europe is declining

BY PETER THIERJUNG

Heads of states belonging to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization begin a two-day summit in London July 5. Underlying the proceedings will be Washington's declining political influence in Europe as capitalist Germany's role mounts.

This growth of Germany's economic power, along with the shattering of the Communist Party-dominated regimes in Eastern Europe, is fueling a crisis in the NATO military alliance that the U.S. government has dominated for 40 years.

Washington has increasingly been unable to use its military and nuclear superiority in the alliance to influence the policies of its capitalist allies in Europe. German imperialism's international economic weight is playing a central role in shaping the policies of other Western European countries and their economic union, known as the European Community.

While West Germany has little more than a fifth of the total economic output of the United States, it exports 37 percent of everything it produces. U.S. capitalists export only 11 percent. West Germany's economic surpluses have provided it the capacity to buy assets and lend abroad, increasing its competitive edge in world markets.

In a bid to bring West Germany's relationships with other imperialist powers, particularly the United States, more into line with its growing economic leverage, the Bonn government has pressed NATO members to take steps toward withdrawing conventional and nuclear forces from German soil. Since Germany's defeat in World War II and its division by conquering powers, tens of thousands of U.S. and NATO troops have been stationed in West Germany. Tens of thousands of Soviet troops currently occupy East Germany.

### U.S. rejects removing missiles

The current source of contention in NATO is nuclear artillery and ground-based missiles stationed in West Germany, which the Bonn government wants eliminated unilaterally. U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney has publicly rejected Bonn's proposal. But the Bush administration is having difficulty publicly justifying its position.

Asked to explain the rationale for keeping the nuclear artillery in West Germany, one U.S. official — who asked not to be named — told the *New York Times*, "This question is real trouble. It will get me in trouble. The rationale for battlefield nuclear weapons was a reflection of the proximity of forces at the inter-German border, the risk of Soviet

breakthroughs, and the need to counter those breakthroughs."

Washington's quandary and weakening position stems in large part from the recent end of the 40-year Cold War in Europe. The collapse of the Eastern European ruling Stalinist parties, the resulting disintegration of the Warsaw Pact military alliance, and the imminent withdrawal of Soviet forces from Eastern Europe have undermined a central justification of NATO's existence: prevention of the advance of the "communist menace."

These developments opened the door to the unification of Germany. Monetary union between West and East Germany was achieved July 1 and votes on governmental unification are expected to take place at the end of this year.

The Bonn government is now arguing that having missiles in West Germany poised toward the East can no longer be justified. Confident of their position, Bonn officials say they consider the eventual withdrawal of the nuclear weapons and forces inevitable.

The Bush administration had announced in May under pressure from Bonn that it was scuttling plans to modernize the Lance short-range nuclear missiles based on West German soil, but indicated it would go ahead with preparing the deployment of the Tactical Air-to-Surface Missile, TASM.

West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher termed "ridiculous" U.S. government intentions. "This is not the time to speak about new nuclear weapons that could reach the Soviet Union from Germany," another West German official said.

To cover the U.S. government's goal of keeping nuclear weapons in Germany, President George Bush sent a letter to NATO leaders prior to the summit's opening. He called for the adoption of a strategy under which the alliance would make "its nuclear force truly weapons of last resort."

### Issue divides NATO allies

The debate has sharply divided NATO allies. The Thatcher government in Britain, which is also resisting Bonn's increasingly dominant role in Europe, has backed keeping NATO forces and nuclear weapons stationed in West Germany. The Netherlands government has joined Bonn's call for their complete removal.

The United States controls some 1,450 nuclear-tipped artillery shells in Europe. They typically have a range of 10 to 20 miles. Most are based in West Germany, but some are in Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey.

The NATO meeting will quickly be followed by a summit in Houston, Texas of the world's seven most powerful imperialist governments. The seven include the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Canada, Japan, and Italy.

The Bonn government's initiatives and proposals at the end of June for short-term credits and long-term economic aid for the

Soviet Union will be a central topic at the this summit. Kohl has already guaranteed \$2.9 billion in German private bank credits to the USSR and is now proposing that the other summit participants come up with another \$15 billion in aid. Leaders of the European Community, under pressure from the West German chancellor, gave qualified endorsement to the proposal pending further study of Soviet economic needs.

Bonn considers the aid critical to its effort to win Moscow's backing for completing unification of the two Germanys. As one of the four victorious powers in World War II, the Soviet government has insisted on having a say in the terms of unification. The withdrawal of Soviet troops from East Germany is a central aspect of these terms.

Kohl's proposal "does put pressure on us, because if we don't do something we will be left out," Michael Mandelbaum, a member of the U.S. Council of Foreign Relations, said

about Washington's stakes in the summit. "This is the new Europe and an early test of whether we're going to play a role," he added.

The Bush administration, however, has raised possible preconditions for aid to the USSR. "It's hard for Americans to understand why \$5 billion a year [in Soviet aid] going to Cuba can't be used to help the Soviet people," Bush said in an interview with journalists from capitalist Europe, Japan, and Canada at the end of June. "If you want to save \$5 billion, there's a good way to start."

West Germany's political initiatives and developing economic ties with the Kremlin and in Central Europe have to some extent edged Washington out. According to *Newsweek* correspondents, contacts between West Germans and Soviets are so numerous — involving hundreds of diplomats, businessmen, and others on both sides — that not all details get reported to the U.S. government.

# Thousands welcome leader of the ANC to Ireland

Continued from front page

A spokesman for Thatcher assured that Mandela's words would not sour the atmosphere when the ANC leader and prime minister sit down for talks in London.

Mandela arrived here July 1 after completing his U.S.-Canada tour. He was greeted by a delegation at the airport that included the Irish minister for foreign affairs and members of the executive committee of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement.

At a lunch for the ANC leader hosted by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, nine workers who had participated in a 1984 strike at Dunnes department store in Dublin, refusing to handle apartheid goods, were featured guests. One of their number, Catherine O'Reilly, presented Mandela with a picture of an unbalanced scales of justice with the words "The Birmingham Six" above it.

The Birmingham Six are Irishmen who have spent 15 years in prison on frame-up charges of blowing up two pubs in Birmingham, England. They maintain their innocence, explaining that confessions were beaten out of them by the police.

Following the lunch, Mandela attended an event at the city's Mansion House. There Tony Gregory, a member of the Dáil and a Dublin city councillor, presented Mandela with a specially bound book on the Birmingham Six. He announced that the six themselves wished that Mandela receive the book.

Among those attending the Mansion House event was Paul Hill, similarly framed up as one of the Guildford Four in England but recently released when the case against them collapsed.

At the Mansion House, Mandela was presented with the Freedom of the City, actually bestowed on him two years ago while he was still behind bars.

### Public rally

Throughout the ceremony—and for several hours before—a crowd of thousands had been building outside, filling up the neighboring streets. ANC flags, Irish tricolors, and homemade placards greeted Mandela. Banners called for justice for the Birmingham Six and demanded an end to the extradition of Irish nationalists to Britain. One man held up a placard calling for justice in South Africa and Ireland. A great roar from the crowd welcomed the ANC leader as he stepped from the Mansion House to address them.

In his speech, Mandela pointed to the recent European Community summit in Dublin, where the Irish prime minister and minister for foreign affairs had resisted efforts, especially by the British government, to end sanctions.

"Let us maintain pressure on the apartheid system," Mandela said, "until victory is achieved. There is now a light at the end of the tunnel, but the way is still fraught with danger."

"You stood behind our struggle for many years. In prison and behind thick walls we could hear your message loud and clear," he said to the cheering crowd. "You rallied to our cause when very few countries knew of our existence as a people."

"Thank you for being there when we needed you most," Mandela said. "We have come here to invite you to walk with us the last mile of our long and difficult struggle."

### Labor news in the Militant

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



# Leader of Eastern strike says the fight can be won

Continued from front page

**Mailhot.** It reflects several things. Summer is when people fly. People have vacations and airlines usually have a very high number of passengers at this time of the year. Eastern's number of passengers is still relatively very low. Most airlines have a lot of booked flights right now, so people have to look around to get the flights they want.

However, the only way Eastern has been able to get the percentage up is by offering super-low fares in coach and special fares for first-class passengers. First-class fares at Eastern are lower than a lot of coach fares on other airlines.

With the fares Eastern's management offers, the number of passengers is even further below what they need to break even.

**Militant.** You raised that one of the problems for Eastern has to do with safety. A nearly year-long grand jury investigation around Eastern's safety and maintenance procedures at Kennedy airport has been taking place in New York. Can you explain this?

**Mailhot.** The IAM for many months now has been pointing to the airline's safety problems. In fact, even before the strike began, many of our members were fired for exposing safety problems. A mechanic in Boston, for example, was fired shortly before the strike started because he reported safety problems at Eastern to the Federal Aviation Administration.

During the strike there have been a lot of safety problems — two came to light recently. On June 7 an Eastern DC-9 had to make an emergency landing in Atlanta after one of its two engines was damaged by a blown tire on takeoff. Then on June 28 an Eastern 727 had to return to Tampa, Florida, when an ice-clogged fuel line shut down one of its engines.

There have been incidents of planes landing on taxiways instead of runways, planes taking off with the rear stairs open, and hard landings with tires blowing out. There have been a lot more incidents because of inexperienced crews, inexperienced mechanics, and so on.

Luckily, there have been no major catastrophes, but all of these things just keep making a major catastrophe more likely.

## Safety violations

Because of a government safety investigation, Eastern has been closed at Kennedy airport for many months. Right now Eastern is under investigation at La Guardia and in Atlanta for the same safety violations. We're looking at the possibility of indictments when this investigation is completed.

Eastern is losing large sums of money. In a situation like this, safety always takes a back seat. They were caught red-handed at Kennedy, signing off safety checks that were never completed, as well as other violations. And that was before the strike. Since the strike began, it's gotten much worse.

Shugrue recently flew here to New York to talk to the government investigators. He's trying to cover up the safety problems at Eastern.

**Militant.** How do strikers feel about having been out on strike for 16 months?

**Mailhot.** It's quite a thing to be on strike for 16 months. Most strikers have had to get other jobs in order to survive for this long.

But the fact that we've been out so long is also one of the things that makes our strike so significant. Eastern hasn't defeated us. We're still strong.

And we've survived some big tests. When the Air Line Pilots Association leadership gave up its sympathy strike in November 1989, we rose to that challenge and kept on going. We kept the picket lines solid and kept passengers off the airline.

The latest test came with the court appointment of Shugrue. Many thought this meant there would be a settlement and that we were going to get our jobs back soon. But that didn't happen.

In fact, right now we're closer to victory than we've ever been. We can win this strike.

For over a year, Frank Lorenzo tried to run a successful nonunion airline but he couldn't. We vowed to stay out one day longer than Lorenzo, and we did.

## Government stepped in

Eastern's creditors want to protect the money they're owed. Lorenzo proposed they get 10 cents on the dollar, but this wasn't acceptable. So the government stepped in through the bankruptcy court, removed Lorenzo, and appointed Shugrue to run the airline. This was done to protect the creditors' interests.

Now is the time to push as hard as we can to force them to deal with us. We have an opportunity to show them that running a scab airline successfully is not an option.

We want the creditors and those they influence in government to see only two options — either settle with the union and we get our jobs back and the scabs are out, or see Eastern assets sold off at much less than 10 cents on the dollar. This isn't necessarily an option that serves the creditors' interests.

**Militant.** Strikers have maintained picketing at the airports and have held expanded picket lines periodically. What is important about these activities?

**Mailhot.** These activities are very important and are becoming even more important. The activities at the airport show management and the scabs that the strike is still strong.

Expanded picket lines are important for us, too. They are regular ongoing activities that we can bring our families, friends, and supporters to.

**Militant.** Labor Day is not that far off. Will the Eastern strikers be participating in any activities?

**Mailhot.** Labor Day this year is important for us, as well as for the whole labor movement. Last year the Labor Day parade here in New York and activities elsewhere focused on supporting the strikes going on at that time — Eastern, Pittston, NYNEX, and others.

This year Labor Day comes right before the end of Shugrue's "100 days" ad campaign. That gives us an additional reason to be out there. We can show the whole country and beyond that the labor movement is firmly behind us.

We'll be participating in the Labor Day activities for sure.

**Militant.** What kind of solidarity has the strike gotten from around the country?

**Mailhot.** Given how long we've been out, we couldn't have gotten this far and accomplished what we've accomplished without the solidarity we've received.

A tremendous amount of support has come from people who have refused to cross our picket lines and people who have joined our picket lines.

We've also gotten financial help. This past Saturday, for example, one striker spoke to a meeting of Local 1 of the International Union of Elevator Constructors in New York. They gave a \$3,000 check to our strike fund and took an on-the-spot collection of over \$3,000.

## International support

We've also gotten a lot of support from other parts of the world. In Bermuda the union movement was able to organize picketing against Eastern and actually drove Eastern out.

We've also gotten support from New Zealand, Britain, Sweden, France, Canada, and elsewhere. We have strikers in Canada and Puerto Rico who maintain picket lines.

We've gotten support from transport workers in South Africa, who are members of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the main union federation in South Africa.



Militant/Nancy Brown

Eastern strikers and supporters picket Washington, D.C., airport June 6.

It has shown us that our strike is much bigger than we thought in the beginning. People the world over have taken up our fight.

**Militant.** What importance do you place on the solidarity between Eastern strikers and others who are involved in fights — like garment workers who are on strike against Domsey in New York and the Greyhound bus drivers?

**Mailhot.** About a month after we went on strike, coal miners at Pittston walked out. It wasn't long after this that we drew the links between our two strikes. We were able to participate in activities with them at Camp Solidarity, and they came to our picket lines in many cities. It made our fight quite a bit stronger, and I think it also helped out the miners and made their fight stronger.

The Greyhound strike is important, and we've been able to hook up with each other in joint activities in a lot of cities.

We work closely with members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union members at Domsey in Brooklyn who have been on strike for several months now. They are mostly immigrant workers. The fight for their rights ties directly into what we've been involved in at Eastern.

**Militant.** Earlier you talked about the international support the strike has received from unions in South Africa. Recently, Nelson Mandela was on tour in the United States. Would you explain Eastern strikers' participation in some of the events?

**Mailhot.** A lot of us were very excited about Nelson Mandela coming to the U.S. We're different than we were 16 months ago when we went out. Many strikers knew only a little bit about South Africa and what apartheid is.

When we got the message of support from transport workers in South Africa, we were impressed. From this we started to learn more about the situation over there. It was a very good discussion.

People who never even dreamed they would be involved in a fight like the one at Eastern today view people around the world who are fighting as their brothers and sisters.

In most U.S. cities that Mandela visited, Eastern strikers participated in the activities, made banners and so on, and welcomed him to the United States. It's a very real, heartfelt thing.

**Militant.** In what way do you feel this strike changes the situation of the labor movement and affects politics in the U.S.?

**Mailhot.** I think a change is beginning to take place in the labor movement, which means a change is taking place in this country, and it is having an effect on politics.

For many years the labor movement didn't fight and we saw a lot of concession contracts. This affected workers in general. We ran away from fights.

This began to change with the strikes by packinghouse workers in the Midwest in 1985-87 and the 1987-88 paperworkers' strike.

In 1989 our strike began at Eastern, shortly followed by the strike against Pittston, and now there are some other fights we can point to. I think a growing number of working people are thinking it's time to resist their bosses' demands and put up a fight.

It's significant that more of us think that we're fighting not just for ourselves, but for the entire labor movement. And those who have brought their support to our strike have increasingly taken up the slogan of "An injury to one, is an injury to all." I think our strike is setting an example that can inspire other unionists and others fighting for their rights throughout the U.S. and even internationally.

**Militant.** I'm sure our readers would like to know what can be done to help your union win the strike. What can you suggest they do?

**Mailhot.** My union has initiated an outreach program that asks unions and central labor councils to "adopt" a striking IAM lodge.

As I mentioned earlier, raising money is crucial for the strike. In this program the adopting local provides cash support each month to the adopted lodge to help feed strikers or cover strike costs.

The IAM has suggested several ideas to get this off the ground, including inviting strike representatives to union locals to explain the program, to publicize the program in newsletters and union papers, and to raise money through fund-raising events, plant gate collections, and contributions directly from the locals.

## 'Get out the truth'

There's really a lot that can be done. One of the most important things is to continue getting out the truth about the strike everywhere possible.

Union members and officers should have strikers invited to their union meetings. Students should arrange to have us speak to their high schools and college campuses. We can speak before church organizations and congregations.

We'd like to get information out about the strike to cities where we aren't located. We want the strike to be visible throughout the United States. Unions and organizations or individuals can contact the nearest city where there are strikers to see about getting a striker to their city.

People should wear buttons and T-shirts. Here in New York, we have a new button out that says, "No contract, no peace; support Eastern Airlines strikers." Put a button on and be sure you wear it when you fly. You'd be surprised by the positive response you'll get from airline workers. It's very important that this strike be visible.

The walk-throughs that we do at the airports should be continued, as should the expanded picket lines. We should do all we can to make them as large as possible.

The slogan that's been used during Nelson Mandela's tour very much fits here, and that's to "keep the pressure on." That's what we need to do now. It's no time to let up, in fact it's time to step up our efforts.



# Mandela explains South Africa apartheid, goals of freedom struggle

## Excerpts from speeches and interviews during historic tour

The following are excerpts from speeches and interviews given by African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela during his eight-city tour of the United States. The speech from which each excerpt is taken is indicated. Sections from the interview with Charlayne Hunter-Gault, "Meeting with Mandela," are reprinted courtesy of Channel 13/WNET.

### Effects of apartheid

The unspeakable poverty of our people is a result of apartheid legislation which systematically and deliberately restricts us from our right to earn a decent living, forcibly deprived us of land, and relegated us to the position of perpetual economic serfs.

Our people have hungered and thirsted for their liberation. Many have died. Many thousands more have been jailed, banned, and restricted. South Africans unnamed have gone without recognition and are known only to their maker. They have paid the supreme sacrifice. They will be vindicated by the completion of the call first undertaken by our movement 78 years ago. *Speech at Riverside Church, New York*

The extent of the deprivation of millions of people has to be seen to be believed. The injury is made that more intolerable by the opulence of our white compatriots and the deliberate distortion of the economy to feed that opulence. *Speech to U.S. Congress*

We continue to live in a country enslaved by apartheid. The vote, the land, economic wealth, and power remain a monopoly of the white minority. The only monopoly Blacks have is the monopoly of ghettos; of deprived and suffering children; the monopoly of urban slums, rural starvation, and low wages; and the bullets and clubs of too many trigger-happy police. *Speech in Harlem*

The unrelenting racist tyranny and the destructive fury of wars unleashed on the people of our region has led to the death of hundreds of thousands of people and the impoverishment of millions. But our people did not flinch from doing their duty. Prison,

torture, and even death could not, and never will, cower our people into submission. *Speech at Georgia Tech stadium, Atlanta*

### Goals of freedom struggle

The whole issue in South Africa is about one person, one vote. That is a demand for which people have paid with their own lives. And it is a demand over which there can be no compromise. We demand a new South Africa and the solution should be the acceptance of the principle of one man, one vote. *WNET — "Meeting with Mandela"*

Our people demand democracy. Our country, which continues to bleed and suffer pain, needs democracy. It cries out for the situation where the law will decree that freedom to speak of freedom constitutes the very essence of legality and the very thing that makes for the legitimacy of the constitutional order.

It thirsts for a situation where those who are entitled by law to carry arms, as the forces of national security of law and order, will not turn their weapons against the citizens simply because the citizens assert that equality, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are fundamental human rights which are not only inalienable, but must, if necessary, be defended with the weapons of war. *Address to Congress*

The revolt of our people continues in the land of apartheid. Our struggle is the struggle to erase the color line that all too often determines who is rich and who is poor; that all too often decides who lives in luxury and lives in squalor; that all too often determines who shall get food, clothing, and health care; and that all too often decides who will live and who will die. *Harlem*

Our young people want, and have every right to, a quality education. Our aged deserve to have social security, housing, and health care. In these values we share common ground. We enter now the final phase of our struggle. The structures of apartheid are crumbling. The old order is crumbling. But the age of freedom has not yet dawned. We have not come to this point because of some kind of miraculous change of heart in the South African government, no.

Throughout the more than two-score years of apartheid and generations of our colonial history some of our white compatriots have shared in that struggle. At this time increasing numbers are ready to thrust aside this ungodly system of apartheid and participate in the creation of a new democratic South Africa.

Our vision, to which a significant majority of South Africans subscribe, is that of the Freedom Charter which declares: "South Africa belongs to all who live in it, Black and white, and no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people." *Riverside Church*

Our people have shed rivers of blood, and need democracy — all our people, Black and white, need democracy. We are engaged in a life-and-death struggle to bring into being a future in which all shall, without regard to race, color, creed, or sex have the right to vote, and to be voted into all elected organs of the state.

Our country today is on the brink of fundamental change. Imprisonment, torture, and mass killings cannot, and can never, diffuse the strength of resistance burning in our hearts. *Atlanta*

Our masses in action are like a raging torrent. We are on freedom road, and nothing is going to stop us from reaching our destination. Our objective is one person, one vote on a nonracial voters' roll. We are determined that apartheid — this crime against humanity — shall be transformed into an oasis of har-

monious human relations, between all our people, Black and white.

Only the creation of a nonracial, nonsexist, united, and democratic society can open the doors of the prison that is South Africa. The people of South Africa, the ANC, and the Mass Democratic Movement, are all steered in their determination to pursue the struggle until victory is achieved. *Speech at the Los Angeles Coliseum*

### Economic sanctions

These economic sanctions must be maintained for the simple reason that the principle of one person, one vote is still the privilege of whites only in the country of my birth. Apartheid laws are still entrenched in South African statute books, and we still cannot yet fully engage in political mobilization and education without state violence that lurks in every corner of South Africa.

Our struggle has been complemented by massive international activity, a central part of which has been economic sanctions. To lift sanctions now, before we have seen profound and irreversible change in apartheid, would be a serious political error. It could plunge us back into the darkness from which our country is painfully struggling to emerge. *Riverside Church*

The argument by companies that it is better for them to remain in South Africa flies in the face of the considered opinion of opinion makers in South Africa. The decision that companies should divest is that of the political organizations in the country and other democratic formations. It is the opinion of the trade union movement in the country which guards the interests of the workers themselves. It is also the opinion of religious organizations in the country and it is the opinion of professional associations.

What right has any company then, in that situation, to say it is better for the country for them to remain? They are looking at the matter purely from the point of view of their own interest... from the point of view of their own profits. *"Meeting with Mandela"*

### Economy

The process of the reconstruction of South African society must and will also entail the transformation of its economy. We need a strong and growing economy. We require an economy that is able to address the needs of all the people of our country; that can provide food, housing, education, health services, social security, and everything that makes human life human; that makes life joyful and not a protracted encounter with hopelessness and despair.

We believe that the fact of the apartheid structure of the South African economy, and the enormous and pressing needs of the people, make it inevitable that the democratic government will intervene in this economy, acting through an elected parliament.

The ANC holds no ideological positions which dictate that it must adopt a policy of nationalizations. But the ANC also holds the view that there is no self-regulating mechanism within the South African economy which will, on its own, ensure growth with equity.

At the same time we take it as a given that the private sector is an engine of the growth and development which is critical to the success of the mixed economy which we hope to see in the future South Africa. *Address to Congress*

### Racism, sexism, and human rights

We hold it as an inviolable principle that racism must be opposed by all the means that

humanity has at its disposal. Wherever occurs it has the potential to result in systematic and comprehensive denial of human rights to those who are discriminated against. This is because all racism is inherently a challenge to human rights, because it denies the view that every human being is a person of equal worth with any other, because it treats entire peoples as subhuman. *Speech to the United Nations*

In order to destroy racism in the world, we together must expunge apartheid racism in South Africa. Justice and liberty must be our tool. Prosperity and happiness our weapon.

To deny another person their human right is to challenge their very humanity. To impose on them the wretched life of hunger and deprivation is to dehumanize them. But such has been the terrible fate of all Black persons in our country under the system of apartheid. *Address to Congress*

We have committed ourselves unequivocally to opposing white racism, and Black racism. We reject sexism and have pledged ourselves to affirm and promote the equality of women in the new South Africa. *Riverside Church*

The ANC has opened its doors to women in accordance with the declaration that we made to which you have referred. In the delegation that went to Cape Town [for talks with South African President F.W. de Klerk, for example, there were no less than two women. That shows our attitude on this question.

We will place no limitations whatsoever on the right of the women to take part in the political activities of the country and, of course, in other spheres. We will encourage that. How this will be done will be determined by the issues that arise, if any issue arises which may put obstacles in the path of the women to participate fully in running the country. *"Meeting with Mandela"*

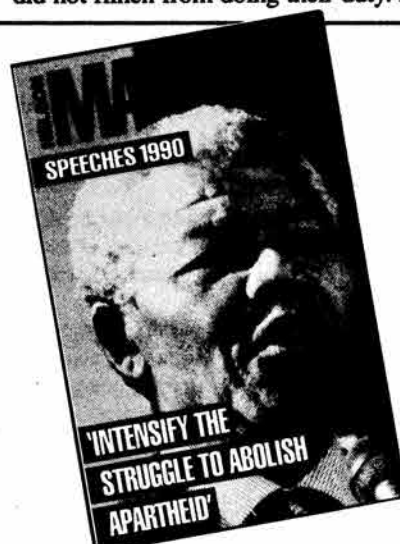
### Negotiations and the ruling party

The willingness of Mr. de Klerk and his government to talk, which is what we demanded before we went to jail 27 years ago has come about because of pressure from the youth, workers, religious, peasant, and professional communities — supported by the international community. Our broad-based movement for liberation has rendered large sections of South Africa virtually ungovernable. They virtually unbanned the ANC before Feb. 2, 1990, and organized an effective defiance campaign that challenged apartheid's segregated facilities.

We have as yet to have concrete evidence that de Klerk is prepared for transition to full democracy. *Riverside Church*

We believe that President de Klerk and his colleagues in the leadership of the ruling party are people of integrity. We are of the view that they will abide by decisions that are arrived at in the course of our discussions and negotiations. This, in itself, is an important victory of our common struggle, because it is that struggle which has made the cost of maintaining the apartheid system too high and helped to convince the ruling group in our country that change can no longer be resisted.

It is, however, also true that there are many among our white compatriots who are still committed to the maintenance of the evil system of white minority domination. Some are opposed because of their ideological adherence to racism. Others are resisting because they fear democratic majority rule. Some of these are armed and are to be found within the army and the police. *United Nations address*



This new 74-page Pathfinder pamphlet features seven of Nelson Mandela's speeches delivered since his release from prison in February 1990, including speeches at Wembley Stadium in London, and Luanda, Angola. Also included is Mandela's July 1989 letter from prison to P.W. Botha, and the Freedom Charter.

"The Pathfinder book comes at the perfect time. It is being asked, Who is Nelson Mandela? The ANC leader gives some good insights with his letter to Botha and through the speeches he's written since his release from prison..." — Earl Caldwell, *New York Daily News*

\$5. Available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12, or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Send \$1 per pamphlet for postage and handling.



# today, struggle in the U.S. tour

## Right-wing organizations

Outside of these state agencies, other forces are working at a feverish pace to establish paramilitary groups whose stated aim is the physical liquidation of the ANC, its leadership and membership, as well as other persons or formations which these right-wing terrorist groups see as a threat to the continued existence of the system of white minority domination. We cannot afford to underestimate the threat that these defenders of a brutal and continuing reality pose to the whole process of working towards a just political settlement. *United Nations address*

## On the violence in Natal Province

These problems are essentially the creation of the apartheid system. But if you are talking about the violence that is going on now, it is true that the element of Black fighting Black is there — but this is a very important aspect.

What is worrying us now, and the problem for the country, is the fact that state organs are being used to encourage and aggravate the violence between Black and Black.

As I have pointed out on countless occasions, in regard to the violence in Natal we have put a pointed question to de Klerk. He has said to him: "You have a strong, efficient, and well-equipped police force and army. Can you tell us why you have allowed for four and a half years violence to continue in which almost 4,000 people have been killed without crushing the violence? You have taken no visible steps in order to end this violence. What is the reason?" He has found it very difficult to answer the question.

We have, however, provided him with an answer. We have said: "You have now allowed your police to try and eliminate the ANC and its membership because you regard the ANC as the main threat to white domination. That is your problem, and that is why the government has decided not to interfere with the violence going on." *"Meeting with Mandela"*

## The struggle in the 'homelands'

We have these four so-called homelands which are constitutionally legally indepen-



Militant/Don Gurewitz

June 23 rally of 250,000 in Boston greeted Mandela

dent. In three of these areas, in fact, in four of them, there have been coups. In the Transkei and the Ciskei, these coups have led to the establishment of democratic governments which are working with the ANC.

In a third independent homeland there was another coup which succeeded, but the man who led that coup was himself produced by the South Africa police. He wants to see us, he wants to discuss with us. But of course there are problems the sense that the people do not want him because of his record. But there has been a coup in that area.

In the fourth area, Bophuthatswana, again, the people took action and overthrew [homeland official Lucas] Mangope, they overthrew him.

The people themselves have solved or are solving that problem. Then there are six homelands which are not independent but self-governing. Five of these are working with the ANC. Of course, the people in these homelands are standing up and fighting against what they consider to be discredited leaders. We are saying that we are prepared to work with these leaders.

We are prepared to forget the past for the sake of presenting a united front on the question of mobilizing the country for negotiations. But we're saying to them: "Settle your problems with the people in your areas; we are not going to be used as a means to protect discredited leaders. Settle your problems with the people on the ground." *"Meeting with Mandela"*

## Solidarity with Cuba, Palestinians

You must remember that when in 1960

leaders like [ANC President] Oliver Tambo and the young men sitting at the back there [members of the ANC delegation] went out of the country, one of the first steps they took was to visit the West and to ask for assistance. In the course of that visit, they came to the United States of America and asked for help. They did not get that help.

They went to Cuba and the Cubans, on the spot, blessed support and actually gave it long before the West would do anything to assist us.

I am surprised that anybody should now expect us to condemn Cuba, to condemn the PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization], which has been working with us right from the beginning and helping us in our problems. It is totally unrealistic. It is a typical attitude of countries which really do not approach the problem of South Africa from the point of view of the liberation struggle in South Africa, which approach these problems from the point of view of their own interest.

What that view wants is that the African National Congress and the liberation movement in South Africa should be used for the purpose of conducting vendettas against enemies of the West — we must join that vendetta in order to advance the interests of the West. That we will not do. *"Meeting with Mandela"*

## Rebuilding the ANC

We are also concerned about the rehabilitation of the almost 20,000 political exiles who have to come back to the country who require housing and jobs and educational facilities for their children.

We are also rebuilding the African Na-

tional Congress which has been banned for over 30 years. This is a very difficult task, because however much success we're having in rallies and public meetings — and they're drawing in crowds which have never been seen in the history of the country — but if those crowds are not functioning through an organized and disciplined political struggle where there is a machinery through which they can be reached, we can fail very badly in our aims and objectives. It becomes necessary, therefore, for us to have the resources to rebuild the ANC.

But equally important is the fact that we are now mobilizing the whole country for peace. That is a task which now puts us as the ANC in a totally different category from that in which we were regarded.

Many people regarded us as a political party pure and simple, and they refused to assist us because of this approach. We have always been a parliament of the Black people in this country, who from different walks of life and with different political affiliations, are members of the organization — joined by the determination to oppose racial oppression. *"Meeting with Mandela"*

## Anti-apartheid struggle in the U.S.

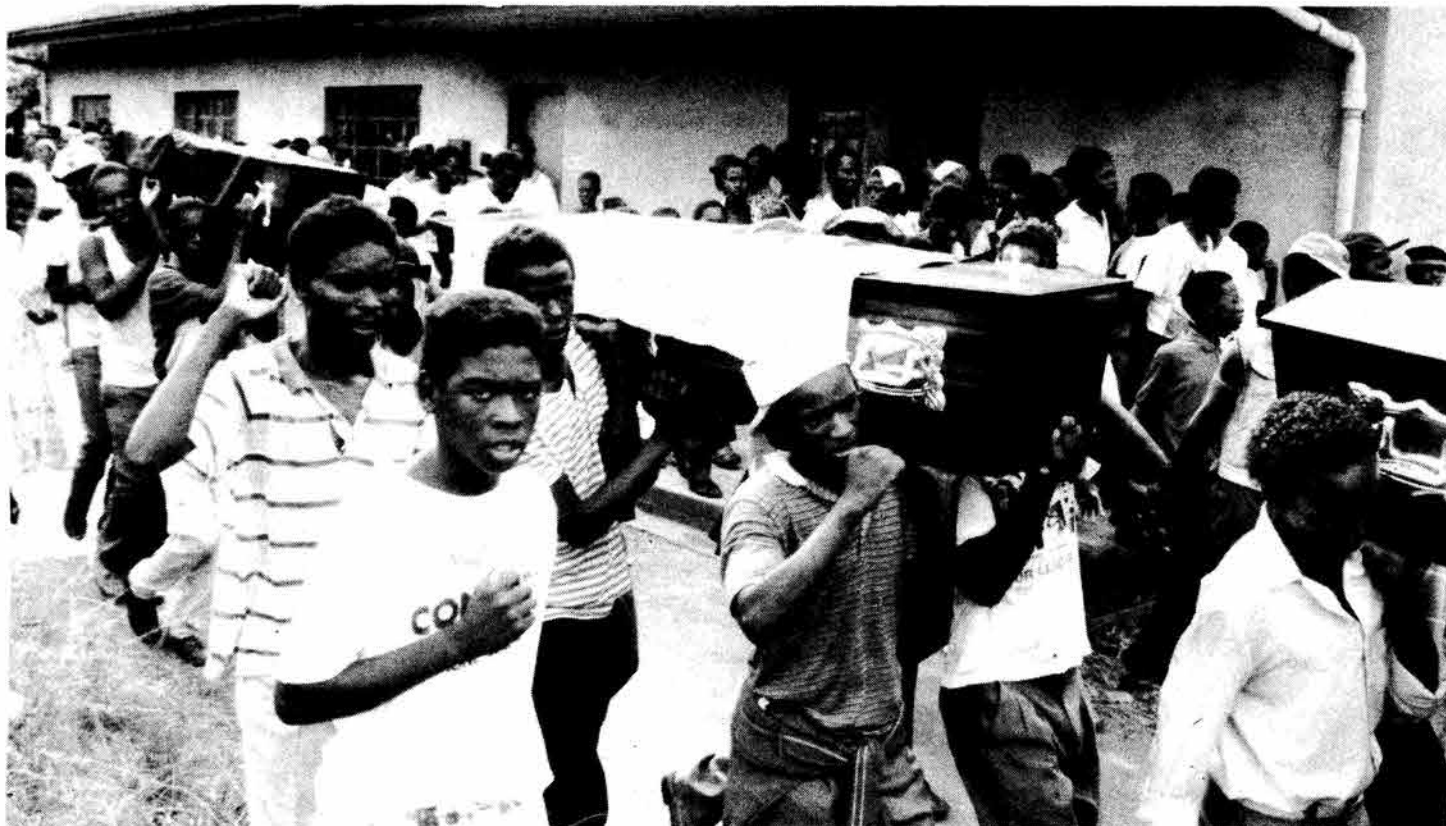
In turn we believe that the finest tribute we can pay to your wonderful, warm, generous, and compassionate people is to intensify the anti-apartheid struggle on all fronts.

I am not the first leader of the ANC to meet President Bush. In 1989 Walter Sisulu, an indomitable freedom fighter, came to Washington to brief President Bush about the conditions of our people and the depth of our commitment to liberate South Africa from the yoke of apartheid racialism.

And the visit helped to pave the way for us to enter the corridors of power in Washington. If today we can genuinely speak of a powerful, broad-based anti-apartheid movement, it is due to the tireless and sterling work done by thousands of activists throughout the length and breadth of this great country.

These unsung heroines and heroes toiled day and night, giving up their spare time, so that South Africa may be free. To all of them — and to the labor movement, religious groups, and political formations — we say from the bottom of our hearts a gigantic thank you. Your solidarity actions are a source of great strength and inspiration to us. It helps to keep us on our toes. *Los Angeles*

I am happy to report that we had warm, friendly, and fruitful meetings with President Bush and the Secretary of State, Mr. Baker. It was a meeting of minds on the most important issues determining the future of our country. It gives us a great deal of confidence to know that in your country there is developing a national anti-apartheid consensus. From the streets of New York, the institutions of learning in Boston, the churches in Atlanta, and the corridors of power in Washington, the message is clear and very unequivocal: Apartheid must go! It must go now! *Atlanta*



Militant/Margrethe Siem

Funeral protest procession March 24 for four youths killed by police in Natal Province



# Israeli court turns down appeal of victimized political activist

BY HARRY RING

The highest Israeli court has upheld the conviction of Michel Warschawsky, a veteran political activist who was victimized because of his solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle.

In its June 28 decision, the high court reduced the sentence imposed on Warschawsky from 20 months to eight months with 12 months suspended, still a harsh penalty for the offense he was accused of.

The court also upheld the stiff \$5,000 fine imposed on the Alternative Information Centre, of which Warschawsky was director. The center's activity includes publication of the newsletter *News From Within*, which provides information on the Palestinian movement and Israeli repression against it.

Warschawsky and the center were convicted last November of "closing an eye" to the source of a booklet they had typeset. The publication offered guidance to Palestinians subjected to interrogation and torture by the Israeli secret police.

The prosecution charged that the booklet was prepared for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which is branded illegal by the Israeli government.

In court, Warschawsky refused to divulge

the identity of the person for whom the typesetting was done.

Responding to the high court decision, the Alternative Information Centre declared that upholding the convictions is intended "as a deterrent and warning to the entire Israeli peace camp not to engage in cooperative activities with Palestinian political activists in the struggle against the occupation and against the violation of human and democratic rights in the occupied territories."

## 'Warning to everyone'

In a telephone interview from Jerusalem, Warschawsky emphasized the point. "The fact that my sentence was reduced doesn't change anything," he declared. "It's still a warning to everyone."

He said the political nature of the prosecution was affirmed when the high court reiterated the government argument that those Israelis who stand "at the border" are obliged to exercise caution not expected of other Israelis. "At the border," Warschawsky explained, means those who stand at the outer perimeter of Israeli society to extend a hand of political solidarity to the Palestinian people.

Warschawsky was slated to begin his pri-

son term July 2. He said that despite his victimization, he is greatly encouraged by the significant support he has won within Israel and internationally for his democratic rights. Equally important, he said, is the fact that since the Palestinian uprising, the *intifada*, the number of Israeli Jews who support the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people has grown.

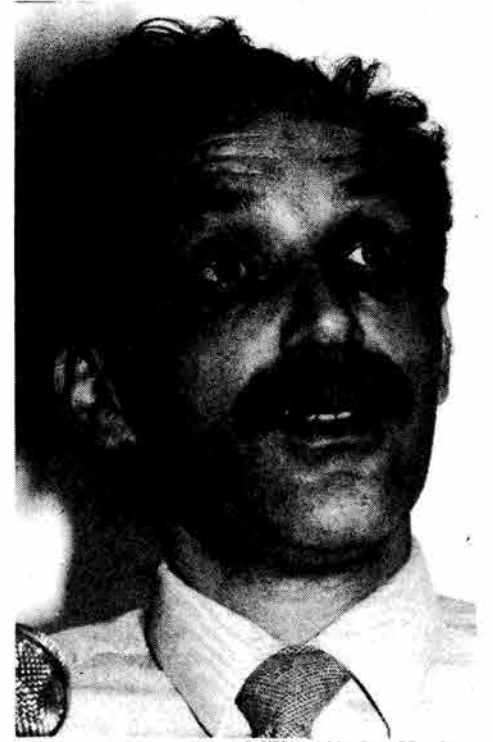
He said his actual jail term will be seven months, since he will be credited for the month he was held at the time of his arrest.

He said that he will also be entitled to time off for good behavior, "unless they decide to continue harassing me by denying it, and then it will be a political battle."

Shafik Habib, a Palestinian poet, was arrested by Israeli authorities on the grounds that his poetry incites violence. Habib lives within Israel's pre-1967 border and is said to be the first Palestinian Israeli citizen to be prosecuted for his writings.

Habib was arrested June 13, held for six days, and then released on bail. He remains under house arrest and cannot publish anything without permission of the military censor. No trial date has been set.

The Israeli daily *Maariv* reported that Ha-



Militant/Arthur Hughes  
Michel Warschawsky was prosecuted for his solidarity with Palestinians.

bib was jailed after soldiers found a collection of his poetry in the possession of West Bank Palestinians. On reading the poetry, the military decided to bring charges.

Habib's lawyer stressed that, with one exception, all the poems in the anthology had been previously published in local papers and magazines.

The General Federation of Arab Writers in Israel assailed "the police campaign against Arab writers." It noted that Habib's arrest came on the heels of the confiscation of a book on the *intifada* by one Palestinian and a collection of poetry of another.

A spokesperson for the Arab Writers Union said that censorship of literature in Israel was abolished in the 1970s after a fierce struggle. "Reimposing it," he warned, "is a dangerous signal for all rational and democratic forces."

## Salvadoran refugees denounce threats

BY SUSAN APSTEIN

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Salvadoran refugee organizations here have issued a communiqué denouncing the progovernment newspaper *La Prensa's* "death-squad style" publication of a list of Salvadoran refugees. The statement demands that the Nicaraguan government enforce compliance with the international accords protecting refugees' rights.

On May 26 *La Prensa* began printing a list of 319 names of Salvadorans recently granted Nicaraguan citizenship, accusing them of being "internationalists and guerrillas." The Salvadorans were naturalized under the government of the Sandinista National Liberation Front in April, just before the newly elected government of Violeta Chamorro took office.

*La Prensa* states that the granting of Nicaraguan nationality to the Salvadorans was an "abuse" and quotes a National Assembly legislator who calls for their citizenship to be revoked.

Among those included in the newspaper's list are relatives of Commander Shafik Handal of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, well-known painter Camilo Minero, and Inocencio Alas, a Catholic priest who is a prominent opponent of the Salvadoran government. All have lived in Nicaragua for many years.

## Threats received

*La Prensa* also lists the addresses of several restaurants in Managua owned by Salvadorans. The owners of one have received repeated threats since Chamorro's election.

In their statement of protest, the Salvadoran refugee groups point to *La Prensa's* "death-squad style, so often utilized by Central American regimes, of accusing any citizen of being a guerrilla so as to then capture, kidnap, and kill them."

They note that Salvadoran refugees in Nicaragua, "numbering approximately 17,000," are among thousands of "working people forced to leave their country because of the state terrorism the Salvadoran government carries out against its own people."

Publication of the list in *La Prensa* followed on the heels of a visit to Nicaragua by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas Castro, according to the statement. This "indicates agreement between the most reactionary sectors of both governments to carry out repression against the Salvadoran refugees."

The refugee groups demand that *La Prensa* respect the Salvadorans' status as political refugees and "cease linking us with the guerrillas" and that the Nicaraguan government enforce compliance with international accords on refugees protecting their elementary human rights.

"We hold *La Prensa* responsible, as the voice of the government," the statement concludes, "for any attacks against Salvadoran refugees here in Nicaragua or against their relatives in El Salvador." It calls on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and on humanitarian, religious, and solidarity groups to "be on the alert against any acts" against the refugees.

Silvia Cartagena of Salvadoran Refugees in Cooperatives (Resalcoop) said *La Prensa* editor Cristiana Chamorro refused to meet with a delegation of supporters of the communiqué seeking to convince Chamorro to publish the statement. "We were also turned away at the Salvadoran consulate," Cartagena added.

Since the *La Prensa* list was published in May, she said, there have been no new attacks on Salvadoran refugees or moves to deport them.

The recently formed Nicaraguan Committee for Peace and Democracy in El Salvador (Conipdes), which includes former Nicaraguan foreign minister Miguel D'Escoto, issued a statement protesting *La Prensa's* action, "which has exposed these Salvadoran citizens to the acts of death squads and Salvadoran security forces... such as the recent assassination of Salvadoran leader Héctor Oquell in Guatemala and of six Jesuit priests in San Salvador."

In the uncertain future they faced with the Chamorro government taking office,

Conipdes notes, many Salvadorans opted to become Nicaraguan citizens, "which they had a perfect right to do."

The Salvadoran refugee groups' statement is signed by the Association of Collectives of Salvadoran Refugees, Resalcoop, and the Collectives of Salvadoran Refugees.

## 'Truth must be told about U.S. gov't crimes on the Korean peninsula'

BY JON HILLSON

NEW YORK — In a speech here marking the 40th anniversary of Washington's war against the Korean people, Rev. Kiyul Chung urged "the truth be told to the American public about Washington's terrible crimes on the Korean peninsula."

Chung, a member of the International Secretariat of the International Committee for Peace and Reunification of Korea and of Young Koreans United, announced to cheers that his talk "is dedicated to Nelson Mandela and in solidarity with the people of South Africa. We are engaged in the same struggle for national liberation."

Chung spoke at a meeting of 100 people here sponsored by the U.S. Out of Korea Committee on June 29.

He linked the battle for the peaceful reunification of his country to struggles for national sovereignty in Angola, El Salvador, Panama, and the Philippines.

The Korean War was not, Chung said, "between 'communists' from the north and 'freedom lovers' from the south. It was a war between U.S. imperialism and the Korean nationality."

Since the division of Korea in 1953, Chung said, "10 million families have been separated." A massive wall across Korea built by Washington and its puppets in 1977 at a cost of \$5 billion, fortifies this division, "worse than the Berlin wall ever could," he said.

"No contact, no telephone calls, no letters" are permitted to cross it, Chung said, "under the most severe penalties."

This, and "not the supposed 'end of the cold war' as proclaimed by the Bush administration," he said, "is the reality we live and should be explained to the people of the United States."

Chung was joined by noted journalist William Worthy, who covered the last month of the Korean War and armistice talks at Panmunjom for the *Afro-American*. Had U.S. soldiers known what "they were getting into" in Korea, he said, "they never would have left these shores." More U.S. troops died in two-and-a-half years of combat in Korea than during the entire Vietnam War.

Among Washington's negotiators and mil-

itary brass, he said, "there was a prevailing mood of gloom and a clear perception of a U.S. defeat. We received no cables of victory celebrations in Times Square."

Other speakers included Elombe Brath of the Patrice Lumumba Coalition and Sue Bailey of the U.S. Out of Korea Committee. A presentation was given by Binari, a Korean cultural group.

Chung announced that Young Koreans United will hold its national convention in New York City from October 5 to 7. For more information contact Young Koreans United, 37-53 90th St. #4, Jackson Heights, N.Y. 11372. Telephone (718) 426-2684.

## Interview with Curtis featured in Cuba labor federation newspaper

The May 15 issue of the Cuban newspaper *Trabajadores* (Workers) featured an interview with Mark Curtis by Luis Madrid in its "International Round-Up" section. The daily is published by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions and is widely distributed in Cuba. "The case of Mark Curtis: Another mockery of human rights in the United States," the headline read.

"In a rigged judicial process full of arbitrariness and false testimony, U.S. unionist Mark Curtis was condemned to 25 years in prison simply for defending individual and union liberties in his country," the introduction to the feature said. "Today, a vast campaign of international protests demands his release."

Madrid conducted the interview with Curtis when he was incarcerated at the state prison in Anamosa, Iowa. He was since moved to the John Bennett state prison in Fort Madison.

Madrid is currently the editor of *Perspectiva Mundial*, a Spanish-language monthly published in New York, where a longer version of the interview appeared in April. The *Militant* also carried the interview in its April 13 issue.



Militant/Susan Apstein  
Salvadoran refugee children at facility in Nicaragua operated by Resalcoop.



# Puerto Rican artist tried in New York for shooting racist attacker

BY MAREA HIMELGRIN

NEW YORK — "Professor Rafael Rivera García came to New York on an exchange program between the University of Puerto Rico and the City University of New York," explained Lala Torres. "He was hopeful of a beautiful and productive year. Instead he has lived through the most incredible, terrifying, and violent experience of his life that he and his family will never forget."

Torres, of the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights, was speaking to nearly 100 people at a meeting at Hostos Community College to defend Rivera, who is charged with "attempted murder."

Rivera, a 61-year-old artist, his wife Isabel Batista — a school principal in Puerto Rico — and their 13-year-old son Boricua shared the platform with Torres at the June 29 meeting. Behind them was a mural painted by the artist representing Eugenio María de Hostos — the 19th century Puerto Rican writer and independence activist for whom the college is named.

Rivera went on trial in the Bronx June 12 for the May 2, 1989, shooting of Nick DeMatteis. DeMatteis, who lives in the same apartment complex in the Throgs Neck section of the Bronx as Rivera and his family, organized an eight-month campaign aimed at driving the Puerto Rican family out of the predominantly white neighborhood.

Rivera's motorcycle was stolen and burned, his wife's gas tank was filled with mud, obscenities were carved on their front door, their electricity was repeatedly cut off by someone throwing the breakers in the basement, and DeMatteis continually blasted his stereo in their direction.

## Campaign of harassment

DeMatteis, an appliance repairman who lifts weights and has studied martial arts, frequently came to Rivera's door. He would curse, jump into a fighting stance, and yell

for the professor to come out to "resolve this man to man."

DeMatteis once grabbed and started to strangle Rivera's son, telling him his father would be killed. Another time he nearly ran the professor down with a van.

On the night of May 2, 1989, DeMatteis confronted Rivera in the parking lot and demanded, "What more do we have to do to get you out of here, you dirty spic?" Then DeMatteis jumped Rivera and began choking him.

Fighting for his life, the art professor drew a .25 caliber pistol in an attempt to scare off his attacker. But DeMatteis continued the assault, so Rivera shot him.

When the small caliber slug failed to slow DeMatteis down, Rivera continued to fire until he had shot his assailant six times. The professor immediately ran to the 45th Police Precinct station and reported the incident.

DeMatteis was released from the hospital a week later.

This incident followed months of efforts by Rivera to seek defense from authorities for himself and his family. He went to the Board of Managers of the condominium, officials of the 45th precinct, the city's Conflict Dispute Center, State Senator Guy Vellela, the mayor's Office of Hispanic Affairs, and the city's Human Rights Commission. He obtained three court orders of protection against DeMatteis. However, "with every complaint, with every court appearance," explained Rivera, "things would get worse."

## Broad defense

A broad spectrum of individuals and organizations have come to Rivera's defense, rejecting the assertion by DeMatteis that the professor ambushed him and tried to murder him in cold blood. Rivera's supporters are protesting the fact that charges were filed against him at all.

Rivera, a widely known and respected

muralist, has taught Fine Arts at the University of Puerto Rico for 30 years. He served as director of Puerto Rico's Office of Cultural Affairs, was a founder of the Puerto Rico Academy of Arts and Sciences, and served as president of the 450-member UPR faculty union.

On the first day of the trial, Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer called for an investigation of the Police Department and other divisions of the justice system to determine "who is responsible for the institutional failure to protect Rafael Rivera García."

Ferrer stated, "It is an ironic tragedy that the victim of a racial crime also becomes the victim of the justice system."

Nydia Velázquez, secretary of the Department of Community Affairs of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, spoke at the Hostos defense meeting. In a guest editorial, entitled "A Puerto Rican Bensonhurst," for the New York Spanish-language daily *El Diario*, she wrote, "We cannot permit injustices like this one to continue to occur. It is time that the right to freely choose where we live and where we walk be guaranteed to all of us who live here — Latinos, Blacks, Chinese, etc."

## Supporters in courtroom

Velázquez and her office have urged people to pack the courtroom to show their support for Rivera and have set up a defense fund.

A contingent of Rivera, his family, and his defense committee, which includes many advocates of Puerto Rican independence, were invited to march in front of the Commonwealth's float near the head of the annual Puerto Rican Day Parade in New York on June 10. More than 167 groups participated in the parade and over 200,000 people lined the march route. Rivera's contingent was cheered the length of the parade.

Numerous Puerto Rican professors are appearing as character witnesses for Rivera at his trial. Articles, generally sympathetic to the artist, have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Daily News*, *Newsday*, *Noticias del Mundo*, and the *City Sun*. *El Diario* ran a June 26 editorial headlined, "We support Professor Rivera."

Ruben Franco, head of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, is Rivera's lead attorney. This is the first criminal defense case undertaken by the civil rights organization in its 18-year history.

"We have had to be aggressive in arguing that this is a case about bias, racism, and the failure of a system to serve a community," said Franco at the Hostos meeting.

## Prosecutor: 'Not a case of racism'

Assistant District Attorney Angelo McDonald, who is prosecuting the case, told the jury in his opening statement, "I will prove to you beyond a reasonable doubt that this was not a case of racism, not self-defense. It was a deliberate act to kill Mr. DeMatteis."

McDonald pleaded with the Bronx jury, composed of two Latinos, eight Blacks, and two whites, "Do not close your eyes and blindly follow any cry of 'racism.'" The prosecutor is arguing that the relationship between DeMatteis and the defendant "soured" not because of "racial differences," but because "two grown men could not resolve their problem" about loud music.

On cross-examination DeMatteis admitted that he had "possibly" been evicted from another building because of loud noise, drugs, threats against the landlord, and physically attacking the landlord's pregnant wife. DeMatteis has been arrested and pled guilty numerous times for petty larceny, drug possession, and drunk driving.

Sylvia Souto, the prosecutor in a complaint filed by Rivera and his family against DeMatteis, testified that as a result of her contact



Artist Rafael Rivera García

with the case, she categorized it as a "bias case." She told the jury that she concluded Rivera and his family were "terrorized" and "feared for their lives" because they were confronted by an "irrational" and "apparently violent person."

Souto had recommended that the family move. However, the landlord refused to break the rental agreement and told Rivera he would lose his deposit if he left.

Rivera's case is expected to go to the jury soon.

The National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights, which organized the meeting at Hostos, has organized supporters to go to the courtroom every day and has been issuing daily trial reports and press releases. For more information, contact the organization's New York chapter at 577 Columbus Ave., New York, N.Y. 10024.

Donations to help meet the costs of defending Rivera can be sent to the Rivera García Defense Fund, c/o Department of Puerto Rican Community Affairs, 304 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10010.

## Socialist youth group holds class series on anti-apartheid fight

BY DEREK BRACEY

NEW YORK — "I think Nelson Mandela's ideas are important because many people around the world are trying to figure out how to free themselves from domination. It was very exciting to hear him in person," said Luis, a young *mexicano* who attended the June 21 Yankee Stadium rally for the South African leader.

Luis joined the Young Socialist Alliance in New York after attending a YSA class on South Africa held four days after the rally. The YSA is a revolutionary youth organization with members in cities throughout the United States.

YSA chapters are holding classes in celebration of Mandela's U.S. tour. The classes were organized to respond to the many young militants inspired by Mandela to learn more about the struggle in South Africa.

The classes are focused on different aspects of the apartheid system and the fight to bring it down. They address what the apartheid system is, the role of Cuba in southern Africa, the involvement of youth in the struggle against apartheid, and the anti-apartheid fight in the United States.

Many young people are coming to the classes to learn more about, and get involved in, the fight against apartheid.

In Manhattan seven people attended a YSA-sponsored class for the first time on June 25. One woman asked how labor is organized in South Africa. Another person wanted to know if Blacks had any legal rights or representation under apartheid. There was also a discussion on how the ANC has been able to lead the struggle in South Africa.

Participants in some of the classes have been going over the speeches of Mandela and other leaders of the ANC. Many people are reading the new Pathfinder pamphlet *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid."*

The classes will continue through July. For the times and locations in your area, see the calendar on page 12 or call the YSA nearest you. Listings are in the directory on the same page.

# Jailed Irish activist wins court victory in New York

BY MEHDI ASSAR

NEW YORK — Joe Doherty, an Irish independence fighter, who has spent over seven years in prison in the United States, won a major victory when a federal appeals court ruled on June 29 that he is entitled to seek political asylum in this country.

Doherty, 34 years old, was arrested in 1983 for entering the United States without immigration papers. He had escaped from Northern Ireland after being convicted in the notorious nonjury Diplock courts for participating in a 1980 Irish Republican Army operation during which a British commando was killed. Doherty and three other activists were defending themselves from an attack by a British commando squad when the soldier was shot. The tribunal sentenced Doherty to life imprisonment with a recommended minimum of 30 years.

"Doherty's case is about the conflict in Northern Ireland between the British imperialism and Irish independence fighters," Sandy Boyer, coordinator of the Committee for Legal Justice in Northern Ireland, told a public meeting here on June 30. Northern Ireland has been under British military occupation since 1972.

Immediately after Doherty's arrest in New York, the British government demanded his extradition to Northern Ireland under a British-U.S. treaty. A defense effort was organized to win Doherty's freedom.

In December 1984 U.S. District Court Judge John Sprizzo denied the extradition request, recognizing that Northern Ireland has been engaged in an armed struggle against British military rule. Doherty's activities were not common crimes, the court said, but political actions for which he could not be extradited.

The U.S. government has directly or indi-

rectly challenged Judge Sprizzo's decision six times so far. After attempts to extradite Doherty failed, the government attempted to expel him to Britain.

The last challenge came on June 30, 1989, when Attorney General Richard Thornburgh overruled the Board of Immigration Appeals decision that recognized the right of Doherty to apply for political asylum.

The new two-to-one ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals removes this objection. This decision, Boyer said, means that "the rights of Joe Doherty should not be hostage to the foreign policy of the United States."

Vivian Sahner, a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who spoke on behalf of the Socialist Workers Party at the June 30 meeting, pointed to further challenges and opportunities facing the fight for freedom for Joe Doherty. "As every immigrant worker knows," she said, "the immigration court will not be friendly terrain for Joe Doherty."

John Deacy from the National Committee for Joseph Doherty later explained to this reporter that the massive campaign to tell the truth about the struggle in Northern Ireland and Doherty's plight has helped win thousands to his cause. Many prominent individuals, including more than 100 members of the U.S. Congress, have endorsed Doherty's case. The AFL-CIO has adopted a stance in favor of asylum for Joe Doherty.

"The task before us is to keep publicizing the case of Joe Doherty," commented Deacy. "The more the public knows about the facts of this case and that it is a political case, the easier it is to win support for Doherty."

Deacy distributed literature to promote Doherty's defense at the meeting sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum.



# Celebrate Nelson Mandela's U.S. visit

## ARIZONA

### Phoenix

**Children of the Debt.** Video showing and presentation. Speaker: Judy White, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., July 7, 7 p.m. Translation to Spanish. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (602) 279-5850.

**Celebrate the Cuban Revolution.** Dinner, discussion, music, and recreation. Sat., July 21, 4 p.m. 1710 E. Cheery Lynn Rd. Sponsor: Socialist Workers Party. For more information call (602) 279-5850.

## CALIFORNIA

### Oakland

**Justice for Mark Curtis.** Rally speakers will include leaders active in union struggles, solidarity movements, and defense of political prisoners. Sat., July 14, 7-10 p.m. Merritt Peralta Health Education Center, Towne Court, 400 Hawthorne Ave. Sponsor: Bay Area Supporters of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee. For more information call (415) 420-1165.

## GEORGIA

### Atlanta

**Canada's Rulers Face Political Crisis: Support for Québec Self-determination Grows.** Speaker: Bob Braxton, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., July 7, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

## MARYLAND

### Baltimore

**Attacks on Democratic Rights: From 2 Live Crew to Funding of the Arts.** Panel discussion. Sat., July 14. Dinner, 6 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation: dinner, \$3; program, \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

## MICHIGAN

### Detroit

**The Defeat of Canada's Meech Lake Accord: A Victory for the Right of Québécois and Native Peoples to National Rights.** Speaker: Joe Young, Communist League of Canada candidate in Ontario elections, member International Association of Machinists Local 2323 at Air Canada. Sat., July 7, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

**Stop Racist Attacks.** Panel discussion on recent anti-Arab and anti-Black incidents. Sat., July 14, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

**German Reunification and the Democratic Upsurge in Eastern Europe: What They Mean for Working People.** Speaker: Lea Sherman, Socialist Workers Party, member United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 26. Sat., July 21, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

## MINNESOTA

### Austin

**The World Economic Crisis: Battles Ahead for Working People.** Speaker: Wendy Lyons, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Minnesota governor. Sat., July 14, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

**The Crisis Facing Working Farmers.** Speakers: Kathie Fitzgerald, activist in labor and farm struggles, member International Association of Machinists Local 141; Craig Honts, Socialist Workers Party candidate for lieutenant governor of Minnesota. Sat., July 21, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

## ATLANTA

**"With Cuba, We Have a Dependable Friend" — Mandela**

Mon., July 9, 6 p.m.

**Young People Fight Apartheid**

Mon., July 16, 6 p.m.

**The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States**

Mon., July 23, 6 p.m.

All classes will be held at 132

Cone St. Tel: (404) 577-4065

## CHICAGO

**What is Apartheid?**

Sat., July 7, 4 p.m.

**Young People Fight Apartheid**

Sat., July 14, 4 p.m.

**"With Cuba, We Have a Dependable Friend" — Mandela**

Sat., July 21, 4 p.m.

nor of Minnesota. Sat., July 21, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

## NEBRASKA

### Omaha

**U.S. Hands Off Cuba.** Speaker: Joel Gajardo, past secretary for Latin American affairs of U.S. Council of Churches, professor at University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Greetings from Hafini Hatutale, South West Africa People's Organisation. Sat., July 28, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Chicano Awareness Center, 4821 S. 24 St. Sponsors: Social Concerns Committee, First Unitarian Church; Region Two, Nebraskans for Peace; Second Nebraska District, Rainbow Coalition; Eastern Nebraska Socialist Party; Socialist Workers Party; Omaha Witness for Peace.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia

**What's Behind the S&L Bailout Crisis?** Speaker: Bob Stanton, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., July 7, 7:30 p.m. 9 E Cheltenham Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (215) 848-5044.

**Canada: The Struggle for National Rights of the Québécois.** Speaker: Cheri Porch, Socialist Workers Party, rail worker. Sat., July 14, 7:30 p.m. 9 E Cheltenham Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (215) 848-5044.

**The Government vs. the Arts.** Panel discussion. Sat., July 21, 7:30 p.m. 9 E Cheltenham Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (215) 848-5044.

### Pittsburgh

**Revolutionary Cuba Today.** Slideshow presentation and video excerpt of TV interview with Fidel Castro. Speaker: Nancy Brown, Socialist Workers Party, on strike against Eastern, recently returned from Cuba. Sun., July 8, 6 p.m. 4905 Penn Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (412) 362-6767.

## TEXAS

### Houston

**Nelson Mandela and the South African Freedom Struggle.** Translation to Spanish. Sat., July 14, 7:30 p.m. 4806 Alameda. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. For more information call (713) 522-8054.

**Censorship and the Fight for Freedom of Ex-**

**The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States**

Sat., July 28, 4 p.m.

All classes held at 545 W.

Roosevelt Rd. Tel: (312) 829-6815.

## DETROIT

**What is Apartheid?**

Sat., July 7, 2 p.m.

**"With Cuba, We Have a Dependable Friend" — Mandela**

Sat., July 14, 2 p.m.

**Young People Fight Apartheid**

Sat., July 21, 2 p.m.

**The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States**

Sat., July 28, 2 p.m.

All classes held at 5019 1/2

Woodward. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

## LOS ANGELES

**Young People Fight Apartheid**

Sat., July 7, 3 p.m.

pression. Translation to Spanish. Sat., July 21, 7:30 p.m. 4806 Alameda. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. For more information call (713) 522-8054.

## UTAH

### Salt Lake City

**Celebrate the Publication of Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid."** Open house at Pathfinder Bookstore. Sat., July 7, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Program at 7:30. 147 E 900 S. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

## WASHINGTON

### Seattle

**Rally to Defend Mark Curtis.** Speakers: Fred Dube, member African National Congress, professor at Evergreen State College; Pat Stell, president Seattle Coalition of Labor Union Women; Hazel Wolf, environmentalist and Central America activist; Nate Ford, business representative for metalworkers' union; Greg Castilla, Filipino Association for Community Education; representative United Farm Workers of Washington State; representative Seattle Supporters of Mark Curtis. Sun., July 15. Reception, 5:30 p.m.; rally, 6 p.m. CAMP, 722 18th St. at Cherry. For more information call (206) 323-1755.

## WEST VIRGINIA

### Charleston

**The Fight for a Safe, Healthy Workplace.** Speakers: Matt Munro, member United Steelworkers Local 5668; Liz Sommers, member United Mine Workers Local 2271; Maggie McCraw, Socialist Workers Party candidate for state treasurer, member Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 3-89. Sat., July 7, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 345-3040.

**Nelson Mandela's U.S. Visit.** Video coverage and reports from New York, Washington, and Detroit rallies. Sat., July 14, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 345-3040.

## BRITAIN

### Cardiff

**Teamster Rebellion: The Story of the 1934 U.S. Teamsters Strike.** Speaker: Will Carroll,

**"With Cuba, We Have a Dependable Friend" — Mandela**

Sat., July 14, 3 p.m.

**The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States**

Sat., July 21, 3 p.m. All classes

held at 2546 W. Pico Blvd.

Tel: (213) 380-9460

## NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY

**Brooklyn, Manhattan, Newark**

**Young People Fight Apartheid**

Mon., July 9, 7 p.m.

**The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States**

Mon., July 16, 7 p.m.

**In Brooklyn:** 464 Bergen

Tel: (718) 398-6983

**In Manhattan:** 191 7th Ave.

Tel: (212) 675-9740

**In Newark:** 141 Halsey, 2nd floor.

Tel: (201) 643-3341.

Communist League, member Amalgamated Engineering Union on strike at Renolds Chains. Sat., July 7, 7 p.m. 9 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0222-484677.

## Manchester

**Justice for Mark Curtis.** Report on latest developments in defense campaign for the framed-up unionist and activist from Des Moines, Iowa. Speaker: Andy Buchanan, Militant reporter at UN Commission on Human Rights meeting in Geneva. Showing of video *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis*. Wed., July 11, 7:30 p.m. Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 061-839 1766.

## North Yorks

**Eyewitness Report from South Africa.** Speaker: Rich Palser, Militant correspondent on South Africa reporting team. Sun., July 8, 11 a.m. Ship Inn, Ayre St., Castleford. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0742-729469.

## Notts

**Eyewitness Report from South Africa.** Speaker: Rich Palser, Militant correspondent on South Africa reporting team. Sat., July 7, 7-9 p.m. Forest House Pub, Ollerton Old Village. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0742-729469.

## CANADA

### Toronto

**South Africa Today.** Eyewitness report and slideshow by Greg McCartan, Militant correspondent. Sat., July 14, 7 p.m. 410 Adelaide St. W, Suite 400. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

**Socialist Publications Fund-Raising Picnic.** Benefit for *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, and *Lutte ouvrière*. Hear Greg McCartan. Food, swimming, soccer. Sun., July 15, noon. High Park Area 23, near Queensway and Parkside Dr. Donation: \$10. For more information call (416) 861-1399.

## NEW ZEALAND

### Auckland

**Rally in Defense of Mark Curtis.** Speaker: Paul Chalmers, education officer for Hotel Workers Union. Chairperson: Jock Barnes, veteran trade union leader. Fri., July 20, 7 p.m. Methodist Central Mission, Queen St. (opposite Town Hall). For more information call (9) 793-075.

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**Martin Luther Bush** — We were touched when the president took time out from packing crates



**Harry Ring**

of guns for the Angolan contras to counsel Nelson Mandela that the ANC should shun violence.

**Give the guy a break** — The media has had a field day with the bankers' decision to allow Trump \$450,000-a-month living expenses.

But what they tend to ignore is that this is *before* taxes. Assuming he pays taxes, that could slice it down to as little as \$270,000 a month.

**Britain, a food festival** — With 60,000 cases of food poisoning reported last year, inspectors checked 5,000 food premises. They found that one in eight posed "a high public risk." Among take-away food shops, 18.6 percent posed "a significant or imminent risk." Nearly half the places visited had not been inspected in the past year. A quarter of these were last inspected three years ago.

**How about school yards?** — The Nuclear Regulatory Commis-

sion proposes that "mildly" radioactive waste be disposed of in city dumps or ordinary incinerators. Some of it could end up recycled into toys, jewelry, and other consumer items. This covers radioactive parts from decommissioned nuclear plants, contaminated carcasses of lab animals, lab workers' gloves, etc.

**Sweet as sugar** — NCNB Texas, a bank chain, is a spinoff of First Republicbank, a failed thrift. NCNB Texas has now bought the failed bank from the feds, acquiring its deposits and a selection of its good loans, with taxpayers shouldering the bad ones. The deal includes some \$2.8 billion in tax benefits and,

for a fee, NCNB Texas will manage the bad loans.

**Doleful New Zealander** — Discussing the changes his party projects for young people, a spokesperson for New Zealand's right-wing National Party declared, "Receiving the dole as a career option will not be available." In New Zealand jobless benefits are called the dole. Another dictionary definition is something distributed "grudgingly or bit by bit."

**As long as it makes a buck** — While Congress frets about the flag-burning issue, manufacturers are turning out socks, sweaters, and bikinis with the stars-and-stripes

motif. Ralph Lauren is offering a \$300 sweater with a flag on front, and Perry Ellis is peddling \$2,000 cashmere flaglike stoles.

**Not quite a chattel system** — Alcott hires a company's employees and "leases" them back. "Cost-effective," a brochure advises. Leave the "hiring, disciplining, and terminating" to them. It's a "human resources service."

**Law 'n order, Israeli style** — In the West Bank town of Hebron, the Israeli military imposed a \$500 fine on the parents of Sahar and Said al-Sharif because the boys, 8 and 10, were flying a kite that assertedly resembled the Palestinian flag.

## Inquiry clears framed British mine union leaders

BY RICH PALSER

SHEFFIELD, England — "There is no possibility of me resigning from anything, because I have done nothing wrong," said Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers. Scargill was speaking at a news conference here July 3 after an eight-hour meeting of the NUM National Executive. The NUM leadership body had just endorsed the findings of a union inquiry into press allegations that Scargill and NUM General Secretary Peter Heathfield had misused union funds during the 1984-85 coal strike.

"Every member of the National Executive has agreed that Arthur Scargill and Peter Heathfield did not have their fingers in the till," Scargill explained. "That was the allegation, and that has been proved to be untrue."

The inquiry was carried out by lawyer Gavin Lightman at the request of the NUM leadership following an attempted frame-up of Scargill and Heathfield. The frame-up was initiated by the National Newspaper Group of billionaire Robert Maxwell.

Based on allegations by the union's former chief executive in the *Daily Mirror*, the media frame-up charged that the union received money from the Libyan government during the 1984-85 miners' strike, that these funds were misappropriated by Scargill and Heathfield who spent tens of thousands of pounds on mortgages and improvements to their homes, and that the International Miners' Organisation (IMO) — of which Scargill is president — was implicated in the cover-up.

Calls by newspaper editors and television broadcasters for a public inquiry independent of the union were backed by some trade union and Labour Party leaders prior to the union decision to establish its own inquiry. *Daily Mirror* editors boycotted the union inquiry "because it was not held in public and witnesses did not give evidence under oath."

Responding to the clearing of Scargill and Heathfield, *Mirror* editor Ray Greenslade said, "The *Daily Mirror* stands by its story, and once again I say to Arthur Scargill, 'Sue us.'"

The former NUM chief executive, Roger Windsor, also declined to give evidence to the inquiry. Windsor is today living in France. He resigned his appointed staff position last year, shortly after which Scargill called in the fraud squad when "certain matters came to light." Windsor is wanted by the police for

questioning. He is also facing legal action by the IMO in France concerning nonpayment of a \$48,700 loan.

While clearing Scargill and Heathfield of charges of misusing union funds for personal gain, the report of the inquiry is critical of the steps taken by the union leaders to prevent seizure of union assets during the 1984-85 strike. When the courts first attempted to sequester union funds, the report states, the union had effectively operated two sets of accounts — an official set and an unofficial set prepared by the

national officials without auditors or outside control or supervision. The unofficial accounts were held by the IMO.

"The very existence of these separate funds," the report says, "their collection and distribution, their retention and investment, and most of all their nondisclosure, involved breaches of duty by the national officials."

Scargill defended the financial dealings by himself and other union officials during the strike as the only way to counter court attempts to sequester union funds. "We did everything in our power to see that this union

survived, and that deserves congratulations," he said. "There are a lot of critical comments in the report about the two national officials and I confess readily that I am guilty — totally guilty — of defying sequestration and receivership and doing all in my power to thwart the courts' attempts to stop the NUM operating in a most difficult period."

"We did not report the existence of bank accounts and trust funds because this would have brought us into contempt" of court, he explained, along with "other trade unionists who had helped us."

## Read the 'Militant' to keep up with struggles

Continued from front page

Many of you have found that the *Militant* is an indispensable tool to your struggle. This is because the *Militant* is essential for news on your fight and on labor struggles across the country and internationally.

A special attraction for many readers who are involved in struggles is the broader social, political, and international outlook and evaluation the paper has that helps bring clarity to what's happening in the world.

The *Militant* offers evaluations of the big events shaking the world today that thinking workers have questions on: What are the prospects for capitalism? What is the future of socialism? Who won the Cold War? What kind of foreign policy should the labor movement have?

Moreover, the rich experiences of many workers in the past year have stimulated discussions on what kind of political action workers should engage in.

Over the next months we will be stepping up our treatment of these and other questions. Part of this will also include coverage of the Socialist Workers Party's 1990 election campaigns.

**'Our paper — not theirs'**

*Militant* readers have written letters, notes, or made public endorsements for the *Militant* explaining why the paper is important to them. It's a must for "the full story," said a Eastern striker; it "tells our side — the working-class side," said another; it's an "unsurpassed tool for promoting solidarity," said a coal miner.

More and more of you as you began to read the *Militant* recognized that it belonged to working people. "It's not *their* paper, but *our* paper — a paper any worker can contribute to," Gene Lawhorn, a union woodworker, explained.

You know you can depend on the *Militant* every week for the facts — and for a perspective on how to advance the fights you are part of. Having the information you need is key to being politically effective.

For example, the *Militant* is the only newspaper in the world — daily or weekly — that has had coverage on the fight of Machinists against Eastern Airlines in *every* issue since the beginning of the strike.

The *Militant* has reprinted more of Nelson Mandela's speeches than any other U.S. daily or weekly — speeches that are essential for understanding the stakes in the fight to abolish apartheid and how we can participate in the movement to bring it down.

And only the *Militant* gives you the information you need to follow, learn from, and defend the Cuban revolution. It does

this by printing more speeches by leaders of the struggle to build socialism in Cuba than any other newspaper next to their own.

Where possible, the *Militant* provides firsthand reporting — from our bureau in Nicaragua, to the 1990 reporting team sent to South Africa — in order to bring you the most complete coverage of the situation facing working people around the globe.

**We urge you to renew**

These are some of the reasons many of you have decided to become long-term readers of the *Militant* and why we want to urge all of you to do so.

For the next three weeks supporters of the paper will be waging a special effort to telephone you, ask you how you like the paper, and urge you to take out a longer subscription. They will also be calling readers of the Spanish-language monthly *Perspectiva Mundial* and the French-language quarterly *Lutte ouvrière*.

## —10 AND 25 YEARS AGO—

### THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

July 11, 1980

The June 30 U.S. Supreme Court decision denying federal Medicaid funds for abortion is a cruel example of capitalist class justice. By its decision, the court condemns untold numbers of unemployed and poor women — especially young women, Blacks, and Latinas — to a choice between unwanted pregnancy or the threat of being maimed or killed in back-alley operations.

The court's five-to-four vote upheld the constitutionality of the Hyde Amendment, which bans federal funding for all abortions except to save the woman's life, or in cases of "promptly reported" rape and incest.

### THE MILITANT

Published in the Interests of the Working People

July 12, 1965

## "Cuba Will Never Adopt Capitalist Methods"

Excerpts from

**Fidel Castro's July 26, 1988 speech**

32 pp. pamphlet, \$1.95

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versity criticized the Johnson line. Accounts of the affair indicate a significant turn in rank-and-file sentiment on foreign policy questions.

Only a few weeks ago Johnson's Vietnam policy received major support in the ranks of the union. The idea of the United States getting out of Vietnam and letting the Vietnamese settle their own affairs in their own way found little sympathy in the union.

A report had been going the rounds in the union about a speech by U.S. Vice-president Humphrey at an AFL-CIO conference on political action in Washington. Humphrey was said to have spoken sympathetically about trade union demands such as repeal of Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act. But there was a hook in his political bait. In return for "favors" to labor, the vice-president made clear that the administration would expect to get union support of its foreign policies. As is well known, the whole trade union bureaucracy has been working overtime to deliver what Humphrey demanded.

From the tenor of the questions asked at the union debate, it seemed that the military occupation of Santo Domingo has opened many eyes to the aggressive character of U.S. foreign policy and that the Dominican events have caused people to do some rethinking about the situation in Vietnam.

Since the debate, advocates of U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam have found it easier than ever before to discuss the subject with other trade unionists.



# Keep the pressure on Eastern

Increasingly, striking Machinists at Eastern Airlines have adopted the slogan "Keep the pressure on!"

First chanted at anti-apartheid rallies on the U.S. swing of Nelson Mandela's international tour, this slogan is truly an appropriate battle cry for the Eastern strike.

By keeping the pressure on, the 16-month strike by the members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) has already dealt a blow to the employer's antilabor offensive.

Former Eastern top Frank Lorenzo tried to break the union before the strike and to run a low-wage, nonunion outfit after it began. He hoped to show other employers the way forward. He failed to either smash the union or break the strike. In the process, the company continued to lose money and fell deeper and deeper behind in payments to its creditors.

Responding to growing concern among these creditors, the bankruptcy court removed Lorenzo. The bankruptcy judge then appointed Martin Shugrue to manage the airline. By forcing Lorenzo out, the striking Machinists, backed by thousands of workers in North America and around the globe, demonstrated to the employers that they too could meet the same fate.

As a government appointee, Shugrue's job is to protect the collective investments of the banks, corporations, and shareholders by getting Eastern on its feet and profitable once again. But Shugrue still has Lorenzo's problem — the strike. As Lorenzo did repeatedly before he was tossed out, Shugrue is now claiming he needs "100 days" to get the airline back in shape.

The strikers' new button, and the goal of keeping the pressure on today, is "No contract, no peace!" Both forcing Eastern to sign a contract with the striking Machinists and maintaining "no peace" until that is won are challenging, but realistic, goals.

While the strike continues, Eastern cannot keep enough

planes in the air or high enough passenger loads to turn a profit. The creditors are left with only two other possibilities: settle with the IAM, possibly through a buyout by another airline, or liquidate the assets at an enormous loss.

The latter option is not a promising one for the airline's financial backers. Having sold the Northeast corridor shuttle and its Latin American routes — among its most lucrative assets — Eastern would simply have to hold a fire sale. The creditors already rejected this option at the time Lorenzo was ousted from management.

Shugrue and company will not lose their shirts just to punish the striking Machinists. Their goal all along has been to gain a competitive edge over their rivals and maximize their profits through a long-term campaign of weakening and busting the union. Having so far failed, settling with the strikers can prove to be the only way to alter their rapidly deteriorating prospects.

Forcing Eastern to settle would be a big blow to the employers' ability to simply fire striking workers and permanently replace them — something tens of thousands of fighting workers have experienced over the past decade.

For this reason, now more than ever, the next 100 days can belong to the supporters of the Eastern strike, and not to Shugrue — the government's appointee. All of the strike's backers should intensify their efforts to build airport walk-throughs and expanded picket lines; win fresh forces for the strike by extending invitations to the Machinists to speak to union meetings, with student and other organizations, and to others interested in learning more; help to publicize the strike and raise funds; and much more.

All working people have an important stake in the Eastern strike. It is possible to win. Now is the time for those who have pledged their support, and others who now see the fight as their own, to redouble their efforts and join with the strikers to continue the fight until a union contract at Eastern is won.

# An abuse of the Bill of Rights

In a June 27 ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court flatly rejected guarantees provided by the Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and cut a swath through the Bill of Rights.

The amendment states: "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to be confronted with the witnesses against him."

In writing the majority opinion for the court, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said a defendant's right to a face-to-face meeting with one's accuser was an important but not an "indispensable element" of the Sixth Amendment.

The decision defended the practice used in child abuse cases in 32 states of permitting trial testimony from child witnesses through closed-circuit television, a method that allows the state to stage testimony and guts a defendant's right to cross-examine accusers.

"A state's interest in the physical and psychological well-being of child abuse victims," O'Connor wrote, "may be sufficiently important to outweigh, at least in some cases, a defendant's right to face his or her accusers in court."

The attack was so blatant that it provoked the following rejoinder from dissenting Justice Antonin Scalia: "Seldom has this Court failed so conspicuously to sustain a categorical guarantee of the Constitution against the tide of prevailing current opinion." The court's ruling gives defendants "virtually everything the confrontation clause guarantees," Scalia added, "everything, that is, except confrontation."

This is a classic case of how the capitalist judicial system takes advantage of social issues on which there is a great deal of legitimate public concern — such as child abuse, rape, drug trafficking, and so on — in order to chip away at democratic rights and soften resistance to upholding them.

Over the past decade a rash of child abuse cases have hit

the press and the courts, creating sensational headlines and stirring up popular revulsion and indignation.

The accused tend to be teachers, camp counselors, child-care attendants, and members of "sex rings." In many cases, prosecutors, unable to provide physical evidence or other witnesses, rely solely on the testimony of children.

All the cases make extensive use of child abuse "specialists" and "investigators" who insist parents, prosecutors, and jurors must "believe the children." Many of them use the cover of psychology and analysis to manipulate children into giving the desired responses.

Trial by accusation has supplanted the presumption of "innocent until proven guilty" in many of these cases. In winning convictions prosecutors have often asked juries, in effect, to forget the importance of evidence in a criminal trial and to set aside the Bill of Rights in the interest of "protecting the children." Even the right to bail has been undermined in many of these proceedings.

The Supreme Court has now sanctioned these witch-hunt methods. Its ruling provides greater leeway for the cops and prosecutors to slash away at the Bill of Rights and fabricate further frame-ups.

Child abuse is a crime, no less than a host of other heinous, antisocial crimes including rape and murder. The character of the crime does not, however, justify gutting civil liberty protections working people have fought to defend and extend since winning the Bill of Rights in 1791.

Without these rights efforts by working people to defend themselves against a society that breeds such crimes and to ultimately organize to change that society become severely handicapped.

# Hypocrisy and child abuse

Any claim by the U.S. government or its so-called justice system to champion the protection of children is nothing less than the grossest hypocrisy. A review of a few recent news clips should suffice to illustrate this point.

- While it is the richest and most powerful country in the world, the United States has an infant mortality rate equivalent to some Third World countries. The United States ranks 20th in the world in preventing infant deaths. Singapore and Hong Kong, as well as Japan and most Western European countries, do better. Washington, D.C., a predominantly Black city, has the country's worst infant mortality rate, 27 per 1,000 — three times the national rate.

The White House and Congress are now planning to cut the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children, known as WIC, an action that will unquestionably increase infant deaths. The program provides milk, infant formula, cereal, eggs, and orange juice for 4.5 million poverty-stricken pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and young children.

- Five million children under the age of six live in families with incomes below the poverty line. Half of Black children and 40 percent of Latino children are in families that live in poverty. These children suffer more than others from inadequate health care; low birth weight, which can cause infant mortality and health problems; prenatal drug exposure and AIDS; growth retardation and anemia; lead poisoning; child abuse; and neglect.

- In the United States young males are five times more likely to be murdered than their counterparts in other industrial countries. Figures for Black and Latino ghetto youth are surely higher.

- U.S. Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole reported in March that children hired by employers in violation of child labor laws far exceeds the 22,508 cases — itself a record — that the Department of Labor reported last year.

- In 1985 the U.S. Justice Department estimated that about 479,000 children were detained in adult jails annually. And these facts are just the tip of the iceberg.

# Mandela's offer: 'An oasis of good race relations'

BY DOUG JENNESS

When Nelson Mandela spoke before the joint session of Congress on June 26, he explained that after the apartheid system is destroyed and a democratic South Africa established it "cannot survive unless the material needs of the people, the bread-and-butter issues, are addressed as part of the process of change." He said support from the United States and other countries will be needed.

But this economic cooperation, Mandela said, should not be "a relationship between donor and recipient, between a dependent and a benefactor." The freedom fighters in South Africa, he said, don't want a relationship "of subservient dependency and fawning gratitude."

The African National Congress (ANC) leader proposed that a relationship be structured so that people in the United States "also derive benefit." In return for economic aid, he said, a democratic South Africa would "be transformed into

# LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

an oasis of good race relations, where the Black shall to the white be sister and brother, a fellow South African, an equal human being, both citizens of the world."

Addressing the U.S. legislators, Mandela said that the benefits of this transformation would "accrue to both our peoples and to the rest of the world."

For the assembled politicians, who are used to measuring all social relationships in dollars and cents, this must not have seemed like a fair exchange. But for millions who heard or read the speech, Mandela's proposal was both uplifting and intriguing. In fact, it almost seemed astounding that South Africa, which is infamous for its monstrous system of racial segregation, could become a beacon in the struggle to eradicate racism from the earth.

The impact of overturning apartheid rule and establishing a nonracial, democratic South Africa cannot be overestimated. It will dramatically change the way that hundreds of millions of people think about themselves and their fellow human beings.

The destruction of apartheid will have a political resonance similar to the victorious struggle to abolish chattel slavery in the Americas in the 19th century. That fight rejuvenated the working class in Europe, especially in Britain. Not only did the workers in Britain play a decisive role in preventing the British government from intervening in the U.S. Civil War on the side of the slaveholders, it helped lay the basis for greater international collaboration and the formation of the International Workingmen's Association.

Moreover, the momentous revolution that eliminated slavery made it morally unthinkable that this social blight could be restored. This advance was a historic watershed, because, for most of the period since human society became divided into classes, chattel slavery existed and was considered acceptable, at least by a great many people.

The destruction of apartheid in South Africa will likewise sound the death knell for institutionalized legal forms of racial segregation. Systems of laws and institutions designed to maintain the separation and inequality of Blacks, like Jim Crow segregation in the U.S. South before the revolutionary civil rights movement uprooted it, will become inconceivable. Only a historic defeat of the working class could change this.

A revolutionary victory that leads to the formation of a nonracial, democratic South Africa, which is what the ANC is fighting for, will also deal a big blow to the current forms of racism in the United States and other countries. It will boost the self-confidence of Blacks, especially those who are most oppressed, and it will help inspire working people who are white to see the necessity of uniting with Blacks in the struggle against racial discrimination.

The biggest impact will come from seeing how a government with a Black majority treats whites. Mandela and the ANC advocate an inclusive, not an exclusive policy, in relation to whites. They reject imitating the segregationist and oppressive social relations that are the hallmark of the apartheid state.

Longtime ANC activist Fred Dube, who now teaches at Evergreen College in Washington State, repeatedly has pointed out that there are two victims of racism. "In addition to its obvious and primary victims, less obvious secondary victims of racism, the people we ordinarily think of as victimizers," are created by the apartheid system, Dube wrote in 1986 in an article reprinted in the May 1, 1987, *Militant*.

When Mandela — truly a revolutionary democrat of integrity if the world has ever seen one — told Congress that a democratic South Africa would become an "oasis" of good racial relations, it wasn't just hype. This advance would help undercut racial prejudices in this country and show the powerful unifying role of a nonracial policy.

The impact of a nonracial state in South Africa would indeed have benefits for U.S. working people far greater than the cost of any economic aid this country can offer.



# Rail union rejects bosses' plan to cut crew size

BY DAVE BROWN  
AND MIKE GALATI

Workers in the southwest district of the Union Pacific railroad, who are members of the United Transportation Union (UTU), recently turned down a company proposal to reduce the size of train crews.

The UP proposal was to eliminate the rear brakeman position, which would have cut the crew to three people. The reduction would have applied to all freight trains

## UNION TALK

regardless of size, further contributing to the increasingly unsafe work environment that rail workers are forced to endure.

Only three people would have been responsible for the safe operation of trains that are up to a mile and a half long, weigh tens of thousands of tons, and travel at speeds up to 70 miles per hour. It was a prescription for disaster — for more train wrecks and more deaths of rail workers and pedestrians.

Known in the industry as a crew-consist modification agreement, it would have affected rail workers in the UP district that runs from Los Angeles to Salt Lake City, Utah. It would have made it possible for the company to eliminate hundreds of jobs permanently.

Rail carriers have pressed to eliminate tens of thousands of jobs. In just the last 10 years, the number of rail workers has been cut in half, while over the past 15 years rail workers have been forced to take big concessions.

The result has been speed-up on the job; forced overtime and few days off; increasingly unsafe working conditions, which have led to more injuries and more deaths; and a declining standard of living.

The UTU is in the middle of negotiating a national freight agreement with the major rail carriers. A vote for the crew-consist modification agreement would have emboldened UP and the other railroads to demand even more concessions from the rail unions.

In 1985 a national contract agreement with the rail bosses established two-tier categories for workers. It stipulated that those hired after 1985 — "unprotected" employees — would be paid 75 percent of the regular trainman rate of pay, with increases of 5 percent a year for five years until they reached 100 percent. It also did away with certain bonus payments — known as arbitraries — for unprotected employees. The two-tier set-up weakened the union by dividing the work force in this way.

The crew-consist modification agreement would have established a third tier of workers, who would receive none of the meager protections and benefits outlined in the company proposal.

In return for allowing the company to get away with

eliminating jobs in our district, we were offered a so-called "productivity incentive allowance" — in effect, a one-time signing bonus subject to company approval on a case-by-case basis. This included \$15,000 for protected employees and \$10,000 for unprotected employees and a \$50,000 buyout for protected workers willing to quit or take early retirement and \$35,000 for those who are unprotected.

In addition, a "voluntary reserve board" would have been set up. Paying 70 percent of the basic weekly wage, spots on this list would be awarded by seniority bid. The company would have the right to do away with one rear brakeman position for every person who bid onto the list. Those on this board would not work, but would still be considered UP employees and subject to recall as needed by the company.

UTU members in our district made a step forward when we decided to reject this proposal. It is a step towards strengthening our union and will help us prepare the fight for a decent national contract.

As part of strengthening our union, we need to continue to extend solidarity to the fights other unionists are involved in today, including the strikes by the Machinists at Eastern and by bus drivers against Greyhound.

Dave Brown is a conductor at UP and a member of UTU Local 1422 in Los Angeles. Mike Galati is a switchman at UP and a member of UTU Local 1366 in Salt Lake City.

## Reader's comment: 'Only paper workers can count on'

Every week the *Militant* sends letters to readers whose subscriptions are about to expire urging them to renew. The letters offer discounts on the Marxist magazine *New International* and advertise the Pathfinder pamphlet *An Action Program to Confront the Coming Economic Crisis*.

Contacting every reader by mail is one way the *Militant* appeals to those who took advantage of the paper's promotional offer of an introductory subscription and invites them to become long-term subscribers.

*Militant* supporters also carry out organized renewal campaigns periodically. Beginning July 14 supporters of the *Militant* will be calling and visiting subscribers in their area asking readers to renew. Many of these readers signed up for 12 weeks of the *Militant* during the recent circulation drive that won 5,033 new readers to the paper. During the nine-week campaign, 712 subscribers also decided to renew.

Often when readers send in their renewals they enclose a brief note or jot down comments or suggestions in the space provided on the back of the renewal letter. Below are excerpts from some of their recent comments.

\* \* \*

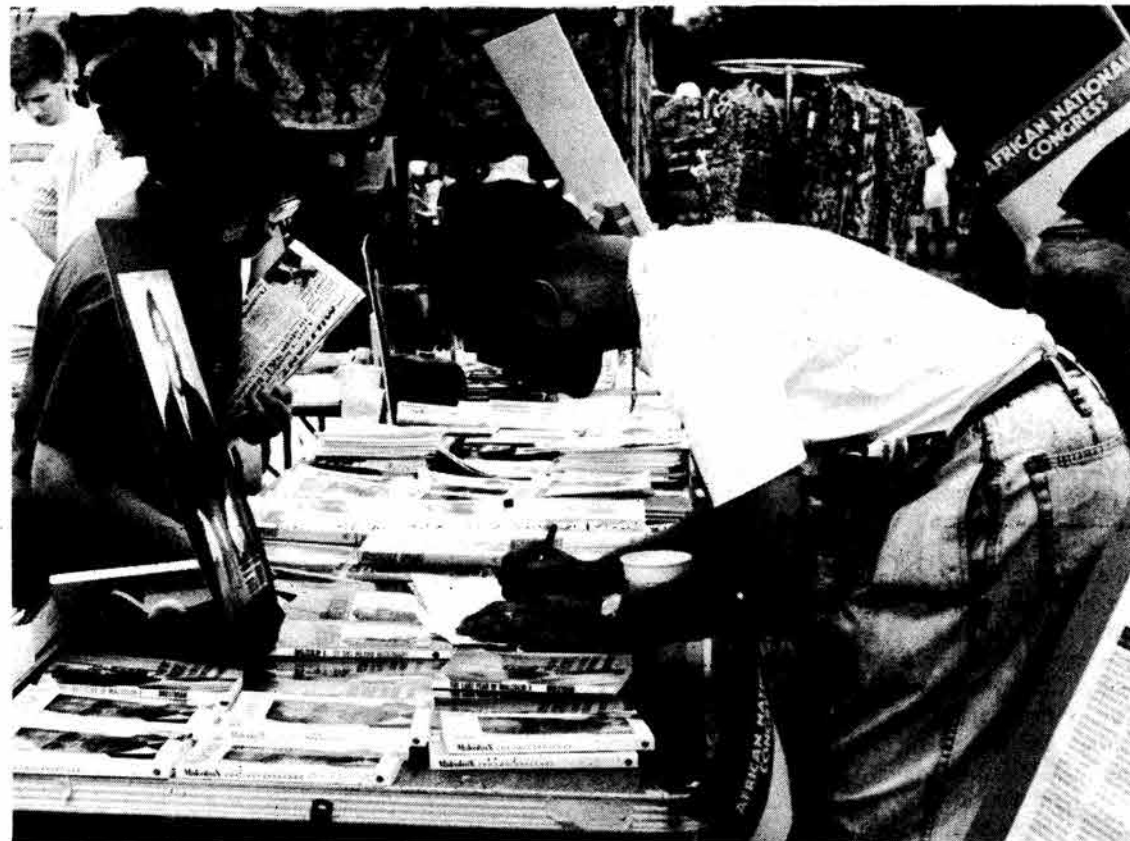
I think it would be useful for defenders of socialism to have an in-depth analysis of the economic development of the Cuban revolution, its GNP, trade balance, etc. The propaganda offensive by capitalists as a result of the collapse of Stalinism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union makes it difficult to convince workers of the viability of socialism. The disaster of Stalinism in these countries could give capitalism an economic boost as well as a psychological one in spite of the gains by workers in South Africa, Brazil, South Korea, the Philippines, as well as by increasing labor struggles in the United States.

The *Militant* is the only newspaper in the United States that workers can count on to tell the honest truth. Thanks.

P.V.  
Lafayette, Colorado

Thank you for the articles on Indian affairs. The situation in places such as Wisconsin and Arizona need to get more publicity. The plight of Native Americans is swept under the rug too often.

L.P.  
Salem, Oregon



More than 10,000 attended 19th annual Malcolm X Day in Washington, D.C., May 20. *Militant* supporters sold 31 introductory subscriptions. Three-week renewal drive begins July 14 to reach these and other new readers who signed up during March-May subscription campaign.

Thanks for doing a great job on providing the true facts!!

R.W.  
High Point, North Carolina

Sorry, I have a very small income so I can't renew more than half a year. I like your paper — spunky and determined, intelligent and fighting. I pass mine on to an African bookstand in Harlem.

A.M.  
New York, New York

The *Militant* has helped me understand the workings of socialism and the corruption and greed in this and other capitalist countries. Keep up the good work.

K.P.  
Kansas City, Missouri

### South Africa

I'm following your paper in order to keep up on the progress in South Africa. So far it's outstanding. Please keep it a priority.

A.L.  
Athens, Georgia

I'm a college student and would like to bring something up that I've been learning about in a class — the rise of transnational corpora-

tions, i.e., IBM, Sony, General Electric, etc. Everybody knows these companies are spreading their influence, buying small companies left and right, and as a result, many control more monetary capital than most countries in the world.

What this means for labor is that the corporations, powerful as they are, can shop around and choose countries — especially in the Third World — where labor is "cheap." Labor is left at a disadvantage because the workers in a given country can be used, abused, and discarded at anytime by these corporations. The corporations are mobile, while labor is mostly immobile.

Just don't allow yourselves to be bought up by some media corporation — they'll shut you up.

G.R. and S.R.  
Amherst, Massachusetts

Free Mark Curtis and destroy and expose the dark workings of the Workers League.

M.M.  
Long Beach, California

Keep up the good work.

D.F.  
Santa Ana, California

### Eastern Europe

Your coverage of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, as well as the Philippines and Mexico are most informative.

Please continue articles on Nicaragua after the elections.

Also please have articles on Lithuania, Hungary, Latvia, and other East European countries. Being of Lithuanian descent I am very concerned about their "independence" movement since 90 percent of the people had previously rejected secession from the Soviet Union.

Keep up your most important work.

N.D.S.  
Chicago, Illinois

I'm not going to renew the subscription to the *Militant* because of part of a letter I received from the *Militant*. It mentioned "the historic collapse of the repressive regimes in Eastern Europe." Before their collapse, the *Militant* agreed with the governments in Eastern Europe. Don't be so hypocritical. Why do you now call them repressive regimes?

J.R.  
Miami, Florida

I'm interested in subscribing to *Granma* [newspaper of the Communist Party of Cuba]. Please send me information about this.

I am also concerned about the negative tone of your articles about the FSLN [Sandinista National Liberation Front] in Nicaragua.

C.R.  
Oxnard, California

Stop criticizing the Sandinistas!

J.K.  
Honolulu, Hawaii

### New Zealand readers

Supporters of the *Militant* in New Zealand sent in the following comments with their renewals:

My favorite columns are "Learning about Socialism" by Doug Jenness, "The Great Society" by Harry Ring, and "Crisis in Eastern Europe" by Peter Thierjung.

G.H.

I would like to see an article on the historical background of the conflict in Ireland.

K.S.M.

I enjoy reading the *Militant* and wish you success. Could you please include more information on Bougainville Island as it was in the news here recently. Also on what is happening to Black nationalist movements in the United States. Thank you and keep up the good work.

R.S.

### Be blunt

Please do not hesitate to be blunt about the moral and material character of the American bourgeoisie. They are destroying souls. They have built a world that gorges itself on our children.

B.M.  
Santa Barbara, California

The labels on the *Militant* shouldn't be too sticky. I would like to remove it so I can pass the *Militant* to others. Put more pictures in the *Militant*. Condense most articles. We don't have too much time to read!

S.S.  
New Kensington, Pennsylvania



## Women miners mark gains, back strikes at nat'l meet

BY CLARE FRAENZL

NORTON, Va. — "Discrimination is a working-class issue," said United Mine Workers of America Vice-president Cecil Roberts. "Discrimination is a tool of management to hold you back — if any group can be discriminated against, all can."

The UMW official was addressing the 200 participants gathered at the 12th National Conference of Women Miners that took place here June 22-24. Sponsored by the Coal Employment Project (CEP) and endorsed by the UMW, the conference brought together women miners, their coworkers, and members of the many family auxiliaries that support the mine workers' union.

The CEP was formed in 1977 to help open up jobs for women in coal mining, combat discrimination and harassment on the job, improve mine health and safety, and provide a support organization for women coal miners.

A rally, titled "Voices of Celebration and Solidarity," featured women miners, UMW officers, and trade unionists in struggle. The event opened the conference, and Linda Breeding, a miner who works at Pittston Coal Group's Moss No. 3 preparation plant in Carbo, Virginia, chaired it.

Breeding was one of 1,900 UMW members in three states who struck the coal company for 11 months in 1989-90. The Pittston miners, backed by the officials and ranks of the UMW, other striking unionists, and working people around the country and internationally, beat back Pittston's union-busting attacks.

### Mood of confidence, determination

Jackie Stump, UMW District 28 president and newly elected representative to the Virginia House of Delegates, addressed the rally, which was marked by a mood of confidence and determination generated by the successful struggle against Pittston. "We learned that there's nothing that can't be done if working people set their minds to it and join together in solidarity."

### Many participants in women miners' event support Curtis defense

BY JOAN LEVITT

NORTON, Va. — Participants in the 12th National Conference of Women Miners here showed much interest in a Mark Curtis Defense Committee literature table set up by Curtis' supporters. Many of those in attendance were already familiar with the framed-up unionist's struggle for justice.

During the 11-month strike by miners against the Pittston Coal Group, hundreds of unionists and their families found themselves arrested, jailed, and fined for the "crime" of defending the United Mine Workers of America.

Many of them learned about Curtis' frame-up during the strike and identified with his fight. Earlier this year Kate Kaku, a leader of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee and Curtis' wife, visited Camp Solidarity, a center for the Pittston strike. She went there to express her husband's solidarity with the miners' struggle.

The literature table at the conference was staffed by people who had learned about Curtis during the strike, including women from the women's and students' auxiliaries and from several districts of the miners union.

After requests by several conference participants to view the *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis*, a video documentary produced by Hollywood director Nick Castle, a lunchtime showing was organized on the second day.

Several letters of support were written to Curtis in prison by people who learned of his frame-up, and \$70 was contributed to the defense effort.



Mine union members Bob and Terry Copechal, on strike against Aloe Coal Co. in Pennsylvania, were among 200 participants in women miners' meeting June 22-24 in Virginia.

Gay Luth, UMW strike committee member from Decker Coal company in Sheridan, Wyoming; Nancy Brown, Machinists Local 796 member on strike against Eastern Airlines in Washington, D.C.; and George Myers, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1493 member on strike against Greyhound in Birmingham, Alabama, reported on the stage of their fights. The strikers appealed for continued support.

Carol Davis, newly appointed CEP chair, talked about some of the victories won by women miners in the past year. The first woman miner in Australia went underground, she noted, and laws barring women from working in the coal mines were repealed in Britain.

Davis also pointed to the victory scored for affirmative action hiring in Pennsylvania where laid-off women miners forced coal bosses to hire them.

The first female member of the Canadian UMW, an underground emergency medical technician, was introduced at the rally. Davis also greeted members of the Daughters of Mother Jones, a support group formed during the Pittston strike, and other members of UMW auxiliaries who helped plan and organize the conference.

### Navajo miners

A special feature of the conference was the attendance of five Navajo women miners from Arizona and New Mexico. The women work at three strip mines operated by Peabody Coal and Pittsburg & Midway Coal companies that lease land from the Navajo Nation. The overwhelming majority of the workers at the mines are Navajo.

Rose Johnson and Elaine Lucio work at the P&M mine in New Mexico. Darlene Benally is a miner for Peabody at its Kayenta, Arizona, operation and Myrata Cody and Dyane Johnson work at Peabody's Black Mesa mine nearby. All are members of the UMW.

Johnson had attended two previous CEP

meetings and is always encouraged by the unity of women at the conferences. "You feel you're not out there alone," she said. Johnson was elected by women from the western coalfields to represent them on the CEP's advisory council, which will plan next year's conference.

### Greetings

Conference participants heard greetings from the British National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Women Against Pit Closures, South Queensland Branch of the United Mineworkers Federation (UMF) of Australia, and from the Women's Conference for Dignity and Justice in El Salvador. Kate Kaku, wife of framed-up meat-packer and political activist Mark Curtis and a leader of his defense effort, sent greetings to the meeting from Denmark where she was rallying support for Curtis' case.

Several workshops were held as part of the conference, including on sexism and racism, health and safety, and UMW issues in the 1990s. A "special interest" workshop was held on international visits made by women miners during the past year to Britain and the International Miners' Organisation meeting in Cairo, Egypt.

At the final session of the women miners' conference, participants voted on resolutions solidifying with South African freedom fighter Nelson Mandela and inviting him to visit the U.S. coalfields, and in support of striking coal miners at Aloe and Valley Coal companies in Pennsylvania, for Decker miners, and of striking Eastern and Greyhound workers.

Several resolutions pledged backing for Donnie Thomsbury, David Thomsbury, Arnold Heightland, and James Darryl Smith, UMW miners framed during the 1984-85 miners' strike against A.T. Massey Coal Co. in Kentucky. The miners are in prison today serving long sentences. A fifth miner, Paul Smith, was acquitted on federal charges and now faces state charges.

Participants at the meeting also sent greetings to the NUM and Women Against Pit Closures in Britain and the UMF in Australia, pledging to deepen ties with these organizations.

For the first time, four women miners were elected to the CEP Board of Directors. The next women miners' conference will be held in Colorado, participants voted.

## Police raid aircraft plant in Canada

BY ANNETTE KOURI AND JOANNE HOLOWCHAK

MONTREAL—Police armed with firearms and dogs walked onto the factory floor June 15 at Bombardier's Canadair Plant No. 1 here and searched workers' bags, clothing, tool boxes, and work areas. At least six workers were taken to a washroom and strip searched. The washroom doors were left open for everyone to see.

Workers later learned that a video camera had been installed in one of the men's washrooms months earlier to spy on them.

Several days after the first raid police again came to the plant.

Four workers have been formally charged with alleged drug-related offenses. Bombardier suspended them without pay.

Bombardier employs more than 3,000 aircraft production workers at Canadair. They are members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) Lodge 712.

These actions by the police and the company have created a big discussion in the plant with differing points of view. Many

workers accept the raid at face value and go along with the company and police version that they have a legitimate right to conduct raids and fire workers as part of a "war on drugs."

Other workers see the raid as an attack on the rights of individuals and the union as a whole. "This place is just like a prison," commented one worker, reflecting outrage at the attack on the privacy and democratic rights of union members. Other workers said the raid was really designed to intimidate workers and had nothing to do with drugs.

The 3,000 delegates at the convention of the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) held here in May discussed the increased violation by employers of workers' right to privacy. The CLC is the main labor federation in Canada, and the IAM is affiliated to it. In a position paper opposing these employer attacks, the delegates declared, "Employers are finding more and more ways to invade the privacy of workers. These include mandatory drug testing, testing for AIDS, psychological screening, electronic surveillance,

and personal searches."

Seafarers' union leader Andrew Boyle told delegates that if the government succeeds in forcing federal transportation workers to submit to mandatory blood and urine tests, other employers will follow. "It is not just a transportation issue," he stated, "it is a human rights issue."

CLC staff representative David Morris explained to the convention, "If we see someone's got a drug or alcohol problem, we send the brother or sister to alcohol or drug treatment centers. We don't need the bosses to police us."

IAM Lodge 712 at the Canadair plant is following the case and workers in the plant continue to discuss how to respond. On June 29 Bombardier increased the stakes when they arbitrarily fired the four workers, trampling on the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Annette Kouri and Joanne Holowchak are members of IAM Lodge 712 and work in Plant No. 1 at Canadair (Bombardier).