

Build Feb. 21 student actions! Bring the troops home now!

Youth organize worldwide protests to stop bombing, end Mideast war

BY PETER THIERJUNG

International protests against the U.S.-led war in the Middle East called by student and youth organizations for February 21 are building in dozens of cities. University, college, and high school groups across the United States, in the Philippines, Canada, and France have called teach-ins, marches, rallies, picket lines, special seminars, and other activities for that date.

"The call to action for February 21 is an urgent one," said Carl LeVan, a student activist in the Washington, D.C., office of the National Student and Youth Campaign for Peace in the Middle East. "The February 21 protests give students and youth the opportunity to speak in a unified and powerful voice — to say we will not tolerate this war."

"We're calling on students and young people everywhere to respond and become part of this international day of protest," said Angela Lariscy, another activist in the student and youth campaign office.

The National Student and Youth Campaign office in the U.S. capital, with its three phones, fax machine, and constant traffic of volunteers, is a national and international center for the February 21 actions.

"People are always coming and going. Usually there are three or four volunteers here, but sometimes it gets chaotic," LeVan said, describing the office's organization. He explained that the meager office has been a center for massive mailings, press work, outreach to campuses across the United States, and fundraising.

But despite the group's shoestring operation, February 21 activities are mushrooming across the United States and have met a response internationally.

In Manila, a student and youth mobilization has been called to demand an end to the war in the Middle East and the withdrawal of U.S. bases from the Philippines. These bases are being used as a staging ground for the war in the Arab-Persian Gulf as they were during the Vietnam and Korean Wars, said Chito Quijano, international representative of the League of Filipino Students in North America.

Quijano said the mobilization in Manila is being sponsored by the League of Filipino Students, the National Union of Students of the Philippines, Youth for Democracy and Nationalism, the Student Christian Movement, and the College Editors' Guild of the Philippines. Because of the international date line, the date in the Philippines for the protest has been set for February 22 to coincide with February 21 protests in the United States.

The Canadian Federation of Students in British Columbia and Students Against the Gulf War are planning a 1 p.m. march in Vancouver, according to CFS province chairperson Brad Lavigne. A teach-in for march

Continued on Page 10



Antiwar protest in Wellington, New Zealand, Jan. 15, 1991.

Militant/Robert Cross

Baker admits real goals of U.S. war

BY SETH GALINSKY

In the first week of February U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd outlined U.S. and British government plans to deepen imperialist domination of the Middle East through their war against the Iraqi people.

In their comments, Baker and Hurd made

it clear that whatever minor differences they may have, their common goals are to overthrow the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq; maintain U.S. and British military domination of the Middle East; strengthen pro-imperialist military forces in Arab countries; and set back the Palestinians in their struggle for self-determination. These are the steps necessary to ensure that Washington and London have more control over the resources and politics of the region.

Baker, in testimony before the U.S. House

of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee on February 6, stated that while "it would be premature and unwise for us to lay out a detailed blueprint for the postwar Gulf, or for the region as a whole," it would be "irresponsible" to not begin thinking about the "postwar" order.

"There is no suggestion on our part that the rebuilding of Iraq could proceed, if the current leadership of Iraq remained in power, to the same extent and degree that it could

Continued on Page 8

A BOOK FOR WORKERS WHO WANT TO KNOW THE FACTS

U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations, also available in Spanish, is an irreplaceable tool in the fight against the U.S.-led war against Iraq. An introduction by Mary-Alice Waters outlines the stakes for working people in the imperialist war. The book contains a useful chronology of the U.S.-led war preparations since early August and 10 UN resolutions adopted on the Gulf crisis.

Featured in the book are statements by Cuban Ambassador to the UN Ricardo Alarcón and President Fidel Castro that rebut the pretexts and arguments used by Washington to justify its unilateral acts of aggression. Unionists, GIs, veterans, reservists, and other workers involved in struggles against the employers' offensive at home can use the facts and arguments it contains to arm themselves and help convince others to join in campaigning against the slaughter taking place by the same employers, through their government, in the Mideast.

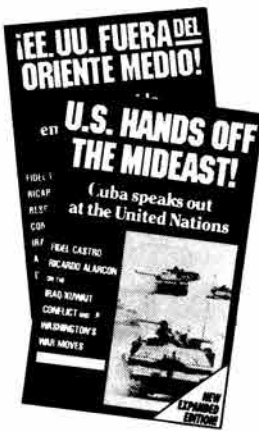
Help distribute this book by getting extra copies to sell to coworkers and others. Use the special discounts for bulk orders.

\$9.95 each. Bundles of 5 or more *prepaid*, 33% off (\$6.50 each). Bundles of 10 or more *prepaid*, 50% off (\$5 each). Shipping charges: \$2 for 1-4 books; \$3 for 5-9 books; \$5 for 10 or more.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please send: _____ copies of *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* _____ copies of *¡EE.UU. fuera del Oriente Medio!* Enclosed is \$_____ for the book(s) plus \$_____ shipping, total \$_____.

Mail to: Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Outside the United States contact Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12.



7,000 civilians killed in Iraq by unremitting U.S.-led bombing

BY SELVA NEBBIA

With each passing day the civilian carnage wrought by the intense U.S.-led bombardment of Iraq and Kuwait grows. The Red Crescent, an affiliate of the Red Cross, reported February 12 that at least 7,000 civilians had died in the criminal assault by Washington.

This is "minor compared to what they've got coming," said British Lieut. Gen. Peter de la Billière about the day and night bombing of Iraqi troops and cities.

The magnitude and ferocity of the attack reveals Washington and its allies' true aim: to drive the Iraqi people into submission by continuing the brutal air and missile assault and preparing for a bloody ground invasion of Iraq.

Bombs hit villages and cities

"Not all bombs are for the army. There are bombs hitting villages and mosques. You can see it from the road. But the people are strong. That will not stop them," said Mohammed Azar, a truck driver who travels between Iraq and Jordan.

The Iraqi capital of Baghdad and the southern port city of Basra, as well as other

cities and towns, continue to be pounded by massive bombing and missile attacks.

"We Iraqis and millions of Arabs will never forget this," said a high-ranking Iraqi official. "These bombing raids have nothing to do with the so-called Kuwaiti question. They serve to destroy the civil infrastructure of our country, to leave us without water, electricity, telephones, and all those things that remind us of civilization."

Some newscasts have shown cruise missile attacks on Baghdad. The low-flying surface-to-surface missile, like other weapons being used in the bombing, have been said to be extremely accurate by U.S. President George Bush and Pentagon officials.

Journalists in Iraq, though, have been taken to numerous sites where the missiles and other bombs have hit neighborhoods or other civilian facilities.

A military spokesman on Iraqi radio said February 6 that 281 strikes in one night on the southern city of An Nasiriyah resulted in the death of 150 civilians, including 35 children.

Alfonso Rojo reporting from Baghdad for

Continued on Page 5

South Korea puts army on alert

BY PETER THIERJUNG

South Korean president Roh Tae-woo has put his government's armed forces on maximum alert and claims that the war in the Middle East has heightened chances of an attack by North Korean forces.

In announcing the move, Roh asserted that North Korea was producing Scud missiles and had deployed them along the Demilitarized Zone which divides Korea into north and south. The South Korean president also said he had information that North Korea recently provided Scuds to Iraq, the South Korean Yonhap News Agency reported.

North Korea replies

According to Reuters' wire service, a February 2 dispatch from the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang, North Korea, called the missile claims "a cock-and-bull story" and said the U.S. government was the source of the false reports.

KCNA said: "On February 1 the U.S. State Department reportedly stated that it pays heed to and is deeply concerned over a 'report' that [North Korea] has supplied Scud missiles to Iraq, making quite a noise as if [it] were violating United Nations sanctions against Iraq."

KCNA also noted that on January 16 "the Pentagon spread a false rumor that [North Korea] was 'airlifting arms' to Iraq in violation of the UN economic sanctions."

Press officer David Denny confirmed the State Department statement, which warned North Korea not to contribute to the "destabilizing proliferation of missiles or missile parts in the Middle East." The statement provided no facts and only said that the department was "aware of reports" charging North Korea had supplied Scud missiles to Iraq.

The Pyongyang news agency restated the North Korean government's opposition to Iraq's annexation of Kuwait, and to Washington's war against Iraq which, it said, is aimed at strengthening the U.S. position in the Middle East.

The South Korean regime and the 45,000 U.S. forces, along with 1,000 nuclear weapons stationed there, are still in a state of war with the North. No peace treaty has yet been signed to end the 1950-53 Korean War.

'Team Spirit' military exercises

This month Washington and Seoul begin their annual "Team Spirit" exercises to keep U.S. and South Korean forces in a state of readiness.

A January 26 statement by the North Korean foreign ministry condemned the "Team Spirit" military maneuvers as "reckless war exercises" that threatened peace on the peninsula. They "are all the more grave as they coincide with the unprecedentedly vicious campaign kicked up in South Korea against the North after the outbreak of the Gulf war," the statement said.

"Team Spirit" exercises in 1990 involved more than 110,000 South Korean and 70,000 U.S. troops.

The South Korean regime's maximum alert order comes in the context of a deepening economic and political crisis in the South and rising support, especially in the South, for the reunification of Korea. It also comes as Seoul steps up its military involvement in the war against Iraq.

On February 1 the South Korean cabinet approved a plan to send troops and military transport planes to the Gulf. Defense ministry officials say the troops are for "rear-area military transportation."

The 80-150 military personnel and five C-130 planes will be joining a 154-member military medical team from South Korea already in Saudi Arabia.

Last year, South Korea promised \$120 million in aid to the U.S.-led coalition now at war with Iraq. The Roh government also promised \$100 million in aid to "frontline" countries such as Egypt and Turkey. The new aid package would contribute an extra \$280 million to U.S.-led forces in the Middle East.

Defense Minister Lee Chong Ku told a South Korea parliamentary committee that the move to send additional personnel to the Gulf would not lead to combat troops being sent, a move that would not be popular in Korea.

Protests against war

Korean youth and students have already organized protests on campuses in South Korea against Washington's war and further protest can be expected, Hyuk Kyo Suh, editor of the Washington, D.C.-based *Korea Report*, said.

The Party for Peace and Democracy in South Korea, the main political party opposing the Roh regime, has criticized Roh's moves as capitulation to U.S. pressures. Kim Dae Jung, a prominent oppositionist and leader of the party, has opposed even sending a medical team to the Gulf, insisting that the dispatch of a similar group to Vietnam in 1964 had escalated into full military involvement in that war. Kim favors sanctions against Iraq.



U.S. troops in South Korea. Washington has 45,000 troops and 1,000 nuclear weapons there. "Team Spirit" military exercises with South Korean troops begin this month.

2,500 protest Utah antiabortion law

BY ELLIE GARCÍA

SALT LAKE CITY — One day after Utah's governor signed the most restrictive abortion bill in the United States into law, some 2,500 demonstrators in outrage. Hundreds of chanting prochoice supporters first rallied at the State Capitol, then marched to Governor Norman Bangert's mansion. They placed hangers on his fence and vowed to continue their battle.

The law, signed on January 25, eliminates a woman's right to abortion except in cases of rape or incest, where the pregnancy threatens "grave damage to the pregnant woman's medical health," or to prevent the birth of a child with "grave defects."

"The Utah law, and the measures moving ahead in Wyoming and South Dakota are all direct assaults on *Roe v. Wade* and the right to privacy and the right to choose — virtually outlawing all abortions," said Kate Michelman, executive director of the National Abortion Rights Action League, after the ruling. *Roe v. Wade* refers to the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

Originally, the Utah bill proposed doctors be charged with a class-two felony for performing abortions, carrying a penalty of up to \$10,000 and a maximum of 15 years in jail. But, hoping that with a slightly less onerous penalty the law could withstand a legal challenge and a review by the Supreme Court, the bill was revised.

Under the new law, doctors who perform illegal abortions would be guilty of a class-three felony, and could face fines up to

\$5,000 and a five-year jail term.

The legislation was rammed through both the Utah State House and Senate and signed into law within one week's time.

Despite efforts to keep the numbers attending the hearings on the proposed legislation small, hundreds showed up. The crowd was overwhelmingly young, prochoice, and angry. Fifteen minutes before the hearings began, 300 people crammed into the small room. Those denied entry stood outside and shouted, "Change the room," "This is not a public meeting," and "Prochoice and no voice." Finally, officials were forced to open the House chambers to hold the hearings. But the proceedings were cut short and the bill was passed on through channels.

"The Supreme Court has concentrated too much on the rights of the woman. The pendulum must swing back to the unborn," said LeRay McAllister, the state senator who drafted the legislation. She pointed out that the new law does away with abortion on demand.

Nancy Boyasko, Socialist Workers Party candidate for City Council District 4 in Salt Lake City issued a statement denouncing the bill. "What is at stake is a woman's right to a safe and legal abortion. The real goal of the law is to maximize the difficulties, dangers, and humiliations that women must suffer who seek this medical procedure. The message of the government is clear: women should be child-breeders and raisers first and foremost."

Boyasko explained the law would adversely affect all women, and fall hardest on

women of oppressed nationalities, the poor, and young women. "It is an attack against a democratic right that we fought hard to win," she continued, "and it is part and parcel of the war by the rulers of this country against working people in the Middle East and here at home."

"The right to choose abortion was won in struggle and must be defended in struggle. This includes visible protests, speak-outs, and winning the labor movement to broadly take on the fight for women's rights as part of defending all workers," Boyasko concluded.

While Utah's new restrictions on abortion are the strictest so far, other states have, or are now attempting to place, severe limits on women's right to choose.

In the U.S. colony of Guam, a law banning abortions except when a mother's life is endangered passed in 1990. The state of Pennsylvania has placed many procedural restrictions on abortion. Federal district courts have found the Pennsylvania laws unconstitutional, but their decisions are now on appeal to a higher court.

State legislatures in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Missouri have introduced bills banning most abortions, or placing some restrictions on doctors and patients. Several other states are considering the introduction of similar legislation.

On January 28, a House committee in the Wyoming legislature rejected a bill that would have outlawed abortions in that state, except when a woman's health was in jeopardy or in cases of rape or incest.

The Militant

Closing news date: February 12, 1991

Editor: GREG McCARTAN

Circulation Director: RONI McCANN

Business Manager: DOUG JENNESS

Editorial Staff: Seth Galinsky, James Harris, Cindy Jaquith, Roni McCann, Selva Nebbia, Janet Post, Judy Stranahan, Peter Thierjung.

Published weekly except the last two weeks of December by the Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone: (212) 243-6392; Fax 727-0150; Telex, 497-4278.

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to The Militant Business Office, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Militant, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Subscriptions: U.S., Latin America: for one-year subscription send \$45, drawn on a U.S. bank, to above address. By first-class (airmail), send \$80. Canada: send Canadian \$75 for one-year subscription to Société d'Éditions AGPP, C.P. 340, succ. R, Montréal, Québec H2S 3M2. Britain, Ireland, Africa: £35 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution, 47 The Cut, London, SE1 8LL, England. Continental Europe: £50 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution at above address. Australia, Asia, Pacific: send Australian \$75 to P.O. Box 79, Railway Square Post Office, Railway Square, Sydney 2000, Australia.

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the Militant's views. These are expressed in editorials.



GET THE MILITANT EVERY WEEK!

Subscribe or renew today so you won't miss a single issue!

News and analysis on the war against the people of Iraq by Washington and its imperialist allies • Coverage of working-class resistance to the employers' war against workers and farmers at home • Reports on protests against the Mideast war in the United States and throughout the world • News on the struggles of working people in South Africa and Korea • Labor battles • Reports from socialist Cuba

SPECIAL RENEWAL OFFER

Resubscribe and take \$2 off the new Pathfinder book **U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations** in English or Spanish. Reg. \$9.95



- ☐ \$27 for 6 months ☐ \$45 for a year
- ☐ \$15 12-week renewal ☐ \$10 introductory 12 weeks
- ☐ with my renewal send me *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* book for \$7.95. Specify Spanish or English.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Union/School/Organization _____

Send to the Militant, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

To order a weekly bundle write the Militant business office above

S. Africa to end main apartheid laws — mass rallies call for interim government

BY GREG McCARTAN

South African President F.W. de Klerk announced February 1 he would introduce legislation "within months" that would abolish several acts that have served as the foundations of the apartheid system.

In a speech before the opening session of parliament, though, de Klerk did not mention scrapping the regime's repressive security legislation — laws that have been used to suppress the decades-long struggle for a nonracial, democratic state.

As the South African President spoke in the parliamentary capital of Cape Town, some 250,000 people held rallies, marches, and work stoppages across the country demanding the regime be replaced by an interim government, followed by a democratically elected constituent assembly.

Leaders of the African National Congress (ANC), Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), South African Communist Party (SACP), and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) addressed protests in dozens of rural and urban areas.

The apartheid legislation de Klerk said he would ask parliament to repeal includes:

- The Land Acts of 1913 and 1936. The apartheid system was built on the foundations of prior racist policies of the colonial-settler state, above all the Land Acts. These acts place the legal limit on the right of Africans to own and work the land at 13.7 percent of the total area of the country.

- The Group Areas Act of 1966. This law strictly segregates residential and commercial areas for each legally defined population group. Under the Population Registration Act of 1950, every person in South Africa is classified by the government as "White," "Black," "Coloured," or "Asian." Opponents of apartheid refer to all those who are denied full citizenship rights as Blacks.

- The Black Communities Act of 1984, a piece of legislation that codifies the separate status of Black townships.

De Klerk also indicated he would soon propose an end to the Population Registration Act. He additionally made public a "Manifesto for the New South Africa" that outlines basic rights for the entire population. The speech provoked a walk-out of the parliament session by members

of the right-wing Conservative Party.

Following the announcement, British Prime Minister John Major called for the immediate lifting of economic sanctions imposed on South Africa. The Canadian and Australian governments also said a review of the measures was needed.

At a February 4 meeting, foreign ministers of the 12-country European Community decided to end bans on South African iron, steel, and gold coins as soon as de Klerk formally asks parliament to revoke the apartheid acts.

Responding to the government's moves, the African National Congress National Executive Committee released a statement February 2 reiterating that "the apartheid system must be abolished now and the process of transforming our country into a nonracial democracy must begin as speedily as possible." (See statement below.)

Commending de Klerk for his proposals, the ANC said such steps "constitute a fundamental departure from the apartheid framework."

The statement and interviews given by ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela continue to press for the freeing of political prisoners held by the regime, amnesty for all exiles, and the ending of security legislation.

"These omissions suggest a reluctance on the government's part," Mandela is quoted as saying in the February 4 *Christian Science Monitor*, "to relinquish the inordinate powers it wields in terms of these laws. This underscores the urgency of the installation of an interim government reflective of the political forces in the country."

He also urged that sanctions be continued because "apartheid is still in force."

"We still have no vote," he said of the majority of people in South Africa. "The state organs are still dominated by whites. The police are still harassing, persecuting, even killing, our people." He said that the European governments made a "very serious mistake," and "error in judgement" in their hasty move to lift sanctions.

To press the fight to bring an end to apartheid, the ANC has launched a mass action campaign of street protests, rallies, boycotts, and work stoppages.

As part of this campaign Mandela has urged trade unions to join in demanding a



ANC leaders Nelson Mandela (center) and Walter Sisulu (left). ANC is pressing for release of political prisoners, amnesty for exiles, and end to repressive legislation.

new government. At an early January congress of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association, Mandela said, "It is necessary that trade unions make a greater input into our policy to get a constituent assembly and an interim government off the ground."

According to the U.S. government's Federal Broadcast Information Service, he told the delegates that "when we talk of a national liberation struggle, we mean a struggle of and for all the people for our land."

On February 5, South African Minister of Constitutional Development Gerrit Viljoen said

that the government was open to an earlier ANC proposal for an "all-party congress."

Mandela told the press at the beginning of January that the proposal for such a congress of political parties flows from the view that "it would be a mistake for the ANC or the government to think that they are the only parties who must be involved in the negotiating process. We are major parties, but we are not the only actors," he said.

The conference would focus on the next steps in the writing of a new constitution and the transfer of political power out of the hands of the white minority regime.

ANC response to de Klerk

The following statement by the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress was released in Johannesburg, South Africa, February 2, 1991.

As reflected in its anniversary statement issued on January 8th, this year, the National Executive Committee of the ANC remains of the view that the apartheid system must be abolished now and the process of transforming our country into a nonracial democracy begin as speedily as possible.

In this context the ANC commends [South African] President De Klerk for the announcements he made on Friday, 1st February, that all discriminatory legislation will be repealed within a few months.

We welcome also the belated acceptance of the principle that South Africa and all the people who inhabit it constitute one nation, and that the government should derive its legitimacy from the consent of the governed by the leader of the National Party.

The publication of the "Manifesto for a new South Africa" by the government, as an expression of the principle thrust of its future policies, also constitutes a fundamental departure from the apartheid framework which deserves recognition. The NEC also notes with satisfaction the narrowing of the distance between the positions now being adopted by the National Party and the historic policies of the ANC and its allies as adumbrated in the Freedom Charter and more recently in the ANC's Draft Bill of Rights. These developments will be of great assistance in providing a climate conducive to the elaboration of a new constitution.

It is therefore ironic that President De Klerk rejects both the notions of a Constituent Assembly and an Interim Government. This amounts to an insistence that the minority regime, which has no legitimacy in the eyes

of the majority of our people, presides over transition to democracy. Together with millions of our people, throughout the country, as shown by the peaceful demonstrations that coincided with the opening of Parliament, the ANC is of the firm view that only an elected Constituent Assembly can provide the forum to negotiate a new constitution for South Africa.

The ANC shall not be party to any arrangement that seeks to foist responsibility for the system of apartheid on us but denies us effective power to uproot it. In this context we cannot accept President De Klerk's proposal to find ways to integrate leaders of the negotiating parties into policy formulation.

We must also draw attention to the remarkable absence of any reference to the numerous Repressive and Security Laws that clutter up South Africa's statute books. These have been the subject of intense discussion between the ANC and the government for the past nine months and are amongst the most obstinate obstacles in the path of free political activity. President De Klerk's silence on the release of political prisoners, ending all political trials and the return of exiles is also cause for alarm.

These omissions suggest a reluctance on the government's part to relinquish the inordinate powers it wields in terms of these laws. This underscores the urgency of the installation of an interim government, reflective of all the political forces in our country.

The homeland system, an expression of the system of apartheid, must also be addressed and measures taken to ensure that all the people of South Africa, including those in the so-called TBVC [the Bantustans of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, and Ciskei] states, participate in determining the future of their country.

HANDS OFF THE MIDEAST!

Campaigning worldwide against the imperialist war

Working people — in and out of uniform — are discussing and debating the imperialist war in the Mideast led by the governments of the United States, Britain, Canada, France and Australia. In factories, mines, mills; on warships; and among those now stationed in Saudi Arabia, workers and farmers have discussed and expressed opposition to the war against the Iraqi people.

Rallies, marches, and conferences are being held with broad participation, especially from youth; action coalitions have been formed in cities around the world; veterans, GIs, and reservists have been speaking out; antiwar buttons are being worn at work; and planning for more antiwar actions is under way.

We encourage readers to contribute items to this column that will help campaign against and build visible opposition to the war.

In New Zealand, leaders of the Tainui federation of Maori tribes have condemned the sending of army medical and air force supply units to back U.S. imperialism's war against the Iraqi people. They urged Maori servicemen not to be "cannon fodder for foreign policy," if combat units are sent from New Zealand.

Maoris, who make up about 12 percent of the population, constitute a majority of the army's combat troops. They also make up nearly one-quarter of the unemployed.

"Our people have no jobs, no homes, and no power. Why should they fight for a country that cannot even look after them," said Bob Mahuta, a Tainui spokesperson.

However, Sir Graham Latimer, Maori council chairman is calling for the New Zealand government to step up its army recruitment of young unemployed Maoris to give them "a chance to fight for their country and their race."

In the largest demonstration yet, 1,200

people in Stockholm, Sweden, marched to the U.S. embassy on January 26 to oppose Washington's war in the Mideast. Slogans at the protest included, "Stop the war — Stop the bombing" and "No to Swedish participation in the war." The most popular chants were "Stop the war, stop Bush," and "Support the Iraqi people."

The day before the demonstration, some 400 students participated in a meeting at a university to discuss the Mideast war. Organized by a newly formed student committee opposed to the war, it was the biggest political meeting to take place at the school in many years.

On January 27, 5,000 people in Puerto Rico demonstrated their opposition to the U.S.-led war against Iraq. Gathering at the Plaza Las Americas shopping center, the protesters marched two-and-a-half miles to Fort Buchanan for a rally. Fort Buchanan is the headquarters of the U.S. Army in Puerto Rico.

There was participation from throughout the U.S. colony. Many people carried Puerto Rican flags. One banner read, "No Puerto Ricans to the Gulf," and "You are not a Yankee," said another. Chants of "I won't die or kill for oil" were heard throughout the crowd.

"The media has us confused. They have filled us with the wrong information. But sometimes people can see right through it," said Rafael Cancel Miranda, well-known leader of the fight for Puerto Rico's independence, referring to the high number of participants.

Leading a contingent of teachers was Renán Soto, president of the Puerto Rican Federation of Teachers. Soto has a son who is stationed in the Gulf. The teachers union issued a statement opposing the war.

Russell Johnson from New Zealand; Inge Hinnemo from Sweden; and Ron Richards from Puerto Rico contributed to this column.

Socialists win ballot spot for Los Angeles county elections

BY PAT NIXON

LOS ANGELES — Elizabeth Stone and John Evenhuis, Socialist Workers Party candidates for the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District, were ruled on the ballot here after submitting 4,000 signatures February 2.

Stone, an airline worker and member of the International Association of Machinists, and Evenhuis, a student at Pasadena Community College, are building the February 21 actions against the U.S. war in the Arab-Persian Gulf called by student and youth organizations. They are part of a slate of six Socialist Workers candidates that include Margarita Mejia for School Board, Eli Green for City Council, and Ben Fiering and Juan Villagómez for Community College Board.

The drive to collect signatures began the day the U.S. began bombing Iraq and Kuwait. Since then the candidates have been speaking out against the bombing and calling for the troops to be brought home. Thousands of "No to the War" campaign leaflets have been given out at community college campuses, plant-gates, antiwar demonstrations, and at the victory picket line at Eastern Airlines.

Campaign supporters initially set a goal of collecting 2,000 signatures, but the response was so good it was decided to raise the number to 4,000. This allowed the candidates to meet the city's undemocratic ballot law requirements without paying a \$600 filing fee.

Evenhuis estimates that about 50 percent of those asked to sign the socialists' petitions at the community colleges indicated they were opposed to the war. "Many of these campuses, especially those with a high enrollment of minority and immigrant workers, have been hit hard by cutbacks," Evenhuis explains. "At Los Angeles City College, for example, hundreds of Spanish-speaking students have had their English classes termi-

nated. We are calling for the money being spent on war to go for human needs such as education."

During the ballot drive, hundreds of *Militant* newspapers and close to 50 subscriptions were sold to antiwar demonstrators, students, and workers.

"It's difficult to counter all the prowar propaganda in the media with a leaflet or short conversation," Stone remarked. "But you can point out certain things that motivate people to read the *Militant*, which presents the facts that have been hidden from working people."

"Bush claims that this is a war for sovereignty of a small nation and that the U.S. government has no desire for conquest over Iraq," Stone said. "But we point out this is precisely what Bush does intend. This is a war of conquest, a war on behalf of the billionaire families who own the big oil companies and other corporations and want greater control over the oil and other resources of the area," she said.

"While we were collecting signatures at the McDonnell Douglas aerospace plant, a worker very insistently asked me: 'What would you do about Hussein?'"

"He wasn't really listening until I said: the question for us is what are we going to do about Bush and the politicians here who do not represent us?"

"The Bush administration, the congress, and the courts all sided with Lorenzo and Eastern Airlines against the workers on strike," Stone pointed out. "The new government they hope to impose in Iraq will be antiworker, antiunion, and pro-big corporations as well. And at the cost of countless lives of working people on both sides."

ST. LOUIS — Statements of protest against an attack on the Socialist Workers Party election campaign headquarters here highlighted a February 6 press conference featuring SWP candidate for president of the board of alderman, David Rosenfeld.

On January 30, one day after campaign supporters turned in 3,800 signatures for ballot status in the April elections, the window of the socialist's campaign headquarters was smashed. The attack came on the heels of threatening phone calls to Rosenfeld's home.

Rosenfeld, a laid-off production worker at McDonnell Douglas, reported at the press conference that the police have not taken any action to investigate the window-breaking — treating it simply as destruction of property.

This is despite the fact that Rosenfeld's campaign is centered on building opposition to the U.S. government's war abroad and the employers' war against working people at home. He has spoken at several campus speak-outs and been interviewed by the media on his antiwar stand.

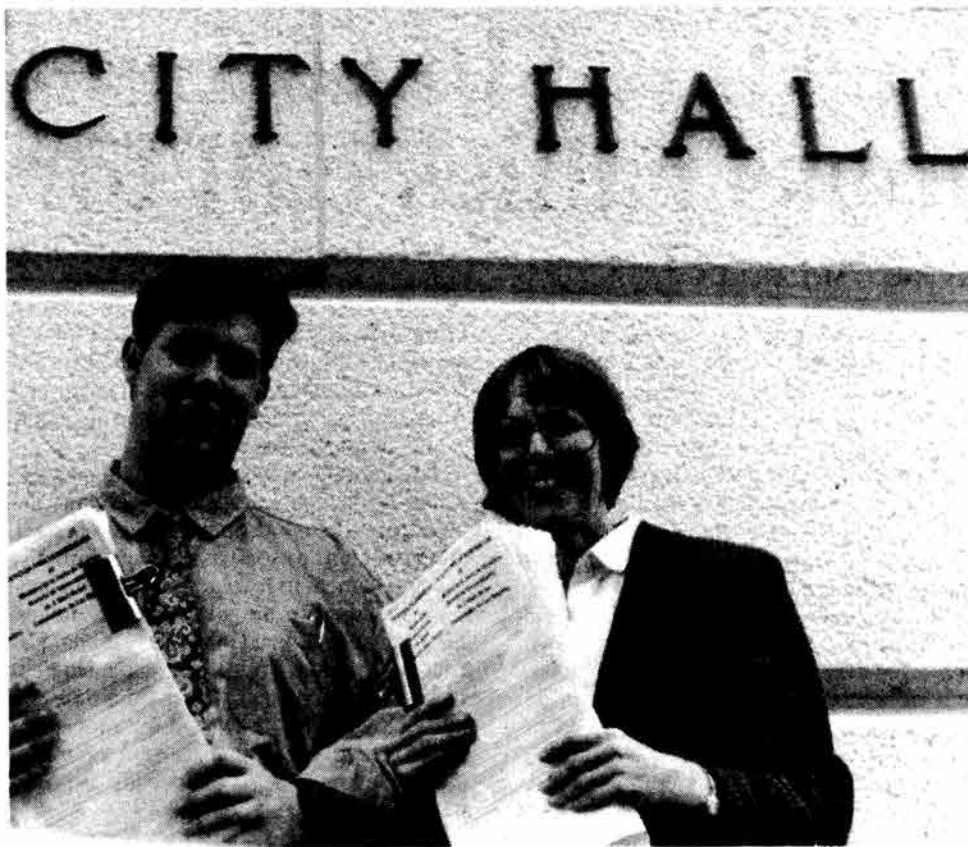
Joining Rosenfeld at the press conference was Rev. Ted Schroeder, pastor of the Immanuel Lutheran Church. Reverent Schroeder said that "we who stand for human rights and democratic rights must stand together." He said that since the socialists' campaign is politically active, "the attack cannot be treated as a simple act of vandalism."

Benjamin Hoover, Sr., an activist for Black rights, called on the police to "investigate, apprehend, and prosecute whoever did this just as they would for a big-business candidate."

"The right to protest is deeply rooted in our American heritage," said Judith Banks, representing the Forest Park Students for Peace. "We must take any threat or act of violence seriously," she continued, "but we will not be silenced by threats."

Eldora Spiegelberg, president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, said that the attack is "indicative of a growing mood of intolerance toward those of us who dissent with our government over conducting the war in the Persian Gulf."

In a message of support to the press conference Dan Carroll, committeeman for Local 1500 of the Amalgamated Transit Union on strike against Greyhound, said, "How can we have freedom if you don't have the right to express yourself? I firmly support the Socialist Workers Party's right to express their views and rights of opponents of the



John Evenhuis and Elizabeth Stone, Socialist Workers Party candidates for Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District, turning in 4,000 signatures for ballot status February 2.

war to protest the war."

Messages were also received from Dave Dowling, president of United Steelworkers of America Local 67; Dan Hellinger, a leader

of the Latin American Solidarity Committee; Cathy Zeman, of the Student Environmental Action Committee; and Bill Ramsey from the American Friends Service Committee.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS IN ACTION

The Young Socialist Alliance is a revolutionary organization of students and young workers across the United States. YSA members seek to organize other young people in the fight against the wars, economic devastation, racism, and sexism bred by the capitalist system.

At the center of the YSA members' political activity today is the fight against the bloody war opened against Iraq by Washington and its imperialist allies. They are engaging in the debates and discussions taking place on college campuses, in factories, and among GIs, on the war in the Mideast. They are active in coalitions building street protests and other actions against the U.S.-led war.

The YSA seeks to advance the worldwide fight against apartheid in South Africa, defend the Cuban revolution, and back the struggle to reunify Korea.

We encourage members of the YSA, and members of the Young Socialists in Canada and New Zealand, to contribute items for this column.

"Members of the YSA here in Chicago have been actively building campus meetings and rallies planned for February 21 to protest the war in the Mideast," reported Frederick Lerouge.

YSA members have been attending student coalition meetings and other planning events, while speaking out against the war and encouraging students and working people to participate in the actions. "We will be traveling to Champaign, Illinois, to attend a regional meeting called by the Progressive Student Network (PSN)," said Lerouge. "There, PSN members will be discussing February 21 actions slated for campuses throughout the Midwest and how to build them."

Lerouge said the YSA is also holding weekly classes where activists can discuss the roots of imperialist wars and the capitalist system that breeds them. "Last week YSA Chairperson Eric Matheis led a discussion based on the Pathfinder book *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*. Afterward, 10 youths bought or borrowed the book and wanted to hold another session the following week."

Lerouge reported that in February, the YSA is sponsoring a debate at the University of Illinois at Chicago on the war in the Mideast. The debate is between two antiwar speakers — a Catholic priest just returned from refugee camps in the Mideast, and Socialist Workers Party candidate James Warren — and two prowar speakers.

"What do you think about the war in the Mideast?" was the question posed to students stopping at literature tables staffed by young socialists on college campuses in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

From January 21 to February 1 a team of YSA members traveled to campuses in the South selling the *Militant*, the *International Socialist Review* supplement, and two new Pathfinder books: *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* *Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* and *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*. "We also encouraged students to organize activities against the war on the February 21 nationally coordinated day of protest," said team member Elizabeth Rogers.

At campuses in the three states, students bought 125 copies of the *International Socialist Review* and more than \$200 worth of Pathfinder literature, including 21 copies of *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*. Seven students subscribed to the *Militant* and 88 picked up single copies. In addition, 59 people signed up to get more information about the YSA.

On every campus, the socialists met both antiwar students and those who support the U.S.-led war against Iraq.

Team members also met GIs on every campus, many of whom were on their way to Saudi Arabia. One student at Southern University in New Orleans said he joined the reserves three years ago to help pay for his education. So far he has only attended one semester of school — he was in the first reserve unit sent to Panama last year and now he is on his way to the Gulf. "When you're in the army," he said, "you're just a piece of property to the government."

YSA National Executive Committee member Derek Bracey spoke before two classes at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Afterward, 18 students bought copies of the book *Malcolm X Talks to Young People* and four picked up the book *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!*

At Jacksonville State University near Fort McClellan in Anniston, Alabama, the YSA sponsored a public meeting billed as "Bring the Troops Home Now! Why Young People Should Oppose the War" featuring a talk by Bracey. The public discussion was the first of its kind held on the campus and it attracted 20 students who were against, for, or undecided on the war.

Dan Furman from Birmingham, Alabama, contributed to this column.

Labor federation in Canada calls for troops out of the Gulf

BY BEVERLY BERNARDO

TORONTO — Delegates to an Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) conference on job loss, privatization, and contracting out voted January 26 to call for the immediate withdrawal of Canadian troops from the Arab-Persian Gulf, an immediate cease-fire, and for negotiations to resolve the crisis in the Middle East.

In his opening remarks to the 1,200 unionists, OFL President Gordon Wilson called the war in the Middle East one of "two wars being conducted today" — the other being the growing attacks by the bosses against workers here in Canada. Wilson encouraged participants to attend the demonstration organized by the Toronto Troops Out of the Gulf Coalition being held during the lunch break. Several dozen delegates braved frigid temperatures to attend.

During the main discussion on job losses, Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) President Robert White said he knew that some workers in the plants "are rallying around the flag" on the question of the war. He called on the Canadian government to "disengage from the U.S." and called for peace. Leo Gerard, president of District 6 of the United Steelworkers of America (USWA), explained that he was angry that "tax dollars are being used to kill human beings in another part of the world."

During the discussion on the OFL resolution on the war, Terry Stevenson, a member of USWA Local 8694 at Canadian ASE Ltd., condemned attacks carried out by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service against Arab-Canadians and explained how "such attacks would be extended to all working people." Stevenson told the conference how USWA members at her plant had successfully defeated the bosses' efforts to ban antiwar buttons in the plant.

Stevenson also explained that the unions have to "oppose working people in Iraq being killed for profits. We need to fight to bring the troops home now."

7,000 civilians killed in bomb raids

Continued from front page

the Madrid newspaper *El Mundo*, described the bombing of An Nasiriyah, a city with a population of 100,000.

"Three days ago, the city had three bridges," Rojo said. "Early on Monday [February 4], planes struck two of them with missiles. On Tuesday morning, finding that there were no casualties, the inhabitants confidently resumed their tasks, using the remaining one."

"At 3 p.m., when traffic was heavy, several fighter bombers appeared from nowhere and began to nose dive. By the time the sirens let out their warning wail, it was too late," Rojo said.

"The arch of the bridge, torn from the support of its metal pillars, fell into the muddy waters of the Euphrates, taking with it lorries, cars, and people. Witnesses said 47 bodies have been found," the journalist reported.

'Human and civilian tragedy'

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who visited Basra February 6 and 7, told reporters that what he saw there was "a human and civilian tragedy." The relentless allied bombardment of Basra, he said, destroyed residential areas, hospitals, night clubs, coffee shops, and clinics.

The Iraqi government announced February 5 it was halting the sale to civilians of all petroleum products, including home heating oil, gasoline, cooking gas, and other fuels. With night temperatures falling below freezing levels, the fuel cutoff will add to the hardships suffered by the Iraqi people who are already largely without electric power and running water. Extensive damage to oil refineries was cited as the reason for the move.

Some refugees who recently left Iraq say the country's residents spend much of the day searching for food or for safe drinking water.

War toll on Jordan

The war and the aerial bombing have also taken a toll on life in Jordan, which has been totally dependent on Iraqi crude oil since the Saudi Arabian government cut off oil supplies to the country last fall. The move was in retaliation for Jordan's refusal to join the U.S.-led alliance against Iraq.

Since the beginning of the war, allied bombing has now disrupted the supply of oil coming into Jordan from Iraq by destroying the highway between Baghdad and the Iraqi border post of Turaybil. Bombs have been dropped on Jordanian oil tanker trucks traveling along the 300 mile road through Iraq. At least six Jordanian truck drivers have been killed and about 30 tanker trucks and other Jordanian registered vehicles have been destroyed in the raids.

King Hussein denounces allied war

On February 6, King Hussein of Jordan gave a speech denouncing Washington's war on Iraq.

Hussein said the true intentions of Washington and its allies is to "destroy Iraq and reorganize the area in a manner far more dangerous to our people than the Sykes-Picot agreement" a secret pact signed by the French and British governments which split the Middle East into areas controlled by French and British imperialism after World War I.

News reports from Iraq showing the extent of the damage being done to the country and wounded or dead civilians have been condemned by some in the United States. The U.S. government has enforced strict censorship on news reports and only provided shots of direct hits on bridges, industrial facilities, and military equipment.

As a result, the news reports from Iraq provide the only source of information about the true horror being rained down on the Iraqi people.

Cable News Network reporter Peter Arnett, who is filing daily reports from Iraq, has come under particularly intense fire.

Senator Alan Simpson of Wyoming said at a Washington press luncheon that the veteran reporter is "what we used to call in my day a sympathizer. He was active in the Vietnam War and he won a Pulitzer Prize largely because of his antigovernment material."

Campaign to sell socialist press to unionists

As war escalates, more will seek press

BY RONI McCANN

For the last six weeks the *Militant* has been introduced to many working people in factories, garment shops, airports, and coal mines, by fellow unionists as a paper that tells the truth about the imperialist war raging in the Mideast. As a result, more than 100 union workers have decided to subscribe. And as the U.S.-led war against Iraq intensifies even more will want to do so.

Members of 10 industrial unions have been campaigning aggressively to get the *Militant*, *International Socialist Review* supplement, and the Pathfinder book, *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations*, into the hands of workers, farmers, and GIs. With three weeks remaining in this effort many *Militant* supporters are on target, closing in on goals they set.

Achievements of the Week

Members of the United Transportation Workers topped their goal of selling 127 copies of the *International Socialist Review*. International Union of Electronic members, still on the top of the chart, met their goal to sell 41 books. Members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) have already surpassed their *International Socialist Review* goal by 67 copies. IAM members in Miami raised their goal to 15 copies.

Gary Boyers from Detroit writes: "We had our best week so far in selling subscriptions of the press to coworkers. Three IAM members signed up, two United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) members, and one United Auto Workers member."

UFCW member Harvey McArthur in Phoenix writes: "The appearance at the meatpacking plant where I work of a prowar sticker that reads 'Support Our Troops' and features the official Operation Desert Shield emblem on it has not been an obstacle to discussing my opposition to the war with coworkers or to selling the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, or the *International Socialist Review*."

"One of the workers wearing the sticker felt that 'since our people are over there we



2614
TOTAL

1,666
WEEK 6

SCOREBOARD

Union	Total %Sold	Militant Sold (Goal)	Mideast Book Sold (Goal)	ISR Sold (Goal)
IUE**	98%	5 (23)	41 (41)	106 (91)
UAW	89%	11 (75)	48 (75)	163 (100)
ILGWU	69%	5 (22)	31 (45)	52 (61)
UTU	68%	16 (77)	55 (105)	139 (127)
IAM**	67%	29 (170)	67 (170)	292 (235)
UMWA	62%	3 (22)	14 (28)	42 (45)
UFCW	52%	15 (85)	26 (70)	123 (163)
USWA	51%	5 (90)	45 (77)	121 (171)
OCAW	48%	8 (50)	53 (100)	82 (150)
ACTWU	47%	6 (38)	14 (41)	49 (67)
Total	64%	103 (652)	394 (752)	1169 (1210)
Should be	67%	435	501	807

Unions listed are ACTWU, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; IAM, International Association of Machinists; ILGWU, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; IUE, International Union of Electronic Workers; OCAW, Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers; UAW, United Auto Workers; UFCW, United Food and Commercial Workers; UMWA, United Mine Workers of America; USWA, United Steelworkers of America; and UTU, United Transportation Union.

*Also includes subscriptions to *Perspectiva Mundial* and *L'Internationale*.

**Raised goal

have to support them.' Another worker who opposes the war 'since it's just for the rich' said he thought most workers wearing the sticker didn't know what it stood for. By urging some of the workers wearing the sticker to look closely into the causes of the war, it has led to lengthy political discussions. Last week I sold a *Perspectiva Mundial* subscription and two copies of the *International Socialist Review*."

At the Plant Gate

Raúl González from St. Paul writes:

Plans set for 'Militant' renewal drive

BY RONI McCANN

Supporters of the *Militant* have been campaigning with the paper over the last several weeks to get the facts out about the U.S.-led imperialist war against Iraq.

They have stepped up sales on the job, visited military bases to talk with GIs, fielded teams to the countryside and attended conferences of farmers, and traveled to college and university campuses to meet students eager to discuss the war in the Mideast.

This momentum gives *Militant* supporters a head start in the two-week campaign to win long-term readers to the paper.

The renewal effort begins February 15 and runs through February 26. Distributors of the *Militant*, the Spanish-language monthly *Perspectiva Mundial*, and the French-language quarterly *L'Internationale* in countries around the world will be participating by contacting subscribers in their areas and urging them to renew.

Many supporters are mapping out plans or beginning to make calls and visits. Marcella Fitzgerald from Britain reported: "We are getting ready for the renewal campaign. In Britain, 62 percent of the subscriptions mailed out are renewals and we get anywhere from six to eight renewals in the mail each week, a slight increase since the war in the Mideast began. We expect to get even more," she said, "when we begin the renewal effort."

In Canada supporters have been soliciting renewals for the past several weeks. Since January 1, volunteers in the *Militant* business office have received 19 *Militant* renewals and eight *Perspectiva Mundial* renewals from readers. A two-week renewal effort there is projected for March 1-15.

"Source for the truth"

Militant Business Manager Doug Jenness reported that several hundred readers' subscriptions expire each week. Most of the subscribers had signed up for the paper during the 10-week subscription campaign from September through November. Many have renewed and many more will do so if con-

tacted by *Militant* supporters in their area.

One reader from North Lauderdale, Florida, renewed for six months and wrote: "Keep up the good work. I feel good to know that I have a source for obtaining the truth about what is going on in the world."

"Now I only read the local sports pages and watch sports on TV. It is really great to read about the true 'state of the nation' instead of listening to the world's greatest liar ever."

Since January 1, 209 readers of the *Militant* and 34 readers of *Perspectiva Mundial* have renewed by mail, Jenness said. Of those, 40 identified themselves as unionists, including seven International Association of Machinists (IAM) members, six railworkers, five steelworkers, two miners, and a meat worker from New Zealand.

Twenty-one readers who renewed their *Militant* subscriptions identified themselves as students, one is a farmworker, and one a farmer. The business manager said 118 readers have responded to letters the *Militant* sends each week to readers whose subscriptions are about to expire. They returned the renewal form and 19 readers clipped the *Militant* renewal advertisement that appears each week in the paper.

"By organizing a special two-week campaign many more long-term readers will be won," Jenness said. "We want to call and visit every reader to find out how they like the paper and discuss with them the importance of getting the *Militant* each week to get the truth about the U.S.-led war against Iraq."

Militant subscribers who renew for six months or longer, and *Perspectiva Mundial* subscribers who renew for one year or longer, can take advantage of a special offer: \$2 off the cover price of the newly published books *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations*, *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*, or the next issue of *New International*.

Supporters of the *Militant* who are IAM members in Detroit have encouraged their coworkers who read the *Militant* to renew. This is part of the IAM members' campaign

"Five workers at Northwest Airlines bought copies of the *Militant* or *International Socialist Review* last week from supporters selling the papers near the airport. One worker said, 'No thanks, I support the war.'"

"I then asked him how things were going with Northwest Airlines head Alfred Checci. He laughed and said that Checci was after some concessions. After discussing the war against working people being waged here at home he decided to get a copy of the paper."

to distribute the *Militant*, the December 1990 *International Socialist Review*, and the Mideast book to fellow union members. So far, six workers have resubscribed and bought copies of *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*.

The truth about the war

The renewal drive can bolster the efforts of *Militant* supporters to widely circulate the communist press and help combat Washington's lies and media censorship on the war being waged against Iraq.

Militant supporters campaigning with the paper, the *International Socialist Review*, and Pathfinder books can build on recent successes like these:

- Margrethe Siem from New York reported: "We doubled our goal to sell 200 copies of the *International Socialist Review* and had to increase it again. We have sold more than 500 so far."

- A *Militant* supporter in Stockholm, Sweden, wrote: "We went to a demonstration of 1,000 people in Helsinki, Finland, on January 20. A big part of the action was aimed against the Finnish government for its support to the war in the Mideast. Finland holds one of the 10 nonpermanent seats in the United Nations Security Council and voted for U.S.-sponsored resolutions leading up to the war. We sold everything we had in 30 minutes — seven copies of the *International Socialist Review* and three *Militants*."

- Craig Honts from Austin, Minnesota, wrote: "Enclosed are 10 introductory subscriptions to the *Militant* purchased by participants at the American Agriculture Movement in Little Rock, Arkansas, in January."

A *Militant* supporter from Phoenix called to report: "Participants at the 15,000-strong Martin Luther King Day parade here bought 26 copies of the *Militant*, 11 *International Socialist Reviews*, and five copies of Pathfinder's *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*."

Militant supporters are encouraged to send in reports on the results of their campaign each week.

Malcolm X: 'I'm not an American, I'm a victim of Americanism'

Long-out-of-print speech at the University of Ghana on May 13, 1964

The following are excerpts from a speech by Malcolm X, given in Ghana on May 13, 1964. Ten months later, on Feb. 21, 1965, he was assassinated in New York City.

This year marks the 26th anniversary of the revolutionary leader's death. Malcolm X was an internationalist, working-class leader. He stood up to, and spoke out about, U.S. imperialism and its wars against oppressed peoples in this country and around the world. February 21 has been chosen by student and youth organizations as a day of international mobilizations against the U.S.-led imperialist war being waged today against Iraq. Working people and students who are opposed to this war can learn a great deal by reading and studying what Malcolm X had to say.

The speech, of which major excerpts are printed below, is taken from the newly released Pathfinder book, *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*. It was transcribed from audiotape by Ed Smith and first appeared in Smith's *Where To, Black Man? An American Negro's African Diary* (Chicago: Quadrangle, 1967). The speech has long been out of print.

A short introductory note by Pathfinder is included. All material is reprinted by permission of Pathfinder and is copyright © 1991. The book is available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12, or from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. \$9.95 (plus \$1.00 shipping).

* * *

Introductory note

The remarks that follow were made at the University of Ghana in Legon at a meeting sponsored by the Marxist Forum. The original title of the talk was "The Plight of 22 Million Afro-Americans in the United States." The audience, which filled the university's Great Hall, was the largest that Malcolm X addressed in Africa.

The talk was part of a week-long tour in Ghana that was organized by the Malcolm X Committee, made up of Afro-Americans living in that country. During his visit, Malcolm X met with Ghanaian president Kwame Nkrumah and spoke with ambassadors of at least fifteen countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He also addressed members of parliament and the Kwame Nkrumah Ideological Institute, gave a press conference, and was honored at dinners given by the Cuban and Chinese ambassadors.

As a result of Malcolm X's trip to Ghana, a chapter of the Organization of Afro-American Unity was set up, composed of U.S. Blacks living there.¹

I intend for my talk to be very informal, because our position in America is an informal position, [Laughter] and I find that it is very difficult to use formal terms to describe a very informal position. No condition of any people on earth is more deplorable than the condition, or plight, of the twenty-two million Black people in America. And our condition is so deplorable because we are in a country that professes to be a democracy and professes to be striving to give justice and freedom and equality to everyone who is born under its constitution. If we were born in South Africa or in Angola or some part of this earth where they don't profess to be for freedom,² that would be another thing; but when we are born in a country that stands up and represents itself as the leader of the Free World, and you still have to beg and crawl just to get a chance to drink a cup of coffee, then the condition is very deplorable indeed.

So tonight, so that you will understand me and why I speak as I do, it should probably be pointed out at the outset that I am not a politician. I don't know anything about politics. I'm from America but I'm not an American. I didn't go there of my own free choice. [Applause] If I were an American there would be no problem, there'd be no need for



P.H. Polk/Courtesy of Tuskegee University Archives
Malcolm X at Tuskegee Institute, a predominantly Black university in Alabama where he addressed several thousand students on February 3, 1965.

legislation or civil rights or anything else.

So I just try to face the fact as it actually is and come to this meeting as one of the victims of America, one of the victims of Americanism, one of the victims of democracy, one of the victims of a very hypocritical system that is going all over this earth today representing itself as being qualified to tell other people how to run their country when they can't get the dirty things that are going on in their own country straightened out. [Applause]

'An American nightmare'

So if someone else from America comes to you to speak, they're probably speaking as Americans, and they speak as people who see America through the eyes of an American. And usually those types of persons refer to America, or that which exists in America, as the American Dream. But for the twenty million of us in America who are of African descent, it is not an American dream; it's an American nightmare. [Laughter]

I don't feel that I am a visitor in Ghana or in any part of Africa. I feel that I am at home. I've been away for four hundred years, [Laughter] but not of my own volition, not of my own will. Our people didn't go to America on the *Queen Mary*, we didn't go by Pan American, and we didn't go to America on the *Mayflower*.

We went in slave ships, we went in chains. We weren't immigrants to America, we were cargo for purposes of a system that was bent upon making a profit. So this is the category or level of which I speak. I may not speak it in the language many of you would use, but I think you will understand the meaning of my terms.

When I was in Ibadan [in Nigeria] at the University of Ibadan last Friday night, the students there gave me a new name, which I go for — meaning I like it. [Laughter] "Omowale," which they say means in Yoruba — if I am pronouncing that correctly, and if I am not pronouncing it correctly it's because I haven't had a chance to pronounce it for four hundred years [Laughter] — which means in that dialect, "The child has returned." It was an honor for me to be referred to as a child who had sense enough to return to the land of his forefathers — to his fatherland and to his motherland. Not sent back here by the State Department, [Laughter] but come back here of my own free will. [Applause]

'Here to tell the truth'

I am happy and I imagine, since it is the policy that whenever a Black man leaves America and travels in any part of Africa, or

Asia, or Latin America and says things contrary to what the American propaganda machine turns out, usually he finds upon his return home that his passport is lifted.³ Well, if they had not wanted me to say the things I am saying, they should never have given me a passport in the first place. The policy usually is the lifting of the passport.

Now I am not here to condemn America, I am not here to make America look bad, but I am here to tell you the truth about the situation that Black people in America find themselves confronted with. And if truth condemns America, then she stands condemned. [Applause]

This is the most beautiful continent that I've ever seen; it's the richest continent I've ever seen, and strange as it may seem, I find many white Americans here smiling in the faces of our African brothers like they have been loving them all of the time. [Laughter and applause] The fact is, these same whites who in America spit in our faces, the same whites who in America club us brutally, the same whites who in America sic their dogs upon us, just because we want to be free human beings, the same whites who turn their water hoses upon our women and our babies because we want to integrate with them, are over here in Africa smiling in your face trying to integrate with you. [Laughter]

I had to write a letter back home yesterday and tell some of my friends that if American Negroes want integration, they should come to Africa, because more white people over here — white Americans, that is — look like they are for integration than there is in the entire American country. [Laughter] But actually what it is, they want to integrate with the wealth that they know is here — the untapped natural resources which exceed the wealth of any continent on this earth today.

When I was coming from Lagos to Accra Sunday, I was riding on an airplane with a white man who represented some of the interests, you know, that are interested in Africa. And he admitted — at least it was his impression — that our people in Africa didn't know how to measure wealth, that they worship wealth in terms of gold and silver, not in terms of the natural resources that are in the earth, and that as long as the Americans or other imperialists or twentieth-century colonialists could continue to make the Afri-

3. The most well-known victim of this practice was the singer Paul Robeson. Another important case was that of Black journalist William Worthy, who had to fight a two-year legal battle to overturn a 1962 conviction for visiting Cuba after he had been denied a passport.

cans measure wealth in terms of gold and silver, they never would have an opportunity to really measure the value of the wealth that is in the soil, and would continue to think that it is *they* who need the Western powers instead of thinking that it is the Western powers who need the people and the continent that is known as Africa. The thing is, I hope I don't mess up anybody's politics or anybody's plots or plans or schemes, but then I think that it can be well proved and backed up.

Ghana is one of the most progressive nations on the African continent primarily because it has one of the most progressive leaders and most progressive presidents. [Applause] The president of this nation has done something that no American, no white American, wants to see done — well, I should say "no American" because all the Americans over there are white Americans.

'Restoring African image'

President Nkrumah is doing something there that the government in America does not like to see done, and that is he's restoring the African image. He is making the African proud of the African image; and whenever the African becomes proud of the African image and this positive image is projected abroad, then the Black man in America, who up to now has had nothing but a negative image of Africa — automatically the image that the Black man in America has of his African brothers changes from negative to positive, and the image that the Black man in America has of himself will also change from negative to positive.

And the American racists know that they can rule the African in America, the African-American in America, only as long as we have a negative image of ourselves. So they keep us with a negative image of Africa. And they also know that the day that the image of Africa is changed from negative to positive, automatically the attitude of twenty-two million Africans in America will also change from negative to positive.

And one of the most important efforts to change the image of the African is being made right here in Ghana. And the Ghanaian personality can be picked right out of any group of Africans anywhere on this planet, because you see nothing in him that reflects any kind of feeling of inferiority or anything of that sort. And as long as you have a president who teaches you that you can do anything that anybody else under the sun can do, you got a good man. [Applause]

Not only that, we who live in America have learned to measure Black men: the object we use to measure him is the attitude of America toward him. When we find a Black man who's always receiving the praise of the Americans, we become suspicious of him. When we find a Black man who receives honors and all kinds of plaques and beautiful phrases and words from America, we immediately begin to suspect that person.

Because it has been our experience that the Americans don't praise any Black man who is really working for the benefit of the Black man, because they realize that when you begin to work in earnest to do things that are good for the people on the African continent, all the good you do for people on the African continent has got to be against someone else, because someone else up to now has benefited from the labor and the wealth of the people on this continent.

So our yardstick in measuring these various leaders is to find out what the Americans think about them. And these leaders over here who are receiving the praise and pats on the back from the Americans, you can just flush the toilet and let them go right down the drain. [Laughter]

'Pretend to have a free press'

This president here is disliked. Don't think that it's just the American press, it's the government. In America when you find a concerted effort of the press to always speak in a bad way about an African leader, usually that press is actually reflecting government opinion. But America is a very shrewd government. If it knows that its own govern-

Continued on next page

1. An account of Malcolm X's trip to Ghana can be found in *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (New York: Ballantine, 1973), pp. 352-60.

2. Angola was then a colony of Portugal; it won its independence in 1975.

Union protests company ban on antiwar material

This column is dedicated to reporting the resistance by working people to the employers' assault on their living standards, working conditions, and the unions.

Working people around the world are involved in skirmishes over speedup, forced overtime,

to freely discuss and show political literature to coworkers on the job. The plant is organized by the International Union of Electronic Workers (IUE). Workers there build aircraft engine components.

Earlier, the company had attempted to prevent Laurie Burke from bringing socialist literature

union meeting. In the majority, workers think that restrictions such as these would have a chilling effect on the right of workers to engage in political activity or discussions that the company disagrees with.

For example, the company has a poster in the plant with pictures of military aircraft. At the top of the poster are the words "G.E. Power in the Persian Gulf." Several workers have now attached antiwar buttons to their employee badges which are worn in the plant.

Workers at Joseph A. Bank, a clothing factory in Baltimore, won a victory in defense of seniority rights just before the Christmas holidays. Bank manufactures men's suits. Although not a member of the Clothing Manufacturers Association (CMA), the company generally signs the same contract as the national wool contract negotiated between the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union and the employers' association. This year they have not yet signed.

The company faces an uncertain future because of the recession and several leveraged buyouts that have left it with interest payments it cannot meet. According to union officials, Bank must soon show a plan for paying the millions of dol-

lars they owe to the banks.

In December, a round of layoffs was carried out — one person here and there, out of seniority order — in a manner that made it difficult to see the full extent of the job losses. In the three Maryland facilities, with around 1,000 employees, about 30 people lost their jobs. The arbitrary way in which this was done gave the company an opportunity to hand-pick people.

A big discussion developed on the plant floor. "All of a sudden, it's as if we're all on probation. They could pick any one of us. Where's the protection of our union membership?" one worker said. "They say they are eliminating certain operations. But those jobs still need to be done. It's the people they are eliminating. And then they'll force someone else to do the 'eliminated' operation as well as their own," was another comment.

After this discussion began, union officials told the company that their actions were a violation of the contract, which the union would not allow. Under pressure, the company was forced to back off.

When several of the laid-off workers were offered new jobs in the plant, there was a real sense of victory. "I've never seen anyone in there stick together like this before.

We really did something," said one worker.

Sixty laid-off Green Giant workers and their supporters filled the sidewalk in front of its Watsonville, California, plant in response to management's announcement of the plant's permanent shutdown January 18.

Yolanda Navarro, a laid-off worker, spoke on behalf of her coworkers.

"I am sad for the loss of our jobs. More importantly, I am sad for the war in the Mideast. We are also in a war, a war against our companies," she said. "For example, we welcome here today the Levi's workers from San Antonio. These are companies that go to countries and exploit the poor of the world."

Unlike the neighborhoods in San Francisco and Santa Cruz, much of Watsonville still awaits repair of the damage caused by the October 1989 earthquake in northern California. In recent months, Watsonville has been hit with layoffs of hospital, transit, and construction workers. Delegations of these workers were present at the rally.

Stuart Crome from Seattle, Rachele Fruit from Baltimore, and Toba Singer and Carla White from San Francisco contributed to this column.

ON THE PICKET LINE

layoffs, and attacks on health and safety benefits. Unionists faced with steep takeback demands, lockouts, or union-busting moves by the employers have gone on strike to force the bosses to back down. These struggles will become intertwined with resistance to the U.S.-led imperialist war in the Arab-Persian Gulf.

We invite you to contribute short items to this column as a way for other fighting workers around the world to read about and learn from these important struggles. Jot down a few lines to let other *Militant* readers know about what is happening at your workplace or in your union. If there is an interesting political discussion going on at work, we would like to hear about that, too.

Workers at a Seattle General Electric plant are debating the right

into the plant. Burke has spoken with many of her coworkers about the U.S. war in the Arab-Persian Gulf and used the *Militant* in these discussions.

A supervisor encouraged one worker to take a copy of the *Militant*, a leaflet for a Militant Labor Forum, and literature about a Socialist Workers Party candidate for public office to management. Management then told Burke that she could not "distribute" material in the plant that may "offend" people.

Burke brought this to the attention of the union which filed a grievance in her defense. The grievance asserts that the company violated Burke's rights by placing restrictions on political literature — based solely on the political point of view it expresses.

Many workers have discussed the issues involved in this fight, both in the plant and recently at a

Malcolm X: '... I'm a victim of Americanism'

Continued from previous page

tal position will cause a negative reaction from the people that it wants to continue to exploit, it will pretend to have a free press and at the same time sic that free press on a real African leader and stand on the sideline and say that this is not government policy. But everything that happens in America is government policy. [Laughter]

Not only is the president of this country disliked, the president of Algeria, Ben Bella, is disliked because he is revolutionary, he's for freedom of everybody. [Egyptian president] Nasser is disliked because he's for freedom of everybody. All of them are referred to as dictators.

As soon as they get the mass of their people behind them, they're a dictator. As soon as they have unity of their people in their country, they're a dictator. If there is no division, fighting, and squabbling going on, the leader of that country is a dictator if he is an African; but as long as it is in America, he's just an American president who has the support of the people. [Laughter and applause]

There is probably no more enlightened leader on the African continent than President Nkrumah, because he lived in America. He knows what it is like there. He could not live in that land as long as he did and be disillusioned, or confused, or be deceived. Anytime you think that America is the land of the free, you come there and take off your national dress and be mistaken for an American Negro, and you will find out you're not in the land of the free. [Applause]

America a colonial power

America is a colonial power. She is just as much a colonial power in 1964 as France, Britain, Portugal, and all these other European countries were in 1864. She's a twentieth-century colonial power; she's a modern colonial power, and she has colonized twenty-two million African-Americans. While there are only eleven million Africans colonized in South Africa, four or five million colonized in Angola, there are twenty-two million Africans colonized in America right now on May 13, 1964. What is second-class citizenship if nothing but twentieth-century colonialism? They don't want you to know that slavery still exists, so rather than call it slavery they call it second-class citizenship.

Either you are a citizen or you are not a citizen at all. If you are a citizen, you are free; if you are not a citizen, you are a slave. And the American government is afraid to admit that she never gave freedom to the Black man in America and won't even admit that the Black man in America is not free, is not a citizen, and doesn't have his rights. She

skillfully camouflages it under these pretty terms of second-class citizenship. It's colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism... [Inaudible] [Laughter]

One of our brothers just landed here today from New York. He told me that when he left New York, the police were walking in Harlem six abreast. Why? Because Harlem is about to explode. You know what I mean by "Harlem"? Harlem is the most famous city on this earth; there is no city on the African continent with as many Africans as Harlem.

In Harlem they call it little Africa, and when you walk through Harlem, you're in Ibadan, everyone there looks just like you. And today the police were out in force, with their clubs. They don't have police dogs in Harlem, 'cause those kind of people who live in Harlem don't allow police dogs to come in Harlem. [Laughter] That's the point, they don't allow police dogs to come in Harlem. ... [Inaudible]

'Liberty or death'

They are troubled with the existence of little gangs who have been going around killing people, killing white people.⁴ Well now, they project it abroad as an antiwhite gang. No, it's not an antiwhite gang, it's an antioppression gang. It's an antifrustration gang. They don't know what else to do. They've been waiting for the government to solve their problems; they've been waiting for the president to solve their problems; they've been waiting for the Senate and the Congress and the Supreme Court to solve their problems; they've been waiting for Negro leaders to solve their problems; and all they hear are a lot of pretty words. So they become frustrated and don't know what to do. So they do the only thing they know how: they do the same thing the Americans did when they got frustrated with the British in 1776 — liberty or death.

This is what the Americans did; they didn't turn the other cheek to the British. No, they had an old man named Patrick Henry who said, "Liberty or death!" I never heard them refer to him as an advocate of violence; they say he's one of the Founding Fathers, because he had sense to say, "Liberty or death!"

And there is a growing tendency among Black Americans today, who are able to see that they don't have freedom — they are

reaching the point now where they are ready to tell the Man no matter what the odds are against them, no matter what the cost is, it's liberty or death. If this is the land of the free, then give us some freedom. If this is the land of justice, then give us some justice. And if this is the land of equality, give us some equality.

Am I justified in talking like this? Let me see. I was in Cleveland, Ohio, just two months ago when this white clergyman was killed by the bulldozer.⁵

I was in Cleveland, I was there. Now you know if a white man in the garb, in the outfit, the costume, or whatever you want to call it,

of a priest... [Inaudible] if they run over him with a bulldozer, what will they do to a Black man? They run over someone who looks like them who is demonstrating for freedom, what chance does a Black man have?

This wasn't in Mississippi, this was in Cleveland in the North. This is the type of experience the Black man in America is faced with every day. ... [Inaudible]

5. On April 7, 1964, Rev. Bruce Klunder was crushed to death by a bulldozer during a civil rights demonstration at a school construction site in Cleveland.

Books for working-class campaign against the war

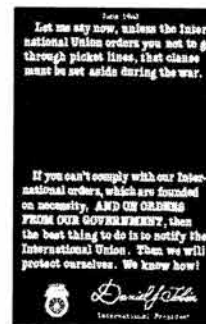
Pathfinder publishes a number of books and pamphlets that are valuable weapons for working people opposed to the imperialists' war in the Mideast. Below is a selection of titles documenting earlier opposition to imperialist war, and assaults on the unions and democratic rights at home since the 1930s.



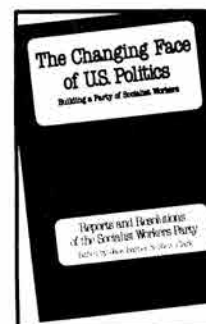
Malcolm X Talks to Young People
Speeches in the U.S., Britain and Africa, 110 pp., \$9.95



Out Now!
A participant's account of the movement in the U.S. against the Vietnam War, by Fred Halstead, 759 pp., \$29.95



Teamster Bureaucracy
The trade union campaign against World War II, by Farrell Dobbs, 304 pp., \$17.95



The Changing Face of U.S. Politics
The proletarian party and the trade unions, by Jack Barnes, 346 pp., \$18.95

Also from Pathfinder:

Letters from Prison
The communist campaign against wartime repression by James P. Cannon, 362 pp., \$19.95

Fighting Racism in World War II
by George Breitman et al., 376 pp., \$19.95

Socialism and Man in Cuba
by Che Guevara and Fidel Castro, 44 pp., \$2.50

Panama: The truth about the U.S. invasion
by Cindy Jaquith et al., 44 pp., \$2.50

Available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12. Or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please include \$1 for each book for postage and handling.

Baker admits real U.S. goal in Mideast

Continued from front page
otherwise," Baker told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on February 7.

In his comments the weekend of February 3, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said that Washington and London would hardly be unhappy to see Hussein removed, noted the British *Guardian*.

U.S. presence in the Gulf

The United States will maintain troops in the Arab-Persian Gulf until Washington's goals are achieved, and then for an unspecified transition period, Baker stated during testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

But after the war is over, Baker indicated that the United States maintains the right to station its naval forces in the area, store war matériel on Arab soil, and conduct regular joint military exercises with Arab governments, according to the *New York Times*.

The British government also hopes to keep its military forces in the Gulf. Although the British government does not "want to revive a permanent military presence East of Suez," Hurd claimed, it is prepared to maintain "prepositioned equipment, aircraft or a naval presence."

Along with direct long-term U.S. and British military involvement, Baker's comments indicate they need regimes loyal to Washington capable of policing imperialist interests.

"The states of the Gulf and regional organizations such as the Gulf Cooperation Council" will take the "lead in building a reinforcing network of new and strengthened security ties," Baker stated. "No regional state should be excluded from these arrangements." The Gulf Cooperation Council is a Saudi Arabia-led alliance that also includes Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

In a clear overture to the government of Iran, the U.S. secretary of state added that "Iran, as a major power in the Gulf," could make "an important contribution."

In addition, Baker stated, the U.S. government seeks an arms control agreement that will limit Iraq's ability to rearm itself and tighten "supply restraints on the flow of weapons and dual-use technology into the region."

Another key goal, he said, is to "settle" the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

In Britain's view, a settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict would include Israel giving up the West Bank in exchange for a commitment to peace by Arab governments, Hurd stated.

U.S. wants a protectorate

These have been the goals of Washington and London for many months. But such statements and the character of the unfolding war have made the enormity of what imperialism is attempting to accomplish through its onslaught, clearer to millions around the world.

In an article entitled, "Working-class campaign against the imperialist war drive," Jack Barnes, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, noted that the U.S. rulers' goals have nothing to do with defending national sovereignty in Kuwait or elsewhere. The article was published in the December 1990 issue of the *International Socialist Review*.

Instead, their aim has been to put together enough military might to defeat the Iraqi army, occupy the country, and establish a protectorate in Iraq. This would give U.S. imperialism decisive control over the oil resources of the region and deal a blow to the struggle of the Palestinian people.

Washington is waging "a war for capitalism," Barnes said, "a war to advance U.S. imperialist economic, political, and military interests in the Middle East against the toilers there."

Imperialism hopes "to shift the relationship of class forces in the Middle East to its advantage, to take back some of what has been lost over the past three decades."

Washington's minimum aim, Barnes stated, "is to end up with a qualitatively weaker Iraq, vulnerable to imperialist dictates and continuing military threats."

They also "want to finally get the Palestinian question off their backs," he pointed out. "They hope an agreement can be reached whereby some of the borders of the so-called occupied territories are shifted."

Washington, in pursuit of its class interests, "may well subject the Iraqi people to a

Washington, London plans for 'postwar' order include major troop presence in Gulf.

massive bloodbath — and the result will be to reestablish a new version of the neocolonial capitalist regime that has failed and brought them to this point in the first place." Such an outcome would be "another Syngman Rhee — installed as president of Korea by U.S. armed forces in 1945, preserved in power by a massive U.S.-organized war, only to fall a decade later in the face of a popular uprising. Another Guillermo Endara — sworn in as president of Panama on a U.S. military base."

The U.S. rulers' main problem is not a military one, Barnes pointed out. "To the contrary," he said, "military power remains the U.S. rulers' single most dominant advantage over its imperialist allies and other governments."

"Sections of the ruling class are concerned about Washington's capacity to win a war against Iraq that yields greater gains for U.S. imperialism than losses from the uncontrolled social and political forces it sets in motion."

"What will be the outcome of such a war beyond the borders of Iraq and Kuwait? Will

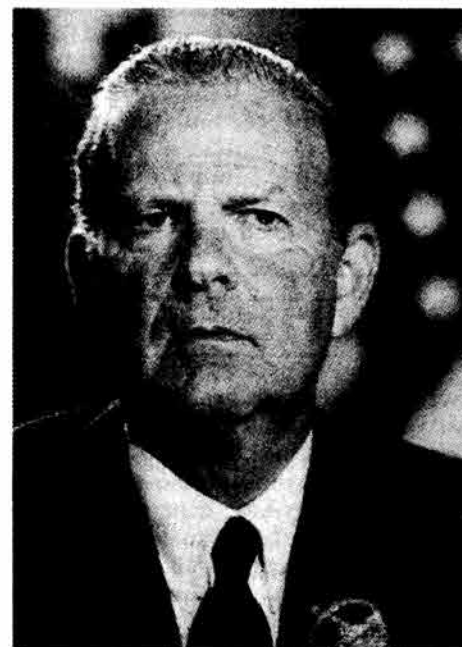
a military victory simply end up exacerbating the very failures of imperialism in the region that made it necessary for the U.S. rulers to launch the war in the first place?"

The imperialists have another problem. "How long can such a war go on, how many body bags can be flown back," Barnes noted, "before organized antiwar opposition replaces grudging support or fatalism in the working class and begins to make the political price for the operation greater than the benefits? How long before they are compelled to reinstitute conscription?"

Citing the examples of Nicaragua, Grenada, and Panama, where the U.S. rulers were able to take back some of what they had lost without paying a high political price, Barnes pointed out some of the differences with the war in the Gulf.

"Washington made short work of the National Guard in Panama last December and early January because the corrupt and cowardly leadership around Gen. Manuel Noriega refused to organize a fight. It left the anti-imperialist-minded workers and peasants mobilized in the Dignity Battalions without any organized support or direction, while Washington used massive firepower to overwhelm the courageous resistance that was put up in many working-class neighborhoods in the first days."

"In each of these cases the U.S. rulers were able to achieve their bipartisan goals by military means," Barnes added, "and without a conflict of the scale and duration that either



U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Washington seeks to create a protectorate in Iraq.

threatened their broader class interests in the region or undermined social and political stability in the United States in any big way."

The war against the people of Iraq is going to be bloody, Barnes said. "Nobody in the U.S. ruling class expects an assault on Iraq to be another Grenada or another Panama."

U.S. gov't steps up pressure on Jordan

BY SELVA NEBBIA

On February 7 Washington announced that it was reviewing its \$55 million in 1991 aid to Jordan. The announcement came the day after a speech by Jordan's King Hussein denouncing Washington's war on Iraq.

"We've always had a historically good relationship with Jordan," said U.S. President George Bush following Hussein's speech, "but this complicates things. He seems to have moved over, way over, into Saddam Hussein's camp."

White House spokesperson Marlin Fitzwater echoed Bush's accusations, saying the speech made it clear "that Jordan has declared [its] allegiance to Iraq."

Stepping up its pressure on Jordan, Washington is also discouraging governments that have pledged money to countries in the Gulf region — to offset effects of the war — from giving any aid to Jordan.

This will have a serious impact on Jordan's already devastated economy. In the six months of the U.S.-led campaign against Iraq, Jordan has lost almost 50 percent of its economic base. Last September, Saudi Arabia, one of its main providers of oil, stopped selling oil in retaliation for Jordan's refusal to join the Washington-led alliance against neighboring Iraq. The situation has been further aggravated by the allied bombing of Jordanian trucks that are transporting fuel from Iraq.

Jordan's main port at Aqaba has been shut down, depleting reserves of medicine, cars, spare parts, and food. The Saudi government has also refused to take Jordanian exports of tomatoes, eggplants, and squash grown in the Jordan River Valley. Crops are spoiling, hurting export merchants and leaving farmers destitute.

Referring to the relentless bombing of Iraq by allied forces, King Hussein said in his

speech that Washington was trying to return Iraq to "primitive life."

"There are now attempts to deprive us of our basic needs, even oil, as a new form of punishment, and one of the most severe, for no other reason than our principled stand," said Hussein.

The true intention of Washington and its allies, Hussein said, is to "destroy Iraq and reorganize the area in a manner far more dangerous to our people than the Sykes-Picot agreement." Sykes-Picot was a secret pact signed by the French and British governments which split the Middle East into areas controlled by French and British imperialism following World War I.

A senior Administration official quoted in the February 9 *New York Times* said Hussein's speech endangered the lives of

U.S. troops in the Mideast. "There is a war going on now," the official said, "Americans are at risk, and what the King is doing and saying is putting them more at risk. That is not the way friends behave — even friends who are under pressure."

The Jordanian King called on the allied forces to accept a "cease-fire in preparation for a responsible dialogue between the antagonists, an Iraqi-American dialogue and an Arab-Arab dialogue that resorts to reason and balances interests against international legitimacy, the legitimacy of security, justice, peace and equality."

Rejecting the call for a cease-fire, U.S. President George Bush accused King Hussein of aligning with Iraq. "I think they made a mistake to align themselves so closely with Saddam Hussein against the rest of the world," said Bush.

Join the campaign to get out the truth

Order your bundle of 'International Socialist Review'

Join **Militant** readers and opponents of the U.S.-led war against Iraq in campaigning against the imperialist assault by helping distribute the **International Socialist Review**. Since December nearly 10,000 copies of the special supplement have been ordered: by **Militant** supporters who have taken goals to get it out widely among unionists, farmers, GIs, and students; and by readers who have sent in coupons for bundles to sell in their areas.

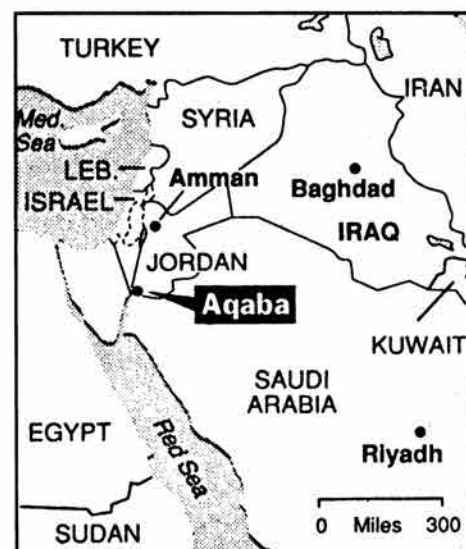
The supplement contains two articles by Socialist Workers Party leader Jack Barnes, "Working-class campaign against the imperialist war drive: Fighting the employers' offensive at home and abroad" and "War and the communist movement."

Barnes outlines the stakes for working people in the war in the Mideast, the fight being waged by Cuba against this war, the changes in the U.S. working class that make it possible to carry out an effective campaign to mobilize unionists and other working people against imperialist war, and the prospects for building the communist movement today.

Bundles of the supplement may be ordered for \$1 each for 10 or more, a 33 percent discount. Single copies are \$1.50 each. Shipping is included. Just send in the coupon below.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Please send _____ copies of the special antiwar supplement. Enclosed is \$ _____.

Mail to: the Militant, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.



Washington escalates bombing raids and prepares ground war

BY RONI McCANN

Washington has ordered the escalation of daily bombing raids against Iraq, bringing the number of missions flown since January 17 to more than 57,000.

Several more weeks of air bombardments are projected, announced U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney on February 10. "I think there is still a lot of potential out there," he said.

The statement by Cheney was made upon his return from a four-day tour of Saudi Arabia. He was accompanied by U.S. Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

As the murderous air war intensifies, Washington is putting in place the final military and diplomatic measures needed to launch a massive and bloody ground invasion of Iraq.

U.S. government officials have now openly admitted that in order to smash the Iraqi army and set up a government in Baghdad subservient to U.S. interests, Washington must lead allied ground forces into Iraq, risking the possibility of getting bogged down in a long and grinding war.

"There's a point of diminishing returns when you've struck all the targets that you can strike from the air," Cheney said. "You might then have to use other forces in order to achieve your objective."

A "single, integrated campaign" of air and ground forces is needed, Powell said. The February 7 *Wall Street Journal* reported that in private briefings the top general likened allied ground troops to "beaters" who beat the brush to bring out big game for the waiting hunter. Invading troops, he said, could draw out Iraqi forces "to make air power even that much more effective."

Ground war 'inevitable'

On February 7, French President François Mitterrand declared that the war against Iraq was entering "a difficult phase." The French people must brace themselves for the "cruel test" ahead of a land offensive, which could result in many casualties, he said. The French Sixth Light Armored Division is now positioned in the northern Saudi desert with 2,500 vehicles, 120 helicopters, and more than 8,500 men.

Britain's Lt. Gen. Peter de la Billière said, "I believe the land war is inevitable." He announced that allied forces were now "moving on to the next phase" of the war. The aerial bombing to date has been "minor, compared to what they've got coming," he added.

On February 9, the Press Association in Britain announced that U.S. B-52's based in Gloucestershire, northwest of London, flew for the first time to the Mideast to drop 1,000-pound bombs on Iraqi troops. Britain's Royal Air Force had flown more than 400 sorties into Iraq and Kuwait as of February 6, aimed at bombing Iraqi troop resupply lines.

'Tough times ahead'

Rushing to put in place the remaining heavy tanks and other armor, Washington is pouring tons of war matériel and troops onto the front lines. Much of the U.S. Third Armored Division has arrived from Germany and its remaining tanks and helicopters are en route. Brig. Gen. Richard Neal of the Marine Corps told reporters in Riyadh that 505,000 U.S. troops are now in the Arab-Persian Gulf region.

This mobilization faces off with an Iraqi army of roughly equal size, the fourth largest in the world. Iraqi armor is said to outnumber that of allied forces by 4 to 1, including more than 1,000 pieces of dug-in artillery. Artillery fire is the biggest killer in conventional warfare, often causing as many as half of all casualties. The Iraqi defense consists of deep trenches, antitank ditches, barbed-wire thickets, and hundreds of thousands of mines.

Top military and government officials are issuing statements to prepare public opinion for the ground war.

Describing the bloody conflict that is looming, Cheney said, "No one should assume that the remainder of the campaign will be easy."

Col. Leroy Goff, commander of the most

heavily armored U.S. troop unit, said, "We are prepared for some very large, lethal, and I think very quick battles."

"It's rather like organizing a large number of high-speed trains moving in parallel and then crossing each other's tracks in the dark," said one British commander.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker also emphasized the scope of the imperialist assault in testimony before the U.S. Senate. "The military actions now under way necessarily involve many casualties, great hardships, and growing fears for the future. Tough times lie ahead," he said.

Since the ground battle in the Saudi town of Ra's al Khafji opened on January 29, 43 GIs have been killed or are missing. Almost all were killed by "friendly fire." During the Vietnam war some 12,000 U.S. soldiers — 20 percent of the total killed — died from friendly fire or other accidents.

Another ground battle opened up three days after the fighting at Ra's al Khafji when Iraqi troops temporarily overran a Syrian troop position. No casualties were reported.

Estimates on the number of Iraqi troops killed have not been released by the Pentagon. Responding to an inquiry by the Associated Press, U.S. Central Command headquarters said Iraqi battle losses would be determined by diminished fighting capabilities, not the number of dead. In the United States, authorities have banned photo-taking

Egyptian regime continues to back U.S.-led alliance despite opposition

BY SETH GALINSKY

Despite initial signs of opposition in Egypt to the widening war against Iraq, the Egyptian government of President Hosni Mubarak continues to back the United States-led alliance in its bloody assault.

Mubarak has sent 35,000 soldiers and 400 tanks to Saudi Arabia. It is the second largest Arab force there.

In return for Egypt's participation in the



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Egypt has sent 35,000 troops and 400 tanks to Saudi Arabia.

war effort the Saudi government has provided it with \$4.2 billion in aid and given 684,000 Egyptians visas to work in Saudi Arabia, triple the number from six months ago. The workers are replacing those expelled, who have come from countries such as Yemen, where governments have not endorsed Washington's military aggression. According to the Yemeni ambassador to the United Nations, 900,000 Yemenis have been forced to return home.

Allowing more Egyptian immigrant workers into Saudi Arabia will help ease the impact of the income lost from the more than two million Egyptians who worked in Iraq and Kuwait before the start of the war. Egypt has a population of 56 million.



U.S. troops in Mideast. U.S. officials admit that to smash Iraqi army and impose a subservient regime in Iraq they must carry out a ground war.

at arrival points for body bags of dead GIs.

Adding to assaults carried out against Iraq, the 58,000-ton battleship USS *Missouri* fired seven shells, each about the size of a small car, into Iraqi troop positions in Kuwait February 2. It was the first time the ship's guns had been fired since the Korean War. The USS *Wisconsin*, the only other U.S. battleship in active duty, joined in the attack February 7, firing 11 rounds. Numerous Tomahawk cruise missiles have been fired from the battleship since January 17.

U.S. military officials said the firing of the ships' guns signaled preparations for an amphibious assault, many of which have been

rehearsed in the past several weeks. In this type of attack, one of the most hazardous forms of warfare, marines storm a beachhead under the fire of battleships and planes.

Newsweek reported that in the last 10 days of January some 8,000 U.S. Marines staged a mock landing in Oman. An amphibious force of some 17,000 troops is presently moving slowly north in the Gulf. Preparations for such an assault continue despite expected heavy Iraqi resistance and past experience in this form of warfare. One beach landing of U.S. forces in the Pacific during World War II left 1,113 dead and 2,290 wounded after 76 hours.

Although hundreds of thousands of Egyptians are still living in those war-ravaged countries, the departure of many, combined with the embargo of Iraq, led to a loss of more than \$1 billion to Egypt last year.

'The blood in Iraq is our blood'

As news of the extent of bomb damage and civilian casualties in Iraq has spread, opposition to Egyptian participation in the war has grown.

"The blood being spilled in Iraq is our blood, and the bodies being torn on the land of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait are our bodies," said an editorial in one Islamic opposition newspaper.

A February 7 demonstration of 50 leaders of groups opposed to Egypt's participation in the U.S. coalition was broken up by police. The demonstrators chanted "Down, down America!"

To head off the possibility of antiwar demonstrations, Mubarak ordered universities and high schools to extend their vacation periods. Since November the government has arrested 2,000 Muslims accused of belonging to a group called Jihad (meaning "holy war").

The Mubarak regime has also placed restrictions on the press. Several journalists have been ordered to appear before a military court, supposedly for publishing restricted military information.

At a January 27 news conference, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali, took his distance from U.S. and British government plans for an invasion of Iraq and the total destruction of the Iraqi military. "We have coexisted with the government of Saddam Hussein," Ghali said, according to the *New York Times*. If Iraq withdraws from Kuwait, "We will be able to coexist and even to cooperate with him."

But after a high-level meeting of Egyptian commanders with Mubarak on February 3, the *Times* reported that two high-ranking Egyptian officials said Egyptian troops would join in the coming ground war.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd announced February 6 that he would be flying to Egypt and Saudi Arabia to discuss the future of the region after the war, including continued British military presence. The trip coincided with that of U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and Gen. Colin

Powell to the Mideast to discuss plans for a ground invasion of Iraq and Kuwait.

In January Cairo accused the Sudanese government, which has spoken out against the allied attacks on Iraq, of planning to station Iraqi planes or missiles there, a charge it denies. Egypt shares its southern border with Sudan, a country of 25 million people.

If any Iraqi missiles or planes were to be stationed there, Egypt will attack, the Cairo regime warned. To back up the threat, the Egyptian military held maneuvers and launched two missiles on training targets close to the Sudanese border in late January.

Antiwar protests in North Africa

Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco are three of the Maghreb countries — former French colonies in North Africa that, in part, share a common history, language, religion, and culture. There, mass mobilizations and mass antiwar sentiment have been forcing those governments to criticize Washington's war against the Iraqi people, after originally focusing on condemning Iraq for invading Kuwait.

Pressure has been so strong in Morocco, which sent 1,500 troops to Saudi Arabia as part of the U.S.-led alliance, that the monarchy of King Hassan II was forced to endorse a general strike and a demonstration of 300,000 calling for removal of the troops and support to the Iraqi people.

Noubir El Amaoui, general secretary of the Democratic Labour Confederation [CDT], one of two union federations backing the protest, said, "The people don't want their sons allied to American imperialism," reported the British *Guardian*.

The governments of Tunisia and Algeria, while keeping universities and high schools closed to limit mass protests, have begun criticizing the U.S. attacks.

Algeria's president Chadji Benjedid, said his nation "is at the side of brother Iraq."

"We cannot be at odds with the people," Abderrahim Zouari, secretary-general of Tunisia's ruling party said.

The capitalist governments of the Maghreb hope Washington will be sympathetic to the shift in their stance. "The Tunisian government has to take a position that absorbs the anger in the street," said a Tunisian businessman.

Youth build actions against Mideast war

Continued from front page
participants is scheduled afterward.

"A number of student unions in British Columbia have taken stands against the war and there are coalitions organizing opposition on most campuses," Lavigne said. More than a dozen university organizations and a similar number of high school groups are involved in building the Vancouver protest.

Protests in Japan

Minoru Tagawa, the chairperson of the All-Japan Federation of Student Unions, said that the call for February 21 protests recently reached activists in his country. Some campuses will be planning antiwar activities that day, and a national mobilization for a March 1 protest in Sizuoka prefecture near Tokyo is also planned.

March 1 is the anniversary of Washington's 1956 atomic testing on the Bikini islands in the Pacific. Japanese fishermen were adversely affected by the nuclear blasts on the islands. A representative of the victims of the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will speak at the rally.

The Japanese student leader said that his government attempted to cover its participation in the U.S.-led war in the Middle East under a United Nations Peace Cooperation Bill that was submitted to parliament. "Many people became angry and protests spread all over Japan," he said.

"We think globally and would like to act globally," Tagawa said. He was encouraged by the scope of the student protests in the United States and said activists in Japan looked forward to increased international collaboration.

The Appeal of 75 in France has endorsed the February 21 call for protests. The Appeal is a coalition organized to oppose the war in the Middle East. It was founded by 75 well-known personalities in France.

Student conferences target February 21

February 21 was chosen for internationally coordinated antiwar actions by two January 27 conferences, one in Washington, D.C., and the other in Berkeley, California. More than 1,500 youth from across the United States attended the twin meetings. Students and youth from Australia, Canada, France, and Japan attended the meeting in Washington, D.C.

The student and youth organizers of the February protests are demanding an end to the war and are calling for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. and other foreign troops in the Middle East.

Organizers noted that the day of protest coincides with the anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X, a revolutionary fighter, an outspoken opponent of imperialism and its wars, and a leader of the struggle for Black rights in the United States. Malcolm X was gunned down on February 21, 1965.

Reports from at least 22 states

The National Student and Youth Campaign for Peace in the Middle East, the coalition which sponsored the Washington, D.C., conference, has received reports from at least 22 states where efforts are underway for February 21 protests.

The Western Student and Youth Action Network Against the War has established an office at the University of California in Berkeley to help promote February 21. Heather Randle, an activist helping to staff the office, reported that the call for protests has been adopted by students on many campuses across California.

"The collaboration between campuses is especially impressive," Randle said. She reported that student antiwar groups and Black student organizations in some areas have merged Black History Month activities with the protests. At Laney Community College in Oakland, California, the African Student Union and Students for Peace are jointly sponsoring February 21 activities.

A February 10 meeting of 30 student and youth representatives in Los Angeles voted to organize a February 21 citywide rally at the University of Southern California, according to Jill Nichols, a leader of the Los Angeles Student Network Against the War.

"This is a day to protest and unify ourselves," Nichols said. "People have stepped back, looked at what's happening, and have decided that this war is going to last for a while. They've decided to dig in and organize."

Students at several upstate New York colleges and high schools have targeted participation in a regional march in Albany that will culminate at the state capitol. The action has been called by the Emergency Coalition to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East.

Sonja Slutsky, a student at Vassar College, in Poughkeepsie, New York, said "a majority of the students here are confused and are now sitting on the fence. Most opposed the war before it began, but now say let's get it over with." Others feel helpless in the face of Washington's decision to go to war, she said.

'You can have a voice'

The February 21 activities "will help," Slutsky said. "This is something you can do to oppose the war. You can have a voice. This will show that, yes, there is a movement out there." The Vassar Opposed to the War coalition (VOW) organized more than 50 students to participate in the January 26th march in Washington, D.C., and the group plans to mobilize for the march in Albany, New York.

Students at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis are coordinating a video series on Malcolm X with a campus rally and march. The Africana Student Cultural Center and the Coalition Against the War are joint sponsors of the antiwar action, which will begin at 12:30 p.m. The video series begins at 11:15 a.m.

Chris Nisan, a leader of the Africana Student Cultural Center, said that the excitement generated by the national conferences in January has helped motivate many activists to go all out to build the February 21 protests.

Nisan said prowar activities have been organized on campus. "We've made a point of engaging these students in discussions," he said. "These students are not homogeneous. Many have been fooled by the war hype and are not looking at it critically. Many are ill-informed."

Winning students to oppose the war

The goal is to win the students who right now think they should support the U.S. intervention to opposing the war, he said. He affirmed that the February 21 events will help in this direction.

Student leaders from eight area campuses met at Kent State University in Ohio on



Militant/Dave Wulp
Students from Brigham Young University in Utah participating in December 8 protest against U.S.-led war drive.

February 10. Students at Oberlin College in Ohio report that the student senate may move to suspend classes and hold teach-ins and educational on the war.

Youth for Peace at the University of Nebraska in Omaha is organizing an entire day of action and education. A press conference will kick off the day's activities and will be followed by a demonstration at 10:00 a.m. Teach-ins are slated for 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. A second demonstration will be held at 4:00 p.m. at Memorial Park on Dodge St.

The Houston Coalition Against U.S. Intervention in the Middle East is planning a day of educational activities at the University of Houston on February 21.

The United States Student Association has put out a 1,200 piece mailing to student governments and campus organizations across the United States.

The National Student and Youth Campaign has already slated a meeting for February 24 to assess the success of the February 21 antiwar actions and plan the next steps. "It will be a working meeting to develop

better communication and prepare future actions," Pierre Barolette, a leader of the campaign and the United States Student Association, said.

For more information on February 21 and February 24 meetings, contact the National Student and Youth Campaign for Peace in the Middle East at (202) 462-1801. Their address is 1225 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. The fax number is (202) 232-5210.

On the West Coast, contact the Western Student and Youth Action Network Against the War at (415) 653-5442. The address is Western Student and Youth Action Network Against the War, ASUC, c/o Office on External Affairs, 200 Eschelman Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The National Campaign for Peace in the Middle East, the coalition which sponsored the January 26 march and rally in Washington, D.C., has called a delegated meeting for February 23. For more information, call (212) 227-0221.

The Militant encourages readers to send in reports of activities in your area. Our fax number is (212) 727-0150.

Party-building fund tops goal by \$16,800

BY JAMES HARRIS

As of February 8 the Socialist Workers Party Building Fund has received \$166,793, nearly \$17,000 over its \$150,000 goal.

The successful completion of the drive will aid the building of the socialist movement in a time of imperialist war and resistance by working people to employer assaults. Launched at a spirited rally held at the Socialist Workers Party's 35th constitutional convention in Oberlin, Ohio, last August, the drive ran through December 1.

At the convention \$137,000 was pledged, prompting fund organizers to raise the goal from the \$140,000 originally projected to \$150,000. Since meeting the December goal, supporters of the fund have continued to send in their outstanding pledges.

The resources raised by the Party Building Fund have been put to immediate use, financing the outreach work of the SWP. It has helped field teams of socialist workers and youth who distributed the *Militant* and other revolutionary literature among coal miners, packinghouse workers, farm workers, and students and other youth throughout the country.

The fund also helped to finance trips by leaders of the party to North and South Korea, and Japan. Reporters on the trips have contributed firsthand coverage of the fight by Korean workers, farmers, and students to reunify their country and free themselves from U.S. domination.

With the opening of Washington's war drive in the Mideast, supporters of the fund responded with their contributions. This made it possible for Pathfinder and the socialist publications to get out the facts needed by working people and youth to effectively build opposition to the slaughter the U.S.-led forces began preparing.

Pathfinder rushed into print *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* in both English and Spanish.

The book has become an essential tool for all those fighting to end the imperialist war against the Iraqi people.

The *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*, have given extensive coverage to the war and joined in building actions in the streets demanding, "No blood for oil!" and "Bring the troops home now!" They have explained the roots of the war and why working people have no interest in Washington's and London's assault on the people of Iraq.

In December the *Militant* published a special *International Socialist Review* supplement featuring an article by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes, titled "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive." SWP members and supporters who are mem-

bers of industrial trade unions launched a campaign to distribute the *U.S. Hands Off The Mideast!* books, the *Militant*, and the *International Socialist Review*. Thousands of copies of these books and publications have been distributed around the world to young people and working-class fighters who want an understanding of the imperialist war drive.

With the success of the fund, the party is in a better position to win new fighters to the socialist movement — to build the kind of organizations that fighting workers and young people need today. Each dollar generously contributed to the fund is being put toward this end.

James Harris is the director of the Socialist Workers Party-Building Fund.

French-language magazine publishes special issue on Mideast war

Lutte ouvrière, the French-language quarterly published in Montréal, has come out with a special issue on the Mideast war. At the same time, the magazine has changed its name to *L'internationaliste*.

The new issue, the first of 1991, features an article by Jack Barnes, "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive."

This article explains the political and economic roots of Washington's assault on Iraq and was first published in the *Militant* supplement *International Socialist Review*.

It was subsequently published in Spanish in *Perspectiva Mundial*. With its publication in *L'internationaliste*, it is now available to working people and youth around the world whose first language is French.

Also included in the January-March issue is the statement, "The Opening Guns of World War III," issued by the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party during

the first week of the war.

"The change in our name is a conscious response to the nationalist and chauvinist campaign the imperialists are carrying out day after day," Michel Prairie, editor of *L'internationaliste*, said in the inaugural issue. Their aim is "to convince working people around the world to support the reactionary war against the people of Iraq."

The aim of *L'internationaliste* is the opposite, Prairie explained. It is to explain "to workers and farmers that . . . we must totally reject the idea that we have interests in common with the bosses, who exploit us, against our brothers and sisters in other countries."

A one-year introductory subscription to *L'internationaliste* costs \$12.00 and can be purchased at any Pathfinder bookstore or by sending a check to *L'internationaliste*, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. Single issues are \$5.00.

Canada's government attacks democratic rights of Arabs

BY JOE YOUNG
AND JOHN STEELE

TORONTO — Using the pretext of a supposed threat to Canada by Iraqi "terrorists," the federal government and police agencies on the federal, provincial, and municipal levels have been stepping up their attacks on the democratic rights of working people.

Central targets of this campaign are people of Arab origin. Screaming headlines such as "Iraqi Agents Here!" have appeared in newspapers bolstering the assault.

At a January 27 meeting in Toronto, 200 people protested the war in the Arab-Persian Gulf and the harassment of people from Arab countries by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

"In the past two to three weeks the Canadian-Arab Federation has received 30 complaints from Arab-Canadians who have been harassed by CSIS," James Kafieh, president of the Canadian Arab Federation, told the meeting. "We estimate maybe three to four times that number of visits have not been reported to us."

"The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and CSIS are knocking on our doors in fishing expeditions," he continued. "They photograph our demonstrations and are showing photographs of certain demonstrators around the community. This has nothing to do with security. They are trying to silence the Arab community because we have been vocal."

At a meeting with leaders of the federation, Canadian External Affairs Minister Joseph

Clark refused to give any assurances that the harassment would end.

"You cannot drop bombs by the thousands of tons on a people overseas without vilifying and dehumanizing them. And you can't dehumanize and vilify Arabs in Iraq without expecting that it is going to impact on Arabs in Canada, Arab-Canadians included," federation president Kafieh told Clark.

One of the most extreme examples of victimization took place on January 9. A 29-year-old Iraqi citizen was arrested at Toronto International Airport because officials said he appeared to have a shopping list for weapons written in Arabic in his diary.

When an immigration adjudicator ruled that he should be released because he was not "a danger to the public," the ruling was overturned by the immigration minister and the solicitor general, who signed a national security certificate ordering the continuation of his detention.

Palestinians and Iraqis currently in Canada on visas must now apply in person rather than by mail for three-month renewals. Four diplomats at the Iraqi embassy in Ottawa have been expelled with no reason given.

In response to the harassment, a Council for Muslim Communities has been formed in Québec to defend Montréal's 80,000 Muslims. There are about 300,000 Muslims across Canada. On February 2, a protest march was scheduled in Montréal by the new organization in collaboration with the Québec Coalition for Peace.

Political police in Canada move to restrict rights of airline workers

BY JOE YOUNG
AND JOHN STEELE

TORONTO — Airport workers across Canada are facing restrictions on their rights under the government's "terrorist threat" scare campaign.

In Montréal, airport workers have been subjected to searches and questioning by Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In Vancouver, planes have been sealed overnight and workers have had to pass security checks before entering aircraft.

The police at the Toronto International Airport are systematically writing down the license plates of cars in the airport parking lot. Canadian Airlines management in Toronto has asked workers who "notice anything suspicious" to call the RCMP.

While most workers accept the government's rationalization that stepped-up security measures are needed to protect passengers and workers from "terrorism," some express concern over the growing restrictions and moves by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) against unionists working at the airports.

Federal government regulations require that almost all airport workers have a security clearance and a permanent security pass to keep their jobs. Those working with temporary passes are investigated by CSIS in order to obtain their permanent pass.

A year ago, a federal cabinet order-in-council overturned a favorable court ruling that upheld a legal challenge to the pass system by the International Association of Machinists (IAM). The federal cabinet reversal was justified on grounds of national security.

A number of IAM members who are active both in defending their union and building opposition to the U.S.-led war in the Middle East have been waiting well over a year to receive their security clearance. It is unusual for airport workers to wait more than six months for their clearance.

Some of the union activists have been interrogated by CSIS agents. Questioning by the government political police focused in on the workers' political views, travel to Cuba, support for Third World liberation movements, sexual orientation, debts, and drug and alcohol use.

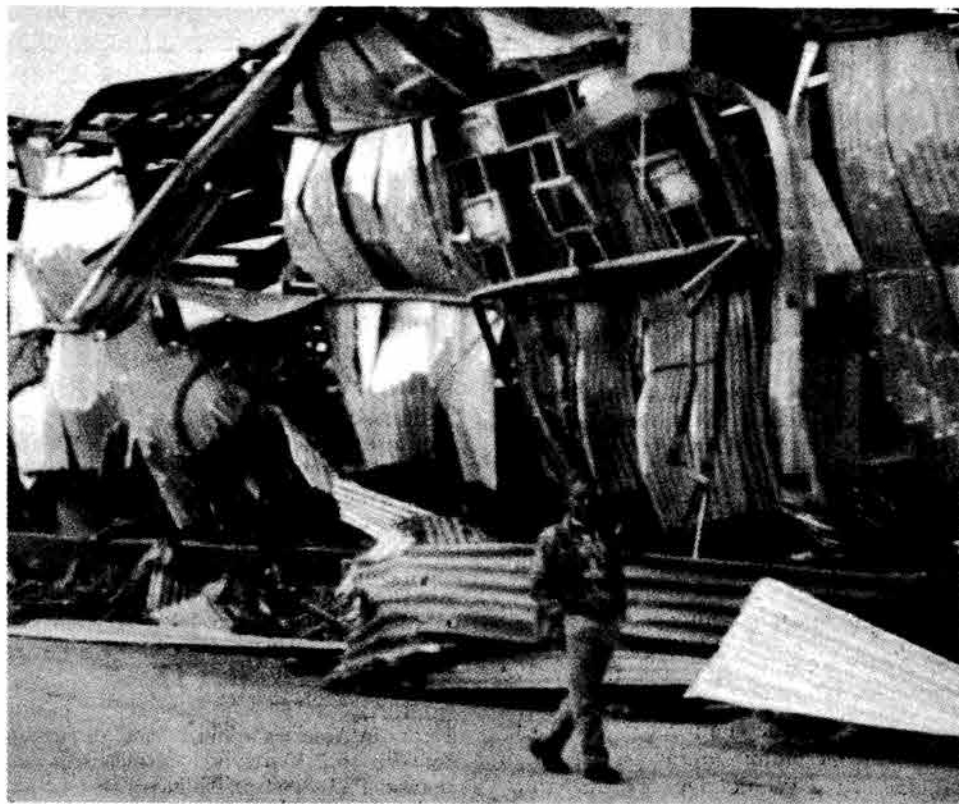
The agents also carry out "field investigations" by visiting landlords, former employers, and others, prying into the workers' per-

sonal lives and political activities. The heavily censored CSIS files of one Toronto airport worker indicate that CSIS agents questioned former employers about her political views and activities.

"They try to make you look like a criminal," one Montréal airport worker told a coworker whose clearance is being held up by CSIS. "They have no right to ask questions like that," said another.

An article by Larry Johnston, a Vancouver airport worker interrogated by CSIS, was published in the IAM Lodge 764 newsletter. Johnston states that "CSIS' interrogation of union members has nothing to do with airport security. The government wants to establish its right to intervene in our workplaces and our unions; to discourage us from being involved in the Union or politics."

Joe Young works for Air Canada in Toronto and John Steele works for Canadian Airlines in Montréal. Both are members of the International Association of Machinists.



Bombed baby formula factory in Iraq. "You cannot drop bombs by the thousands of tons on a people overseas without vilifying and dehumanizing them," said James Kafieh, president of Canadian Arab Federation.

Machinists in California discuss war against Iraq

BY KATHLEEN DENNY

OAKLAND — Political discussions about Washington's Mideast war are widespread among workers in many factories, airlines, and war industry plants here organized by the International Association of Machinists.

Under the guise of forestalling terrorist attacks, special security measures were instituted in many industries prior to January 15.

At the navy's aircraft repair station in Alameda, civilian workers are subjected to searches of their bags, backpacks, and lunch boxes. Random searches of cars with specially trained sniffer dogs are also carried out.

Airline workers have been given "briefings" encouraging them to report anything or anyone who seems unusual or suspicious. United Airlines personnel must now wear an additional colored sticker on their badges. While United workers could previously tour friends and family on the property, all such visits are now forbidden for the duration of the war.

One worker at the navy's Alameda facility, who opposes Washington's war, reports that many coworkers are surprised that he is allowed to continue to work there and maintain his views.

Some workers at nearly every workplace have been mobilized as part of the reserves and sent to the Arab-Persian Gulf. The navy has also requested civilian volunteers to work at aircraft maintenance bases and repair stations in the Mideast, and a number of naval air station workers have volunteered.

Milton Chee, a sheet metal mechanic at

the air station, reports that his coworkers are seeking out information on the war, including the civilian volunteers. A number have recently purchased subscriptions to the *Militant* or copies of Pathfinder's *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* and books of speeches by Malcolm X.

Bombing of Iraq

The morning after the bombing of Iraq and Kuwait began, a Machinist at United reflected the mood of many workers when he said he knew "this war is all about money and greed. But like it or not — and I don't — we're all at war now. We have to pitch in and make sure it's won as quickly as possible." Some workers brought in small U.S. flags to hang in work areas.

This mood did not close off discussion, though.

A mechanic in the hangar made a button that read, "As you sow, so shall you reap." He explained the button referred to the U.S. government's previous backing of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Hussein "is just an excuse for the war," he said. "The companies and banks are in an economic crisis, and they have to go to war to try to get out of it. Have you noticed that your buying power is back to where it was in 1961?"

Discussion in union

At a swing shift meeting of airline workers in IAM Local 1781, one unionist announced plans for the January 26 antiwar demonstration in San Francisco, and explained why the war was not in the interests of working people.

Another worker expressed his displeasure that such an announcement could be made at the union meeting, and insisted that the war was necessary. A shop steward then explained that he had attended a January 19 antiwar protest because his son was stationed in Saudi Arabia. He urged others to join in the January 26 action.

Following the discussion, some members told those who held antiwar views that while they did not agree with them, such views deserved a hearing.

A team of unionists and other workers passed out leaflets for the January 26 march at the plant gate at United. Charlie Benoit, a former Eastern striker who works at United, noted how many workers accepted the fliers or politely declined.

"Did you notice? People didn't throw the fliers down," he said. "They stood around and talked about it. We never got that good a response with the Eastern strike! And some were people I never would have expected it of. This really makes me feel more confident about people."

Kathleen Denny is a machinist at United Airlines and a member of International Association of Machinists Local 1781.

COMING SOON!

New International No. 7

Featuring

Washington's Assault on Iraq: Opening Guns of World War III

By Jack Barnes

From August 1990, when the preparations for war against Iraq began, until January 1991, when Washington, London, and their allies launched the imperialist military assault, hundreds of millions the world over followed the "chronicle of a war foretold."

In the lead article of *New International No. 7*, Jack Barnes examines the dynamics of the world political situation in which the war is now unfolding, including the deepening fault lines within the imperialist alliance against Iraq; and the evolution of the class struggle and politics in the United States as Washington intensifies its aggression in the Middle East.

Also in this issue is a special feature on "Che Guevara and the Building of Socialism" — articles by Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, Carlos Tablada, Mary-Alice Waters, and Steve Clark.

Available from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, New York 10014 or from one of the bookstores listed on page 12. Add \$1 for shipping and handling.

\$10

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Malcolm X in Today's World. Speaker: John Hawkins, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 111 21st St. S. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (205) 323-3079.

ARIZONA

Phoenix

Malcolm X on the Fight against Imperialist War. Speaker: Harvey McArthur, Socialist Workers Party, member United Food and Commercial Workers Local 99R. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (602) 279-5850.

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco

Malcolm X: His Legacy for Young People and His Fight against Imperialist War. Speaker: Eva Braiman, Young Socialist Alliance, member International Association of Machinists. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 3284 23rd St. (near Mission). Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (415) 282-6255.

FLORIDA

Miami

Eyewitness Report from Haiti. Speakers: Nancy Cole and Jean-Luc Duval, just returned from Haiti. Translation to French and Spanish. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (305) 756-1020.

Malcolm X and the Fight against Imperialist Wars. Panel discussion. Sun., Feb. 24, 4 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (305) 756-1020.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Celebrate the Publication of Malcolm X Talks to Young People by Pathfinder. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

After the Battle. 1989 video on impact of South Africa's war on Angola, and Angola's victory. Sat., Feb. 23, Dinner, 6 p.m.; Forum and video, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: Dinner and forum, \$6; Forum only, \$3.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

Stop the U.S. War in the Mideast! Class series. Every Wed. through Feb. 20, 6 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Chicago Socialist Workers 1991 Mayoral Campaign Rally: The Working-Class Fight against the War in the Middle East and the War at Home. Speaker: James Warren, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor; Estelle DeBates, Socialist Workers Party candidate for city clerk; Eric Matheis, Socialist Workers Party candidate for city treasurer. Sat., Feb. 16, 7 p.m. 545 W Roosevelt Rd. Donation: \$5. Sponsor: 1991 Chicago SWP Campaign Committee. Tel: (312) 829-6815 or 829-7018.

Working-Class Campaign against Imperialist War. Two classes. Sat., Feb. 16, 3:30-5:00 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 17, 1 p.m. 545 W Roosevelt Rd. Sponsor: 1991 Chicago SWP Campaign Committee. Tel: (312) 829-6815 or 829-7018.

Malcolm X and Imperialist War. Sat., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. 545 W Roosevelt Rd. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (312) 829-6815 or 829-7018.

IOWA

Des Moines

The U.S. War and Attacks on Democratic Rights. Speaker: Priscilla Schenk-Marroquin, member United Auto Workers 1672, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Des Moines School Board. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 2105 Forest Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (515) 246-8249.

MARYLAND

Baltimore

War and Attacks on Democratic Rights. Speaker: Peggy Kreiner, Socialist Workers Party candidate for city council president, member International Association of Machinists Local 846. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. Dinner, 6 p.m.; Program, 7:30 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation: Dinner, \$3; Program, \$4. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Blacks in America's Wars. Panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

Pathfinder Bookstore Open House. Sat., Feb. 23, 1-6 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

Celebration of Publication of Malcolm X Talks to Young People. Speakers: Jay Ressler, Pathfinder Bookstore; Margaret Pucci, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Lynn. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

MINNESOTA

Austin

Celebrate Black History Month: Malcolm X and His Views on War. Video and panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

St. Paul

Malcolm X. Film and discussion. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$4. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

Malcolm X: His International Outlook. Speakers: Kim Washington, community activist; Raúl González, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

The Fight against Imperialist War: World War I to Today. Every Wed. through Feb. 27, 5 p.m. University of Minnesota, Room 308, Coffman Union. Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI

St. Louis

Malcolm X: The Fight against Imperialist War is Part of the Fight for Black Rights. Speaker: representative, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (314) 361-0250.

The Crisis of Family Farmers, International Trade, and the War. Speaker: Ted Leonard, participant in recent "Land and the Family Farm" conference in Britain. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (314) 361-0250.

NEBRASKA

Omaha

Youth Speak-Out against the War. Speakers: Michelle Allen, Bellevue East High; Chris Becerra, secretary Youth for Peace-downtown chapter, Central High School; Bassam Saleh,

Palestinian antiwar activist; Stanley Carter, African American Organization, at University of Nebraska in Omaha; Elizabeth Kealy, Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:00 p.m. 140 S 40th St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (402) 553-0245.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

War and Attacks on Democratic Rights. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 191 7th Ave. Donation: \$4. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (212) 675-6740.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro

Speak-Out against Attacks on School Desegregation — What's Behind High Point's Antibusing Proposals. Sun., Feb. 17, 7 p.m. 2219 E Market. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

Malcolm X and the Fight against War. Video, speakers. Sun., Feb. 24, 7 p.m. 2219 E Market. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OREGON

Portland

Stop the War! Rally. Sat., Feb. 16, noon. Pioneer Courthouse Square. Sponsor: Coalition against U.S. Military Intervention in the Middle East. Tel: (503) 226-6411.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Malcolm X Talks to Young People. Discussion. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 1906 South St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (215) 546-8196.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston

Israel's War against the Palestinians. Speaker: Cecelia Moriarity, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 345-3040.

Morgantown

Malcolm X and the Fight against Imperialist Wars. Video. Speaker: Chris Rayson, Socialist Workers Party, member Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 221 Pleasant St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

The Mideast War Today and Lessons of the Korean War. Speakers: John Hennen, student, West Virginia University; John Williams, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Mar. 2, 7:30 p.m. 221 Pleasant St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

BRITAIN

Cardiff

The Opening Guns of World War III. Speaker: Brian Grogan, Communist League election candidate, member Amalgamated Engineering Union. Sat., Feb. 16, 7 p.m. 9 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0222-484677.

London

The Gulf War and the Sharpening Economic Conflict. Speaker: representative, Communist League. Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. 47 The Cut, SE 1. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 71-401-2409.

362-6767.

TEXAS: Houston: 4806 Alameda. Zip: 77004. Tel: (713) 522-8054.

UTAH: Price: 253 E. Main St. Mailing address: P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. **Salt Lake City:** 147 E 900 South. Zip: 84111. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 523 8th St. SE. Zip: 20003. Tel: (202) 547-7557.

WASHINGTON: Seattle: 1405 E. Madison. Zip: 98122. Tel: (206) 323-1755.

WEST VIRGINIA: Charleston: 1586 E. Washington St. Mailing address: P.O. Box 5398. Zip: 25311. Tel: (304) 345-3040. **Morgantown:** 221 Pleasant St. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

AUSTRALIA

Sydney: 19 Terry St., Surry Hills, Sydney NSW 2010. Tel: 02-281-3297.

BRITAIN

Cardiff: 9 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown. Postal code: CF2 1EJ. Tel: 0222-484677.

London: 47 The Cut. Postal code: SE1 8LL. Tel: 71-401 2293.

Manchester: Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Postal code: M4 4AA. Tel: 061-839 1766.

Sheffield: 2A Waverley House, 10 Joiner St.,

Manchester

Out Now. Lessons of the Anti-Vietnam War Movement. Speaker: representative, Communist League. Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 061-839 1766.

CANADA

Montréal

Stop Police Harassment of Arabs, Natives, and Other Working People. Speakers: Dale Dion, Mohawk Nation Office at Khanawake; Lynda Little, Mark Curtis Defense Committee; Bev Nelson, Mohawk resident of Kanesatake; Hatem Salman, Arab Coalition of Montréal; John Steele, airport worker, member International Association of Machinists. Sun., Feb. 17, 2 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Forum Lutte Ouvrière. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Malcolm X and the Fight against Imperialist War. Speaker: representative, Communist League. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Forum Lutte Ouvrière. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Young Socialist Discussions on the Mideast War. Every Sun., 3 p.m. 6566 boul. St-Laurent. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Toronto

Socialist Candidates Launch Municipal Campaign against the War in the Gulf. Speakers: Joe Young, Communist League candidate for mayor; Colin McKay, Communist League candidate for Board of Education, member Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Detroit City Council; Susan Berman, Political Committee, Communist League. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 410 Adelaide St. W, Suite 410. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Rally in Support of Mark Curtis. Speaker: Lynda Little, recently returned from United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. Fri., Feb. 22, 7 p.m. 410 Adelaide St. W, Suite 410. Donation: \$5/\$3. Sponsor: The Supporters of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Young Socialist Education Series. Discussion on the U.S.-led war against Iraq. Sun., Feb. 17, 2 p.m. 410 Adelaide St. W, Suite 410. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Vancouver

The Mideast War Today and Lessons of the Korean War. Speaker: George Johnson, Socialist Workers Party, former GI stationed in Korea. Sun., Feb. 17, 6 p.m. 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland

The Fight for Korean Unification: An Eyewitness Report. Speaker: George Fyson, recently returned from fact-finding trip to South Korea. Sat., Feb. 23, 4:30 p.m. 157a Symonds St. Sponsor: Socialist Forum. Tel: (9) 793-075.

Malcolm X Talks to Young People. Sat. Feb. 16, 4:30 p.m. 157a Symonds St. Sponsor: Socialist Forum. Tel: (9) 793-075.

Malcolm X. Video with footage from last speeches. Sat., Feb. 23, 4 p.m. 157a Symonds St. Sponsor: Socialist Forum. Tel: (9) 793-075.

Wellington

What World Wars I and II Can Teach Us about the War in the Gulf. Sat., Feb. 16, 7 p.m. 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Sponsor: Socialist Forum. Tel: (4) 844-205.

Discussions on Fight against Imperialism and War. Every Thurs., 7:30 p.m. 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Sponsor: Young Socialists. Tel: (4) 844-205.

Sheffield S3 8GW. Tel: 0742-729469.

CANADA

Montréal: 6566, boul. St-Laurent. Postal code: H2S 3C6. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Toronto: 410 Adelaide St. W., Suite 400. Postal code: M5V 1S8. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Vancouver: 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Postal code: V5V 3C7. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

ICELAND

Reykjavík: Klappartíg 26. Mailing address: P. Box 233, 121 Reykjavík. Tel: (91) 17513.

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland: 157a Symonds St. Postal Address: P.O. Box 3025. Tel: (9) 793-075.

Christchurch: 593a Colombo St. (upstairs). Postal address: P.O. Box 22-530. Tel: (3) 656-055.

Wellington: 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Postal address: P.O. Box 9092. Tel: (4) 844-205.

SWEDEN

Stockholm: Vikingagatan 10. Postal code: S-113 42. Tel: (08) 31 69 33.

IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP

Where to find Pathfinder books and distributors of the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, *New International*, *Nouvelle Internationale*, and *L'internationaliste*.

UNITED STATES

ALABAMA: Birmingham: 111 21st St. South. Zip: 35233. Tel: (205) 323-3079, 328-3314.

ARIZONA: Phoenix: 1809 W. Indian School Rd. Zip: 85015. Tel: (602) 279-5850.

CALIFORNIA: Los Angeles: 2546 W. Pico Blvd. Zip: 90006. Tel: (213) 380-9460. **San Francisco:** 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 282-6255.

CONNECTICUT: New Haven: Mailing address: P.O. Box 16751, Baybrook Station, West Haven. Zip: 06516.

FLORIDA: Miami: 137 NE 54th St. Zip: 33137. Tel: (305) 756-1020. **Tallahassee:** P.O. Box 20715. Zip: 32316. Tel: (904) 877-9338.

GEORGIA: Atlanta: 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd Floor. Zip: 30303. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS: Chicago: 545 W. Roosevelt Rd. Zip: 60607. Tel: (312) 829-6815, 829-7018.

IOWA: Des Moines: 2105 Forest Ave. Zip: 50311. Tel: (515) 246-8249.

KENTUCKY: Louisville: P.O. Box 4103.

Zip: 40204-4103.

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

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston: 605 Massachusetts Ave. Zip: 02118. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

MICHIGAN: Detroit: 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

MINNESOTA: Austin: 407 1/2 N. Main. Zip: 55912. Tel: (507) 433-3461. **Twin Cities:** 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI: St. Louis: 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Zip: 63113. Tel: (314) 361-0250.

NEBRASKA: Omaha: 140 S. 40th St. Zip: 68131. Tel: (402) 553-0245.

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

NEW YORK: New York: 191 7th Ave. Zip: 10011. Tel: (212) 727-8421.

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

OHIO: Cleveland: 1863 W. 25th St. Zip: 44113. Tel: (216) 861-6150. **Columbus:** P.O. Box 02097. Zip: 43202.

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: 1906 South St. Zip: 19146. Tel: (215) 546-8218. **Pittsburgh:** 4905 Penn Ave. Zip: 15224. Tel: (412)

Antiwar buttons defended at garment plant

BY JON HILLSON

CLEVELAND — Bosses at Joseph & Feiss, a clothing factory here, tried to get workers to wear orange ribbons in support of the U.S. government's war against Iraq as it broke out January 16. The plant employs 1,000 people and is organized by the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU).

The supervisor of company security passed the ribbons out. They were accepted by many, but not the majority of workers.

To press the less than successful campaign, another super-

UNION TALK

visor had more ribbons cut and told workers to pass them out. He had already placed two U.S. flags on his desk. He also tacked up a full-page reproduction of a flag and a bull's-eye target over a likeness of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the work bulletin board.

I work in the recut department, which is supervised by this prowar foreman.

One worker he assigned to give out the ribbons, who had expressed apprehension about the war, decided not to wear one herself.

Another worker tossed the ribbon off the table he works at, angering another worker who had placed a U.S. flag at his station and wears a flag pin on his ribbon.

This spurred a series of debates, including between two Puerto Rican coworkers. The younger worker backed the war. "No man, it's stupid. You go over there and die, for what?" replied the worker in his 30s.

I have been wearing a large "No blood for oil" button for weeks. Several coworkers have seen me on television news-

casts speaking at antiwar protests, and on a local program featuring area antiwar activists. I have also passed out leaflets for demonstrations during breaks in the cafeteria. A coworker attended an antiwar action coalition meeting.

The prowar foreman, I was told, was campaigning against the button I was wearing. I, in turn, explained to workers why I would not wear the ribbon. Several people agreed with me.

On January 21 the Socialist Workers Party here announced its slate of four candidates for Cleveland School Board. As one of the candidates, I was quoted in the *Plain Dealer*, terming the war "a catastrophe for working people" and explaining that a central theme of our campaign would be "organizing opposition" to it.

Many workers got leaflets about the January 26 march on Washington, D.C., and knew I was going to it. Half a dozen coworkers asked about it when I came back and had seen it on television.

On January 29 a top vice-president, widely disliked by unionists, verbally assaulted me for "working too slow." I told fellow ACTWU members and our shop chairman about this harassment.

The boss's abusive behavior became an immediate topic of discussion. Since there had never been a complaint about my work, it was seen as politically motivated. Many coworkers said, the boss "had no business doing this."

The harassment was aimed at antiwar unionists, I explained, and against everyone's right to express his or her ideas. The company also hopes to stifle criticism of the wages it pays us — our wage increase from a recently signed three year contract has already been wiped out by inflation.

The same boss came to where I work two days later, again complaining loudly that I work "slow." As before, I didn't respond to the baiting.

A coworker who wears an orange ribbon heard the whole

thing. "It's not right what he does," she told me. I talked again to local union officials. They agreed it was an attack on the right to wear whatever button union members want. The ACTWU business agent was contacted.

The next day, I and four supporters of the socialist election campaign, including a coworker from the shop, handed out campaign statements to dozens of coworkers entering work.

Union members in a smaller Joseph & Feiss trouser shop of 200 heard about the earlier harassment and began discussing it as well. Workers asked me how it had gone with the union. "Did they do anything, did anything happen today?"

"I used to think there was free speech here," one worker explained, "but I'm learning something else."

One coworker, a subscriber to *Perspectiva Mundial* who purchased a copy of the Pathfinder book *U.S. Hands Off the Middle East!* from me several weeks ago, had not worn his antiwar buttons since the U.S. bombing of Iraq began. But on February 1, the last day of the week, he decided to wear two. "To show that boss he's wrong," he said.

He kept the buttons on all day, including after an elevator ride with the same prowar vice-president who had harassed me. When the coworker passed by my work area, I asked him how it was going.

"No blood for oil," he said, smiling.

The same day, a shop steward wore his "screw Iraq" T-shirt.

But by that Friday, fewer workers were wearing the orange ribbons than at the beginning of the week.

"Is it true that 12 marines got killed?" a coworker asked me. "I knew this was going to get worse."

Jon Hillson works as a cutter at Joseph & Feiss and is a member of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union Local 168-CA.

Canadian Senate rejects bill criminalizing abortion

BY ROBERT SIMMS

MONTREAL — The Canadian government's latest move to deny a woman's right to choose abortion has gone down to defeat.

Bill C-43 would have made abortions illegal except when carried out by a qualified physician in cases where it was determined a medical necessity to protect a woman's health. The bill was defeated in the Canadian Senate January 31 by a vote of 43-43. It had earlier passed the elected House of Commons 140-131, in May 1990. Passage had been considered assured in the Senate.

All government bills go through the Senate, an appointed "upper house" that can suggest changes, but, failing agreement, usually rubber-stamps all legislation.

The Senate held a "free vote" — not bind-

ing on party loyalty — on the anti-abortion law. It was the first time in 30 years that the upper house had blocked a government bill.

"It's amazing, absolutely amazing," Alice de Wolff, executive coordinator of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), said about the bill's unexpected demise.

Dr. Henry Morgenthau, who has been in the forefront of the abortion rights battle in Canada, called the law's defeat "a great day for the women of Canada."

Morgenthau predicted easier access to abortion for women now that doctors will not have the fear of government prosecution hanging over them. Dozens of doctors who had been performing the procedure threatened to stop if the law went into effect.

In addition, a calendar with "America — Love it or Leave it" was posted and a banner urging support for the war was hung up. "One woman told us that what we were doing was really wrong," Schenk said, "that it would demoralize the troops and we should stop."

Despite comments such as these, "several people came up to me after I returned from Washington and asked about the demonstration." After a week or so the number of workers wearing the ribbons declined, Searcy said.

The two unionists said that the company's prowar campaign comes in the middle of union negotiations on a new contract. A strike authorization vote was taken February 6, but many workers are worried about the recession, Schenk said.

"I tell people that assaults on our union and livelihoods has everything to do with the war. They make us pay for the economic crisis with our sons and daughters in the war and with our paychecks at home."

Schenk and Searcy have been discussing with coworkers and union officials why the right to refuse to be interrogated by the cops, whether at work or not, is a union issue. They recently spoke with UAW official Chuck Gifford, who told them that it was important to refuse to talk to the police and he would advise any worker to do as Schenk and Searcy had done.

Schenk noted that the government had been able to set a precedent for cop questioning and harassment of workers on the job through drug testing and searches. "The fact that we stood up to the company and the cops, that we are not in jail, and we still have our jobs is an example of how future attacks on unionists can be fought," Searcy concluded.

In 1988 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that a 1969 anti-abortion law was unconstitutional. It argued that it was an infringement on women's rights. The ruling left no law on the books in Canada restricting a woman's right to have an abortion.

The Canadian government has now been defeated in two attempts to again make abortion a criminal offense. In 1988, it introduced a resolution in the House of Commons setting up guidelines on a new anti-abortion law. The government motion was voted down in a "free vote."

The government vowed to introduce a new anti-abortion bill and use its Conservative Party majority to pass it in the House of Commons — the result was Bill C-43.

In July 1989, Québec courts imposed an injunction on Chantal Daigle, which prevented her from having an abortion on the grounds of "fetal rights." The court order had been sought by her former companion. In response, more than 10,000 people took to the streets in Montréal and thousands marched in many other cities protesting the ruling.

The Supreme Court quickly set the injunction aside, ruling that a fetus does not have protection under the Charter of Rights, nor was there a legal basis for "fathers' rights."

At present, Federal Justice Minister Kim Campbell has announced that the government has no plans to introduce another anti-abortion law.

Joe Young, the Communist League candidate for mayor of Toronto, greeted the demise of the law: "The defeat of Bill C-43 is a huge victory for women and all working people. This victory was not won in the Senate but in the streets after decades of mass struggles by women and their supporters, including widespread support in the labor movement. However, we must remain vigilant against new legal restrictions on women's right to choose."

Young added, "This victory for democratic rights has additional significance at a time when the government's imperialist war campaign against Iraq is also trying to narrow the political space and rights of working people."

Unionists at Des Moines plant discuss interrogation by government agents

BY CHRIS REMPLE

DES MOINES — Since federal agents interrogated Priscilla Schenk and Harold Searcy January 18, the two unionists have been getting out the word about their fight for the right of workers to discuss and organize, free of government and company intrusion.

Schenk and Searcy work at Emco, an auto parts plant here organized by the United Auto Workers. Both have been active in their union and had let their coworkers know of their opposition to Washington's Mideast war.

Called into management's offices during working hours, Schenk, then Searcy, were questioned by agents of the Secret Service and the Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The excuse used by the political police was an anonymous phone call alleging that the two unionists had been overheard threatening the lives of U.S. President George Bush and the governor of Iowa.

Schenk refused to talk to the police and demanded a union representative. She was eventually allowed to return to work. Questions by the agents focused on the political views held by the two unionists and their participation in antiwar actions.

Schenk is a long-time political activist and is currently the Socialist Workers Party candidate for the Des Moines School Board. Searcy recently joined the Young Socialist Alliance here. In an interview Schenk explained that she and Searcy both attended the January 26 antiwar march of 125,000 in Washington, D.C.

"When we got back from the demonstration, the company had organized a campaign for the workers to wear red, white and blue ribbons in the plant," she said. "American flags and 'Support Desert Storm' stickers were also part of the prowar effort."

— 10 AND 25 YEARS AGO —

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Feb. 27, 1981

NEW YORK — More than 650 supporters of the socialist suit against government spying and harassment attended a rally here February 7.

The featured speaker was Andrew Pulley, 1980 Socialist Workers Party candidate for president of the United States. The SWP and the Young Socialist Alliance suit is set to go to trial March 16.

"At the coming trial," Pulley said, "our eyes will be on the most important jury of all — the American and world working class."

"We want to undress the U.S. ruling class and its government before the eyes of the American people. We want them to know what most of the world knows all too well: that Washington is the main promoter of terror, murder, and barbarism in the world today."

THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the Working People

Feb. 21, 1966

Price 10c

As the war in Vietnam continues to grow, there are three things which are going to grow

along with it: casualties, prices and profits. In January, total American casualties including dead, wounded and missing were over 1,200, bringing the total number of deaths for the whole war over the 2,000 mark; the wholesale price index made the largest jump in the course of the war; and U.S. corporations marked all-time record profits.

The January casualty figures do not include the losses in the largest American ground troop operation of the war, which was just beginning Jan. 25. First reports of U.S. casualties in this operation show 91 killed in the past week alone.

The jump in the wholesale price index in January was the third jump in the last three months, and is considered by most economists to be the most accurate indication of inflationary pressures in the economy.

At the same time, [U.S. President Lyndon] Johnson and his business friends have boasted about the record-breaking corporation profits. In his State of the Union message, Johnson crowed over the glutted profits the big capitalists accrued last year, profits which he said averaged 20 percent higher than in 1964.

The war in Vietnam is good for big business. But the ordinary American is going to pay the costs of the war. Inflation will cut into the workers' standard of living, and their sons will be the ones to die in the rice paddies of Vietnam.

All out for February 21 actions!

Students and other youths, workers and unionists, farmers, GIs and reservists, and others opposed to the U.S.-led war in the Middle East should use the remaining days until February 21 to build as broadly as possible student antiwar protests in cities and on campuses across the United States and in other countries.

These actions are the most effective way to join with others to demand an immediate end to the war against the Iraqi people, that the horrific bombing of Iraq and Kuwait be stopped, and the withdrawal of U.S. and foreign troops from the region.

The actions called by the National Student and Youth Campaign for Peace in the Middle East and the Western Student and Youth Action Network Against the War come as Washington and its allies escalate their bombing and prepare to open a long and bloody ground war to conquer Iraq.

Each passing week reveals the scope of the terror Washington, London, Paris, and their allies have unleashed on the people of Iraq. The Iraqi affiliate of the Red Cross, the Red Crescent, reported that at least 7,000 civilians have died in Washington's criminal assault. Surely, many more have been wounded or maimed. On February 13, CBS radio news reported that bombs struck an underground shelter in the center of Baghdad, killing hundreds of civilians.

The intensity of the bombing, the worst in the history of warfare, also reveals Washington's determination to kill as many Iraqi workers and farmers in uniform as possible. After the first three weeks of the war at least 85,000 tons of high explosives were dropped on Iraq and Kuwait, the equivalent of just under five times the impact of the atomic

bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

The February 21 protests are the most effective way to counter the prowar propaganda and patriotic "support our troops" appeals of the U.S. government and the big-business media.

The actions offer a means to get out the truth — that this is a U.S. war for oil and imperialist domination of the region. They provide an opportunity to debate and engage others in civil discussions about the nature of the war and why youth and working people have no interest in it. They offer a chance to win those who are confused or wavering under the pressures of the patriotic appeals.

The actions are important for another reason. Stung by the media reports of the civilian casualties inflicted on Iraq, government officials have resorted to tactics of the McCarthy era and have labeled journalists reporting from Iraq or opponents of the slaughter "dupes" and "sympathizers" of the "enemy," in this case Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The February 21 protests are a way for tens of thousands to reject these undemocratic assaults on the right to know and discuss the truth free of intimidation. The actions help reinforce the confidence of those who would like to openly discuss or oppose the war but feel helpless in face of the prowar onslaught.

Building the broadest and most successful February 21 protests will help lay the groundwork for future antiwar protests — actions that can effectively lead to wider, uncompromising protests by students and youth and can reach beyond the campuses to involve working people, in uniform and out.

How labor can fight budget cuts

While Washington intensifies its brutal war against Iraq, the Bush administration plans substantial budget cuts at home. These cuts would be disastrous for working people, making them pay even more for the capitalist economic crisis.

As the current recession deepens, conditions of life for millions of working people will grow worse. Putting funds for housing, Medicare and other health care, transportation, and other essential social services on the chopping block would place even more burdens on the most impoverished layers of the working class. The cuts would add to the already deteriorating conditions of life in urban cities and rural communities.

Government programs, even inadequately funded ones, can function as a buffer as this recession deepens.

For instance, the cuts in Medicare and health care alone would drastically compound the problem for the tens of millions who have no medical benefits at all.

The number of people who are homeless continues to rise, yet less money would be allocated for housing programs.

At the same time, Bush is waging a war against the Iraqi people that costs an estimated \$500 million a day.

The U.S. government has sent hundreds of thousands of GIs and reservists to the Arab-Persian Gulf. Yet as part of Bush's latest budget plan, cuts would be made in veterans' benefits.

The White House offers no solution to the fact that millions are without jobs. In fact, the number of unemployed has risen with the recent round of layoffs in a range of industries.

If adopted, the combined effect of Bush's budget slashing will be to speed the pauperizing of wider layers of the working class.

The labor movement should oppose any cuts in programs that benefit working people and should chart a course of action that can confront the economic crisis.

The Socialist Workers Party is fielding candidates for public office in cities across the United States. They explain that rather than cutting back funding for badly needed social programs, massive funds should be allocated. The socialist candidates point to the need for special measures to combat the effects of the coming economic catastrophe.

These measures include waging a fight for jobs for all by reducing the workweek from 40 to 30 hours, with no reduction in pay. A shortening of the workweek would increase the number of existing jobs for millions of workers.

The socialist candidates advocate creating millions of jobs by launching massive public works programs. Housing, schools, and medical facilities are desperately needed. Bridges, highways, tunnels, railroads, and air transport are rapidly deteriorating. Money for such programs can easily be made available by eliminating the multibillion-dollar war budget.

Due to the legacy of racial discrimination, workers from oppressed nationalities continue to face discrimination in education, housing, and jobs. The socialists call for a fight to establish and enforce affirmative action quotas to achieve preferential hiring and upgrading of workers who are Black, Latino, or women.

Working people should join in a worldwide fight to cancel the debt owed by the semicolonial countries, the candidates say. The devastation and misery resulting from this massive and non-payable debt has become unbearable. Such a fight would help to unify workers around the world.

A fighting program by labor is what is needed today to confront the effects of the economic crisis and mobilize millions of working people to defend their own interests.

Keep anti-apartheid sanctions

South African President F.W. de Klerk's February 1 announcement that he would soon abolish several of the legal pillars of apartheid is a recognition of the impact and advance of the decades-long struggle led by the African National Congress (ANC) to do away with the repressive, unjust, inhumane, and hated system.

The measures by de Klerk don't go far enough. Thousands of political prisoners remain in jail. Many South African freedom fighters, denied amnesty, remain in exile. De Klerk did not say one word about abolishing security legislation, laws that continue to be used to repress the people of South Africa.

"We still have no vote," Nelson Mandela said. "The state organs are still dominated by whites. The police are still harassing, persecuting, and even killing our people."

Since the ANC was unbanned a year ago, it has sought to mobilize the broad masses of people in South Africa to fight to replace the current regime with an interim government, paving the way for a democratically elected constituent assembly. Some 250,000 people held rallies, marches, and work stoppages across South Africa, backing this demand, at the same time that de Klerk was announc-

ing the new measures.

Replacing the white minority regime with a constituent assembly is a necessary step toward the elimination of apartheid. It would permit Blacks to freely seek work wherever they choose; guarantee access to the land; and begin to redistribute the nation's wealth to redress the generations of super-exploitation and oppression of Blacks.

The call by British Prime Minister John Major for the immediate lifting of economic sanctions; the decision by the 12-country European Community to end bans on South African iron, steel, and gold coins; and the intention of other governments to review sanctions, are simply aimed at maintaining the white minority regime in power as long as possible.

And as long as apartheid continues to exist, sanctions must be maintained and the South African government should continue to be treated as an international outlaw.

Working people, unionists, and all those around the world who oppose apartheid should condemn these moves and keep the pressure on by backing the ANC's demands for continued sanctions, an interim government, and a constituent assembly.

'Not one soldier, not one penny for capitalist gov't'

BY DOUG JENNESS

A reader recently sent us a letter noting that during the January 26 antiwar protest in Washington, D.C., some participants wore yellow ribbons with the slogan, "Support Our Troops — Bring Them Home!"

This is an adaptation, he explained, to the supporters of Washington's war who demand "Support Our Troops!" and sport yellow ribbons. It disarms opponents of Washington's bloody war against Iraq, because it deprives them of effective arguments to counter those of the prowar forces.

Our reader suggested that I take up some historical parallels in this column and referred to documentary material in *Lenin's Struggle for a Revolutionary International* —

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Documents 1907-1916, The Preparatory Years (Pathfinder, 1984). This volume is the first in a series on the Communist International in Lenin's time.

In Germany, at the beginning of World War I, the left Social Democratic deputy Karl Liebknecht cast the only vote against war. For this stand he deservedly became a symbol of working-class opposition to the imperialist war.

Our reader adds that as part of rejecting the war credits, Liebknecht also expressed concern for the "health and welfare" of the soldiers. "I agree to the relief credits in the amount requested," Liebknecht stated, "although this sum is completely inadequate. Similarly, I will vote for everything that may relieve the cruel fate of our brothers at the front, of the wounded, and of the sick. . . ."

Our reader wrote that if there were representatives of the working class in the U.S. Congress today, "we would make demands upon them for the relief of the suffering of the troops."

This uncritical endorsement of Liebknecht's statement seems to accept the notion that it is all right to approve funds for troops in a capitalist army as long as they are used for the soldiers' "health and welfare."

But the funds used for maintaining the capitalists' military forces cannot be separated into tidy packages with labels marking some as progressive and others as reactionary. All the appropriations go to house, feed, clothe, transport, arm, and medically care for a capitalist army — a military force set up to protect the interests of the capitalist exploiters, not those of working people. The U.S. troops in Iraq, for example, are the capitalists' troops. They are not "ours." Working people must unambiguously demand: "Not one man or woman and not one penny for the capitalist government to conduct war!"

The poor treatment and medical care and woefully inadequate veterans' benefits provided by capitalist governments must be exposed. But it does not help workers and farmers in uniform to support any aspect of the policies that got them into these horrible conditions. What they need is backing in the fight for their rights to organize and express their views.

Casting a vote for funds for the "health and welfare" of the soldiers in the capitalists' army reinforces confidence in their government. We must have as little confidence in the government of the employers as we do in our own bosses.

This also applies to capitalist governments that the workers' movement may defend in a war. In a 1937 letter to James P. Cannon, a long-time communist leader in the United States and for many years the national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, Leon Trotsky, a prominent leader of the October 1917 Russian revolution, took this up in relation to Spain. A civil war was taking place in that country in which a fascist movement was attempting to overturn a bourgeois democratic republic. Communist workers participated in the military defense of the republican government against the fascists, which was the most effective way at that time to help defend space for working-class political action.

When a few SWP leaders suggested that part of this aid should include encouraging a vote in parliament for the financial budget, Trotsky strongly disagreed. "The question of Comrade [Max] Shachtman," he said, "'How can we refuse to devote a million pesetas to the purchase of rifles for the front?' was a hundred and a thousand times put to the revolutionary Marxists by the reformists: 'How can you vote against the millions and millions necessary for schools, for roads, not to speak of national defense?' We recognize the necessity of schools and roads no less than the necessity of the fight against Franco. We use the 'capitalist' railroads; our children go to the 'capitalist' schools; but we refuse to vote for the budget of the capitalist government." (*The Spanish Revolution: 1931-39*, by Leon Trotsky, Pathfinder, 1973)

The only way working people can bring relief to our brothers and sisters in uniform as well as for the exploited and oppressed peoples of the Middle East is to wage a struggle against the capitalist employers and their government. This includes helping to mobilize broad protest actions demanding that the bombing of Iraq be stopped, all economic sanctions lifted, and the troops of Washington and its allies brought home.

Film depicts internment of Japanese-Americans

BY PATTI IYAMA

Come See the Paradise, directed by Alan Parker, is the first Hollywood film to depict a little-known event in U.S. history: the evacuation and incarceration without trial of 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens, during World War II.

It has been released at a particularly appropriate time. In an ominous move paralleling their investigation of Japanese-Americans, the FBI has questioned hundreds of Arab-Americans in the weeks leading up to, and during the U.S.-led war against Iraq. The FBI insinuates that because of their race, Arab-Americans are potential terrorists.

Come See the Paradise is instructive in revealing how racist prejudice and war hysteria were utilized to deprive Japanese-Americans of their civil rights and liberties, with

IN REVIEW

little protest coming from a broader layer of the population. Their only "crime" was their Japanese ancestry. For that, they were locked up for up to four years. The last concentration camp at Tule Lake, California, was closed March 20, 1946 — seven months after the Japanese government surrendered at the end of World War II.

In spite of some faults, the movie is well worth seeing for its sympathetic portrayal of this mass injustice.

These events form the dramatic backdrop to an interracial love story between a former labor organizer portrayed by Dennis Quaid, and Lily, a Japanese-American woman played by Tamlyn Tomita.

The film reconstructs, with authentic period detail, life in Little Tokyo, the ghetto to which Japanese-Americans were confined by law. As Lily explains, her father cannot own the movie theater he operates because discriminatory laws prevented *Issei* (Japanese immigrants) from buying or owning land, living outside Little Tokyo, marrying whites, or becoming U.S. citizens.

In spite of underplayed, graceful performances by Quaid and Tomita, the love story itself is somewhat predictable. The film becomes more compelling after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, when the focus shifts to Lily's family, the Kawamuras. Sab Shimono and Shizuko Hoshi as Lily's displaced parents are particularly powerful, while Stan Egi is memorable as her brother, who changes from a baseball-loving California boy to a bitter Japanese nationalist. Mr. Kawamura is arrested by the FBI within a few days after events at Pearl Harbor.

The war hysteria and racist attacks drummed up by the news media and ruling class are strikingly conveyed in the film by images of vegetable stands being overturned, people being beaten up, and rocks being thrown at windows of stores with hand-lettered signs saying "I am an American."

Order 9066: 'military necessity'

This racist agitation peaked when President Franklin D.

Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942. The order authorized the Secretary of War and military commanders designated by him to exclude any and all persons from "military zones" in the United States. The evacuation of the first large contingent of persons of Japanese descent from the "military area" of the West Coast began on March 22, 1942.

The government and the Supreme Court justified the mass evacuation and incarceration as "military necessity." They charged that Japanese-Americans posed a threat of sabotage and espionage, and it was therefore necessary to remove this potential fifth column from the "war zone" on the West Coast.

The Kawamura family is given six days in which to dispose of and pack their property; some families were only given 72 hours. Under these circumstances, many Japanese-Americans sold their belongings for a pittance, such as the \$15 the Kawamuras are offered for their piano.

They could take only what they could carry in two bags per person. Radios, cameras, and anything containing metal, which the government claimed might be used for sabotage or spying, were confiscated by the authorities when they boarded buses and trains.

The first phase of evacuation handled by the army put Japanese-Americans in temporary assembly centers hastily constructed on race tracks and fair grounds. The film shows Japanese families being led into horse stalls while the horses are being led out.

By November 3, they were transferred from the temporary assembly centers to ten permanent "relocation centers" in remote deserts and swamps. The U.S. concentration camps were not as brutal as the Nazi concentration camps. They were essentially prison camps. Two of the ten camps were located on Native American reservation lands in Arizona.

Parker vividly recreates life in the camps, from their physical isolation — the rugged, barren terrain, the constant dust and sand — to their psychological effects of alienation, guilt, and trauma. *Nisei* (second-generation Japanese born in the United States) who have seen the movie told me that they wept as memories of the camps were released by the immediacy of this film.

In the camps the inmates were confined to small rooms in barracks with virtually no privacy, enclosed by barbed wire and guarded by military police with machine guns in towers. The evacuees themselves maintained the camps under the supervision of white personnel. They received token compensation for their prison labor. The Kawamuras, for example, earned \$16 a month for making camouflage nets, while more skilled people like doctors made \$19 a month.

The evacuees initially cooperated with the authorities with unprotesting acceptance. But once they were in the camps — the monotony, regimentation, and frustration of being imprisoned indefinitely without trial led to constant conflict with each other and the administration. Protest rallies, demonstrations, work stoppages, and even general

strikes of evacuees took place at all the camps around the issues of living conditions, the availability of work, wages, and working conditions.

The loyalty oath

Dissension in the camps became polarized around the loyalty oath which all internees over the age of 17 were asked to sign in early 1943. Questions 27 and 28 were the most controversial:

"No. 27. Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?"

"No. 28. Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any and all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power or organization?"

The Kawamura family's crisis reflects the divisions that arose over the oath. One brother answers "yes" to both questions, volunteers for the army in a segregated combat team led by white officers, and dies at the front. The other, less assimilated brother answers "no" in protest against the evacuation and incarceration, and is sent to a separate camp for the "disloyal." He is eventually repatriated to Japan — a land he has never seen and whose language he cannot speak.

Director Parker does not pull punches — Lily tells her daughter that Washington's atomic bomb attack at Hiroshima and Nagasaki was the ultimate expression of racist hysteria against the Japanese. The concentration camps were a logical extension of that hysteria and of legalized racism in the United States.

In 1983 the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, established by Congress in 1980, condemned the internment of Japanese-Americans as "a grave injustice." It agreed unanimously that "Executive Order 9066 was not justified by military necessity" but had been motivated by "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." Congress passed a reparations bill on Aug. 10, 1988 giving \$20,000 compensation to each individual of Japanese ancestry who was interned (or their designated beneficiary). There were approximately 60,000 survivors at the time the bill was passed.

Parker does make one glaring factual error in the film. The concentration camps were never declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

In 1983 and 1986 the convictions of Fred Korematsu, who refused to report for relocation, and Gordon Hirabayashi, who failed to register for evacuation to a concentration camp, were overturned by a federal district judge on the grounds of governmental misconduct. The U.S. government had suppressed reports from military and civilian intelligence agencies that concluded there was no military necessity to incarcerate Japanese-Americans. These decisions knocked out the factual underpinnings of the Supreme Court decision in 1944 that upheld the internment program on the grounds of "military necessity."

LETTERS

Give more strategies

I picked up your paper in Washington on January 26. Keep up the articles on the antiwar movement. Without the alternative press there would be no way to know that such a movement even existed.

Give us more strategies about how to reach the rest of the working class.

K.H.
Independence, Kentucky

Outrageous massacres

Thank you for publicizing the outrageous massacres of tens of thousands of innocent Palestinian Arabs by the Israeli army since 1948, when Israel became a nation.

Thanks also for being against the war in the Gulf and in favor of the safe return of all American servicemen and women. They will only be fighting and dying in the desert for wealthy oil barons and not for our country.

Kevin Underwood
Patchogue, New York

Antiwar supplement

I had previously ordered ten copies of your most important Dec. 21, 1990, issue and wish to order 10 more. [The Dec. 21, 1990, *Militant* contained the *International Socialist Review* supplement on "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive."]

With all the lies being doled out to the American people, I feel that this issue should be circulated as

widely as possible.

I have mailed 10 copies to my most active Peace friends, but need more.

N.S.
Chicago, Illinois

[Editor replies — We welcome readers' efforts to circulate the *International Socialist Review* supplement among friends and coworkers. Bundles may be ordered for \$1 each for 10 or more. See the ad on page 8 to order.]

More on abortion

I would like to see more coverage on issues such as abortion rights, child care, and health insurance for everybody. I would also like to see articles about how Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Middle East nations treat their citizens, particularly women.

K.B.
Cleveland, Ohio

Samoans in Gulf

The U.S. colony of American Samoa, with a population of 46,000, is heavily represented in the armed forces in the Gulf. Between 450 and 500 Samoans are part of the U.S. armed forces there — about 1 in 100 of the entire population of American Samoa.

The island group of Samoa, in the South Pacific, is divided into two parts: American Samoa, and Western Samoa, which is a former colony of New Zealand.

Many Western Samoans also sign

up for the U.S. armed forces as a means of gaining residency in the United States.

During the Vietnam War Samoans received the highest rate of casualties of any nationality in the U.S. armed forces.

George Buchanan
Auckland, New Zealand

New ideas

You have a very informative, responsive, and relevant newspaper. I decided to write after reading a copy given to me by a friend from a human rights organization.

Some people here are so poor that there are days in the week when they don't eat. They call these days "memories." That is when you stare at an empty table all day remembering rice.

I am a volunteer field organizer helping oppressed and persecuted people change things here in the Philippines.

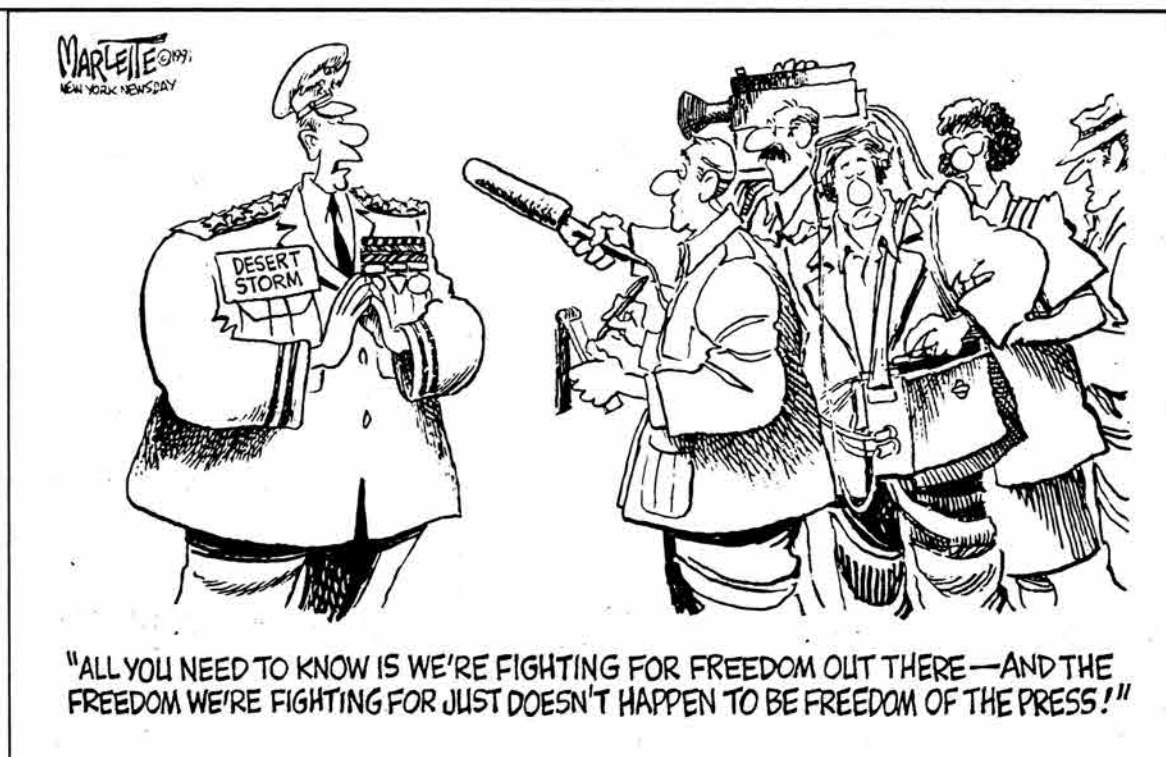
I need your new ideas and knowledge for my work.

F.Y.
The Philippines

The *Militant* special prisoner fund makes it possible to send

reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. To help this important cause, send your contribution to *Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund*, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

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



Tentative contract reached at USX stirs discussion among steelworkers

BY BETSY FARLEY

FAIRFIELD, Alabama — Members of the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) employed at USX Corp. are beginning to discuss a tentative contract agreed to by management and union officials on February 3. The terms reportedly include wage increases that narrow the gap between what USX workers and other unionized workers earn in basic steel.

The contract was originally set to expire January 31. As that deadline approached, 18,500 steelworkers across the United States prepared to strike the country's largest steelmaker. USWA locals voted nearly unanimously to strike if no agreement was reached by the contract's expiration.

On January 31, day-shift workers left USX's three plants here with all their belongings, anticipating the possibility of a strike. Then union members received a call that negotiators had agreed to a 24-hour extension of the deadline. That was followed by a second extension the next night. On February 3, negotiators announced a "handshake agreement." If approved by the local union presidents, the contract will then be voted on by the membership.

Many workers felt union negotiators were wrong to agree to the extensions. "We voted for 'no contract, no work' and that's what it should have been," one worker said after hearing about the deadline's extension. "They've had four years to come up with a decent contract offer. Why give them another 24 hours?" asked another worker.

USX stockpiles steel

In the month leading up to the deadline, USX had stockpiled coils of steel at independently owned warehouses. Truck drivers reported that many warehouses in Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee, were full. Throughout January workers were pressed to work overtime and not call in sick so the company could fill current and future orders.

In some departments at USX plants here, signs that read "Union Yes — Overtime No!" and "Union Brothers — Just Say No to Overtime. Think First!" began to appear.

Because USX filled its orders through February, the company began laying off hundreds of steelworkers January 31. They will remain laid off until further notice.

Written terms of the tentative contract have not yet been presented to the membership. Negotiations continue on contracts at USS/Kobe, a joint venture between USX and Kobe Steel of Japan. The company employs some 2,600 workers at a steel bar plant in Lorain, Ohio.

Talks also continue between the union and Transtar, a joint venture that owns USX's former transportation subsidiaries including railroads, Great Lakes ships, river barges, and tugboats. Union officials say they want to resolve these negotiations before taking the tentative pact to the entire membership.

What workers know about the agreement comes from newspaper articles and verbal reports relayed by local union presidents. So far workers have expressed mixed opinions.

It has been reported in the media that the pact would be for three years, setting the expiration date closer to that of other contracts in basic steel. The agreement includes a base pay increase of \$2.50 an hour. The workers would receive \$3,250 in bonuses, instead of cost-of-living adjustments, newspapers report.

USX would guarantee lifetime health and pension benefits to those union members with 30 years on the job, and to workers who are 60 years old and have at least 15 years at the company, including when the plant is sold to another owner. USX, formerly United States Steel, bought Marathon Oil in the early 1980s. Since then, the company has been selling off parts of its steel operations.

Many steelworkers here are concerned that the proposed contract doesn't rectify

concessions imposed on the union in the 1983 "Fairfield agreement" between the company and USWA district officials. In the agreement the union gave up incentive rates, arbitration cases, outstanding grievances, and past practice agreements in exchange for a reopening of parts of the shut-down mill.

This deal included granting the company the right to combine jobs at will and slash incentive rates, resulting in large wage cuts for most workers. Today, more and more work in the mill is contracted out, and parts of the mill have been leased out to other

companies. These companies have hired permanently laid-off USX workers and new workers at \$6 to \$8 an hour.

In July 1990, USWA District 36 Director Thermon Phillips, and E.B. Rich, the sub-director, were convicted in federal court of trading concessions in the 1983 agreement for hefty pensions for themselves and four other officials. USX was also found guilty and fined. Despite these convictions, the 1983 agreement still stands and has no expiration date.

Alabama steelworkers had pressed for the 1983 agreement to be taken up in the national

negotiations, but in those talks the issue was set aside.

At a union meeting here, 700 steelworkers listened to a report from the local vice-president on the tentative agreement. Many were angered by lack of progress on the local issue. "As long as the '83 agreement stands, we'll always be second-class steelworkers," one worker commented.

Union members expect to receive the entire written contract proposal within the next two weeks. Meetings will then be organized to discuss the proposal and a vote will be conducted by mail ballot.

1992 budget cuts hit U.S. workers

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

A projected record U.S. budget deficit is the pretext for cuts in the 1992 budget by President Bush that would result in even more hardships for working people.

At the same time, Bush reintroduced the idea of cuts in capital gains taxes (taxes on profits from investments), a move benefiting the rich.

While programs for transportation and the environment would receive modest increases, the White House is seeking to end 238 domestic programs. Despite his claims to champion workers and farmers in uniform being sent to war in the Mideast, Bush also wants to take away \$3.5 billion from veterans' benefits over the next five years.

At the same time, there would be provisos for more cops, federal drug task forces, and prison funding. Tied to these proposals are new sentencing procedures that will increase the use of the death penalty, limit appeals by death row prisoners, and change court rules to allow illegally obtained evidence to be introduced in trials.

The plan includes lumping \$15 billion in federal programs, including those for health care, housing, and transportation, into a "single consolidated grant" dispersed among the 50 states. Since states could spend the monies as they choose, funds available for low-income housing, welfare, and various social services could be slashed drastically.

Such a proposal, for example, could elim-

inate up to \$100 million to New York City in transit aid, and millions more in health care, housing, and community-based services. New York Mayor David Dinkins, already gearing up budget-slashing aimed at working people in the city, said Bush's proposals would be "a crushing blow."

While the Bush administration highlighted modest increases in some health programs, including money to combat infant mortality, there would be cuts amounting to at least \$23 billion in Medicare, which finances health care for 33 million people. Almost no additional money will be granted for the treatment of AIDS.

Teaching hospitals, many of which also treat large numbers of people with low incomes, would be cut by \$1.4 billion in 1992, and \$9.6 billion over the next five years. This would most likely result in more patients at public hospitals, where both admissions to emergency rooms and the average emergency room wait for a bed is now more than five hours. In extreme cases, it takes 3 to 10 days.

Bush's much publicized plan to address infant mortality is to take \$91 million from community health centers and the existing Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant over two years. Both programs provide service for pregnant women, low-income children, and homeless people. The funds would be given to 10 cities with high rates of infant mortality.

"If infant mortality is such a priority, why not commit new resources to it rather than just shifting funds from one program to another?" asked Catherine Hess, director of the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs. She pointed out that Bush would be taking funds from programs that "already serve low-income pregnant women and infants."

The Bush administration pointed to a drop in Pentagon spending to \$295.2 billion as a contribution to trimming the federal budget. The drop amounts to 1.2 percent below the current levels. But none of the projections for military spending include the cost of Washington's war against the Iraqi people, estimated so far at \$500 million a day.

In addition, Bush is seeking a spending increase of 58 percent for the space-based missile system known as "Star Wars."

Citing its successful use in conducting bombing missions over Iraq, the administration is also asking for additional funds for the Stealth bomber — at a cost of \$800 million a plane.

The budget proposal includes an 8 percent increase for research, totaling \$71.3 billion, \$42 billion of which would go to military research.

Working people will also lose out in other planned cutbacks.

For example, Bush wants to slash federal grants for libraries from \$84 million to \$35 million. Cuts by as much as 16 percent would be made in foster care funds.

Thousands celebrate in Haiti



Militant/Nancy Cole

BY NANCY COLE
AND JEAN-LUC DUVAL

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Hundreds of thousands of people jammed the streets here February 7 to celebrate the inauguration of Jean-Bertrand Aristide as president of Haiti. Aristide won the December 16, 1990, elections by a landslide. He is a prominent opponent of dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier and the repressive regimes that have ruled Haiti since Duvalier's overthrow five years ago.

Throughout the day, groups of hundreds of participants broke into dancing marches, chanting songs of support for Aristide. They warned the armed forces to keep their hands off the new president. Thousands wore printed or handmade headbands and hats with the slogan, "Alone we are weak, together we are strong — all together we are a torrent."