

MARCH 14, 1980

50 CENTS

VOLUME 44/NUMBER 9

# THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

## Say no to draft All out March 22!

—PAGES 3-5



How  
Afghan  
war  
news  
is faked

—PAGE 6

## NOW calls nat'l march for ERA: Chicago, May 11

The National Organization for Women has called a national march for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in Chicago on the weekend of Mothers Day, May 11. The action is announced on the front page of the March issue of *National NOW Times*.

The march will be the culmination of ERA activities in Illinois this spring. A labor conference for the ERA is slated for April 26.

The Chicago Coalition of Labor Union Women is working with NOW to build the spring activities. The United Steelworkers District 31 Women's Conference last

month voted unanimously to endorse the labor conference and march.

At a February 16 Detroit-area conference on "Labor's Case for the ERA," NOW representative Ruth Whitney announced the spring campaign for ERA ratification in Illinois to an enthusiastic audience. She stressed the importance of labor in other states building this action.

Illinois is the only northern industrial state that has not ratified the ERA. A massive turnout in Chicago can break through the log jam on ratification and give powerful impetus to winning ERA.



## Behind Carter's flip-flop on U.N. vote

Seven months after the Andrew Young affair, the Carter administration is once again embroiled in an embarrassing flap over its Mideast policy.

On March 1, U.N. Ambassador Donald McHenry voted with all the other United Nations Security Council members for a resolution that "strongly deplores" Israel's settlement policy in the occupied West Bank—Arab territories captured by the Zionists in the 1967 war.

Three days later, the White House said the vote had been an error, the result of a "failure in communications" between Washington and McHenry's office in New York. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is now taking the blame. But almost no one believes the White House account.

What is the underlying cause of this gaffe?

To portray it as personal bumbling or indecisiveness on Carter's part misses the point. Underlying the administration's floundering Mideast policy is the overall weakening of U.S. imperialism in the region since the Iranian revolution.

On the one hand, the overthrow of the shah drove home Washington's dependence on the Zionist state as its only reliable ally in the Mideast, the only one that can be counted on to protect imperialist interests against the Arab revolution. This holds true regardless of tactical differences between Washington and Tel Aviv.

On the other hand, Iran also showed the limits on the ability of either Washington or Israel to intervene with military force at any given moment.

So Washington must also try to defuse the explosive potential of the Arab revolution. The imperialists hope to convince the Palestinian and Arab masses that gains can be made in alliance with Washington.

Hence the need for Washington to take some distance from the most extreme policies of the Begin government of Israel.

But whenever the issue is pressed, Washington will side with its basic ally, Israel.

Washington will never seriously pressure Israel to pull back from its expansionism and aggressive opposition to Palestinian rights. These policies are built into the nature of the colonial-settler state, and Washington knows it.

The settlements policy goes to the heart of the problem. Israel was founded through such expansionist policies, that is, taking lands from the Arabs, and then expelling them. Replying to Israeli critics of the settlements, Israeli Agricultural Minister Ariel Sharon recently said that the current-day settlers "are really fulfilling what their parents [the Zionist pioneers] were doing."

Only the American working class can force an end to U.S. backing for Israel's outrageous violations of Palestinian rights.

Stop all U.S. aid to Israel!

## Bogota justice

This is justice in Colombia:

A dissident city council member is arrested by the military. His corpse is later released by the army. He has been tortured.

Students are picked up by the military police. Their bodies turn up later on deserted roads.

Government-backed terror squads gun down trade unionists and other "trouble-makers."

A group of 350 people is tried by a military tribunal on charges of belonging to guerrilla organizations. They are denied any opportunity to defend themselves. Their trial judge also commands the most infamous torture center in Colombia. All are convicted.

When union leaders and civil libertarians protest, President Turbay Ayala threatens them with repressive measures.

Since Turbay Ayala invoked the "security statute" in September 1978, a month after taking office, the shreds of human rights that

existed in Colombia have been under siege.

That is why a group of youth seized the Dominican Republic's Embassy in Bogotá, Colombia, and now holds dozens of diplomats hostage. Eighteen months of Turbay Ayala's repression evidently convinced them that only extreme measures would get a response.

They are demanding that the government free several hundred political prisoners. They want an end to torture and legalized murder.

These demands deserve support. They ought to be granted without delay.

## Iran: truth will out

On Sunday, March 2, the popular television news program, *60 Minutes*, confirmed every major charge the Iranian people have made against the U.S. government.

In answering the question, "Why has the taking of the American hostages received such massive support from Iran's people," reporter Mike Wallace revealed the following:

- The CIA put the shah back in power in 1953.

- The CIA organized SAVAK, the shah's secret police, and trained its agents in "interrogation techniques."

- Torture on a massive scale was practiced under the shah.

- The U.S. embassy deliberately suppressed information about this in order to support the shah.

- The U.S. still harbors SAVAK agents responsible for the death of hundreds of people.

- The U.S. government planned to admit the shah months before his alleged illness, knowing that this would produce an explosion in Iran.

On March 4, members of the family of hostage John Earl Graves demanded that Carter apologize to Iran for the U.S. government's actions.

"We're going to have to admit to what past administrations did in Iran," said Graves's daughter, Lizette.

"We have to stop meddling in other people's affairs," said Bonnie Graves, the hostage's wife. "We can't continue in our neocolonialist approach."

The revelations on *60 Minutes* point to the only just solution to the hostage crisis: send back the shah!

## Militant Highlights This Week

- 3 Pulley: All out March 22
- 5 Antidraft movement and Afghanistan Sales drive to build March 22
- 6 Kabul 'uprising': what really happened?
- 7 Iran workers rally at U.S. Embassy
- 8 Zimbabwe victory for liberation forces
- 9 Record safety violations at Va. shipyard
- 10 Socialist assails FBI in KKK bombing
- 11 Campaign fund drive
- 12 Women steelworkers fight layoffs
- 13 Socialist hits Congress on Nicaragua bill
- 16 Appeals board hears Marroquin case
- 17 Leadership school begins sessions
- 18 Fla. nuclear accident
- 20 Labor campaign in Quebec
- 22 Cuba shows way against racism
- 23 Tanks overflow but oil prices soar
- 10 Hear Socialist Workers Candidates
- 11 Campaigning for Socialism
- 18 No Nukes!
- 24 In Review
- 25 The Great Society By Any Means Necessary What's Going On
- 26 Our Revolutionary Heritage Letters
- 27 Learning About Socialism



### Full aid to Nicaragua

Socialist vice-presidential candidate Matilde Zimmermann charges U.S. Congress is holding reconstruction funds hostage. **Page 13.**

### Chicago fire fighters

Labor forms coalition to back striking unionists. **Page 9.**



### Steel women and layoffs

USWA District 31 Women's Conference discussed how to fight attacks on affirmative-action hiring gains. **Page 12.**



## The Militant

Editor: STEVE CLARK

Associate Editors: CINDY JAQUITH

ANDY ROSE

Business Manager: PETER SEIDMAN

Editorial Staff: Nancy Cole, Fred Feldman, Jim Garrison, Suzanne Haig, Osborne Hart, Gus Horowitz, Diane Jacobs, August Nimtz, Harry Ring, Dick Roberts, Priscilla Schenk, Stu Singer.

Published weekly by the Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone: Editorial Office, (212) 243-6392; Business Office, (212) 929-3486.

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to The Militant Business Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y. Subscriptions: U.S. \$20.00 a year, outside U.S. \$25.00. By first-class mail: U.S., Canada, and Mexico: \$50.00. Write for airmail rates to all other countries.

For subscriptions airfreighted to London and then posted to Britain and Ireland: £3.00 for ten issues, £6.00 for six months (twenty-four issues), £11.00 for one year (forty-eight issues). Posted from London to Continental Europe: £4.50 for ten issues, £10.00 for six months, £15.00 for one year. Send checks or international money order (payable to Intercontinental Press account) to Intercontinental Press (The Militant), P.O. Box 50, London N1 2XP, England.

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



# Nat'l antidraft march gathers momentum

By Suzanne Haig

Teach-ins, rallies, bus ticket sales, and other activities are under way to build the March 22 National Demonstration against Registration and the Draft in Washington, D.C.

The Mobilization Against the Draft office in Washington has printed leaflets and posters, which are finding their way onto telephone poles and campus bulletin boards across the country.

International Women's Day, March 8, has become part of the antidraft fight this year with actions stressing women's opposition to the draft for both sexes.

The mobilization office has announced that the March 22 speakers list will include: Bella Abzug, Rev. Ben Chavis, Washington City Councilperson Hilda Mason, Stokely Carmichael, Rev. William Coffin, Michael Harrington of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, Maggie Kuhn of the Grey Panthers, Rev. Barry Lynn of Committee against Registration and the Draft, Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), Rep. Robert Kastenmeier (R-Wis.), and Rep. Theodore Weiss (D-N.Y.).

## North to south

Colleges and high schools in New York City are targeting the first half of March for teach-ins to build March 22. The schedule includes Hunter College on March 5; Stuyvesant High School, March 17; a twelve-hour teach-in at New York University, March 8; Brooklyn College, March 3 and 5; Cooper Union, March 4; and nightly forums for a week at Columbia University.

Buses to Washington are being or-



Poster issued by Mobilization Against the Draft

ganized from the mobilization office in New York City.

Thirty people, primarily Newark, New Jersey, high school students, at-

tended a planning meeting February 29 called by the Youth Committee Against the Draft.

Their plans include a petitioning

campaign, assemblies in high schools, and a March 20 rally outside Central High School in Newark.

In Baltimore buses are being organized citywide by the Americans Friends Service Committee and at Johns Hopkins University, where fifty to sixty people have already signed up.

Antidraft sentiment is high there. A recent campus poll showed 70 percent of the student body against the draft.

A meeting on Women, the ERA, and the Draft will be held there March 16. Speakers include Caroline Finney, chair of Baltimore National Organization for Women's minority women's task force; Octavia Roberts, Central Labor Council ERA Committee chair; Matilde Zimmermann, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. vice-president; and others. It is co-sponsored by the women's caucus of Maryland CARD and Johns Hopkins CARD.

Campus planning meetings are also scheduled at City College of Baltimore, University of Maryland School of Social Work, and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

In addition a petition is being circulated at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point plant.

Further south in Virginia, blizzard conditions did not keep antidraft activists from contacting religious figures, Black, labor, and student groups to attend a planning meeting at the Unitarian Church in Norfolk March 8 to organize support for March 22 in the Tidewater area.

Fifty people representing a number of organizations formed Atlanta CARD on February 29. They have reserved three buses.

Three campus groups in Atlanta are organizing against the draft. Two are at Atlanta University: the National Black Student Association and the Black Students Coalition of Atlanta, which had a successful picket line around the campus February 29. The third is at Georgia State College.

## Midwest

The St. Louis Coalition Against the Draft called a successful demonstration of 350 people February 16. Participating in the march was a spirited group of steelworkers from American Steel Foundry in Granite City, Illinois.

Young socialists who are active in the draft coalition brought leaflets and antidraft buttons to their co-workers at the plant, who were so interested that they decided to form a contingent for the march.

The steelworkers pooled their money for a banner reading "Steelworkers Against the Draft," which was well received by the other demonstrators.

Union activity is also occurring in Detroit. The political/legislative committee of the United Auto Workers

*Continued on next page*

## Andrew Pulley: 'All out for March 22!'

March 5—Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president, called today for "the largest possible turnout" at the March 22 demonstrations against the draft.

"Come to Washington," Pulley urged. "Bring your neighbors, your friends, your workmates. Help build and publicize the demonstration throughout your community."

The socialist candidate said that "demonstrations like the one scheduled March 22 can stop the draft. When Carter made his proposal, he was testing to see what the public reaction would be.

"It's up to all of us to show that we object. Strongly!

"If enough of us do so, we can stop the draft, just as earlier we

helped stop the war in Vietnam."

Pulley also urged all who could to participate actively in the preparatory work "so necessary to make the demonstration a success."

"I ask all my campaign supporters," he said, "to get involved. Join the coalitions building the march. Help churn out the publicity, organize the buses, reach out to the high schools, colleges, and community groups. There's also a big new potential for getting union support and bringing young workers to march on Washington.

"Let's all pitch in and do what's needed."

"All out for March 22!—that's my main campaign slogan for the next two and a half weeks," the socialist said.



Militant/Arnold Weissberg  
ANDREW PULLEY

**Keep up  
with the  
struggle...  
Subscribe today**



### THE MILITANT

- ( ) \$2.50—ten weeks (new subscribers only)
- ( ) \$5—four months
- ( ) \$12—six months
- ( ) \$20—one year

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Send to: 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

### PERSPECTIVA MUNDIAL

Biweekly Spanish-language socialist magazine

- ( ) \$5—five months
- ( ) \$12—one year

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Send to: 408 West Street, New York, New York 10014.



# Widening protests shake plans for draft

By Gus Horowitz

When President Carter came before Congress on January 23 to deliver his State of the Union address, he received a hearty ovation.

His appeal for economic sacrifice at home and increased military power abroad, including plans to register young people for the draft, seemed to strike just the right chord among the assembled senators and representatives. They were not being called upon to sacrifice their own lives or well-being, to be sure, and were quite willing to see how the idea went over with the rest of us.

They soon found out.

The student movement, about which so many obituaries had been written in the mass media, took on new life. Demonstrators by the thousands, in all parts of the country, showed that antidraft feeling on the campuses runs high.

Similar sentiment is reported among young workers in the plants. William Winpisinger, president of the International Association of Machinists, said he views the draft registration proposal as risking the alienation of another generation of American youth.

Significantly, Winpisinger and George Hardy, president of the Service Employees International Union, voted against the AFL-CIO executive council's pro-draft position. This contrasts with the usual pro-war consensus in the top councils of the AFL-CIO. It is a sure sign that the dissident officials perceive a widespread antiwar mood in the ranks.

Blacks and Latinos, who suffered a disproportionately large percentage of the dead and wounded in Vietnam, are

incensed at the draft registration proposals. Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said February 21: "Let them draft the rich old men who are always making decisions to send poor young men to die."

Young women, who for the first time face the possibility of being drafted, have been strongly represented in the antidraft demonstrations.

This growing movement against the draft shows that Carter is still far from his objective of reversing the antiwar sentiment that arose during the Vietnam war era.

In fact, the antidraft protests today are as large as most of the protests that developed against the Vietnam war in 1965 and 1966, in many cases larger; and they are much more widespread geographically. The involvement of women, Blacks, and Latinos is more developed. The fact that there are already dissenting positions by labor officials on all levels is a stage far in advance of the early years of the movement against the Vietnam War.

## Problems in Congress

These signs of persistent antiwar feeling have caused problems for Carter in Congress, where several legislators have been prompted to object.

On February 26, their objections, combined with those of the hawks, who say that Carter's war plans don't go far enough, caused a tie vote on the measure in a House of Representatives appropriations subcommittee. This will cause the measure to be debated in the committee as a whole. The House must approve funding before the draft registration plan can go into effect.

The presidential race has also been affected as Edward Kennedy, his campaign faltering, decided to criticize the plan, and began picking up votes in the New Hampshire primary as his position became known. Although Kennedy lost, the very fact that a leading contender for the nomination could consider an antidraft stance as beneficial to his campaign is an acknowledgement that antidraft attitudes are widespread.

In announcing his registration plan, President Carter argued that it was a necessary precaution in case the draft itself was required in the future. White House representatives said that it would save up to 100 days of mobilization time.

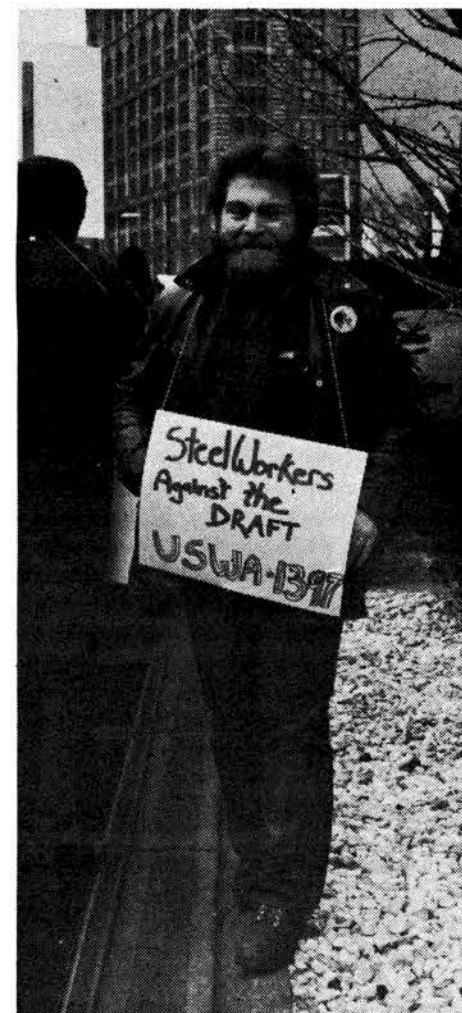
This argument was exposed as fraudulent on February 25 when Senator Mark Hatfield released a recent report by the Director of Selective Service himself, stating that the difference would be only seven days.

Why, then, did Carter even announce the registration plan?

## Test

It was a test: to probe the willingness of young people to go along, and to continue prodding working people into accepting Washington's pro-war foreign policy.

The *New York Times* explained this explicitly in a February 10 editorial: "At the moment, we see only one powerful reason to ask young Americans to register for an eventual military draft: to demonstrate that the public, and especially the generation that grew up with Vietnam, is once more ready to contemplate conscription for military action abroad."



Militant/Susie Beck

Involvement of union activists is sign of potential power of new antidraft movement.

The *Times* editorial indicates how high are the stakes involved. If the antidraft protests continue, if they spread and grow larger, then it will be a clear demonstration of the very opposite that the *Times* hopes for.

It will show that the generation that grew up with Vietnam is no more ready to contemplate conscription for military action abroad than their predecessors of the 1960s.

Carter's draft registration proposal is clearly in trouble, not only in Congress, but also, and more importantly, among the tens of millions of working people who do not want to get involved in new Vietnam wars.

The registration plan is not doomed to defeat, however. Rather, a battle is shaping up. As the Vietnam antiwar experience showed, the outcome of this battle will be decided primarily by the actions that take place in the streets, and by the overall mood of opposition that these actions generate and reinforce among the population as a whole.

It is in that spirit that antidraft activists are working to bring the largest possible turnout to the March 22 antidraft demonstration in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere.

## NO DRAFT!

Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann, Socialist Workers Party candidates for president and vice-president, are campaigning against Washington's plans to send American youth to fight and die in new Vietnams. Join us!

- ☐ Add my name to the list of Young Socialists for Pulley and Zimmermann.
- ☐ Send me Andrew Pulley's brochure, How to stop the draft—4¢ a copy.
- ☐ Send me the campaign poster "No draft"—3¢ a copy.
- ☐ Send me the YSPZ antidraft button—50¢ each, 35¢ each for 10 or more.
- ☐ Send me a one-year subscription to the *Young Socialist* newspaper. Enclosed is \$1.

- ☐ I want to join the Young Socialist Alliance.

A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C.

A federal court ruling allows us not to disclose the names of contributors in order to protect their First Amendment rights.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Union/School/org. \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014

## Join the YSA!



## ...nat'l march

Continued from preceding page

Region 1 Youth Council met February 23 and decided to hold a speakout on the draft after March 22. It will include the Region 1 Women's Council.

Detroit CARD has reserved three buses for Washington. Two high schools are starting CARD chapters and are planning a day to sell tags reading "no registration, no draft" at school to raise money for the buses.

Chicago CARD has called a rally for Friday, March 21, at the Daley Plaza to send off the buses for Washington and provide a focus for people not able to go.

CARD and other groups have called a picket line in Cincinnati March 15 at the post office. Buses are being reserved.

A March 15 march and rally are also planned in Milwaukee by the Wisconsin Committee Against the Draft.

St. Paul, Minnesota, will hold a March 22 action to coincide with the national march.

Rallies and teach-ins have occurred at Macalester College, Collegeville, the College of St. Benedict, and St. Johns University in Minnesota.

## Out West

March 22 was endorsed by acclamation by 400 participants at a teach-in sponsored by some thirty groups at the University of Colorado in Boulder February 29-March 2.

They also endorsed an International Women's Day Stop the Draft rally on March 8.

The West Coast Mobilization against the Draft has called a March 22 action in San Francisco. San Francisco State College plans a rally March 12 and a forum March 19 to build for the action.

Teach-ins have been held at University of California, Berkeley, March 4, and Laney College, February 28.

Organizers for the March 22 action in Los Angeles have announced two of their speakers. They are Vietnam Veterans leader Ron Kovic and Rev. James Lawson, vice-president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, western region.

In Seattle, Washington, 500 people rallied February 23 in an action organized by Seattle CARD.

A state-wide demonstration is planned for March 15 in Olympia.

For further information on these and

other actions, for posters, leaflets, or bus information contact Mobilization against the Draft:

In Washington, D.C. (202) 234-6883  
In New York City (212) 260-2002  
In San Francisco (415) 731-9378.

## Antiwar activist framed-up

PORTLAND—Frank Giese, a 63-year-old Vietnam antiwar activist framed-up on charges of conspiracy to bomb military recruitment buildings in 1973, was sentenced February 22 to two and a half years in jail plus a \$5,000 fine.

Giese, a former French professor at Portland State University, was convicted in 1974 on the basis of flimsy evidence from two witnesses arrested before him. One testified against Giese to reduce his own bond; the other later admitted to lying.

Major evidence at the trial consisted of radical books, some used as college texts, found at the defendants' homes.

Giese had lost his appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court in December, and was appealing to U.S. District Judge James Burns for a reduction of his sentence to the ten weeks he had already served.

Giese and his supporters, who packed the courtroom and adjacent hallways, were stunned to hear the judge's decision to cut the original sentence only in half.



# Should antidraft movement take a position on Afghanistan?

By Paul Mailhot

The March 22 antidraft protest in Washington, D.C., can be an important blow to Carter's efforts to turn American youth into raw material for new Vietnams.

The slogans of the demonstration are: No registration! No draft! No war! They express convictions that are attracting support from college and high school students, Black and women's rights activists, unionists, and others.

The key to building the most effective antidraft action March 22 is to unite in action as many people as possible. This is also a vital need for going on from March 22 to build a movement that can stop the draft and other war moves by the Carter administration.

Most materials issued by the Mobilization Against the Draft headquarters

Paul Mailhot is National Organization Secretary of the Young Socialist Alliance.

in Washington, D.C., contribute to this goal—such as the leaflet and poster building March 22.

But the call issued by majority vote of the mobilization steering committee has important weaknesses.

While stressing the antidraft focus of March 22 and reaffirming the central slogans, the call states:

"We forthrightly condemn the taking of hostages in Iran and support the call for an international tribunal to investigate the crimes of the shah. We oppose the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, as we oppose all violations of self-determination and national independence." It adds, "Draft registration is inappropriate and would not have prevented either crisis in any case."

It was incorrect, we think, to attempt to present these stands as the considered position of the March 22 antidraft demonstrators. Discussion of

these questions by antidraft activists is just beginning.

Caution is especially warranted since the information most Americans are getting about Iran and Afghanistan is coming from the very government and establishment press that are trying to stampede us into accepting the draft. (For examples of how the news media lie about Afghanistan, see page 6.)

A significant number of antidraft activists—including members of the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, Communist Party, Young Workers Liberation League, Workers World Party, and others—strongly differ with the position taken in the call.

Many more are still making up their minds.

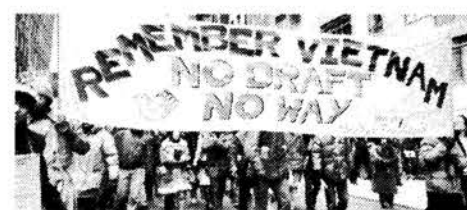
The rush to judgment on Iran and Afghanistan by the authors of the call did not go over very well in some local antidraft coalitions that are building March 22. In Cleveland, Washington, D.C., and New York, coalitions decided that such statements are out of place in a call for united antidraft action.

In our opinion, the controversial passage is wrong on every count. It makes an unwarranted concession to the Carter administration's claim that the Iranian masses, the Afghan government, and the Soviet Union are threats to peace requiring a response by Washington.

It contains an implicit estimate that the targets of the Carter administration's ire may be equally to blame for the war danger.

In the case of Iran, growing numbers of Americans are beginning to realize that Carter provoked the hostage crisis by bringing the shah to the United States. Condemnation of Iran is especially out of place considering that Carter has sent the largest naval armada in the world (and, most recently, 1,800 marines) to threaten that country.

As for Afghanistan, the paragraph implies that the right-wing rebels—not the Afghan government—represent the "self-determination and independence" of the Afghan people. This, of course, is what Carter and the media have



been trying to drum into our heads.

And the paragraph passes over the now-public drive by Washington to bring down the Kabul government, including the CIA's provision of arms and other help to the rightists. Doesn't this violate the "self-determination and independence" of Afghanistan?

The statement that the draft "would not have prevented either crisis" may be read as implying that the authors would favor military measures if they could be shown to be effective weapons against Iran, Afghanistan, and the Soviet Union.

We think few antidraft activists want to be committed to a hastily adopted stand on Afghanistan or Iran without thorough discussion.

A similar debate arose during the struggle to end the war in Vietnam.

After U.S. forces began to be sent to South Vietnam in the early 1960s, some in the peace movement insisted that antiwar actions must "equally" condemn both the U.S. government and the North Vietnamese.

The Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance were among those who insisted that, to be effective, an American antiwar movement must direct its fire at the U.S. government. And we explained that there was much more to the Vietnamese struggle than was being presented in the U.S. media.

In the course of discussions, debates, and the test of events, a big majority of the organized antiwar movement came to share this view. Millions learned that the Vietnamese were fighting a just struggle for national liberation and social progress. Teach-ins to get out the facts about Vietnam helped the educational process.

Today, antidraft teach-ins and other educational activities, such as those called for by the United States Student Association, can be a good format for airing viewpoints and getting out facts. This can provide activists with powerful arguments against Carter's justifications for the draft.

As discussions continue, the building of the biggest possible demonstration March 22 remains top priority.

All out for March 22!

If you oppose Carter's plan for draft registration, you'll want to read this book.



*Out Now! A Participant's Account of the American Movement Against the Vietnam War.* By Fred Halstead.

"A vivid and valuable account of a mass popular movement that had a tremendous impact on modern history... an important contribution..." Noam Chomsky

"Out Now! brings back vividly the whole story of the struggle to end

the Vietnam War..." Dr. Benjamin Spock

If you're interested in preventing another Vietnam, read *Out Now!*

A Monad Press book, 759 pages, \$8.95 (include 75¢ for postage). Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, New York 10014.

## Militant, PM sales drive to build March 22

By Peter Seidman

Next week members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance begin an eight-week drive to sell single copies and subscriptions of the *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication *Perspectiva Mundial*.

This sales campaign opens during a week of intense activity leading up to the March 22 national march against the draft.

To help build this action, many branches and chapters of the SWP and YSA will take larger than usual bundles of papers to sell.

Some areas, with big responsibilities for petitioning to put the 1980 presidential ticket of the SWP on the ballot, may schedule special target weeks for later in the drive instead.

This spring will be a good time for circulating the socialist press. There have already been significant demonstrations like the one against Klan violence in Greensboro, North Carolina, on February 2.

And there are a lot more such actions coming up, beginning with March 22 and continuing through the April 26 protest against nuclear power in Washington, D.C., and the Chicago Mothers Day action for the Equal Rights Amendment on May 11.

This spring and summer, SWP campaign supporters will have even more chances to sell their campaign papers at actions like these, as well as while petitioning to put their 1980 presidential and vice-presidential candidates,

Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann on the ballot in thirty states.

Petitioning for ballot status—a top priority for all SWP branches this election year—will take a lot of time and energy.

Nonetheless, as the scoreboard indicates, when they're not petitioning, most SWP branches and YSA chapters plan to sell roughly the same number of papers per week as during last fall's circulation drive.

Branches also plan to sell about the same number of subs per month as last fall—except, again, when petitioning. Socialists will pay special attention during the drive to maintaining their progress with industrial sales at plant gates and on the job. These were 16 percent of last fall's total sales.

Weekly *PM* goals reported so far this spring are somewhat lower than last fall.

The issue of *PM* sold during the first week of the sales drive (number five), should give a real boost to this aspect of the campaign. Features include an interview with Andrew Pulley on his recent trip to Cuba and an interview with one of the leaders of the freedom struggles now rocking El Salvador.

A new goal of this circulation drive is to increase collaboration between the SWP and YSA on sales of the *Young Socialist*, monthly paper of the YSA.

We invite all readers of the *Militant* to join our spring sales cam-

paign. To get involved, contact the SWP or YSA branch nearest you (see page 27). Or you can order bundles of five or more papers at

35¢ per copy from: Militant Circulation Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone: (212) 929-3486.

### Projected sales goals

City	Papers per week			Subs
	Militant	PM	Subs	
Albany	73	2	25	
Albuquerque	115	25	30	
Atlanta	100		25	
Baltimore	80		20	
Boston	150		40	
Chicago	215	35	50	
Cincinnati	80		15	
Cleveland	70		15	
Dallas	80	20	25	
Denver	86	14	20	
Detroit	210	10	100	
Gary	90	10	25	
Houston	60		25	
Indianapolis	75		15	
Iron Range	70		35	
Kansas City	100	7	35	
Los Angeles	275		70	
Louisville	80		25	
Miami	70	10	15	
Milwaukee	90	10	35	
Morgantown	80		30	
New Orleans	75	5	40	
New York City				
Brooklyn	80	10	25	
Lower Manhattan	60		40	30
Upper Manhattan	95		30	40
Newark	140		20	30
Philadelphia	135		25	60
Phoenix	100		25	25
Piedmont	90			20
Pittsburgh	185			50
Portland	85			20
Salt Lake City	110		5	20
San Antonio	60		25	25
San Diego	120		20	40
San Jose	90			25
Seattle	152		8	30
St. Louis	95			20
Tacoma	110			20
Tidewater	80			25
Toledo	60			15
Twin Cities	175			80
Washington, DC	100		50	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,446</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>1,340</b>	
<b>TOTAL PAPERS/WEEK</b>	<b>4,852</b>			

NOT REPORTING GOALS: Birmingham, Oakland/Berkeley, San Francisco.



# Kabul 'uprising': what really happened?

By Fred Feldman

The extent of the antigovernment actions that began in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on February 21 is still difficult to ascertain.

But one thing is certain. The merchants' strike and armed actions carried out by rightists in Kabul were encouraged—if not actually instigated—by Washington.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's national security adviser, indicated he was in on the plans when he posed for a photo with Afghan rightist guerrillas during a February 3 visit to the Khyber Pass in Pakistan. "It'll be a historic photo," Brzezinski promised. "Three weeks before the march on Kabul."

The Afghan government charged that agents of the American, Chinese, and Pakistani governments were involved in the disturbances. On February 22 it announced that it had arrested a U.S. citizen as a CIA agent. His name has been variously given in news reports as Robert Lee and Robert Lezzard.

The State Department denied the charge, stating that Lee-Lezzard had merely been looking for a teaching job in Kabul.

But a February 20 news release from *Counterspy* magazine suggested a different story.

It quoted a left-wing Indian newspaper as charging that the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan was the site of a CIA task force. "The recent spurt in counter-revolutionary activities on the Pak-Afghan border is apparently the handiwork of this team . . . under the overall command of R. Lessard."

*Counterspy* stated that it "has documented that Robert P. Lessard is a CIA officer" who "served in Iran for the exceptionally long time of 10 years."

## Merchants' strike

From most accounts the clashes in Kabul began with a merchants' and shopkeepers' strike on February 21, which reportedly shut down most stores and the main market in the capital.

By February 22 the merchants' strike was accompanied by armed demonstrations and attacks on government and party offices. The same day, the government of Babrak Karmal declared martial law in the city, barring unauthorized public gatherings of more than four persons.

The Afghan army and civilian militia took up positions through the city. According to the March 1 *New York Times*, the "uprising" was over by February 23. Within a few days the businessmen's strike, too, was over.

Demonstrations predicted for February 29 never took place.

Several reports stated that leaflets distributed in Kabul had threatened violence against shopkeepers who did not join the strike.

As part of Washington's propaganda campaign against Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, the U.S. media seized on unrest in Kabul as proof of massive opposition to the Karmal government and the Soviet presence.

All manner of rumors and outright fabrications were presented as facts.

Many of the reports were based on dispatches originating from Pakistan and India. The Western reporters based in Kabul were restricted to the Inter-Continental Hotel throughout the

period of the strike. Only two actually claimed to have travelled through parts of the city. Although they described some damage said to have been caused by the fighting, they did not see any demonstrations or battles.

## Fabricated accounts

The claim that thousands participated in antigovernment actions is thus based on unsubstantiated accounts originating from unnamed sources (including pro-American "diplomatic officials").

Published estimates by the U.S. media of the number killed in the fighting varied wildly—from three in a *Washington Post* report on the first day of the two-day "uprising," to 50 in the March 3 *Time* magazine, to 200 in the March 1 *New York Times*, to many hundreds more in some other journals.

The February 29 issue of the *Newark, New Jersey, Star Ledger* carried a front-page headline proclaiming "1,000 Afghans machine-gunned in reprisal."

But the same day's issue of the *New York Times* was forced to admit that this accusation was a fabrication. A Kabul dispatch stated, "Some Western diplomats and independent Afghan sources expressed skepticism about reports from Islamabad, Pakistan, that the Afghan Government of Babrak Karmal had begun putting Moslem Shiite rebels to death. They said they had heard nothing to suggest that summary executions had taken place."

Washington claims that the conflict in Afghanistan is basically between the Soviet army on one side and the entire Afghan population on the other. But the press has been forced to acknowledge that it was Afghan troops and militia that contained the right-wing attacks in Kabul.

"Soviet and Afghan helicopters flew over rebel areas, but at no point did reporters see the helicopters or jets open fire," reported the March 1 *New York Times*.

"Apart from light tanks backing heavier Afghan armor, the air activity appeared to be the limit of the Soviet role."

## Civil war

Actually the conflict in Afghanistan is fundamentally a civil war. On one side are the Afghan government and the workers and peasants. On the other side are right-wing guerrilla forces, led by dispossessed landlords, opium smugglers, and similar types. Their aim is to turn back the land reform that the government has carried out, reimpose discriminatory restrictions on women, and crush the struggles of Afghan working people.

Despite the sketchiness of the reports, it looks as though the outcome of the "march on Kabul" proclaimed by Brzezinski left the reactionaries still far from their goal.

# How Afghan war news is faked

The following article by Victor Malarek, showing how the media have manufactured news reports about 'heroic Afghan freedom fighters,' appeared on the front page of the February 9 *Toronto 'Globe and Mail'*.

PESHAWAR, Pakistan—The door was flung open from the inside by a fierce-looking Afghan freedom fighter wearing an old weather-beaten army coat, a black turban and toting a rifle with fixed bayonet.

He was bathed in the glare of spotlight set up behind him in the room.



'Say cheese!' Afghan rightists in Pakistan strike heroic poses for Western photographers.

The scene: the headquarters of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, situated in a reeking slum on the outskirts of Peshawar.

"No, no. Stop!" a cameraman shouted as his colleague, an Australian reporter, stepped into the room. "He did it all wrong."

"You!" the cameraman called out, pointing at the bewildered guerrilla fighter. "You will come to the door from that side. Don't put your back to the camera. He will ask for your leader and you will take him into the office. Carry your rifle in your hands like this—it looks more effective."

"Explain that to him, please," the cameraman said, waving to a translator for the Islamic Party.

The guerrilla nodded and the ever-smiling reporter trotted back outside.

"This is great stuff, mate," he said as he noticed me leaning against a wall near the doorway. "I'll only be a minute, then they'll be yours. I'm with 60 Minutes in Australia. Who are you with? Got to go. Talk to you in a minute."

Again the reporter rapped on the door. It opened, the camera was rolling and news was in the making.

Scenes like this are taking place all over Peshawar, where guerrilla groups from Afghanistan have set up provisional headquarters to plan strategies to win back their homeland from invading Soviet forces.

Reporters, cameramen and photographers from around the world—Canada, the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, the Netherlands, Japan and Finland—are here.

And what is obvious, even in the short while I've been here, is that many of them are inventing stories and shooting "action" films and photographs that rightly should be captioned simulated.

Reporters don't bother to question the flimsiest claims made by various guerrilla leaders.

A reporter from the Netherlands said: "This place makes colorful copy. The readers will love it. Who cares if there's a bit of show? Anyway, these Afghans have a legitimate cause and could use a little help."

As I arrived at a makeshift hospital for wounded mujahedeen—Moslem warriors—a West German news crew had just wrapped up a shooting session.

An interpreter for the Islamic Party took me into rooms where 11 men lay on bamboo cots. Only five had obvious injuries.

One had what looked like a badly sprained or broken ankle.

"This mujahedeen was hit by a Russian bullet during a battle near Jalalabad," the party spokesman said.

A second man, whose arms were paralyzed, was also reportedly hit by a Soviet bullet.

Two other mujahedeen had casts on their legs and a fifth wore a bandage, so it was difficult to see their bullet wounds.

But the first two bore no signs of bullet entries. No scars, no broken flesh.

When this was pointed out to the Afghan interpreter, he said calmly but firmly: "These mujahedeen have been wounded by Russians as I told you."

The following day, I met the cameraman for the West German news crew at the press office operated by the Pakistani Government. No journalist can visit the guerrilla headquarters or refugee camps without clearance from this office.

The Pakistani press administrator asked the cameraman: "Where is your news fellow?"

"He's making up his commentary for the shooting we did yesterday," the cameraman replied with a laugh.

I asked if he believed the injuries of some of the wounded at the hospital were caused by bullets.

"No. They were not made by bullets. No holes. You have got to have a hole or scar for a bullet wound."

Asked if the news reporter had questioned the claims made by the group, the cameraman said: "No. He's not interested in facts, just a story." He laughed.

At the hotel where most of the journalists are staying, several cameramen loudly joked in a bar for foreigners about the fictional approaches their respective reporters were taking to stories.

Guerrilla factions are always offering to take journalists into Afghanistan. At Jamiat-i-Islami Party headquarters, the leaders agreed to make the trip there with five reporters and photographers and me.

After accepting, I learned the journey would not be to areas where the mujahedeen are confronting Soviet forces.

"We are taking you to places where there are mujahedeen forces near the border. We cannot take you to where the Russians are. It will take too long to get there," said a spokesman for the group.

I told him I wasn't interested in a public relations tour set up specifically for the press. He asked me to leave.

What about some of those stirring photographs you've no doubt seen in some newspapers of bands of mujahedeen patrolling mountainous regions of Afghanistan, rifles in hand?

One thing you quickly learn here is how easy it is to set up such pictures.

So-called mujahedeen will pose gladly for that kind of photo without ever leaving Pakistan. Moreover, a number of photographers have been hoodwinked into thinking they were actually taken to Afghanistan to get shots of insurgents.

Several reporters from reputable newspapers and wire services are miffed at the unprofessional conduct of some of their colleagues.

"There's a lot of bull going on. It's too bad. But what can you do?" a UPI reporter said.

An English reporter added: "I just hope it's not too widespread. It's stuff like that that gives us all a bad name."



## Back students, demand shah's return

# Iran workers rally at U.S. Embassy

By Suzanne Haig

While the news media here continue to speculate about when and how the hostages will be released from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the real developments in Iran are being virtually ignored.

Little is reported about the thousands of crippled and maimed Iranians, tortured under the shah, who are testifying before the United Nations Commission in Tehran.

Nor has the press given much space to the fact that everywhere commission members go thousands of Iranians come out into the streets expressing their hatred of U.S. imperialism and demanding the return of the shah.

Yet the demand by millions of ordinary people like these that the shah be brought to justice is the reason why the hostages are still being held.

On February 27, two days after masses of Iranians marched past the U.S. Embassy to salute the students occupying it, tens of thousands of workers also marched to the embassy in a display of solidarity with the students.

This action was organized by the Islamic Workers Shora, which represents many factory shoras (committees) in the Tehran area.

More than fifty factories were represented by signs and banners, including the large Benz-Khaver auto assembly plant, where 7,000 workers are employed.

Some of the slogans were:

"United States—this is our last mes-

sage, the army of twenty million is ready to rise." (This is a reference to Khomeini's call last year for training and arming twenty million Iranians.)

"Conciliations—no. The workers are awake."

"Deals with the United States by any power are a betrayal of the people."

"The shah must be returned and executed."

"The capital of the plunderers must be nationalized in the interests of the toilers."

"The shoras are the trenches of the toilers and the shoras are the trenches of the oppressed."

"Conciliators should be expelled from the shoras."

At the end of the march, a twelve-point resolution was adopted. It included many of the anti-imperialist planks adopted at a similar demonstration last December: direct control of the factories, land reform in the interests of the peasants, nationalizations to free Iran from foreign economic domination.

"There should be nationalizations of all interests of the capitalists connected to imperialism, the plunderers and those who have escaped," the resolution declared. "A plan must be instituted in order to abolish capitalism in the interests of the oppressed and create a new Islamic economic order."

The resolution called for complete political, cultural, economic, and mil-

itary freedom from the United States.

Another plank requested that radio and television stations set aside special times to cover workers' struggles.

The workers also declared their support for Islamic liberation movements throughout the world, especially the Palestinian struggle.

The workers made no mention of the rightists guerrillas in Afghanistan, who are often falsely referred to as "Islamic revolutionaries."

In defense of the militant students, the workers called for continuing the exposures of documents found in the U.S. Embassy.

This powerful action by Iranian workers came just one week after the Iranian Ministry of Labor sponsored a seminar February 17-19 to draft statutes for the shoras. About 1,000 workers participated, representing shoras from throughout the country. They stressed the need for shoras to take on increased powers.

The anti-imperialist actions of the students have spurred on the further development of shoras in the factories and have also led to the call for their creation among members of the Iranian air force.

A five-day sit-in by 2,000 air force cadets at Tehran University's mosque demanded the formation of shoras and a thorough purge of the armed forces. Except for some top generals, much of the officer corps is the same as under the shah's dictatorship. The cadets accused senior officers of harboring pro-American sympathies.

They ended their demonstrations February 18 after receiving assurances from Ayatollah Khomeini that their grievances would be investigated.

The student militants' exposures have added weight to the cadets' charges.

## HKE prisoners moved to Tehran

Mahsa Hashemi and Fatima Fallahi, two Iranian women prisoners, were moved from Ahwaz to Tehran on February 27. This has been a request of their supporters, and is an encouraging sign.

They are members of the Iranian Revolutionary Workers Party (HKE) and longtime activists against the shah and U.S. imperialism.

Of the fourteen HKE activists jailed last summer, only these two are still being held.

Supporters of the Iranian revolution are circulating an appeal for their release. Signers include Prof. Rajai-e Bussailah, a Palestinian rights activist at Indiana University; and Phil Herrera, president of the Independent Municipal Employees Federation of Denver.

Messages should be sent to president Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, Tehran, Iran, and to Ahmad Janati, Islamic Revolutionary Court, Ahwaz, Iran.

# Rezaie family tortured, murdered by SAVAK

By Cindy Jaquith

President Carter refused at a news conference several weeks ago to give an answer to the question, was it right for the U.S. government to put the shah back in power in 1953?

Millions of Americans believe it was wrong. And the story of what the shah did to one Iranian family will convince even more.

When I visited Tehran last December, I interviewed Fatima Rezaie and her mother Zahra. The chilling story of terror, torture, and murder visited upon their family is a powerful indictment of the U.S. government's crimes in Iran.

The Iranian people opposed the return of the shah to power in 1953, but with the help of U.S. military and CIA advisors, Pahlavi was able to crush most of the opposition to his rule. By the early 1970s, however, the new generation of young people on the campuses and in the factories began to more openly challenge the police state they were forced to live under.

The Rezaie children were part of this generation. Because public opposition to the dictatorship meant instant death, they became involved in underground activities aimed at getting rid of the monarchy and bringing democracy to Iran.

Zahra Rezaie's sons Reza and Ahmad were killed in the early 1970s for their political activities. Her son Mehdi was arrested at age eighteen and imprisoned.

Charged with being a member of the Mujahedeen, an anti-shah guerrilla group, Mehdi underwent gruesome torture at the hands of SAVAK, the CIA-trained secret police.

SAVAK demanded that Mehdi reveal information on other oppositionists so they too could be picked up. He refused. Because of his principled stand, SAVAK agents pulled out his nails and burned him with torches until he was crippled.

Mehdi refused to break. Then SAVAK offered him a trial. If you renounce your views, you might get life, Mehdi was promised. But if you try to get up and defend your opposi-



Top: photographs of four Rezaie children killed by shah's secret police. Bottom: Khalil, Fatima, and Zahra Rezaie. Fatima, jailed and tortured when she was eight months pregnant, remained in prison until masses stormed the Qasr Prison during 1979 insurrection.

tion to the shah, we'll torture you to death.

Pretending to go along with SAVAK's offer, Mehdi accepted a trial. But when he took the witness stand, he gave a stirring denunciation of the dictatorship and defended the Mujahedeen's struggle against despotism and imperialism. This sealed his fate, but

inspired thousands of young people for whom he became a national hero.

Mehdi died a horrible death in 1973. Today you can see posters of him all over Tehran.

One of the Rezaie's daughters, Sadigheh, was also involved in armed actions against the shah.

Determined to stamp out guerrilla

groups and popular sentiment backing them, SAVAK turned its sadistic methods to the whole Rezaie family. Late one night agents arrived at their house and arrested everyone in it, including Zahra, her husband Khalil, Fatima, and even a nine-year-old brother. They demanded to know where Sadigheh was hiding.

The family was taken to the infamous Komiteh prison in Tehran. Fatima was eight months pregnant at the time. She was spared physical torture, but not psychological torment. Her parents were whipped in front of her in hopes she would reveal where Sadigheh could be found. Each member of the family was kept in solitary confinement for two months. They refused to talk.

When Fatima went into labor, SAVAK agents kicked her down three flights of stairs on the way to the hospital. She and her new baby were returned to prison the day after delivery. For eight days, the infant lived with her in the cell, until the authorities finally relented and allowed the family to send the baby to relatives.

Sadigheh was captured and killed in 1975. Fatima, incarcerated the longest, was freed only in 1979, when masses stormed Qasr Prison during the insurrection.

"Our family is only one of the thousands of families this happened to," Fatima told me. "The poverty and misery imposed on our country has maimed the majority of Iranian families."

"We believe the direct responsibility lies with the U.S. government," she emphasized, "which did this through its hand-picked government in Iran."

"We don't hold the American people responsible. Our biggest hope is that the people of the United States will realize what their government has done and oppose this injustice, against us in Iran, and against people all over the world."

Zahra added, "If the American people know what crimes their government has committed, they will stand up for their own rights, too."



# Zimbabwe vote victory for liberation forces

By Ernest Harsch

As the election results announcing a sweeping victory for the Zimbabwean liberation movements were released on March 4, tens of thousands of Blacks in Salisbury and other parts of the country poured into the streets in celebration.

Factories and offices emptied out, as Black workers took the day off to join the demonstrations. Youths danced in the streets, shouting slogans of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), the biggest winner in the elections. Jubilant crowds gathered in the Black townships surrounding Salisbury.

Despite all the efforts of the British colonialists, the Rhodesian white settler minority, and the racist South African regime to impose their own favorite candidates, the anti-imperialist parties had won.

ZANU, led by Robert Mugabe, received 63 percent of the popular Black vote, winning fifty-seven out of the eighty seats reserved for Blacks in the new parliament. (The other twenty seats had previously been set aside for whites.)

With a clear majority of seats, Mugabe will become the first prime minister of a Black-ruled Zimbabwe when the country gains its independence from Britain in several weeks.

The other main liberation group, Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwean African People's Union (ZAPU), won 24 percent of the vote, gaining twenty seats.

Taken together, the two parties thus won a resounding total of 87 percent of the 2.7 million votes cast. Both had previously waged a long armed struggle against the white supremacist re-

Continued on page 16



Mugabe supporters celebrate election triumph

# Black Agenda conference opposes draft

By Osborne Hart

RICHMOND, Va.—The National Conference on a Black Agenda for the '80s, meeting here February 28-March 2, unanimously passed a resolution opposing the "renewal of selective service registration and the draft."

The conference attracted some 1,200 delegates and observers. The majority were Black elected officials from Washington and across the country, as well as representatives of the NAACP, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Urban League, Operation PUSH, National Council of Negro Women, and others.

The antidraft position taken by the delegates is a blow to the Carter administration's campaign to reinstitute conscription. It was the culmination of sentiments expressed by many during the conference.

Jesse Jackson, president of Operation PUSH, said during his address that "we adults have an obligation to the young generation to say no to the draft."

Citing the high percentage of Blacks in the military, Rev. Joseph Lowery, SCLC president, said that "rich, old, white men," should be the only ones drafted and "we should resist dragging our youth" into war.

Richard Hatcher, mayor of Gary, Indiana, and conference convener, and Urban League President Vernon Jordan told the *Militant* they also opposed both registration and the draft.

In another blow to Carter's efforts to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria, Jackson, Lowery, comedian and activist Dick Gregory, and former United Nations ambassador Andrew Young all expressed opposition to boycotting the Moscow Olympics. The conference itself took no position.

Other resolutions adopted by the delegates opposed the death penalty

and police brutality; demanded severing all U.S. ties with and imposing sanctions on the racist regime in South Africa; and called for U.S. aid to African liberation groups and a "just settlement in the Middle East."

Passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and ending Klan and Nazi violence were given special attention.

A large audience, mostly women, packed the workshop on "ERA: Impact on Black Americans" for a lively two-hour discussion. The final version of the ERA resolution noted Virginia was an unratified state and called on the state government to pass the ERA; urged a convention boycott of unratified states by Black organizations; and proposed collaborating with women's groups for ERA passage.

The resolution against Klan and Nazi violence condemned the November 3, 1979, massacre of five anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro, North Carolina. It demanded immediate

prosecution of all the Klan and Nazi members responsible for the murders, and the dismissal of all charges against the anti-Klan activists.

The 1980 election campaign was a major concern, although organizers and participants stressed throughout the conference that the meeting was not convened to endorse presidential candidates.

Informal social meetings were arranged by Carter and Kennedy supporters, and a presidential panel was scheduled. Invitations were extended only to Democratic and Republican contenders.

Many participants were anticipating a public discussion by the candidates on issues concerning Blacks.

No such luck. In an act of contempt for the Black leadership and the Black community, the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates all refused to show.

The racist affront showed, on the one hand, that the two-party nominees have nothing to say to Blacks—and they know it.

On the other hand, it was an embarrassing reminder that the strategy of the conference leaders—organizing Blacks to lobby and vote for Democratic and Republican politicians—has not enhanced Black political clout, but weakened it.

The Black Agenda for the '80s—with few additions—is basically the same produced by similar meetings since the 1972 National Black Political Convention in Gary. And we're not any closer to solving the problems or winning the demands it lays out.

Andrew Pulley—Socialist Workers Party candidate, a steelworker, and the only Black running for president—was denied a platform by conference organizers. Pulley proposes a different strategy for the Black Agenda.

Pulley told the *Militant*: "I welcome the stands taken by the conference against the draft and Klan violence, for the ERA, for jobs and decent living standards for our people. We should all fight side by side on these issues."

But Pulley explained, "Reliance on the two capitalist parties renders Blacks politically powerless."

"My campaign proposes breaking from the Democrats and Republicans. The majority of Black people work for a living; we make up a large part of the ranks of organized labor. Our interests lie with our union brothers and sisters—white, Latino, and Black—not with the racist parties of the bosses."

"We need a labor party, based on the unions," Pulley declared. "You can bet that Black workers would be a powerful force in such a party. It would give us a way to fight politically to smash the Klan, win jobs and equal rights, and improve the living standards of all working people."



From left: Andrew Young, Rep. Walter Fauntroy, Rep. Cardiss Collins, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Richard Hatcher, Carl Holman, and Coretta Scott King address news conference.

# Pulley urges support for Chicago strikers

CHICAGO—Andrew Pulley returned to his home here February 19-25 and plugged his campaign right into the working-class battles taking place in the Chicago area.

The Socialist Workers candidate for president blasted Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne for her "vicious union-busting efforts" aimed against 4,300 striking fire fighters who are seeking a union contract.

Throughout his tour Pulley stressed that the interests of the powerful industrial unions in the Chicago area lie in supporting the fire fighters and waging a united fightback against the city government's budget cuts.

"There is plenty of money to provide social services and a decent living

standard for public employees," Pulley said. "It should come from taxing the rich, who have the money to pay, and from eliminating the \$142 billion war budget."

Pulley, who ran against Byrne in last year's mayoralty contest, had predicted that the Chicago Democrat would carry out antilabor policies if she were elected. He urged Illinois voters in the current elections to support Lee Artz, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Artz accompanied Pulley in his Chicago tour.

Pulley's support for the fire fighters strike contrasted with the attitude of Democratic contender Edward Kennedy, who was here a few days afterwards.

On February 29, Kennedy walked through a picket line of 500 jeering fire fighters to attend a fund-raising benefit organized on his behalf by Mayor Byrne.

While in Chicago, Pulley also attended a protest by workers of the International Harvester company, who have been on strike for four months against forced overtime.

Al Orr, an agricultural implements worker at the Caterpillar Tractor works, told an SWP campaign rally February 23 that "during our strike the only positive coverage, encouragement, and aid came from the Socialist Workers Party."

Pulley also visited Gary, Indiana, where he and Etta Ettlinger, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate from Indi-

ana, toured the huge U.S. Steel Gary works. Both he and Ettlinger work at this steel plant (Pulley is on leave), and they received a warm response from their fellow workers when they came through as candidates for office.

After Pulley attended his union meeting (Local 1066), one of the other unionists present commented, "We've never had a presidential candidate here before, and I'm grateful that you came."

Pulley got a good hearing for a motion that the local sponsor a candidates night before endorsing anyone running for office.

Pulley also pledged his backing for the steelworkers, who are now engaged in tough contract negotiations with the companies.



## 'Your union may be next'

# Chicago labor coalition backs fire fighters

By Lee Artz

CHICAGO, March 4—Labor support for striking city fire fighters is growing. A representative of the strikers announced today formation of a committee of union leaders to help win new backing for the strike, now entering its fourth week.

Members of the solidarity committee include James Balanoff, director of District 31 of the United Steelworkers, and Charles Hayes, a vice-president of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

This past Sunday afternoon, in a biting cold, a thousand unionists gathered at an outdoor rally in downtown Chicago in support of the firefighters. Earlier, on February 27, more than 3,000 firefighters and other unionists turned out for a rally at the Chicago Amphitheater.

The strike was forced by Mayor Jane Byrne's stubborn refusal to grant a contract to the International Association of Fire Fighters. During her campaign for election, Byrne, a Democrat, pledged that she would sign a contract with the union, which has functioned without one up to now.

She has declared the strike "illegal" and refuses to meet with union representatives.

Frank Muscare, president of the striking local, has been in jail since



Striking fire fighters rally. 'Nobody goes back until everybody goes back.'

February 21. He was given five months for refusing to order the strikers back to work.

In a telephone message from jail to the amphitheater solidarity rally, Muscare reiterated, "Nobody goes back until everybody goes back!"

He assailed a claim by Mayor Byrne that strikers were returning to work in significant numbers. Despite heavy pressure, only 382 of the 4,350 fire

fighters have gone back. All the rest, including the city's 400 Black fire fighters, are solidly behind the strike.

At the Sunday rally, acting union president William Reddy told the strikers they must "redouble the picket lines."

Participants in the rally included steelworkers, municipal workers, teachers, and fire fighters from other areas, as well as the strikers and their

families.

James Balanoff of the Steelworkers pointed to the high stakes for all labor. "If Byrne can get away with breaking you," he said to the strikers, "there's nothing to say she won't turn on us."

A call was also issued today by the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists for all organized labor to rally behind the strikers, warning that "your union may be next."

## Safety violations set record at Newport News

By Jon Hillson

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) hit Newport News Shipbuilding with record-breaking fines for violations of federal safety standards in its long-awaited report on February 27.

OSHA penalized the shipyard \$780,190 for the illegalities.

OSHA came to the shipyard last fall in response to worker complaints filed by United Steelworkers Local 8888. Health and safety have been major issues throughout the union's long struggle for recognition and a contract from Tenneco, the oil-rich conglomerate that owns the shipyard.

OSHA's 538-page report cites the yard for 551 safety and 68 health violations.

Of these, 54 were deemed "willful," or illegalities the shipyard knew about but did nothing to correct. Another 473 were cited as "serious." These are violations which "could have been known by the employer with reasonable diligence."

Employer "diligence" would have meant a multi-million-dollar clean-up and repair operation.

Instead, Tenneco chooses to pay out \$10,000 death benefits and worker compensation—when workers can get it.

In both the "willful" and "serious" categories there is an immediate danger of death or serious injury.

Each of the OSHA citations was backed up by confirming testimony, which included as many as forty incidents per charge.

OSHA cited Tenneco for exposing workers to cancer-causing levels of lead, asbestos, silica, cadmium, and chromates. It said the yard's medical staff neither reported lung abnormalities to workers nor referred them for further tests when such maladies showed up.

The investigation also exposed cover-up attempts by Tenneco. The shipyard, OSHA charged, denied its inspectors "access to medical records by removing asbestos-related medical information from the medical files prior to authorized medical OSHA representatives' review of the records."

Inspectors also cited the yard for "willful" violations in regard to faulty construction, improper ventilation, lack of preventive measures in numerous job sites, inadequate safety equipment, and unsafe exposure to electricity.

Shipyard President Edward Campbell has already pledged a court battle against OSHA's report and fines. He boasted recently that Newport News is the "safest shipyard in the country."

However, Tenneco's own figures indicate the yard is going from bad to worse.

The shipyard's payment on worker compensation claims has leaped more

than 417 percent between 1976 and 1979, from \$1.9 million to \$7.89 million. That's still a drop in the bucket compared to the money the employers save by refusing to make the yard safe.

The bosses also claim with pride that lost time due to injuries dropped in 1979. They failed to note that a big reason for that was the Steelworkers eighty-two-day recognition strike.

Tenneco fought the inspection every step of the way, even filing charges in court against OSHA. It harassed OSHA investigators and Steelworkers who attempted to aid their inspection.

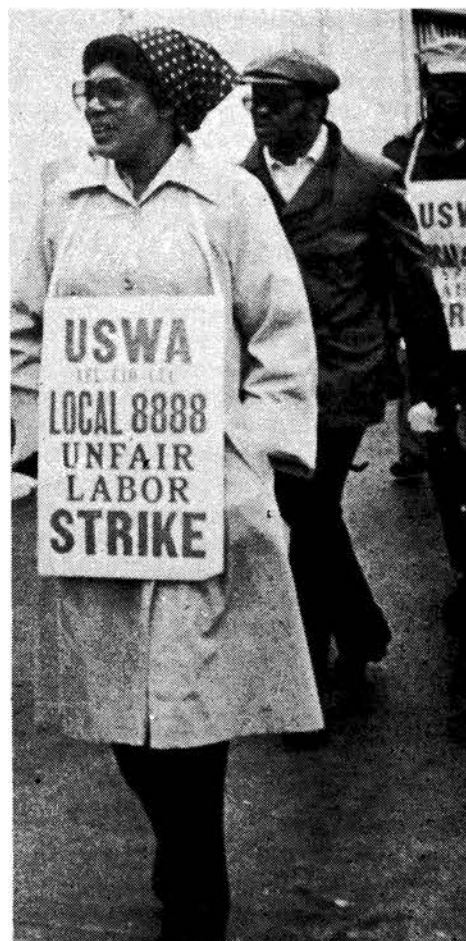
Two union members, including Local 8888 safety committee chairperson Steve Sawyer, were fired for their cooperation with OSHA. Steelworker-filed complaints against Tenneco for the firings are before the National Labor Relations Board.

Even this victimization is a far cry from the days before the Steelworkers were a fighting presence in the yard, when workers feared for their jobs if they so much as mentioned OSHA.

It took a struggle to get OSHA into the yard, and it will take a bigger one to force Tenneco to obey the order of the report: *eliminate the deadly dangers.*

But the truth is out. Now the public knows what workers here live with every day.

It's a killer to work for Tenneco.



Militant/Jerry Hunnicutt

Steelworkers picket during strike last year. Union is fighting for safe conditions at Newport News shipyard.

## Tenneco stalls on contract; angry steelworkers to meet

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Send a message to Tenneco! That's the angry sentiment among Steelworkers here, and they plan to convey it to shipyard bosses in membership meetings on March 7.

The two local union meetings, staggered to accommodate the yard's shifts, were called in response to Tenneco's hard line at the bargaining table. United Steelworkers Local 8888, which won union recognition at the huge shipyard after a long strike last year, is now seeking its first contract.

Talks between the Steelworkers and Tenneco were broken off February 22, with big differences over wages, benefits, and other unresolved economic issues.

On March 1, United Steelworkers District 35 Director Bruce Thrasher told the media that negotiations would resume. Reports noted that Thrasher had met with shipyard negotiator D. Thomas Savas in an effort to reopen the bargaining.

On February 27, 500 Local 8888 shop stewards met in two meetings to organize for a massive show of

force at the upcoming membership meetings. The stewards began signing up new members at the shipyard gates following the meeting.

Leafletting has been set for the gates in the week leading up to the membership meetings.

"Tenneco is putting our backs to the wall," a welder told the *Militant*. "We have to show them that we mean business."

The shipyard's stinginess has convinced many non-union work-

ers to sign up with the Steelworkers.

"I signed up whites, Blacks, young people, older workers, everybody," a Steelworker said.

Among the newest union members is a former delegate for the old company union, the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association. The machinist who got her into the union told the *Militant*, "She came up to me and said, 'I want to sign up.'"

—J.H.



# Socialist assails FBI coverup of Klan bombing

By Randi Lawrence

BIRMINGHAM—Matilde Zimmermann, Socialist Workers candidate for vice-president, called on the Justice Department to make public all its files on the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church here. Four Black girls were killed in the explosion.

At a February 29 news conference here, Zimmermann condemned the FBI's cover-up of the racist killers. She cited a secret Justice Department study leaked in February by the *New York Times*.

"The Justice Department's report states that eyewitnesses placed four known Klan members at the church just hours before the bombing," Zimmermann said. "Yet FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover blocked this information from being used for prosecution."

"The report also admits that paid FBI 'informers' were involved in numerous other violent attacks on civil rights activists in Birmingham in the 1960s."

"The report directly implicates the police and FBI in protecting known criminals and even participating in organizing racist attacks. Why has the Justice Department itself, which has had this report for over seven months, held back its release?"

The March 1 Birmingham *Post-Herald* quoted Zimmermann as saying, "the people of Birmingham have a right to know the truth about the church bombing."

The socialist candidate called on Mayor Richard Arrington to demand that the Justice Department publish the report. The same article noted that the mayor was "not available for comment."

Zimmermann pointed out that such incidents of racist violence are not all in the past. The Greensboro, North Carolina, *Daily News* recently reported that there were police informers among Klan and Nazi terrorists who shot down five demonstrators there last November 3.

"But today," Zimmermann said, "North Carolina Judge James Long is considering dismissing the charges against the murderers and is instead pursuing prosecution on trumped-up charges of some of the demonstrators who escaped death that day." The vice-presidential candidate called for dropping the charges against the anti-Klan demonstrators.

Two days after the *New York Times* reported on the Justice Department report, the Birmingham police and the county district attorney's office announced they were reopening the investigation of the 1963 bombing. The Carter administration has still not made the report available to local officials.

On February 21 the *Birmingham Post-Herald* ran an editorial calling on the Justice Department to comply with the county district attorney's request for a copy.

Also campaigning in Birmingham during Zimmermann's visit was Democratic Party presidential candidate



Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, headquarters of civil rights movement in Birmingham, Alabama, after it was bombed by racists in 1963. Four Black children were killed in explosion. Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate Matilde Zimmermann demanded release of all FBI files in case.

## Gov't fails to stop suit citing FBI link to murder

By Jo Carol Stallworth

DETROIT—A federal judge in Detroit refused February 29 to dismiss a \$2 million damage suit filed against the government by the family of civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo, who was shot to death in Alabama in March 1965.

Liuzzo, mother of five, was shot as she drove between Selma and Montgomery, with passenger Leroy Marten, a Black.

Three of her assailants, members of the Ku Klux Klan, were acquitted of murder, but later convicted of violating her civil rights. The testimony of Gary Thomas Rowe, an FBI informer, was crucial in the conviction.

But Rowe himself has since been indicted for the Liuzzo murder. This was the basis for the Liuzzo

family's suit against the government, filed with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Justice Department attorneys argued that a statute of limitations should apply, and the Liuzzo lawsuit should be dismissed.

But U.S. District Judge Charles Joiner agreed with the Liuzzo family and the ACLU in finding that they had no reason to suspect the FBI role in the murder until 1975, when Senate hearings disclosed Rowe's activities and exposed FBI knowledge of his participation in Klan violence.

Young Thomas Liuzzo, fighting back tears, said afterwards, "It matters to all humanity and decency . . . [the FBI's] finger was on the trigger right along with his [Rowe's]."

Edward Kennedy. Kennedy, however, never mentioned the case of the church bombing.

Thirty people turned out to a rally for Zimmermann on March 1 even though a snow storm had closed all the highways in Birmingham. Mohammed Oliver, Socialist Workers candidate for mayor here last fall, also spoke.

Oliver denounced the recent proposal by the Birmingham police department to reinstate officer George Sands.

Sands is the cop who shot and killed Bonita Carter, a young Black woman, last summer.

After many months on sick leave "this murderer has never been made to stand trial for his crimes and instead may be returned to active police duty," Oliver said.

"We pledge our support to any efforts mounted to block the city administration from putting Sands back in uniform with a gun in his hand."

## SWP enters Kentucky senate race

By Amy Belvin and Chris Rayson

Tom Swetland, member of International Union of Electrical Workers Local 761 at General Electric's appliance park in Louisville and a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance, announced his candidacy for the U.S. Senate at a news conference here February 28. The Socialist Workers Party also announced a drive to put Swetland and the SWP presidential ticket on the Kentucky ballot.

Socialist petitioners in Kentucky will be collecting thousands of signatures during the next few weeks in Louisville and elsewhere in the state as part of a nationwide effort to put SWP candi-

dates on the ballot in thirty states.

Campaigners expect to go considerably over the requirement of 5,000 signatures each on nominating petitions for president and U.S. senator.



In the press conference Swetland expressed the concerns of Kentucky workers over high unemployment and inflation. Unemployment has hit the Kentucky coal fields particularly hard, especially in western Kentucky where the mines are largely organized by the UMWA.

Swetland is challenging Democratic Senator Wendell Ford, a former Kentucky governor and member of the Senate committee on energy.

"Every miner has a right to work at union scale and under safety condi-

tions enforced by the union," Swetland told reporters. "Wendell Ford claims that coal isn't mined because antipollution and safety standards in the mines are rising and strip mining controls are stricter. But that's a lie. Technology exists to mine coal safely and put all the miners to work. Workers and the public safety can't be sacrificed to the profit margin of the coal companies."

Swetland challenged the government's expansion of the use of nuclear power as an energy source. "The Kentucky coal fields have enough fossil fuel to supply energy needs while other alternatives are developed," he declared. "Let's shut down the nuclear power plants now!"

**LOS ANGELES**  
**SOCIALIST WORKERS**  
**CAMPAIGN RALLY**

Speakers:  
 Andrew Pulley, SWP candidate for president  
 George Johnson, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate  
 Sunday, March 16  
 3 p.m. reception 4 p.m. program  
 2211 North Broadway  
 Donation: \$3  
 For more information call (213) 225-3126

**Andrew Pulley**  
 candidate for president

March 9-11 San Diego  
 March 16 Los Angeles  
 March 18, 21 Bay Area  
 March 23, 26 Portland  
 March 28-31 Puget Sound

**Matilde Zimmermann**  
 candidate for vice-president

March 9-11 Newport News, Va.  
 March 16-17 Baltimore  
 March 21-22 Washington, D.C.  
 March 24-25 Indianapolis  
 March 29 Harrisburg, Pa.  
 March 30-31 St. Louis

For more information, call the SWP branch nearest you. See the directory on page 27 for phone numbers and addresses.



## St. Paul candidate: 'Nationalize oil'

**MOSER ON ENERGY CRISIS:** "The giant international oil companies have deliberately created a shortage of fuel to force working people and farmers to pay more," said Libby Moser in announcing her campaign for mayor of St. Paul, Minnesota, on the Socialist Workers ticket.

Moser, twenty-eight, is a production worker at the Twin Cities Ford assembly plant.

She hit the energy program of her Democratic

companies in downtown St. Paul. For working people, he proposes to mobilize city employees to canvas St. Paul homes and explain the benefits of insulation.

Moser called for nationalizing Northern States Power and other big utilities and oil companies to end their profiteering at public expense. "The energy industry should be run by an elected public board with everything out in the open," she said. "No secret meetings, no secret records, no hidden ripoffs."

Moser also urged Minnesotans to "organize a big movement to shut down NSP's Prairie Island and Monticello nuclear power plants, which are a deadly threat to the people of this state."

The announcement of Moser's campaign was covered by two Twin Cities television stations, three daily newspapers, and several radio stations.

**VERMONTERS WON'T GO:** Socialist Workers campaign supporters in Vermont have joined with other antidraft activists in protesting President Carter's efforts to register young women and men for the draft.

More than 300 people demonstrated in Burlington, Vermont, last month and another 80 held a similar protest in the state capital of

Montpelier.

Carrying signs "World War III, we don't want to see," and "We won't fight for Exxon," the Vermont protesters made clear their opposition to the war plans of Democratic and Republican politicians.

"We're opposed to going into a war for the sake of the security of the multinational oil companies," one student told the crowd.

A University of Vermont professor said, "The increase in military spending that the government has initiated and which the draft will accelerate will further strain already inadequate funds for meeting human needs."

Vermont socialist campaigners have printed up and distributed over 1,000 leaflets with a statement by socialist presidential candidate Andrew Pulley blasting Carter's proposed reinstitution of draft registration.

**ANTIDRAFT CANDIDATE IN SAN DIEGO:** "If he's for the working people I'm all for it," was the response by a co-worker of Mike McGraw's to his candidacy for Congress.

McGraw works at the General Dynamics Conveyor plant in San Diego. He announced his campaign as the Socialist Workers Party candidate for the forty-first Congressional seat at a news conference outside the plant on February 7.

McGraw will campaign to help build the growing antidraft movement among unionists and on high school and college campuses.

Antidraft sentiment among workers at General Dynamics, which is organized by the International Association of Machinists, is high. This sentiment was given a boost recently when the California Conference of Machinists passed a resolution against the draft.

A dozen workers from the General Dynamics plant gathered outside the gate during the news conference to show their support for the Socialist Workers election campaign.

The press conference was attended by two San Diego radio stations as well as the *San Diego Union* and *Tribune*.

**LEGISLATIVE WASTE:** The February 1 *Arizona Republic* reported that Arizona Secretary of State Rose Mofford said, "she needs an emergency appropriation to resist a Socialist Workers Party lawsuit that seeks to exempt the party from disclosing its campaign contributions and expenditures."

Dan Fein, the Socialist Workers 1979 mayoral candidate, denounced this attempt by Democratic and Republican parties to intimidate socialist campaign supporters.

Last year the SWP won a federal court ruling allowing the party not to disclose the



Militant/Arnold Weissberg  
**Arizona socialist Dan Fein** denounces attempts to intimidate SWP campaign supporters.

names of campaign contributors. Given the government's long history of harassing party supporters, disclosure would violate the first amendment rights of contributors and discourage people from giving money to the SWP campaign.

After the federal ruling, some states agreed to exempt the SWP from state disclosure provisions. But not Arizona.

Secretary of State Mofford met with legislative leaders. She said they agreed to support a \$10,000 appropriation.

Fein suggested that the state legislature "use the \$10,000 for something constructive, rather than fighting against the democratic rights of a working class party."

—L. Paltrineri



Militant/Mimi Pichey  
**Libby Moser** announces her campaign for mayor of St. Paul.

Party opponent, George Latimer, as a "caulking and walking cutback program for working people and a tax-money giveaway to the St. Paul rich."

Latimer has endorsed a tax-subsidized project to provide hot water for heating to the banks and insurance

## Campaign fund: another way to fight the draft

By Priscilla Schenk

Opposition to Carter's attempt to reinstitute the draft is growing. And the Socialist Workers Party campaign is committed to helping build this movement. The SWP national campaign office has published a button, poster, and brochure against the draft. Pulley-Zimmermann campaign supporters are distributing these materials across the country, selling the *Militant* and *Young Socialist* newspapers, and building the March 22 national antidraft march in Washington, D.C.

Just like the people who support them, SWP

candidates Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann are activists. They are the presidential candidates who are out campaigning against the draft and exposing Carter's war moves. Zimmermann recently addressed 300 people in Manchester, New Hampshire, who marched through the downtown streets demanding, "No draft!"

At the State University of New York campus in Stony Brook she spoke to 100 antidraft protesters while her campaign supporters distributed literature and signed up Young Socialists for Pulley and Zimmermann to help with campaign activities.

Zimmermann will also speak at an antidraft teach-in in Morgantown, West Virginia.

This is spreading the word fast that Pulley and Zimmermann are fighters in the movement against the draft. People are picking up their campaign literature and many are writing to the national campaign office. In one such letter, a supporter from Gulfport, Florida, said, "Myself and several of my friends have decided to go SWP in '80, so we need a little paraphernalia to let others know. I am following the '80 campaign of the SWP in the *Militant* and am very excited by it. Keep up the good work! SWP in 1980!"

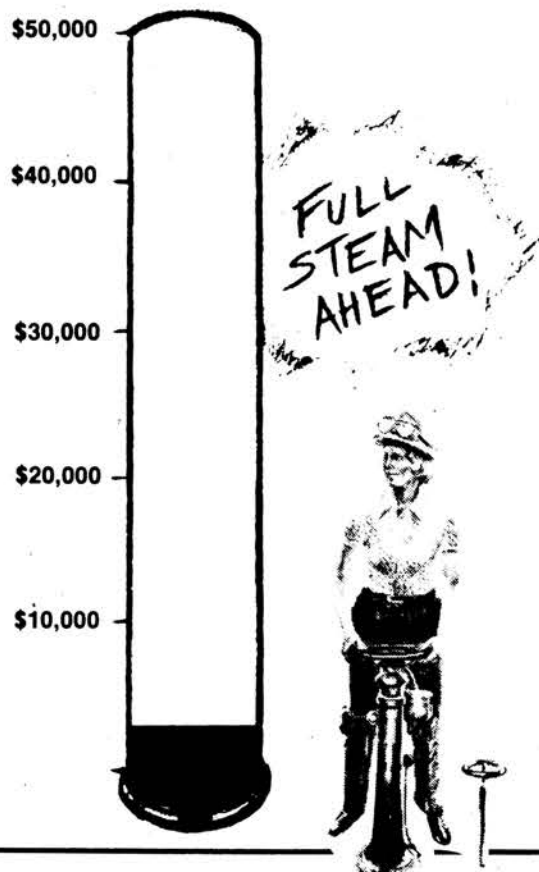
Dozens of letters like this are received every week in the national campaign office. Requests for information, literature, and volunteers to help. We want to answer every letter, every request. We want to print plenty of the "paraphernalia" our campaigners need. And we want to make sure that Pulley and Zimmermann can reach as many cities as possible.

You can help in this effort. The SWP Presidential Campaign has launched a \$50,000 fund drive lasting to June 15. Already campaign supporters, eager to get this fund drive off to a good start, have donated \$2,700.

We need your help to make that figure grow. Begin today by sending us as generous a contribution as you can.



At recent New Hampshire protest



Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Union/School/Org. \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee,  
14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C.

A federal court ruling allows us not to disclose the names of contributors in order to protect their First Amendment rights.



## District 31 conference

# Women steelworkers: how to fight layoffs?

By Pat Grogan  
and Markie Wilson

CHICAGO—Layoffs and plant closings are threatening the hard-won gains of women steelworkers in hiring, promotion, and training. Determination to fight back was a theme of the third annual United Steelworkers District 31 Women's Conference, held February 15 in Merrillville, Indiana.

[A campaign for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in Illinois, another big topic at the conference, was reported in last week's *Militant*.]

District Director James Balanoff told the 400 delegates and guests, "How secure are our gains? Not very. The biggest problem is the cutbacks and layoffs, which hurt women and minorities the most."

Leon Lynch, USWA international vice-president for human affairs, reported on progress made under the consent decree, an affirmative-action program negotiated in 1974 by the union and nine major steel companies.

He said the consent decree goal of 20 percent women among new hires had been reached. "In 1974, there were approximately 3,828 women working in these companies. In three years that figure has grown to around 14,000 women employees," Lynch said.

### 'We need these figures'

Women at the conference wanted to know why they had been unable to get figures from the company or the union on compliance with the consent decree goals and timetables.

Carolyn Jasin, chairperson of the women's committee of Local 1033 at Republic Steel, explained that she had finally obtained the figures for Republic from the federal government through the Freedom of Information Act. They confirmed the company's "revolving door policy" of firing women on probation in order to sidestep the consent decree. The figures also showed Republic's failure to fill the quotas in apprenticeship programs.

"We need these figures," Jasin said. "We must be able to monitor the hiring and firing practices of the companies to prove our case and force them to live up to the provisions of the consent decree."

Lynch promised the conference that the implementation figures would be compiled and made available to Dis-



As a result of cutbacks and layoffs, women are losing the better-paying jobs they have fought for in basic industry.

trict Director Balanoff.

Marie Head, a trustee of the District 31 Women's Caucus and member of Local 1014, told the *Militant*, "I think the question on everyone's mind is how many of those 9,500 women [hired under the consent decree] are still working? At Local 65 we know that only 100 out of 500 women are still on the job. I would bet that a large number of the women at this conference are laid off."

### Discriminatory layoffs

The conference passed resolutions for a shorter workweek with no cut in pay and a ban on forced overtime to curb layoffs. Another resolution called on the steel companies to provide Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) for all employees and to allow older workers to voluntarily take layoffs and collect SUB pay so that younger employees continue working.

A discussion was initiated at the conference on the proposal to institute

quotas not only for hiring but also for retention of women, Blacks, and Latinos in periods of layoffs.

In the workshop on Civil Rights Procedures and discrimination, Maggie McCraw of Local 65 said, "If we don't take measures to make sure we keep our jobs, everything we've won under the affirmative-action plans could be lost."

The majority of women in the workshop agreed it would be only fair to use dual seniority lists so that women and minorities are not disproportionately affected by layoffs.

Jonathan Comer, a representative of the USWA Civil Rights Department, responded, "I know it's a problem. Let's take American Can, for example. After so many years we finally get eight Blacks hired. So what happens when layoffs come down? Is it fair that they should go?"

Comer continued, "Seniority isn't sacred, but we would have a revolution if we touched it. Weber showed us

that." Brian Weber was a white worker who filed suit against an affirmative-action plan negotiated by the USWA.

Women in the audience quickly answered, "But we fought Weber and won," and "Steelworkers didn't support Weber."

Indeed, Vice-president Lynch in his keynote address had hailed the union's successful fight against Weber and the support it won from "all the leading civil rights, human rights, and women's rights groups, as well as the liberal press."

"I helped marshal our union's legal resources to fight and finally win the Weber case in the highest court in the land," Lynch said.

The conference passed a resolution calling on "District Director Balanoff to organize a special, district-wide meeting to discuss further measures to overcome the discriminatory effect of layoffs."

A resolution on "Strengthening the Role of Women in the USWA," adopted at previous District 31 Women's Conferences, was again passed. It called on the international union to set up a Department on Women's Affairs, convene a union-wide Women's Conference, and encourage the establishment of local union Women's Committees to have equal status with Civil Rights Committees.

During a question period, Lynch said this request was being given serious consideration.

### No to draft

Workshops were also held and resolutions passed on sexual harassment, health and safety, apprenticeships, and other issues.

Toward the end of the conference, when unfortunately few participants were still present, a resolution against the draft was adopted. Everyone agreed on opposition to drafting women or men, and that the question of drafting women was being used to undermine efforts to ratify the ERA.

A proposal to include a condemnation of the Soviet Union's role in Afghanistan was defeated.

Mary Jo Wuetrich, co-chairperson of the Health and Safety Committee of Local 65, said, "I'm against any war. I'm against going to war for Exxon and Texaco."

## USWA official pledges fight for women's rights

CHICAGO—The address to the District 31 Women's Conference by USWA Vice-president Leon Lynch reflected the progress women steelworkers have made in bringing their concerns to the attention of the union as a whole.

Lynch declared that the issues being raised by women steelworkers "are part of our union's basic steel negotiating position" in upcoming 1980 contract talks.

He quoted from the policy statement adopted last November by 600 local union presidents, which "called for management to provide day care centers, maternity leave, personal days off based on family need, improvements in apprenticeship training and testing, reforms in the probationary procedure, and other measures to protect women from sexual and other forms of harassment and to provide them with equal opportunities."

Lynch said that in the fight for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, the United Steelworkers "will stay out front until victory is won."

He condemned steel company management for hampering the

fulfillment of affirmative-action programs in hiring and apprenticeship training.



USWA Vice-president Leon Lynch

"Advances and innovations in child care services are necessary so that women can get and hold good jobs to help support themselves and their families," Lynch said.

"Child care services will enable women to more fully participate in the total life of our union. We want and need them to attend local union meetings regularly, serve as officers and members of committees, be delegates to conferences and conventions, etc."

The union vice-president sharply condemned sexual harassment. "Some think that this issue is a joke," he said. "It is not, because it denies women their dignity and often serves to keep them in a position of inferiority, which not only wounds women members deeply, but hurts our union."

Lynch said that "unwanted and unsolicited verbal comments, gestures, propositions and other actions that treat women as sex objects rather than workers . . . [have] no place in our industry or union."

"The other type of sexual harassment," he continued, "is more like a crime. It demands for a wom-

an's sexual favors, often by supervisory personnel, which when refused result in firing, demotion, denial of raises, promotions, or opportunities for training. Many women are forced to quit their jobs rather than to succumb.

"This practice has to be stopped because it is both a denial of human rights and another, and most vicious, form of economic exploitation." He urged women to file grievances over sexual harassment and called on local unions to "take effective action."

Lynch also pointed to the challenge of unionizing women workers.

"As the USWA officer responsible for overseeing the work of our Organizing Department," he explained, "which recently did a great job unionizing 25,000 Newport News shipyard workers, a large number of whom are Blacks and women, and now we are going after 50,000 DuPont workers, I want to tell . . . all of you that 'We mean to put women in our union.'"

"The bottom line is, 'We need women in our union and women need our union.'"



## Socialist hits congressional bill

# Drop conditions, full aid to Nicaragua!

The following statement was issued March 1 by Matilde Zimmermann, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. vice-president. Last month Zimmermann headed a delegation of Socialist Workers candidates on a week-long fact-finding tour of Nicaragua.



ZIMMERMANN

The so-called aid bill for Nicaragua passed February 27 by the House of Representatives is an outrageous violation of Nicaraguan sovereignty. It attempts to hold vitally needed reconstruction aid hostage while Washington demands guarantees that the Nicaraguan revolutionary process will not go forward.

The U.S. government, which armed and financed the Somoza family dictatorship in Nicaragua for more than four decades, bears full responsibility for the destruction Somoza inflicted on the country last year as he tried to drown the Sandinista-led popular uprising in blood.

Washington itself estimates that the devastated country needs a minimum of \$730 million this year for the most urgent reconstruction.

Yet the House of Representatives stalled for four months before voting on a loan package of only \$75 million. The bill faces further delay while a House-Senate committee quibbles over the differences between their two versions of the bill. And after that another bill would have to be passed to actually appropriate the money.

The most outrageous aspect of this

"aid" bill is its blackmail conditions. It mandates a cutoff of funds if Nicaragua supports "guerrilla activities" elsewhere in Latin America.

Right now its target can be none other than Nicaragua's solidarity with the people of El Salvador. Events there are moving toward a civil war and Carter has rushed to back the repressive regime with more arms and U.S. military "advisers."

Amendments to the bill also make aid dependent on protection of human rights and free labor unions—as interpreted by the U.S. government, of course! There was never a peep from these Capitol Hill guardians of rights when Somoza was torturing and murdering his opponents and banning anything but government-controlled unions.

The most despicable string attached to the U.S. loan offer is the provision prohibiting any money from going to schools where Cuban teachers are working. This is a direct attack on the National Literacy Crusade.

Under Somoza there was no money for social needs such as education. Thus half the reading-age population is illiterate, with the rate as high as 90 percent in some rural areas. The Sandinistas have set top priority on teaching these Nicaraguans to read and write, and the nation is joining in the literacy mobilization.

Cuba, itself still struggling to overcome economic difficulties imposed by the U.S. blockade, has given selflessly to the Nicaraguan people. One of its biggest contributions has been 1,200 volunteer Cuban teachers to aid the literacy campaign.

What better statement of U.S. aims in Central America: Congressional Democrats and Republicans, who have done nothing but cut back on education funds in this country where there

## BPR leader ordered freed



Militant/Alexis Irizarry

On March 3 a judge in El Salvador ordered three revolutionary leaders freed. Juan Chacón, general secretary of the Revolutionary People's Block (BPR), and two leaders of the February 28 People's Leagues (LP-28), José Canenguez and Carlos Argueta, had been arrested the week before. Chacón's wife and infant daughter, also seized, were released earlier. Shown above is a February 28 picket line in New York City protesting the arrests. Demonstrations demanding no U.S. intervention in El Salvador are now planned for March 15 in New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

are 23 million functional illiterates, would deny the right to read and write to Nicaragua's people.

The real aim of these delays and conditions on U.S. aid to Nicaragua is to sabotage the progress workers and peasants there have made in reclaiming the wealth of their nation. The U.S. government wants above all to ensure there is no "new Cuba" in Central America.

The Congressional bill is an insult to the heroic Nicaraguan people and to American workers, who want peace and friendship with the people of Cen-

tral America.

Congressional efforts to strangle the Nicaraguan revolution should spur the Nicaragua solidarity movement here to redouble our efforts to raise material aid.

Carter, who never hesitates to speed guns and funds around the world to defend U.S. corporate profits, should issue an executive order to provide at least the bare-bones \$730 million for Nicaragua.

Congress should drop all conditions and immediately approve the aid necessary for Nicaragua.

# Sandinistas on tour seek U.S. solidarity

Four leaders of Nicaragua's Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) brought the message of their revolution to thousands of Americans in recent tours of a dozen U.S. cities.

Noel González spoke from the FSLN Foreign Relations Secretariat, and the three others represented Sandinista-led mass organizations: Sayda Hernández from the Nicaraguan Women's Association, Justino Arceda from the Rural Workers Association, and Olga Avilez from the Sandinista Workers Federation.

In New Orleans, Arceda and Avilez spoke to a meeting of 100 at Tulane University February 22. Some \$550 was raised. In New York City, Hernández addressed 300 people February 29.

In Minnesota's Twin Cities, Avilez and Arceda spoke to a meeting of 120 at the St. Paul Labor Temple February 29. Also bringing greetings were Sue Abderholden, president of the Twin Cities National Organization for Women, and Frank Guzman, a Chicano rights activist.

The two FSLN representatives were presented with a check for \$1,700 for the literacy campaign raised by students at the College of St. Benedict and St. Johns University. The money was collected during two weeks of campus fund raising.

During their two-day stop in the Twin Cities, Avilez and Arceda also spoke to an International Women's Day event at El Centro Chicano Community Center in Minneapolis and a meeting at the University of Minnesota.

Ninety people in Dallas, Texas, heard Arceda and Avilez March 1 at a meeting sponsored by the Metroplex Citizens for Aid to Nicaragua and the



Olga Avilez and Justino Arceda. FSLN representatives brought truth about their revolution to American audiences.

Mexican-American Students Association. About \$360 was raised.

Dallas Mayor Robert Folsom, Bishop Thomas Tschoepe, and Dallas County NOW President Cynthia Rutledge all sent messages of support to the meeting. (Metroplex Citizens for Aid to Nicaragua will hold its next meeting at 7 p.m. on March 12 at the Bataan Community Center in West Dallas.)

A report on the Milwaukee meeting follows.

By Lynn Rashkind

MILWAUKEE—"As a labor leader in the city of Milwaukee, I would like to extend a welcome to the young people in the great country of Nicaragua," said Angelo Verdín, international representative of the Allied Industrial Workers (AFL-CIO).



Militant

"All I can tell you is that as far as I'm concerned, and as far as my union is concerned, we support your efforts for the Nicaraguan people and in your case for democracy."

Verdín was one of several prominent Milwaukeeans who brought solidarity greetings to a rally of more than 200 here February 27. Featured speakers were Justino Arceda from Nicaragua's Rural Workers Association (ATC) and Olga Avilez from the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST).

The day before, 200 people heard Avilez and Arceda in Madison.

Arceda, a peasant from the moun-

tains outside Matagalpa, is an executive committee member of the ATC. "As a farm worker, I want to tell you that I'm not just a Nicaraguan farm worker but an international farm worker with all the farm workers of the world," he said.

Arceda briefly recalled the history of the ATC from its formation in 1976 to its growth to 90,000 militants today. "I say 90,000 militants because like me, we have 90,000 revolutionaries who bring you their warmest greetings."

Avilez also explained the background of what is today the CST from the days when the Sandinista National Liberation Front did clandestine organizing among workers under the Somoza dictatorship.

Since the revolution last July, she said, 500 unions have been organized on the factory level. The new task is to organize on an industrywide basis.

The meeting's sponsor here was the Coalition to Aid Nicaraguan Democracy. Berta Zamudio, a leader of Esperanza Unida, told the rally how CAND was founded only a few months ago after several individuals returned from the November national solidarity conference held in Detroit.

Other speakers included Father Eugene Pocernich from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee; Donny Satterfield, United Farmworkers of America; and Ernesto Chacón, executive director, Latin American Union for Civil Rights.

About \$700 was raised at the meeting from the sale of tickets, posters, buttons, T-shirts, and books. Another \$550 was collected during a fund pitch given by Father Peter Marchetti, who just returned from a trip to Nicaragua.

One hundred and fifteen people signed the CAND mailing list.



## 'We are not a U.S. colony'

By a narrow five-vote margin, the U.S. House of Representatives approved \$70 million in loans and a \$5 million grant to Nicaragua February 27. Two days earlier, the House had held a secret session on the Nicaragua bill—only the third such session in the past 150 years.

Opponents of the pitifully inadequate aid succeeded in tacking on amendments that would halt the aid under any given number of circumstances. (See statement by U.S. Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate Matilde Zimmermann on page 13.)

The following editorial on the secret session held by the House appeared in the February 27 issue of 'Barricada,' the Sandinista daily, under the headline, 'Hands Off Nicaragua!'

"Any foreign meddling in our internal affairs brings only the loss of peace and the rage of our people."—Augusto César Sandino.

When the Nicaraguan people conquered their political sovereignty by overthrowing the Somoza dictatorship our leaders indicated that we were ready to establish a new kind of relation with the government of the United States. That is, relations on the basis of mutual respect, without interventions or impositions, in a friendship sealed by the sacred respect for the self-determination of our people, which was gained at the cost of great bloodshed.

The U.S. government—which imposed the criminal dictatorship and kept it in power for forty-five years—declared itself to be in agreement with our position and asked for a "clean slate" in our relations. Some of its representatives, upon visiting our country, even expressed a commitment that no forms of intervention whatsoever would be repeated.

But today, in plenary session, the House of Representatives is making use of new forms of intervention in Nicaragua, discussing "in secret" a report that espionage agents of the CIA have put together about the supposed "communist infiltration" of Nicaragua.

That, gentlemen, is purely and

simply a form of intervention in our internal affairs. Because the CIA is not solely an information agency, but rather a center for cooking up plots and destabilization plans—such as the overthrow of Mossadegh in Iran (1952), Arbenz in Guatemala (1954), the Dominican government (1965), and the Chilean People's Unity (1973). It also intervened against Lumumba and Cabral in Africa, Sukarno in Indonesia, and many other Third World leaders, as well as against the glorious Cuban Revolution.

And the gentlemen in the U.S. Congress now claim the right to uphold the CIA's intervention in our country.

We call on the U.S. government to make public the CIA's report: to give the names of their agents in Nicaragua and the content of their plans—which, based on the CIA's history, must be plans of destabilization. Future charges against our State Security bodies for aggression in capturing these agents and putting them under the weight of the law could thus be avoided.

There is something more: the reactionary sectors of the Congress are discussing a series of amendments to the loan (not a gift) of \$75 million that are damaging to our national sovereignty. "The only condition is that there be no conditions," our leaders have said. And the entire people of Nicaragua back this up. We do not accept veiled forms of intervention.

Commanders of the Revolution Wheelock and Tirado spoke clearly during their visit to the United States. We have economic needs, but we would be prepared not to receive a single dollar if in exchange the right to self-determination—not only of Nicaragua, but of all Latin America—were respected.

We are not a colony of the United States. We reject any further meddling with our revolution. As Commander Tomás Borge has said, "We can be excellent friends, but also excellent enemies."

# Sandino



Clockwise banner says 'One not to return recruits per march. Gr Managua c insurrectior

## Activities spotlight imperialism

By Fred Murphy

MANAGUA—"Sandino Lives!"

That was the theme of a week of activities across Nicaragua February 17-24 to commemorate the forty-sixth anniversary of the assassination of the anti-imperialist fighter, Gen. Augusto César Sandino.

The high point of the last day of activities February 24 was a parade in Roberto Clemente Stadium in the city of Masaya by 1,200 newly recruited members of the Sandinista People's Militias (MPS). The militias are being relaunched in a massive way and are to be based in the factories, workplaces, schools, neighborhoods, farms, and villages.

"In times of peace the militias will stand guard over the wealth our workers and peasants produce daily," army Commander-in-Chief Humberto Ortega said at the Masaya ceremonies. "In wartime the militias will defend that wealth, for they themselves are the workers and peasants who produce it."

Throughout the week the history and significance of Sandino's struggle against imperialist domination was discussed in school classrooms and in meetings organized by the Sandinista Defense Committees, trade unions, and other mass organizations.

Leaders of the FSLN and the Government of National Reconstruction, along with thousands of other Nicaraguans, traveled to the village of Niquinohomo on February 21 for ceremonies establishing the house where Sandino was born as a national museum. In a speech to a rally there, FSLN Commander Daniel Ortega denounced the right-wing U.S. congressmen who are seeking to block or place political conditions on the \$75 million loan to Nicaragua.

"Those who seek to prevent aid to Nicaragua today," Ortega declared, "are the same ones who yesterday supported the criminal, Anastasio Somoza García, and his cowardly assassination of Sandino."

Ortega emphasized the "marked difference" between the rapidity with which U.S. loans used to be approved

for Somoza, and the snail's pace of the current congressional proceedings. "They never used to vacillate before, when each day Nicaragua was plunged deeper into debt," Ortega said. "And now they're speeding \$400 million in military aid to Pakistan and doing something similar with El Salvador."

One of the largest events of "Sandino Lives!" week came February 23, when tens of thousands of Nicaraguans marched into the Plaza of the Revolution here in Managua to greet Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada. Bishop and the delegation of Grenadian leaders had been especially invited to attend the week's ceremonies.

Like Nicaragua, Grenada has been facing increasing pressures and threats from U.S. imperialism, which has objected to the revolutionary government's acceptance of aid and friendly relations with Cuba.

"Grenada is not alone," Nicaraguan junta member Sergio Ramírez told the February 23 rally. "It has free and Sandinista Nicaragua at its side, with all the dignity and sovereignty that has been conquered by our people in arms."

Along with Bishop, other special guests at the February 23 rally included Haydée Santamaría, a longtime leader of the Cuban revolution and director of Cuba's Casa de las Américas publishing house; Cuban poet Roberto Fernández Retamar, recently awarded the first annual Rubén Darío Poetry Prize by Nicaragua's Ministry of Culture (he donated the \$1,000 prize to Nicaragua's literacy campaign); Gustavo Machado of Venezuela and Andrés García of Mexico, both internationalist veterans of Sandino's army; and delegations from solidarity committees in Panama, the Dominican Republic, and other countries.

Bishop pointed to Grenada's "firm determination to confront imperialism wherever it rears its ugly head." He said this was "recently demonstrated in the case of the struggle of the people of Afghanistan in the face of imperialist maneuvers to turn back the revolution of the Afghan people." Bishop noted that Grenada was "one of the two countries of this hemisphere that voted against the recent Western-inspired resolution in the United Nations."

Bishop explained that internationalism is a life-or-death question for Gren-

## SANDINO

MANAGUA—Gen. Augusto César Sandino and most of his general staff were murdered on the night of February 21, 1934, on the orders of National Guard chief and soon-to-be dictator Anastasio Somoza García.

Somoza, father of the recently deposed tyrant, had the blessing of U.S. Ambassador Arthur Lane, whose superiors in Washington wanted to put an end to the ongoing threat Sandino posed to their domination of Nicaragua.

The previous year Sandino's worker and peasant army had driven the U.S. Marines out of Nicaragua. His troops were then disarmed under an agreement with the government installed before the Marines left.

Sandino returned to his stronghold in the northern Segovia Mountains to organize peasant cooperatives. He was in Managua for talks with President Sacasa (later overthrown by Somoza) when he was killed.



The betrayal and murder of Sandino and his top aides was followed the next day by the massacre of more than 300 peasants in Sandino's main cooperative in Wiwilí. Further repression soon put an end to what remained of Sandino's organized followers.

In the early 1960s the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) took up Sandino's banner, and on July 19, 1979, came to power at the head of a mass insurrection.

—F.M.



# Week in Nicaragua



From bottom left: ATC demonstration to reactivate [the economy], to expropriate it calls on Agrarian Reform Institute to single inch of seized land. New militia de. Miskito-language signs in ATC Indian leader Maurice Bishop greets and. Banner at right links victory in coming victory in literacy campaign.



Militant photos by Fred Murphy

da and Nicaragua:

"The triumph of our revolution cannot be an isolated event," he said. "The very character of world imperialism justifies the necessity of revolutionary solidarity among oppressed peoples everywhere."

From Intercontinental Press/Inprecor

## 30,000 peasants rally

by Fred Murphy

MANAGUA—In an impressive display of the growing strength of the SLN-led mass organizations in Nicaragua, more than 30,000 peasants and agricultural laborers from across the country marched and rallied here February 17.

It was the first time in Nicaraguan history that working people from the countryside demonstrated in the capital under their own banners.

Organized by the Rural Workers Association (ATC), the action launched a week of activities commemorating the February 21, 1934, assassination of Augusto César Sandino.

The march was led off by a spirited contingent of Indians from the remote town of Waspam, on the Honduran border in the Atlantic coast region. They bore signs and banners with slogans written in their native language, Miskito.

Some compañeros from Waspam told me that under the Somoza dictatorship they had been forced to migrate to Honduras to find work during harvest season. Now, however, they look forward to steady jobs in Nicaragua owing to the agrarian reform and the government's plans to develop the Atlantic coast region.

The ATC focused the march and rally on mobilizing peasants and farm laborers around a "Plan of Struggle" announced February 7. Most of the chants, placards, and banners centered on the demands raised in the new ATC plan.

At the rally in the Plaza of the Revolution, ATC general secretary Edgardo García explained the plan.

"In the first place," García said, "we demand that the lands intervened by

INRA [Nicaraguan Institute of Agrarian Reform] that could not be confiscated now pass over to the Peoples Property Sector and that not a single inch of land be returned" to the big landowners.

García was referring to the growing number of big farms that have been placed under INRA administration owing to the refusal of their private owners to put them into production or to meet the new government's standards on wages, working conditions, and social benefits for farm laborers. The landlords have been clamoring to get back the intervened estates, but the campesino demonstrators clearly made known their total opposition to returning the land.

The government's attitude on this question was explained at the ATC rally by Minister of Agricultural Development and INRA director Jaime Wheelock, and by government junta member Sergio Ramírez.

"The revolution is not only not going to return a single inch of land," Wheelock declared, "it is not going to return a single speck of soil."

Ramírez reaffirmed Wheelock's pledge and said a decree would be issued shortly to back it up.

Other demands included in the ATC's Plan of Struggle include a total revision of the old regime's Labor Code—left in effect provisionally by the new government—with the participation of the ATC and the trade unions; a halt to firings and harassment of ATC organizers on private estates; greater participation by farm workers in the administration of INRA's State Farms with full knowledge and discussion of production plans, income, and expenses; and further improvements in food, housing, health care, and education on both state and private farms.

"We want it to be quite clear," García added, "that any coffee grower or other producer that doesn't want to carry out the harvest or that boycotts production will be denounced by us as an enemy of the revolution and that with our own efforts we will get the production moving that they want to sabotage."

The ATC has already stepped in to complete the coffee harvest on a number of private plantations where the owners try to halt it and lay off workers. The ATC has also begun putting special stress on organizing peasants who farm their own small or medium sized plots of land.

The Plan of Struggle calls for cancellation of all the debts owed by small

farmers to the banks that are now state owned; the eradication of bureaucratic practices by some INRA and bank functionaries who are supposed to be providing technical and financial

assistance to the peasants; and sharp reductions in the interest rates charged small farmers on the new loans the state is providing them.

From Intercontinental Press/Inprecor

## Arms charges filed against ultralefts

MANAGUA—Further charges have been formally brought in the criminal courts here against leaders of the ultraleft Stalinist People's Action Movement (MAP) and its trade-union arm, the Workers Front (FO).

On February 22 auxiliary penal prosecutor Alberto Gámez filed charges against seven MAP/FO leaders for violation of Article 1 Section D of the Public Order and Security Law, which calls for three to ten years imprisonment for anyone "who attempts to depose . . . local authorities or to prevent those duly named or elected from taking office." The law further sanctions those who "try to prevent the authorities from freely carrying out their functions or enforcing compliance with their administrative or judicial measures."

The charges also cite violations of Article 4 Section A of the same law, which provides penalties of three months to two years at public works for those convicted of "illegal possession of firearms, explosives, or other military paraphernalia. . . ."

As evidence, the prosecutor's brief cites a large cache of arms discovered by Sandinista security personnel in late January at a farm on the outskirts of Managua, which Vice-minister of Interior Hugo Torres said February 2 belonged to the MAP's armed wing, the Anti-Somoza People's Militias (MILPAS). Two other arms caches linked to the MAP were subse-

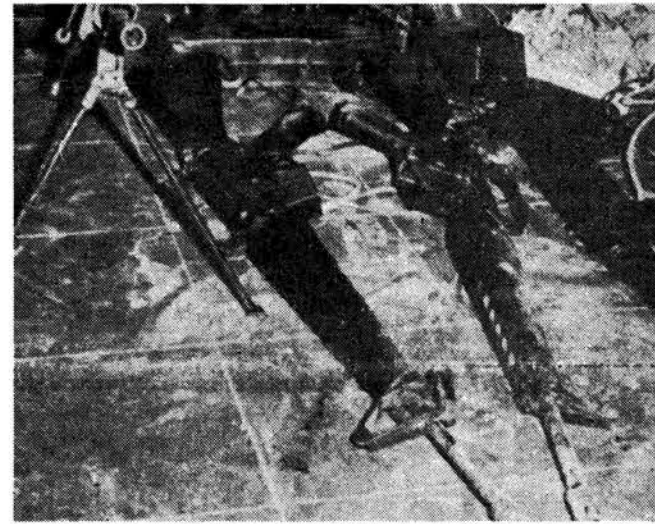


Photo from 'Barricada' showing weapons reported seized in Managua apartment, along with Frente Obrero documents and banners. Equipment shown to reporters included rifles, some 300 pounds of ammunition, contact bombs, wiring and detonators for dynamite, uniforms, helmets, and walkie-talkies.

quently discovered.

Unauthorized possession of arms violates a decree adopted by the revolutionary government last October that had called on all citizens not belonging to militia units to turn in their arms to the Sandinista People's Army (EPS). At that time the MAP said that the MILPAS had been disbanded after the victory of the insurrection against Somoza.

The brief also states that meetings of the MAP and FO were held at the farm on several occasions and that proposals for armed actions against the revolutionary government were debated at those gatherings.

Two of those affected by the new charges are among the four MAP/FO leaders sentenced on February 11 to two years at public works on charges of "seeking to damage the popular interests." The earlier charges were related to their role in the MAP/FO's now banned daily *El Pueblo*.

From Intercontinental Press/Inprecor



# Appeals board hears Marroquin case

By Roger Rudenstein

FALLS CHURCH, Va.—The government admitted February 25 that it was wrong in stating that Héctor Marroquín should be denied asylum because he is a socialist.

"The government concedes that its trial attorney was incorrect when he stated that Marxists can't get political asylum," government lawyer Jerry Hurwitz told a three-judge panel of the Board of Immigration Appeals here.

Marroquín is appealing an order that he be deported to Mexico issued by Judge James Smith of the Immigration and Naturalization Service after a hearing in Houston last April. In a brief published in November to support Smith's order, the government argued that it had the duty to "exclude an avowed Marxist like Marroquín."

"This is a victory," Héctor Marroquín told the *Militant* after Hurwitz's retraction. "We have shown that I was framed up by the Mexican police and that return to Mexico would mean torture and even death. *La migra* hasn't been able to dispute a single piece of evidence we presented. Instead they said they could deny me asylum because I'm a member of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance."

"Now even they admit that they can't do this."

Mexican authorities charge Marroquín with offenses including murder based on guerrilla actions he is alleged to have participated in.

Marroquín never belonged to any guerrilla organization, and his attorney presented evidence last April that all the charges are frame-ups. For instance, the Mexican government accused Marroquín of participating in a shoot-out at a bakery—at a time when he was in a Texas hospital with a broken leg and pelvis.

Marroquín's attorney also presented documents and testimony that showed Marroquín was being victimized by the Mexican government for his political views and would be in grave danger if he returned to Mexico. Under the law the government must grant asylum to people persecuted for their political beliefs.

There are signs that the government's case for deporting Marroquín is crumbling.

The hearing before the immigration appeals board was postponed three weeks because the INS attorney assigned to argue against him refused to take the assignment. The attorney, Jim Haynes, told members of the Héctor Marroquín Defense Committee that, in his opinion, Marroquín had presented a convincing case for asylum.

But Marroquín is not out of danger.

Although public support for his right of asylum forced the INS to back down from its legal argument that socialists



'Torture, death, or right of asylum for Marroquín,' reads banner at San Antonio picket line last year.

can't get asylum, it is still trying to deport Marroquín.

Hurwitz's presentation for the government repeated immigration judge Smith's claims that Marroquín would be safe in Mexico and that charges against him were not a frame-up.

Margaret Winter, Marroquín's attorney, pointed out that two of Marroquín's schoolmates charged along with him had been murdered, while a third has "disappeared."

Claiming that a 1978 amnesty law made it safe for Marroquín to return, Hurwitz stated, "The judge gave weight to this law as an effort by the Mexican government to clean things up."

But according to the latest State

Department report on human rights in Mexico, over 700 people have been kidnapped by government terror squads. The report cites Amnesty International's statement that those who have been annihilated by the regime are being rearrested.

In addition, the amnesty did not clear Marroquín of charges by the state police in Monterrey—and the Mexican government has asked the U.S. government to return him to Mexico.

In the face of trial testimony and documentation indicating that Marroquín was framed, Hurwitz conceded, "It could be that the police charged him and he was innocent. That happens all the time. But it doesn't

mean the charges were politically-motivated."

"Even in the context of all the evidence in the trial record?" interjected judge Mary McGuire. Hurwitz shrugged.

Winter reminded the board that Judge Smith had repeatedly expressed hostility towards Marroquín at the deportation hearing because of Marroquín's socialist views. He allowed the INS prosecutor to question defense witnesses about their political beliefs—even going so far as to quiz Robert Goldman, dean of the American University Law School, about whether he was now or had ever been a communist. ("No, a Republican," Goldman told the INS.)

In his decision, the judge disparaged Marroquín's membership in the Socialist Workers Party and hinted that he should seek asylum in "Castro's Cuba" instead.

"I submit," said Winter, "that the judge's reasons for refusing asylum only reveal his profound hostility to Marroquín as an undocumented worker and a member of the Socialist Workers Party."

"Hurwitz's stand shows that the government's retraction is just a maneuver," said Winter after the hearing. "They haven't changed their position at all. They're still trying to deport Marroquín because he's a socialist—they're just not going to say it publicly anymore."

The Héctor Marroquín Defense Committee plans to continue to bring the facts about his case to the American people until this fight for the right of asylum has been won.

## Lowery, others support asylum

A number of Black leaders, trade union officials, and civil libertarians have sent a letter to Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti urging him to stop government harassment of Héctor Marroquín and grant him asylum.

Signers of the letter are: Reverend Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Robert Lopez, international representative of the United Auto Workers; Alice Peuralla, president of Local 65, United Steelworkers of America; Congressmen Ronald Dellums and Mickey Leland; Aryeh Neier, past president of the American Civil Liberties Union; Thomas Emerson, professor of law at Yale University; Frank Jackalone, national chairperson, United States Student Association; William Kunstler, attorney; Michael Harrington, National Chair, Democratic Socialist Organizing

Committee; and Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president.

The letter was released by Gina March, coordinator of the Héctor Marroquín Defense Committee, at a news conference February 25 at the National Press Club building in Washington, D.C.

"The attempt to deport Héctor Marroquín can only be seen as a further effort by the government to victimize socialists for their beliefs and lawful activities," the letter states.

"The INS's persecution of Marroquín threatens the rights of trade unionists, Black and Latino activists, fighters for equal rights for women, and everyone who speaks out on questions of public policy," the letter continues. It urges the Attorney General "to order an immediate halt to the INS's ominous attempts to curtail the Bill of

Rights."

Speaking at the press conference, Matilde Zimmermann, Socialist Workers candidate for vice-president, pointed out that the INS's attack on Marroquín and the SWP "interferes with the right of our party to carry out its lawful activities, including our election campaign."

She pointed out that documents released in the SWP's \$40 million suit against government harassment showed that the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service entered into an agreement to attack the SWP by trying to deport socialists who were not U.S. citizens.

"The FBI admits that it has over 30,000 documents on this program which it is keeping from us. I demand that all materials on this illegal program be turned over immediately."

## ...Zimbabwe

Continued from page 8

gime and are nominally allied within the Patriotic Front.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who closely collaborated with the white settlers and who received substantial backing from the apartheid regime in neighboring South Africa, was trounced. Although he spent nearly \$30 million during his lavish campaign, his party managed to retain just three seats.

The election results came as a shocking blow to the white racists and the British and American governments, who had hoped to prevent the most radical groups, particularly Mugabe's ZANU, from coming to power.

The British and American governments officially greeted the elections—

after having done everything they could to subvert them. But the real reaction of the imperialists was better reflected in the London stock market, where the prices of Rhodesian government bonds plummeted, as did the stocks of companies with Rhodesian holdings.

The victory of the Patriotic Front will also do much to inspire anti-imperialist fighters in the rest of Africa, particularly those in the South African ruled colony of Namibia and in South Africa itself.

The gains of ZANU and ZAPU show that both liberation groups had built up significant support in their years of struggle.

ZANU was the big winner in the elections because it played the most active role in the guerrilla war, and

promised to institute land reform and other social measures to benefit Blacks.

The assassination attempts against Mugabe, the threats of a white-led military coup, and the harassment and intimidation by the Rhodesian government forces could not prevent Blacks from choosing the party that seemed to them the most willing and able to bring about sweeping changes.

Big obstacles and dangers still lie ahead, however. The white settler community remains in control of the economy and dominates the armed forces, police, and state apparatus. The imperialist powers have already begun to put pressure on Mugabe to go slow on the promised social reforms.

Hundreds of South African troops remain stationed in the country, and

South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha warned that if the new regime does anything to undermine South African "security," it "will have to face the full force of the Republic's strength." In light of the South African invasion of Angola in 1975-76, the threat of South African intervention is real.

The existence of the ZANU and ZAPU armies and especially the mass mobilizations in support of the liberation forces will compel the imperialists to proceed cautiously. But they will do everything they can to prevent the Zimbabwean workers and peasants from taking power into their own hands.

The Black masses of Zimbabwe will need all the international solidarity they can get.



# SWP leadership school begins sessions

By Gus Horowitz

The Socialist Workers Party Leadership School began its first session March 1, as seven SWP leaders packed their bags and set out for five months of systematic study of Marxism.

The school, long in the planning stage, was set up as part of an overall expansion of party education along with the turn toward greater involvement in the struggles of the industrial working class.

Betsey Stone, director of education for the SWP, explained the connection at a sendoff party and fundraiser in New York February 23.

"Many party members have remarked that as industrial workers they are now better able to understand exploitation and the class struggle. Marx's explanation of how the employers want to extend the working day, for example, takes on a new meaning when it is not merely a textbook study but part of one's daily life.

"This is true in a broader sense, too. After all, what is Marxism? It is simply the political and theoretical expression of the fight of working people for their own interests. . . . This means that as we are more involved in the struggles of the working class, we have to review and enrich our study of Marxism."

The leadership school, she said, will teach Marxism, not in the manner of academia, but "from the standpoint of the interests of the working people. It will be the only school in the entire country where to qualify, you have to be a revolutionary."

Those who attend will be "party leaders who have assumed very big responsibilities, but who never had much of a chance up to now to carry out a systematic study of the fundamentals of Marxism."

## 'The sweep of history'

The participants in the school "will be able to step back for a while, to look at the sweep of history, to study what revolutionists have done before us, and to see where we stand now in the movement of history. This understanding is, in the end, what gives us our dedication and enables us to take on the weighty historical tasks that we have to."

The students will be at the school for five months. Then a new student body will be selected. "After a while," Stone explained, "there will have been dozens and dozens who will have gone through the school. Think of the enormous impact this will have on the party."

The "spirit and understanding engendered by the school will spread through the party, and give the whole party confidence that we can be successful in the big struggles that lie ahead."

Cathy Sedwick, a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance and one of the seven students now attending the school, told the audience of her feelings as she was about to begin.

"I couldn't help remembering my first days at school. I was enrolled in the first grade, and I was absolutely terrified. My mother took me to school on



Young Socialist Alliance leader Cathy Sedwick (left), told New York sendoff gathering she was 'very proud' to be attending the SWP Leadership School. So is Militant associate editor Cindy Jaquith (center). Harry Ring (right), tells about the SWP school that had been set up in the 1940s and 1950s.

the first day. I was dressed in a blue uniform, with my white blouse, bobby sox, and a beanie. A nun was waiting for me at the entrance to the huge steps, and she said, 'God will take care of you my child.'

"Little did I know that God had a rod, and that the wrath of God was not reserved for judgement day.

"The school that we're about to open is not going to teach obedience to capitalist authority. It's going to be a completely different type of school. It's going to be an institution to serve our class; its aim is to train future leaders of working class struggles in this country. And I'm very proud to be a member of the first class of 1980."

## Earlier school

The SWP had once before set up such a school, in the late 1940s and through the 1950s. Harry Ring, currently a *Militant* staff writer, was a student there in the 1950s. "It was a memorable and invaluable experience," he recalled.

"What a school like this really does is to help clear your head of some of the pro-capitalist ways of thinking that are continually pounded in. We learned how to approach political questions from a working class point of view."

Ring also conveyed to the audience a conversation he just had with Reba Hansen, who was a student at the school at the same time he was.

What had she gotten out of the school, Ring had asked. "Staying power," she replied. The school had

helped to convince her that "there is no other road, that all the talk about Marx being refuted was a lot of bunk."

The same point is valid today, Ring said, but with an important difference. The school in the 1950s was held in a period of reaction, when the party was smaller and had been weakened by a split. "Then it was a holding operation, to harden people for what we knew was a long haul. Today, we are preparing for the great struggles that clearly lie ahead in this country."

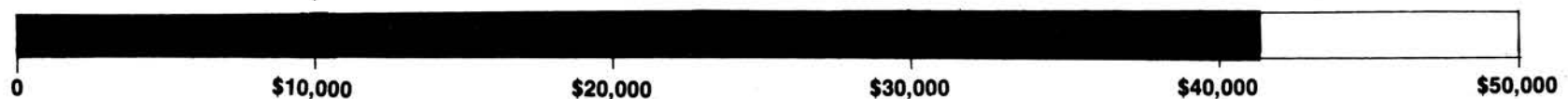
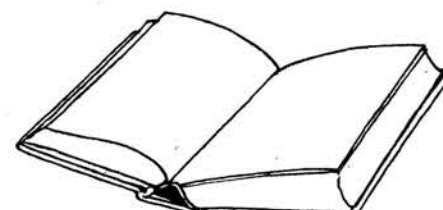
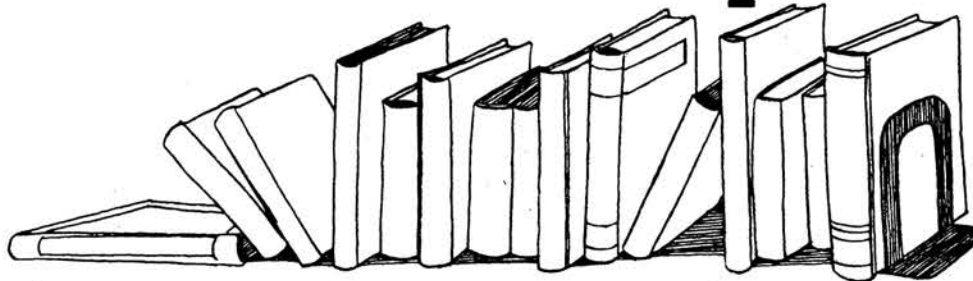
Ring also recalled some of the economic hardships of the former school. It was located at a campsite in the country. "To conserve fuel, we used to burn wood in the coal-burning stove. We would go up to the hills, cut down some trees, saw the wood, and burn it. As fast as we sawed it, we burned it."

His group set a record for economizing on food expenses. "We used the standard technique," he explained. "Old veal bones, 20-gallon cans of frozen pork liver. When we had guests, we would bring out the frozen mackerel; it could be served as tuna salad, chicken salad, shrimp salad, or filet of sole."

The school today won't be so destitute, he said in conclusion. But even keeping costs to a minimum, it will take \$50,000 to set it up for the first session. The 180 people present at the New York gathering then donated over \$6,000 toward that goal.

So far, \$41,400 has been raised to meet the expenses of the school. Contributions can be made on the form below.

## SWP Leadership School Fund



**'Without revolutionary theory there can be no revolutionary movement.' V.I. Lenin**

Right now the students are at the school site, a large old building in upstate New York, where they are fixing the plumbing and electrical wiring, and putting in the final touches to get the place into shape—all in addition to their studies, of course.

The curriculum will center around the political writings of Marx and Engels, beginning with the *Communist Manifesto* and the 1848 revolutions.

They'll study some of Lenin's works, too: on imperialism and war, on the roots of racism and the oppression of nationalities, and the Bolshevik contributions on women's rights.

Of special interest will be a book that is not yet published, but which will probably be available in manuscript: a history of the SWP by longtime party leader Farrell Dobbs. Dobbs begins back in 1848, with the origins of the workers movement in the United States.

Finally, they will study Spanish, so necessary today for building the party among Latinos and for linking up with the new generation of Latin American revolutionists.

The fund drive stands at \$41,400, not much short of the \$50,000 goal. To help, fill out the form and send in your contribution by March 31.

I want to contribute:  
☐ \$1,000   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$200   ☐ \$100  
☐ \$50   ☐ \$10   ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
 SWP Leadership School Fund

Mail to:  
 SWP Leadership School Fund,  
 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



# NRC rushes to hush up Fla. nuclear accident

By Mark Dressler

MIAMI—More than 40,000 gallons of radioactive water spilled into the containment building of the Crystal River nuclear plant February 6, prompting a shutdown and emergency evacuation of some plant workers.

The Crystal River plant, owned by Florida Power Corporation and located seventy miles north of Tampa, supplies about 20 percent of the electricity for the utility's 725,000 customers. Soon after the accident and shutdown, scattered blackouts occurred in Florida Power's thirty-two-county service area.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission investigators rushed to the scene and joined with Florida Power officials in trying to assure the public that all was under control.

"The event is over," announced NRC regional division chief Hugh Dance. "The company is going to have to clean things up and determine what was the cause, but their evacuation was very precautionary."

The accident meant that some plant workers were exposed to radiation levels of up to 50 roentgens—about ten times the official allowable limit for an entire year. Dance claimed that radiation levels dropped to near zero several hours later.

Company spokesperson Bob South echoed the NRC in downplaying the accident, saying, "There was no damage to the reactor, no damage to the fuel rods, and no radiation released anywhere. There was nothing disturbed in the plant, there was no core meltdown or anything like that."

An NRC spokesperson told reporters,

"They've just got a little water on the floor."

According to Florida Power, a sudden loss of power to the control panel triggered the reactor's emergency system, thereby automatically stopping the unit and pulling extra cooling water into the reactor's core. It was then that over 40,000 gallons of radioactive water from the plant's primary cooling system escaped into the thirty-story concrete silo which houses the reactor.

The Crystal River plant was designed by Babcock & Wilcox, the same firm that designed the Rancho Seco plant in California where a similar accident occurred two years ago. Babcock & Wilcox also designed the Three Mile Island plant which underwent a near meltdown just one year ago.

The February 26 accident at Crystal River was only the latest in a series at the plant since it went into operation three years ago. NRC records list repeated spills of radioactive water—yet the plant continues to operate.

There is no reason to believe that the accident at Crystal River was as harmless as Florida Power would have us think. The nuclear industry, and its loyal friends in the NRC, are notorious for covering up and lying about the nuclear danger as the Three Mile Island accident tragically showed.

They still don't know exactly why the accident at Crystal River happened. The 40,000 gallons of radioactive water has to be "cleaned up," which threatens our lives as well as our pocketbooks.

And who knows when it, or something worse, will happen again.

## 100 meet in Ohio to form state antinuclear coalition

By Lynn Edmiston and Peter Archer

WOOSTER, Ohio—One hundred antinuclear activists from Ohio met here March 1 to form the Ohio Non-Nuclear Organization (ONNO). They represented thirty-six different groups and came from twenty cities throughout the state.

In addition to area environmental, energy, and antinuclear groups, conference endorsers included District 6 of the United Mine Workers, the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, and the Amalgamated Food and Allied Workers.

The conference was held only a few weeks after the announced cancellation of construction plans for four new nuclear power plants in Ohio: Davis-Besse II and III and Erie I and II.

Mike Ferner, a member of the Toledo Safe Energy Coalition who opened the conference, commented, "I didn't recognize the full significance of this until I read in the *New York Times* that this is by far the largest cancellation of nuclear megawattage in the U.S. to date."

Ferner compared the antinuclear movement to the fight of the Abolitionists against the southern slaveholders in the Nineteenth Century. Like the abolitionist movement, he said, the antinuclear movement must become a mass movement, reaching out to millions of people throughout the country.

Conference participants enthusiastically agreed. A workshop on demonstrations and actions unanimously endorsed the April 26 march on Washington against nuclear power.

Although this resolution did not reach the conference floor due to lack of time, there was a lot of informal

discussion about the need to get people to Washington for the march. Many areas have already reserved buses and are planning activities to build local participation in the march.

A labor workshop drew some twenty-five participants, including members of the United Auto Workers and International Chemical Workers. The unionists made plans to bring the issue of nuclear power to their local unions.

Other activities discussed at the conference were commemorative actions of the Three Mile Island nuclear accident March 28-29, the national march against the draft March 22, and an action at Kent State University May 4 marking the tenth anniversary of the National Guard murder of four Kent students during a demonstration against the Vietnam war.

The main resolution passed by the conference here called for the "immediate halt to the licensing, construction, and operation of all nuclear facilities in Ohio," "prohibition of nuclear waste storage and transportation of non-medical nuclear materials through Ohio," and "guaranteed employment for all displaced nuclear workers."

Unfortunately, because the conference plenary spent much of its time on the organization of the discussion, little time was left to discuss the actual resolutions placed before the conference. As a result, many were referred for action to the newly formed steering committee.

But despite some frustration with the drawn-out organizational confusion during the final plenary session, conference participants came away with enthusiasm and a renewed sense of the strength of the antinuclear movement in Ohio.

# No nukes!

Notes from the movement against nuclear weapons and nuclear power



### Progress on April 26 march

Organizing for the April 26 antinuclear March on Washington took another step forward with the March 1 and 2 coordinating committee meeting of the Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World. Close to 100 antinuclear activists from as far away as Florida, Texas, and Minnesota attended the meeting held in Washington, D.C.

New materials for building the action were on hand including stickers, a coalition newsletter, and T-shirts and buttons produced by Region 8 of the coalition.

Plans for more than thirty Three Mile Island antinuclear protests the weekend of March 28 were announced, followed by a report on the March 29 demonstration planned for Harrisburg, Pennsylvania—site of the Three Mile Island reactor.

A report on trade union involvement in the April 26 action pointed to the endorsement of United Steelworkers Local 1010 in East Chicago, Indiana—the largest local in the steel union.

The coordinating committee meeting also voted to endorse and build the March 22 antidraft demonstration in Washington and to endorse the Midwest regional antinuclear march in Chicago June 7.

For materials and more information contact: Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World, 413 Eighth Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. (202) 544-5228.

### NRC lifts ban on new plants

The ban on new nuclear plant operations ended February 28. The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission gave the go ahead for the Tennessee Valley Authority to start up its Sequoyah unit number one near Chattanooga.

The NRC imposed the moratorium after disclosures around the Three Mile Island accident last year revealed how routinely nuclear licenses are handed out.

President Carter had urged the NRC to lift the ban by this spring. The accident at Florida's Crystal River plant February 26 caused the commissioners to "pause," reported the *Wall Street Journal*—for about twenty-four hours!

The TVA decision is expected to begin a series of NRC okays for new nuclear plants.

### Gov't plans to ship wastes through NYC

The U.S. Department of Transportation is planning to adopt regulations permitting the shipment of radioactive waste through New York City and other high-population areas—no matter what laws and ordinances those communities may have against it.

The department says it has the authority to do this under the interstate commerce clause of the Constitution.

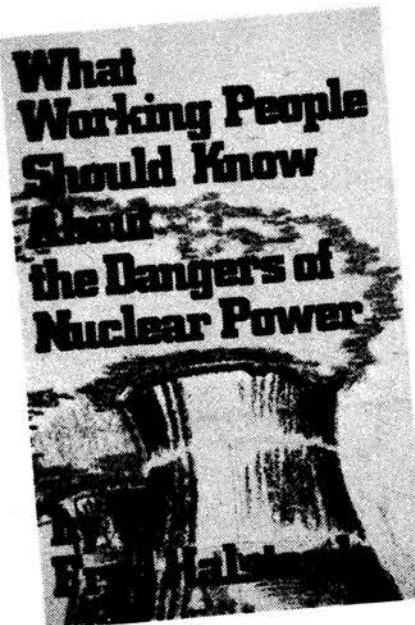
It claims this plan is *safer* because detours around cities such as New York take longer and thus increase the risk to drivers and residents of the areas the vehicles go through!

Dr. Leonard Solon, director of New York City's Bureau for Radiation Control, has said that an accident involving a nuclear waste shipment in New York could cause thousands of deaths. New York City, a couple dozen suburban communities, and the states of Connecticut and New Jersey all have bans or restrictions on nuclear shipments.

Public hearings on the Transportation Department's proposal are required. Hearing sites, which notably do not include New York, are Chicago, Atlanta, Denver, and Seattle.

Compiled by Nancy Cole

## New from Pathfinder: a weapon in the antinuclear struggle



What are the dangers of nuclear radiation? What caused the Three Mile Island nuclear accident? What are the alternatives to nuclear power? This pamphlet answers these and other questions about the problems and dangers of nuclear power.

Also included is a statement "What We Can Do To End Nuclear Power" by Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president.

40 pp., \$.95  
Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.  
Enclose \$.75 for postage.



# California market clerks block company takebacks

By Jeff Mackler

OAKLAND, Calif.—Striking clerks voted March 2 by a ten to one margin to end their six-week strike against San Francisco Bay Area supermarket chains.

The contract won by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union beats back an attempt by the Food Employers Council to wipe out union contract provisions won over thirty years.

The Food Employers Council is the union-busting coalition of supermarket bosses in this area.

The success of the union in maintaining contract provisions on seniority, upgrading, warning notices, and bidding for increased hours is especially important. The bosses wanted to replace large numbers of full-time workers with lower-paid part-time ones.

Some concessions were forced on the UFCW, including extending the probationary period for new employees from thirty to sixty days. And the new contract does allow a few regular clerk jobs to be replaced by lower-paid workers.

The new thirty-eight-month contract increases top pay for clerks by \$1.81 an hour. Clerks made \$8.79 an hour before the strike. The cost-of-living escala-

tor in the contract will increase wages an estimated \$1.10 an hour if inflation is 10 percent. Improvements were won in pensions. There was also an amnesty provision for all strikers.

The outcome of the strike was a welcome change from the 1978 defeat suffered by the Teamsters, who organize the supermarket warehouses and drivers. Using the lockout, continued operation, heavy advertising, and open violence against the strikers, the Food Employers Council forced Teamsters to return to work on company terms.

The companies tried a similar policy this time. After seven UFCW locals went on strike January 20 against Safeway, the largest chain, five other supermarket companies declared lockouts of the UFCW members.

At the same time they tried to keep all the stores open. They invested heavily in advertising against the union.

The supermarket chains had a full page ad in the January 24 San Francisco Chronicle with 2 inch headlines: "Enough is enough". The ad urges people to shop at the stores on strike and denounces the union as greedy.

But the union responded with its own ads and leaflets. A

union ad called "Anatomy of a Lie" responded: "The giant food employers made... their 'final' offer, like a mugger in the park, deliberately pointed a loaded pistol at the clerks' head. The message was clear: give us your job or else."

"To achieve their goal, the food giants' final 'offer' demanded numerous 'take-aways'—every one calculated to stretch their profit margins at the expense of the clerk and consumer."

An important factor pushing back the bosses this time was the threat of the strike spreading to surrounding counties. This would add 15,000 more supermarket clerks to the picket lines.

UFCWU members in the area from Salinas to Reading, California have already voted to reject the same take-away proposals that led to the Bay area strike. That contract is still being negotiated.

Another factor may have been the nine-week-old strike of thousands of Bay Area oil refinery workers. The potential for the powerful labor movement in the Bay Area to unite in solidarity with both these strikes may have held back the employers from the all-out attack on the supermarket workers they seemed to want.

# Consol provoked W.Va. coal strike

By Pat O'Brien

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—At the urging of United Mine Workers Local 4060 President Mike Zemonick—and facing stiff fines—about 6,000 miners returned to work March 3, ending a week-long strike that just about shut down coal production in northern West Virginia.

On March 2, an arbitrator upheld Consolidation Coal Company's suspension of Zemonick for "inciting" an earlier walkout by his local. It was his suspension and that of two other members of his mine committee that sparked the strike throughout UMWA District 31.

Following the arbitrator's decision, Consol immediately fired Zemonick and suspended the two mine committee members for thirty days.

As we go to press, it is not clear what the miners' next step will be, but their anger at this deck stacked against them is readily apparent.

The dispute at Zemonick's mine near Four States, West Virginia, began over temporary work assignments. UMWA members take work assignments seriously, especially with negotiations for a new national contract scheduled to begin in a few months. This is a traditional time for coal operators to weaken solidarity and sow divisions among miners by manipulating seniority provisions of the job bidding system.

Local 4060's mine committee, led by Zemonick, tried to settle the dispute at the mine site but was rebuffed.

As miners gathered before the day shift, the mine committee informed them that the complaint would be taken to the District 31 officials and that the miners should go to work. But at that point the mine superintendent decided to provoke a walkout with an abusive order to "get to work."

The assembled day shift turned around and went home. Consol officials immediately got a back-to-work court order,

and the miners began to return.

But then they found Consol had escalated its attack by suspending "with intent to discharge" Zemonick and two others on trumped-up charges of "insubordination, acting irresponsibly, and instigating a work stoppage."

This led to another walkout February 21, which quickly spread throughout the district. All of Consol's operations in District 31 were shut down, and miners working for Eastern, Republic, Southern Ohio, and Badger coal companies also struck in solidarity.

UMWA District 31 President Burdette Crowe said, "We're doing everything we can to alleviate the problem. They have been instructed to return to work. This is an illegal picket line and we certainly do not condone it."

Federal Judge Robert Maxwell ordered the miners back to work February 26, but his order was ignored. Then he set March 3 as the deadline for the beginning of \$3,000-a-shift fines against Local 4060 and its officers if the miners weren't back at work.

Consol, the largest employer of UMWA miners, pulled out of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association last spring, charging that the industry bargaining arm buckled under pressure and granted too many concessions to the union during the 110-day strike in 1978. Recently it has been reported that Consol is considering rejoining the BCOA, but only on its own terms.

Consol's provocations against Local 4060 are part of the industry's efforts to soften up the union before the next round of contract talks and possible strike.

Although the 6,000-strong walkout here did not resolve the strike issues, it did show the power the miners have to stop production when they act together in defense of their union.



Clerks picket. Company demands were 'a loaded pistol at the clerks' head. The message was clear: give us your job or else.'

# Champion fires protesters as union accepts forced overtime

By Paul Tierney

TOLEDO—By a very slim margin, nearly 2,000 workers at two Champion Spark Plug plants here recently ratified a new contract. The contract introduces mandatory overtime for the first time—requiring employees to work two Saturdays a month "if scheduled."

Included in the contract, patterned after the General Motors and Ford agreements, are a 3 percent wage increase, an improved cost-of-living formula beginning in 1982, and better pensions and benefits for retirees.

The international settlement also covers 3,200 auto workers at five other Champion-owned plants in the United States and Canada.

Champion boasts of being the largest spark plug producer

in the world. It operates plants from Venezuela to South Africa to New Zealand.

Before the contract ratification, five workers—including two stewards and a former steward—were fired and eight others given ten-day suspensions. The workers were disciplined for peacefully demonstrating outside the plant, on their own time, against the company's demand for forced overtime.

This violation of their rights was aimed at intimidating workers into accepting the proposed contract.

Many Champion workers are upset at the introduction of mandatory overtime, along with a strict absentee policy.

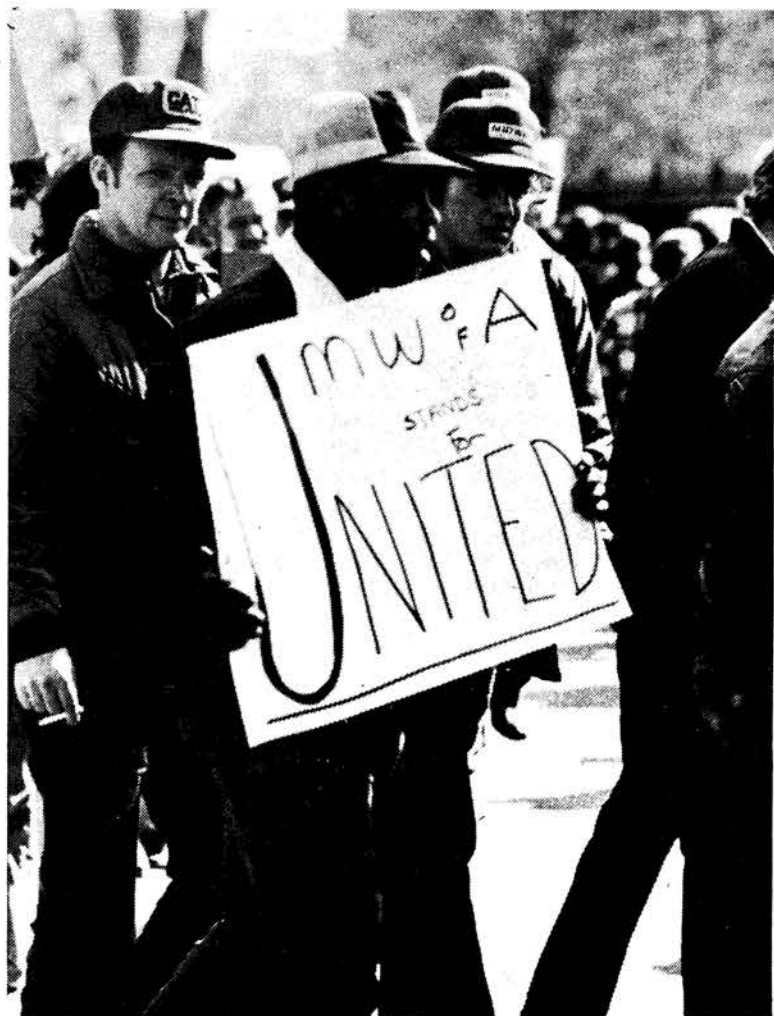
Workers resented the secrecy that surrounded negotiations and the lack of communication

between the shop committee and union ranks. They were also angered by continued wage and benefit discrimination against probationary and first-year employees.

The current downturn in the automotive industry, which has meant thousands of layoffs of UAW members here, has not adversely affected Champion's sales. Less than 10 percent of the plugs the company produces go into new cars. Most plugs are sold as replacement parts for tune-ups and other repairs.

The company raked in record-breaking profits in 1978-79.

The concession made on forced overtime is a bad omen for the rest of the 400,000 auto workers in the UAW's Independent Parts and Suppliers Division.



Miners picket White House during 1978 110-day strike. Industry is already preparing for next contract fight.

Militant/Nancy Cole



# A labor campaign in Quebec

## 'Where can we go to protect what we negotiated?'

By Stu Singer

MONTREAL—In the February 18 federal elections the New Democratic Party, the labor party in Canada, increased its vote in Quebec by nearly 100,000. This about equalled the net increase for the NDP in the country as a whole.

A "parallel campaign" for the NDP was organized by the Canadian Labor Congress, the union federation comparable to the AFL-CIO.

The union effort for the NDP in Quebec was on a smaller scale than in English Canada. The failure of the NDP to champion the national rights of the Quebecois makes it an unattractive alternative for many nationalist-minded workers. (For information on the oppression of the Quebecois, see story below.)

Although Quebec unions have carried out some of the most militant struggles in all of North America, the local and provincial labor bodies here are still tied to supporting capitalist political parties.

In 1976 the Parti Quebecois (PQ) won a surprise victory in the provincial election. The PQ is a capitalist party, but its nationalism won it the support of major unions in Quebec.

In the recent election, NDP candidates in Quebec who were most successful were known as supporters of Quebec national rights or even independence. Recognizing the depth of nationalist sentiment, federal NDP leader Ed Broadbent declined to act against Quebec NDP candidates who violated the party line on this.

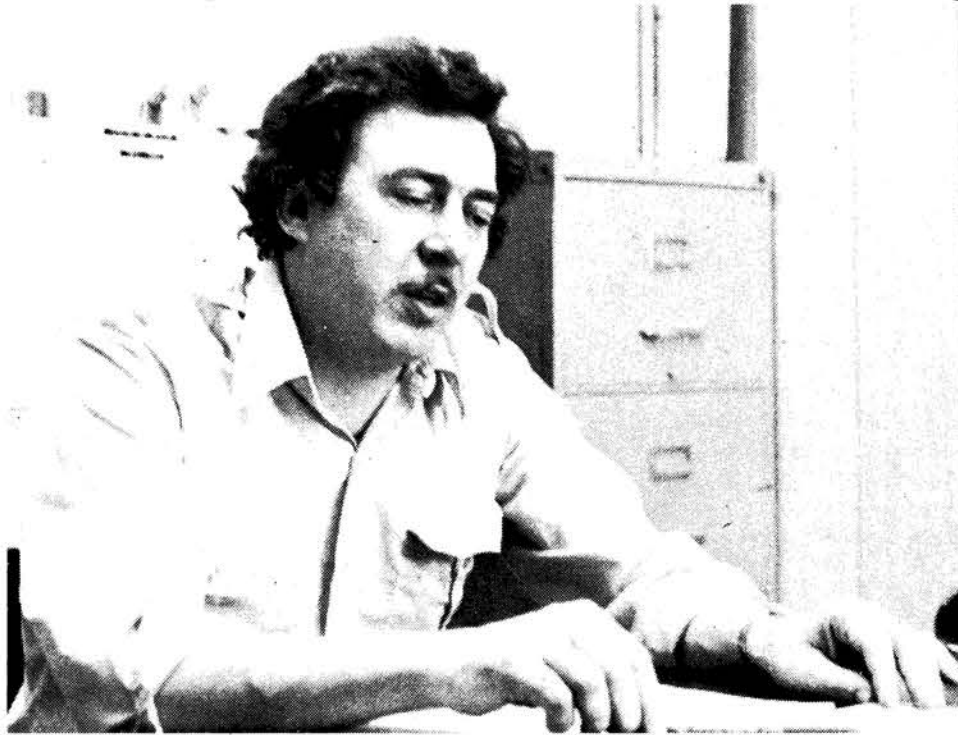
### St. Jean campaign

One of the strongest NDP campaigns in Quebec was in the working-class town of St. Jean, south of Montreal. The NDP candidate there was Roger Roy, thirty-seven, a wireman-tester in the local Westinghouse plant. Roy is president of United Electrical Workers Local 560 and a vice-president of the St. Jean Labor Council.

Roy received more than 5,000 votes, or 15 percent. This is double the NDP vote in the last election.

A few days after the election, I went to St. Jean along with Marie Simoneau and Paul Kouri of the Ligue Ouvrière Révolutionnaire/Revolutionary Workers League, sister party of the U.S. Socialist Workers Party. We met Roy in the Métallo (Steelworkers) building and talked for almost two hours.

Roy said he supports the PQ in provincial elections (the PQ does not



Roger Roy, union activist, ran for Parliament: 'Just taking the union demands to another step.'

run for federal office) and favors a "yes" vote in the upcoming referendum for "sovereignty-association," that is, more autonomy for Quebec. The NDP leadership opposes it.

Roy said his position was made clear in the local newspaper, but that he walked a thin line during the campaign in expressing opinions different than top NDP leaders.

His election campaign was actively supported by local unions. The St. Jean Labor Council organized this support and raised money for him.

Roy's background is similar to thousands of other Quebecois workers. He grew up on a small farm in eastern Quebec on the Gaspé peninsula. His father worked as a lumberjack. In the late 1950s the family moved and Roger went into the army after high school. He quit after six years and began work at Westinghouse in 1969.

### Union struggles & politics

Roy helped lead an effort to bring in the UE as a stronger replacement for the CSN (Confederation of National Trade Unions) local there. He was a leader of strikes in 1973 and '78 and was elected local president in 1979. He works full time in the plant. Layoffs have cut the work force to 180 from an earlier high of more than 300.

Roy told us the 1973 and '78 strikes

were "long and bitter. But you always gain something in a strike. We got a big wage gain in 1973. Then we lost twenty-two cents an hour from [Liberal Party Prime Minister Pierre] Trudeau's wage freeze policy in 1976. When you add that to inflation, we actually lost fifty cents an hour that year."

For Roy, running for office as an NDP candidate is "just taking the union demands to another step."

"Over the years I came to realize that we can fight," he said. "We are quite well organized in Quebec. Maybe more than in the States and the rest of Canada. We can negotiate good contracts, there's no doubt about it."

"But the thing we can't do is control prices. The question is, where can we go to protect what we negotiated? Politics is the answer. It's the only logical way to go. It's impossible to bargain faster than the prices are going up."

After the experience of Trudeau's wage controls, how did Roy explain the high vote for the Liberal Party, which got more than 66 percent in St. Jean?

"How do you explain the belief in Santa Claus?" he replied.

### Obstacles

Roy pointed to the obstacles a labor party faces. "In the past the general feeling was that the union had no

place in active politics. This was probably caused by not having the proper education.

"This problem doesn't only apply to Quebec. I imagine it applies in all of North America."

"The labor movement is up against the corporate establishment. They own all the means of information. When the labor movement tries to get involved on the political scene, they react. And a lot of workers don't understand it. The boss has the upper hand right now."

Roy thinks that "there is a place for the NDP in Quebec," but that the party's future depends in large part on the stand it takes on Quebec national rights.

If the NDP simply echoes the Liberals' talk of "national unity"—meaning continued subordination to English Canada—then "the NDP won't go very far in Quebec. But if the NDP takes into consideration what people here are for, there is a possibility for the NDP to grow."

Roy thinks that the official NDP stand against Quebec independence "didn't hurt us more than the Liberals or Conservatives," which are also against independence. But he estimates that at least 1,500 protest votes in St. Jean that should have gone to the NDP were instead cast for the farcical "Rhinoceros Party" or otherwise thrown away.

On the other hand, he believes the NDP is picking up "more support from the farmers than ever before."

### Language rights

The struggle for the right of Quebecois workers to use French on the job is an important one for the union.

"All the foreign companies are the same," Roy said. "They come here and their technical language is English. Management is English. It only started to change a little before the PQ came in. Then we got Law 101," which established French as the official language of work in Quebec.

"The union is the watchdog to make sure the law applies," he explained. "The law itself is not enough. The government does not send inspectors to each work place."

"Now all the manuals are in French. The workers in the office are not in the union. English is the word there. But not in the plant."

One of the main promises of the PQ was to hold a referendum on independence for Quebec. Finally, about four

## Quebec—200 years of oppression

Quebec is a nation within Canada. It has its own territory, language, culture, and history. Compared to most nations in the world it is advanced. Its capitalist class exploits workers both in Quebec and elsewhere.

But at the same time Quebec is an oppressed nation. It was conquered by the British in 1763. Ever since then the Quebecois have been discriminated against for using their own language and culture.

Knowledge of a foreign language—English—was a requirement for the French-speaking Quebecois to get decent jobs or function in colleges and courts. (In recent years waves of demonstrations and strikes have led to important gains, especially in language rights.)

Although it is a capitalist nation in its own right, Quebec is economically exploited by capitalists in English Canada, the United States, and other powers.

United Electrical Workers leader

Roger Roy pointed to one example. Workers at Westinghouse in St. Jean make \$1.50 an hour less than at Westinghouse in the neighboring English Canadian province of Ontario. And Westinghouse workers in Ontario make a little less than their counterparts in the United States.

Industrial development is concentrated in Ontario rather than Quebec. The Quebec economy is much more dependent on extraction and export of natural resources through mining and lumbering.

Rail shipping rates and other economic activities regulated by the federal government favor Ontario over Quebec.

The Quebec Federation of Labor points out that the unemployment rate in Quebec is "always two or three percentage points higher than Ontario and the rest of Canada."

Struggles to preserve the French language and culture reflect the nationalist pride of the Quebecois. There have been many political expressions as well.

One of the most dramatic was during World War II. There was mass resistance to the draft in Quebec. The people felt they had little stake in fighting on behalf of their British, Canadian, and U.S. exploiters.

Since the early 1960s there has been a big influx of Quebecois into the cities and into industry, social services, and the unions. This shift from a predominately rural population to an increasingly urban and industrial one gave impetus and power to the movement for Quebecois rights.

The militancy of the working class in Quebec has also inspired struggles against the federal government and capitalist bosses throughout Canada. Quebec was a strong base of support for the one-day general strike against wage controls in 1976, the militant strike of the postal workers in 1977, and the current strike by telephone workers against Bell Canada.

According to Jean-Marc Carle, who heads up the information service for United Steelworkers District 5 (Quebec and the maritime provinces), membership in the USWA increased from 16,000 in 1965 to 45,000 today. The Steelworkers union, which organizes the miners spread throughout Quebec, is probably the most powerful industrial union there.

Carle noted, "The Quebecois have changed. They are not as shy as twenty years ago."

One popular move by the nationalist Parti Quebecois government, which came to power in 1976, was to change the slogan on auto license plates.

In Ontario, just to the west, plates have a symbol of the British crown and the slogan, "Keep it beautiful." Quebec plates bear the French fleur de lys symbol and the words, "Je me souviens," meaning "I remember."

It is understood as, "I remember 200 years of oppression." —S.S.





G.M. Cookson

Union-led demonstration in Montreal during October 14, 1976, general strike by union movement throughout Canada.

years after coming to power, the PQ government has set a tentative date for the referendum in June.

The referendum question is not a clear choice of self-determination, however, but for a vague "sovereignty-association."

The Quebec unions are in the thick of the debate over the referendum. Roy told us his union "will have a seminar on this next month. Our local will propose to the St. Jean Labor Council that we have a debate on it. Our role is to inform people and get them to decide for themselves."

His local is joining a drive to get out 260,000 copies of a special issue on the referendum of *Le Monde Ouvrière* (Workers World), newspaper of the Quebec Federation of Labor, to union members throughout the province.

#### Labor party discussion

The vote for the NDP in Quebec doubled, while the vote for every other party declined. And while the Quebec labor movement did not throw itself into the NDP campaigns as the unions did in most of English Canada, the percentage of NDP candidates who were union members was higher in Quebec than English Canada.

According to an election analysis appearing in *Socialist Voice*, the English-language paper of the RWL/LOR, in Quebec "the highest NDP votes were in working class, francophone ridings [districts], in Montreal, Quebec City, Lac Saint-Jean, Sherbrooke and Hull."

In the discussion around the referendum, the question of independent labor political action will be central. While the Parti Quebecois still retains great popularity, its capitalist nature has become more apparent to workers now than when it came to power. In its three years in office the PQ has broken strikes by public workers. It is stuck with the job of administering the austerity measures required by the worldwide capitalist economic crisis.

The LOR/RWL calls for building a labor party in Quebec based on the unions. It ran two candidates in Quebec to raise its socialist program and to put forward this next urgent step for

the Quebec labor movement. The Groupe Socialiste Travailleur/Socialist Workers Group also ran candidates in Quebec advocating a labor party.

Class-conscious worker leaders like Roger Roy, who used the NDP as a way of pushing forward an independent working-class alternative in the federal election, are helping point the way forward for Quebec workers.

Their experience has something to say to unionists in the United States as well.

### More than 'boo'

Union support for the labor-based New Democratic Party differs between English Canada and Quebec.

But the basic challenge is the same: to convince the working class and its allies to act independently in politics, to escape the trap of choosing between the parties of the bosses.

The unions' "parallel campaign" for the NDP reached tens of thousands of workers in Canada and its success is reflected in a local campaign like that of United Electrical Workers leader Roger Roy.

We asked his view of the U.S. political parties.

"I don't know 'boo' about politics in the United States," Roy said, "but I am interested in the people. I have in mind that I see the Democrats like the Liberal Party and the Republicans like the Conservatives."

The most powerful unions behind the NDP in Canada—such as the United Steelworkers, United Auto Workers, and rail unions—are international unions with big memberships in the United States. They campaign for the labor party in Canada but still support the capitalist parties, the Democrats and Republicans, south of the border.

As workers in the United States become disillusioned with the two-party swindle, the example of their own unions in Canada shows a real alternative.

# Cuban community won't buy Espinosa lies

By Harry Ring

Two Florida travel firms which organize visits to Cuba by members of the U.S. Cuban community are back in business.

American Airways Charters and Travel Service, Incorporated, had been shut down on a flimsy technicality by the mayor of Hialeah Park, outside Miami, after charges that officials of the two companies were Cuban spies.

The mayor backed off after they went into federal court.

Meanwhile, Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) called upon Cubans to stop visiting their homeland. Since such travel began in early 1979, some 10,000 U.S. Cubans have visited their homeland.

At the same time, Rev. Manuel Espinosa, source of the wholesale "spy" charges against members of the Cuban community, tried to put a monkey wrench into badly needed economic aid to the people of Cuba.

Espinosa is the Miami-area minister who made a sudden somersault on opposition to the U.S. blockade of Cuba. In late January he unleashed a barrage of spy charges against a broad range of individuals and organizations associated with the Committee of 75, in which Espinosa had been a leading figure.

The committee has promoted renewed ties between Cuba and the Cuban community abroad. Its efforts led to the release of 3,600 Cuban prisoners convicted of crimes against the revolution.

It was the Committee of 75 that initiated the travel to Cuba.

Espinosa's unsubstantiated spy charges have been widely publicized in the Miami area by Spanish-language radio stations which have carried his "press-conference" diatribes live, including one at which leaders of two counterrevolutionary exile groups appeared with him.

In one broadcast, Espinosa asserted that "contraband" was being shipped to Cuba in violation of Washington's embargo.

What was this "contraband"?

According to the Miami firm which shipped the goods, it was 1,996 automobile tires and 400 car batteries. U.S. Customs papers show the shipments were stamped "cleared."

The tires and batteries were bought with money raised by the Alliance of Workers in the Community.

Hildo Romeo, a spokesperson for the alliance said the idea of sending badly needed tires and batteries had originated with cab drivers in Havana.

Last fall, in the wake of Hurricane Frederick, the alliance sent food and clothing to Cuba.

Now, in response to Espinosa's allegations, the Commerce Department has declared it is probing for possible civil and criminal violations in the shipment of the tires and batteries.

The department did not say how any possible prosecution could be squared with official sanction of the shipments.

The readiness of the federal government to investigate such unfounded charges stands in contrast to its refusal to act against the counterrevolutionary terrorist gangs in this country. These thugs have murdered two partisans of the Committee of 75 in the past year and perpetrated two bombings of the Cuban Mission to the UN at the close of last year.

It is a joke for the authorities to say they don't know who these people are or how to catch them.

Recent revelations established that leading Ku Klux Klan killers were in the employ of the FBI. Is there any good reason not to believe that the same is true of the counterrevolutionaries who admittedly received training and funds from the CIA?

These terrorists are able to carry on their bombings and assassinations only because they have the assent of the United States government.

But they don't have the support of the Cuban community.

One more indication of the true sentiment within the community was provided when Espinosa resigned as pastor of the Evangelical Reform Church of Hialeah. He quit February 5, the first Sunday after he made his sudden, widely publicized flip-flop on friendship with Cuba.

The *Miami Herald* reported that attendance that Sunday was one-third normal.

The church membership had been early workers for friendship with Cuba. Despite threats and bomb attacks, they had picketed and demonstrated for an end to the blockade.

Espinosa's present smear campaign against the Committee of 75 may be welcomed by Washington and its counterrevolutionary hirelings. But it obviously doesn't sit well with his former parishioners.

# Shockley sperm bank: plan for master race?

By Diane Jacobs

Eugenics—the selective breeding and sterilization of human beings to eliminate undesirables and achieve genetic purity. Didn't it disappear with Hitler's Third Reich? Apparently not.

A recent search of records at a Virginia state mental institution revealed a fifty-year program of sterilization at hospitals throughout the state.

The victims included thousands classified as retarded, prostitutes, petty criminals, and simply maladjusted—such as unwed mothers and children with disciplinary problems. Many were told only that the operation would "correct medical problems."

It was left up to the discretion of the hospital director to decide if sterilization was "in the best interest of such patient and society."

The program ended in 1972, but the law authorizing it was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, and is still on the books.

Sterilization operations became so frequent in many states that racist doctors called them "Mississippi appendectomies"—performed most often on impoverished southerners, a large

number of them Black, many of them young girls barely in their teens.

On the other side of the same coin is a sperm bank program organized in 1977 by a wealthy California industrialist, Robert K. Graham. Donors to the bank are limited to Nobel laureates. Recipients of the sperm must be "highly intelligent" married women.

The most outspoken contributor to the sperm bank is inventor William Shockley, a pseudo-geneticist most famous for his theory that Blacks are genetically inferior to whites.

Shockley defended his contributions to the project: "... my past and present emphasis is on reducing the tragedy of the genetically disadvantaged at the bottom."

There you have it. Those "at the bottom" have only themselves—their genes, that is—to blame. The solution is not to elevate the poor but to eliminate them. To make room, presumably, for the master race of Shockley clones.

But that's a dismal vision of things to come. The struggle for socialism is a much better way to insure humanity's bright future.





## Socialist candidate Andrew Pulley: 'Cuba shows how racism can be ended'

Havana school children on visit to museum take time out for a game.

Militant/Harry Ring

### By Harry Ring

Andrew Pulley, the Socialist Workers Party presidential nominee, was one of the group that travelled to Cuba in late January with the SWP Cuba seminar.

Pulley was enthusiastic about his visit and in an interview, he described some of his impressions.

The first thing that struck him was "the total absence of segregation of Afro-Cubans."

"Here in this country," he explained, "you see some superficial desegregation, Black movie stars, Black political figures. But when you get into the community, you cease to see desegregation. There are still strict white communities and strict Black communities."

"In Cuba, though, you see Blacks in every conceivable job. Housing is integrated, people live where they want. You see people mingling freely in clubs, in restaurants—and there's no apparent friction or animosity among the races there."

"It made me remember when I was a kid in Mississippi," he continued. "We were bused past the best white school to go to the worst white school. That's nonexistent in Cuba."

Pulley said he also took note that Cuban children get two meals a day at school and free uniforms. "When I was a kid," he recalled, "the biggest struggle I faced was having clothes to go to school in. And not to be embarrassed by wearing the same thing every day."

"So the thing that really stood out for me," Pulley repeated, "was all the concrete evidence I saw of how racism can be laid to rest."

What give the abolition of racism a solid base, the socialist nominee explained, are the economic gains of the revolution. These favor all working people, he said, but especially those who were hardest hit before, the Blacks.

"You have full employment in Cuba," he said. "People are paying only ten percent of their income for rent. And that ten percent is only for

the 'head of the household.' Not ten percent on everyone in the family that's working.

"You have free education from kindergarten through college.

"From what I could observe," he said, "nobody's denied these things. That means, practically speaking, that racism's been abolished."

### Gains of women

Another thing that impressed Pulley was the role of women in Cuba.

"I think women are about 30 percent of the Cuban work force. But what's significant is the ground women have gained in the twenty years since the revolution.

"People told me that before the revolution adult women had to get permission to go out of the house. Now you see boys and girls, from six to fourteen, going away together to the Pioneer camps for vacation. I think this in itself represents a gigantic change in attitudes.

"Even more significant," Pulley added, "is the options that women in Cuba have today. They're no longer relegated to being wives or maids—or prostitutes. Those were the three 'careers' women could have before the revolution."

"Being in Cuba just one week, you can see how this has changed. In a clothing factory we visited, a woman worker headed up the militia unit. Another was the head of the union."

### Medical care in U.S. and Cuba

Pulley was also much impressed by Cuba's system of socialized medicine. "One of the people on our tour got sick," he said. "He got good care and didn't have to pay a dime."

"You saw the difference," he added, "as we returned to the states. One of our people got pretty sick on the flight. The pilot radioed ahead. But when we landed there was no doctor. They laid him out on a baggage rack until a couple of paramedics arrived.

"They told him they could take his vital signs free of charge—like in Cuba, they said. But then they told him that if he wanted to go to the hospital for treatment, it would be \$75—in advance!"

A particularly inspiring thing for Pulley was "the internationalism. Both of the government and the people. It's not just what Cuba has done to aid the struggles of other countries, like Angola. But also how they're making the Cuban people aware of these struggles. The internationalism seems to be widely supported among the people.

"I met one Afro-Cuban who just returned from Angola. And he was proud of his service there.

"You see the internationalism reflected in the Cuban media," he added. "In the paper *Granma* there's articles every day on the different countries where the class struggle has heated up. Places like El Salvador, Nicaragua.

When we were there there were a number of articles on Zimbabwe.

"All of this shows how the leadership is educating the Cuban people to the fact that they're citizens of the world, that the struggle of people abroad is their struggle."

Pulley described how his visit compared with his anticipations.

### Human needs met

"I had heard a lot about the economic difficulties and the shortages," he explained. "And I expected to find much more scarcity than I did. I certainly didn't expect to see that so many Cubans have television.

"I had just read a *Wall Street Journal* article about this one Cuban who said things were fine as far as jobs and free education were concerned. But he was upset he didn't have a television. The implication I got was that television was a rare item in Cuba.

"But in Havana, and in the rural areas, the opposite seemed to be the case. Most people seemed to have TV.

"Also, there didn't seem to be any big shortage of clothing. People seemed to be nicely dressed, well dressed.

"I was also surprised by the diversity of clothing," Pulley added. "What you hear from the capitalist media is that it's all one color. I didn't really believe that. But it does rub off on you, even if you're skeptical."

Pulley said he was moved by the warm reception he got from people in Cuba, especially Afro-Cubans.

"Everybody was very friendly," he said, "but with Afro-Cubans, it was a little extra. It's not every day they meet a Black socialist running for president of the United States.

"They feel solidarity with Black people in the United States, in Africa. They know about the struggle."

Several people, he said, asked him about Malcolm X. They had favorable comments about Malcolm.

### End the blockade

Pulley's visit persuaded him of the great importance of American working people learning more about Cuba. "I intend to use my campaign to help make people more aware of Cuba," he said. "To make them aware of the lies in the news media.

"I'm going to promote the idea that there should be diplomatic relations between this country and Cuba," he said. "That the blockade against Cuba should be lifted. And that the government should stop helping the counter-revolutionary exile terrorists who are trying to intimidate the Cuban people in this country who want a policy of friendship.

"I'm going to urge people to go down there and see for themselves," he said. "Cuba makes it easier to convince people of the correctness of socialism.

"Look at the irony," he said. "In Chicago, they're shutting down hospitals. They're going to close six schools, lay off 2,000 teachers. And in tiny Cuba they're expanding the hospitals and building up the schools!

"Doesn't it make it clear," he said, "that the problem is the profit system. That working people have to break out of the framework of capitalist politics, the two parties, build a labor party and begin to follow the pro-worker policies being followed in Cuba.

"Everywhere I go," Pulley concluded, "people will hear about Cuba."

## Readings on Cuba

**Dynamics of the Cuban Revolution**, by Joseph Hansen  
385 pages, \$5.95

**Selected Speeches of Fidel Castro** 136 pages, \$4.00

**The Second Declaration of Havana**, by Fidel Castro  
31 pages, \$.75

**Fidel Castro at the UN**  
48 pages, \$1.25

Order by mail from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. (Please enclose \$.75 for postage.)



Militant/Harry Ring

Andrew Pulley, center, and Robert Matson, left, talk with Nicaraguan merchant seaman during SWP Cuba tour. They met in Cienfuegos hotel dining room. The Nicaraguan crew was seeing Cuba while their ship was being repaired. They were delighted to meet U.S. socialists who support Nicaraguan revolution.



# Storage tanks filled but oil prices soar

By August Nimitz

Once again the law of supply and demand has proved inoperative in the capitalist oil market. Both supplies and prices are soaring at the same time.

"Stocks of crude oil in the United States reached their highest point on record last Friday, while supplies of gasoline were the largest in two years," according to the February 21 *New York Times*. A spokesperson for Continental Oil was quoted as saying "every tank we have is brimming."

Experts are calling the situation a worldwide oil glut. Data of the International Energy Agency in Paris show "that the non-Communist world now produces about a million more barrels of oil a day than it consumes, with the excess going to storage."

According to the February 27 *New York Times*, U.S. Energy Department officials were telling reporters that they foresaw "\$1.50-a-gallon gasoline and \$1.15-a-gallon home heating oil by the end of the year."

The end of the year is coming early in 1980. A survey of gas stations in the New York metropolitan area showed that motorists are already paying as much as \$1.41 a gallon. "And retailers are saying that the average price . . . could reach \$1.50 in three months, six months earlier than predicted this week by Federal Energy Department officials," reported the March 1 *Times*.

One expert is predicting that the price will reach \$1.88 a gallon by the end of the year.

Why are oil prices rising so rapidly? There's certainly no shortage!

The oil companies and the Carter

administration would have us blame Iran or the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

As for Iran, a Treasury Department study, which the Carter administration sought to squelch, concluded that the mass struggles there never caused an oil shortage and could not account for higher oil prices (January 4 *Times*).

Nor is OPEC to blame. The price working people in this country pay for oil is rising faster than OPEC prices.

The fundamental reason for the price rise is monopoly control of the oil industry. With a few companies—American companies, not Arabs or Iranians—controlling marketing, oil prices can be kept artificially high.

A more immediate reason for skyrocketing prices lies with the Carter administration's decontrol of domestic crude oil.

The oil monopolies are expected to reap at least \$1,000 billion in extra profits over the next decade from decontrolled oil sales.

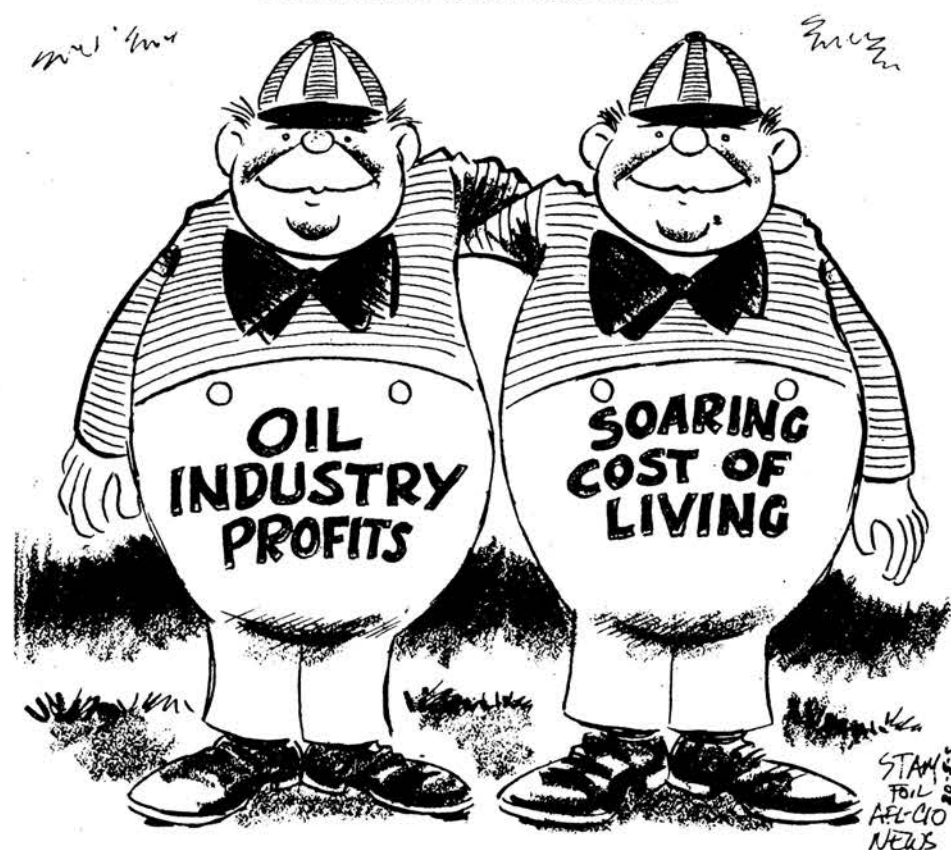
To great fanfare, Congress is adopting the "windfall profits" tax, which is supposed to prevent the oil companies from growing too fat off the energy crisis.

But actually the government is taking no more than 23 percent or \$227 billion. (Since corporations can evade taxes more easily than you or I, it remains to be seen how much of this will actually be paid.)

Much of the tax money collected from the oil companies will be plowed back to them and to other big businesses through special tax credits.

Under capitalism, this is known as "equal sacrifice."

Tweedledee and Tweedledee



## Amoco kills two, bars OSHA

An explosion February 13 at the Amoco Oil Refinery in Texas City, Texas, led to the deaths of two strikebreakers employed there by private contractors.

The accident confirms the charges by the striking Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union that the scab operation of the refineries is highly dangerous.

Amoco is blocking an investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The company refuses to allow OSHA inspectors to be accompanied by the union-designated safety representative, even though this right is

recognized both in the union contract and in federal law.

OSHA is seeking a court-ordered search warrant to enter the plant, but Amoco has petitioned that this request not even be considered. If the search warrant is granted, the company says, its "only remedy will be to refuse to comply."

In a related incident, Arco charged that twenty-seven women and children had "harrassed and intimidated" people trying to enter its struck plant on February 14, the day following the Amoco accident. The demonstrators were protesting unsafe conditions at the Arco refinery.

## ...inflation

Continued from back page

food stamps, veterans benefits, and related programs. One proposal is to end the use of the Consumer Price Index to determine cost-of-living increases in benefits, in favor of using the "gross national product deflator," which ran about four points under the CPI last year.

This would take about \$5 billion out of the pockets of the hungry, the poor, the aged, and the disabled.

Government economists are starting to claim that the CPI overstates inflation. But in fact the CPI understates the impact of inflation on working people by including luxury goods whose prices rise more slowly. The index for basic necessities—which is what we spend most of our money on—rose not 13 percent but 17.6 percent last year.

Another frequently cited target of the budget-cutters is the Department of Labor. They aim to gut programs that provide training and jobs for the unemployed, and to slash funds for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. OSHA has irritated big business by exposing a few of the unsafe conditions that kill and maim tens of thousands of workers each year.

But target number one is our wages. Here the main weapon is the "guidelines" issued by the Carter administration. The official wage guideline remains 7 percent, although the White House seems likely to accept an increase to a 7.5-9.5 percent range recommended by a board of top corporate and union officials.

But even increases of 9 and 10 percent would mean a savage cut in our real income in a year of 18 percent inflation.

The promoters of "wage restraint" are especially unhappy about cost-of-living escalator provisions—the only protection workers have against soaring prices. They're talking about building restrictions on COLA into the new guidelines.

The *Wall Street Journal* summed up the meaning of Carter's guidelines when it hoped March 4 that "the administration's voluntary wage-price guidelines help prevent the inflation in the energy area from spilling over into the nation's wage structure."

In other words, make sure our wages never catch up with oil company price gouging.

When real wages have already been falling for well over a year, it takes some gall to blame inflation on work-

ers' demands. But that remains the Carter administration's justification.

There is a battle going on now to defend our living standards against inflation.

In the front lines are 55,000 members of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union, on strike against the profit-swollen giants of the oil industry. Big oil is hanging tough against granting health benefits and a living wage to the refinery workers because they know that a victory for OCAW will inspire other workers to fight harder for a fairer deal.

The government hasn't forgotten to lend a hand to the oil barons in this clash. Washington officials complain that the settlement reached by the union at eight small refineries exceeds their guidelines.



Carter aims to cut benefits to elderly, sick, disabled.

The February 12 *New York Times* reported, "Federal experts expect that the major companies will refuse to settle at so high a level." That's the Carter administration's way of letting it be known that the government stands fully behind the oil companies in their fight to push the oil workers down.

The battle lines to defend the working class against inflation's ravages are also drawn in Chicago, where fire fighters are striking for a signed contract; at International Harvester, where workers are resisting company demands for forced overtime; and in other strikes across the country.

Our response must be to organize the greatest possible solidarity of labor and its allies behind the oil workers and others fighting for a decent living standard. That's the real fight against inflation today.

## Gov't admits vast Black youth unemployment

By August Nimitz

A new government study admits what the Black community has long known—the actual unemployment rate for Black youth is much higher than the official figures issued monthly by the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

According to the unpublished study, which was summarized in the February 29 *New York Times*, the unemployment rate for Black youth in spring 1979 was 38.8 percent while the official BLS figure for that period was 28 percent.

For Black youth in school but wanting to work, the BLS report showed 36.9 percent unemployment while the in-depth study showed a rate of 55.4 percent.

The study shows that overall youth unemployment—sixteen- to twenty-one-year-olds—is also higher than the figures given by the BLS.

The results of the study, ac-

cording to the *Times*, "directly challenge the contention made by a number of manpower economists that the Labor Department's monthly reports overstate unemployment among black teen-agers."

For years, in fact, Black leaders have charged that the BLS figures have vastly undercounted Black unemployment, particularly that of youth. The National Urban League estimated in its new report, *The State of Black America—1980*, that Black youth unemployment in 1979 was more than 56 percent.

The new survey concludes that "black and Hispanic youths are consigned to lower-wage, lower-skilled jobs than whites. Young minority group workers must travel longer to reach their jobs and derive less satisfaction from their work. They also tend to be laid off more often than their white counterparts."



# In Review

## Angi Vera: subtle view of corruption

Angi Vera. Written and directed by Pal Gabor. Released by New Yorker Films.

*Angi Vera* is a Hungarian film that is both a sensitive study of character and a subtle depiction of the relationship between the bureaucracy and the working class in that country.

The time of the action is 1948, shortly after the Stalinists took power following World War II. Very likely this period was chosen so that the film-makers might claim that whatever criticism of Hungarian society is implicit in the film pertains only to that time, not to now. But the bureaucracy has not disappeared.

The young heroine, Vera (the last name first is Hungarian usage in formal writing), is a hard-working nurses' aide in a hospital. Orphaned by the war and leading a lonely existence, she is quiet, shy, and sensitive. Although she doesn't say much, her expressive face shows her sympathy for others.

With these qualities Vera has the courage that goes along with her honesty of feeling. At a meeting of the hospital's workers, the director gives the obligatory party-line speech, which is evidently mere verbiage for him and everyone else. But in the question period Vera astonished everyone by speaking up about the shameful conditions at the hospital.

It turns out, however, that this is the best thing she could have done for herself, for the Communist



Appearing in 'Angi Vera' are Veronika Papp (left) and Erzsébet Pásztor

the making, one beer for the workers.

At school Vera has fallen in love with her teacher, a devoted militant with an outstanding record of anti-fascist struggle. She can scarcely talk out of shyness, but with the same over-riding honesty and boldness that she showed in speaking up at the hospital meeting she confesses her love to him. He does likewise, and they spend the night together in the absence of his wife.

The school has sessions of criticism and self-criticism conducted by a Communist party functionary from outside, who is received by the school's director with extreme deference.

Ostensibly, these sessions are for the purpose of reaching a common goal by frank discussion of shortcomings. Actually, we see that they serve the purpose of the Stalinists' bludgeoning the workers and making them toe the line.

The workers uncertain of how to participate in the charade are accused by the session leader of being arrogant and cynical, but it is he who is both. In spite of the adjurations to be honest, no one would dare to speak out against his insufferable smugness.

At one point a veteran happens to mention that he commanded a revolutionary brigade in the revolutionary regime that was set up after World War I. The session leader rebukes him for being boastful and comments that he probably thinks himself better than the present leaders of the party. Evidently, criticism does not extend to the top leadership.

This is too much for Maria, an earthy, plain-spoken worker, who has served as a contrast for Anna. She remonstrates indignantly that it is

shameful to treat an old comrade in this fashion.

When it comes to Vera's turn, she creates a sensation by confessing that, infatuated by authority, she spent the night with her teacher. She thereby causes him to be removed from his post and ruins his career. She herself is, however, commended for her honesty.

There is some ambiguity here. Was Vera merely being naive, taking seriously what no one else took seriously, as when she spoke out at the hospital meeting?

Or, profiting from that experience, did she speak with at least some measure of calculation? She signed the report condemning the oppositionist worker, and she did not speak out in defense of the veteran. Has she been unconsciously corrupted by Anna?

It is hard to tell, but she is undoubtedly distressed by the consequences of her act and willfully courts pneumonia. The other students having left by train during her illness, Vera is taken to her destination in a limousine by Anna, who informs her that she has won the rare opportunity to become a journalist.

As they are driving, they pass Maria pedalling along on a bicycle. Vera's face lights up and she taps on the window to attract Maria's attention. Maria does not, however, hear her, and the limousine speeds along, leaving her behind.

Vera's road is no longer that of the workers. She has been co-opted by the bureaucracy, and, having passed through a sexual experience similar to Anna's, will become another Anna.

—Paul Siegel

## Film

party had been planning to ditch the director. Although the workers were not involved in the decision-making, the bureaucracy was glad enough to be able to justify its decision as a response to the legitimate grievances of the workers.

Vera is sent to a school for the training of cadres. There she befriends, Anna, an older woman who is outraged by the freedom with which the other women discuss their sexual experiences. Anna herself had had a very brief affair with a married man that ended unhappily with his being killed by the profascist government.

At first our sympathies, like Vera's, are with Anna, but we soon enough see that she is not only repressed but repressive. When she and Vera go out to register people in the neighborhood, she has no compunction about reporting a worker who had belonged to another workers' party.

A long-time Communist party activist, she feels that she merits some special privileges for her activism. "We deserve it," she says as she orders a second liqueur at the cafe to which she and Vera have gone after completing their registration assignment. This contrasts with a Communist functionary's forbidding any one to have a second beer at a school party: two liqueurs for the bureaucrat in

## A 'must-see' slide show on nuclear power

"Nuclear Power: Miracle or Menace?"

A slideshow produced for the Mobilization for Survival by Dr. Michio Kaku (associate professor of nuclear physics, City College of New York).

Available for \$20 rental from MFS, 135 W. Fourth Street, New York, New York, 10012. (Phone (212) 673-1808).

Usually I don't get too fired up about slideshows. But this presentation by Dr. Michio Kaku is exceptional. It's the sort of account of what's happening today that leaves you making a mental list of people you know who've got to see it.

For most people who have been active in the antinuclear movement, and for many who haven't been, the nuclear horror stories here—all fact—will not be new.

We have read or heard about the giant sponges, the Brown's Ferry disaster, the Fermi I reactor incident that nearly caused us to lose Detroit, leakage at the Hanford waste dump, Karen Silkwood's fight, the Idaho Falls tragedy, the Windscale, England, uranium fire, etc.

The success of Kaku's narrative lies in the fact that he has put this history together with all the hard-hitting visual aid that photography—mainly from government files—can provide.

You see some of those 85,000 barrels of radioactive waste that have been dumped off the San Francisco and New York coasts. There they are, corroding and splintering apart, with unsuspecting fish swimming by. We learn that 25 percent of the barrels have already broken open, and that all of them will do so in the next few years. The government has no plan for preventing this.

News reports over the past year have revealed the past use of waste uranium tailings as foundations for homes, schools, and public buildings. Kaku shows us a shopping center in Grand Junction, Colorado, built in this way:

"The government's position is that there is no danger to anyone walking briskly through the shopping center."

We learn that John Wayne's death may have been the result of nuclear weapons testing by a government that he prided himself on defending. Wayne was part of a film cast making a movie in St. George, Utah, while an atomic testing program was being carried out in the region. All the leading

actors, and 34 percent of the film crew have since died of cancer. There is a leukemia epidemic in St. George today.

A few slides highlight the tragic health problems of transient workers in the nuclear industry. They go from plant to plant, doing repair and maintenance jobs and unwittingly receiving dangerous doses of radiation.

The exploitation of workers in the nuclear industry would itself be a good subject for a slide show or film.

Ideally, this would be done in cooperation with the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union.

After his litany of nuclear horrors, Kaku really starts socking it to us in slide sixty-nine: Who is responsible for this mess, he asks.

Kaku fills in the bottom line by detailing the ties between the nuclear industry and the giant oil corporations. And he shows the control exercised over both industries by the most powerful banks.

After this outline of what we are up against, shots of the May 6, 1979, Washington, D.C., antinuclear demonstration inspire us to fight back. Kaku reminds us that mass actions by the American people against nukes are under way. *We can win.*

—Jana Pellusch





**Corporate threads**—When an exec does a tax-deductible two-martini lunch, he should dress right, right? So now they have tax-deductible "wardrobe analysis" and "suit leasing." At the proper fee, an attire specialist studies a corporation's clothing needs and provides executive suits on a two-year "lease." The exec gets a free suit and the company another deduction.

**Like gold bullion and brown rice**—A new book, "Transcending the Power Game: The Way to Executive Serenity," offers "an alternative philosophy of executive power—a blend of Taoist thought, Greek and Roman

stoicism and the practical concerns of modern leaders."

**Warming the bench**—Some 20 percent of federal judges have attended all-expenses-paid "economics" seminars in the sunny clime of Coral Gables, Florida. The tab is picked up by such corporate court-goers as ITT, U.S. Steel and Exxon. An annual report on the seminars assures they have "favorable implications for private property and free markets."

**Just an inflation hedge**—Indictments have been issued against Solomon Barnes, a Dade County, Flor-

ida, school principal and the county superintendent. Barnes is the chap who ordered \$9,000 worth of deluxe plumbing, including gold-plated toilet fixtures, for a nonexistent plumbing class. A contractor who's putting up a \$121,000 weekend home for Barnes said he was told to put the plumbing in the house.

**The wheels of justice**—Matthew Troy, former New York City councilmember, is seeking review of what he sees as an unduly harsh prison term. Troy drew twenty six weekends in jail for stealing \$30,000 from two elderly women whose money he was handling.

**Image-makers**—There are now 160 U.S. brands of cigarettes. Do some offer better tobacco than others? Don't be naive. "Smokers are self-image buyers," confides a spokesman for Lorillard. "They're attracted to a cigarette not because it contains a better grade of tobacco but because they convey an image they like to identify with." Could there be a link between "self-image" and saturation advertising? No more than between smoking and cancer.

**Nice for the kids**—Rolls Royce has decided to break into the popular price market by handling the British sports car, the Lotus. About \$37,000.

## By Any Means Necessary

### Drugs, poverty, and war

When I began leafing through the New York Urban League's recently issued *Status of Black New York Report—1980*, I didn't expect any surprises. The facts and figures in the twenty-five-page report are all too painfully familiar.

- The employment picture for Blacks in New York City is worse than it's ever been.
- Black youth are unemployed at three to five times the rate for whites.
- The gap between Black and white income is widening.
- The overwhelming majority of the 160,000 families on the three-year waiting list for public housing are Black.
- Health care is in even greater jeopardy today as a result of Mayor Koch's threat to close down hospitals serving Blacks and Latinos.
- New York schools have a dropout-pushout rate of nearly 50 percent, mainly Black and Latino children.

All of this, unfortunately, was expected. However, what I read on page sixteen of the report shook me from my sense of *deja vu*.

"In a startling revelation, the New York Library on Special Statistics reported that 934 infants were born to mothers identified as narcotic addicts in 1978. A rate of 8.8 per 1,000 live births. *There are unconfirmed estimates that as many as 4.5 percent*

*of the children born in Harlem were born drug-addicted*" (emphasis added).

Even allowing for a statistical margin of error, this appalling finding reveals the depths of the plight of the Black community. What afflicts Harlem afflicts all Black communities.

The extensive use of drugs reflects the sense of hopelessness that prevails among large numbers of Blacks, especially youth. This figure affirms the terrible human toll of the other appalling facts and figures in the New York Urban League's report.

This is the tragic outcome for young people who are denied jobs, adequate education and health care—people who are made to feel worthless. Having been written off by the rulers of this country, from the Carter administration down to that of Mayor Koch, thousands of Black youth see drugs as the only escape from a dismal existence. Even sadder, their false solution to hopelessness means that a new generation of Black youth will enter the world even more crippled than their parents.

Rather than address the plight of Blacks, the solution of the White House and the rest of the U.S. ruling class is "to attack the budget"—the new code word for cutting back on the meager social and economic programs that could benefit Blacks.

Coupled with the cutbacks, Washington is now on a campaign to create war hysteria. Using the Afghanistan crisis as an excuse, the Carter administration is increasing war spending and seeking to

reinstitute the military draft—two moves that will place an even greater burden on the Black community.

Little wonder that Black leaders, reflecting sentiment within their communities, increasingly speak out against Carter's war drive. As Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, recently pointed out, the U.S. Army is now 33 percent Black, and Blacks make up 47 percent of the combat divisions. As he asked, "Now who's going to die in a war?"

As if these cutbacks and war drive proposals weren't enough of an affront to Blacks, the right-wing guerrillas that Washington is backing in Afghanistan are among the primary suppliers of the heroin that pollutes the veins of our youth and even poisons Black babies in their mothers' wombs. Just as was the case in Indochina, the CIA's so-called "freedom fighters" are scum who thrive on profits from the deadly heroin trade.

Not only are the U.S. rulers creating the conditions for even more widespread drug usage in the Black community, they are helping to supply the dope themselves. If their drugs don't finish us off, a bullet or bomb in one of their wars somewhere in the world will.

Can there be any doubt that the interests of Blacks lie only in bringing about an American society in which human needs take priority over profits and war become an anachronism—that is, a socialist America?



## August Nimtz

## What's Going On

### ARIZONA PHOENIX

**THE REVOLT IN CENTRAL AMERICA.** Speakers: Eduardo Quintana, Socialist Workers Party; representative of Phoenix Committee to Aid Nicaragua. Sat., March 15, 7 p.m. 1243 E. McDowell. Donation: \$1. Aup: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 255-0450.

### CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

**SOCIALIST WORKERS CAMPAIGN RALLY.** Speakers: Andrew Pulley, SWP candidate for president; George Johnson, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate, just returned from Nicaragua. Sun., March 16, 3 p.m. reception; 4 p.m. program. 2211 N. Broadway (just off Golden State Freeway). Donation: \$3. Aup: SWP Campaign Committee. For more information call (213) 225-3126.

### SAN FRANCISCO

**ARE HUMAN BEINGS REALLY GREEDY?** A talk on human nature and socialism. Speaker: Stephanie Coontz, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Mar. 22, 8 p.m. Donation: \$2. 3284 23rd St. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

### MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

**AGENT ORANGE: THE LEGACY OF CHEMICAL WARFARE IN VIETNAM.** Speakers: Louis Font,

Vietnam veteran; Bob Martin, member, Vietnam Era Veterans Association; representative of Agent Orange Victims International; others. Sun., March 9, 7 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. (4th Floor, stop at Kenmore). Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

### NEW JERSEY NEWARK

**NICARAGUA: SLIDE SHOW WITH VICTOR NIETO.** Nieto is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate in New York, recently back from Nicaragua. Sat., March 8, 8 p.m. 11-A Central Ave. (near Broad St.). Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

**OPEN HOUSE TO MEET NEW JERSEY SOCIALIST WORKERS CANDIDATES.** Speakers: Chris Hildebrand, SWP candidate for Congress, 10th District; Jon Britton, SWP candidate for Congress, 11th District. Slide show presentation on January 13 march for the Equal Rights Amendment. 5-8 p.m. 11-A Central Ave. (near Broad St.). Donation: \$4.50. Aup: N.J. SWP Campaign. For more information call (201) 451-2113.

### NEW YORK

**LOWER MANHATTAN**  
**COLOMBIA: THE EMBASSY TAKEOVER AND THE STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS.**

Speakers: Enrique Camilo, Young Socialist Alliance; Fernando Torres, *Perspectiva Mundial* staff. Forum will be in Spanish and English. Fri., March 14, 8 p.m. 108 E. 16th St., 2nd floor (1/2 block east of Union Square). Donation: \$2. Aup: Militant Forum and Foro de Perspectiva Mundial. For more information call (212) 260-6400.

### NORTH CAROLINA PIEDMONT

**SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE DRAFT.** 11 a.m. "History and Lessons of the Anti-Vietnam-War Movement: the Crisis of U.S. Foreign Policy and the Draft." Speaker: Douglas Cooper, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor. 3 p.m.: Workshop on 1980 North Carolina Socialist Election Campaign. Speaker: Rebecca Finch, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. Sat., March 15, 216 E. 6th St., Winston-Salem. Donation: \$2. Aup: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (919) 723-3419.

### OREGON PORTLAND

**TENANTS RIGHTS STRUGGLE IN PORTLAND.** Speakers: Mike McTague; others. Sun., March 16,

7:30 p.m. 711 NW. Everett St. Donation: \$1. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

### TEXAS

#### SAN ANTONIO

**REVOLT AND REPRESSION IN EL SALVADOR.** Speakers: Pat Fernández, member of Mexican American Student Organization at St. Mary's University and Young Socialist Alliance; Ron Zimmerman, television journalist recently returned from El Salvador; Sonia Rubino, Salvadoran student. Videotape of recent demonstration and government reprisals. Fri., March 14, 8 p.m. 112 Fredricksburg Rd. Donation: \$1. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (512) 735-3141.

### WASHINGTON SEATTLE

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.** A panel discussion. From Iran: Tayabeh Fallahi, anti-shah fighter; from Nicaragua: Teresa Alexander, Committee for Humanitarian Aid to the Nicaraguan People; from Grenada: Doreen Malmsten, feminist; from U.S.: Mary Nell Bockman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor. Sun., March 9, 7 p.m. 4868 Rainier Ave. South. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum and Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (206) 723-5330.



## International Women's Day

The following column by Cindy Jaquith provides a brief history of International Women's Day, which is celebrated around the world on March 8. The article originally appeared in the March 12, 1976, *Militant*.

In this year's International Women's Day activities, the theme of women in the work force is a prominent one. In Hamilton, Ontario, a broadly sponsored rally will be held March 7 to demand that the Steel Company of Canada hire women, and to salute the increased participation of women in union battles there.

The New York City Coalition of Labor Union Women and the New York chapter of the National Organization for Women will hold a ceremony at the site of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire where 146 workers—mostly women—died in 1911. A program of speakers, music, and slides is scheduled for the afternoon.

CLUW is also sponsoring activities in New Brunswick, New Jersey; Chicago; and San Francisco.

Women Strike for Peace has called for demonstrations at post offices around the country on March 8 to protest registration and the draft.

\* \* \*

International Women's Day is being celebrated around the world on March 8 with speak-outs, teach-ins, demonstrations, and other protests against the oppression of women. Here in the United States, many actions are focusing on the demand for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Women are also speaking out in defense of our right to abortion and on other issues.

Through the resurgence of feminism in the 1960s, we have restored March 8 as part of women's rightful heritage in this country. For decades, however, International Women's Day had been ignored in the United States, despite the fact that this holiday has its roots in the struggles of American working women.

On March 8, 1908, women garment workers in New York City took to the streets. They marched through the Lower East Side demanding the right to vote and an end to intolerable working conditions.

Working women, often led by the Socialist party, played an important role in the suffrage movement in this country. In honor of the suffrage battles in the United States, the International Socialist Women's Congress, meeting in Copenhagen in 1910, declared March 8 International Women's Day.

March 8, 1911, saw a tremendous outpouring of women in Europe in support of suffrage. Alexandra Kollontai, the Russian revolutionary leader, described it in her pamphlet *International Women's Day*:

"Germany and Austria . . . were one seething trembling sea of women. Meetings were organized everywhere—in the



Role of women in labor force is major theme of International Women's Day celebrations.

small towns and even in the villages. Halls were packed so full that they had to ask workers to give up their places to the women.

"This was certainly the first show of militancy by the working women. Men stayed at home with the children for a change, and their wives, the captive housewives, went to meetings."

Such celebrations risked fierce repression in tsarist Russia. Nevertheless, the Bolshevik party organized a "Morning Teach-in on the Woman Question" on March 8, 1913, in Petrograd. Nearly all the party speakers were arrested at the end of the rally.

Then in 1917, the March 8 celebration that was to transform world history occurred. Russian women textile workers in Petrograd marked International Women's Day (February 23 by the Russian calendar) by going on strike, demanding bread and an end to the war. Their strike spread throughout the city, and soon Petrograd was engulfed in a workers' upsurge, which we now know as the February revolution.

The Russian revolution snapped the economic chains that bound women. When the Bolsheviks came to power, they legalized abortion, built child-care centers, eased divorce laws, and repealed anti-homosexual statutes.

The great strides forward in the emancipation of Russian women were betrayed when the counterrevolutionary regime of Joseph Stalin consolidated his grip.

The Russian revolution, nevertheless, marked a historic advance for women, illustrating that the struggle for female liberation is inextricably intertwined with the fight to end all forms of oppression under capitalism.

It takes a socialist revolution to win this fight—a revolution in which women and other oppressed and exploited masses seize control of their destinies and forge a new society based on human needs.

### Iran women & the veil

Two recent features in the *Militant* go to unnecessary lengths to defend the wearing of the chador by Iranian women. Some remarks in the February 15 interview with American feminist Carol Downer echo similar views expressed in staff writer Suzanne Haig's December 14 "Women in Revolt" column.

Haig states that some Iranian women wear the chador "in opposition to Western dress styles that turn women into sex objects." Downer tells us that men turn women into "sex objects."

Materialist thought teaches us that dress styles do not turn anybody into anything. "Western" dress style does not turn women into "sex objects." Men are not wizards who can turn women into "sex objects."

The problem of women as alienated sexual beings does not result from the desire of many women to dress in a sexually attractive style, or even that many men are attracted to women who dress in such a style. The real cause is the exploitation for profit of the fact that women (and men) are sexual beings.

Downer tells us that the chador represents a rejection of "Western values." Readers of the *Militant* will not discover from its pages that some "Western values" represent a great advance over some traditional Iranian values. For example, our relatively greater

sexual freedom is a significant advance.

Downer states where the real sentiment for wearing the chador primarily comes from: "It's a whole different feeling having someone tell you you cannot dress in a way that your own moral and religious guidelines tell you you should dress." The *Militant* should defend the right of women to dress any way they choose, but why does it seem compelled to defend reactionary anti-sexual moral and religious guidelines?

The Iranian revolution does not require an unquestioning defense from the *Militant*. Our readers do, however, require an objective, Marxist defense.

Ernie Abdo  
Cincinnati, Ohio

### A Chinese bureaucrat

Although some may deny it, a privileged bureaucracy exists in China today as it did under Mao. A recent Associated Press story cites Rong Yiren, a former capitalist who employed 80,000 workers in Shanghai. Although his pay is similar to other workers, he has a chauffeured limousine while others ride bikes to work.

His home is staffed with half a dozen servants—certainly uncommon for Chinese workers. As a hobby he collects expensive cameras and money—of which he has \$6 million in the bank.

This account is highly probable. While in China last year several Chinese students

### Chicano poet against draft

The following is an original poem from Chicano poet and community activist Dr. Ricardo Sánchez. The occasion of this poem was Sánchez's appearance at the February 24 *Militant* Forum against the draft.

Sánchez had previously denounced the war plans of

the U.S. when he spoke at a University of Utah Calm Voice Forum on the situation in Iran. The close to 1,500 students applauded when he stated that no Chicanos are going to die any more in wars for the rich.

Ed Berger  
Salt Lake City, Utah

—and they want another draft—

and they want another draft,  
a registration  
of our youths  
that human blood  
might grease the wheels of progress,  
youthful blood  
rivuleting  
asian & near asian fields,

and damn  
but  
the  
price  
has ever been high,

we've died  
on too many battlefields,  
our voices keening out  
dirges  
in every barrio in this land,  
a maligned, second place citizenry,  
first in war and ever last  
on the fields of academe,  
good jobs,  
and nutrition,

and we will not, must not  
march again  
to the howling cries  
of amerikan business for  
needed raza blood  
to protect interests  
which keep us  
bonded  
to the penury  
of U.S. genocidal policies,  
Damn NO, We WON'T GO, not no more!

Ricardo Sánchez

## Our party is your party

THE MILITANT is the voice of the Socialist Workers Party.

IF YOU AGREE with what you've read, you should join us in fighting for a world without war, racism, or exploitation—a socialist world.

JOIN THE SWP. Fill out this coupon and mail it today.

☐ I want to join the SWP.  
☐ Send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *Prospects for Socialism in America* at \$2.95 each. Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Please send me more information.  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

SWP, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014

## JOIN THE SWP



# Learning About Socialism

## Why Militant defends Soviet Union

### A reader asks:

I am puzzled by the articles in the *Militant* regarding the Soviet Union. It seems to me that the majority of articles I read in the *Militant* condemn the repressive actions of the Soviet Union. At the same time, I see articles that praise the Soviet Union. Which is the official stance of the paper?

John C. McNamara  
Buffalo, New York

### Fred Feldman replies:

The contradiction you point to is a real one. It lies not in the *Militant's* coverage of the Soviet Union, but in the contradictory structure of the Soviet Union itself.

We have seen this contradiction vividly displayed in recent weeks. On the one hand, the Soviet rulers felt obliged to send troops to Afghanistan where an allied government faced rebellion by ultrareactionary forces backed by the Carter administration.

The Soviet intervention has made it possible for the Afghan people to preserve social gains they have made in the past two years, such as distributing land to poor peasants and beginning to free women from conditions bordering on slavery.

Within a few days of that progressive action, the Soviet rulers exiled Andrei Sakharov. His crime in their eyes was to demand democratic rights and to raise his voice on behalf of persecuted political dissidents.

Looking back at the origins of the Soviet Union is useful in finding the key to such contradictory actions.

The workers and peasants of Russia, led by the Bolshevik Party, took power in October 1917. This was the most democratic revolution in world history. The workers and farmers were organized into councils which debated, voted on, and carried out decisions.

This government abolished the remnants of the czarist regime, and put an end to the domination of the big landlords. It organized and mobilized the workers to take control of production in the factories, and went on to abolish capitalism and establish a planned economy based on public ownership of industry.

But the imperialist rulers in Britain, France, the United States, and elsewhere (who still dominated the rest of the world) set out to reverse this revolution. They financed and armed counterrevolutionary armies, and invaded with their own forces. Millions died in the fighting and famine that resulted, but the workers state won out.

In the wake of the civil war, the masses were exhausted and hungry. Scarcity was universal (before the revolution, Russia had been a backward capitalist country).

Attempts by workers and farmers elsewhere in the world to follow the example of the Russian revolution were defeated. The Soviet workers state was isolated.

These were the conditions that made it possible for a bureaucratic layer to arise and push the workers out of political power.

The bureaucracy was and is primarily interested in assuring itself of privileged access to consumer goods. The bureaucrats have first dibs on everything from housing to automobiles to tickets for the ballet.

The bureaucrats aren't interested in helping workers in

other countries to make socialist revolutions. They try to forestall imperialist moves against the Soviet Union by offering to collaborate with the imperialists against the world revolution.

And they are terrified of granting the working masses in the Soviet Union any democratic rights since this would endanger their privileges.

The contradictory nature of the Soviet Union has a parallel in a formation that our readers are more familiar with: the American trade unions.

The trade unions were a product of hard-won victories by the workers in struggles with the employers. But they became encrusted with a highly privileged bureaucracy. Its concern is not defense of the workers, but holding on to posts and high salaries through collaboration with the employers.

Just as we defend the unions in spite of their conservative, undemocratic, and privileged leadership, so we also defend the Soviet Union. For the Soviet Union remains a workers state.

The capitalist class has not regained power there. The nationalized, planned economy remains. And this economy produces some real benefits for the masses. The rise of the Soviet Union to a modern industrial power, the establishment of universal literacy and public education, and the availability of medical care to all regardless of income are examples.

Another example is the fact that the Soviet Union maintains essentially full employment—in contrast to crisis-ridden countries like the United States.

We think these conquests are well worth fighting for.

And the imperialists are still trying to destroy them, for the Soviet Union still stands as a giant obstacle to their drive to exploit the whole world.

In spite of the eagerness of the bureaucrats to get along, Washington tries to surround the Soviet Union with military bases, throws billions into research and development aimed at developing a nuclear first-strike capacity, and exerts countless other pressures on the Soviet Union.

In seeking to fend off these pressures the Soviet rulers are sometimes forced to provide aid to progressive struggles. The Afghan revolution is one example.

Similarly, the employers' unrelenting hostility to the unions, coupled with pressure from the ranks for action in defense of their interests, sometimes forces union bureaucrats here in the United States to lead strikes and organizing drives.

When that happens we stand with our unions while maintaining our right to disagree with the officialdom.

When the Soviet Union comes into conflict with imperialism, we stand on the side of the workers state without lessening our opposition to the policies of the bureaucracy.

The fact that the Soviet workers state represents an advance over capitalism doesn't mean that the Soviet working people should tolerate the greed and bullying of the bureaucrats. Just the opposite.

We hold that the Soviet workers and farmers can and will make a new revolution, to establish a democratic workers and farmers government while preserving the anticapitalist economic foundations of the Soviet state. Today's struggles for democratic rights presage this antibureaucratic revolution.

and industrial workers told me of similar accounts. For one thing only the government officials can ride in cars—and none are privately owned. Former capitalists have been reimbursed with interest and back pay all that was nationalized during the late 1950s.

Although Yiren may be classified a "worker," he is certainly different from other Chinese. He is not a capitalist any more because he has ceased to own his former industry or any other—but he is part of a bureaucratic caste of government officials and many former capitalists.

The democracy movement in China is aware of this bureaucracy and has called for an end to privileges, and is for a democratic form of government under the workers state.

Mark Friedman  
San Diego, California

### Antinuke info

An article in the *Militant* dated February 1, 1980, entitled "Western State Antinuclear Meeting" caught my attention. Being an antinuclear advocate myself, I am interested in learning as much about the facts behind the nuclear myth as possible.

Would it be possible to have the proceedings of the convention which took place? Any other information concerning nuclear power would also be appreciated.

Sia Ardekani  
Austin, Texas

[In reply: Although to our knowledge proceedings of the western states antinuclear conference are not available, information on antinuclear groups and activities across the country may be obtained from Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World, 413 8th Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

[Many informative books and pamphlets are available on nuclear power, including *What Working People Should Know About the Dangers of Nuclear Power* by veteran trade union and antiwar activist Fred Halstead. The pamphlet is available for ninety-five cents from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. Include seventy-five cents for postage.]

### Stay informed

Love your paper! I've been getting the *Militant* for eight years and find it to be the best example of a "free press" in the country.

When you didn't publish for three weeks I could hardly wait to read what was really happening in Afghanistan. It was then that I realized how much I depend on the Socialist Workers Party to keep me informed.

M.F.  
Bridgeville, Pennsylvania

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.

## If You Like This Paper, Look Us Up

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

**ALABAMA:** Birmingham: SWP, YSA, 1609 5th Ave. N. Tel: (205) 328-9403. Send mail to P.O. Box 3382-A. Zip: 35205.

**ARIZONA:** Phoenix: SWP, YSA, 1243 E. McDowell. Zip: 85006. Tel: (602) 255-0450.

**CALIFORNIA:** East Bay: SWP, YSA, 2864 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Zip: 94609. Tel: (415) 763-3792.

**Los Angeles:** SWP, YSA, 2211 N. Broadway. Zip: 90031. Tel: (213) 225-3126. **San Diego:** SWP, YSA, 1053 15th St. Zip: 92101. Tel: (714) 234-4630. **San Francisco:** SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 824-1992. **San Jose:** SWP, YSA, 201 N. 9th St. Zip: 95112. Tel: (408) 998-4007.

**COLORADO:** Denver: SWP, YSA, 126 W. 12th Ave. Zip: 80204. Tel: (303) 534-8954.

**FLORIDA:** Miami: SWP, YSA, 8171 NE 2nd Ave. Zip: 33138. Tel: (305) 756-8358.

**GEORGIA:** Atlanta: SWP, YSA, 509 Peachtree St. NE. Zip: 30308. Tel: (404) 872-7229.

**ILLINOIS:** Champaign-Urbana: YSA, 284 Illini Union, Urbana. Zip: 61801. **Chicago:** SWP, YSA, 434 S. Wabash, Room 700. Zip: 60605. Tel: (312) 939-0737.

**INDIANA:** Indianapolis: SWP, YSA, 4850 N. College. Zip: 46205. Tel: (317) 283-6149. **Gary:** SWP, YSA, 3883 Broadway. Zip: 46409. Tel: (219) 884-9509.

**KENTUCKY:** Louisville: SWP, YSA, 131 W. Main #102. Zip: 40202. Tel: (502) 587-8418.

**LOUISIANA:** New Orleans: SWP, YSA, 3319 S. Carrollton Ave. Zip: 70118. Tel: (504) 486-8048.

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

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Amherst: YSA, c/o Rick Drozd, 203 E. Cashin, U. of Mass. Zip: 01003. Tel: (413) 546-5942. **Boston:** SWP, YSA, 510 Commonwealth

Ave., 4th Floor. Zip: 02215. Tel: (617) 262-4621.

**MICHIGAN:** Ann Arbor: YSA, 4120 Michigan Union, U. of M. Zip: 48109. **Detroit:** SWP, YSA, 6404 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 875-5322.

**MINNESOTA:** Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, P.O. Box 1287, Virginia, Minn. Zip: 55792. Tel: (218) 749-6327. **Twin Cities:** SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

**MISSOURI:** Kansas City: SWP, YSA, 4715A Troost. Zip: 64110. Tel: (816) 753-0404. **St. Louis:** SWP, YSA, 6223 Delmar Blvd. Zip: 63130. Tel: (314) 725-1570.

**NEW JERSEY:** Newark: SWP, YSA, 11-A Central Ave. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

**NEW MEXICO:** Albuquerque: SWP, 1417 Central Ave. NE. Zip: 87106. Tel: (505) 842-0954.

**NEW YORK:** Capital District (Albany): SWP, YSA, 103 Central Ave. Zip: 12206. Tel: (518) 463-0072.

**New York, Brooklyn:** SWP, 841 Classon Ave. Zip: 11238. Tel: (212) 783-2135. **New York, Lower Manhattan:** SWP, YSA, 108 E. 16th St. 2nd Floor. Zip: 10003. Tel: (212) 260-6400. **New York, Upper Manhattan:** SWP, YSA, 564 W. 181 St., 2nd Floor. Send mail to P.O. Box 438, Washington Bridge Sta. Zip: 10033. Tel: (212) 928-1676. **New York:** City-wide SWP, YSA, 108 E. 16th St. 2nd Floor. Zip: 10003. Tel: (212) 533-2902.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Piedmont: SWP, YSA, 216 E. 6th St., Winston-Salem. Zip: 27101. Tel: (919) 723-3419.

**OHIO:** Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 970 E. McMillan. Zip: 45206. Tel: (513) 751-2636. **Cleveland:** SWP, YSA, 13002 Kinsman Rd. Zip: 44120. Tel: (216) 991-5030. **Oberlin:** YSA, c/o Gale Connor, OCMR Box 679. Zip: 44074. Tel: (216) 775-0084. **Toledo:**

SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

**OREGON:** Portland: SWP, YSA, 711 NW Everett. Zip: 97209. Tel: (503) 222-7225.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Edinboro: YSA, Edinboro State College. Zip: 16444. Tel: (215) 734-4415. **Philadelphia:** SWP, YSA, 5811 N. Broad St. Zip: 19141. Tel: (215) 927-4747 or 927-4748. **Pittsburgh:** SWP, YSA, 1210 E. Carson St. Zip: 15203. Tel: (412) 488-7000. **State College:** YSA, c/o Jack Craypo, 606 S. Allen St. Zip: 16801. Tel: (814) 234-6655.

**TEXAS:** Austin: YSA, c/o Tom Dynia, 2024 Goodrich Ave. #110 Zip: 78704. **Dallas:** SWP, YSA, 5442 E. Grand. Zip: 75223. Tel: (214) 826-4711. **Houston:** SWP, YSA, 806 Elgin St. #1. Zip: 77006. Tel: (713) 524-8761. **San Antonio:** SWP, YSA, 112 Fredericksburg Rd. Zip: 78201. Tel: (512) 735-3141.

**UTAH:** Salt Lake City: SWP, YSA, 677 S. 7th East, 2nd Floor. Zip: 84102. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

**VIRGINIA:** Tidewater Area (Newport News): SWP, YSA, 111 28th St. Zip: 23607. Tel: (804) 380-0133.

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

**WASHINGTON:** Olympia: YSA, Room 3208, The Evergreen State College. Zip: 98501. Tel: (206) 866-7332. **Seattle:** SWP, YSA, 4868 Rainier Ave., South Seattle. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

**Tacoma:** SWP, YSA, 1306 S. K St. Zip: 98405. Tel: (206) 627-0432.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Morgantown: SWP, YSA, 957 S. University Ave. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

**WISCONSIN:** Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 3901 N. 27th St. Zip: 53216. Tel: (414) 445-2076.



# THE MILITANT

## Anti-inflation hoax

# Carter robs workers to pay for war budget

By Fred Feldman

Stepped-up preparations for war abroad mean an escalating war against the living standards of working people at home.

That's the real meaning of the talk about containing inflation by balancing the federal budget in 1981.

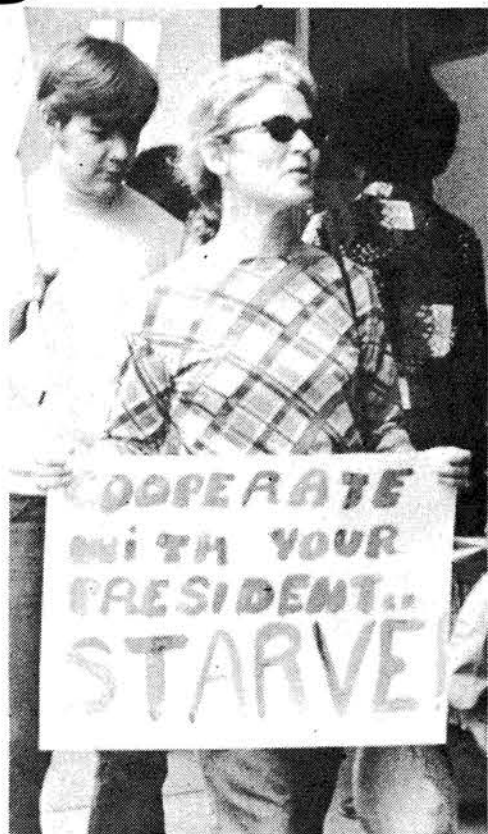
Carter started the year by proposing a \$16 billion jump in military spending. Defense Secretary Harold Brown followed up February 27 by announcing that the administration would ask for even more billions for weapons.

The reason for swelling the war budget is to guard the investments of Exxon and the other huge U.S. corporations against new Irans and Nicaraguas.

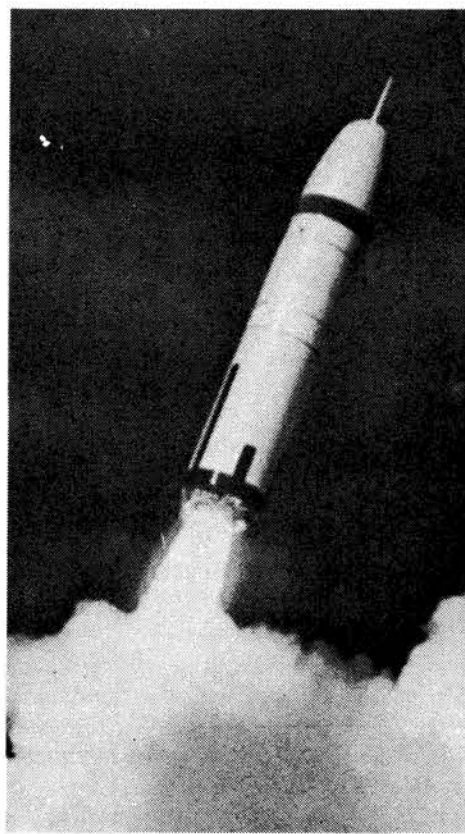
The incredible sums Washington spends on weapons—fast approaching \$150 billion a year—are the number-one cause of the federal budget deficit. This year's deficit was most recently estimated at \$46 billion. Because the government, in effect, prints extra paper money to make up the difference, such budget deficits are tremendously inflationary.

Meanwhile, the administration eased controls on oil prices last year—pushing gasoline toward \$1.50 a gallon and beyond. And Carter is talking about lifting controls on natural gas prices, too.

The Federal Reserve Bank has raised



interest rates on loans to record highs—meaning higher prices for just about everything, but more profitable loan-sharking, for the bankers.



The result of the last year of inflation-fighting by Carter and Congress was:

- an officially reported inflation rate

of 13 percent in 1979;

- a decline of more than 5 percent in the real purchasing power of working people according to Labor Department figures; and

- a January inflation rate of 18 percent.

So hold onto your wallet when Carter and Congress start talking about fighting inflation even harder.

Administration officials say they want to cut \$15 billion out of the 1981 budget published earlier this year.

And on February 27, forty-three senators proposed \$25 billion in cuts.

The cuts won't come from war spending. "Senior economic officials have set aside any thought of cutting into the promise of the Pentagon of an increase in 1981," reported Steven Rattner in the March 5 *New York Times*.

And certainly the profits of the banks and the oil companies must not be permitted to suffer!

The politicians in Washington aim to take the increased war spending right out of our hides.

One member of the House of Representatives told the *Wall Street Journal* after a meeting with administration officials that "there was a consensus at the meeting to 'go after the runaway entitlement programs.'"

This means cuts in social security, *Continued on page 23*

## Calif. unions to rally behind oil strikers

By Nat Weinstein and Jeff Mackler

SAN FRANCISCO—Over 170 trade unionists, including representatives of the retail clerks, steelworkers, rail, hospital, teachers, longshore, and building trades unions, met here February 28 to organize support for the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union (OCAW).

OCAW was forced out on strike January 8, after the giant oil companies refused to increase wages and health benefits needed to maintain the workers' purchasing power, which has been severely eroded by inflation.

On the suggestion of Fernando Guerrero, president of OCAW Local 1-1978, Unit 2, the meeting unanimously decided to call for a mass solidarity rally in San Francisco March 22.

The meeting was noteworthy for its broad sponsorship, which included the heads of the central labor councils in the San Francisco Bay Area; John F. Henning, executive secretary of the California Labor Federation; and César Chávez, president of the United Farm Workers.

Also reflected was the development of statewide support for the striking OCAW workers. Jim Tatum, business representative for the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, addressed

the San Francisco meeting and reported on a support rally and other efforts there. The meeting also received telegrams from other AFL-CIO leaders in Los Angeles.

In addition to Guerrero's action proposal, reports on the progress of the strike were heard from Jake Jacobs, of OCAW Local 1-5, and Dorothy Palacios, OCAW international representative.

Robert F. Goss, international president of OCAW, sent a telegram to the meeting. Goss is slated to speak at the March 22 rally here.

Leaders of many area unions spoke from the platform or read statements pledging support and aid to the strike.

The breadth of the meeting represents a significant new development. It points toward the rebirth of the best traditions of class solidarity, which had been eroded since the last big labor upsurge in the 1940s.

The kind of solidarity shown here, if continued and developed around the country, can prove decisive in aiding the OCAW strike.

Such actions also point in the direction of the unions systematically organizing the working class as a whole and its allies against the oil and other corporations.

## 4,000 march in L.A.



Militant/Walter Lippmann

By Walter Lippmann

LOS ANGELES—Four thousand people came to a march and rally here March 1 in support of the striking oil workers.

It was "a real day of working class solidarity," said Jimmy Herman, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, one of the participating unions in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Area Coalition,

which organized the event.

Other unions represented at the rally in support of OCAW were the National Maritime Union, United Electrical Workers, American Federation of Teachers, United Auto Workers, Teamsters, and the Inland Boatmen's Union.

The entire harbor was brought to a near standstill by the ILWU, "a clear sign," said a TV newscaster, "of the power labor has if it chooses to use it."