

# THE MILITANT

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

# Make Dr. King's birthday a national holiday

The following statement was released January 8 by Andrew Pulley. Pulley ran for president of the United States on the 1980 Socialist Workers Party ticket.

Outrage!

That's my motivation for marching in Washington, D.C. on January 15, the birthday of Dr. King.

Another Black youth's body has just been found in Atlanta. That brings to twelve the number of Black youth mysteriously murdered in that city.

And now fourteen-year-old Lubie Geter has been reported missing by his family in Atlanta.

It's time to *act*—to stand up and say *enough* to this terror! That's the only way to stop it.

When racist bigots can kidnap and murder our children and government officials do next to nothing to apprehend them, it's time for working people to take matters into our own hands.

If Martin Luther King, Jr. were alive today, I believe he would be in the front lines of protest actions to demand justice in the murder of these innocent youth.

The man dedicated his life to fighting in the best way he knew how for Black rights and economic justice.

That's why it's fitting to begin the job of remobilizing the Black movement by honoring him.



Martin Luther King, Jr., and wife Coretta on 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

The truth is that King was more than a leader of the civil rights movement.

During the last period of his life, his antiracist convictions led him to take stands against the war in Vietnam and in support of union struggles.

King led the 1963 march on Washington for Black rights. He spoke to 400,000 people, probably his largest audience, at the April 15, 1967 New York protest against the Vietnam war.

Continued on next page

## Socialists expose Lockheed—FBI political spy apparatus Launch fight to defend fired workers

Inside: secret company files

## ...King

*Continued from front page*

He was shot down in April, 1968 in Memphis where he had gone to support the struggle of striking sanitation workers.

The truth about his murder, including possible government complicity, has yet to be fully uncovered.

War. Racism. Economic exploitation. Those were King's targets.

Aren't they the very same problems working people face today?

As we march January 15, we can demonstrate our support for some of the goals King stood for:

Opposition to war and the draft.

An end to Ku Klux Klan, Nazi, and cop terror.

Defense of affirmative action, equal pay, and a decent standard of living.

A stop to government attacks on busing for school desegregation, fair housing, voting rights and other gains of the civil rights movement.

King taught us a valuable lesson: "Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed."

His greatest contribution was his leadership in mobilizing Black rights supporters to use the power of our numbers.

That power, exercised in the streets, showing that we're willing to fight the oppressor to win our rights, is what made the civil rights movement so strong and effective. That's one method we need to use to defend Black rights today.

On January 15, Black rights supporters around the country are putting that lesson into practice.

Not one Black person has ever been honored by a national holiday in this country.

In demanding such a day to honor Dr. King, we are seeking more than recognition of the contributions of a single individual. We are demanding recognition of the rights and contributions of all Blacks.

A holiday for King would also give legitimacy to the civil rights movement he helped lead—a movement which transformed American politics and laid the basis for other protest struggles that followed.

And, finally, in demonstrating for this holiday, we can demand that the government and other racists keep their hands off the gains that movement won.

The January 15 protest can serve notice to Ronald Reagan:

We don't accept the lie that American

workers are moving to the right in their political thinking.

It's *your* administration and the wealthy interests *you* represent which are moving to the right.

Millions of workers, Black and white, support what Dr. King stood for. They distrust you and your party as much as Carter and the Democrats.

Some unionists are discussing how a labor party based on the unions could break with the bosses' parties and represent workers' interests.

And the National Black Independent Political Party was recently launched to offer Blacks a political party to fight for our needs.

Ronald Reagan, you will pay a heavy political price if you act on your threats to gut Black rights. The more anti-Black moves you make, the more protests like January 15 you will incite.

Your administration will have to answer for continued inaction against the racist thugs murdering Black children in Atlanta and assassinating Black men in New York and Buffalo.

Your inaction puts wind in the sails of these bigots. One wing of the Ku Klux Klan even asked to march with you in the January 20 inaugural parade!

You and the ultra-right will not intimidate Black rights supporters.

Mobilizations like the January 15 protests can be repeated to answer other racist victimizations, political attacks, and Congressional moves.

We are confident we can push back the racists because we represent the majority: the majority of American workers who stand with the Black community in their fight for justice. We see defense of Black rights as essential to defending the rights of all workers.

We intend to educate, organize, and carry this struggle to victory.

On January 15, we're following Dr. King's example. We're putting the fight for Black rights back in the streets.

## El Salvador: what labor should do

The January 3 murder in El Salvador of two officials of the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) and the head of the El Salvador Institute for Agrarian Transformation, put the government-backed slaughters there back into the headlines last week.

Despite claims of a moderate junta beset by

terrorists of the right and left, the news media generally admitted the killers were government-backed rightists.

AIFLD has been described as an "AFL-CIO affiliate," as if it were a union. But it is not a union. It is run by the U.S. Agency for International Development, a unit of the State Department. William C. Doherty, Jr., AIFLD executive director, was exposed as a career CIA agent by Philip Agee in his book, *Inside the Company: CIA Diary*.

AIFLD is supported by Lane Kirkland and the other top dogs of the AFL-CIO bureaucracy, along with representatives of major U.S. corporations with interests in Latin America.

In El Salvador, AIFLD has been trying to organize an "agrarian reform" program similar to the kind U.S. officials attempted in South Vietnam. It is basically a counter-insurgency effort aimed at helping the government crush the liberation forces. But it has also antagonized some of the landlords and capitalists who run El Salvador's army, national guard, police, and death squads. Hence the murders.

A real land reform in El Salvador would break the control of agriculture by the tiny number of ruling families—two percent of the population—who own 60 percent of the land. That cannot happen as long as the brutal government run by those families and backed by the United States is in power.

AIFLD's role in El Salvador does not represent the interests of union members.

AFL-CIO backing for AIFLD has come under attack as information about what it is doing has surfaced. The Santa Clara County, California, Central Labor Council voted on September 15 to recommend that "the AFL-CIO disassociate itself from the AIFLD program in El Salvador."

As the terror of the Salvadoran government becomes public knowledge, the reaction of working people here has been against U.S. involvement. There is recognition of the growing danger that El Salvador will become another Vietnam.

This led to the important step last month by the West Coast dockworkers who began a boycott of military shipments to El Salvador. (See article on page 17.)

The dockworkers' boycott, the opposition to AIFLD by the Santa Clara Central Labor Council, the numerous teach-ins, protest meetings, picket lines and the demonstration in Washington D.C. on January 11—these are the kind of actions that can force an end to U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

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### Imperialist militarization drive

The capitalists are on a propaganda campaign to convince working people we need huge increases in arms spending. But workers are resisting around the globe. **Pages 20-21.**

## The Militant

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# 'SALVADOR WILL WIN!'

## Rally pledges solidarity with revolution

By Osborne Hart

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Delegates at the Twentieth National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance, held here December 27-30, unanimously approved stepping up their activities in solidarity with the revolutions in the Caribbean and Central America.

A spirited international solidarity rally was held December 28, which featured speeches by young revolutionaries from El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Grenada.

Chants of "Salvador Vencerá!" (Salvador will win!), "No draft, no war, U.S. out of El Salvador!" and "Hell no, we won't go! We won't be in Reagan's

*This issue of the 'Militant' contains reports on some of the highlights of the Young Socialist Alliance national convention, held December 27-30. See page 7 for the YSA's rally celebrating the formation of a new Black party, and pages 10-14 for the socialists' campaign to build support for the upcoming trial of the FBI, CIA, and immigration cops. Future issues will feature additional coverage of the YSA's convention decisions.*

show!" echoed throughout the main ballroom of the Hilton Hotel, as the hundreds of convention participants demonstrated their support.

"We have with us tonight comrades from around the world who are in the forefront of building solidarity with these revolutions," remarked Rohima Miah, a YSA National Committee member, who chaired the rally.

With emphasis on El Salvador and the threat of U.S. intervention there, the rally took on special significance. Just a few days earlier, the Salvadoran Democratic Revolutionary Front announced a major offensive against the ruling military junta.

In a message to the convention, the General Association of University Students of El Salvador stressed the importance of building a solidarity movement against the U.S. war moves and in support of the Salvadoran people:

"We believe yours is an effective contribution to the peoples' struggle against imperialism, and that the Young Socialists should make the utmost efforts at this convention to concretize their anti-imperialist struggle in a better way: to develop a program for youth to refuse to be drafted into the imperialist armed forces. . . .

"We send you greetings in the name of the Salvadoran students, in the name of the fighting youth, and we hope you will contribute in a large measure to our movement for national liberation."

Jorge Ruís, 22, a former Salvadoran university student who now lives in this country, underscored his *compañeros*'s call for support and aid.

Ruís, who is a leader of the New Jersey Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, urged everyone at the rally "to mobilize in every possible way" for the national march

in support of El Salvador in Washington, D.C. January 11.

"We want to show Reagan that El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, and the other countries are not alone," Ruís told the rally.

At the conclusion of Ruís's talk, the rally stood in a moment of silence for all the fallen rebels in the Salvadoran struggle.

Freddy Velázquez, representing Casa Nicaragua in New York City, said to a rousing ovation, "The entire people of Nicaragua are standing up in solidarity with El Salvador" and the other revolutions in Latin America.

Velázquez, a young Sandinista who fought during the 1979 insurrection that toppled Somoza rule in Nicaragua, explained what the Nicaraguan and other revolutions in the region are all about:

"We are fighting for better education, better schools, better health, for freedom. With our revolution we have been able to establish better health care, we have been able to carry out a national crusade against illiteracy, and we won as we won in the insurrection."

The last speaker for the evening's event represented the revolution on the Caribbean island of Grenada, where dictator Eric Gairy was overthrown in 1979.

Ken Lewis, a central committee member of the New Jewel Movement National Youth Organization, expressed gratitude on behalf of the Grenadian people for the support their revolution has received in the United States.

"In Grenada, after four hundred years of colonial domination, of imperialist rape, of Gairyite terror, our people were left with many things," Lewis said. "Many bad things. Poverty. Malnutrition. One secondary school. Fifty percent unemployment."

Detailing the accomplishments of the Grenadian revolution Lewis explained, "In 1978, under the Gairy dictatorship, only three scholarships were given to Grenadian youth. One of



Militant/Salm Kolis

those went to Gairy's daughter. And the other two went to his friends.

"But in only twenty-one months of revolution, we have been able to give 200 Grenadian youth scholarships. . . .

"Today when our people go into any hospital or any governmental clinic they do not need a cent. Before the revolution there was a situation in our country where thousands of our people went blind with very simple diseases like glaucoma, and cataracts. Since the revolution, a new eye clinic has been opened on the island and over 4,000 operations have been performed. . . .

"Ninety percent of all our workers are today in trade unions because the revolution made joining a trade union legal in revolutionary Grenada."

Lewis concluded his talk by urging everyone to visit Grenada and see the revolution at work.

"Finally," Lewis said, "Long live the struggle of the people of Nicaragua! Of heroic and unshakeable Cuba! Of Vietnam! Of Angola! Mozambique!

"Comrades, long live the struggle of the people of Namibia! Of South Africa!

"Salvador vencerá! Salvador vencerá!"

"Long live the struggle of the people of the U.S.!"

The crowd replied with chants of "Forward ever, backward never!" the central slogan of the Grenadian revolution.

The rally also heard speakers from the Revolutionary Workers League of the Dominican Republic; Youth Commission of the Revolutionary Workers League of Canada; Revolutionary Communist Youth of Mexico; Revolutionary Communist Youth of France; and Socialist Youth League of Norway.

Professor Julio Quan, a visiting professor at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, spoke on Guatemala.

Solidarity messages were also read from the Union of Young Communists of Cuba and the International Workers League of Puerto Rico.

## Jan. 11 march demands 'No U.S. aid'

By Vivian Sahner

A march on Washington, D.C., to demand U.S. out of El Salvador takes place January 11.

The murders in the past two months of four U.S. missionaries and six leaders of the main opposition group, the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), along with the killings of two U.S. advisers and the head of the government agrarian program on January 3, have brought the brutal repression waged by the rulers of El Salvador to the attention of the entire world.

The United Nations General Assembly voted December 15 to call on all nations to end aid to the junta.

The January 11 demonstration was called to "support the right of

the Salvadoran people to determine their own future—and help stop another Vietnam War from beginning in Central America."

The demonstration was called to demand an end to all U.S. military and economic aid to the government of El Salvador and to protest the murder of the four American women and more than 10,000 Salvadoran civilians in the past year.

The march is sponsored by the Religious Task Force on El Salvador, the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, and the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy.

The Sunday march starts down Independence Avenue at 1:30 p.m. It will be followed by a rally at the Capitol at 3:00 p.m.

Michael Donovan, brother of Jean Donovan, the Catholic lay worker murdered in El Salvador, will address the rally along with a representative from the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and a speaker for the Martin Luther King January 15 March.

Other speakers include Sara Nelson, Labor Task Force, National Organization for Women; Michael Maggio, National Lawyers Guild; Alan McCoy, Conference of Major Superiors of Men (Catholic Church); Rev. William Wipfler, Human Rights Office, National Council of Churches; and Beverly Keene, Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador.

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## Demand: U.S. hands off!

# N.Y. rally blasts aid to Salvadoran junta

By Diane Wang

NEW YORK—"Our experience so far has convinced us it is possible to build the kind of movement necessary to prevent El Salvador from being turned into the next Vietnam. Those who speak for the so-called Moral Majority and claim that the American people are moving to the right don't know what they are in for!"

So declared Alan Benjamin, opening a December 20 speak-out held by the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) in New York City. His point was proved by the packed audience of 500 and by the array of religious, trade union, Black, women, and human rights leaders who made up the platform.

A large sign on the speakers' podium urged everyone to attend the January 11 march on Washington against U.S. aid to the Salvadoran government.

Speaking for the Maryknoll religious order, Sister Patricia Haggerty explained why the four missionaries murdered in El Salvador had sided with the oppressed.

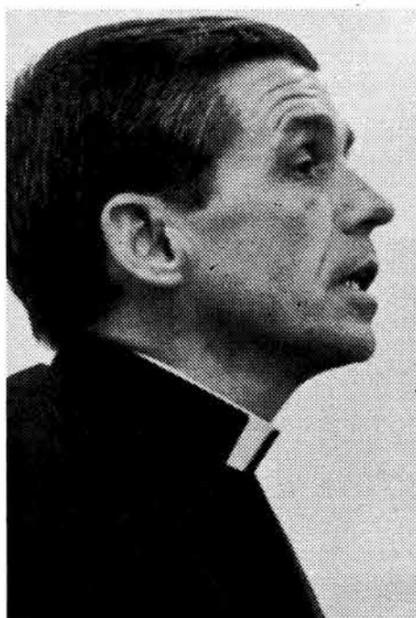
### 'Continue solidarity'

"We must be faithful to those who have given their lives by continuing the work in solidarity," Sister Haggerty said. "We repeat again the request of Monsignor Romero [the archbishop assassinated in El Salvador last spring] that no U.S. military, political, economic, or diplomatic aid be given to the present Salvadoran government. . . . We request the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military personnel from El Salvador and the cessation of all military shipments of previously granted aid."

"I see with hope the growing organization and outreach of the U.S. CISPES as a means of mobilizing effective collaboration of the U.S. people," Sister Haggerty said.

Michael Donovan, brother of the murdered lay missionary Jean Donovan, spoke. He explained the situation in El Salvador where "an oppressive regime exploits the population for the profit of the wealthy."

"Please resolve," Donovan urged, "that in the future your involvement in El Salvador will not be according to



DANIEL BERRIGAN

the dictates of Jimmy Carter or Ronald Reagan, but rather according to the dictates of your conscience."

Lucius Walker spoke on behalf of both the Anti-Klan Network and Inter-religious Foundation for Community Organization. Walker pleaded for "the recognition that we all stand before a common enemy. For the same forces that are at work in El Salvador are at work in Puerto Rico, in Haiti, in Chile, in Zaire, in Bolivia, in Namibia, in South Africa, in South Korea, and in the United States."

### Racism in U.S.

"The racist expression of those forces has been felt most recently in cities throughout the United States, in Buffalo; Decatur, Alabama; Greensboro, North Carolina; and all over New York City."

Walker compared how the murders in Greensboro and El Salvador were covered up in the American press. In Greensboro the murder of antiracist fighters was portrayed as merely a fight between the Communist Workers Party and Klansmen. In El Salvador the violence is dismissed as a confrontation between "extreme left" and "extreme right."



REV. HERBERT DAUGHTRY

Rev. Herbert Daughtry of the National Black United Front spoke. A leader in the fight to save New York's Sydenham Hospital, Daughtry said:

"We are faced here with the specter of our hospitals closing, our schools closing, social programs for the poor and training programs for the youth being shut down, ostensibly for lack of funds. Then we see billions are given to banks, corporations, to racist governments like Israel and South Africa, to fascist dictators and dictatorial regimes like El Salvador."

Daughtry pointed out that when nuns were killed in the 1960s in Africa, Blacks there were portrayed as savage cannibals. "Here we have the awful, brutal act against white nuns committed by a regime which is supported by the U.S. government, and the response in subdued, at most hypocritical. Even the cessation of aid for a few days while things cool off fools no one."

### 'Forward ever!'

Daughtry urged the audience to adopt the spirit and slogan of the Grenadian revolution, "Forward ever! Backward never!"

In New York the Black United Front

will hold activities in solidarity with El Salvador on January 13 and 31, he announced.

The Hispanic Labor Council was represented by Ernesto Jofre. He described the resolution passed by that council urging an end to all military and economic aid, verification of the whereabouts of missing Salvadoran trade-union leaders, and self-determination for El Salvador.

"Grant Salvadorans in the United States extended voluntary immigration status and oppose the deportation of Salvadoran nationals until stability returns," the resolution also demanded.

Speaking as a Chilean refugee, Jofre added, "Today our Salvadoran compañeros are giving the main example, as our Sandinista people of Nicaragua did. Our struggle is continental and our duty is special. The closing of North American bases on Guantánamo and Puerto Rico is also our responsibility. The destiny of the Nicaraguan revolution and the prevention of a new North American aggression in the land of Sandino, in the Caribbean, and in South America is also our responsibility."

### CLUW opposes aid

Grace DuBreuil of the Coalition of Labor Union Women reported that New York state CLUW had passed a resolution condemning military aid to El Salvador.

Father Don Kenna of the Smash H-Block Committee and Father Daniel Berrigan spoke. Several Salvadoran musicians, as well as a group from the Irish Folk Arts Center, performed.

Other speakers included Sheila Ryan of the Palestine Solidarity Committee and representatives of the National Council of Black Lawyers, the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, and the Maryknoll Brothers.

Greetings were read from lawyers groups and from Chilean refugee Isabel Letaulier.

The speak-out did much, as Bob Armstrong of New York CISPES said, "to lay the basis to build a movement here in New York to assist the liberation of the people of El Salvador."

# Brother of slain missionary rips U.S. role

By Diane Wang

NEW YORK—Michael Donovan thinks that there has been a "white-wash" of his sister's murder. His sister, Jean Donovan, was a Catholic lay missionary found murdered in El Salvador on December 4.

At a December 20 speak-out held by the New York Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador and in an interview with the *Militant* beforehand, Donovan described his sister's work and the U.S. government's responsibility for her death.

Three years ago Jean Donovan was an accountant in Cleveland. But for many years she had volunteered her efforts to help others. She joined a Cleveland mission team and, after six months at the Maryknoll seminary, went to Central America. There she spent four months in Guatemala and a year and a half in El Salvador.

In El Salvador, Donovan explained, his sister was "an administrator-bookkeeper. What they were working on was a nutrition program for children and expectant mothers."

As Donovan explained to the speak-out, "We would not think of this as being a subversive or even a political act, but in the context of El Salvador, feeding the poor is a very subversive political act."

"In caring for the poor these missionaries are teaching the peasants that they have human value, that they

have human rights. The government depends on ignorance and fear of the people to keep them in line. . . . Murders do a lot to maintain the status quo."

Who does he hold responsible for his sister's death? "I hold the government of El Salvador responsible for what has happened," Donovan answered, "not only in this case but in all of these cases that have been going on every single day this year in that country."

Donovan also holds the U.S. government accountable. He told the December 20 crowd, "U.S. tax dollars are being spent to pay for soldiers' salaries, to buy guns, to pay for modern warfare training and to provide the Salvadoran army with U.S. military advisers and also to buy the bullets that kill innocent people."

Donovan commented on Washington's excuses, telling the *Militant*, "The U.S. government's position is that they have to support the junta in order to stave off 'the communist takeover.' My feeling about that is that if the people down there fighting the government are communist they are communists only because that's the only alternative that's been given to them."

"The United States has basically said to the people of El Salvador, 'Your government wants to wipe you out. We'll pay for it.' After that if the U.S. government expects these people to

end up being friendly to our government—I mean, what can they expect?"

Washington pretended to cut off aid to El Salvador for a few days and sent a team down to investigate the murder of the U.S. missionaries. Did Donovan consider that enough?"

"No, I am not satisfied," Donovan said. "I feel that the report from the three-man team that has been down there so far has turned out to be a whitewash."

"And the fact that they've restored only economic aid," Donovan said, "I don't really think that means anything at all. Because they're taking economic aid and are using it for military purposes. We send food to El Salvador and it's being withheld from the people."

"In Chalatenango, where the two Maryknoll nuns Maura Clark and Ita Ford were working, the government refuses to allow the Red Cross in there to make examinations of violations of human rights. The only conclusion I can make based on those facts is that they have something to hide, namely serious violations of human rights. I just don't see how our government can support anybody like that."

Even after meeting with Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, Donovan remained dissatisfied. Donovan, along with relatives and co-workers of other slain missionaries, met Muskie on December 22. "We were happy to have met with him as opposed to not meet-

ing with him," Donovan told the *Militant* afterward. "But we didn't expect to be satisfied." And they weren't.

Donovan himself had not been involved with any kind of Salvadoran solidarity work before but now, he told the *Militant*, "I'm not about to give up on it." What does he urge people to do?

First, he says, contact legislators to "express to them exactly what your feelings are, that what's happening there is wrong and it has to be changed."

"The other thing people can do," Donovan continued, "is to try to generate as much publicity for what is happening as they can. Because I believe that there are enough reasonable people in this country that they will react to this, if they only know what is happening. I think the main reason why there hasn't been a bigger response yet is because people just don't know that this is turning into the next Vietnam."

"I think it's headed in that direction," Donovan said. "One of the big things that may prevent it from becoming the next Vietnam is Vietnam itself. I don't think that either Carter or Reagan is really anxious to take the responsibility for sending U.S. troops into a foreign nation and being bombarded with the negative public relations that they know can grow out of anything like that."

# From the speeches of Martin Luther King

## Being a Negro

Being a Negro in America means being a part of the company of the bruised, the battered, the scarred and the defeated. Being a Negro in America means trying to smile when you want to cry. It means the ache and anguish of living in so many situations where hopes unborn have died.

It is cruel to tell a bootless man that he should lift himself up by his own bootstraps when somebody is standing on the boot.

When there is massive unemployment in the Black community, it's called a social problem. But when there is unemployment in the white community, they call it a depression. With the Black man it's welfare, with the whites it's subsidies. This country has socialism for the rich, rugged individualism for the poor.

## Freedom

Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed. If people who are enslaved sit around and feel that freedom is some kind of lavish gift that will be passed out on a silver platter by the government or the white man while the Negro merely furnishes the appetite, they will never get their freedom.

I'm still absolutely convinced that non-violence, massively organized, powerfully executed, and militantly developed is the most potent weapon available to the Black man in his struggle in the United States.

We're going to Washington to mount a massive, militant demonstration of poor people's needs so that poor people can break out of the cycle of poverty and discrimination.

## Violence

As I have walked among the desperate, rejected and angry young men I



King speaks at April 15, 1967, anti-Vietnam War protest in New York City.

have told them that Molotov cocktails and rifles would not solve their problems. . . . They asked me if our own nation wasn't using massive doses of violence to solve its problems, to bring about the changes it wanted. Their questions hit home, and I knew that I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today—my own government. . . .

## Vietnam

The bombs in Vietnam explode at home; they destroy the dream and possibility for a decent America.

There is something wrong with the policies and priorities and the purposes of our nation. I am afraid our government is more concerned about fighting an unjust war in Vietnam than winning the war against poverty here at home.

Some people tell me I should stick to

civil rights and not deal with Vietnam. Well I have been fighting too long and too hard against segregation to end up segregating my moral concerns. The fact is that justice is indivisible. Injustice anywhere threatens justice everywhere.

## The labor movement

(from a 1968 speech to New York members of Hospital Employees Union Local 1199)

I'm often disenchanted with some segments of the power structure of the labor movement. But then I think about Local 1199 and this gives me renewed courage and vigor to carry on. It's good to know there are some unions left that will always maintain the radiant and vibrant idealism that brought the labor movement into being.

You have provided concrete and visible proof that when Black and white workers unite in a democratic organization like Local 1199 they can move mountains.

Your campaign to organize all hospital workers, nonprofessionals and professionals alike, is more than a fight for union rights. It is part of the larger fight in our nation against discrimination and exploitation, against slums—against all forms of degradation that result from poverty and human misery. It is a fight for human rights and human dignity.

## 'A great moment'

You know whether we want to be or not, we are caught in a great moment of history. . . . It has reached the point where you are part of this movement or you are against it. . . . It is bigger than Montgomery. . . . the vast majority of the people of the world are colored. . . . Up until four or five years ago most of the one and one-quarter billion colored peoples were exploited by empires of the West. . . . India, China, Africa. Today many are free. . . . And the rest are on the road. . . . We are part of that great movement.

## Hundreds of buses to roll January 15

By Osborne Hart

JANUARY 7—Support for the national demonstration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King in Washington, D.C., January 15 is extensive and growing.

Labor, civil rights, and student organizations are organizing hundreds of buses.

The march and rally, called just eight weeks ago by composer and singer Stevie Wonder, will demand that the slain civil rights leader's birthday be instituted as a national holiday by an act of Congress.

As part of the mobilization, petitions for the holiday demand—to be presented to Congress by Stevie Wonder—are being circulated nationally by the coordinators.

Wonder will also be the featured performer at a benefit concert January 16 at the Capitol Center to raise funds to cover the demonstration expenses.

At least forty buses each are coming to the march from New York and Chicago, and dozens more from Boston; New Orleans; Houston; Gary, Indiana; Detroit; Birmingham; and Charleston, West Virginia.

Local rallies and demonstrations are planned in Atlanta, Louisville, Buffalo, and Detroit. A January 11 rally in Detroit has been called by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. SCLC head Joseph Lowery is the featured speaker.

The New York City Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Local 1199 of the hospital workers, and District Council 37 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees are sponsoring buses to Washington.

District 65 of the United Auto Workers has also endorsed District

President Cleveland Robinson's plan to lead a contingent of his membership in the march.

Auto workers at the General Motors plant in Tarrytown, New York, and at the Ford plant in Metuchen, New Jersey, are organizing carpools.

The New Jersey chapter of Operation Push plans to send a bus.

Black newspapers in New York, such as the *Amsterdam News*, *Big Red*, and the *New York Voice* have publicized the action, as has radio station WBSL.

In Chicago, march activities are being announced and promoted by WJPC radio, a prominent Black station. In addition to publicizing the petition campaign and march plans, the station is sponsoring twenty buses for the trip to Washington.

The Winston-Salem, North Carolina, NAACP branch is sponsoring transportation to January 15. The National Organization for Women chapter in that city endorsed the demonstration and plans to march.

In nearby Greensboro, workers at the Gilbarco Plant are gathering signatures on the King Day petitions and urging co-workers to participate in the march. Students at North Carolina A&T University—a predominately Black school—have organized buses to Washington.

More than 2,500 march posters and 100,000 leaflets are being distributed in Washington, D.C.

Curtis Pitman, Third World coordinator for the United States Students Association, has organized leafleting in the high schools and on the many college campuses in the area.

Radio station WHUR and the Washington *Afro-American* newspaper have publicized the demonstration.

The Washington Area Coalition

Against Registration and the Draft has sent out a 900-piece mailing.

January 15 organizers have been invited to membership meetings of the Washington chapters of the Black United Front and the National Black Independent Political Party.

Bill Lucy, international secretary-treasurer of AFSCME, is urging all his union's locals and district councils to participate in the march.

The Baltimore-Washington Area District of the AFL-CIO sent a notice to its member unions.

Communications Workers of Amer-

ica Local 2336 and the Washington Teachers Union have march announcements on their telephone action lines. Local 2336 will march in a contingent, as will the Amalgamated Transit Union.

The King Day march and rally will begin at 9:00 a.m. Marchers will assemble on the northwest side of the Capitol building and proceed down Constitution Avenue between First and Third Streets N.W. to the Washington Monument. The rally will be held at the base of the monument.

For more information call: (202) 393-2324.

## More racist killings in NY

By Osborne Hart

At the Martin Luther King Day rally in Buffalo on January 15, Blacks will express their outrage over a new wave of racist killings and a planned Nazi demonstration.

During late December, a series of racist murders occurred in three New York cities—Buffalo, Rochester, and New York City.

The victims: five Blacks and one Hispanic. Two other Blacks were wounded.

In each unprovoked attack, a lone white man calmly and skillfully plunged a knife into his victim.

To date, there have been no arrests in any of the cases.

In the six New York City assaults—all of which happened during an eight-hour period in Manhattan December 22—the police claimed they had no evidence that the attacks were racially inspired—or even connected.

Then a few days later, the cops said

the four victims apparently were killed with the same knife and that they had physical evidence to link the slayings.

On December 29, a Black man was stabbed to death by a white man while standing at a bus stop in Buffalo. The following day, a young Black man waiting for a bus in downtown Rochester was fatally stabbed. Three other Black men were attacked in the Buffalo area the following week.

Black residents of Buffalo were terrorized last September, when four Black men were shot to death by a white assailant within thirty-six hours. A month later, two Black taxi drivers were murdered and found with their hearts cut out.

After downplaying even the possibility of links in last fall's murders, Edward Cosgrove, Erie County district attorney, now believes that not only was the same white assailant responsible for those attacks, but also for the recent killings.

# California labor conference discusses role of Blacks, Latinos, two-party system

By Jeff Mackler

LOS ANGELES—John Henning, Secretary-Treasurer of the 1.8-million member California Labor Federation (CLF), AFL-CIO, surprised a number of labor officials present when he interrupted a retired carpenter who was hailing the Democratic Party as the "party of labor" during the December 4 CLF-sponsored conference in Los Angeles on "Labor, Minorities and the Two-Party System."

The flustered delegate, the last to speak during the floor discussion, had identified himself as a member of the Democratic Party Central Committee in Los Angeles County.

Said Henning, "When was the last time you or anyone else from the Central Committee of the Democratic Party came to Sacramento to support any pro-labor position?"

The delegate stood at the microphone in silence and finally blurted out, "Didn't we send our chairman or someone last year?"

Henning countered, "Who? What was his name? When? When was the last time you sent anyone to speak on the minimum wage or workmen's compensation or anything else?"

The 250 delegates, from local AFL-CIO unions, broke into laughter as the man meekly responded, "Well, anyway."

Henning chaired the conference, and in his opening remarks said, "There is no real relationship or kinship between labor and the Democratic Party. In California we were successful in 67 percent of our endorsements. But what does it mean? We've been electing them for ten years and what have we ever gotten?"

Henning continued, "They don't listen to us because 72 percent of their contributions come from corporations. In Sacramento they get their money from the insurance companies. As long as corporate money controls, we have no future in the Democratic Party."

## No friend of labor

Many times during the discussion from the floor the point was made that the Democratic Party is no friend of labor; it is an enemy representing the employers.

Nonetheless, not a single panelist invited by Henning to speak before the one-day conference supported a break from the Democratic Party by labor or the oppressed nationalities. And, with few exceptions, the full-time labor officials present as delegates chose not to participate in the floor discussion at all, leaving much of that discussion to a smaller group of delegates belonging to various political groups on the left.

Nevertheless, the panelists were compelled to address the fact that working people, Blacks and Latinos in particular, are under intense attack, and that this attack has been led by

the very same party that the labor movement has supported for decades.

One panelist, Jack Joyce, the new president of the International Bricklayers Union, said, "Labor is likely to face tough times and is likely to be hurt badly."

Joyce continued, "The Democratic Party's candidate [Carter] deserted labor. Among other things he agreed to implement a policy of unemployment in order to regulate the economy. In my organization there was no way to convince our members for Carter enough to win."

While Joyce predicted that Reagan's victory would lead to increased attacks on labor, such as attempts to repeal or weaken the Davis-Bacon Act—legislation guaranteeing construction workers the prevailing union wage on federal construction projects—he also said that, "If Carter had won it would have been a signal to all upcoming politicians that the easy way to regulate the economy is by promoting unemployment."

Like most of the labor officials present, Joyce was a supporter of Edward Kennedy. He implied that a Kennedy victory would have benefited labor. His proposed solution to labor's dilemma was to extend the national and state apparatus of the AFL-CIO's Committees on Political Education (COPE) to the local union level to promote more "liberal" candidates in order to "reform" the Democratic Party.

## 'Not feasible?'

Henning, from the chair, took the time to comment, "We had a meeting of the CLF executive council to discuss the formation of a labor party and concluded that it is not feasible now. But is it feasible to reform the Democratic Party? I don't think so."

Virna Canson, the director of the Western Region of the NAACP, spoke about the racist attacks against Black people and about threats such as the anti-busing proposal before Congress. However, she also spent much of her time lauding the Democratic Party. "Carter got 80 percent of the Black vote," she said. "The burden of keeping a large vote for the Democratic Party was borne by Blacks. This is a coin to bargain with in the future."

"The alternative for labor and the civil rights movement," Canson said, "is not to withdraw from the two-party system or to work within any party. Rather we should make the two-party system work."

In this connection, Canson opposed the decision of the November 1980 conference in Philadelphia, where 1,500 Black delegates voted to launch the National Black Independent Political Party. Canson remarked, "I can understand the frustration which led to this meeting to form a new Black party, but I cannot agree."

In his opening remarks, Henning also commented negatively on the Philadelphia conference. "This can lead to the greatest possible fragmentation," he said. "I can understand why Black people are doing it," he added. "If the present system isn't satisfying the needs of the minorities, you can expect shocks like this."

Virna Canson, perhaps the most conservative of the NAACP leadership in Northern California, concluded her remarks with the admonition to "get involved in both [Democratic and Republican] political parties."

Henning responded that "Both political parties are financed by our opponents." Despite this recognition, Henning's proposal to the delegates was also to "get involved" in the Democratic Party at the primary level in an effort to promote pro-labor candidates. He announced a CLF meeting in January to "go over the situation in each district and see what we can do."

## Anti-KKK activities

The issue of the relation between labor, the oppressed minorities, and women, was addressed in a number of ways. Several delegates pointed to the need to counter the rising activities of racists, including the KKK, as well as the complicity of Washington and the AFL-CIO tops in the repression in El Salvador.

Timothy Townly, international vice-president of the Service Employees International Union, pointed to the growing attacks on affirmative action and the minimum wage.

A delegate from Local 1845 of the United Steelworkers union announced an anti-Klan rally in Fontana on December 7. The rally was co-sponsored by the Los Angeles chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the United Steelworkers in response to rising Klan activity in the Fontana area. The rally was also supported by Henning from the podium.

The failure of the AFL-CIO to consistently support civil rights struggles was another theme raised by several delegates. Albin Gruhn, CLF president, objected. "I just can't sit here any longer and be quiet," he said. "This labor movement has fought for every social cause, for civil rights, for human rights, and anyone who says no is a fool."

"What about Vietnam?" someone asked. Gruhn mumbled something about "making a mistake" about Vietnam.

Immediately following Gruhn, Walter Lippmann, a delegate from Local 535 of the SEIU, said, "We don't have to look back to Vietnam to find our mistakes but to El Salvador now. If we don't stop this country from support-

ing the Salvadoran dictatorship, we will be in another Vietnam." Lippmann received perhaps the most enthusiastic applause from the meeting.

Over a year ago, Henning proposed discussions in the labor movement on the feasibility of labor forming its own political party in opposition to the Democrats and Republicans. The December 4 meeting was called as part of this discussion.

Henning and others in the CLF conclude that forming a labor party is not feasible "at this time." One specious argument used is that the unions represent a "minority of the workforce," and that the unorganized have to be brought into the unions before such a party could be formed. The CLF tops propose to continue, with a few modifications, the policy of supporting the Democratic Party, a party that Henning admits "represents the corporate rich" and that he doubts "can be reformed."

## 'Tell truth'

In contrast, David Crippen, the executive director of SEIU Local 535, told the conference, "It's been said we can't have a labor party until we organize more union workers. I disagree. Why not start by telling the truth about the U.S. corporations? We should start a Committee to Stop Corporate Control of Government. . . . The New Democratic Party in Canada [Canada's labor party] is a good example of how to begin. The NDP started in the West and moved across Canada. We can start in the West and do the same."

Crippen told the conference that his statewide local of 10,000 social service workers was preparing to publish a pamphlet on the need for a labor party now.

Steve Iverson, a delegate from an IAM local, discussed the resolution adopted at the recent IAM convention, which rejected endorsing either Carter or Reagan and called for a discussion in the labor movement on building a "pro-labor party."

Mark Friedman, recent candidate of the Socialist Workers Party against Klan leader and Democrat Tom Metzger in the 43rd congressional district outside San Diego, took up Henning's contention that the recent formation of the National Black Independent Political Party would fragment the labor movement.

"I think this was a positive development," Friedman said. "It was in response to the very same problems we discussed here today, to rising unemployment, inflation, takebacks, and racism. The National Black Independent Political Party is an ally of labor and we should support it. It shows the way forward for labor itself."



"We won't organize any Black man to be a Democrat or a Republican because both of them have sold us out." —Malcolm X

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## Example for all workers

# YSA rally celebrates new Black party

By Nan Bailey

"The National Independent Black Political Party: Its Meaning for All Working People" was the theme of the rally held December 27, the first evening of the Young Socialist Alliance national convention in Indianapolis.

Kara Obradović, national secretary of the YSA, was greeted with enthusiastic applause when she announced, "We're here tonight to celebrate a step forward for all working people in this country—the launching of the National Black Independent Political Party."

Doug Cooper, national YSA leader and 1980 Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of North Carolina, chaired the rally. He explained how five weeks earlier, on the weekend of November 21-23, fifteen hundred Black activists met in Philadelphia and founded the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP).

"All the speakers at tonight's rally," said Cooper, "were participants in that conference."

Glova Scott, a steelworker and YSA leader from Baltimore, was a member of the Maryland caucus at the Philadelphia convention. She described the decisions that were made there.

"There is no doubt about it," said Scott. "With the founding of the National Black Independent Political Party, the Black liberation movement in this country took a big step forward."

### 'Unleashed a movement'

Scott quoted the preamble of the NBIPP charter and from some of the speeches given by Black party leaders at the Philadelphia convention.

"The charter declares that the founding of the NBIPP . . . was not just a decision to found a new organization, but to unleash an organized political movement for Black self-determination in America," Scott said.

"The people who attended the convention," said Scott, "were determined to combat racial oppression in all of its forms."

"The NBIPP has launched a political movement that can tap the militant, antigovernment, anticapitalist sentiment that exists within the Black community. And other workers can be won to respect and support this party because of what it has to say about war, the draft, racism, and economic injustice."

"And if this party will lead fighting protests in the streets to demand Black rights," she said, "I think hundreds of thousands will be ready to join those protests."

Scott voiced the YSA's support for the NBIPP and pledged its efforts to help build the organization and get out the word about the Philadelphia convention.

"We're proud to be part of the Black party movement," she said. "In it, we are meeting and working side by side with some of the new militant leaders coming forward in the Black community and in our class."

Charles Sinkler, member of United Steelworkers Local 8888 in Newport News, Virginia, and C. Daniel Peacock, coordinator of the Cleveland chapter of the NBIPP and a member of Amalgamated Meatcutters Local 1427, also spoke.

In Philadelphia, Sinkler said, "Black people got together to put together a master plan for our survival."

"It's very important," he said, "that Black people get their heads together and pull together in one direction. Nobody else is going to help us if we don't help ourselves."

Peacock described how fourteen years of experience as a unionist and Black activist made him welcome the formation of the NBIPP.

One of his first political acts, he explained, was to campaign for Carl



Cleveland Black party leader C. Daniel Peacock speaks at rally. Seated, from left, are Doug Cooper and Charles Sinkler.

Stokes's election as mayor of Cleveland in the 1960s.

"Stokes became mayor," he said, "and the lives of Black people got worse. There were more young Black people killed by the police during the Stokes administration than three white mayors prior to him."

Peacock's political experience included work with the Congress of Racial Equality, as a union militant in the A & P food store chains, and with Black elected officials in the Cleveland area.

"After those fourteen years," he said, "I came to the conclusion that all politicians and all leaders are professional procrastinators."

"I witnessed history," Peacock said of the NBIPP founding convention, "and I was glad to be a part of it. And from now on I'm going to be a part of it."

"And the Democrats and the Republicans and the bullshitters and the procrastinators are going to catch hell," he said.

The rally's keynote speaker was Mel Mason, Black socialist city councilman from Seaside, California, and a member of the NBIPP national organizing committee.

Mason outlined his opinions on the significance of the NBIPP. He pointed out how political action independent of the Democrats and Republicans won gains for the Black struggle in the past.

### Independent political action

"The Black movement in this country, especially during the civil rights era," said Mason, "was characterized by independent mass political action."

"That's how we got rid of Jim Crow segregation in the South and that's how we won gains such as affirmative action and open enrollment in the late sixties."

"We were successful because we didn't wait for liberal Democrats or bleeding-heart Republicans to pass laws to protect our rights. We made them pass those laws!"

"We didn't wait for liberal college presidents and so-called liberal boards of trustees to come along so we could beg them for open enrollment," said Mason. "We simply got together in mass and told those racists that either they open up those institutions to anyone or they would be closed to everyone."

"That's independent political action," Mason said.

"The civil rights movement didn't have Democratic or Republican party approval, and that's what made it so good!"

"And with each concession that was wrung from this system, the avenue for political self-determination for Black people was made more clear. That is, that Black people must mobilize their own independent political power and

build that mobilization through their own independent political organizations and not through the corporate parties of the two-party system."

### Democrats led attacks

"We know that the severest attacks against busing, affirmative action, open enrollment, fair housing, coupled with the rise in racist violence and murder, the reopening of the doors of the electric chairs and gas chambers, and high unemployment and the threat of the draft occurred under the Democrats," Mason said.

"A Black independent political party can fight for busing, for child-care centers, for continued open enrollment."

"It could fight for fair housing and to defend ourselves against racist murders and the Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi party, and killer cops! It could fight to eliminate the draft."

"It could fight to stop the death penalty, and it could fight for jobs."

"Black people have a chance to build a party that will give them direct involvement in all aspects of politics in this country—whether it be community organizing or local, state, and national elections."

"I think the labor movement needs to take a look at the new Black party," Mason said.

"The party charter states that the party is antiracist. And that is a working-class concern."

"It states that the party is antisexist. That is a working-class concern."

"The charter states that it is anticapitalist, meaning it is against a system that reaps profits at the expense of workers' rights and wages. That's a working-class concern."

"And it is anti-imperialist. Meaning that it is against the kind of political policies that draft us into wars against workers and farmers of third world and other exploited and oppressed coun-

tries. And that is a working-class concern."

"The party is for jobs and against unemployment. That is a working-class concern."

"And the party is for the transformation of the economy and the redistribution of the wealth in this society—and that is definitely a working-class concern."

### Labor should follow NBIPP

"The National Black Independent Political Party should be regarded by labor as an example of what labor should be doing itself."

"Labor should make a break from the two-party system as the Black party has done. And it should ally itself with that party."

"Because the creation of the National Black Political Party is a working-class development," said Mason. "It is part and parcel of the struggle for the liberation of workers in this country."

"The Black party itself seeks the kind of unity I just described," said Mason.

"One of the final statements in the preamble of the party charter reads, 'Finally, in addressing ourselves to issues and problems, we will seek operational unity with the broadest base of the Black community, and where mutually advantageous, we will make alliances and coalitions and work in concert with other peoples struggling for similar objectives.'"

"That is a highly significant statement," Mason said.

"What that suggests to me is that the National Black Independent Political Party has extended its hand to the other sectors of the working class in this country."

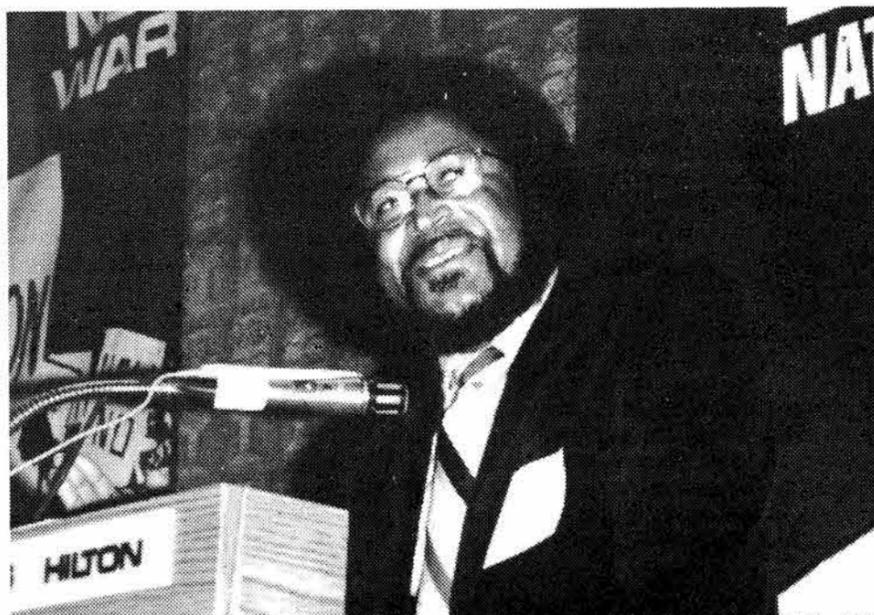
"The launching of the National Black Independent Political Party points the way forward, not only for the Black community, but working people across the country. The entire working class will be affected by its success and or its failure."

### Build the Black party

"We must be about the business of supporting this party and educating the workers of this country to do the same," Mason said.

"We should hold meetings in our unions and with other organizations to discuss support for this party. We must do all we can to convince other workers that it is in their interest to support the independent Black political party."

"And then we must discuss the example this party has set for the rest of the working class. An example that should be used in the formation of a labor party based on the unions that would involve itself in the kind of independent political action that the Black political party espouses and advocates."



MEL MASON

Militant/Salm Kolis

# U.S. gov't renews threat to invade Iran

By Janice Lynn

In recent weeks U.S. government officials have stepped up their propaganda campaign against Iran.

Accompanying this campaign have been veiled and not-so-veiled threats of another U.S. military raid against Iran.

Such military intervention, according to *New York Times* military analyst Drew Middleton, "would require an 'all arms' show of force far stronger than the limited forces used in April."

Writing in the January 4 *Times*, Middleton reveals that Washington military planners are openly discussing the possibility of such a move. Although they talk about it as an "American rescue mission," every one of the military planners admitted to Middleton that it would be impossible to avoid casualties, both among "the rescued and the rescuers."

And *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent Geoffrey Godsell, in an article the following day, suggested that "... use of US force would also bring about a change of regime in Tehran more conducive to stability in the Gulf area. . . ."

This has always been the aim of the U.S. rulers—to reverse the Iranian revolution and install a "more reliable" regime, like that of the former shah.

## Opposition to war

But while Washington officials stepped up their threats, a *Newsweek* poll conducted Dec. 29 and 30 revealed that only 18 percent of those polled favored a war against Iran. And a poll of political leaders around the country, reported in the December 29 *Monitor*, concluded that rank-and-file voters "are still rejecting any military solution."

The Carter administration, and the incoming Reagan government, are using the hostage issue to try and whip up the kind of sentiment that would free their hands to intervene militarily in Iran.

And although they have managed to sow some confusion in American working people's minds about the just demands of the Iranian people, they have still not been able to reverse the deep antiwar sentiment that exists.

The U.S. government has tried to make it appear as if it is making a serious effort to resolve the hostage issue. But the truth of the matter is that Washington has refused to accept



Militant/Cindy Jaquith  
Peasants demonstrating to support occupation of U.S. embassy in Tehran. Washington's target is gains of Iranian revolution for oppressed masses.

a single offer made by the Iranians.

On December 19 the Iranians proposed that about \$24 billion, which is rightfully theirs, be deposited in an escrow account in Algeria as a guarantee that it would be returned to them upon the release of the hostages.

What was the U.S. government's response? "Ransom," they said, conveniently ignoring the fact that the \$24 billion in question belonged to the Iranian people—\$14 billion in assets frozen by Washington and \$10 billion in wealth stolen by the former shah.

Then on December 26, the Iranians proposed an initial payment of \$9 billion, with the balance of the monetary claims being arbitrated.

In response to this offer, president-elect Ronald Reagan, in an outrageous and provocative statement, declared December 28, "I don't think you pay ransom for people that have been kidnaped by barbarians."

And Reagan's top aide, Edwin

Meese, in a televised interview the same day, refused to rule out military action.

Even the liberal *New York Times* ran an editorial December 30 endorsing Reagan's racist "barbarians" quote, stating, "... the president-elect is expressing the simple truth."

## Who are barbarians?

But the speaker of Iran's parliament, Hojatolislam Hashemi Rafsanjani, explained who the real "barbarians" were.

"You can find few people in history as barbarous as U.S. leaders," he declared. "If tyranny, swindling, military occupation and exploiting others is called civilization, then we are not used to such a thing."

"Its crimes in Africa and Latin America, the crimes that took place in Iran during the regime of the deposed shah, all are examples of this savagery," he said.

The Iranian leader stressed that it

was because of the U.S. government's past record that it was necessary to demand some guarantees that the money stolen from Iran would be returned.

"For thirty years, the United States plundered the wealth of every country," Rafsanjani said, "and if the Iranians were to demand compensation for all the wrongs since the 1953 coup, the coffers of the U.S. Treasury would be empty."

Rafsanjani also pointed to the evidence found at the U.S. embassy proving how it was used as a center for espionage and plotting against the Iranian revolution. Many of the hostages were operating as spies. This is another detail usually omitted in the U.S. capitalist press.

Rafsanjani declared that it was indeed Washington "which is looking for an excuse not to solve the hostage problem."

This has become more and more clear as the U.S. rulers continue to reject each new offer from Iran. The U.S. rulers find the hostage issue to be useful in their drive toward militarization and war and in their military threats and plots against the Iranian revolution.

## Kurdish fighting

In fact, U.S. military analysts are hoping for opportunities to intervene through Iraq's invasion of Iran or the armed conflicts in Kurdistan between Iranian government forces and Kurdish rebels fighting for their national rights.

In the last two weeks fighting was reported to have flared up again in Kurdistan.

The Kurdish people have consistently expressed their opposition to a U.S. military invasion of Iran and have declared their readiness to defend the Iranian revolution against imperialist aggression.

However, the capitalist government in power in Iran has refused to grant the national rights of the Kurdish or other oppressed nationalities.

The best defense of the Iranian revolution—both against the Iraqi regime's attacks and U.S. imperialism's threats—would be for the Tehran government to ally itself with the Kurds by meeting the demands of the Kurdish people—for the right to run their own affairs, use their own language, and establish their own culture.

# Antidraft protests: 'U.S. out of El Salvador'

By Suzanne Haig

NEW YORK—More than 500 people protested here in bitter cold January 5, the first day of draft registration. About 1.9 million men born in 1962 were required to register that week at post offices across the country.

The predominantly young crowd, many from high schools in the area, picketed the general post office and then marched to the Times Square recruiting station.

Five hundred marched in Los Angeles, and actions were held in Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee, and Washington, D.C.

These actions will be followed up by a national antidraft conference on February 13-16 at Wayne State University in Detroit, sponsored by the Coalition Against Registration and the Draft.

Compared with the large picket line, few came to the main post office here to sign up for Uncle Sam's army. According to Rebecca Smith from the Coalition against Conscription, a task force of the Mobilization for Survival, which organized the action, about twenty to thirty people came to register at the post office that morning. Five or six decided against it after talking with antidraft activists.

The chants on the picket line were: "No draft, no war, U.S. out of El Salvador"; "Fight the Klan, not Iran";

and "Hell, no, we won't go, we won't die for Texaco."

Eric Lonergan, seventeen, and two friends were among twenty-five students who came from Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan. Asked if he thought Reagan would live up to his campaign promise of opposition to a peacetime draft, Lonergan replied, "Yes, because he's going to start a war, and then draft us."

What about Soviet troops in Afghanistan? Does that necessitate a U.S. arms build-up? Michael Laird answered, "Why do we want to control Afghanistan, anyway? We have no interest in helping the people. That's not our motive. That's not why we build up the military. If the U.S. fights in Afghanistan, it will be for oil and for the war industries like Lockheed aircraft."

A city worker in his early thirties spotted the picket during his lunch hour and joined in. He had been active in the anti-Vietnam War movement and said he was afraid El Salvador would be the next Vietnam.

"Those two Americans killed there," he said, referring to the two from the American Institute for Free Labor Development killed by the right wing, "the government may use that as an excuse for intervention."

Vincent Osbourne, a fifteen-year-old

Black student from Brooklyn Tech, spoke to the *Militant* about Iran. "The Iranians are doing o.k.," he said. "They are protesting the shah, who stole their money. The U.S. wants to drop a bomb on Iran because of the hostages. But who are they anyway but CIA agents?"

Osbourne said a number of his friends were not registering because they are against the draft and war. "The poor and the Blacks and Hispanics are the main ones to go to war," he

said, "because they don't know the alternatives."

Osbourne has no faith in the government. "I don't think they could do anything I could support," he said. Of Reagan and Carter: "They have a smile on their face in front of us, but behind our backs they are making all these attacks."

After the rally thirty people, engaging in civil disobedience by sitting inside the recruiting office, were arrested. Most were released by late afternoon.

## NOW urges inaugural protest

Women's rights supporters will line the streets of Washington, D.C., on Inauguration Day, January 20, to demand ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Billed as a day to "Stand up for equality," the action has been called by the National Organization for Women (NOW).

For more information, contact National NOW at (202) 347-2279.

In addition, a national "Women's Rights Lobby Day" has been called for Wednesday, February 4 in Washington, D.C., by NOW and Women, USA.

Focusing on equal rights, economic rights, and reproductive rights, the action will bring thousands of women to meet their legislators, participate in briefings on the issues, and rally at noon.

Sponsors include: Coalition of Labor Union Women; Communications Workers of America; District 1199, Hospital Workers; National Association of Office Workers; National Conference of Puerto Rican Women; Planned Parenthood; Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights; United Auto Workers; United Food and Commercial Workers; and others.

## Detroit high school says 'No draft!'

DETROIT—"Hell no! We won't go! We won't fight for Texaco!"

That's the way the Cass Tech Committee Against Registration and the Draft began its press conference, which took place December 16 on the steps of Cass Technical High School.

More than twenty Cass Tech CARD activists stood on the school steps with placards during the press conference.

Speakers included the three Detroit CARD coordinators of the national antidraft conference to be held in Detroit February 13-15: Tamar Rosenfeld, James Lafferty, and Russ Belant.

John Nyboer, a Cass Tech CARD activist explained that "Cass CARD's major purpose is to educate and organize high school students against the draft. . . . Each activity we sponsor brings us one step closer to our goal of a totally educated and organized student body."

Machelle Gibson, another Cass Tech CARD member, went over plans to reach out to other high school students in the area to educate and organize against the draft. She laid out plans to leaflet several high

schools in the area, send out CARD speakers, approach student government for support, and sell the new antidraft buttons, which read "High School students say: 'NO DRAFT, NO WAR.'"

Tamar Rosenfeld, a leader of Cass Tech CARD, explained why the government would like to implement a draft, pointing to the parallels between Vietnam and El Salvador. She also explained that high school students were helping to organize informational leafleting about the draft at post offices the week of registration, January 5-9.

On December 9, Cass CARD organized a contingent of students to attend the picket against U.S. intervention in El Salvador. It also sponsored the film *El Salvador: Revolution or Death*.

On the day of the press conference, Cass CARD set up a table at the entrance to the cafeteria. They distributed literature and sold more than sixty buttons. They talked to many students who were undecided about the draft and some who were pro-draft, and they were able to convince several students to oppose conscription.



Militant/Nancy Cole

High School students and young workers have played big role in fight against draft registration.

## Black prisoners framed up in Ill.

By Kim Kleinman

CHICAGO—Seventeen Black prisoners are on trial for their lives here. They have been singled out from over 1,100 prisoners who rebelled at Pontiac, Illinois, Prison July 22, 1978. In the rebellion three guards died.

Rather than address the inhuman and racist conditions the prisoners rebelled against, the state of Illinois has answered with even more repression in the form of a frame-up based on bribery and threats.

One guard who survived the rebellion changed his story after assurances by the prosecutors of a job for life and round-the-clock police protection.

While jury selection enters its third month, only eight of the necessary twelve jurors have

been selected. This has been slowed by the judge's refusal to probe racism among potential jurors and harassment of defense attorneys with threats of contempt of court.

The Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition, 407 S. Dearborn, #1000, Chicago, Illinois, 60605, is publicizing the case with an ecumenical service with Daniel Berrigan, Jan. 31, 7 p.m. at the LaSalle St. Church, 1136 N. LaSalle, in Chicago.

They also urge protest messages be sent to Judge Benjamin Miller, Criminal Courts Bldg., 2600 S. California, Chicago, Illinois, 60608, and Governor James Thompson, State House, Room 207, Springfield, Illinois, 62706, with copies to the committee.

## Chicano activist in Colorado faces racist frame-up trial

By Rose Peery

DENVER—On January 27 Chicano activist Francisco "Kiko" Martínez will go into federal court to defend himself against a racist frame-up. He has been accused of sending letter bombs in 1973 to foes of the Denver Chicano movement.

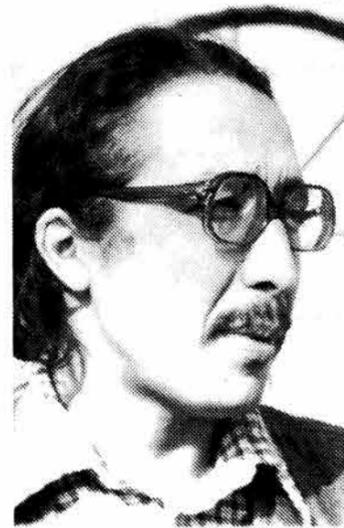
Kiko Martínez is a well-known and well-respected fighter for Chicano rights. As one of the few Chicanos who won a law degree despite a discriminatory educational system, Martínez is known for his defense of victims of police brutality and for his support for the rights of farm workers.

The frame-up stems from a violence-baiting campaign aimed at destroying the Chicano movement here in the early 1970s.

In March 1973 cops besieged the Escuela Tlatelolco, a Denver school organized by the Crusade for Justice. Luis "Junior" Martínez was killed and severe damage was done to a building in which Chicano children were housed. Policewoman Carol Hogue was the officer who used the pretext of a jay-walking violation to send in the cops against the Crusade.

In the fall of 1973 there was a much-publicized rash of bombings and attempted bombings in the Denver area. The district attorney called a news conference and accused Martínez of mailing three bombs, none of which had exploded.

Those receiving the bombs



Militant/Silvia Zapata

KIKO MARTINEZ

were the same Carol Hogue, a motorcycle shop, and a member of the Denver school board.

Martínez was told that a "shoot on sight" order had been issued on him, so he went into hiding.

Subsequently the Denver media launched an hysterical campaign against Martínez and the rest of the Chicano liberation movement. The *Denver Post* offered a \$2,500 bounty and the Postal Department offered a \$3,000 reward for information leading to his arrest and conviction.

In the spring of 1974, six young Chicanos were killed in two separate explosions which blew up their automobiles. One

of the "Boulder Six" was Reyes Martínez, Kiko's brother. To date the murders remain "unsolved," according to the local authorities.

After seven years as a fugitive, Martínez was arrested in Arizona in September 1980. He was attempting to cross the border from Mexico. He was held on \$1 million bond, later reduced to \$400,000. The bond was subsequently raised by family and friends.

"When they set the bond at \$1 million, they didn't think the Mexican community could unite to put that much together. Well, they did, and it was a small victory," Martínez told the Pueblo weekly *La Curaracha*.

Ken Padilla, a Chicano attorney, is representing Martínez in court. He is being assisted by civil rights attorney Leonard Weinglass of Los Angeles.

A defense brochure that is being circulated widely by the Francisco E. Martínez Legal Defense Fund asks that supporters sponsor meetings and send letters of protest to: Judge Fred Winner, U.S. District Court, Room 145, U.S. Courthouse, Denver, Colorado 80294; and to U.S. Attorney Joseph Dolan, 1961 Stout Street, Room 674, Denver, Colorado 80294.

Activists everywhere should rally to the cause of this Chicano brother in his time of need. For more information contact the Francisco E. Martínez Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 753, Alamosa, Colorado 81101.

## Iranian student acted out of self-defense, says Denver jury

By Greg Hollenbeck

DENVER—Afshin Shariati, an Iranian student accused of murdering one of three men who violently attacked his apartment in November 1979 has been acquitted of all charges.

Afshin and Toni Shariati, his wife, were victims of the racist anti-Iranian campaign launched by the U.S. government and the capitalist press after the hostages were taken at the U.S. embassy in Tehran in November 1979.

On November 10, 1979, a Lincoln High baseball coach invited twelve or thirteen high school students to his home, where he led a venomous, ra-

cist discussion about Iranians, according to testimony in pre-trial hearings. The students were drinking.

The teacher provided the youths with baseball bats as well as beer. They set out looking for Iranians, starting at a campus where there are a number of students from the Persian Gulf region.

Next they went to a nearby apartment complex. Supposedly, they picked out Shariati's apartment because of his name on the mailbox.

The thugs then smashed in a picture window and a screen door, pounded their bats on the door, and threw beer bottles.

Shariati, like his neighbors

downstairs, thought a bomb had been thrown. Fearful for his life, he shot and killed one of the attackers in self-defense. The other two were injured.

Shariati was tried for murder and attempted murder. His attorney, Walter Gerash, asked jurors to put themselves in Shariati's place, to understand the political climate during what Shariati calls "the week of fear" experienced by Iranians in this country after the takeover of the American embassy. The jurors evidently agreed, finding him innocent of all charges.

The baseball coach, who was not charged with anything, is still teaching at Lincoln High School.



Militant/Lou Howort

Demonstration in December 1979 protesting war moves against Iran and racist treatment of Iranians in U.S.

# Socialists launch \$75,000 fund for trial

By Norton Sandler

INDIANAPOLIS—A special fund of \$75,000 is being raised by the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance. The fund drive was launched at a December 29 rally here during the YSA convention.

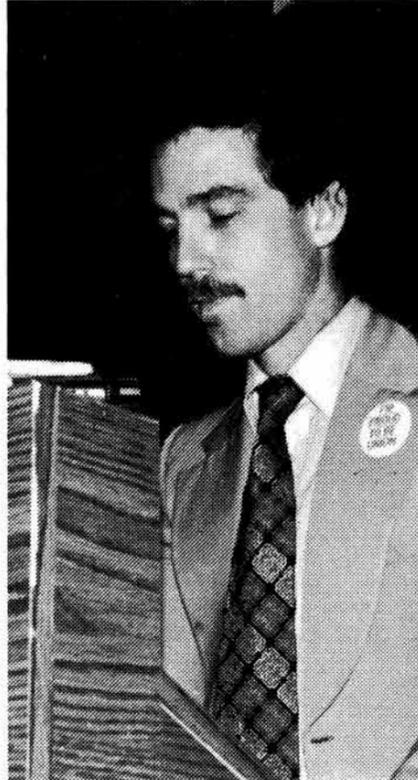
This money will finance an ambitious drive to get out the facts about the SWP and YSA's \$40 million lawsuit against government spying, and to get out the socialist ideas that the government fears. The suit goes to trial on March 16.

The fund, which ends on May 1, was started with a commitment by five supporters of the SWP and YSA to match dollar for dollar the first \$15,000 raised.

At the rally, attended by 700, another \$11,000 was pledged, bringing the total to more than \$26,000.

The fund was announced at the rally by Chris Hoepfner, a member of the SWP and YSA who was recently fired along with eight other socialists from the giant Lockheed aerospace plant in Marietta, Georgia. The nine were fired because of their socialist ideas and union activities.

As soon as the nine workers were fired the socialists went on the offensive. Hoepfner explained to the rally: "We turned the tables on Lockheed, and it's only the beginning. The tremendous press coverage of our case,



Fired Lockheed worker Chris Hoepfner addressing rally.

the support from our co-workers, the grievances filed by our union against Lockheed show that we can fight back.

"We're going on a political offensive. We're going to explain to more and more workers what we're about. The need for a labor party. Why we're opposed to the draft and intervention in El Salvador. We're going to explain what's happening in Nicaragua and Grenada, and how our unions can become real fighting organizations.

"We will not be intimidated. Our unions will not be intimidated. Our class will fight back."

Hoepfner went on to explain that the \$75,000 fund will be used "to take advantage of the big political opportunities the SWP and YSA suit provides in reaching workers with our socialist ideas. This money will be used to build our movement, to recruit to the YSA and SWP."

Hoepfner explained, "From Miami to Seattle, our movement will be organizing big socialist rallies featuring national leaders of the YSA and SWP who will speak about the big developments and issues in our suit. They'll explain why the government must rely on spies and finks to maintain their rule of the minority against the interests of the working class.

"We are launching an emergency tour of two fired Lockheed workers—Andree Kahlmorgan and myself. We are going to talk to auto workers, steelworkers, coal miners, and machin-

ists around the country. We're going to explain how this attack on us is an attack on all unionists. And we'll speak in every union hall, house meeting, and Militant Forum that we can.

"During the next few months we want to expand the coverage in the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* on our historic suit. We want our co-workers in the plants, the sailors on the ships, and college and high school students to read about the despicable dirty tricks of the political police, and what we can do to fight back. To accomplish this we'll be going on a big subscription drive for the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* as well as a drive to sell 4,000 copies of the *Young Socialist* each month."

The fund will be an absolute necessity to meet the challenges and opportunities presented by the case.

The government uses our tax dollars to try to disrupt and intimidate those involved in the movements for social change. We encourage *Militant* readers to donate their tax refunds to the Socialist \$75,000 Fund to help put an end to these practices.

Please send your contribution today to the Socialist \$75,000 Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014. Future issues of the *Militant* will keep readers posted on the progress of the fund.

# YSA denounces police assault on convention

By Nelson González

INDIANAPOLIS—The Young Socialist Alliance is demanding that the mayor of this city conduct a full investigation into a massive police provocation against participants at its national convention, held here at the Hilton Hotel December 27-30.

Shortly after 3:00 a.m. on December 30, after most convention participants had retired, a police force suddenly appeared at the hotel, including some twenty-three squad cars, a police van, a unit of the canine corps, and an ambulance.

Cops piled into hotel elevators and headed for the seventeenth floor, where some convention participants had been holding a party.

The raid came on the pretext that there had been complaints of too much noise.

It was only the cool, considered action of those attending the party that prevented the cops from staging the head-busting session—or worse—that they had planned.

At a press conference later that day, Andrew Pulley, 1980 Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate, stressed the premeditated nature of the attack.

"You don't tell people to be quiet by bringing in an army of cops and dogs," he told reporters. "When was the last time police broke up a party of Democrats or Republicans with a force like this?"

Pulley also demanded to know what role the FBI had in the raid. "The FBI has admitted in our lawsuit against them to spying on previous YSA conventions. I'm convinced they were here at this one, too. What part did they play?"

Agnes Chapa, a national executive committee member of the YSA, explained how the raid was staged.

"At approximately 3:15 a.m. a hotel security officer appeared outside the door of a social gathering on the seventeenth floor and said there had been complaints of noise. He asked people to move inside the room, which they did.

"Minutes later, he returned with several uniformed cops. Sam Manuel, a Black leader of the Socialist Workers Party, joined others in the corridor trying to find out what was going on.



December 30 YSA news conference demanded investigation of cop raid. From left, Andrew Pulley, Agnes Chapa, Liz Sommers.

"When Manuel asked an officer what the problem was, the cops singled him out. They demanded that he immediately shut down the party or face arrest. Manuel asked what the charges were. The cops then grabbed him and tried to handcuff him.

"People gathered in the hall to protest when this happened and the cops decided to leave."

At that moment, Norton Sandler, whose room was across the hall, overheard another cop say over his walkie-talkie: "Full riot: canine."

Sandler says he was threatened by the police and told to return to his room. Within a matter of seconds he saw from his window some twenty-three cop cars converging on the hotel. Dogs from the canine corps were barking and an ambulance and police van were clearly visible.

Such a large force could not possibly have been readied without prior notice.

Recognizing that an attack was imminent, the socialists quickly cleared out the party and everyone returned to their rooms before the cops got upstairs.

Denver YSA member Silvia Zapata, who went to the lobby to investigate, saw three elevator-loads of cops going up to the seventeenth floor. When she arrived on the floor, the police were heading back down to the lobby, having found the room of the party empty.

Zapata heard one cop say to another, "I thought you promised me a hot one

tonight."

Another convention participant, Tommie Wiese, accidentally entered an elevator full of cops and asked them what was happening. A cop answered, "We just had some trouble with some unruly people." Wiese asked what the people were doing. "They were just acting like a bunch of communists," the cop replied.

Indianapolis YSA chairperson Liz Sommers told the news conference about the history of police and FBI attacks in the city and state. She noted that the local YSA has been active in protests against the recent police murder of Michael Smith, a young Black here.

Chapa explained that the hotel raid occurred at the end of one of the most successful YSA conventions ever. The local media had given extensive coverage to the YSA's discussions.

The press had particularly highlighted three big rallies held on successive nights celebrating the revolutions in Central America and the Caribbean, the newly-founded National Black Independent Political Party, and the upcoming trial of the U.S. government for its spying on the SWP and YSA.

"We are a peaceful, legal organization holding a public convention to discuss our ideas. This attack was an outrageous, racist attempt to set us up, arrest our supporters, and discredit us as violent," she declared.

Other incidents at the convention

also point to systematic police provocation. The same night as the raid, an unidentified man approached two young socialists in a hotel hallway and asked for marijuana. They said they didn't have any. Later the man reappeared, claiming he had gotten some from another person attending the convention. The socialists replied that was impossible, since the YSA has a policy that its members do not use illegal drugs.

In addition, plainclothes cops were evident during a party held earlier that evening in the main convention room.

The Indianapolis police have refused to release the police blotter report on the raid. They deny it was planned in advance and say at most ten cops were involved.

The hotel management has been equally uncooperative, perhaps because Indianapolis police provide the security cops for the hotel.

The history of police attacks on socialists is full of similar examples.

On December 6, 1969, some thirty cops, some with guns drawn, stormed into the Chicago offices of the SWP and YSA, claiming they had received anonymous tips that a shoot-out was in progress. Fortunately, they could find no pretext to open fire.

The raid took place only two days after the Chicago cops assassinated Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark. It was later revealed that an FBI informer had been planted in the Panther security team.

A month before, the SWP and YSA had been attacked by the Legion of Justice, a right wing outfit that turned out to be working with the Chicago police and Military Intelligence.

The attack on the YSA convention leaves many questions unanswered.

Who ordered and organized the raid on the hotel?

Why won't the cops release the blotter report if they have nothing to hide?

Why was such a large police force called out, including dogs?

Why did they bring along an ambulance and who was supposed to end up in it?

Did the police get help from government agencies like the FBI, just like the Chicago cops got eleven years ago?

# Launch fight to defend fired workers

## Socialists expose Lockheed-FBI political spy apparatus

By Harry Ring

The Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance have initiated a nationwide campaign to win back the jobs of nine of their members fired last month by Lockheed aircraft in Marietta, Georgia.

Lockheed insists that the nine—Garrett Brown, Milton Chee, Jude Coren, Chris Hoepfner, Andree Kahlmorgan, Jeff Martin, Jean Savage, Sally Thorsen, and Greg Zensen—were terminated because of "falsifications" on their job applications.

But sworn testimony by Lockheed security cop Robert Lang, and internal company documents obtained by the SWP and YSA, show conclusively that the socialists were singled out for their political ideas and activities.

This evidence also shows that the FBI aided Lockheed in fingering the workers to be fired.

Misstatements in their job applications were simply the pretext.

Lang's testimony revealed that Lockheed maintains a network of informers inside the plant whose activities include spying on union meetings. Lang followed workers he suspected of being socialists to their homes, to restaurants, stores, and laundries, and to political events. He reported at length on their participation in an anti-Klan demonstration.

All nine workers are members of International Association of Machinists Lodge 709. The union has filed grievances demanding their reinstatement.

### Telegram campaign

The campaign against the political firings was launched at the national convention of the Young Socialist Alliance, held in December in Indianapolis. Ten socialist workers from Lockheed participated in the convention, including some of those fired and others still working in the plant.

Already under way is an emergency effort to send protest telegrams and letters to Lockheed (see box).

Andree Kahlmorgan and Chris Hoepfner, two of those victimized, are on national speaking tours seeking support. They plan to speak before meetings of unionists and others concerned with political rights for working people.

In Atlanta, several prominent figures spoke out immediately. Protests to Lockheed were voiced by Leaman Hood, regional director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Laughlin McDo-

### Urge protests to Lockheed

The nine Lockheed workers have appealed for protests against their firings. Protests should be sent to President Robert Ormsby, Lockheed-Georgia Company, South Cobb Drive, Marietta, Georgia 30060. Copies should be sent to: President, International Association of Machinists, Local Lodge 709, 1032 Clay Street, Marietta, Georgia 30060. An additional copy should be sent to the Political Rights Defense Fund, Box 649, Cooper Station, New York, New York 10003.

# The Atlanta Journal

Covers Dixie like the dew

Thursday evening, December 18, 1980

## Socialist group says FBI spying led to Lockheed firings

By GREG McDONALD  
Journal Staff Writer

The Socialist Workers Party has charged that the firing of nine of its supporters from Lockheed-Georgia's Marietta plant is linked to

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, Thurs., Dec. 23, 1980

### Fired Socialist Labels Lockheed Claims Lies

By David Morrison  
Constitution Staff Writer

A Socialist Workers Party member fired from her assembly line job at Lockheed-Georgia Co. last week characterized as "conscious and deliberate lies" the company's claims that she and eight others were not fired for political reasons.

Jean Ruth Savage, 32, said Monday that company security memoranda and information obtained in a deposition from a Lockheed security investigator last week indicate that she and other SWP sympathizers became targets of physical and electronic surveillance and extensive background investigations after they were observed handing out campaign literature at a union meeting in October.

The surveillance and investigation of

The subpoenas were issued by Manhattan U.S. District Judge Thomas Griesa, who found former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell in contempt of court in 1978 for refusing to turn over FBI documents in connection with the SWP suit.

is later over the documents of FBI informants, spokesman and one of the incident SWP support last month in two days by intelligence SWP support.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1980

### Trotskyists Accuse Lockheed Unit Of Politically Motivated Dismissals

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTA, Dec. 20 — The Socialist Workers Party has charged that the Lockheed-Georgia Company dismissed nine of its supporters from assembly-line jobs after conducting extensive background investigations and surveillance of their activities on and off the job.

The allegations were made public yesterday by the Trotskyist attorney for the Trotskyist Robert Lang, director of the

Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents Lockheed workers.

They said that the investigation included electronic eavesdropping, physical surveillance both inside and outside the plant and extensive checks with police departments and F.B.I. offices around the country.

Questioned about the women

42-A ...

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, Thurs., Dec. 18, 1980

### Socialists Subpoena Lockheed Associates In Suit Against FBI

By David Morrison  
Constitution Staff Writer

The Socialist Workers Party has subpoenaed a U.S. Air Force colonel assigned to Lockheed-Georgia Co. and the chief of security at the Marietta aircraft plant for testimony in

a lawsuit charging firings of SWP throughout the nation. sued this week dismissed nine of its 11 of whom were SWP spokesmen with, the left

ednesday that Col. of the Air Force plant, and Robert the company, have positions Friday in garet Winter.

denied that it had y the FBI that led oyes Friday and Tuesday of this

ers Party against the attorney general of the United States.

"Political beliefs" of the discharged employees, a company spokesman said, "were not a part of the incident."

Twenty-eight-year-old Garrett Brown, one of the nine, disagreed.

"They fired me because I was a socialist," he said in an interview with The Atlanta Constitution Wednesday. "It was not because of false information on an application form, but because I have a political outlook that the Lockheed-Georgia Co. doesn't want to see in its plant."

Brown confirmed, however, that "there was some inaccuracy in terms of job history on my application." Although he declined to be more specific about what that inaccuracy involved, he claimed that it was "merely a pretext."

Brown, who worked for Lockheed for about six weeks as a structural assembler on the C-130 m... he passed a diff... employ... his

nald, regional director of the American Civil Liberties Union; and Atlanta City Council member James Bond.

The fact that the nine were fired for their political affiliations is significant new evidence in the SWP and YSA's lawsuit against government spying and disruption. The case is slated to come to trial in New York City March 16.

Especially revealing is Lang's admission that he went to the FBI for information on some of those fired. This contradicts sworn court testimony by the FBI that it terminated its decades-long "investigation" of the SWP and YSA in 1976 and was no longer compiling dossiers on them.

Questions on the FBI-Lockheed connection will be further pressed by attorneys for the SWP and YSA as the case comes to trial.

### Lang's deposition

After the firings, the Lockheed-Georgia Company was subpoenaed to give pretrial depositions (sworn testimony) in connection with the suit and to turn over relevant documents.

Lockheed assigned Lang to represent it in the deposition proceedings. His testimony flatly contradicted the company's public insistence that the firings were based exclusively on misinformation in job applications.

To believe Lockheed, the firings had nothing to do with the fact that some of the workers had been involved in a protest against speedup.

Or that they had passed out a Socialist Workers campaign leaflet at a union meeting advocating formation of a labor party.

And, they solemnly insisted, the firings certainly had nothing to do with membership in the SWP or YSA.

Lang, however, testified that his investigation began shortly after a union meeting that approved a new contract. This was the meeting at which an SWP leaflet was distributed voicing solidarity with the union and supporting a labor party.

Lang's testimony and written re-

ports detailed how he and George Slich, another company cop, had followed suspected members of the SWP all over Atlanta. They carefully noted that several had left work in a car driven by a "Negro male."

They even tried to listen in on a parking lot conversation with an electronic device that Lang described as a "big ear." The "big ear" is supposed to permit eavesdropping from a distance, but in this case, he advised, it was not successful.

### 'Subversive' profile

How did Lang determine who was a suspected SWP "subversive"?

Since SWP and YSA members do not make a practice of concealing their political views, he had a certain number of names to begin with.

In addition, Lang explained, he developed a "profile" and began checking employee records to see who might fit it.

What was the "profile"?

First, anyone who had a college degree but was working as an hourly employee was "very suspicious."

Second, suspicion was even greater if the degree was from a college or university in California, since these were known as "a center for dissident and subversive activities during the Vietnam era."

Third, any employee who provided as an emergency contact a person with a "foreign-sounding" name was fair game for Lang's witch-hunt.

Not surprisingly, Lang's list of "suspects" included a number of workers who had nothing whatsoever to do with the SWP or YSA, as well as those whose only crime was talking with a socialist on the job.

After compiling his hit-list, Lang contacted acquaintances in various FBI offices.

Prior to his employment with Lockheed, Lang had worked for ten years as a clerk in the FBI office in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. After a decade as a clerk he deduced he was not likely to become a full-fledged "special agent"

and decided to move up the ladder by becoming a security cop at Lockheed.

### FBI connection

Lang testified that John Donahue, an agent in the New York FBI office, agreed to check out "four or five" names. He said Donahue also suggested he contact the Atlanta FBI office for further information.

When he called Donahue back, Lang testified, the FBI agent told him that the New York office had "voluminous information" on two of the names he had furnished—Jean Savage and Jeff Martin.

Savage is a long-time SWP member who had lived in New York for several years.

Martin joined the YSA only six months ago, has never lived in New York, and had not engaged in any extensive political activity before. How does the FBI's "voluminous information" on him square with the bureau's claim to have stopped investigating the SWP and YSA more than four years ago?

When FBI agent Donahue was questioned under oath by an SWP attorney, he denied giving any information to Lang.

That means one or the other has committed perjury.

Donahue asserted it was FBI policy not to provide such information to individuals. He did admit under oath that he had referred Lang to the Atlanta FBI office. He could not explain why he had done so.

### Enter the ATF

The files turned over by Lang include further evidence of the government's ongoing frame-up campaign against the SWP.

In a November 17 confidential report to his superiors entitled "Addendum: SWP Case," Lockheed cop George Slich outlined a discussion he had with Captain Brad Pope of the Cobb County Police Department Intelligence Division. Cobb County, adjacent to

Continued on next page

## Lockheed's secret documents

# How a company spies on its workers

The confidential industrial relations files obtained from Lockheed-Georgia by the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance are the most complete documentation made public in recent years about a corporation's internal spy apparatus.

It points to the company's use of a network of informants to spy on fellow workers and on union meetings.

The first outstanding feature of these files is that political views and activities—not the accuracy of job applications—is the prime concern of the company cops.

The major files are headed as investigations of "National loyalty, Circulation of Literature, Falsification of Application." In that order.

Other memorandums are simply entitled "SWP Case."

A list of ten employees, with accompanying badge photos, is entitled "Identified SWP Members."

An additional list of twelve is entitled "Possible Suspects."

Suspected of what?

Incredibly, Lockheed continues to insist to reporters that the plant's firing of nine SWP and YSA members in December has nothing to do with their politics!

Company cop Robert Lang seemed to feel differently when he wrote up this unique evidence against YSA member Jeff Martin, one of those fired:

Martin, the memo notes, "attended Miami Norland Senior High School which is a school known for its liberalized ideas towards politics and activities within the school structure. This information was obtained through the personal knowledge of Investigator Lang who also attended this high school."

Even more suspicious was what Lang discovered about Jean Savage, another fired worker. "Savage's background investigation," Lang wrote, "reveals that she has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and History from the University of California at



Participants in widely covered Atlanta press conference on Lockheed firings included, left to right, fired workers Jean Savage, Chris Hoepfner, Jude Coren, and SWP attorney Margaret Winter.

Berkeley, California which is known by its history of protest gatherings and as a center for dissident and subversive activities during the Vietnam era."

Other memos indicate the company was probing the possibility of framing up the socialists for "sabotage" of military planes they worked on.

An "Addendum to Case 1-88" states that Jude Coren, one of those fired, "put a rivet gun through the window of the C-130 causing considerable damage."

In other words, if the company decides your politics are "subversive," then any mistake or accident on the job can be construed as "sabotage."

The same report states that two suspected SWPers worked on a plane that "subsequently caught fire."

"Subsequently."

Another "Investigative Insert," dated December 12, 1980, indicates how eagerly the company snoops sought out possible "sabotage" raps.

Lockheed security cop George Slichow writes that a worker called him "to report that a friend of his on the C-141 Modification Line had information regarding an employee who supposedly is a Communist and may be planning an act of sabotage."

The information the friend—identified as Robert H. Roberson—actually had to provide Slichow was "that

Jean Savage is a member of a group believed to be called the Socialist Reform Union or Party."

The report describes Roberson's concern about "communists" in the plant and adds:

"Roberson does not have any indication or proof Savage or any other employee has planned any act of sabotage against the Company or any of its employees. . . . Roberson said Savage has never indicated in any manner she intends to commit any act of sabotage or violence."

You can almost hear Slichow's sigh of disappointment as his report concludes: "The interview with Roberson was terminated at this time."

## ... expose Lockheed-FBI political spying

Continued from preceding page

Atlanta, is the site of the Lockheed plant.

Slichow reported that while Cobb County police had little information on the SWP, Captain Pope regarded the party as "a very real threat."

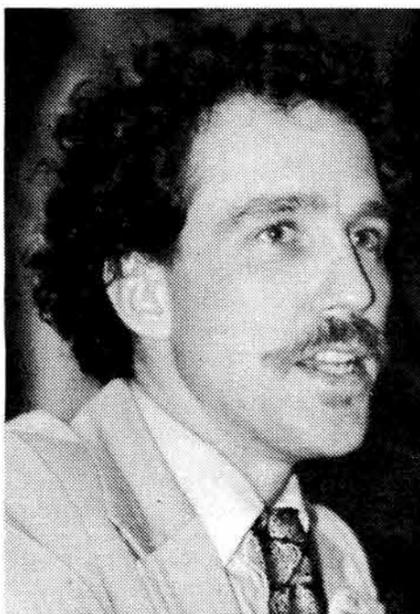
"It was learned from Captain Pope," Slichow states, "that the local office of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has instituted monthly meetings for the Intelligence Division of all metro law enforcement agencies. The purpose of these meetings is to exchange information regarding terrorist groups and their activities. According to Pope, the SWP was discussed in some length during the first meeting on 11/12/80. The SWP is considered a terrorist organization prone to violence."

The ATF, a division of the federal treasury department, has played a major role in frame-ups and provocations against Black, Latino, and radical groups. An ATF informer was one of two known government agents in the Klan-Nazi gang that gunned down five anti-Klan protesters in Greensboro in 1979.

For a federal agency to be branding the SWP as a "terrorist organization prone to violence" is an especially sinister frame-up. The FBI, ATF, and other cop agencies have been spying on the SWP for decades, wiretapping and burglarizing offices, opening mail, and planting informers and provocateurs.

Yet the government has never uncovered a single illegal act by the SWP or YSA!

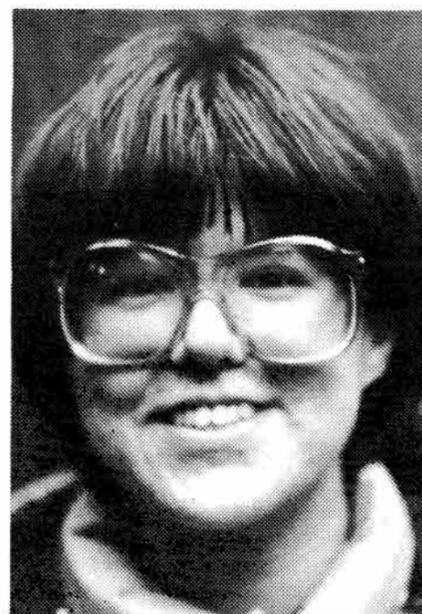
This was attested to by both the House and Senate subcommittees that investigated FBI operations in 1977. As the House committee reported, "FBI's failure to uncover illegal activity by this political party is not from lack of effort. SWP has been subjected to 34 years of intensive investigation."



CHRIS HOEPPNER

It is the FBI, ATF, and companies such as Lockheed that have been proven time after time to be the law-breakers, by harassing and victimizing anyone whose political views they don't approve of.

Lockheed's case against the nine fired workers has everything to do with politics and nothing to do with job applications. (Lang further confirmed this by admitting that he is still



ANDREE KAHLMORGAN

examining the files of any employee who he suspects may be a member of the SWP.)

At a widely covered Atlanta news conference last month, those fired readily acknowledged that they—like countless other workers—had omitted facts and included misstatements in their applications in order to obtain jobs.

All of them passed proficiency tests in order to be hired and had satisfactory work records.

Indeed, the only one of the nine to receive a work performance reprimand was Kahlmorgan. And that just happened to be shortly after her picture appeared on the front page of the *Atlanta Journal* participating in an anti-KKK rally.

"The campaign against us actually had a much broader target," Kahlmorgan told the *Militant*. "It was aimed at intimidating any Lockheed worker who demonstrates against the Klan, or who protests speedup on the job, or who does anything else the company doesn't like."

Chris Hoepfner agreed. "It's a short step from slandering us as 'disloyal' to pinning that label on anyone who fights back against the corporate drive to slash wages and working conditions," he said.

"We think a victory in our fight for reinstatement at Lockheed will strengthen all workers' ability to defend their rights and living standards."

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

COREN, HOEPPNER, SAVAGE, [REDACTED]  
MARTIN, FISKE, [REDACTED] -2-

November 4, 1980

Information from the CI indicated that subject Savage distributes propaganda material during her work hours at Gelac and does not hide the fact that she is a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

On November 1, 1980, a meeting at the Machinist Union Hall was held and a Union member stood up and stated that he and a large number of Union members had found out that there was a Communist organization in the Plant that was distributing material relative to their activities. He stated that he and his co-workers did not like this and wished the Union would do something about it. At this time subject Savage stood up and proclaimed her association with the Socialist Workers Party and advised the congregation that she was an avowed Communist party member and that she was the person who was handing out this literature. At this time the congregation heckled and booed subject Savage to a point where she then ceased her speech.

Mr. C. H. Bankston (protect) contacted Investigator Lang and furnished the above information relative to the meeting in the Union Hall and indicated subject Savage was sitting next to a man who had tentatively been identified as a Lockheed employee assigned to the L-11 Building. Savage was conversing heavily with this man and it was Bankston's opinion that the two were there together. Although he does not know the man's name, he is endeavoring to find this information and will re-contact Lang as soon as possible.

On three separate occasions Investigator Lang observed subject Savage exiting the Plant through Headhouse 3 and enter a small faded blue vehicle, license tag # FJW 667. This tag is presently being checked through the Cobb County Sheriff's Office. Subject Savage was observed speaking with numerous people and was seen exiting with subject Hoepner on one instance. Subject Hoepner was observed entering a Pinto automobile, but no license tag could be obtained. On another occasion Savage entered her vehicle at which time a negro male emerged from the same vehicle, indicating that he was waiting for her. After the negro male exited her vehicle, he entered a small Fiat. This tag is registered to [REDACTED] no record of [REDACTED] found in Lockheed employment files. The only [REDACTED] shown in our files is that of [REDACTED] with a different address in Marietta. No identifiable information to link the two was found. This negro male was seen on another occasion in an old Cadillac conversing and exchanging items of a small size with the driver. This other person was a white male and the automobile had license tag [REDACTED]. This registration is for a [REDACTED] with address of [REDACTED] Rossville, Georgia. Subject [REDACTED] entered on duty at Gelac on 8/5/80 and is assigned to Dept. [REDACTED]

Subje [REDACTED] was enlisted in the U. S. Navy from March 1975 to March 1980 and was released with an Honorable discharge. This information was verified by subject's [REDACTED]. After subject's release from the Navy in March 1980, he gained employment with the [REDACTED] company in Chattanooga, Tennessee as a spare hand. Verification of this was obtained from this company who verified his employment with a job title of machine operator. The reason for his leaving was that he had quit for another job. Additional PD checks with the Chattanooga, Tennessee PD Rossville, Ga. PD and Norfolk, Va. PD have been instituted and the results are pending.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

1. This page from a November 4 memorandum includes a company spy's report on a meeting of Machinists Lodge 709. The informer evidently tailored his reports to what he figured his superiors wanted to hear. According to other participants in the meeting, some right-wingers did engage in red-baiting and Jean Savage answered them. But the tale of Savage being shouted down is the spy's invention.

The memo further indicates detailed surveillance of the comings and goings of socialists Savage and Chris Hoepner. The investigator seems especially concerned about their contact with a "negro male."

In releasing these files, the SWP and YSA have deleted the names of workers who are not affiliated with the socialist groups.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

SWP Case

November 14, 1980

No identifiable information relative to [REDACTED] noted on Lockheed employment rolls.

On November 13, 1980, 3:30 PM, Investigator Lang observed subject Coren and subject Hoepner exit the L-10 Gate together and enter a 1970 blue Nova, Lic. # WFW 128. Subjects exited Lockheed Parking Lot and proceeded south toward the Windy Hill Ext. They proceeded on Windy Hill to I-75 and then drove south on 75 past 285 and then to the 75-85 Interchange at which time they proceeded north on 85 to Route 23. Subjects then proceeded west to Buford Highway and stopped at a Shell Station on the corner of Buford Highway and North Druid Hills Blvd. Both subjects exited the vehicle and spoke with a mechanic in a fashion depicting they were discussing having the vehicle worked on. Both subjects then re-entered the Nova and proceeded north on Buford Highway for approximately one mile and entered an apartment complex called the [REDACTED]. This is the residence of subject Coren. Coren exited the vehicle at approximately 4:20 PM and entered the apartment while subject Hoepner drove south on Buford Highway.

At approximately 5:10 PM, subject Coren, accompanied by an unidentified male, exited the apartment. The male was carrying a large pillowcase type bag which evidently contained laundry. The male walked into the apartment complex and entered a room which was, in all probability, the laundry room. Subject Coren entered a small white Datsun, Lic. # BMP 341, drove to another apartment in the complex, entered and then exited this apartment after approximately three minutes, and then exited the apartment complex, driving north on Buford Highway. Coren drove approximately three miles to a large shopping center located on Buford Highway and entered the parking lot, parking in front of Eckerd Drugs. She exited the vehicle, walked into the enclosed shopping center, and entered a small shop called C & H Alterations. She was observed being fitted in different clothes and then upon finishing this business, entered the Burlington Factory Outlet located adjacent to the Alternation Shop. Subject spent approximately one hour and 15 minutes in this store, looking at all types of clothing. At approximately 6:40 PM, subject exited the Burlington Store, entered her parked vehicle and drove back to her apartment complex.

Lang and Slich then broke off the surveillance and proceeded back towards Lockheed, exiting 75 at the Delk Road Exit and proceeded into the apartment complex resided by subject [REDACTED]. The total complex is extremely large with numerous apartment out-ings located on dead end streets. [REDACTED] apartment, [REDACTED] Drive, Apt. [REDACTED] is located at the very end of the total complex in an upstairs apartment. No identifiable signs were noted relative to the identification of this apartment and no vehicles were noted reflecting the identification of this subject. It should be noted that only one way in and one way out is available to a driver and without a complex map, it is very difficult to locate the buildings.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

3. This memo is typical of the Lockheed cops' surveillance of suspected socialists, scrupulously recording their visits to a gas station, their homes, a laundry, and clothing stores.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

ADDENDUM to Case 1-88

November 20, 1980

On November 19, 1980, Investigator Lang surveilled subject Savage in her blue vehicle driving south on I-75 towards Atlanta. She exited Martin Luther King (MLK) Drive, drove east to Spring Street, turned right on Spring and then entered the Rich's department store parking lot. At this time Lang observed subject Hoepner walking on Spring Street, turned left on MLK Drive and walked to Forsyth Street. At this time he waved to an unknown white female who was standing on the opposite corner in front of George's Soul Food Restaurant. Lang proceeded around the area at such time parking Gelac vehicle and walking on MLK Drive toward the U. S. Post Office. At this time subject Hoepner was observed with the white female, who is described as 5'4", 130 lbs., blond, frizzy Afro-style hair, wearing blue jeans, a ski parka cut at the shoulders and earth shoes. Also sitting with Hoepner and the white female was another white female and a white male.

Approximately 10 minutes later, Hoepner and associates exited George's Soul Food Restaurant and walked directly across the street to the U. S. Post Office, at which time other people, identified as the Workers' World Party, were in the process of picketing the Post Office, shouting slogans of "No more Klan" and "No more Nazis". Hoepner was seen speaking with numerous people and at this time was joined by subject Savage. Both Savage and Hoepner then participated in the picket line, chanting slogans and carrying banners. Approximately 5 minutes later, subject Martin appeared in the area and was seen talking with members of the WWP. He did not participate in the march but was seen talking with most everyone in the area.

Approximately 5 minutes later Channel 11 news team appeared and began taking pictures of the protest march. Just prior to the actual taking of the film, subjects Hoepner and Savage left the picket line and walked over to Martin and spoke with numerous members of this party.

A white male, approximately 6', 175 lbs., who seemed to be one of the leaders of this group and who was later identified as Bill Burton, through the TV interview on Channel 11, was seen throughout the march speaking with subjects Savage, Hoepner and Martin.

Investigator Lang approached a white female identified only as Lucy, and began speaking about the Klan and the WWP. It was indicated that they advocated the end to racism by any means deemed necessary. She would not elaborate on what this meant but said on numerous occasions she has almost come to actual physical fighting with Klan members and Nazis. She's described as a white female, approximately 30 years old, blond hair, blue eyes (bloodshot), glasses, wearing a poncho, long brown skirt and knee high boots.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

2. This memo gives Lockheed cop Robert Lang's report on the participation of socialist workers in a public rally against the acquittal of Klan-Nazi murderers in North Carolina. What this has to do with building airplanes is not specified, but Lang seems quite disturbed that a demonstrator "advocated the end to racism by any means deemed necessary."

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

ADDENDUM:

November 17, 1980

SWP Case:

On 11/12/80, contact was made with Captain Brad Pope, Cobb County Police Department Intelligence Division. Pope stated that approximately one year ago an undercover officer with his department was approached by an unidentified Socialist Workers Party (SWP) member. This individual described as a white male, approximately 6'2" curly red hair was insistent in obtaining a list of companies in Cobb County that could be targeted for infiltration by the SWP. This individual wanted companies that were either experiencing union problems or would be involved in union negotiations in the future. The officer was successful in arranging a series of meetings with this SWP member in order to feed him erroneous information and attempt to develop additional information.

Pope said this SWP member always insisted on clandestine meetings in parking lots. Through surveillance, it was learned that other SWP members always accompanied this member but remained in vehicles at a distance. The officer was unable to learn the identity of this individual because of his very secretive manner. Also license tags obtained from the various vehicles were inconclusive as to the identify of the SWP members.

Pope said his department files contain very little information regarding the SWP or any of its members. This is due in part to the limited number of members who work or live in Cobb County and the fact that most of the SWP activities take place in the Atlanta area. Pope said, however, based on the limited activity and information about the SWP, he would definitely describe it as a violent organization. In dealings with the undercover officer, the SWP member stated that they would resort to violence in order to achieve their goals. In Pope's opinion, the SWP represents a very real threat.

It was learned from Captain Pope that the local office of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has instituted monthly meetings for the Intelligence Division of all metro law enforcement agencies. The purpose of these meetings is to exchange information regarding terrorist groups and their activities. According to Pope, the SWP was discussed in some length during the first meeting on 11/12/80. The SWP is considered a terrorist organization prone to violence.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that a number of SWP members in the Baltimore, Maryland area are presently under federal indictment for violent acts in this area.

CJS:bc

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
RESERVED DATA

4. This is one of the most ominous documents, recording current efforts by the federal Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms division to smear the SWP as "a terrorist organization prone to violence."

The first two paragraphs, about an unnamed six-foot two-inch redhead looking to "infiltrate" companies "experiencing union problems," have no relation whatsoever to any activity or member of the SWP. This appears to be a complete fabrication either by Cobb County police or by some provocateur.

Similarly, the final paragraph alleges that SWP members in Baltimore "are presently under federal indictment for violent acts in this area," when in fact no SWP members are or have been indicted for violent acts in Baltimore or anywhere else.

# Socialist lawsuit wins support



## Ed Asner, TV's 'Lou Grant'

As a longtime member of the Political Rights Defense Fund and a staunch supporter in its fight for constitutional rights—in any fight for constitutional rights—I look forward to the trial in the Socialist Workers Party lawsuit as the culmination of a long struggle for justice against governmental abuses.

## Jules Feiffer

Considering the results of the 1980 election, this suit takes on added importance. . . . A satisfactory resolution of the SWP lawsuit will provide a vital legal safeguard—and God, do we need it—against intrusions on our civil liberties by a new generation of spies, provocateurs, and plumbers.

## Rev. William Sloane Coffin, Jr.

After eight years of waiting a landmark case! Who knows how many hundreds or even thousands of us may have a stake in its outcome.



## Alice Peurala, president, United Steelworkers of America Local 65

As a longtime activist in the labor movement and the civil rights movement, I feel strongly that all political organizations must have the absolute right to function in a free society.

I am reminded of the fierce struggle waged in the early days of the labor movement against local and state police as the workers determined to organize their union.

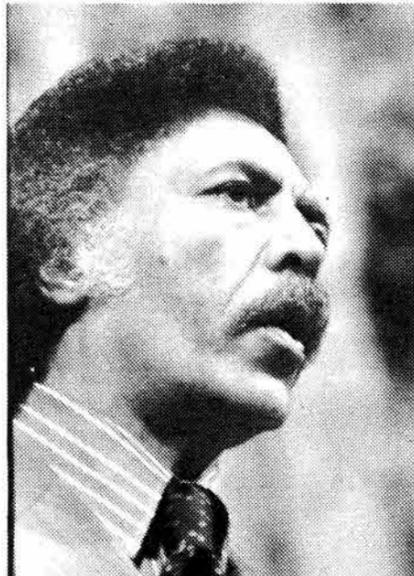
Our citizens must have the right of political expression, without harassment and oppression from agents of the federal government. For the foregoing reasons I support your suit in defense of the Bill of Rights.

## Daniel and Philip Berrigan

There is every indication that the dirty tricks of Cointelpro have never been and are not at present inhibited by the law of the land. . . . [The Socialist Workers Party] is fighting back with persistence and dignity. The legal battle presently under way is, we believe, being fought on behalf of every unscripted conscience in America.

## Lou Antal, president, United Mine Workers District 5

We should not allow anybody to take anybody's freedom from them. If this trial and this suit deals with the subject of freedom, then regardless of one's political beliefs we should fight to preserve their freedom.



## Congressman Ron Dellums

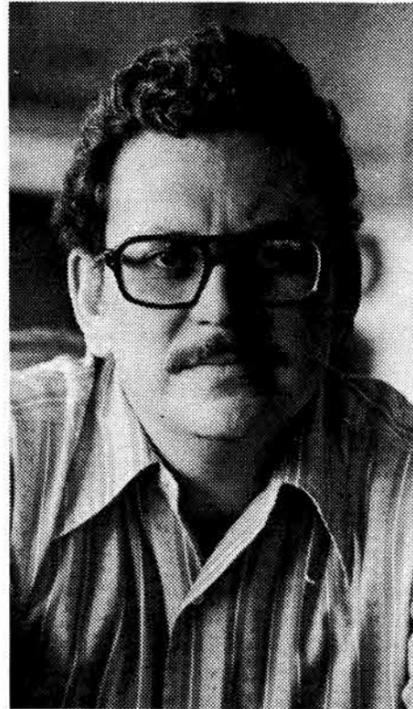
It is imperative that the illegal activities of the federal government against dissenters be readdressed to insure the very security of the constitutional rights of all. For this reason we must support the lawsuit against the United States government's activities with regard to the Socialist Workers Party.

## Manning Marable, leader, National Black Independent Political Party

The struggle for a more progressive America forces all activists to support the pending trial of the SWP. Our struggle to create a more democratic society where the interests of the many come before the private profits of a few necessitates that we must use every means at our disposal to struggle against reaction.

## Rafael CANCEL Miranda, of the five Puerto Rican Nationalists

As a Puerto Rican who defends the rights of my people I support the suit of the Socialist Workers Party against the repressive agencies of the FBI and CIA. This fight is of concern to all of us.



## José Angel Gutiérrez, Zavala County, Texas judge

The lawsuit of the Socialist Workers Party has brought meaning to the Bill of Rights in their outstanding and militant defense against the harassment of the FBI. Those of us who have learned firsthand the costs and toll of this illicit activity by government officials know full well the valient efforts of the SWP and YSA lawsuit. In the 1980s we must continue to support the Political Rights Defense Fund and those who support it.

## Edith Tiger, director, National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee

The revelations that this suit made were instrumental in making the American people aware of the unconstitutional conduct of the FBI for so many years. We believe that in the coming court case there will be many more dirty tricks uncovered. My commitment from the beginning of this suit will remain until we are finally victorious.

## Henry Foner, president, Joint Board, Fur, Leather and Machine Workers Union

I reaffirm my support of the actions of the Political Rights Defense Fund in seeking to defend the civil liberties of all Americans.

## Russ Bellant, coordinator, Greater Detroit Chapter Committee Against Registration and the Draft

Taking the offensive against the FBI is important to the antidraft movement. . . . We should feel emboldened by the example of the Socialist Workers Party lawsuit. . . .

## William Kunstler, attorney

When the Socialist Workers Party lawsuit goes to court, the result will be one of the most important trials in American history for revealing the machinations of the government in investigating dissident domestic groups.

## Ann Braden, civil rights leader

The trial of this case will come apparently at a critical moment. We are moving into a period in which powerful forces in this country are pressing to roll back the small gains we have made in civil rights and civil liberties over the past three decades. This particular suit has already been tremendously important in uncovering the mechanisms of government repression in the past. It is essential that we know all we can possibly learn about how that repression was carried out in the past so that we can organize effectively to combat the even greater repression that will be attempted in this decade.



## Lucius Walker, National Anti-Klan Network

The suit filed jointly by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance serves as an example of the aggressive and creative counteroffensive that must be waged by all progressive forces as we face the possibility of increased political repression in the 1980s.

## Waubun-Inini (Vernon Bellecourt)

. . . the American Indian Movement is encouraging and supporting the lawsuit brought by the Socialist Workers Party against the FBI.

In the plaintiffs' defense of their human and constitutional rights they are in fact defending all peoples.

organizations for identification only

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## Secret Police on Trial: Socialists versus FBI, CIA, INS

This brochure tells why the capitalist government spies on socialists, trade unionists, Blacks, and women—and how we can fight back.

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Socialist Workers National Campaign Committee, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.



## Get community backing

# Black family resists racist threats

By Sue Adley

COMMERCE CITY, Colo.—“If I leave this house I might as well leave this country.”

That's how Alex Roberson expressed his determination to stay in Commerce City despite threats to his family following their move to this Denver suburb.

Roberson, his wife Linda, and his mother, Hazel Fuller, are Black. They have lived in the Denver area for decades. They consider themselves good citizens and are friendly people who find time to play with and answer questions for the few kids who have ventured over to their yard in their new neighborhood.

“I don't hate anybody. I haven't done nobody nothing. I've never even carried a picket sign,” says Alex.

Alex is a Vietnam veteran. “I had to go fight to protect this country here. What is America if you can't live in it?” After Vietnam, Alex would just as soon never pick up another gun in his life. But now he and Linda have had to take out gun permits.

The Robersons were notified December 17 by a policeman that threats on them had been called in to the realtor who sold them their modest home.

City Manager Don Wilson told the *Militant* that only one call is recorded in the police report. The caller referred to “a bunch of niggers” and threatened, “if you don't get rid of them I will.”

However, the Robersons learned from the realtor that there were several calls, and not from the same person, they told the *Militant*.

Someone scratched an obscenity on one car by their house and loosened bolts on another.

While the Robersons haven't gotten any protection from the city, they have received plenty of attention from the city zoning department. Their new home is smaller than the one they were renting and doesn't accommodate some items Linda had accumulated, expecting to open a thrift shop.



Alex and Linda Roberson are targets of vandalism and city harassment.

When I went to see the Robersons, all the items were stored in the garage or on the back patio. They weren't visible from the street.

By way of comparison, rusting household appliances, and broken-down cars are very visible in several yards in the same neighborhood.

But the city gave the Robersons ten days to clean up their “junk.” When Linda Roberson asked why she was being singled out a city official told her the other yards were none of her business.

Support for the Robersons has come from ministers, church groups, and community activists. Friends and relatives have stayed with the family to help them watch their home.

The mail has brought notes and Christmas cards from well-wishers in the area, most of whom the Robersons

had never met before. Some of the messages read: “You have every right to be happy and live wherever you please”;

“We are terribly shocked that you have been subjected to such inhospitable treatment”; and

“If you need temporary refuge, please feel free to knock on our door.”

John Copeland, a Black activist, has organized a guard for the Roberson home. They are available every night, anytime the family goes out, and are on call the rest of the time. He wants to put pressure on the mayor to end the official harassment of the Robersons and to step up protection.

“But I'm not waiting for that,” Copeland told the *Militant*. “I haven't seen a police car within four blocks the whole time I've been patrolling.”

## Jan. 18 labor meeting on nuclear threat

The accident at Three Mile Island is far from over. The lives and well-being of the people living in the shadow of that nuclear plant are still endangered.

Neither the Nuclear Regulatory Commission nor Metropolitan Edison know how to proceed with the clean-up of the plant.

Between 596,000 and 750,000 gallons of highly contaminated water lies in the basement of TMI number 2's containment building. According to Robert Pollard of the Union of Concerned Scientists, “Nowhere in the world has a core ever been damaged as severely as this one is.”

The effects of the accident on human and animal life will be one of the subjects discussed at the January 18 meeting of the Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment.

The gathering will be held at Harrisburg Area Community College, 3300 Cameron Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The agenda includes a morning educational panel discussion on “Oil, coal, and nuclear—what are the relationships?”

In the afternoon, participants will assess the founding conference, held in Pittsburgh last October, and discuss future activities of the labor committee, including proposals for spring actions. One proposal under consideration is a March 28 demonstration in Harrisburg to mark the second anniversary of the accident at Three Mile Island.

For further information on the January 18 meeting, contact the Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment, 1536 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, telephone (202) 265-7190.

# John Poulos, a veteran socialist, dies

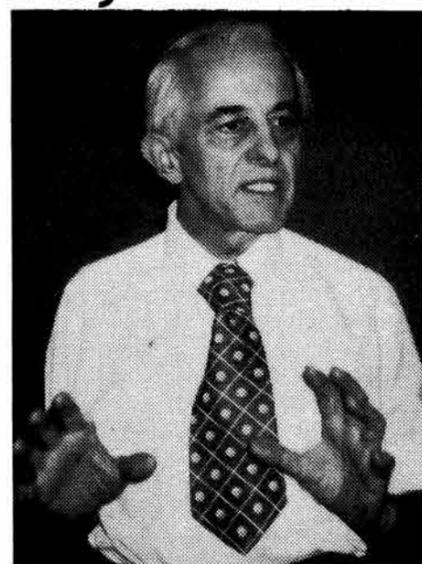
By George Breitman

John Poulos, a founding member of the Socialist Workers Party and the CIO, died in New York December 21 of a heart attack. He was sixty-nine years old, and imbued to the end with the spirit of rebellion against capitalism that brought him to the radical movement in his youth. His sense of fairness, modesty, cheerfulness, and reliability earned him the respect and affection of people in political tendencies that otherwise had little in common.

John was born and raised in Lynn, Massachusetts, the son of immigrants from Greece, and he retained a deep interest in Greek politics and culture all his life. In the early years of the Great Depression he considered joining the Communist Party but came across the writings of the Trotskyists and joined the Communist League of America around 1932. A food worker, he organized Food Workers Local 701, a militant and democratic union that joined the new CIO in the mid 1930s and elected John as its business agent. John also became the organizer of the North Shore CIO, leading the campaigns that unionized plants and shops in Lynn, Peabody, Salem, and adjoining cities.

## CIO convention

When the CIO held its first constitutional convention in 1938, John was a delegate. He was the only delegate to speak against the CIO's support to Franklin D. Roosevelt. Under a discussion of the CIO's political policy, he



JOHN POULOS

tried to get the floor to speak against support of Roosevelt and the Democrats and in favor of independent political action. He went to the front of the hall, waving his arm in the face of John L. Lewis, who was in the chair, but Lewis looked him coolly in the eye and declared the discussion closed on the ground that no one else wanted to speak.

Earlier the same year, John was a delegate from Lynn to the founding convention of the Socialist Workers Party in Chicago. When World War II began, he joined a faction in the SWP that believed the Soviet Union was no longer a workers state. As a represen-

tative of this faction he was elected an alternate member of the SWP National Committee at a convention in April 1940. A few weeks later when the members of this faction left the SWP to form the Workers Party, John left with them.

He moved to New York in 1942, becoming active in United Auto Workers Local 365 at Brewster Aircraft. This local carried out a sit-down strike during the war, defying not only the government but also the “no strike” pledge of the UAW officialdom. He continued to work as a sheet metal worker in a CIO shipbuilding local in Hoboken, New Jersey. He was a member of the Workers Party Political Committee and was on the editorial board of *Labor Action*, the WP's weekly newspaper. He left the Workers Party toward the end of the 1940s, almost a decade before its members dissolved it to join the Socialist Party. Unable to get work in union plants, he had to take non-union jobs and was politically inactive for several years during the cold war witch-hunt.

## Civil rights movement

When the new radicalization occurred in the 1960s, John responded with enthusiasm to the civil rights struggle, and the opposition of U.S. imperialism's role in Vietnam. He did not join any political party, but he collaborated actively with the left-wing participants in these movements.

He continued following developments in the labor movement and often gave good advice about union

tactics to young members in various unions. One who benefited from such advice was his son Eric, a young lawyer involved in the strike of Legal Services in New York last year. When Eric—along with several co-workers—visited his father, who was in the hospital for serious heart surgery at the time, John was much more interested in discussing the strike than the surgery, and his advice was as sound as on any other occasion.

During this period he renewed his relations with the Socialist Workers Party. While he still had political differences with the organization, particularly on issues relating to the class nature of the Soviet Union, he considered himself a friend of the party.

He was also collaborating with Pathfinder Press in the writing of a reminiscence about the Lynn branch of the Communist League of America and SWP and their experiences in the labor movement. A few weeks before his death he went back to Lynn to meet with old comrades and look up old newspapers and articles in the library, in order to be sure that he would do justice to this project, from which, he believed, many useful lessons could be learned by young radicals today.

John's intelligence and his energy will be sorely missed by those who knew him and those who benefited from his work.

He leaves a wife, Ruth, and two sons, Steve and Eric. It was announced that a memorial meeting will be held in New York City in March.

# Social Democrats meeting discusses

By Fred Feldman

WASHINGTON, D.C.—“Euro-socialism and America: An International Exchange” was the title of a conference attended by well over 2,000 people here December 5-7.

The conference heard addresses by a range of top social democratic leaders from the United States and Europe: Olof Palme, former Prime Minister of Sweden; Tony Benn, leader of the British Labor Party's left wing; former Prime Minister Joop den Uyl of the Netherlands; former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt; François Mitterrand, who is virtually certain to be the French Socialist Party's presidential candidate in 1981; William W. Winpisinger, International President of the International Association of Machinists; feminist Gloria Steinem, and others.

Sounds newsworthy, doesn't it?

## Media blackout

Yet you would have had to dig stubbornly through the daily newspapers or the big newsweeklies to find it mentioned.

The gathering was sponsored by the Institute for Democratic Socialism, and heavily supported by the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (DSOC). Its proceedings were organized by Nancy Lieber and overseen by DSOC national chairperson Michael Harrington.

Many of the participants were young people, college age or a little older. U.S. Blacks and Latinos were few, and the growing attacks on their rights attracted little attention.

Relatively few labor officials attended, although some—like United Auto Workers President Douglas Fraser—turned up at a closed two-day meeting that preceded the weekend session. Aside from Winpisinger, the most prominent labor participant was retired UAW Vice-President Irving Bluestone.

In his address to the rally that opened the conference Friday night, Winpisinger indicated that Lane Kirkland and other AFL-CIO leaders had strongly discouraged attendance.

The only prominent Republican or Democratic politician to attend was Rep. Ron Dellums (D-Cal.). Dellums is a DSOC member.

## Why the blackout?

The conference broadened the discussion of the labor movement's political orientation. The issue of whether the U.S. unions should continue to support Democratic and Republican candidates or initiate their own party was widely discussed, particularly in the corridors.

And this time, the discussion involved prominent politicians from countries where the labor movement long ago established its own mass parties.

The very holding of such a gathering, where leaders of currents proclaiming socialist goals from around the world discussed the capitalist crisis, tended to pose the issue of a socialist alternative to capitalism.



Olof Palme, former prime minister of Sweden

That's an alternative the media would rather we didn't hear much about.

## Solidarity with El Salvador

Perhaps most importantly, the feeling of solidarity at the conference with the peoples of El Salvador and Nicaragua ran counter not only to U.S. government policy, but to that of top AFL-CIO leaders who are up to their ears in efforts to prop up the El Salvador regime.

The first meeting of the international Committee for the Defense of the Revolution in Nicaragua, initiated by the Socialist International at its recent congress in Madrid, took place during the Washington gathering. The conference also reflected the Madrid meeting's endorsement of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, the coalition fighting the El Salvador dictatorship. And Olof Palme strongly denounced the brutal repression carried out by the Salvadoran government.

This contrasts with the stand social democratic parties took during the Vietnam War. The German Social Democratic Party and British Labour Party gave outright support to Washington in that war. And no major social democratic party took a public stand on the side of the liberation fighters.

The Washington meeting thus served as a public forum for the “new look” adopted in recent years by leading representatives of the Socialist International (SI), the world federation of social democratic parties, now headed by Willy Brandt.

Since World War I—when the SI's main parties backed their imperialist governments—its component organizations have defended the view that the only way workers should seek to improve their conditions is through piecemeal changes within the framework of capitalism. They oppose a revolutionary transformation of society.

For DSOC, the conference was a chance to recruit new forces by utilizing the prestige of its more powerful European friends. The meeting showed that DSOC has come to be regarded by the European social democrats as the representative of their current in this country. But the Socialist International continues to include in its ranks the extremely right-wing Social Democrats USA, closely linked to AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland.

## A real alternative?

The DSOC organizers of the conference pointed to the “social democratic” countries—as they call the capitalist states from which their main international guests came—as possible models for solutions to some of the social and economic problems here.

“Throughout much of Western Europe, unemployment is lower, prices are more stable, income is more equitably

distributed, and the quality of life in general has become better than in the U.S.,” said a conference leaflet.

These claims have impact, since American working people are becoming aware—despite the propaganda about the “highest standard of living in the world” that was drummed into our heads for decades—that some of these countries are now “more prosperous than the United States,” as the leaflet pointed out.

Workers in Europe have made gains in some important fields that outstrip those won by American workers. Most European capitalist countries have some degree of guaranteed medical care, for instance. Such gains have inspired social democrats and liberals to describe the regimes in Sweden, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and elsewhere as “welfare states.”

One reason for this is that European workers have long been organized in their own political parties (Communist or social democratic) with millions of supporters. Despite their bureaucratic, class-collaborationist leadership, the existence of these mass working-class parties played a big part in compelling the ruling classes to grant a wider range of concessions in the past. It has also obliged them to proceed more cautiously with the present offensive against workers' living standards than their counterparts in the U.S. (although workers in “social democratic” Britain have been hit particularly hard).

## International offensive

But the economic crisis of capitalism is international and so is the antilabor offensive of the capitalists. Far from providing an alternative to ruling class attacks, the “social democratic” capitalist societies are the scene of increasingly sharp attacks on labor and growing resistance by the workers.

When in power, the social democratic politicians have sought to help the ruling rich carry out these policies and use their influence with workers to try to persuade them to go along. Their resulting loss of popularity contributed to electoral defeats for governing social democratic parties in Great Britain, Portugal, Sweden, and the Netherlands.

The social democratic leaders also fear the impact of the capitalist drive toward militarization and war. They know the masses of their countries are not ready to accept the sacrifices required for a massive step-up in arms spending. They know that moves to place new nuclear missiles in Europe are widely unpopular, and that the workers fear and oppose steps that increase tensions with Moscow.

And they foresee that a new Vietnam in Central America would have an even more radicalizing effect than the Vietnam conflict itself did. “The shock of the Vietnam war did more to shape the ideas and thinking in my own party in that period than any other world political event,” said former Dutch Prime Minister Joop den Uyl.

Today, the leaders of these parties see—sometimes more clearly than their counterparts in the U.S. union officialdom—that the shift of the capitalist ruling class to the right is spurring a political polarization of society, including the beginnings of mass radicalization of the workers. They know that the United States, far from being an exception to this process, is at the center of it.

## ‘No return to normalcy’

“There is no hope of things simply righting themselves and returning to ‘normalcy,’” declared Willy Brandt in the speech that ended the three-day conference.

“The period of persistent economic growth in Western industrial societies would seem to be over for the foreseeable future,” he continued.

“We do not need to look far for the social and political consequences. Over a long period of time, it was possible in countries like ours to offset social tensions because there was enough economic growth to go around for almost all. As a result, even the broad masses of our nations derived benefit of a steadily rising level of affluence. Whenever divergent interests met head-on, a material compromise was at hand.

“Today, this handy instrument is available on a rather limited scale only. In the United Kingdom as in France, in the Federal Republic of Germany as in the United States, it seems that the pace of social strife has quickened.”

## Social democratic shift

Under all these pressures, many social democratic parties in Europe are



Tony Benn, leader of British Labour Party left wing

seeking to retain and revive their popular appeal by presenting a somewhat more radical image. Social democratic leaders who remain in office, as in West Germany and Austria, continue to carry out capitalist policies.

In addition, the Socialist International is seeking influence in the countries oppressed by imperialism, especially in Latin America. One of their goals is to present social democracy as an alternative to Castroism for those trying to free themselves from U.S. domination.

The changes in social democracy in the 1970s found a reflection here when Michael Harrington and others split from Social Democrats USA in late 1972 and founded DSOC.

## Impact of Reagan election

The basic character of these parties is unchanged. Their leaders belong to a privileged layer of society—party and union officials, legislators, and government officials—who derive material benefits from collaborating with the imperialist ruling classes.

But their need to respond to the growing radicalism of the ranks tends to increase tension between these parties and capitalist ruling classes that are moving rightward. And it places these parties at odds with the goals of the incoming Reagan administration.

This helps explain their concern with the ability of the U.S. union officialdom to hold off or slow down Reagan's projected attacks. They are convinced these attacks will lead to an acceleration of the big business offensive in Europe unless they are contained.



Former West German chancellor Willy Brandt

# crisis facing labor

They hoped that their visit to the United States might strengthen the position of their allies. "One of the points I would like to make," den Uyl said, "is how much we in Europe need a firm and strong position of the democratic left in this country."

He called on the participants to join "in the defense of the welfare state."

"We live within the American power system," said Britain's Tony Benn on the same theme during a news conference. "But we don't get to vote on the American president. In a real sense, our president has just been elected. And we would like to know what is going to be done about it."

The U.S. unions' capacity to defend the gains won in the past is undermined by the fact that the American labor movement has no party of its own. Instead the officialdom remains completely entwined in the Democratic and Republican parties.

## Rules out 'transplant'

Tony Benn was the only one of the main speakers to openly suggest the need for a new orientation. "The key to advance," he declared, "is the direct representation of labor in politics. We learned long ago that there is no hope that liberals and conservatives will represent the interests of labor in the political arena."

Benn reiterated these views to a reception held after the Friday night session. He stressed his opinion that this did not exclude the unions working for a time within the Democratic Party. But he rejected the idea that the Democratic Party could be transformed to serve the interests of labor.

"I've heard of a heart transplant, but [the Democratic Party] would need a body and brain transplant," he said.

Young people predominated at the reception, and they responded with enthusiasm to Benn's more militant tone, and to his calls for open advocacy of socialism and discussion of Marxism in the United States.

Benn compared Reagan's projected policies to those of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He expressed confidence that workers here would at some point go into massive, militant opposition to such policies, as they have done in Britain. He pointed to a demonstration for full employment of more than 100,000 people in Liverpool, initiated by the Labour Party, as an example of what could be done.

But DSOC—and the wing of the U.S. union officialdom whose views it reflects—is sticking firmly to the Democratic party, despite the unbroken record of failure rolled up by this strategy.

## Winpisinger's stand

William Winpisinger left no room for doubt on this point. During the 1980 elections, Winpisinger and the International Association of Machinists refused to support either Carter or Reagan. The IAM called for discussions about the possibility of forming a new, "independent, pro-labor party."

At the same time, Winpisinger continued to insist that he was a "real Democrat."

In his Friday night address, Winpisinger declared that the Democratic Party "is at a crossroads."

"Either it is going to return to its natural constituency and champion the causes of economic reconstruction . . . or it is going to continue to attempt to co-opt the Republican Party's conservatism."

"If it does the former, and we'll try to help it do so, we probably can walk with it a mile or two more."

Having made it clear that he opposes moves towards a labor party at this



Michael Harrington, DSOC national chairperson

time, he added: "If it continues as it has for the past several years, however, then we better prepare to go the Canadian route"—a reference to the unions' role in forming the New Democratic Party, Canada's labor party.

Winpisinger's vision of the immediate future was bleak. "The quickest way to progress often is to self-destruct," he said. ". . . And this is the path we're on in this country."

The mood of pessimism voiced by Winpisinger was matched by the other U.S. union officials who spoke at conference workshops.

DSOC chairperson Michael Harrington went the furthest in reaffirming support to capitalist politics in remarks at the conclusion of the first session. "American capitalism is in a structural crisis where old liberal solutions don't work. It is not caused by government spending."

The failure of liberalism, it soon emerged, was only temporary. "The next movement forward will be a liberal movement, not a socialist movement," said Harrington. "A liberal movement that doesn't challenge the fundamentals of capitalism but is willing to make significant inroads to resolve the crisis. This movement needs a strong socialist component." The job of socialists, according to Harrington, is to convert American working people to liberalism.

Despite the lack of perspectives offered by the American union leaders and by Harrington on how to fight Reagan's policies, most of those who attended were pleased by the conference. Many young people were inspired by the struggles in El Salvador and Nicaragua. Sections of the audience responded to expressions of solidarity with standing ovations and raised fists.

In discussions, many said they were dissatisfied with Harrington's 'liberalism-will-rise-again' position. They wanted to talk more about socialism and about the idea that labor's next step forward is to form its own party.

# Longshore union blocks aid to Salvador gov't

By Nelson González

A contingent of the U.S. labor movement has put its muscle behind the fight against the U.S.-backed regime in El Salvador. On December 22 the West Coast dockworkers union announced a boycott of military shipments to El Salvador.

At a news conference in the San Francisco headquarters of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, President Jim Herman announced the boycott of all military cargo and "riot control" equipment.

He explained: "We take this step in order to express our profound revulsion at the reign of terror which has been imposed upon the people of El Salvador by their government."

A number of prominent religious leaders spoke or sent messages of support to the news conference.

The first shipment stopped by the boycott was of batteries and vehicle parts.

The boycott action came one month after the ILWU International Executive Board passed the following statement of policy on El Salvador:

\* \* \*

The ILWU strongly protests any further US military, political or economic assistance to the military government of El Salvador, which has imposed a virtual reign of terror over its people.

The US has been the primary sponsor of a series of repressive, landlord-dominated governments which have ruled El Salvador since the early 1930s. The current regime, which took power a year ago with promises of rapid land reform and democratization, has turned out to be no different from the others. Salvadorian society remains characterized by an extreme concentration of land and wealth in the hands of a very few, while the overwhelming majority suffer from chronic poverty, illiteracy and malnutrition.

Opposition to the regime has been harshly crushed. More than 8,000 persons—unionists, students, clergy and peasants—have been killed since the

beginning of 1980. Trade unions, peasant organizations and church-related groups have been forcibly dissolved. Leaders and activists have been arrested, tortured, kidnapped and murdered. This terror is carried out by both the regular army and police, aided by right-wing "death squads," which operate with the government's unofficial blessing.

Still, the US continues its support. In 1980 the US supplied \$5.7 million in military aid, including communications, transportation and riot control equipment. The Carter Administration has requested an additional \$5.5 million in the upcoming fiscal year to purchase patrol boats, helicopters, jeeps and other equipment. The US also proposes additional grants to "educate" El Salvador's military and police in internal security techniques. We can only assume that the incoming Reagan administration will be even more sympathetic to pleas for increased aid.

El Salvador is on the brink of, if not already engaged in a civil war which essentially pits the junta against a broad and widening coalition of peasant, labor, student, religious, professional and small business groups. US assistance to the government, in this context, constitutes indefensible intrusion into the internal affairs of that country. In the words of the late Reverend Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Archbishop of El Salvador, brutally assassinated by a right-wing death squad while presiding at church services earlier this year, such assistance "will, without doubt, sharpen the injustice and repression against the organizations of the people which have been ceaselessly struggling to gain respect for their most fundamental human right."

The International Executive Board authorizes the Titled Officers, in conjunction with the many other organizations such as the United States Catholic Conference, to take whatever steps they deem most appropriate to publicize and dramatize this issue, and to participate in activities aimed at stopping any further US involvement in the internal affairs of El Salvador.

## ... Salvador

Continued from back page

While the dictatorship's armed forces have made little headway against the guerrillas, their tanks have driven thousands more Salvadoran peasant families out of their homes and into refugee camps in neighboring Honduras.

During the operation in Chalatenango in late December, two Salvadoran airforce planes violated Honduran air space and bombed populated areas where the refugees had taken shelter.

The factionalism that has plagued the Salvadoran officer corps over the past year has become acute. Col. Adolfo Majano, who heads a layer of reform-minded officers organized in the Democratic Military Youth, held a clandestine news conference December 26. He recognized the "right to popular insurrection" and declared, "the guerrilla offensive indicates that the victory of the people is near."

Col. Majano has been in hiding since he was ejected from the ruling junta by right-wing officers on December 7. According to a January 4 dispatch from the Independent Press Agency in El Salvador, Majano is now in Morazán Province "as the head of a military unit awaiting the order for the final offensive by the guerrilla squadrons."

Fearing the instability of its own armed forces, the Salvadoran regime has apparently begun to seek mercenary forces from abroad. On January 6 the FMLN denounced the presence of a unit of 500 ex-Nicaraguan national guardsmen at the army barracks in El

Paraíso, Chalatenango. The Somozaists had entered from Guatemala at the same time the Salvadoran high command announced the creation of a new military unit at El Paraíso.

## U.S. mercenaries

FMLN communiqués also reported killing four north American mercenaries in different actions in La Libertad, San Vicente and Morazán on January 4. These included one helicopter pilot whom the FMLN said had spoken only English.

The revolutionary forces now effectively control some 25 percent of Salvadoran territory, FMLN commander Carlos Torres told the Mexico City daily *Uno más Uno* December 28. This includes most of the northern provinces of Chalatenango, Cabañas, and Morazán; the southcentral provinces of San Vicente and Usulután; and areas directly north of the capital, San Salvador, including the working class suburbs of San Antonio Abad, Ciudad Delgado and Mejicanos.

Commander Ana María of the FMLN Unified Revolutionary Directorate (DRU) further explained, "We cannot speak of liberated zones in the traditional sense of the term which implies sole political and military domination by the revolutionary forces." But she reported zones where the revolutionary forces have organized the entire population behind the offensive.

Because of the country's small surface area, dense population, and virtual lack of remote mountainous areas, "it is necessary to liberate the entire territory simultaneously," Commander Ana María said.

## Militant drivers set example

# Dallas bus strike: We've opened the gate

By Chris Horner

DALLAS—When 700 Dallas transit workers, members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1338, walked off the job last October 1, many in this city predicted that the drivers and their union would quickly be broken.

Fifty-five days later the membership returned to work, having accomplished, as union President B.J. Simmons put it, "something that's never been done in Dallas before. City employees, state employees, will see now that you don't have to just take what you get—that you can stand up for your rights."

"We have done a lot of things people said you couldn't do," Simmons told the *Militant*. "People said you couldn't put up a picket line in Dallas. We did."

"They said we'd go to jail. It looked for a while there like we were going to jail, but we didn't."

"We think that what we've done is open up the gate—and we've left it open."

Local 1338 members knew they faced many obstacles when they began their protest. Texas "right to work" laws severely limit picketing, and other antilabor legislation forbids public workers from striking or bargaining collectively.

For that reason the transit workers called their action "individual protests." It also meant they could receive no strike benefits.

### Low pay, bad conditions

Transit workers in Dallas are the lowest paid for any major city in the country. They are on call seven days a week and are regularly forced to work split shifts. A driver may go home after a twelve-hour day and return to work another shift after four hours' sleep.

Organized labor in Dallas is weak. In the whole of Dallas County there are only 35,000 AFL-CIO members in seventy unions.

Only about one-quarter of the city's public workers are organized. This is in part the legacy of the crushing of the last public employees' strike in Dallas—a walkout by sanitation work-



Dallas strikers gave warm welcome to Socialist Workers vice-presidential candidate Matilde Zimmermann.

ers in 1963. The workers were all fired and the union finally dissolved.

The transit union also faced a united onslaught from the Chamber of Commerce, the media, and the city council. Both major dailies editorialized against the bus drivers. But this campaign to turn the working public against the transit workers did not have the expected result.

### Solidarity

Over 75 percent of Local 1338's members are Black and Chicano, as are the overwhelming majority of bus riders. From the beginning the union tried to reach out for support.

A public rally was held in the major Black community, with speakers from the state and county AFL-CIO, local unions, and the A. Philip Randolph Institute. A march of more than 200 supporters led by Black ministers took place, as well as a public hearing sponsored by a coalition of community groups.

The AFL-CIO, joined by a representative of the United Auto Workers, held a solidarity news conference and began raising funds. Union locals representing thousands of workers passed resolutions of support.

Tens of thousands of signatures were gathered on petitions demanding that the city council investigate the drivers' grievances. Leaflets describing the issues were passed out at bus stops and other locations.

Transit workers and their supporters filled the city council chambers for three weeks running. Most of the drivers had expected the council to come to their aid, but the majority of the council strongly supported transit management's firing of nearly 500 workers.

Other city council members—those from districts in the Black and Chicano communities—kept "neutral," claiming that the city charter did not give them authority to intervene.

Union President Simmons told the *Militant* after the walkout ended: "We got a lot of education. I'll admit that we didn't get the support we were

expecting from the city council. They should be impeached as far as I'm concerned."

### High stakes

The Dallas employing class made it known that they considered the stakes in the strike very high. Dallas Transit System (DTS) boss Cliff Franklin put it this way: "While a strike may be appropriate for Detroit, we are saying this is not appropriate for Dallas."

For many weeks bus service in Dallas was practically non-existent. But Franklin had to admit that letters and phone calls to his office were running heavily in favor of management meeting the workers' demands for improved pay and working conditions.

By the fifth week DTS management had restored around 50 percent of service by putting supervisors and strikebreakers with no training behind the wheels of city buses.

The union condemned this as "putting guided missiles on the streets,"

and was soon proved right. There were numerous accidents and breakdowns, and a seventy-nine-year-old Black woman was killed by a hit-and-run bus driver.

Franklin decreed that union members who wanted to come back would lose all seniority in pay, benefits, and pension rights. Eventually management was forced to back down and stated the drivers could return with all seniority intact except seniority in work choice.

Local 1338 demanded total amnesty.

After eight weeks the union was unable to hold out longer and was forced to go back without seniority in work choice and without settlement of their grievances.

In addition, 115 out of the 500 members originally fired have not been put back to work. DTS claims it is back to full service without them and they will have to wait until new openings occur.

But Simmons told the *Militant*: "There's plenty of room for these 115 people whenever the transit system puts the service back like they're supposed to. You don't have to take my word for it. All you have to do is get a new schedule and an old schedule and compare them."

### Fighting example

In spite of the conditions imposed on the returning workers, their morale is high. The example set by their fifty-five-day walkout in defiance of the city has already had a big impact. It has helped expose the myth of the sun-belt boom town where worker and employer live in harmony and unions have no place.

It has focused attention on the treacherous role of the Democratic and Republican politicians on the city council.

It has drawn attention to the anti-labor legislation that cripples labor's right to organize.

And it has helped to inspire working people with the example of a real fight-back.

As Simmons put it: "For a small group of men and women to challenge an antilabor state and city like we've got here, I think we were very successful in opening the eyes of the people."

"In other countries, in countries like Poland, they have the right to organize, negotiate, and arbitrate. But here in Texas they say, 'Hell, you have no rights. You just take what we give you and that's it.'"

"But it's not going to stay that way, because if they don't change they're going to be faced with work stoppages all across Texas. We're not going to roll over and play dead."

## Frame-up falls apart

DALLAS—In the midst of the transit walkout, on October 14, a sniper fired into a crowded bus. A young Black girl was critically wounded.

A few days later police snatched a Black transit union member, twenty-three-year-old Ray Charles Goff, from the picket line and accused him of the shooting.

The incident was used to the hilt by the Dallas rulers in their efforts to portray the union as violent and irresponsible.

A week after Goff was jailed, more shots were fired at the same street corner at a bus making the same route. The cops had no comment.

After being held in jail for two months, Goff was acquitted by a jury December 17 after just five hours' deliberation.

His family testified he was at home with them at the time of the shooting—as they had explained all along.

The police and news media admitted afterwards that there had never been any "physical evidence" linking Goff to the crime.

In other words, it was a cold-blooded frame-up carried out in the interest of maintaining a "union-free environment" in Dallas.

## Workers, Bosses, and Bureaucrats

### A Socialist View of Labor Struggles Since the 1930s

By Tom Kerry

A veteran Socialist Workers Party leader discusses labor's fight against government intervention, the need for independent labor political action, the importance of union democracy, how to fight against inflation and unemployment, and the role of labor in defending the rights of the most oppressed workers. \$5.95, \$17 clothbound, 285 pages.

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## Conference votes: 'No U.S. aid'

# N.Y. CLUW hits El Salvador repression

By Suzanne Haig

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—More than 150 trade union women and men attended the first annual New York State conference of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), held here December 12-14.

Several dozen New York City hospital workers, members of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 420 attended, along with their president, James Butler.

Local 420 sparked the recent community fight against the closing of Sydenham Hospital in Harlem. The hospital workers had a table at the conference with a continuous slide show on the Sydenham struggle.

Thirteen people came from a United Auto Workers organizing committee at Cornell University, which has 4,000 clerical and service workers.

People also came from AFSCME locals representing library and day-care workers in New York City, as well as from the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU), American Federation of Teachers and others.

CLUW currently has chapters in New York City, Buffalo, and Albany. As a result of the conference, organizers announced that three new chapters are planned in Rochester, Syracuse, and Staten Island.

The need for the women's movement and the trade unions to fight back against government and employer attacks was the theme struck by keynote speakers. They included Sam Hirsch, international representative of ACTWU and Northeast coordinator of the Full Employment Action Council; Linda Lampkin, coordinator of AFSCME's Women's Activities Program; and Georgia Kampf, coordinator of Region 9 UAW Women's Program.

Kampf took up the argument that women will be drafted if the Equal Rights Amendment is passed. "We can be drafted anyway," she said, citing



Militant/Suzanne Haig

Gathering discussed attacks on women's rights, nuclear power, undocumented workers, building CLUW.

the drafting of nurses in World War II, and Carter's call for registration for women last February.

She refuted the notion that the Reagan victory was a mandate for the right wing. Some 12,000 people joined the National Organization for Women in November, she said, right after the election, and the NAACP reported an increase of 17,000 members.

At the plenary session, several resolutions from different workshops passed unanimously in the form of recommendations to CLUW's National Executive Board.

The session passed a resolution submitted by the "Organizing Third World Women/Undocumented Workers" workshop that condemned the murder of the four women missionaries in El Salvador and "urged the U.S. government to continue its December 5 suspension of military and economic aid to El Salvador until a representative government is duly established" and to

"share this resolution with others in the labor movement."

Workshop participants discussed the repression in Haiti and El Salvador. "As soon as Reagan was elected," said Katherine Andrade from the ILGWU, who chaired the meeting, "Haitian dictator 'Baby Doc' Duvalier moved to have thousands of union leaders arrested, and press and radio station workers were beaten and expelled from the country."

"In El Salvador and Guatemala," she continued, "the situation is getting worse, with Reagan saying he will openly support dictators and counterrevolutionaries."

Speakers pointed to the need for education in the union movement on the repression in El Salvador. Andrade criticized the AFL-CIO leadership for supporting the junta in a country where many union leaders have been murdered.

One woman said that New York State CLUW, by bringing its resolution to different unions, "can take the lead in getting the unions to change their position on El Salvador."

Three other proposals from the workshop were passed at the plenary. One called for affirming CLUW's 1979 resolution "for total and complete amnesty for undocumented workers" and called for sending materials on undocumented workers to all CLUW executive boards.

The second called for a meeting of unions in New York State to develop a strategy for organizing undocumented workers. The third called for CLUW to take measures to recruit more Hispanic women.

The plenary also passed two resolutions submitted by the "Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)" workshop.

The first urged that the Indian Point nuclear plant remain shut down until a hearing is called to find out if it is safe to reopen. The plant, some forty miles from New York City, was recently shut down because thousands of gallons of water had leaked into its reactor vessel.

The second resolution called on CLUW to support a March 28 demonstration in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to mark the second anniversary of the Three Mile Island accident. The protest is one of the actions being discussed by the Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment, which will hold a planning meeting in Harrisburg on January 18.

CLUW also voted to recommend to the National Executive Board that state chapters send representatives to the planning meeting.

The Labor Committee for Safe Energy was one of the sponsors of the October 10-12 labor energy conference in Pittsburgh.

## S.F. striking clericals: 'No stopping us now!'

By Caroline Lund

SAN FRANCISCO—For one group of San Franciscans the Christmas holidays were not a time for relaxation and gift-giving. Clerical workers at Blue Shield's headquarters here have been maintaining twenty-four-hour picket lines since they walked out on strike December 9.

The strike involves 1,100 members of Office and Professional Employees Union Local 3. Eighty percent are women, and two-thirds are Filipino, Black, Chicano, and other oppressed minorities.

"Ain't no stopping us now!" say the strike T-shirts the union had made to raise funds.

The stakes in the Blue Shield strike are greater than the number of strikers might suggest.

San Francisco is the second largest banking and insurance center in the country, after Wall Street. Some 200,000 clericals work in the downtown financial district here. Blue Shield is the only insurance company in the city that is unionized.

The issues in this strike concern the city's entire army of clerical workers.

The first issue is wages. For the past six years, Blue Shield workers have been covered by a cost-of-living clause, which the company now wants to do away with. Blue Shield is offering only a 9.5 percent wage increase over the next year, while the Consumer Price Index in the San Francisco Bay Area has risen by 15 percent in the past year.

The Blue Shield workers average wage is only \$6.50 an hour.

The second issue is speed-up and job security. The Blue Shield offices are highly automated, using computerized video display terminals known as CRTs.

According to Barbara Pottgen, a member of Local 3's negotiating committee, "Our office looks like a factory assembly line with row after row of CRTs."

"Company-enforced production standards," says Pottgen, "are so high that CRT operators are virtually tied to our machines. We don't even have the time to leave our desks or talk to our co-workers anymore."

Blue Shield has recently disciplined hundreds of workers for failing to meet unrealistic quotas; and some long-time employees have been fired.

"They want us to work more for less money," says Ricky Harris, another member of the negotiating committee.

The third big issue is health and safety. Local 3 is demanding protection from the effects of long hours' work at the CRTs.

A study by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health has found that CRT operators suffer eye-strain, headaches, stress, and musculoskeletal problems. NIOSH recommends mandatory ten-minute rest breaks per hour and yearly eye exams.

Blue Shield has refused to include any such protection in the contract.

On the picket line, striker Betty Burris told the *Militant* that she had never worn glasses before coming to

work at Blue Shield. "I had to purchase glasses, and after a year I had to get stronger glasses. The writing is so small that you have to strain to see it."

There are some seven million CRT operators in the U.S. today, and the number is fast increasing. Banks, railroads, airlines, and many other industries use computer terminals. The automation of office work has not benefited office workers, who are subjected to dehumanizing regimentation and production monitoring.

Blue Shield's response to the strike has been to threaten to move out of the state. It has recruited temporary employees, paying them seven dollars an hour plus free meals, and has sent letters to all strikers threatening dismissal.

The Blue Shield workers are conscious of their need for solidarity from the rest of the labor movement to win this strike. The union has organized two labor/community support meetings and plans regular Saturday morning strike support rallies.

At the first Saturday rally of about 300 on December 20, John Henning, head of the California State Federation of Labor, pledged support from the 1.7 million-member labor federation.

Pledges of solidarity have also come from the Teamsters and International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union, Local 21 of the Typographical Workers union, AFSCME, Local 250 of the Hospital Workers Union, and the Firefighters union, among others.

The Union of Democratic Filipinos and Women Organized for Employ-

ment sent speakers to the December 20 rally to express support.

Local 3 is making a special appeal for backing from the women's movement, and from senior citizens. Blue Shield holds the northern California contract for Medicare claims. Medicare recipients will be the first to suffer from Blue Shield's union-busting "contingency plan"—in which supervisors and untrained temporary employees are processing claims.

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# Imperialist militarization drive

By Will Reissner

A relentless propaganda campaign to convince working people in the advanced capitalist countries that they should support huge increases in arms spending and the further militarization of society was carried out during 1980.

Faced with a rising tide of revolutionary struggles, especially in Central America and the Middle East, Washington has been pressing its imperialist allies in Western Europe and Asia to shoulder more of the cost of defending imperialist interests around the world.

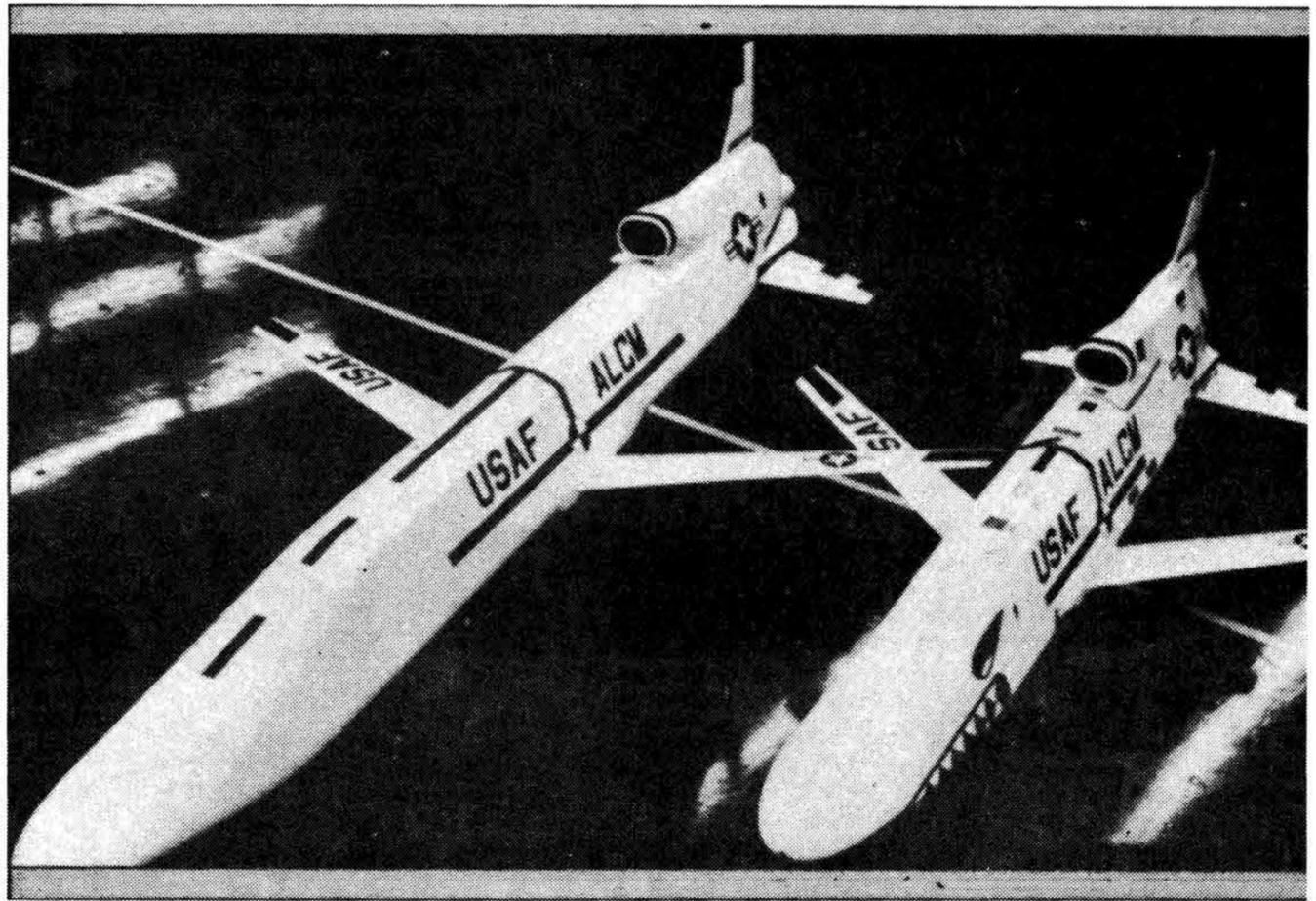
But the capitalist world is in the throes of an international recession. It is especially difficult to convince working people to support large increases in war spending at a time when expenditures for social welfare are being sharply cut.

## 'Scare hell out of them'

Faced with this situation, the imperialist rulers have revived many of the propaganda themes used by them during the Cold War. As Senator Arthur Vandenberg put it early in the Cold War, if the White House hoped to expand military "preparedness," it would have to "scare the hell out of the country."

Washington and its allies have sought to conjure up the image of the Russian bear poised to gobble up the world in order to blunt working-class opposition to an arms buildup, increased military intervention, and to the new counterrevolutionary wars that such intervention will inevitably lead to.

It is not that the imperialists have scrapped détente with Moscow and are returning to the policies of the 1950s. The relationship of class forces precludes that and the rise in the international class struggle actually makes Moscow's aid in containing revolution-



Cruise missiles. Plans to deploy these deadly nuclear weapons throughout Europe have been met with strong opposition.

ary outbreaks more important to the imperialists than ever.

However, the same revolutionary upheavals also require the capitalist rulers to step up their militarization drive, and they cannot do that effectively without playing up the supposed Soviet threat.

A favorite scare tactic is to portray the Soviets as having been engaged in a decade-long surge in war spending

that left the United States and its allies in a vulnerable position.

Another theme of the propaganda campaign warns that the survival of the U.S. and its allies is dependent on "a thin line of tankers" from the Persian Gulf, which is menaced by turmoil in the Middle East and by Soviet "expansionism" in the region.

Reports of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan played up the Soviet "threat" to Persian Gulf oil fields. Some news reports went so far as to state that the Soviets were now sitting astride the "traditional invasion routes" to Iran, although no one could point to a single invasion of Iran that had ever taken place along those "traditional" routes.

Most recently the specter of a potential Soviet military intervention in Poland has been used to urge higher spending by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

## Imperialist arms buildup

The decision by the imperialists to sharply increase military spending, however, came long before the specific "dangers" they now point to as justification for these moves.

Between 1969 and the 1981 projections, for example, war spending by the United States has grown by an average of 14 percent per year, nearly twice the inflation rate for the period.

The Carter administration proposed a five-year Pentagon budget that would increase spending in *current dollars* from \$158.7 billion in 1981 to \$248.9 billion in 1985. President-elect Reagan has called for boosting spending even further, by 6 percent after inflation annually.

The Pentagon has been striving for a decade to get its European allies to shoulder more of the financial and political burdens of defending imperialist interests.

The campaign to strengthen NATO's military capabilities has scored gains. One was the December 12, 1979 decision by NATO members to deploy on West European bases 572 medium-range, nuclear-armed missiles capable of reaching targets in the Soviet Union. The other was the decision that most NATO members would increase their real arms spending by 3 percent, after inflation, each year for five years beginning in 1978.

Both of these decisions, however, have run into problems.

Recently, the movement against cruise missiles has grown by leaps in Britain. The British Labour Party convention in early October voted overwhelmingly for a call to ban all nuclear weapons from British soil and to oppose any participation in military arrangements involving nuclear weapons, which would include NATO.

On October 26, some 80,000 people marched in London to protest nuclear armaments, the largest antinuclear demonstration in Britain in two decades.

Michael Foot, who as head of the Labour Party's parliamentary group would be prime minister if Labour won the next general elections, declared that he would send all Cruise and Pershing missiles back to the United States if he took office.

There is massive opposition to the ruling Conservative Party's entire program of increasing British arms spending while slashing other government programs.

Last July the Thatcher government decided to spend \$14.5 billion to build four or five new nuclear submarines armed with Trident missiles, and to reequip its army with new tanks and armored personnel carriers.

But as the British economic crisis deepened, with more than two million workers unemployed and their numbers growing daily, Thatcher has had to retreat somewhat from the commitment to 3 percent real growth in war spending.

## Bonn fails to meet goal

Bonn's vacillation has been particularly troubling to Washington since West Germany is NATO's strongest Western European member, with the largest economy and the most powerful conventional forces. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was a supporter of the deployment of neutron bombs in Europe as well as the Cruise and Pershing missiles, and was an advocate of the 3 percent spending hike.

In late October, however, representatives of the ruling Social Democratic-Free Democrat coalition government revealed that the 1981 budget would not meet the 3 percent goal. They cited the expected zero growth of the West German economy in 1981 as grounds for scaling down arms spending plans.

Washington has been relying on the West German military to take over some tasks of the U.S. forces in Eur-

## Who spends more on arms?

A major propaganda campaign has been waged around the theme that the USSR vastly outspends Washington on arms.

The claim first emerged in 1974, when the Pentagon was launching a post-Vietnam military buildup. By 1976, the Pentagon was claiming that the USSR was spending a full 44 percent more than Washington on weapons.

All these claims are based on calculations made by the CIA. A detailed analysis of the CIA studies was done by Franklyn D. Holzman of Tufts University and appeared in the June 1980 *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*.

The CIA, for example, uses different methods for calculating the cost of improving Soviet weapons systems and U.S. weaponry.

A concrete example: the U.S. replaced its Maverick missiles, costing \$65,000 each, with the *more effective* Wasp missile, which costs only \$5,000 due to technological progress. The CIA calculates that U.S. spending has dropped by \$60,000 per missile. But if the Soviets made the very same substitution, the CIA would say Soviet spending had risen because the new missile is more effective than the old one.

The CIA study, if you read the fine print, never claims to actually measure what Moscow spends on defense. Instead it determines what the Soviets would spend if they purchased everything in the United States, in dollars. The CIA uses this method precisely because it overstates the cost of the greater Soviet use of manpower and understates

the cost of the greater American use of technology.

Using its method, the CIA calculates each Soviet soldier at the \$10,000 per year U.S. cost, and each piece of U.S. high technology at the much cheaper U.S. prices. To further skew the balance, the CIA includes all the Soviet border guard detachments in its total figures on the size of the Soviet military.

The CIA cost estimates also ignore the fact that there are whole layers of U.S. weapons that the Soviet Union cannot presently reproduce at any cost. In 1977 the CIA acknowledged that "while virtually all of the Soviet inventory of weapons falls within U.S. production technology, the Soviets simply do not have the technology required to produce many of the U.S. weapons."

Taking all the factors into account, Holzman estimates that the Soviets actually spend, in rubles, 60 to 70 percent of what the U.S. spends on the military.

CIA figures also do not reflect the fact that the U.S. is a member of the NATO alliance, and the Soviet Union is part of the Warsaw Pact. But this has a vital bearing on arms spending levels. In 1978 the United States' NATO allies spent some \$75 billion on defense, while the Soviet allies in the Warsaw Pact spent only \$12 billion.

Even accepting at face value the inflated CIA figures on Soviet spending, NATO as a whole spent \$180 billion in 1978, compared to \$160 billion for the Warsaw Pact.

—W.R.

# meets wide resistance

ope, freeing Washington's troops to be ready to intervene in the Middle East and other areas of the world.

Bonn has already made some moves in this direction. One was to expand the West German navy's area of operations in the North Atlantic to free U.S. vessels for transfer to the Middle East.

But in addition to West Germany's economic problems, the expansion of the military faces rising opposition among West German youth. On the twenty-fifth anniversary of West German rearmament, some 50,000 people demonstrated against growing militarism and the draft. The largest demonstration took place on November 21 in Stuttgart, where some 21,000 people gathered.

The U.S. government applied heavy pressure on Bonn to meet the 3 percent commitment, fearing that West German slippage would make it harder for other NATO governments to push through the spending increases.

Schmidt, however, countered by suggesting that Washington emulate the West German regime and institute a draft.

## Opposition in Low Countries

The Dutch government has also been forced to renege on its 3 percent commitment by a combination of huge opposition to the escalating arms race and the slowdown in its economy.

Two years ago, when Washington was trying to get agreement for the deployment of the neutron bomb in Europe, more than one million people in Holland signed petitions opposing it. The largest party in the country, the opposition Labor Party (PvdA), has come close to demanding the removal of all nuclear weapons from Dutch soil, and mass demonstrations and other opposition forced the Dutch government to suspend its decision on whether to accept Cruise missiles until December 1981.

This year the Dutch economy is expected to show no growth over 1979, and forecasts for 1981 predict similar performance. Unemployment is expected to rise to 300,000 by year end, sharply higher than previous projections. That would total 7 percent of the workforce.

In Belgium too, the combination of opposition to the arms race and deep economic troubles are forcing the government to slow arms spending. The Pentagon estimates that Belgian arms spending in 1980 will decline slightly in real terms, with 1981's level uncertain.

The same pattern can be seen in Denmark. The Social Democratic gov-

ernment of Anker Jorgensen has hacked away at spending for pensions, education, and other social benefits, while advocating that Denmark's military spending be frozen at present levels, with adjustments for inflation.

But Jorgensen is having a hard time selling that to the Danish workers. Some opinion polls have shown that only 17 percent of the Danish population supports increases in military spending.

In an effort to stiffen the NATO governments against their internal opposition, U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown released the texts of sharply worded letters he had sent to the Dutch and Danish defense ministers, demanding that they spend more on arms.

"When called on to explain to our Congress the costs of our defense efforts in Europe," Brown wrote to his Dutch counterpart, "I am going to be hard pressed to demonstrate that our NATO allies are all making similar sacrifices for the common defense."

Brown warned the Danish defense minister, "I will find it extremely difficult to justify to Congress and the American public commitments to reinforce Denmark and reposition equipment there."

Norway is one of the few NATO members that is expected to reach the 3 percent target this year. But a major debate is brewing there over a NATO plan to stockpile American weapons and equipment in the country for use by U.S. Marines.

## Neutron bomb for Giscard

Unlike virtually every other government in Europe, the regime of French President Giscard d'Estaing has been able to sharply boost its arms spending and step up its military role outside of Europe without having to face massive protests.

Giscard owes his success in this mainly to the treachery of the French Communist Party and the French Social Democracy.

The 1981 budget, presented in September, includes sharp cuts in public spending in all areas except for the military and the police. In fact, the military budget is slated to rise more than 3 percent after inflation, even though economic growth will fall sharply, with unemployment rising.

On June 26, the French president announced that his regime had successfully tested a neutron bomb.

Giscard is also planning a new missile for use with the neutron bomb. Paris already has its own regular nuclear forces with missiles targeted



Front of march of 80,000 people in London October 26 against nuclear missiles.

on Soviet cities and industrial centers, a nuclear submarine force that is scheduled to grow from its present five submarines to a total of ten, and an airborne nuclear force that is undergoing modernization.

The French government has also played a big part in military defense of imperialist interests outside of Europe. The French navy is cooperating with the U.S. Navy off Iran, and in the past two years French troops have intervened in Chad, the Central African Republic, and Zaïre.

## 'Out of NATO forever'

Greece and Turkey remain major weak spots in the imperialist alliance.

In October, Washington succeeded in settling Greece's six-year walkout from NATO's military wing. But Greece's reintegration into the military command was met with giant daily protests outside of parliament. On October 22 as many as 500,000 demonstrators brought downtown Athens to a standstill.

On November 16, the anniversary of the 1973 uprising that led to the overthrow of the Greek military dictatorship, which had seized power along the lines of a NATO contingency plan, hundreds of thousands of demonstrators marched on parliament chanting "Out of NATO forever," "Down with Americans, murderers of the peoples," and "Unity and struggle to get rid of the rightist government."

The coup in Turkey, and Greece's reintegration into NATO are of prime importance to the U.S. in consolidating its bases in the eastern Mediterranean. This is part of its attempt to strengthen its military striking power in the Middle East, a move aimed first of all against the Iranian revolution.

Other aspects of this thrust include the recent practice deployment of U.S. troops to Egypt, agreements concluded with Oman, Somalia, and Kenya for use of facilities by the U.S. Navy in the Indian Ocean, and development of a base on the British-held island of Diego Garcia.

## Carter pushes rearmament

Washington's drive to get its allies to shoulder more of the cost of defending imperialist interests around the world has not been restricted to NATO members.

Another target of the campaign has been Japan. In July the Carter administration began to publicly express its hope that the Japanese government would sharply boost its arms spending. The 1981 Japanese budget includes a 2 percent real increase in military spending, which is up more than any other category in the budget.

In a September 22 meeting with Japanese Foreign Ministry officials, U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Robert W. Komer called on Japan to increase

its naval forces in order to replace the ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet that were shifted from the Pacific to duty off Iran.

The Pentagon is particularly worried about maintaining imperialist strength in the Pacific in light of the tremendous opposition to the military regime in South Korea, the rising opposition to the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines, and the advance of the revolutions in Indochina.

The central obstacle to the drive to increase Japanese militarization is the profound antiwar sentiment of Japanese working people.

The present Japanese government has sent up a series of trial balloons about revising the 1947 constitution to eliminate clauses restricting Japanese military strength, but these have been met with furious protest, forcing the government to back down.

Tokyo did, however, take a big step toward an increased regional military role last February when it sent two destroyers and eight aircraft to participate in joint Pacific maneuvers with forces from the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

## B-52s in Australia?

The right-wing government in Australia has pledged to boost its arms spending by 3 percent in real terms in 1981, despite the severe economic difficulties afflicting that country as part of the worldwide economic recession.

Through the U.S. naval communications base at North-West Cape, Australia is already a vital link in Washington's worldwide military network. There has also been recent upgrading of U.S. bases in Australia, and proposals have been made to station U.S. nuclear-armed B-52s in the country, improve communication facilities, and set up a nuclear submarine base.

However, the proposal to base B-52s in Australia became a major issue in the October election, with the opposition Australian Labor Party opposing the plan. Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser was returned to office in that election, but with a sharply reduced majority.

There is no doubt that the imperialist rulers have been successful in raising military expenditures sharply, although not to the point that they would like. Just as important as the increase in arms spending, however, is the tenacious resistance that has been called forth from the working masses, and the growing anti-NATO movements in countries such as Britain and Greece.

The imperialist militarization drive was forced into high gear in 1980 by the continuing revolutionary upsurge in the semicolonial countries. But it is laying the basis for big class confrontations within the imperialist centers themselves.

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**We'll drink to that**—The annual budget submitted by the governor of Utah cited "Bright Spots in 1981," including a section on state-operated liquor stores, to wit: "We also expect liquor profits to remain strong during the current recession . . . as people tend to consume more during periods of economic difficulties."

**Note to Jerry Rubin**—Rectangular monogrammed belt buckles, popular in the '60s, are making a comeback. Tiffany's is featuring one in 14-karat gold. \$955.

**The march of science**—Researchers at Warwick University in England think they have isolated a secretion in male sweat that is sexually attractive to women and suggest that it could be compounded into an after-shave lotion.

**Except maybe the CIA?**—Ex-CIA chief William Colby conceded to a New York gathering that mistakes had been made by the cloak-and-dagger outfit. Of a moral or legal kind? No. Just errors of judgment. For instance, the "stupider" thing they had done was to

contract with gangsters to murder Fidel Castro. "You couldn't find a more inept crowd than the mafia," Colby asserted.

**Fourteen OK?**—Virginia's chief justice, Richard Neely, raised some eyebrows with a lecture on judicial ethics in which he advised magistrates to avoid moonshine, stay out of the "whorehouse business," and refrain from sexual intercourse with girls thirteen. Responding to criticism, the judge said the last point was a polemical exaggeration.

**Cheap at half the price**—A Cleveland paid a rental agency \$6.76 for a folding chair Jimmy Carter sat on during a campaign rally. "Maybe," he speculated, "my kids will consider it a part of Americana."

**Chew on this one**—Dow Chemical, the folks who brought you napalm, is seeking government OK to market nicotine chewing gum which, they say, will help you quit smoking. It does cause nausea, hiccups, and jaw fatigue. But Dow says you won't OD on it if you learn to chew slowly. And they don't think it will become habit-forming because of the bitter taste.

## Union Talk

### Ford's holiday message: overtime & layoff threat

This week's column was written by Heidi Rose, a member of United Auto Workers Local 980 at the Ford assembly plant in Metuchen, New Jersey.

**METUCHEN, N.J.**—It's the next-to-last shift before Christmas break, and word comes from our foremen that our line—chassis—will shut down for fifteen minutes. We're to gather with workers from underbody in the aisleway.

Everyone appreciates a line shutdown. It gives us a chance to exchange jokes, rumors, and such with the other folks in our departments.

One of the plant managers, in suit and tie, gets up on a makeshift platform and begins a heart-to-heart with us. "It's been a tough year," he begins, and goes on about company losses.

For auto workers it has been tough. Less than a hundred miles away the Mahwah plant closed down for good—five thousand of our brothers and sisters thrown out of work. Maybe five or six hundred of them were taken into our plant.

For those of us still working, our PPHs (paid personal holidays) were revoked. Ford got 120 days of free shots at us, as our contract provides that many of the terms that are supposed to protect us on the job are suspended during this first part of a model year.

While the man in the tie drones on, a worker next to me says, "Oh, oh, they'll be taking back the COLA [cost-of-living adjustment] now."

The news about the latest reopening of the UAW's contract at Chrysler isn't sitting well with many of us. Ford can't be far behind—what will it demand from us? The annual 3 percent wage increase? COLA? The rest of our PPHs?

But now our "friend" in management is turning a little up-beat. "We're really pretty lucky," he tells us. We're one of two plants making the small Escort and Lynx models, so we've been working more than other plants.

He goes on to say that both plants have a report card system that checks up on quality. The Wayne plant in Michigan is doing twice as well as our plant, he says.

Some of my neighbors exchange knowing looks. We wonder if it's the same game as telling us about how much more work our counterparts on day shift are doing, and telling day shift the same lies about night shift, when the company wants to impose more work on our jobs.

Underlying the report card remark is a threat. Car sales aren't doing well. Will our plant be closed? "Well," says our man on the platform, playing the football coach, "can we build a better car? You bet we can."

He treats us to a progress report on how the car was launched, the wrinkles ironed out, and finally we've got the line speed up and running steady. "But we had extra people here to get the production level up, and now that's something we're going to have to reevaluate."

Extra people! There's not enough as it is. I think about weary co-workers at the end of shift, their feet heavy, climbing the stairs and making little jokes about how old they feel. Jobs that used to be divided between two people are now done by one, and there's not even time to look up between cars.

Extra people? I look around and see a scattering of ex-Mahwah workers catch each other's eye—they're first in line to be laid off, again.

Turning back to brighter things, we're told about the schedule for January and February. More mandatory ten-hour shifts he's "happy to say." But he seems surprised when his announcement there would be no mandatory Saturday work next month was met with spontaneous applause and cheers.

Our man in management has more on his mind. Something has to be done about "uncontrolled absenteeism," he declares.

Once we start working this wild overtime people get sick more frequently. They also find that after a

few weeks of never having any time for their families or their personal life, they have to find some way to skip a shift.

Often in order to run the line at the end of a grueling week now, the foremen have to assign relief people (who fill in for workers on break) to cover regular jobs. Then whole departments have to shut down the line for relief rather than rotate people off. This cuts as much as one hour of production out of a ten-hour shift. Some departments have been scheduled to work more than ten hours a shift to cover this possibility.

So the man from management reminds us we should be absent less because we got some of our PPHs back (we get nine a year). Then he promises that people who request a personal day off will be taken more seriously.

We all know they can't make good on such a promise. They haven't hired enough workers to cover the lines adequately now, leave aside after anymore layoffs.

Now our man glances at his watch and wraps it up fast. The traditional Christmas parties workers hold informally on the line during lunch break on the last shift are ok, he says, but leave the booze at home because it has adverse effects on building a quality car. "Have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year," and we're sent back to our jobs.

The company and its politicians and newspapers are trying to sell us the idea that it's the Japanese or workers in some other country who are taking our jobs. At Metuchen the company initiates and encourages suspicion about the ex-Mahwah workers among our ranks.

Meanwhile it's Ford that does the speeding up, the laying off, the setting of prices, and controlling of quality.

Today we were told to watch out for the Wayne plant.

I wonder if the workers at Wayne heard the same year-end message?

## What's Going On

### GEORGIA

#### ATLANTA

**REPORT ON FOUNDING CONVENTION OF NATIONAL BLACK INDEPENDENT POLITICAL PARTY.** Speaker: Hattie McCutcheon, participant in convention, member of Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m. 509 Peachtree St. NE.

#### SOCIALISTS PUT U.S. SECRET POLICE ON TRIAL

East Coast Rally for the upcoming socialist trial of the FBI, CIA, and INS—the first great civil liberties battle of the '80s.

Sat., Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.  
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Sponsors: Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance

For more information call  
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Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (404) 872-7229.

### LOUISIANA

#### NEW ORLEANS

**EL SALVADOR: A COUNTRY IN CRISIS.** A slide show with Gay Redmond, CSJ, and John Williams, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Jan. 16, 8 p.m. 3207 Dublin, Pathfinder Bookstore. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 486-8048.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### BOSTON

**INSIDE H-BLOCK: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NORTHERN IRELAND.** Speakers: Jim Fitzpatrick, Irish POW Committee; representative of Irish Solidarity Committee; slide show. Sun., Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

### MICHIGAN

#### DETROIT

**CHRYSLER'S BLACKMAIL: DOES GIVING IN**

**SAVE JOBS?** Speakers: Joe Allor, United Auto Workers Local 140, Dodge Truck; Pete Kelly, UAW Local 160. Sun., Jan. 18, 7 p.m. 6404 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (313) 875-5322.

### MINNESOTA

#### TWIN CITIES

**STRUGGLE FOR BLACK RIGHTS IN 1981.** Speakers: Rev. James Battle, president, Black Ministerial Alliance; August Nimtz, Minneapolis co-convenor, Minnesota Black Independent Political Party; Yusef Mgeni, co-director, Malcolm X Pan African Institute. Sun., Jan. 18, 4 p.m. 508 N. Snelling. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

**POLISH LABOR UPSURGE: AN EYEWITNESS REPORT.** Speaker: Gary Fields, Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., Jan. 24, 8 p.m. 508 N. Snelling, St. Paul. Donation \$2. Party after forum. Aup: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

### NEW JERSEY

#### NEWARK

**FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN IRELAND. THE**

**MEANING OF THE H-BLOCK VICTORY.** Speakers: Gerry Foley, writer for *Intercontinental Press/Inprecor*; others. Sat., Jan. 10, 8 p.m. 11-A Central Ave., near Broad St. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

### OHIO

#### CLEVELAND

**SOLIDARITY WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT.** A panel discussion featuring speakers on Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador. Sun., Jan. 18, 7 p.m. 2230 Superior. Donation: \$2. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (216) 579-9363.

### OREGON

#### PORTLAND

**CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND ITS IMPACT TODAY.** Film, speaker: Gary Bills. Sun., Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

# Letters

## Mel Mason

To counter the bitter racist, antisocialist attacks upon Mel Mason of which I read in the December 12 issue of the *Militant*, I would like to offer a few words of support. [Mason was the target of violence and threats when he successfully ran for city council in 1980 on the Socialist Workers Party program.]

Mr. Mason's election to the city council in Seaside, California, is another step toward the advancement of our humane socialist principles, ideology, and actions.

This discrepancy accentuating the true state of affairs more than justifies our fight for change, as the voters in Seaside have demonstrated.

I stand behind Mr. Mason, in full support of his background and new position.

What better voice than that of the people on the city council?

J.J.  
Moorhead, Minnesota

## Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day, a longtime Catholic radical, died in late November in New York City. She was eighty-three years old. A co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, Dorothy Day aided several generations of young radicals on their first steps toward social activism. This was particularly true for my generation of young Catholics, who grew to adulthood during the cold war.

Although twenty years have passed since I showed up on the doorstep of Chrystie House, to spend nearly a year working to feed and clothe the men and women of the Bowery, the stimulating environment at the Catholic Worker convinced me that we must make a revolution in this country.

A whole new world opened up for me there: people who demonstrated against nuclear bomb testing, against the war in Algeria, who brought back firsthand accounts of the Cuban revolution.

Having been a pre-World War I socialist, Dorothy Day saw political activism as an important component in her life.

She was a good journalist, with an eye for the small details that illuminate a story.

She was quite a shy person and at some point she pulled back from being a revolutionary herself. But she admired revolutionaries, and in her own way, she encouraged others to become revolutionaries.

I believe she was someone who could be counted on—politically and personally—in a pinch. I know that she always did what she could to help out her old friends, some of whom had a difficult time living on the fixed incomes of their retirement benefits.

When she found out that I had been arrested in an antiwar demonstration, several years after I had left the *Catholic Worker*, she attempted to visit me. However, she was turned back by the guards, who barred her when she admitted that she had served time in the same prison during World War I. (She had been arrested during a suffrage demonstration Alice Paul had organized at the White House.)

Perhaps as the radicalization has deepened over the last few years, places like the Catholic Worker have become less critical. It took me several years to become a Marxist; perhaps others will take a more direct route to Marxism. But if that is true, then certainly a small part of that is due to the role Dorothy Day played.

I will miss her and her generous—and stubborn—spirit. I am sure there are many others who share my feelings.

Dianne Feeley  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

## War vs. health care

I recently had an experience that made me realize again the high price we pay for the U.S. war drive.

After seriously bruising my arm, I went to Charity Hospital's emergency room. Because our money is being thrown away on MX missiles, etc., the hospital is underfunded and understaffed. So you're forced to wait and wait and wait while you suffer.

Meanwhile there are cops all over the place throwing out poor people seeking shelter and generally keeping "order."

The doctors and nurses can't be blamed—they're overworked because the money is just not being allocated to "luxuries" like medical care.

While I was sitting there just trying to forget about the pain in my arm, I was thinking of the people in the next room who were suffering far more than me and of the millions and millions throughout the world starving and dying from diseases that could be cured (the UN estimates that one billion people are starving and 400 million suffer from blindness, dysentery, etc., caused by unsanitary living conditions).

It made me understand in a more personal way what Fidel pointed out in his UN speech last year: working people don't only pay for the imperialist war drive with their blood on the battlefield, with high taxes, and high prices—they also pay a price in abysmal suffering caused by the lack of vital social services.

Michael Beslin  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## Church on El Salvador

I witnessed an inspirational occurrence on the news December 14. The Catholic Church held a memorial mass for the three nuns and one missionary who were slain by the El Salvador junta.

The attendance was three times the normal showing.

Bishop Hubbard of the Archdiocese of Albany announced they have come out with a statement denouncing the junta and any military aid to El Salvador "to prevent any more killings." (They have the right line for a change.)

It was a welcome pronouncement in light of the thousands the dictatorship has slaughtered. It should wake up so many more people to the fact that another Vietnam is forming and that we should step up activities to stop it.

Sam Chetta  
Albany, New York

## Joe Hill Songbook

In regard to the article on Joe Hill on page 30 of the December 19 *Militant* ["Our Revolutionary Heritage" column]:

Why can't the *Militant* republish Joe Hill's *Little Red Songbook* and make it available for sale through the *Militant*?

Also, more articles on the



history of the International Workers of the World would be enjoyed by all, I'm sure.

R. W. Lockwood  
Oxnard, California

## On IWW

The *Militant* of December 19 committed a serious error of judgment for a Marxist newspaper. The problem was that the column "Our Revolutionary Heritage" failed to comment negatively on the IWW.

The column featured the rebel unionist Joe Hill and very briefly mentioned the history of the IWW. However, it neglected to mention that the (still existing) IWW degenerated into a small, sectarian, anarchist sect that completely disputed the need for a political party representing the working class.

Mention should have been made of the political debates between the Wobblies and the American Marxist Daniel DeLeon in the 1900s.

Ronald Sims  
Worthington, Ohio

## More on Max Roach

The Nov. 14 issue of the *Militant* carried an interview with jazz drummer Max Roach in which he stated that "European classical music is the music of imperialism" because, unlike jazz, it is not improvisational.

Cliff Connor, who apparently disagrees with Roach's

assertion, countered that Bach, for example, was a great improviser. But Connor is confusing the issue.

The mistake is in applying terms like "imperialist" to music. This term has no more meaning in music than it does in medicine—or any other scientific and cultural area. Is there imperialist surgery? Imperialist painting? Imperialist baseball?

Applying political criteria to music is always a mistake and can lead to grotesque distortions. Mao's heirs once proclaimed that Beethoven was a "bourgeois" composer because he used numbers to title his works instead of revolutionary slogans.

I agree with Max Roach when he says that jazz is "an outlet to protest at the indignities faced by Black people." But here he is talking about the struggles of Black people, which are anti-imperialist, not music. Music is just notes—neither anti-imperialist nor pro-imperialist. Connor's suggestion that Bach's music "is often presented today in an ossified, lifeless, 'imperialist' way" is totally incorrect.

To Marxists the term imperialist connotes the final, degenerative stage of capitalism—not lack of ability at the harpsicord.

As Trotsky said time and again, art must follow the laws and esthetics of art—not the laws of politics.

Roger Rudenstein  
New York, New York

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## Stop the deportations of El Salvador refugees!

JANUARY 7—Seventy Salvadoran refugees began a hunger strike at the beginning of January to protest their threatened deportation by the U.S. government back to El Salvador.

Several hundred refugees are being held in the detention center at El Centro, California, near the Mexican border.

Some refugees have already been sent back to El Salvador.

These people face jail, torture, or death at the hands of the right-wing government's terror squads, which many of them fled in coming to the United States.

Salvadoran women and children, who are being kept in a separate

facility from the men, face the most imminent danger of deportation. Many of them signed a statement pushed on them by Immigration and Naturalization Service agents not to challenge their deportation.

The refugees have explained to El Salvador solidarity activists and lawyers from San Diego and Los Angeles that they were not informed of their legal right to apply for political asylum.

Lawyers are working to get an immediate injunction to block further deportations.

A well-attended news conference was held today at the office of the American Civil Liberties Union in San

Diego. The ACLU is backing the efforts to stop the deportations.

Support is urgently needed from civil liberties supporters and opponents of the dictatorship in El Salvador. Protests should be sent to the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington, D.C., with copies to Attorney George Haverstick, 1168 Union Street, #201, San Diego, California 92101. Telephone (714) 239-9459.

Below is a statement from eighteen-year-old Rodolfo Mena, one of the refugees involved in the hunger strike.

We are a group of seventy Salvadorans on a hunger strike for six days. Some of us have been here from twenty

to thirty days, but our aim is that we not be deported, that we be granted political asylum, that we be given a dignified opportunity to earn our living, and that we get low and just bail.

We want to have humane treatment and not be treated as common criminals, since we have come here fleeing the political violence that exists now in El Salvador. We know that people who have come from other countries have been granted political asylum, as is the case of the Cubans, Nicaraguans, Haitians, and others. Another issue is that we have not been given a court date.

Rodolfo Mena Hernández  
January 6, 1981  
El Centro, California

## Salvador workers & peasants mobilize for offensive

By Fred Murphy

MANAGUA, January 7—Sharp clashes occurred in the last week as the workers and peasants of El Salvador made their final preparations for a general strike and insurrection against the U.S.-backed dictatorship.

Popular committees in the working class and poor neighborhoods of San Salvador and other cities are stocking food, medical supplies, and homemade weapons.

The Trade Union Unity Committee (CUS), which includes eight major labor federations, is organizing to ensure the success of the general strike.

In the countryside the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) is training and arming thousands of fighters, mounting ambushes against government military patrols, and successfully defending themselves against the regime's attempts to launch a counteroffensive.

"January is the month of insurrection in El Salvador," declared Eduardo Calles, a leader of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), on January 3.

The FDR is the broad coalition of trade unions, peasant organizations, student and slum dweller groups, political parties, and associations of professional and small businessmen that unites the vast majority of Salvadorans in the struggle against the ruling oligarchy and its dictatorial government.

The regime, headed by Christian Democratic President Napoleón Duarte, has grown increasingly desperate as the showdown with the revolu-



People's revolutionary militia training in El Salvador. General strike and insurrection being organized.

tionary forces approaches.

On Christmas Eve, the Salvadoran army launched attacks aimed at driving the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) out of the north central province of Chalatenango. Within days the troops were pushed back in defeat. The FMLN rebels surrounded five towns and

shelled army installations in Arcatao and San Antonio de la Cruz.

Similar counteroffensives by the army were attempted in the first days of January against FMLN strongholds around the volcanos of San Vicente, San Salvador and Guazapa. These also met with little success.

On January 6 the army acknowl-

edged that the guerrillas shot down a helicopter in the Guazapa fighting. FMLN representatives have been telling reporters for several weeks that their forces now have considerable quantities of heavy weapons including rocket and grenade launchers, bazookas, mortars, and 105-mm cannon.

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