

U.S. shares Israeli guilt for massacre in Beirut



UPI

Palestinian woman and child flee refugee camp after word spread that Phalangist terrorists were returning.

Unarmed civilians gunned down in their homes, women and children rounded up and driven away in cattle trucks, wounded patients murdered in their hospital beds — the entire world has reacted with shock and anger at the appalling images of the massacre in West Beirut.

Denying "any blame whatsoever" for the massacre, the Israeli government said that those charging it with complicity in the deed were leveling "a blood libel."

But the Israeli cabinet formally approved the entry of the rightist forces into the Palestinian refugee camps. Israeli troops escorted the killers to the place of their crime, backed them up with tanks, and lighted their way with

EDITORIAL

flares. Israeli cabinet ministers knew of the murderous rampage at least 24 hours before it ended.

President Reagan said he was "horrified" by the massacre. But the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was fully supported by Washington from the very beginning.

The Israeli phosphorous bombs, cluster bombs, and high explosive shells that had caused nearly 50,000 casualties in Lebanon even before the latest massacre were all made in the USA.

Again and again, in votes at the United Nations, the U.S. and Israeli delegates stood alone in defense of the invasion. Reagan officially welcomed the election of Phalangist leader Bashir Gemayel as president of Lebanon — the terrorist president who was responsible for planning the massacre before his assassination.

The massacre in West Beirut has stripped away the covering of lies that obscures the real role of U.S. imperialism and its Israeli junior partner in the Middle East.

The slaughter of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon stems from the same fundamental source as U.S.-backed death squads in El Salvador and Guatemala; U.S.-backed dictatorships in Chile, the Philippines, South Korea, and other countries. It is of the same cloth as the massacres carried out by racist South African forces in Angola, Namibia, and against the Black population of South Africa itself. It is one in a series of savage colonial wars, such as the U.S. intervention in Indochina.

Atrocities like these are the real face of imperialism.

A handful of the most powerful capitalist ruling classes, headed by the one headquartered on Wall Street, dominate the world economy. Their corporations own the gold and diamonds of southern Africa, Bolivian tin, Chilean copper, Jamaican bauxite — and Middle Eastern oil.

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Rail engineers confront bosses and gov't over right to strike

BY STEVE WATTENMAKER
AND TOM PONTOLILLO

"You know, Reagan gives Israel the right to go into Beirut, but he won't let us strike," said an angry Denver rail worker as 26,000 members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) walked off their jobs September 19.

In all, the BLE struck 117 railroad lines, halting all major rail freight and passenger service across the country.

Only the Conrail system in the East and Midwest escaped the walkout. The BLE and Conrail are negotiating a separate agreement.

At 12:01 a.m. Sunday morning, engineers began setting up picket lines at the gates of the sprawling Southern Pacific and Santa Fe rail yards in Los Angeles.

As the midnight deadline passed, two Amtrak trains bound for the West Coast discharged their passengers in Ogden, Utah.

In Denver, 72 coal trains from Wyoming's Powder River Basin bound for Texas sat idle on rail sidings.

Stalled grain shipments filled rail yards in Kansas City, Des Moines, and Minneapolis.

By Monday morning more than 200,000 rail commuters had to find another way to get to work in Chicago, Boston, and San Francisco.

Rail traffic across the United States ground to a virtual standstill.

Locomotive engineers' union President John Systma explained that the engineers were forced out on strike by the rail industry's demand for a no-strike pledge on issues that remained unresolved in the contract negotiations.

"We are striking for the right to strike," he said.

The White House and Congress immediately rushed through strike-breaking legislation ordering the engineers back to work after five days on the picket line.

Jumping in on the side of the rail companies, Democrats and Republicans forced the BLE to accept the industry proposals — including the no-strike provision.

Reagan to the rescue

BLE members had been working without a contract since the old one expired April 1, 1981. Engineers hadn't had a raise or a cost-of-living increase since Jan. 1, 1981.

Under the federal Railway Labor Act — passed in the 1920s to limit the power of rail workers — rail unions are barred from striking until they satisfy complicated conditions that force them to work without a contract for up to a year-and-a-half.

By June of this year, the BLE had

overcome all these legal obstacles and was supposedly free to strike.

At the bargaining table, rail industry representatives continued to demand substantial givebacks, especially in wage rates and work rules.

After voting by a margin of 95 percent to strike, the BLE announced June 30 that the engineers would begin a nationwide walkout July 11.

The Reagan administration quickly rode to the rescue of the railroad magnates. On July 10 Reagan signed an Executive Order, invoking Section 10 of the Railway Labor Act. This provision allows the White House to declare a final 60-day "cooling-off" period before a strike can begin.

The measure also instructs the president to appoint an "impartial" Emergency Board to hear both sides and make a nonbinding recommendation.

'Reasonable' and 'adequate'

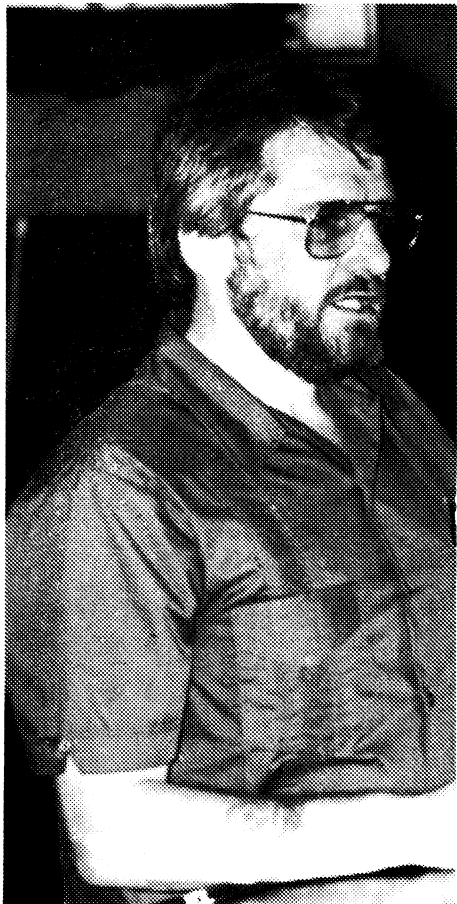
Not unexpectedly, the Emergency Board's proposals for ending the impasse were hardly impartial.

Issued in August, the board recommended that the BLE and United Transportation Union (UTU) accept a similar wage and working condition package that the railroad industry had earlier forced the rail clerks and shop craft unions to accept. The UTU finally ag-

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MORE LEBANON COVERAGE INSIDE:

See pages 8-11 for reports on protests in U.S. and Israel, plus background articles on roots of Mideast war.



Militant/Charles Ostrofsky
Joe Swanson, Socialist Workers candidate for Governor of Nebraska.

Socialist declares engineers will inspire others to fight

The following statement was released by Joe Swanson, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Nebraska. Swanson is a member of United Transportation Union Local 305.

I fully support the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) in their fight for a just and equitable contract, and their refusal to sign a no-strike pledge.

Their courage in standing up to the rail bosses, the Reagan administration, and Congress is an inspiration to all working people.

I believe that the right to withhold one's labor is an inalienable one and that forcing people to work is no less than slavery.

The government and the big-business media claim that the strike hurts other workers, and farmers. Plants will have to shut down, they tell us, farmers won't be able to ship their grain. Commuters will be stranded.

Their sudden concern for working people is touching.

But millions of workers are *already* laid off and thousands of farmers are going bankrupt. Not as a result of the BLE strike, but as a consequence of the offensive by the bosses and their two parties — the Democrats and Republicans — to squeeze even more profits from our labor.

They're the ones who are closing plants and laying off workers to boost their corporate earnings. They're the ones who broke the air traffic controllers' strike and who called out the National Guard to help Iowa Beef Processors attack striking meat workers in Dakota City, Nebraska.

And it's a bipartisan Congress that has passed emergency legislation, under the provisions of the reactionary Railway Labor Act, to force the engineers back to work.

These steps prove more clearly than ever that organized labor needs its own

political party and not the so-called friends of labor in the Democratic and Republican parties.

My campaign supports the formation of a labor party that would fight for the abolition of the Railway Labor Act, which severely limits the right of rail workers to strike.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is the target of a union-busting attack which is ultimately directed against all working people.

It's only by workers standing up and saying no to concessions, no to attacks on the rights of Blacks and women, no to union-busting, that we can begin to defend our lives and livelihoods.

That is why other rail workers honored the engineers picket lines. Such acts of solidarity by the entire labor movement can both help the engineers and inspire others to stand up and fight.

I pledge to use my campaign to build support for the engineers in their struggle for a decent contract.

Rail engineers wage battle over right to strike

Continued from Page 1

reed to the proposals in mid-September.

That settlement saddled these nonoperating crafts with a wage increase held to 11 percent over 39 months and a cost-of-living clause inferior to the one in their old contract.

Although admitting that such a wage package was inferior to what the engineers had won in the past, the board waved aside the BLE's objections by decreeing the wage pattern they proposed was "reasonable" and "adequate."

Right to Strike

By the end of the 60-day cooling-off period September 18, the negotiations were stalled on the issue of compensation for engineers working with short crews.

In the 1960s the rail industry began eliminating firemen — assistant engineers — on some trains.

Called "crew consist" this practice increasingly created unsafe conditions and eliminated thousands of jobs. Unable to stop the crew consist the BLE won a \$4-a-day differential to compensate engineers who have to work without firemen.

The rail owners have never raised that differential payment. The BLE this

year pressed for an increase in line with increases won in recent years by conductors and brakemen who are also forced to work with smaller crews.

The rail industry, backed up by the government's Emergency Board, refused any increase and demanded the BLE give up their right to strike over this issue if it couldn't be resolved.

The BLE gave the industry their answer to these union-busting demands by walking out at midnight on September 19 — their one legal right under the Railway Labor Act.

'Here to Timbuktu'

Rail workers from all crafts closed ranks behind the BLE. Engineers' picket lines were respected.

In most cities, members of the UTU helped to picket. Locally, offers of support came in from clerks, carmen, and other rail unions.

"It's the right to strike," said an older engineer on the picket line in Chicago. "Pretty soon they'll have us taking trains from here to Timbuktu, throwing our own switches, and having us do anything else they want us to do."

A BLE local chairman on the Burlington Northern in Lincoln, Nebraska,

explained, "The BN had better not fire anybody or we'll walk again."

"This is the only power we have over the company and we'll use it. You know, this is the first time the BLE has called a country-wide strike since 1946," he said.

From the first day, the strikers knew they would come up against Congress, and the bitter defeat of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) strike was a big topic of discussion.

"We've seen what the government did to PATCO," said a striker at Southern Pacific's Taylor Yard in Los Angeles. "I hope Congress doesn't take away our right to strike."

The White House immediately swung into action to end the strike on the principle that if a law doesn't help big business, just pass a new law that does.

On September 20 Reagan sent Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis and Labor Secretary Raymond Donovan to propose to Congress that they pass legislation ordering the engineers back to work and to force them to sign the contract recommended by the Emergency Board.

The administration and the news media accompanied this proposal with a loud campaign to accuse the BLE of being greedy "aristocrats of labor" who are strangling the nation's economy over what Lewis repeatedly referred to as an "extremely narrow" and unimportant issue in the contract.

The White House first estimated that \$50 million would be lost each day of the strike. The figure quickly rose to \$80 million and then soared over \$1 billion as their pressure campaign against the BLE picked up speed.

Lewis cynically claimed that working people would be the victims of the engineer's greed. He maintained that 450,000 workers in other industries could be idled by the rail strike. The auto industry would be crippled and within four weeks a million would be unemployed if the strike were allowed to continue, he said.

Greedy rail barons

As expected, Congress acted swiftly and in true bipartisan fashion to outlaw the strike.

Democratic Senator Ted Kennedy joined Senate labor committee chairman Rep. Orrin Hatch to tell the full Senate that their committee had recommended the resolution with "great reluctance," mindful that Congress would, in effect, be breaking a strike.

Engineers and rail workers from other

crafts who joined the BLE on the picket lines knew that the greed of the rail bosses lay behind the strike.

Unemployment in auto, steel, and rail itself is at record highs because of the economic crisis of the capitalist system — not the reasonable demands of the small engineers union.

The get-tough attitude of the rail industry and their friends in Congress follows the pattern already set in auto, steel, and other industries.

It is a pattern to squeeze the unions for every nickel to prop up the corporations' sagging profits.

It is a pattern to attack progress in affirmative-action hiring of Blacks, Latinos, and women.

It is a pattern to escalate health and safety dangers on the job.

It is a pattern to undermine work rules won by unions over decades of struggle.

A young engineer in Lincoln, Nebraska, explained the no-strike condition for what it is — a step in breaking the power of the rail unions.

"Laws to make us go to work are no good. We should stay out until we get what we want."



Boston's North Station. Rail yards across country were shut down tight as other rail workers honored engineers' picket line.

The Militant

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The last night for second shift at N.Y. GM plant

BY ELLEN KRATKA

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. — It's the last night before the big layoff at the General Motors auto assembly plant. As the night's worn on, more cars have been coming down the line defective — big scratches on the paint job, cracked windshields, slashed seat cushions.

Ever since GM announced second shift would be laid off on September 10, there's been a lot more political discussion in the plant. We've always known we're just victims of GM's drive for profits; tonight we all understand it in a new way.

We're not just victims, although that's truer than ever. The capitalists and the workers are two contending forces that inevitably collide. That's why on the last night, the company eventually stopped the line a few minutes early. They were afraid of what we might do.

The younger workers look forward to being freed from a job that slowly steals your life away. They believe they still have a chance on the outside; they'll find something.

The older ones fear for their livelihoods. What job can they get? Even the ones who are not being laid off are afraid it's going to happen to them soon. The major part of their lives, body and spirit, has already been stolen by the line.

One thing we all — young and old — have in common. We're all angry.

We're members of the United Auto Workers (UAW), and our union committeemen have been around with a petition begging GM to keep the second shift at Tarrytown. Many workers sign — they think it won't work, but there's no harm in hedging your bets. Some say we should stand behind our leaders even when they may not be right.

"Let's give them a chance to see what they can do," one worker says. Another: "At least later on we can say we tried everything to save our jobs."

A minority, furious at the union bureaucracy, wouldn't sign. They have reason to be furious. Last spring, GM — with the help of the union officialdom — shoved a new contract down our throats. The concessions in the contract cost us billions of dollars in wages and benefits. We were told the concessions would save jobs.

Most people are convinced that the vote on the contract at Tarrytown — where it passed — was rigged.

Questions fly back and forth all night. Why didn't the older workers fight to defend the gains they had fought for and struck to win in previous years? (from a woman in her fifties who hasn't been in the plant long enough to keep her job)

Why won't the union defend us now? (from a young Polish woman)

One young man calls to me, "Hey, why don't you petition to eliminate union dues?" I answer: "We should transform

our unions, not wipe them out, to better fight the bosses. Let's not turn our guns on our own army just because we've got problems with our generals."

Everyone's speaking out in one way or another. A few wear T-shirts that say "Unemployed Auto Worker."

Some send down signs on the cars, referring to the promises made to us around the last contract. One sign says "Vote yes — No jobs." Another: "Thanks for the security." They mean, don't forget what's happened.

There's a growing number of workers trying to think through our situation to find an answer.

Many workers ask my opinion, since I'm known as a socialist. We talk about whether the capitalists have a right to their wealth and whether we have a right to a job. One man who has been quietly reading socialist campaign handouts for some time approaches me for a copy of the *Militant*. "I'll read this," he says. "If I like it I'll get more."

A Cuban buys his first copy of *Perspectiva Mundial*, the *Militant's* Spanish-language sister publication. He asks first if it supports Fidel Castro. He says he's not political but thinks each country should be allowed to pursue its own destiny.

Under the blows of the ruling class, the various pieces of the American working class are being hammered together, tempered for the battles to come.

Still, just as some chips fly off when you hammer a brittle piece of metal, many workers are still looking for an out, some individual way to escape the devastation.

Some drink to douse their anger. Some resent women who work in the plants, saying we take jobs men should have. Others blame the Japanese. A few hang on to illusive hopes — they'll start a small business, live off the land, wait it out ("We'll be back by Christmas").

But at the same time many are beginning to take a longer view. They know it's no longer just a question of temporarily losing a job.

Most understand that the crisis and instability they sense here is happening worldwide. The United States no longer rules this planet unchallenged. Our bosses and their government are taking their losses out on us in wars, both at home and abroad. Many know there's a struggle going on in the world between two economic systems, capitalism and socialism. And they can see very clearly that in the fight to resolve this conflict they're threatened with the possibility of nuclear war.

Big questions are being raised and tackled: What system, what power will dominate the world by the end of our lifetimes? And what role will each of us play in all of this?

An older Black worker looks back. "Black folks have always been militant. We know what GM is doing and why. But there's no solution."

We talk about the idea of working people taking political power. I explain that our union, right now, could begin the process of breaking from the Democrats and Republicans. We could initiate a labor party that would fight for us, not the employers.

He starts to smile, nods, and adds, "We need some unity in the working class all over the world."

Ellen Kratka worked second shift at General Motors in Tarrytown, New York, and is a member of United Auto Workers Local 664.



General Motors plant in Tarrytown, New York.

Militant/Stu Singer

Workers strike Chrysler to protest new contract

BY ELIZABETH ZIERS

DETROIT — Chrysler workers are saying "No more" to the company that has been blackmailing them for the last three years.

The new proposed contract that was supposed to put Chrysler workers on the long road back to parity with the Ford and GM workers offers only \$.16 an hour and \$88 in December — maybe.

Workers expressed their bitterness by shutting down stamping and assembly plants all over Detroit and the Midwest. Absenteeism remained high at several plants as of September 20, as United Auto Workers (UAW) Vice-president Marc Stepp warned workers their strikes were unauthorized and they would have to face discipline. Stepp is the union's chief negotiator with Chrysler.

The old contract expired at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, September 15, but was extended 24 hours by UAW President Douglas Fraser when negotiators couldn't settle. Workers at several plants opposed the extension. They walked out at the Newark, Delaware plant early Wednesday.

Lines shut down at the Detroit Jefferson Avenue and the Belvidere, Illinois, assembly plants when afternoon shift workers went out for lunch and didn't come back Wednesday evening. Lines didn't roll at all on Wednesday at the St. Louis assembly plant.

A small group of pickets was sufficient to shut down the Warren Stamping and Truck plant and McGraw Avenue glass plant in Detroit on Thursday.

The terms of the tentative contract — reached at 6:00 a.m. Thursday — convinced workers at the Jefferson assembly plant to stay out on Thursday and Friday as well.

What's in contract

The new contract offers the 40,000 Chrysler employees who still have jobs a wage increase tied to profits. They will be paid a lump sum of \$88 at the end of each quarter in which Chrysler admits to over \$20 million in profits. The COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) offers them a \$.16 hourly raise in December or \$6.40 a week.

"We want 'now' money," said Shirley Daniels, who has 14 years seniority at the Dodge Truck plant. "What we're talking about is money up front. We want to see something in our checks right away."

"They didn't wait when they took it away from us," said another Dodge truck worker.

Workers at the Ford Dearborn assembly plant sized the contract up as the terms became known.

"Fraser sold 'em out again," said one. Another said, "Who's going to know when Chrysler makes \$20 million in profit? They could make \$50 million and they'll still say they lost money."

The 150 UAW bargaining council delegates voted on the agreement Friday. It squeaked by, 51 percent to 49 percent. In the roll call vote, delegates' votes were weighted, based on the number of members in their local. The vote approving the contract was 262 to 249.

Many of these local presidents, who have production and maintenance workers in their locals, stated they won't even try to sell the contract to their members. Most of them were elected after their predecessors — avid concessions endorsers — were thrown out of office.

Black armbands

Larry Leach, president of UAW Local 1264 at the Sterling Stamping plant, told a radio station, "My local is going into the council meeting wearing black armbands. That's what we think of this contract. Auto workers from GM and Ford have been calling my local all day asking us to turn this thing down."

"This is where the whole concession thing started, with Chrysler. This contract was supposed to be a step toward parity with GM and Ford workers. If it is, it's a step that's too small to measure."

According to the *Detroit Free Press*, on Sunday, September 19, some 600 of the 3,000 members of Local 1264 showed up at a union meeting and voted unanimously to send a letter to Fraser and Stepp asking for the resignation of the union bargaining committee that negotiated the contract.

Chrysler workers' wages have lagged about \$2.68 an hour behind Ford and GM auto workers for three years. Each Chrysler worker has lost over \$3,000 since 1979. They have been promised continuously by Fraser that they will regain parity with Ford and GM when Chrysler is "on its feet again."

Workers' expectations rose after Chrysler posted \$107 and \$150 million

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Labor News in the Militant

The *Militant* stays on top of the most important developments in the labor movement. It has correspondents who work in the mines, mills, and shops where the events are breaking. You won't miss any of it if you subscribe. See the ad on page 4 of this issue for subscription rates.

Socialists open 'Militant' sales drive

BY CINDY JAQUITH

With this issue of the *Militant*, we are opening a major circulation drive with a goal of selling 45,000 single copies and subscriptions to this paper and our Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*. The drive lasts through November 19.

We are launching this campaign at a time when world attention is riveted on the slaughter of the Palestinians in Lebanon. How this massacre occurred and what responsibility the U.S. government bears for it are at the center of discussion among U.S. workers.

Our front-page editorial explains how this terror is the inevitable product of Washington's determination to maintain its domination and exploitation of the Middle East. We outline the only road to peace in the region — through granting the Palestinian people their full rights and getting U.S. imperialism off the backs of the workers and peasants of the Middle East.

This issue also contains eyewitness reports from socialists in Israel on the explosion of antiwar protest there; reports on demonstrations in this country; and background articles on the roots of the Lebanon war.

We want to take this issue to plant gates, mine portals, rail yards, and working-class neighborhoods all across the country. Bringing the truth to U.S. workers is the most important thing socialists can do to deepen the fight against the U.S.-Israeli aggression in Lebanon.

More and more workers are linking events like the war on the Palestinians to the war bearing down on them here in this country. As a rail worker inter-

viewed in this week's *Militant* explains, "Reagan gives Israel the right to go into Beirut, but he won't let us strike."

How to answer the strike-breakers in Washington — and the employing class they represent — is a question confronting all working people in this country. The strike by rail engineers has been an inspiring example for unionists everywhere. In this issue we explain what the engineers are up against, and what they have to say on the picket line.

We point to the role of the Democrats and Republicans who rushed through legislation to force the engineers back to work, and how that shows the need for labor to have its own independent political party.

Circulating this report on the rail strike far and wide — at rail yards, plant gates, garment shops, and working-class communities — is an important way to deepen the discussion among workers over what course the labor movement must take to defend itself.

Our goal in this circulation drive is to make distribution of the press the center of socialist activity; to involve every supporter of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance in selling regularly. We want to establish sales at the same plant gates and in working-class neighborhoods each week, building up a readership that looks for each new issue of the *Militant*.

The experience in Hoboken, New Jersey, is a good example. Last spring, socialists who work in the garment shops in Hoboken organized a regular pattern of sales to co-workers in that city. Every Friday after work, they would sell outside the bank that cashes

checks. The same workers sold each week.

Regular customers for the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* developed. They came to the sales spot each week to pick up their paper. Socialists found when they also set up a literature table, their sales doubled.

These street sales were combined with circulating and discussing the press on the job. One socialist garment worker now has a group of six to seven co-workers who regularly purchase *Perspectiva Mundial* and join in discussions about

the articles it carries.

The key to the success of Hoboken socialists is the regular participation of the same salespeople and the establishment of regular sales locations.

The opportunities for organizing this kind of sales effort at plant gates and in working-class communities in every city this fall are clear. It is the most effective way socialists can help advance the struggle of U.S. workers against the criminal war policy of the capitalist rulers abroad and their attacks on labor here at home.

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Union activist in St. Louis fights company victimization

BY JOE ALLOR
AND TONY DUTROW

ST. LOUIS — Machinist Ann Riley Owens charges that she lost her job as a lab technician at the McDonnell Douglas aircraft plant here because of her union activities and her political views.

Owens is a member of International Association of Machinists Local Lodge B of District 837 and is a well known union activist in the plant. She represented her local president at a news conference supporting last spring's June 6 and June 12 antiwar, antibomb protests.

Owens is on the executive board of the local Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and belongs to the National Organization for Women (NOW). She is also a member of the Socialist Workers Party and is regularly seen at her plant selling the *Militant*.

Owens told the *Militant* she was let go by the company in a manner that threatens the union's seniority system at McDonnell Douglas. She said: "This is part of a nationally coordinated effort by military contractors and the Pentagon to create a submissive, union-free, obedient workforce that is forced to remain silent while the government promotes wars that are the lifeblood of these corporations."

Two other workers at the plant, Harris Freeman and Barry David, have been fired by McDonnell, and a third, Jim Garrison, was laid off one day before he would have joined the union. Garrison, Freeman, and David all belong to the SWP.

The company has also submitted another employee who is a socialist, Jody Curran, to an investigation by the Pentagon's gumshoes, the Defense Investigative Service.

The corporation and the Pentagon used company informers to spy on these victims and on the union.

At a well-attended news conference here, Owens explained the extraordinary lengths the corporations used to get rid of her.

Her department "had not had a layoff in 10 years," she said.

"Suddenly five higher-seniority workers were transferred in, creating a department workforce one larger than it had ever been."

Then, said Owens, whose 14 months' seniority was the lowest in the department, "I was told that the workforce had to be cut by one — me."

Usual McDonnell practice for laid-off workers, she said, was to transfer them to other departments.

Support for Owens' fight to regain her job was expressed at the news conference by, among others, Marilyn Martin, president of the St. Louis Metro chapter of NOW; Wallé Amusa, a leader of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression; Eldora Speigelsberg, president of the St. Louis branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Chuck Guenther, a leader of the St. Louis Economic Conversion Project.

Harris Freeman chaired the news conference for the Political Rights Defense Fund, which is defending the victimized unionists. He listed labor supporters of the fired workers: officials from United Auto Workers Region 5; UAW Local 282; Coalition of Labor Union Women; Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Postal Workers Union; Hatters; and hundreds of rank-and-file unionists.

Also supporting the case, he said, was the St. Louis branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Owens has filed a complaint against McDonnell with the National Labor Relations Board and is doing the same through the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The Political Rights Defense Fund is asking that letters to protest this discriminatory layoff and other witch-hunt tactics by McDonnell against its employees and their union be sent to: Sanford McDonnell, chairman and chief executive officer, McDonnell Douglas Corp., P.O. Box 516, St. Louis, Mo. 63166.

We need your contributions

We are making an urgent appeal to our readers to contribute to the most ambitious fundraising effort in the history of the *Militant*. Between now and December 31 we are trying to raise \$250,000 to aid in the continued publication of the *Militant* and its Spanish-language sister publication, *Perspectiva Mundial*.

The *Militant* is a powerful tool in the hands of workers in the midst of rapidly breaking world events. In recent days, workers have been outraged by the mass murders of Palestinians by forces under the direction of the U.S.-backed Israeli government.

This issue of the *Militant* also features coverage of the national rail strike and the response of the rail workers to the strike-breaking legislation rushed through Congress by the Democrats and the Republicans at the urging of the Reagan administration.

We also have articles on events buried by the capitalist media, like the police rampage in the Pimlico section of Baltimore's Black community.

Every week the *Militant* provides news and analysis of events like these and presents the socialist program for resisting the attacks by the ruling class. The *Militant* is an essential part of advancing the day-to-day struggles of the working class.

But the cost of producing a workers' newspaper has skyrocketed in the face of rapidly increasing printing and shipping costs. Many newspapers have folded under the impact of the economic crisis.

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Ferdinand Marcos

Philippine strongman Marcos wined and dined by Reagan

BY IKE NAHEM

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Amid official fanfare from the Reagan administration and protests by Filipinos in the United States, Ferdinand Marcos, dictator of the Philippines, arrived here September 15 on an official state visit. Washington was the first stop in a two-week tour by Marcos that is to include New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Honolulu.

Marcos and his wife, Imelda, a powerful figure notorious for her ostentatious lifestyle, are meeting with top officials of the Reagan administration as well as leading bankers and business executives.

Their discussions undoubtedly center on how to contain the growing opposi-

tion to Marcos's dictatorship, which acts as Washington's agent in maintaining the Philippines as a source of superprofits for U.S. corporations and as a strategic base for U.S. military intervention.

But while Marcos was meeting with administration officials on September 16, a spirited, all-day picket line was underway outside the White House. The protest by anti-Marcos activists — mostly Filipinos — grew to nearly 400 as Marcos arrived for a formal state dinner, with full military honors.

Colorful educational displays, filled with facts, figures, and photographs depicting life under Marcos, were put up in

Lafayette Park across from the White House.

One display, entitled "Foreign Domination of the Philippine Economy," pointed out that for every dollar invested in the Philippines by U.S. corporations, four dollars are removed in profits. Another display, "Increasing Gap Between Rich and Poor," stated that "wages in the Philippines are the second lowest in capitalist Asia (after Indonesia)." The Marcos regime's massacres of Filipino Moslems was also documented.

A particularly chilling display entitled "Pollution and Destruction of the Philippine Environment" pointed out that the Westinghouse Corp., with Marcos's blessing, is building the Philippines' first nuclear power plant. The plant will generate electricity mainly for two huge U.S. military bases. The reactor site is just six miles from an active volcano!

The display also quoted a Filipino fisherman: "We may be uneducated, but we know that every time the U.S. nuclear submarines sail our water, our fish die."

Reagan informed Marcos during their discussions that the U.S. Export-Import Bank will provide \$204.5 million to finance the nuclear plant.

During the morning picket line, groups of tourists regularly got off their buses and stopped to read the displays. Several also talked and listened to Filipino activists.

At the White House dinner, Reagan praised Marcos warmly and asserted that he and the dictator share a commitment to "independence, liberty, democracy, justice, equality." But what the two rulers actually share is a commitment to preserve imperialist interests in Asia.

A news release distributed by the National Committee to Oppose the Marcos State Visit pointed out that the Pentagon's Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines "form the axis of the American military strategy in Southeast Asia and the logistical hub of military deployment to the Indian Ocean and the Middle East. The U.S. considers Marcos a reliable security guard for these strategic U.S. bases, and Marcos, in exchange for \$500 million in military aid, plays host *par excellence* to the U.S. military."

Walden Bello, a spokesperson for the National Committee, told the *Militant* that the U.S.-Marcos link also involves threats and harassment against Filipino oppositionists living in the United States. Marcos has been linked to the June 1981 murder of two Filipino trade unionists in Seattle, Gene Viernes and Silme Domingo.

In November 1981, Washington signed an extradition treaty with the Philippines, which would allow Marcos to secure the arrest and deportation of Filipinos in the United States who oppose his rule. The treaty is now before the U.S. Senate for ratification.

The picketing at the White House continued throughout the evening. Many picketers wore death masks, held candles, or carried signs with the names of trade unionists, fishermen, students, farmers, or church activists murdered or imprisoned by Marcos.

Other signs and banners read: "U.S. Bases Out of the Philippines," and "U.S. Taxes + World Bank Loans = Imelda's Fifth Ave. Apartments."

As Marcos dined in the White House with the board chairmen of U.S. Steel, Standard Oil of Indiana, Prudential Insurance, and other big corporations, one chant stuck in this reporter's mind: "Hey, Marcos — Smile while you can. Remember what happened to the shah of Iran!"

Protests flare against Marcos visit

BY FRED MURPHY

NEW YORK — Nearly 300 people, including many Filipinos, joined a picket line outside the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here September 20 as protests continued against the presence of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos in the United States.

The Marcos entourage had arrived at the luxury hotel earlier in the day with 800 suitcases and checked into both the Presidential Suite and the Royal Suite. As the picketers chanted "No draft, no war, from the Philippines to El Salvador," Marcos was being toasted at a dinner sponsored by the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce.

The PACC is made up of U.S. corporations doing business in the Philippines. Shortly after he declared martial law in 1972, Marcos told a chamber delegation, "You tell me what you want and I will write the laws you need."

U.S. investment in the Philippines grew rapidly under martial law and now stands at some \$2.5 billion.

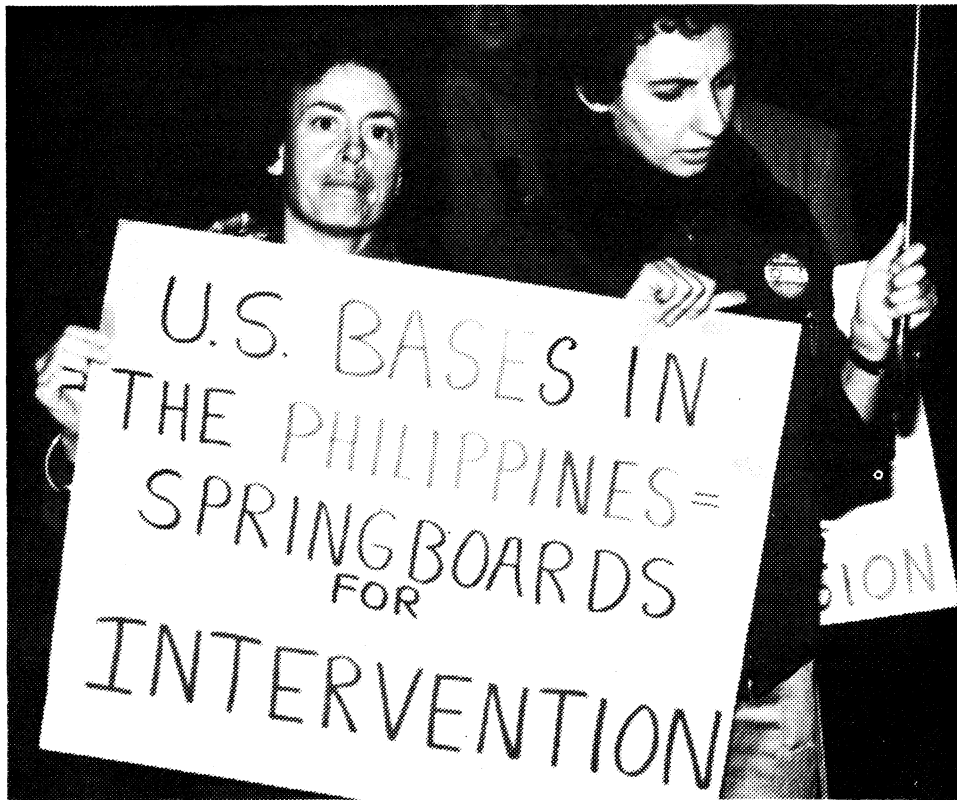
The Waldorf picket line was part of a series of actions held in New York City to draw attention to repression in the Philippines and to U.S. complicity with it. On September 18, some 125 people attended a teach-in highlighted by the showing of a new film on the Philippines, produced by the British Broadcasting Corp., entitled *To Sing Our Own Song*. Narrated by the leading Philippine human-rights activist ex-Sen. Jose Diokno, the film so effectively exposes Marcos's tyranny that the dictator is threatening to sue the BBC for libel.

Protests were also held on the West Coast. On September 16, approximately 200 people picketed the Federal Building in San Francisco, and 150 people, mostly Filipinos, demonstrated at the Philippines Consulate in Los Angeles.

In Seattle, nearly 400 people turned out for a march and rally on September 18. The crowd included 25 members of Local 37 of the International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union. Two young Filipino activists in ILWU Local 37, Gene Viernes and Silme Domingo, were murdered in June 1981, an act now thought to have been the work of agents of the Marcos regime.

Cindy Domingo, sister of one of the slain ILWU members, spoke at the rally concerning a lawsuit filed four days earlier in Federal District Court in Seattle. The suit seeks to expose the ties between the Marcos regime, the U.S. State Department and FBI, and the killers of Domingo and Viernes.

"The decisive strength of our suit," Cindy Domingo said, "does not lie in the courtroom, but here in demonstrations like this."



New York demonstration against Marcos

North Carolina Teamsters hear socialist candidate

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — On Labor Day, members of Teamsters Local 391 and their families attended the annual Teamsters Family Day picnic at the union hall in Greensboro.

Traditionally, various candidates running for public office are invited to speak at the picnic. This year, in addition to the usual Democratic Party candidates, a young Teamster running for office addressed her union brothers and sisters about her campaign.

Meryl Lynn Farber, an assembler at Gilbarco Inc. in Greensboro, is the Socialist Workers Party candidate in the 5th Congressional District. Over 700 members of Teamster Local 391 heard her present a working-class alternative to the deadend solutions presented by the Democratic Party candidates.

Farber's opponents in the race presented the dismal picture faced by millions of American working people, but their only answer was to elect more Democrats in 1982.

Steve Neal, the incumbent Democratic congressman, appealed for the Teamsters not only to elect Democrats in 1982, but to make sure they were "real Democrats."

Farber said, "This economic crisis is not just the result of Reagan in office. It's the policy of the Republicans and Democrats that places private profits ahead of human needs. These profits are made off the backs of the vast majority — working people and farmers."

Farber offered ideas on what could be

done to solve the crisis for working people.

"The Socialist Workers campaign for Congress says not one cent, not one person for Washington's wars," she explained. "Use the war budget to finance a massive public works program to provide millions of jobs at union scale wages, constructing the things we desperately need."

Farber said that the present government is incapable of carrying out a program to solve workers' problems because it is the tool of big business and the banks.

"We cannot rely on the Democrats and Republicans," she said. "Working people need our own political party, a labor party based on the strength of a fighting trade union movement." Such a party would advance the struggle for a government of workers and farmers.

Socialist Workers campaign supporters also circulated a petition demanding that frame-up charges against two Socialist Workers campaigners be dropped. The two were arrested for pursuing their right to petition for signatures to place Farber and the Socialist Workers Party on the ballot in North Carolina.

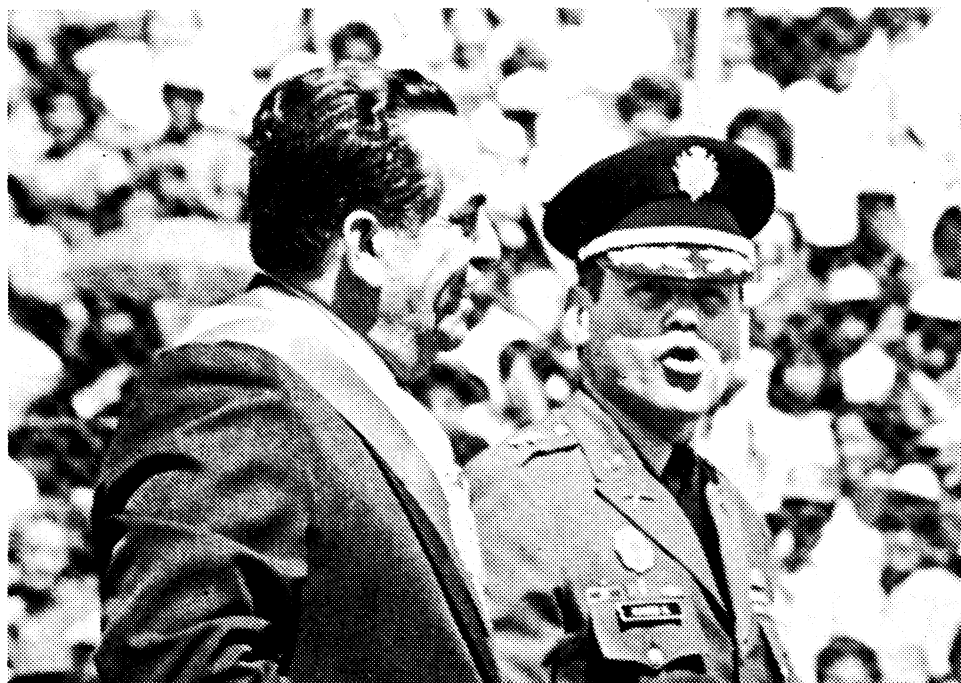
New supporters of the call for the charges to be dropped include R. V. Durham, president of Teamsters Local 391; J. H. Church, Local 391 business agent; B. D. Blevins, secretary-treasurer of Local 391; and Harold Milton, a Teamsters Local 391 shop steward at Gilbarco Inc.

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Honduran guerrillas challenge dictatorship

U.S. proxy in Central America faces crisis at home



Honduran President Roberto Suazo Córdova and army chief Gen. Gustavo Álvarez Martínez. Selling their services to the U.S. in war against Nicaragua and El Salvador rebels.

Guatemala: regime executes 4 rebels

BY JANE HARRIS

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — After one month's detention and torture, four opponents of the Guatemalan military dictatorship were gunned down by a 20-man firing squad at dawn September 17 in Guatemala City.

The four — Jaime de la Rosa Rodríguez, Julio Hernández Perdomo, Marcelino Marroquín, and Julio César Vásquez Juárez — ranged in age from 18 to 27. They were charged with being members of the Guerrilla Army of the Poor, one of the four guerrilla groups which form the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG).

While these are the first "legal" executions to be held since 1936 in Guatemala, the dictatorship of General Ríos Montt has carried out over 100 massacres throughout the country since taking power in a coup March 23. The Geneva-based Catholic organization Pax Christi reported at the end of August that more than 1,500 people are killed each month in Guatemala.

The executions, which were held inside the general cemetery of Guatemala City, were clearly intended as a stroke of terror. The death sentences were handed down by a secret military tribunal, from which there is no appeal.

The Ríos Montt dictatorship at first said it would allow the national and international press to observe the executions. In the end, however, only half a dozen journalists — all identified with the government — were permitted to attend. No photographs were permitted.

In the March elections, 60 percent of Guatemala's voters responded to the URNG's call to boycott the elections,

even though failure to vote is illegal and can result in losing one's job. An additional 30,000 cast blank ballots as a means of avoiding victimization while registering their protest.

The URNG has attracted increasing support, particularly among the country's large Indian population. This has been a source of concern for the Reagan administration, which is currently seeking to restore open military aid to the dictatorship.



Guatemalan dictator and mass murderer Ríos Montt

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BY MICHAEL BAUMANN

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The Honduran regime of President Roberto Suazo Córdova has been pushed into a key role in the Reagan administration's counterrevolutionary war in Central America.

Honduran troops have been operating against the rebel forces in El Salvador. They have also been backing up the 4,000 to 5,000 exiled soldiers of the late Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza. These rightist forces are based in camps along the Nicaraguan border and conduct constant terror-raids into Nicaragua. Some 100 U.S. military advisers are officially operating inside Honduras, and estimates of the total number of U.S. servicemen there are as high as 900.

But by pushing Honduras into the forefront of the military confrontation in the region, Washington has also sped up the evolution of an already tense social conflict within Honduras. This was highlighted September 17 when more than 80 of Honduras's leading businessmen and 3 government officials were taken hostage in San Pedro Sula, the country's second-largest city and main industrial center.

A commando unit of the Cinchonero guerrilla organization carried out the daring seizure of San Pedro Sula's Chamber of Commerce headquarters as a top-level meeting was being held to discuss the country's economic crisis.

Among the government officials captured were the minister of housing, the minister of finance, and the president of the central bank.

Although smaller in scope, the action is reminiscent of the Sandinistas' 1978 takeover of the National Palace in Nicaragua, which won the release of 58 political prisoners.

Cinchonero demands

The Cinchoneros have issued eight demands in return for the release of the hostages. The main ones are:

- Freedom for 60-70 political prisoners, about half of whom are Salvadoran freedom fighters imprisoned by the Honduran government.
- A halt to Honduran military intervention in El Salvador.
- Immediate expulsion of U.S., Chilean, Israeli, and Argentine military advisers.
- Expulsion of the Somozaist forces based along the Nicaraguan border.
- Use of the millions of dollars in imperialist military aid to resolve the crushing problems of Honduran workers and peasants.

The initial response of the Suazo Córdova regime was to try to retake the Chamber of Commerce headquarters by force. Surrounding the area with members of the elite "Cobra" military unit, they riddled the building with bullets, gravely threatening the lives of all the hostages.

One of the hostages, Mario Belot, president of the Chamber of Commerce, complained bitterly about the government's lack of concern for their lives. "They were shooting at us from all directions," he told reporters by telephone.

A negotiating committee was subsequently set up to discuss the guerrillas' demands. It is made up of the bishop of San Pedro Sula, the Vatican's diplomatic envoy in Central America, and an official from the Venezuelan embassy.

Among the Salvadorans whose release is being demanded is Commander Alejandro Montenegro of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). Montenegro was the leader of an operation earlier this year that resulted in the destruction of three-quarters of the Salvadoran dictatorship's airforce. He was arrested in Honduras on August 22.

Worldwide exposure of the Honduran government's brutal repression of demo-

cratic rights is clearly one of the Cinchoneros' aims.

Many of the Honduran political prisoners whose release is being demanded are in fact believed to have been murdered during their detention by security forces.

What they want to do, one of the Cinchonero commanders told reporters, is to "force the army to admit they have murdered them."

Volatile political situation

The Cinchoneros take their name from a legendary 19th century peasant leader, Serapio "Cinchonero" Romero. Romero, executed in 1869 following an armed campaign to stop the seizure of peasants' land, is viewed as a national hero by the poor and exploited of Honduras.

The combination of a deteriorating economy, an increasingly repressive government, and highly unpopular military campaigns against the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan revolutions have produced a volatile political situation in Honduras.

As U.S. arms (\$60 million in 1982-83), advisers (already twice as many as in El Salvador), and "diplomatic" personnel (largest U.S. embassy staff north of Brazil) pour in, even sectors of the Honduran ruling class and Catholic church hierarchy have warned against the growing social tension this militarization has produced.

Following the purge of 75 of the army's more liberal officers, and open calls by high military officials for U.S. military intervention, the editors of the Honduran daily *El Tiempo* have expressed concern over the government's course. In mid-August they criticized the establishment of an "army whose weapons cost the Honduran people hundreds of millions of dollars, and unending political and economic sacrifice."

Catholic bishops have also blasted increasing expenditures on arms in a time of social crisis. The vice-president of the Honduran parliament has called for the expulsion of the Somozaist National Guards. And even the former head of internal security has publicly charged the government with trying to start a "criminal and bloody" war against Nicaragua.

Economic crisis

Meanwhile, workers' purchasing power has dropped by more than 35 percent, production has declined by 50 percent, and imports by more than 60 percent. Unemployment tops 150,000, and another 120,000 may lose their jobs if two big U.S. corporations — the Standard Fruit banana company and the Rosario Resources mining company — carry through threats to shut down operations.

Only vast infusions of U.S. dollars are keeping the economy afloat. Following his visit to Washington in July, President Suazo Córdova boasted that he had secured agreement for more than a half a billion in loans (\$150 million from the International Monetary Fund, \$110 million from the World Bank, \$134 million from the Inter-American Development Bank, and \$116 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development). The total of these loans is nearly two-thirds of the country's annual export income.

Whatever the outcome of the hostage seizure in San Pedro Sula, none of these social and economic problems will quickly go away.

As the president of the Honduran Socialist Party, Marco Virgilio Carías, warned at the end of August, "making war on Nicaragua and intervening in El Salvador can only accelerate conditions for a revolution in Honduras."

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L.A. draft resister blasts war machine

BY ROHIMA MIAH

MONTEREY, Calif. — Twenty-one-year-old David Wayte, who has been indicted for refusing to register for the draft, spoke to a standing-room-only crowd of 125 people at Monterey Peninsula College September 15.

"Draft registration has nothing to do with national defense," Wayte said. "Its only purpose is to send troops to distant places like El Salvador or Lebanon . . . to fight for interventionist and self-interested policies by this government in the interest and greed of a few."

Wayte went on to explain that he and the handful of others that have been indicted are only being used to pressure thousands of other young men to sign-up for the draft.

"Those of us who have been indicted are those of us who wrote to Selective Service and have been active all along. I'm not being prosecuted for simply refusing to sign a post card, but because I used my First Amendment right of freedom of speech."

Wayte attended the recent trial of Ben Sasway, the first person indicted for refusing to register for the draft. Like Sasway, Wayte faces the real possibility of going to jail.

"I am terrified of the idea of going to prison," Wayte explained. "It frightens me that Ben Sasway is now in prison. A lot of people have registered for fear of going to prison. But I know one thing, I would rather be in prison than in the military system."

Following Wayte's talk, a lively question and answer period opened up where both proponents and opponents of draft registration exchanged views on the U.S. military and U.S. involvement in other countries.

Mel Mason, independent candidate for governor of California, pledged his support to Wayte and to the thousands of young men who have refused to register. Mason is the only candidate for governor who has spoken out in support of these draft objectors.

"The U.S. government is already involved in shooting wars in Central America, in places like El Salvador and Guatemala. It spends millions of dollars to fund counterrevolutionaries going into Nicaragua and to aid the Israeli invasion of Lebanon," Mason explained.

"It's important for people to support David Wayte and others like him. This is not 'national defense' — these are offensive wars being waged by the U.S. government against oppressed people around the world."

Most of the audience was sympathetic to Wayte's stance. But several people raised questions concerning a possible invasion by another country, particularly the Soviet Union.

One young Black man answered it this way, "Equating war with protecting America is not in fact logical. A war does not mean protecting us. It means protecting the interests of a few like Exxon. I won't fight for Texaco in the Middle East," he said.

One woman, a supporter of the draft and a former MP (military police), told Wayte, "Regardless of your position on this question you are in violation of the law and should have expected to be punished to the full extent of that law."

A young Black woman from the audience quickly replied, "Years ago, Black people were not allowed to drink out of certain faucets or to go certain places. If they would have just said, 'Well, that's the law and we have to abide by it,' we would not be where we are today."

Her remarks were greeted by loud applause.

The meeting was cosponsored by the Associated Students of Monterey Peninsula College and Youth for Mel Mason (YMM). YMM members and others on the student council waged a week-long fight to gain the student government's sponsorship and funding for the meeting, including successfully overriding the student government president's veto.

During Wayte's visit to this area, he was also interviewed by radio, TV, and newspaper reporters and talked with students at Seaside High School. Several students expressed their support, and one young student said he had already decided not to register.

Wayte's trial is set for October 12 in Los Angeles. A picket line and candlelight vigil at the federal courthouse is planned October 11, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Donations for Wayte's defense and messages of support can be sent to L.A. Draft Resistance Committee, P.O. Box 4372 Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, Calif. 90051.



Militant/Larry Lukecart

Mel Mason, socialist candidate for California governor, with David Wayte (right).

Wisconsin draft opponents indicted

BY PETER SEIDMAN

MADISON, Wisc. — "I'm willing to face the risk of five years in prison because I think the risk of the government's resuming the draft is even greater," Michael McMillan told a news conference here September 9.

The day before, McMillan and Gillam Kerley became the seventh and eighth young men to be indicted for refusing to register with the Selective Service.

Kerley had been an observer at the San Diego trial of draft opponent Ben Sasway that ended August 26. Sasway was found guilty and jailed without bail. He is awaiting sentencing.

"Sasway was not given anything like a fair trial," Kerley complained, noting how Federal District Court Judge Gordon Thompson refused to let Sasway explain at the trial his reasons for not registering.

"Obviously it would be very embarrassing for the government to lose one of these first draft cases," Kerley explained. "So to avoid this, they're denying the rights of the defendants to a full defense."

"We hope that by building enough community support for our case, we'll make the government fear it has more to lose by not giving us a fair trial."

Kerley hopes that he will be able to use his trial to discuss the real issues at stake.

These include, he said, "the arms race, U.S. military intervention abroad, and rising militarism at home that shifts funding from human needs programs to the Pentagon."

Another key issue, Kerley says, is that the Justice Department is violating their right to freedom of speech.

Michael McMillan also blasted the government's hypocrisy at the Sasway trial.

"I notice the government uses innocuous language about Selective Service registration. 'Just sign your name at the Post Office,' they say. 'It's no big deal.'"

"But at the Sasway trial, the prosecutor referred to Ben as being the equivalent of a high-level criminal."

McMillan said it's very apparent to him that Washington "is very serious about its military policy, its interven-

tion in Third World countries, and its violence in this country."

"The Justice Department says these issues are irrelevant in our cases. But I say they're very relevant. People need to think what part they're taking" in opposing the war machine.

A Legal Defense and Bail Fund has been established for Kerley and McMillan. The address is P. O. Box 606, Madison, Wjs. 53701. Telephone: (608) 238-9962.

Connecticut students hold peace rally

BY MAUREEN COLETTA

STORRS, Conn. — New York Socialist Workers campaign supporters recently swung through the University of Connecticut (U.-Conn) here to participate in an all day peace festival, which drew 100 people.

Organizers from the U.-Conn. Students for Peace invited Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Senate Steven Wattenmaker, a laid-off rail worker, to speak about his recent fact-finding trip to Nicaragua.

Other speakers included Barbara Rosen from Amnesty International; Diana Woolis from Feminists in the Fight for Peace; Curtis Day, director of the Afro-American Cultural Center; and Ismael Ríos, director of the Puerto Rican Center.

Rev. F. Nadolny, who stirred up controversy when he refused to bless a Navy warship during July 4 ceremonies in Hartford, also spoke.

Especially well received was John Ely, who came with a group of Wesleyan College students representing 19-year-old draft resister Russell Ford. Ely read a statement by Ford directed to government officials. "Although legally required to do so, I have failed to register with the Selective Service System. . . . I shall continue to urge resistance to all preparation for war," the statement said.

The threat of nuclear war was the major theme dealt with at the rally. Socialist candidate Wattenmaker took the opportunity to talk about the secret war being waged by U.S. imperialism against Nicaragua.

Wattenmaker, who was in Nicaragua at the end of July, also described the gains made by the workers and farmers of Nicaragua as a result of their revolution. He recounted the attacks against Nicaragua in coordination with the U.S. government's prelude to an all-out war against the Nicaraguan revolution. Such a war, he warned, raises the danger that U.S. imperialism would use nuclear weapons against the Nicaraguan people.



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Angry protests sweep Israel

Jews and Arabs condemn terrorist Begin

As news of the Israeli-backed massacre of Palestinian refugees in West Beirut became known in Israel, a wave of shock and outrage swept the country. In both Israel and the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, thousands of Jews and Arabs poured into the streets to condemn the murders and to protest the Israeli government's role in them.

Details of some of these demonstrations were provided to the *Militant* by revolutionary socialists in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, members of the Revolutionary Communist League, the Israeli section of the Fourth International.

On the morning of September 19, shortly after the news of the massacre became known, up to 1,000 people turned out for a demonstration in Jerusalem outside the home of Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

"Begin murderer!" "Begin terrorist!" and "Begin, Sharon, war criminals!" the protesters chanted.

The action was called by both the Peace Now movement and the Committee Against the War in Lebanon and was backed by six members of parliament belonging to the opposition Labor Party.

Many of the demonstrators called for the resignation of Begin, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, and Army Commander in Chief Rafael Eytan. "Out of Lebanon now!" they also chanted.

Police attacked the peaceful demonstration with tear gas and clubs. A number of demonstrators had brought their babies with them, and the babies were sprayed with tear gas as well, one requiring hospitalization.

The protesters were forced to move to another site, but were chased by the police and again tear gassed. Seven were arrested, including Raya Roten, a spokesperson of the Committee Against the War in Lebanon.

That same day, 300 protesters marched down Dizengoff Street in the center of Tel Aviv, chanting "Begin is a murderer!" and "No more Deir Yassin," referring to the Zionists' 1948 massacre of hundreds of Palestinians at the village of Deir Yassin.

This demonstration, called by the Committee Against the War in Lebanon, was also attacked by the police.

Forty-eight protesters were arrested, including an elderly couple. Inside the police van, they chanted, "Begin is a murderer!" while those outside shouted "Police state!"

Also on September 19, some 400 Peace Now supporters demonstrated at Rosh Hanikra, on the northern border with Israel; and some 500 members of the Ga'ash and Yakun kibbutzim blocked the main road between Tel Aviv and Haifa.

The following day, members of the Mashdan, a religious party that is part of the ruling Likud coalition, demonstrated outside the chief rabbi's office, demanding that the minister of the interior, who is a party member, leave the government.

On September 21, a picket line by Peace Now was organized outside the offices of the Security Ministry in Tel Aviv, and a demonstration called by the Committee Against the War in Lebanon was held in Haifa.

The Peace Now movement and all the Zionist opposition parties have called for a massive demonstration in Tel Aviv on Saturday, September 25. This promises to be the biggest antiwar demonstration in Israel since the invasion of Lebanon began.

Angered by the cold-blooded murder of their brothers and sisters in West Beirut, Palestinians throughout Israel and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip also took to the streets.

Demonstrations were held in virtually every town in the occupied territories. Workers stayed away from their jobs and merchants closed their shops in a

general strike, paralyzing Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, East Jerusalem, and other cities.

Israeli troops failed to crush the strike, despite attempts to force Palestinian merchants to open their shops.

In defiance of a curfew imposed two days earlier, many demonstrated in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. The protesters hoisted the Palestinian flag and were attacked by the police.

Military patrols were reinforced in many towns. In an attempt to prevent further protests, the occupation authorities ordered the closure of all schools in the West Bank from September 21 to October 3.

Within Israel itself, many Arab protest demonstrations were also held. A committee of Arab municipal govern-

ments issued a call for a general strike throughout Israel on September 22, appealing to Arab and Jewish workers to observe it as a day of mourning for the victims of the massacre.

In Nazareth, hundreds of women wearing black as a sign of mourning marched in a symbolic funeral for the Palestinians of Shatila and Sabra.

Protests were held in Musmus, Arabeh, Sakhnin, Deir Hanna, and elsewhere. Some 3,000 youths demonstrated in Taibeh, and another 3,000 blocked the road between Sakhnin and Arabeh, shouting, "We shall liberate Palestine and Galilee with blood and fire."

In Kafr Yassis, an Arab Christian village in Israel, hundreds of youths marched September 20. At the head of their procession they held high a portrait of Yassir Arafat.



Demonstrators outside Prime Minister Menachem Begin's home.

Socialists in U.S., France, and Italy denounce role of imperialist troops

The following joint statement was issued September 21 by the U.S. Socialist Workers Party, the Revolutionary Communist League of France, and the Revolutionary Communist Groups of Italy.

It would appear that the massacre in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut had to take place before U.S. President Reagan, French President Mitterrand, and Italian President Pertini "discovered" that the Palestinians were threatened with real genocide by Begin and his Lebanese fascist friends.

In the name of a hypocritical peace undertaking that they jointly worked

out, together with the plan of U.S. envoy Philip Habib, they have decided to send their contingents to Lebanon as part of a so-called disengagement force.

We internationalist militants in the United States, France, and Italy denounce this new dispatch of imperialist troops to the Middle East under the pretext of guaranteeing the security of the Palestinian refugees and the Lebanese population.

What good was the United Nations force that was stationed for months in southern Lebanon? When the Israeli invasion took place on June 6, it was content to let the Zionist armored vehicles go past on their way to Beirut.

What good was the disengagement force sent to Lebanon in late August under the Habib plan? It organized the departure of the units of Palestinian fighters, legitimizing the Zionist military presence in Lebanon. By its presence it guaranteed the election of the Phalangist murderer Bashir Gemayel to the Lebanese presidency by a rump parliament that met in a barracks under the guard of Israeli bayonets. It dismantled the Palestinian defense lines in West Beirut.

In early September, the U.S., French, and Italian disengagement force withdrew from the area, leaving behind a Palestinian population that was defenseless against the Zionist army, the Phalangist militias, and the butcher Maj. Saad Haddad's mercenaries.

Whatever the exact identity of the murderers in Sabra and Shatila, they could not have carried out their horrible task without the de facto agreement of the Israeli high command. The American, French, and Italian governments knew perfectly well that by withdrawing their troops, this tragedy was probable.

The new mission of the disengagement force will not serve the interests of the Palestinian and Lebanese people any better.

Who would believe that the U.S. troops — the instrument of imperialist massacres yesterday in Vietnam and today in Central America — could defend the oppressed in Lebanon? Who could believe that the French paratroopers — French imperialism's favorite gendarmes in Africa and in the colonies of the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, and the Pacific — could act in Lebanon against the interests of that imperialism and its Zionist beachhead?

Their presence will only serve to rebuild a Lebanese state around the Phalangist militias of Amin Gemayel, the ally of Zionism, building up new dangers and new perils for the Palestinian refugees and the Lebanese National Movement.

The real demands of the hour are:

- Immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist occupation army from Lebanon;
- Break diplomatic relations with the criminal regime of Begin and Sharon;
- International recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;
- Total support to the Palestinian movement for the recovery of their legitimate national rights;
- Active solidarity with the Palestinian mass movement in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and with the antiwar movement in the state of Israel.

Castro indicts U.S., Israeli governments for massacre



BY MARGARET JAYKO

Cuban President Fidel Castro, chairman of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries, sent a message to United Nations Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar on September 22 denouncing the United States and Israel for their role in the bloody massacre of Palestinians in West Beirut.

The message condemned "The cowardly genocidal murderers who have just slaughtered in cold blood more than 1,000 men, women, children, and elderly people in the Palestinian camps" and went on to praise the actions of the Palestinian combatants and leaders. It accused Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin of giving the green light to "his armed gangs to go ahead with the extermination of the unarmed Palestinian population."

"It is an absolutely clear expression of the terrorist, murderous, immoral philosophy of Mr. Begin, head of a regime which acts in this way because it knows it is protected, armed, supported, and encouraged in its criminal deeds by the government of the United States," said Castro.

The statement indicted the government in Washington, saying, "This new cascade of Palestinian blood is falling on Reagan's hands and conscience. Reagan has to be accused before all the peoples of the world of this monstrous crime. The weapons used by the Zionists are Yankee. It is the permanent U.S. protection and constant vetos in the [UN] Security Council which have encouraged Israel not to halt at any political or moral limit."

The message stressed that "The time for action has arrived for the United Nations." It demanded "exemplary political and moral sanctions against all those guilty of the crime in Beirut."

"The Nuremberg war criminals were brought to trial and executed for crimes against humanity like this, for a murderous, racist philosophy like the one behind these deeds," recalled Castro.

The message ended, "Now, more strongly than ever, world solidarity with the heroic Palestinian people — the demand that they may have their own independent, respected state — must be raised like a formidable shield against Yankee-Zionist barbarism."

Nationwide protests hit Israeli massacre



Protester at September 20 New York demonstration

Militant/Fred Murphy

BY NELSON GONZÁLEZ

As news of the brutal massacre of an estimated 1,800 Palestinian men, women, and children hit the media, thousands of demonstrators came out in emergency protests in cities across the United States.

In New York, thousands of workers in midtown Manhattan, on their way home after work, paused to watch some 800 people picketing at 850 Third Ave. The demonstrators were demanding "Stop U.S. aid to Israel now," "Israel out of Lebanon now," and "Stop the massacres in Beirut."

The picket and march was called on two days notice by the Emergency Committee on Lebanon. The site chosen for the picket was the building which houses the Israeli Military Purchasing Mission, where the Zionist regime puts in its orders for U.S. weapons to use against the Arab masses.

The hundreds of demonstrators that turned out for the picket surrounded the building on three sides and placed numerous placards and posters all along the street facing the traffic. Some of the signs read, "Jews against the Israeli massacre in Lebanon," "Reagan, Begin are the terrorists," and "Peace can't be built on the bodies of the Palestinians."

The mood of those walking by the

picket ranged from curiosity to sympathy. One young truck driver elicited cheers from the marchers when he flashed a peace sign.

Despite a steady rain, the picket continued for nearly two and a half hours. Then those present marched to Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza near the United Nations for a brief rally.

Sheila Ryan, from the Emergency Committee on Lebanon, addressed the crowd, pointing out that the demonstration was organized "to express grief for the victims"; "to express outrage against those who are responsible for the grisly carnage" — the governments of Israel and the United States; and lastly, "to express our determination to work together for a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and to stop all U.S. aid to Israel."

Ryan was followed by Elias Kouri, a Lebanese speaking on behalf of the victims.

In other actions, a march and rally was organized in Dearborn, Michigan, on September 20. It was made up mostly of Palestinians, some of them auto workers.

In Detroit, a motorcade and a picket of 100 was organized in front of the Federal Building. A rally and teach-in is being planned for September 25.

In Boston on September 19, some 300 people turned out for a candlelight vigil sponsored by the Palestine-Lebanon Crisis Coalition. On the next day, 400 people demonstrated in front of the Israeli Consulate. Right-wingers carrying Israeli flags attempted to provoke the demonstrators. Eventually mounted police charged the crowd and one Palestinian was hospitalized.

In Los Angeles, 500 to 800 people came out for a march and rally at the Federal Building on September 20. The demonstration was organized by the Palestine Arab Fund, the General Union of Palestinian Students, and the November 29 Coalition, among others. Hundreds more demonstrated in San Francisco on September 21.

In Dallas, Texas, 250 people turned out in pouring rain on September 20 in front of the Federal Building. Similar activities were held in San Antonio and in Houston.

Socialist councilman demands action against Calif. cross-burning

BY JANICE LYNN

SEASIDE, Calif. — Socialist city councilman Mel Mason introduced an emergency resolution into the council September 16 condemning a cross-burning that had taken place in Seaside almost two weeks earlier.

In a direct slap in the face to Seaside's working people, the other members of the council refused to even vote to place Mason's resolution on the agenda for discussion.

At the public comment session of the meeting, however, the outrage of community residents was expressed.

Baqi Bismillah, who witnessed a cross-burning in neighboring Marina last spring, denounced the police depart-

ment's inaction and called for a complete and public investigation. Bismillah is a campaign worker in the Henry Fryson for City Council campaign.

Sam Manuel, co-coordinator of the Seaside chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party, impressed upon the council the seriousness of this incident.

"A burning cross has been a symbol for many years in this country of the Ku Klux Klan and racial oppression," Manuel stated. "Blacks have suffered brutal violence, and hangings and death, in many cases, at the hands of the Klan."

Manuel blasted the mayor and the other city council members for their refusal to endorse or participate in a com-

munity rally September 12 to oppose this type of incident.

The only candidates in the Seaside elections who attended or sent messages of support were mayoral candidate Shirley Rainer and city council candidates Henry Fryson and Henry Burney.

Manuel also blasted the police chief's statement printed in the *Salinas Californian* that "a cross burning is not a crime in itself."

Seaside resident Larry Lukehart protested the police department spending more time photographing participants in the community rally than in investigating the cross-burning. He demanded to know if files were being kept of political activists in Seaside.

Mason told the council that after the cross-burning he had been "inundated with telephone calls from citizens of Seaside and the moods ranged from outrage to sheer terror." He strongly urged the council to pass the resolution to put the city of Seaside on record against such acts of racist provocation and intimidation and for using its full resources to prevent these types of actions in the future.

One candidate for mayor, backed by the Black business community and traditional Black leadership, publicly opposed Mason's resolution. In a letter to the local papers, mayoral candidate Lance McClair, a public investigator, wrote, "the suggested resolution may tend to give the impression that a relevant number of our citizens are racially biased, an impression that would be misleading."

Mason blasted McClair and those on the council for their refusal to take a stand against racial hatred, represented by the cross-burning.

"By not passing this resolution, the city council is condoning such actions and in effect is giving a green light to racist scum to commit other acts of provocation or violence to the minority citizens in this community."

"As a leader of the National Black Independent Political Party and as a candidate for governor of California," Mason continued, "I will be continuing to speak out and organize against racism wherever it appears."

"Here in Seaside I will be campaigning for those candidates who will be responsive to this community and who will actively fight against such racist provocations."

Mason files suit in federal court

BY DAVID PRINCE

On September 23 the Mel Mason campaign filed suit in federal district court in Los Angeles, calling for an immediate injunction to place Mason, independent candidate for governor of California, on the November ballot.

Mason, a city councilman in Seaside, California, is a leader of the Socialist Workers Party. Campaign supporters gathered 214,699 signatures to place him on the ballot — 100,000 more than the required number. But Secretary of State March Fong Eu ruled Mason off the ballot, claiming 125,000 signatures, nearly 60 percent, were invalid.

Mason pointed out, "It is not because we have too little support, but because we have too much support that March Fong Eu is attempting to rule workers off the ballot. If the idea of signature requirements is to show support, then we have more than complied with the law."

The California Supreme Court refused to hear Mason's challenge to Eu's ruling. And a California Superior Court judge rejected a motion for a stay in the printing of ballots until Mason's suit could be heard. The judge said a stay would disrupt the election process, even though Mason has a case which should be heard.

The federal suit, prepared by Mason's attorney, Robin Maisel, charges that California's election laws violate First and Fourteenth Amendment rights, and that the law allows state officials to use any means, fair or foul, to keep Mason off the ballot.

The suit seeks to overturn the undemocratic provisions of the law, including the signature requirement.

Currently independent candidates must collect 113,610 signatures to achieve ballot status. The Democratic and Republican candidates need only 60. Also the state can invalidate signatures of registered voters who have recently moved but not yet reported their new address. This election law was used to disqualify thousands of signers of Mason's petitions, including a GI at Fort Ord who recently had been moved to a new barracks on the same base.

The suit also documents evidence of large-scale, outright fraud. For example, registered voters were disqualified because the registration lists weren't checked.

At the heart of the fight for ballot status is the right of workers to run for office against the antilabor, racist policies of the two capitalist parties. Mason explains: "Denying me a place on the ballot, is an attack on the right of any unionist, any Black, to run a campaign that is independent of the Democrats and Republicans. It's another move to keep working people subjugated to the two-party system."

Support in the ballot fight is needed. Send messages of protest to: Secretary of State March Fong Eu, 1230 "J" St., Sacramento, Calif. 95814. Send copies to: Mel Mason for Governor Committee, 2864 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94609.

Forum hosts Middle East panel

BY JIM KENDRICK

DALLAS, Tex. — On September 20, following a picket at the Federal building here, 45 people attended a panel discussion sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum to discuss how to build an effective movement to stop the U.S.-backed war being waged by Israel against the Arab masses.

Speakers included Osman Sadek, a Palestinian who spent four years in Cuba, and Fred Stanton representing the Socialist Workers Party, who is also a member of the International Association of Machinists Local 1015.

In closing his talk, Sadek pointed out that the Palestinian people "are not alone in our struggle. We are linked to others fighting imperialism such as those in Nicaragua. We have friends who are far away geographically, but close to us politically, such as the revolutionary forces here in the United States."

Following the panel, members of the audience from the General Union of Palestinian Students and the Bahrain Students Association, along with American supporters of the Palestinian people discussed future activities to oppose imperialist aggression in the Middle East.

Over \$60 worth of socialist literature was sold and many copies of the *Militant*.

Slaughter in Lebanon: the U.S.



Martyrs of Sabra and Shatila camps

How Israeli forces orchestrated the massacre

BY ERNEST HARSCH

"Nobody dreamed this would happen," one Israeli official told United Press International, referring to the September 16-18 massacre of hundreds of civilians in the Palestinian refugee camps of Shatila and Sabra in West Beirut.

But in reality, not only did the Zionists imagine it, they planned it, organized it, and brought in the rightist Lebanese militia forces who carried it out. The butchery in the refugee camps was an integral part of the massive Israeli invasion of West Beirut, which began September 15.

The two rightist Lebanese militia forces that actually conducted the massacre are both closely allied to the Israeli regime. They are the Phalangist forces of the late Bashir Gemayel, who was assassinated on September 14, and the militia of Maj. Saad Haddad, based in southern Lebanon.

The Phalangists became particularly notorious during the Lebanese civil war of 1975-76 for their massacres of Palestinians and Lebanese Muslims. Gemayel himself directed a massacre of thousands of Palestinians at the Tel Zaatar refugee camp in East Beirut in 1976.

Since then, the Phalangists have received some \$100 million in aid from the Israeli regime and have backed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon since it began on June 6.

Haddad's militia in the south operates as an adjunct of the Israeli army. Haddad's troops are armed, paid, and clothed by Israel. They follow Israeli orders.

The September 19 *New York Times* reported from Jerusalem that "as early as the second week of the war last June, Israeli officials were speaking privately of a plan, being considered by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, to allow the Pha-

langists to go into west Beirut and the camps against the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO]. The calculation was that the Phalangists, with old scores to settle and detailed information on the Palestinian fighters, would be more ruthless than the Israelis and probably more effective."

Despite U.S. and Israeli guarantees to the PLO that Israeli forces would not enter West Beirut, as early as September 3 a group of Israeli troops pushed into West Beirut, into the neighborhood of Bir Hassan, to clear mines from the route leading to the Shatila and Sabra camps.

Seizing on the assassination of Gemayel as a justification, thousands of Israeli troops, tanks, and armored cars poured into West Beirut September 15. The Israeli government claimed that this was to maintain "law and order" in the wake of Gemayel's assassination.

But Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eytan spelled out the real goal. He told the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* September 17, "Now what has to be destroyed will be destroyed. And who has to be arrested will be arrested."

Scores were killed in the fighting in West Beirut, as the Israeli units overran the checkpoints and headquarters held by the various Muslim and leftist militia groups that were defending the city. Hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinians were arrested by the Israeli forces. The Shatila and Sabra camps were surrounded by Israeli troops, as was the Burj al Brajneh camp.

Once the Israeli troops had occupied the city and disarmed the Muslim and leftist militia groups, the population was left defenseless.

According to an Israeli army radio report — which was later confirmed by a government spokesman — the Israeli cabinet was presented with a plan September 6 to allow the Phalangists to enter Shatila and Sabra. It adopted a resolution approving the action.

According to various news accounts, the Lebanese rightists gathered that same day at the Beirut International

Israel's history — blood-stained aggression

BY DAVID FRANKEL

Why did the grisly massacre of Palestinian civilians in West Beirut happen? The explanations in the big-business media do not give an honest answer to this question.

In the *New York Times*, for example, right-wing columnist William Safire chalked the whole thing up to "a blunder," arguing that "this episode no more reflects Israeli policy than Mylai reflected American policy [in Vietnam]."

Safire picks a telling comparison. The U.S. army massacre of hundreds of Vietnamese in the village of Mylai in 1968 had a profound effect on Americans — precisely because of what it said about U.S. policy during that war.

In the case of West Beirut, the rightist forces that are armed and encouraged by the Israeli regime carried out on the ground what Israeli bombers have been doing for years from the air.

Unlike Safire, many liberals have been willing to concede the criminal character of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. But as defenders of the Zionist state, these liberals try to pin the blame solely on the policies of Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

Nobody can deny the reactionary character of the policies followed by Begin and Sharon. But the fact is that the establishment of the Israeli state in 1948 and its history since then have been studded with such massacres against the Palestinian people. That has been the Zionist response to the resis-

tance by the Palestinians against being forced off of their land and out of their country.

Begin himself achieved an international reputation in this regard through the activities of his Irgun Zvai Leumi (National Military Organization), one of the most prominent Zionist terrorist organizations active in Palestine during the 1940s. The Irgun slaughtered more than 250 Arabs in the village of Deir Yassin on April 9, 1948.

But Begin had no monopoly on such actions. Under Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, for instance, regular Israeli soldiers murdered 53 men, women, and children in the Jordanian border village of Qibya in October 1953 in retaliation for a guerrilla raid in which three Israelis died.

Another massacre was carried out by the Israeli army in the village of Kafr Kassem, about 15 miles from Tel Aviv, on the eve of Israel's October 1956 invasion of Egypt. The villagers were gunned down in cold blood as they returned home from the fields and from their jobs, unaware that a curfew had been imposed.

An Israeli military court that later investigated the events at Kafr Kassem — after a cover-up failed — reported: "The first to be shot at the western entrance to the village were four quarrymen returning on bicycles from the places where they worked near Petah Tiqva and Ras al Ayin." These, the court reported, "were shot from behind at close range or from the left."

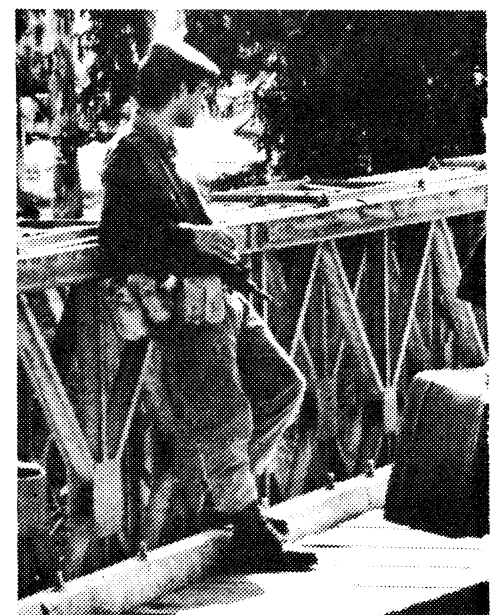
Three more persons accompanying a mule cart were next to be shot, then a shepherd and his twelve-year-old son, and later the occupants of a truck carrying four men and 14 women between the ages of 12 and 66.

So it went until a total of 49 persons had been butchered. Eventually, eight of the participants in the massacre were found guilty. The last of these were freed by the beginning of 1960 — about three-and-a-half years after the killings. And in September 1960 the city of Ramle engaged Gabriel Dahan, convicted of killing 43 Arabs in a single hour, as officer for Arab affairs.

The reason for such massacres is not hard to understand. When the state of Israel was established in 1948, Palestine was an Arab country. There were more than twice as many Arabs as Jews living in the country, and about half of the entire Jewish population was concentrated just in the Tel Aviv area. The establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine could only come about through the expulsion of the Palestinian majority, and that is what was done.

More than 700,000 Palestinians were driven from their homes during the period between April and December 1948. Their land was taken over by Zionist settlers, and these Palestinian refugees have never been allowed to return to the country of their birth.

Following the 1967 Mideast war, hundreds of thousands of new Palestinian refugees were driven out of the terri-



In wake of June 1967 Israeli war against Arab refugees were uprooted, like these

tories taken over by Israel. The Zionist regime has been rapidly expropriating the land of the remaining Palestinians who remained in these occupied territories.

Atrocities such as those in Deir Yassin, Qibya, Kafr Kassem, and West Beirut have taken place because the Israeli rulers are attempting to suppress the struggle of an entire people for its rights.

And this leads us to the second factor behind the massacre in West Beirut — the actions of U.S. imperialism in attempting to maintain its domination and exploitation of the Middle East.

Israel has been able to carry out its re-

responsibility

Airport, which is controlled by Israeli troops. From there, they followed a series of roads marked out with the Phalangist symbol and signs in Hebrew leading to the two refugee camps. They went through Israeli lines to get into Shatila and Sabra. Israeli tanks stationed on a hilltop provided cover in case the rightists ran into resistance in the camps.

The Israeli-backed butchers then went systematically about their work.

Entire families were gunned down in their homes. Hundreds of people were rounded up and driven away in cattle trucks, past the watchful eyes of Israeli troops just outside the camp gates.

Several thousand Palestinians gathered at the Gaza Hospital for refuge, but had to flee from there when the Phalangists and Haddad's men entered and dragged away the hospital staff. The foreign doctors were handed over to the Israeli army, while the Palestinians were taken away or shot on the spot. Some patients were killed as well.

Witnesses described seeing bulldozers driving by, their scoops filled with bodies. Palestinian officials put the number killed as high as 1,800.

While this massacre was underway, the Israeli troops did nothing to try to stop it — despite the Israeli regime's later claim that it had.

During the night, the Israelis provided light by firing flares over the refugee camps, so that the rightist killers could see what they were doing.

On September 17, according to a report in the *Washington Post*, some of the rightists left the Shatila camp for a "bit of rest," in the words of a militia officer. "Israeli soldiers were lounging all about them," the *Post* reported, "some reading calmly despite the rattle of gunfire in the camp. The gunfire was in short bursts, in roughly one place, and did not indicate that there was any return fire. The Christian militiamen were being fed and given water by the Israeli Army."

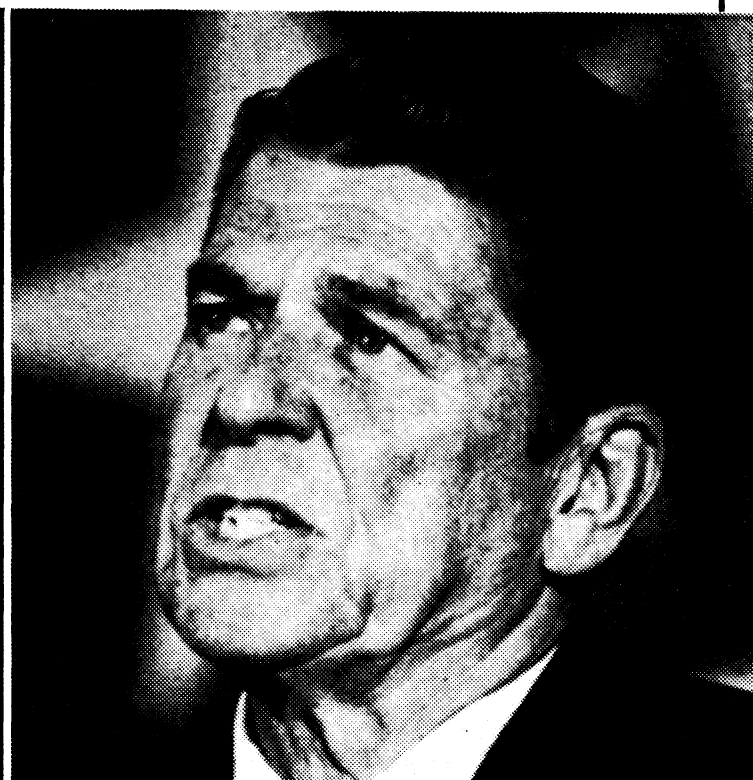
An unnamed Israeli colonel told a Reuters correspondent that the area was being "purified."



Arab nations, thousands of Palestinians crossing into Jordan.

peated attacks on its Arab neighbors only because of the constantly increasing military and economic aid provided by Washington. The U.S. ruling class provides this massive aid to the Zionist regime for the same reason that it supports the racist regime in South Africa — if the oppressed peoples are not periodically beaten down, they will advance in their struggle to throw off the yoke of imperialist domination.

In the final analysis, the system of imperialist exploitation rests on naked force, and Israel plays a key role in exerting that force in the Middle East. We have just seen one more example of that fact in West Beirut.



With each new world outcry against Israeli crimes, Reagan hastens to assure that he's told Begin 'Enough.' But the actual complicity between the two governments is becoming increasingly apparent.

Reagan tries to conceal complicity with Begin

BY HARRY RING

In announcing September 20 that U.S. Marines were again being dispatched to Beirut, Reagan declared the purpose was to help bring peace and to "end the agony of Lebanon."

He also tried to take a bit of distance from the Israeli regime, which is now seen by the world as a gang of butchers.

Yet the blood of the victims of the Beirut massacre is as much on Washington's hands as on those who rule in Tel Aviv.

In the wake of that slaughter, U.S.-Israeli complicity was charged by Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

He declared: "The terrible massacre was planned and organized by Israel, the Israeli army, and — I'm sorry to say — covered completely by the American administration."

Amplifying on the charge, PLO officials said the PLO had agreed to evacuate Beirut only after receiving written guarantees from Washington that Israeli forces would not enter West Beirut and that the civilian population of the camps would be protected.

They said the guarantees had come directly from U.S. negotiator Philip Habib and had been transmitted to them by the prime minister of Lebanon.

The guarantees proved worthless. The marines went to Beirut for a single purpose, to ensure the departure of the PLO. That accomplished, they were abruptly pulled out. The Israeli forces and their Phalangist killers entered West Beirut. Now, after the slaughter, the marines are ordered back.

It sums up Washington's complicity with Israel, not to speak of its duplicity.

Washington's purpose

Washington's intervention in the Lebanon events, from the outset, has been designed to advance its all-important aim of maintaining its domination of the strategic, oil-rich Middle East. In driving forward to accomplish this, it has employed the Zionist state of Israel as its junior partner in crime. None of the bickering between Reagan and Begin can change that.

Washington was not simply guilty of complicity in the Beirut events. It backed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon from the day it began, last June 6. The Reagan administration knew in advance of the plans for the invasion and

did nothing to stop it. After the invasion was on, the U.S. delegation in the United Nations repeatedly voted against condemning the Israeli aggression.

For nearly four months, Israeli bombers rained death on the Lebanese and Palestinian people, while U.S. "mediator" Habib negotiated to achieve Israel's immediate objective, the expulsion of the PLO from Beirut.

With that accomplished, the way was cleared to install the ultraright Phalangist regime subservient to Israel and determined to restore the discredited system of Christian minority rule that led to the civil war of 1975-76.

The horrifying events in the West Beirut camps were the grim declaration of that resolve.

Reagan now expresses mock outrage at the butchery. But when Bashir Gemayel, the Hitler-loving Phalangist, was selected as president of Lebanon, Reagan was quick to send congratulations.

It was this same Bashir Gemayel, before his assassination, who planned the massacre at the Beirut camps.

This was confirmed in a report from Jerusalem in the September 20 *New York Times*. It said:

"According to well-placed Israeli officials, the military operation in the camps was planned by President-elect Bashir Gemayel, leader of the Phalangists, before his assassination last Tuesday."

The Phalange forces are armed and financed by the Israelis. They entered West Beirut as a follow-up contingent to the Israeli forces.

And the way was cleared for the Israeli forces by the sudden departure of the U.S. Marines 14 days ahead of schedule.

Killer gangs around world

Did Reagan know what the Phalangists were capable of?

There's no reason why he shouldn't. They're exactly the same kind as the killer gangs that Washington finances in El Salvador and in Guatemala.

They're basically no different than the dictatorial Philippine gang headed by Marcos, who Reagan welcomed to Washington on the eve of the massacre.

Nor are the Phalangist killers that much different from the murderous South African apartheid forces supported by Washington and Israel.

Now Reagan has offered his blessings

— and the U.S. Marines — to Bashir's brother and successor, Phalangist leader Amin Gemayel.

Palestinian refugees and the masses of mainly Moslem Lebanese workers and peasants surely have no reason to breathe easy. They now have a government of ultraright mass murderers, backed by both Israeli and U.S.-French-Italian forces.

And this time the marines apparently will be in no hurry to leave. According to Reagan the stay is indeterminate.

Increasing U.S. intervention

This too is part of the broader Washington-Wall Street plan for a more direct U.S. military intervention in the Middle East.

It's in keeping with the creation of the Rapid Deployment Force, organized immediately after the victory of the Iranian revolution. It's a possible foothold for adding to the new U.S. military bases that have sprung up in Oman, Egypt, Somalia, Morocco, Kenya, and elsewhere in the region.

All of these bases, along with the marines, are there for a single purpose — to protect the superprofits of the U.S. oil barons. Their presence has nothing to do with the welfare of the people of the Mideast.

This is underlined by the horror of the Sabra and Shatila camps.

For further reading

Israel: A Colonial-Settler State?
By Maxine Rodinson, 128 p., \$3.95.

Socialists and the Fight Against Anti-Semitism
By Peter Seidman, 31 p., \$.60.

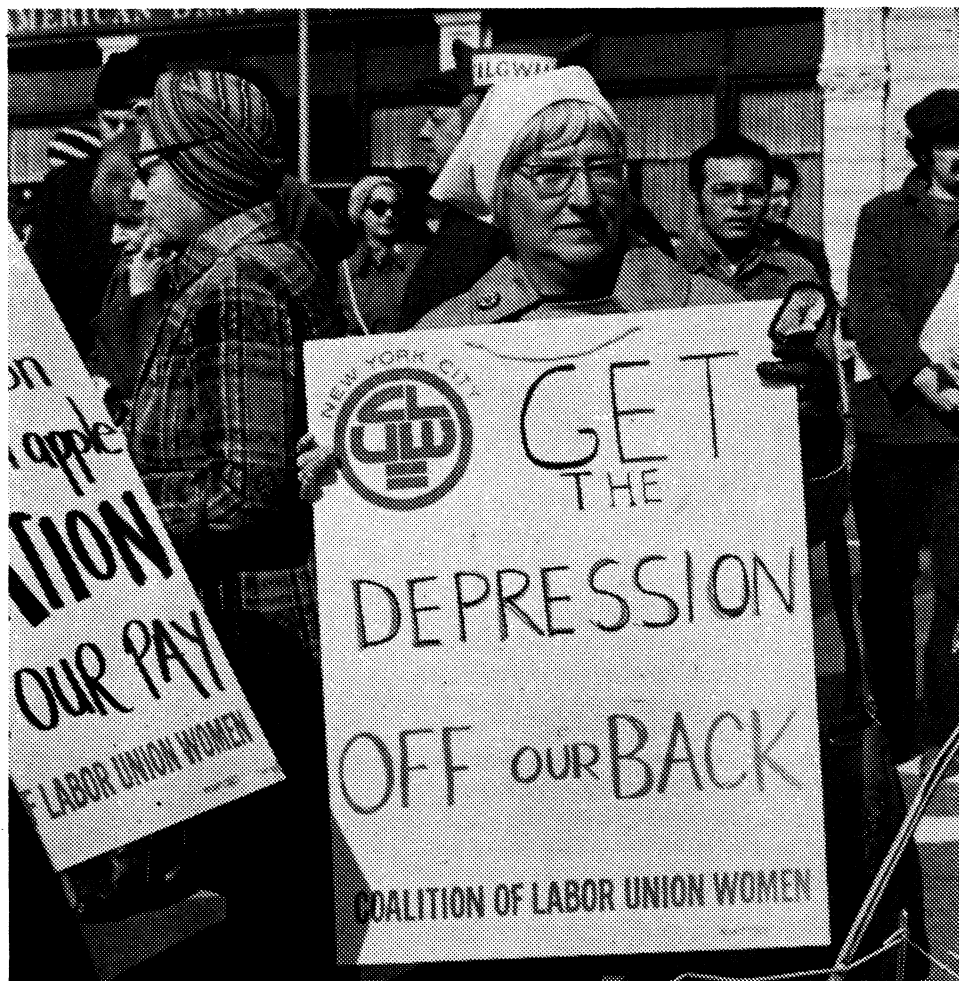
War in the Middle East
The Socialist View
By Dave Frankel, Dick Roberts, and Tony Thomas; 31 p., \$.60.

How Can the Jews Survive?
A Socialist Answer to Zionism
By George Novack, 22 p., \$.25.

Leon Trotsky on the Jewish Question
By Leon Trotsky, 31 p., \$.95.

Order from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. Please include \$.75 for postage and handling.

How federal budget cuts affect women



Working-class women and their families are among those who most need social service programs that are being slashed.

BY SUZANNE HAIG

The Reagan administration's budget for fiscal year 1983 is another step in the relentless bipartisan war against the rights and living standards of working people.

It comes in the context of the worst economic crisis since the 1930s and is an important front in the combined government-employer efforts to push back the unions, women's rights and the rights of Blacks and Latinos.

This is a war with real casualties. Those hit the hardest, as always, are the most oppressed sectors of the working class. This is true with the massive cuts in social services in the proposed budget.

Examining the effects on women of just some of the budget cuts shows how these reductions in social services are designed, in part, to push women back, as well as to lower the quality of life and expectations of all workers.

Bottom of the barrel

In order to understand the devastating impact of cuts in social services on women in particular, it's necessary to see where women start from economically.

Inequalities in hiring, pay rates, edu-

cation, and all aspects of social life means that women make up a disproportionate number of those working people who are impoverished.

According to the Census Bureau, 30 percent of all female-headed households in 1979 lived below the poverty level. The comparable figure for all families with an adult male present was 5 percent.

Women who live alone or who are heads of households are by and large at the bottom of the barrel.

In virtually every one of these statistics on women, it should be kept in mind that for Black and Hispanic women the numbers soar many percentage points higher because of combined race and sex discrimination. Thus, almost half of all families headed by Black and Hispanic women live below the poverty line.

And this trend is increasing as the female sector of the working class continues to be pushed down.

Older women

A Louis Harris poll on the income of the elderly found that while the median household income for all Americans was \$20,000, for the elderly, it was only \$8,600. Of the elderly, women represent 78 percent of those with incomes below \$5,000 a year.

Women are thus more dependent on social service programs — the very ones that are being cut by the Democrats and Republicans in Washington.

The 1983 budget includes cuts in virtually all non-military programs, including education, housing, health, job training, legal services, and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) — totaling more than \$45 billion.

The budget, moreover, not only cuts back on the absolute level of funds for these programs, but reduces their rate of growth for the next few years. Thus, as more and more working women and men become victims of the recession, they will be less and less likely to receive the social benefits needed for survival.

AFDC cuts

The Reagan budget includes an approximate \$1.2 billion cut for AFDC in 1983 and for every year thereafter. This is about a 12 percent cut for 1983. Women constitute 93 percent of the 10.7 million recipients of AFDC.

The cuts mean that about 2.7 million people will have their welfare benefits reduced or eliminated.

In addition, about 2.6 million recipients of Supplemental Security Income (for the aged, blind, and disabled) will be affected.

As in the case of the 1982 budget cuts, many working women who also receive welfare will, because of the new standards for eligibility, be forced to choose between working — and thus losing all Medicaid and child-care benefits — or going on welfare.

'Workfare'

In place of training programs and job search programs, AFDC applicants will have to participate in non-training "workfare" programs in order to receive their AFDC payments — working off the benefits they receive with part-time, minimum-wage labor.

The workfare program does not provide transportation expenses or child care. Those who cannot find work can lose their AFDC benefits.

Workfare, in fact, appears to be a way to fill public service jobs terminated by the cuts in the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program with cheaper labor.

Workfare is a serious assault, not only on AFDC recipients, but on all workers. It can be used to weaken unions and to lower the standard of living of all working people.

Job training cuts

The current budget will significantly reduce funds for job training, job counseling, and job placement. CETA's training and public service programs will have 429,000 training slots eliminated and 51 percent of its funds cut. Seventy percent of the CETA program participants are women.

Women's enrollment in pre-apprenticeship training has dropped already as federally funded programs are cut. About 150 programs existed nationwide in 1978, but now there are less than 30.

This is part of Washington's attacks on affirmative action.

Education cuts

Cuts will also occur in educational programs and in governmental agencies that prosecute employers for discrimination, thus further lessening the chances of women who need jobs getting them.

There will be restrictions on a mother's ability to attend college under the AFDC program.

Funds for Women's Educational Equity Act, authorized to promote educational equality between men and women, were drastically cut in 1982 and now will be eliminated with the new budget.

Food stamps

Like the 1982 budget, the new one cuts some \$2 billion from food stamps. Of the 22 million poor who receive them, 78 percent are children, elderly persons, disabled, or members of single parent households.

With the cuts 3 million people will lose their food stamps entirely and 18 million more will have them reduced under the new eligibility program.

The Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides nutrition counseling and prescription food supplements to some 2 million mothers with low income. WIC will also be cut.

Cuts will also take place for battered women crisis shelters, rape crisis projects, emergency hot lines, women's law centers, women's health clinics, and many other such programs that are heavily dependent on federal funding and whose staff are paid by federal programs such as CETA.

Child care

At the same time that more and more women are entering the workforce, the Reagan administration is cutting back on already scarce child care.

The 1983 budget continues to reduce federally-funded child care, which has already been drastically cut.

Title XX of the Social Security Act, which now provides child care for about 750,000 low-income families, was cut last year and is slated for an additional 18 percent reduction, meaning that up to 100,000 families would lose this service.

The government has also discontinued federal regulation of the quality of child care services.

In addition, the school breakfast and child care food programs would get fewer funds.

Abortion and birth control

One of the largest items slashed is health care. Medicare, which provides services for the aged and disabled, will be cut \$3.16 billion. Medicaid will be cut

Continued on next page

Mass. women office workers sponsor gubernatorial candidates debate

BY DAVID WILDER

BOSTON — Virtually all of the candidates in the Massachusetts governor's race were present or represented at a debate here on August 26.

The meeting was sponsored by 9-to-5, an organization of women office workers. Speaking to an audience of mainly young women workers, the Democratic and Republican candidates had little to say on the many issues raised from the floor. Questions about daycare, abortion rights, affirmative action, and social services were met by these candidates with the standard promises to "form executive committees"; "take a good close look"; and "adapt coherent policies."

John Sears, a Republican, said he wanted to see more women in government because "government needs a good housecleaning."

Lucy Flynn, an aide to Democratic Governor Edward King, defended his tax cuts for the rich and slashing of social services, saying this creates more jobs for women.

Next was former Governor Michael Dukakis, also a Democrat. Dukakis said that Massachusetts needed a governor "who could work with our team in Washington — Senator Ted Kennedy and Senator Paul Tsongas — and really fight Reaganomics."

Defending in a back-handed way the enormous tax cuts for big business, Dukakis said the state had all the money necessary to maintain social services, and the problem was mismanagement by his opponents. He said he was looking into buying a computer to solve the problems.

Don Gurewitz, Socialist Workers Party candidate, spoke last. He pointed out that the real problems facing working people hadn't even been touched on. He said that the military budget, which finances U.S. interventions abroad, is eating up money which should be used for social services at home, including programs which advance the status of women. Gurewitz explained that both Democrats and Republicans support Reagan's war policies.

"Michael Dukakis says he wants to fight Reaganomics with Kennedy and Tsongas. He can't say what Reaganomics is, because if he did, everyone would realize that Kennedy and Tsongas have essentially voted for Reaganomics every step of the way," declared Gurewitz.

In response to a question, Gurewitz expressed his support for daycare as a basic right, one that should be financed by the government.

Reagan's War on Women's Rights

A Strategy to Fight Back

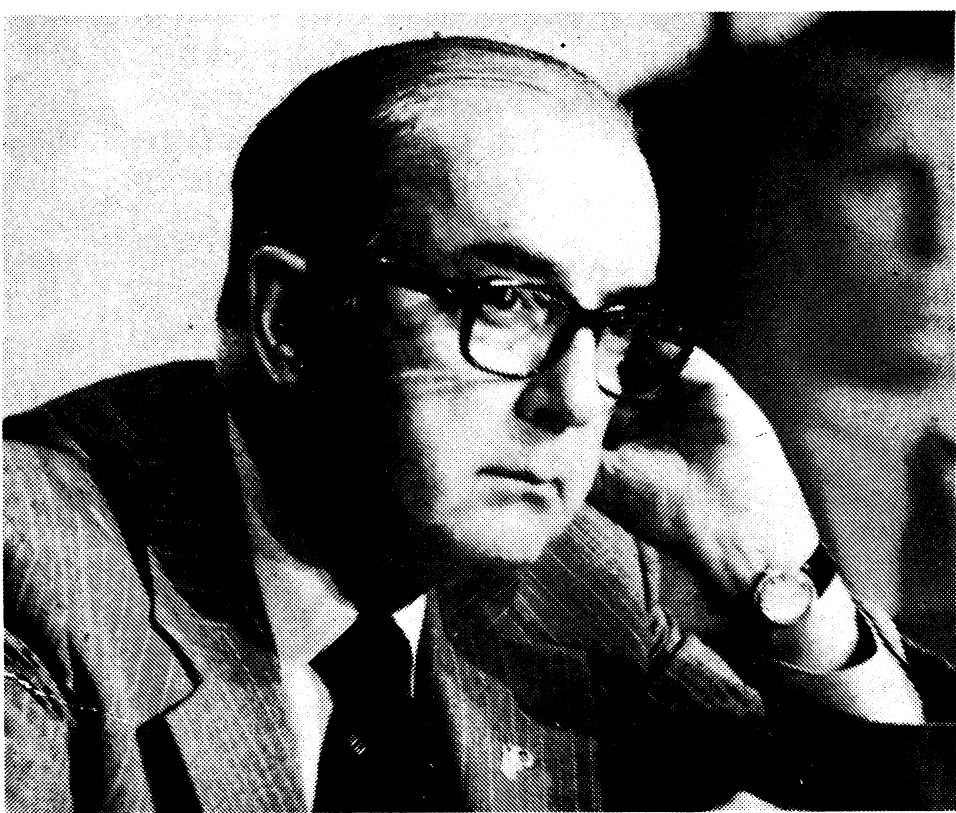


by Margaret Jayko

Reagan's War on Women's Rights

By Margaret Jayko
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Sen. Jesse Helms, author of defeated bill that would have cut off federal funding for abortions as well as opening door to outlawing them.

INS judge orders Iranian socialist to leave U.S.

BY BETSY McDONALD

PHOENIX, Ariz. — An Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) judge has ordered Hamid Sodeifi, an 18-year-old Iranian socialist, to "voluntarily" leave the United States within 60 days.

The September 15 ruling is the latest step in a 16-month-long INS effort to deport Sodeifi because of his political views. Sodeifi, a member of the Young Socialist Alliance and Socialist Workers Party, is appealing the decision to the Board of Immigration Appeals. The appeal automatically postpones his deportation.

The deportation hearing, before Immigration Judge William Nail, lasted just 15 minutes. Nail refused to allow Sodeifi's attorney, Antonio Bustamante, to present even part of the massive evidence proving that Sodeifi is being singled out for political reasons. That evidence includes:

- Two witnesses who had heard INS officials tell Sodeifi that he was being deported because of his political views and activities.

- Testimony and documents establishing that it has been INS policy for over 30 years to single out foreign-born SWP and YSA members for deportation. This evidence exposes specific INS efforts to deport Héctor Marroquin, and other members of the SWP and YSA, because of their political beliefs.

- Documents from Sodeifi's INS file, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, which demonstrate unquestionably the political motivation behind the INS deportation effort.

These documents show that the INS investigation of Sodeifi began when he took part in a demonstration against racist violence in May 1981. At that demonstration, a Phoenix cop spotted Sodeifi carrying copies of the *Young Socialist* newspaper and distributing a statement by the YSA denouncing the murders of Black children in Atlanta.

The cop stopped Sodeifi, questioned him, confiscated some literature, and passed the information along to the INS. This set the INS deportation effort in motion.

Then, when Sodeifi dropped two courses at Arizona State University, the INS used this as a pretext to take away his student visa.

All this is documented in Sodeifi's INS file. But the INS's judge refused to consider any of the evidence. Sodeifi was not even allowed to testify in his own defense.

"This is a routine case," said Judge Nail. "There is nothing to distinguish this case from any other case."

The twenty-five spectators in the

courtroom were outraged by Nail's decision.

The September 15 hearing was just the latest in a series of recent INS moves to drive Sodeifi out of the country.

The INS first scheduled a deportation hearing for July 14. But, although the law requires a minimum of seven days notice for such hearings, Sodeifi was not informed until July 9. An outcry from Sodeifi's supporters forced the INS to cancel the hearing.

The deportation hearing was eventually set for September 15. On September 9, Sodeifi received a notice that his hearing had been moved to Nogales, Arizona, more than 200 miles from Phoenix.

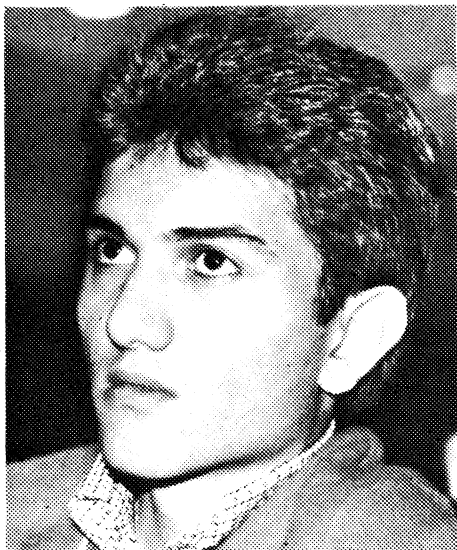
This move would have prevented many of Sodeifi's supporters from attending the hearing, and made it impossible for at least one of Sodeifi's witnesses to be present.

A spate of protests convinced the INS to reschedule the hearing for Phoenix. INS District Director Ernest Gustafson explained that it was all a "misunderstanding."

Public support for Sodeifi's case has grown. A September 12 rally, attended by more than 40 people, raised over \$500 to aid Sodeifi's defense. The September 15 hearing was widely reported in the Arizona newspapers and on TV.

The Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF), which is organizing support for Sodeifi and other victims of INS political witch-hunting, is urging that messages of protest against the deportation of Sodeifi be sent to: Ernest Gustafson, District Director, INS, 230 N. 1st Ave., Phoenix, Ariz. 85025.

Copies of protests, and contributions to Sodeifi's defense, should be sent to: PRDF, Box 649 Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003.



Hamid Sodeifi is appealing the Immigration and Naturalization Service deportation order.

Anti-abortion bill defeated in Senate

BY MARGARET JAYKO

By a vote of 47 to 46, the U.S. Senate rejected a bill September 15 that would have permanently cut off Medicaid funds for abortions. Had it passed, it would have dealt a devastating blow to women's right to legal abortion.

The bill was introduced by Sen. Jesse Helms (R.-N.C.).

Originally, Helms was expected to introduce his anti-abortion "Human Life Bill (HLB)." This bill defines human life beginning at conception, thereby outlawing abortion. It also prohibits federal funding for abortions.

Helms, however, introduced a new version of his HLB. The new one was supposed to be less "controversial." In all essentials, however, it mirrored the original.

The new bill included a declaration that the Supreme Court had "erred" in ruling abortion legal in 1973, and that "scientific evidence demonstrates" that life begins at conception. It provided for direct review by the Supreme Court of state anti-abortion laws, with the aim of making it easier to overturn the 1973 decision.

The provision of the bill which Helms most emphasized, in a bid to rally fellow Senators to his side, was its permanent prohibition of the use of federal funds for abortions. This would prevent women on Medicaid from having their abortions paid for.

In a bipartisan attack on women, the Senate and the House have voted six years in a row to cut off such federal funding.

The revised Helms bill would also have prevented federal workers from

having abortions covered in their health insurance policies, and would cut off federal funds for research and training of medical students in federally-funded medical schools.

In an editorial echoing Congress' position the *Wall Street Journal* declared on September 13, "If we emerged from the current legislative struggles with abortion legal under the limits imposed in 1973 but unfunded, that would not be such a bad outcome."

President Ronald Reagan chimed in, making his efforts in support of the Helms bill a centerpiece of his campaigning for GOP candidates in the November elections.

Nonetheless, the Helms measure was defeated, albeit by a slim margin of one vote. As Sen. Robert Packwood (R-Ore.) pointed out, "By any measure of public opinion, people are 2-to-1 in favor of a pro-choice position on abortion."

It should be noted that during the entire two weeks of this discussion, not a word was said on the Senate floor in defense of the right of women to choose whether and when to have children.

The liberals, like Packwood, insured that any debate that did occur revolved around abstract issues of "constitutionality" and the "proper role of the courts" as opposed to the question of the right of women to control their own bodies. The repeated attacks on abortion rights by Reagan during the course of the debate went unanswered.

The next arena of struggle over this issue will be the U.S. Supreme Court, which is slated to rule this fall on the constitutionality of several state and local anti-abortion ordinances.

Rightists threaten clinics

St. Louis, Missouri, is right across the river from Granite City, Illinois, where Dr. Héctor Zevallos and his wife, Rosalie Jean, were kidnapped by anti-abortion terrorists on August 12.

Dr. Zevallos operates an abortion clinic in Granite City. He and his wife were both later released, unharmed.

This incident, however, highlighted the increase in violence by right-wing opponents of women's rights. Following on the heels of this kidnapping, anti-abortion groups threatened to close down abortion clinics all across the country on September 18.

The Ladies Clinic, an abortion clinic in St. Louis, took this threat seriously. St. Louis, like many other cities in the last several years, has had firebombings

and other attacks on abortion clinics.

Supporters of women's rights called a picket line in front of the Ladies Clinic to respond to the right-wing threat. Built on a couple of days notice, about 45 people showed up. They chanted pro-abortion rights slogans like: "Back alleys no more, abortion rights for rich and poor!" and "A woman's life is a human life, keep abortion legal!"

The protest was organized by the Women's Rights Action Group. Other participants included the National Organization for Women and the Socialist Workers Party.

A smaller number of abortion opponents turned out to oppose women's right to control their own bodies.

How federal cutbacks affect women

Continued from previous page

by \$1.6 billion over the next three years.

The cutting off of Medicaid funds for abortions by congressional votes in the last several years has left very few states remaining that still pay for abortions for poor women who want them. But even this handful could be a victim of the threatened Medicaid cuts.

The Title X program of the Public Health Service Act has enabled thousands of women and teenagers to receive family planning services and has subsidized contraceptive research and development.

Now Title X services will be combined with other programs into an underfunded block grant which, like many of Reagan's other items, will leave Title X at the mercy of states which will be free to cut it further.

There is one program with a budget increase however (in addition to the mammoth jump in the military budget).

This is the Adolescent Family Life Program, otherwise known as the "teenage chastity act." It has been slated for a \$16 million increase. It provides "educational," health, and supportive ser-

vices to "promote self-discipline and chastity" among teenagers.

Currently more than two-thirds of those living in subsidized housing are either elderly or one-parent families. Of the 3.3 million households living in public housing in 1979, a big majority were headed by women.

The 1983 budget is the first one that does not include any additional funds for low-cost housing. Instead, funds for housing assistance for low and moderate income families will be cut 64 percent.

Tenants of subsidized housing will have to pay higher rent and all their utility bills.

Many of the programs that are being slashed or eliminated were begun during the administration of President Lyndon Baines Johnson under the pressure of the massive civil rights movement.

Inspired by that struggle, the women's rights movement fought for affirmative action, government-funded abortion and birth control, and child care.

These programs have benefited all working people. They should be defended now by the entire labor movement.

Socialist rips layoffs at Kaiser Aluminum

BY JANE VAN DEUSEN

CHALMETTE, La. — Kaiser Aluminum Works, until recently one of the largest industrial employers in this state, has announced it will lay off 680 workers. Almost 1,200 workers have already been laid off in the past year. These new reductions will bring the total workforce down from a high of 2,740 to 880.

These layoffs, coupled with the drive for higher productivity — speedup — have hit the plant's workers hard. The earlier layoffs eliminated all women production employees and virtually wiped out the younger workers. Those now being laid off have up to 20 years' seniority and have no prospects for finding jobs in Louisiana.

What do state and city officials propose for this human tragedy? Governor David Treen calls for opening a state unemployment office on the plant site — and that's all.

United Steelworkers of

America Local 13000 Vice-president Ronnie Hebert, quoted in the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* States-Item puts the blame for layoffs on the government. "It's the economy. It's Reaganomics. There's nothing we can do about it."

Suzanne Weiss, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Louisiana's 1st Congressional District — in which Kaiser's Chalmette plant is located — agrees that the economy and the government are at fault, but there are things that can be done, she says. Weiss is a maintenance worker at the Teneco oil refinery in Chalmette.

Weiss said, "These layoffs are a direct result of an economic system that does not work for us — the working people. These workers have produced the wealth that keeps Kaiser's corporate fat cats in air-conditioned offices, automobiles, and mansions, while the workers sweat in 180 degree heat producing aluminum. Kaiser, like every other big business, puts profits above the real human needs of its workers and their families."

"Kaiser should open its financial books to public inspection

so we all can see the real facts on Kaiser's profits. If Kaiser cannot provide employment, the Chalmette Works should be nationalized and run by an elected public board."

"Finally," she said, "the multibillion-dollar war budget should be cut to zero. That money should be used to launch a crash program of public works to provide millions of jobs constructing badly needed housing, schools, hospitals, mass transportation, and other vital necessities."

Jane Van Deusen is a laid-off Kaiser Aluminum worker.

Federal workers harassed in New York

BY STEVE BEREN

NEW YORK — Local 3369 of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) is in the midst of a fight against the union-busting tactics of the Social Security Administration (SSA). Local 3369 represents 3,000 Social Security

workers in the New York-New Jersey area.

Since mid-June, SSA authorities have sought to interfere with union officials, deny union representation to employees, and intimidate employees who are active in the union. Local President John Riordan has been declared absent without leave (AWOL), depriving him of his normal salary as a federal employee.

Riordan was declared AWOL on June 18, the day he led picketers outside the South Bronx Social Security office. The picketers were opposing SSA's interference with the South Bronx union representative and the failure of SSA to develop an affirmative action plan for Blacks and Puerto Ricans.

Four other union officials have either been suspended or threatened with suspension.

On August 24, delegates to the AFGE national convention interrupted their proceedings in response to an appeal for solidarity by Local 3369. More than 1,000 federal employees demonstrated at the Times Square Social Security office.

Steve Beren is a member of American Federation of Government Employees Local 3369.

Budd workers rebuff demand for concessions

BY PHIL DUZINSKI

PHILADELPHIA — Workers at the Budd Red Lion plant here have turned down company demands for local concessions by a 3-1 margin.

This means the former contract remains in effect until 1985. Red Lion workers also voted against the concessions contract proposed earlier by the United Auto Workers (UAW) national Budd Council, although it was approved by a nationwide margin of 62 percent.

The company had demanded of the Red Lion workers, who are members of UAW Local 92, changes in working hours and job classifications.

Local 92 members build commuter rail cars. Budd is also a major supplier of auto parts.

Phil Duzinski is a member of United Auto Workers Local 92.

Tenosynovitis: hidden crippler on assembly line

BY MARGARET JAYKO

Yet another work-related disease has been silently crippling assembly-line workers.

The July 28 issue of *Direct Action*, a newsweekly which reflects the views of the Australian Socialist Workers Party, ran a news story and an editorial on tenosynovitis, called "teno" for short.

What is teno?

According to *Direct Action* correspondent Kate Jauncey, it is "a disease that has only quite recently been widely acknowledged. This painful and crippling inflammation of the tendons is caused by 'overuse' — rapid, repetitive movement of the hand, fingers, or wrist."

The editorial explains further, "Victims suffer pain and weakness in the affected limb, to the point that normal motion may become impossible. If the injury is severe enough, the condition can be permanent. Even after apparent recovery, the condition will quickly return with renewed strain."

Teno is very similar to tendonitis. Tendonitis is an inflammation of the tendons; whereas teno is an inflammation of the sheath surrounding the tendons.

Jauncey explains that in Australia, teno is reaching "epidemic proportions, particularly among women process workers in the electronics and electrical goods industries, as well as among white-collar workers such as key-punch operators." The editorial points out that teno is widespread "in almost any job involving assembly-line work, as well as typing, mail-sorting, etc." The same is true, of course, for the United States.

In this country, the United Auto Workers Union (UAW) publishes a leaflet entitled "Losing Your Grip." It describes the permanent damage that teno can cause in hands and arms.

Direct Action interviewed Rahma, a Turkish woman who has worked for nine years in an auto plant in Melbourne, Australia.

A typical case, Rahma and other co-workers recently developed teno after a year of intense speed-up on the assembly line. One Arab woman who developed sore arms got fired when she couldn't keep up the pace. Two women had operations on their hands.

Rahma's hands got so sore that she reluctantly went to see the company doctor. He told her she had teno and gave her one week off. Rahma followed this

up with a visit to her own doctor, who told her that it would take at least six weeks for her arm to heal, and she might not be able to work again.

The *Direct Action* editorial explains that teno is "caused by employers' greed for profits. And so there is no government-funded research, no media campaign to prevent it. Rather, there is a conspiracy of silence, an attempt to conceal the very existence of this crippling disease."

The editorial goes on to explain, "There are no thorough and reliable statistics on the extent of tenosynovitis in Australia today, largely because companies and their insurers have a financial interest in denying the existence of the problem. Workers who begin to contract teno are more often than not, treated as 'bludgers' or hypochondriacs. If they persist in seeking relief, they are more likely to be sacked than to be helped."

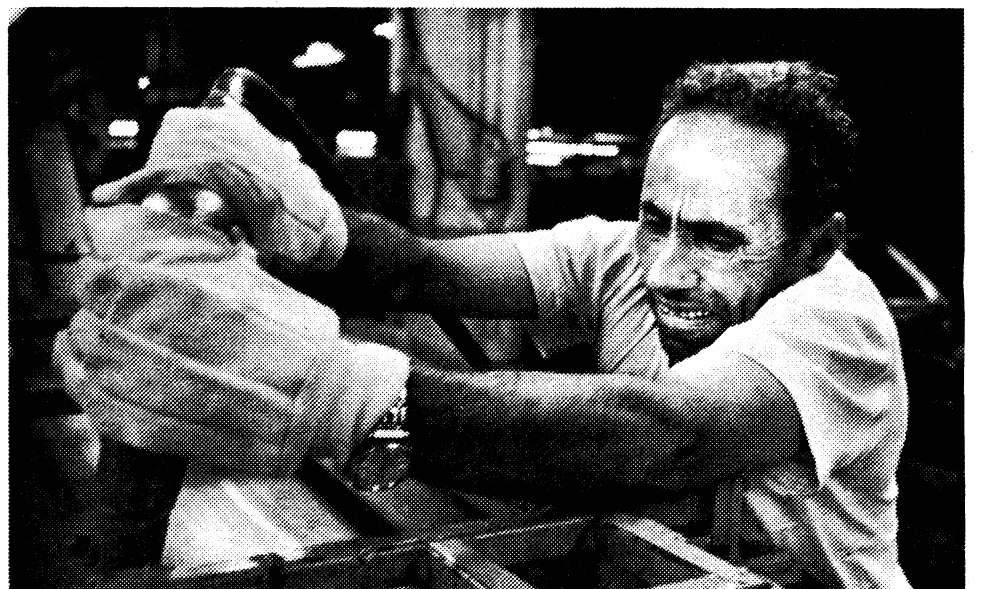
Many of the industries where teno has reached epidemic proportions "are among those worst hit by the recession. As the bosses try to preserve their profits by speeding up the line, reducing rest periods, and similar measures, the incidence of teno is increasing. Often as well, these are industries in which unionism is weak or which employ large numbers of recent migrants, who may lack sufficient English to become aware of the danger or to understand their rights."

Tenosynovitis and the suffering caused by it are not inevitable. *Direct Action* points out several measures that could be taken to eliminate teno. These include:

- frequent job rotation;
- frequent and adequate rest breaks;
- union control of the speed of the assembly line;
- redesigning jobs to eliminate the repetitive motions that cause teno.

In addition, "Only compensation at the full wage, for as long as necessary and paid for by the bosses, can give some justice to injured workers and undermine the bosses' financial interest in crippling their employees," says *Direct Action*.

Millions of workers in the United States suffer from teno, tendonitis, and other workplace-related diseases. The labor movement here needs to take up the fight against the bosses' murderous disregard for workers' health.



Earl Dotter

Tenosynovitis is an inflammation of the tendons widespread among assembly-line workers. There is a conspiracy of silence by the bosses to hide the existence of this crippling disease.

Workers strike at Chrysler

Continued from Page 3

profits in the first two quarters of this year and when Chrysler received millions from the sale of its tank plants to General Dynamics.

Many Chrysler workers see this contract as a slap in the face by both the company and their union president, who sits on the board of Chrysler.

The bargaining council's strongest objections were to the contract's absentee provisions. Under it, a worker who misses more than five days in six months would be given time off without pay and could be ultimately fired if the doctor's note is on Chrysler's "blacklist."

Upcoming vote

The ratification period for a proposed contract normally lasts 10 days. With the bitter opposition that prevails now, Fraser has instructed the locals to wait three weeks before beginning the voting.

"I didn't like Fraser's statement on TV Friday," said one picket in front of Jefferson assembly on Monday morning. "He said this is all you're going to get, so take it and like it."

Eight hundred stewards and commit-

teemen met Saturday for briefings on how to sell the contract. They acknowledged that workers hate the agreement.

Fraser, however, vows that he will personally travel to meetings of Chrysler workers to convince them to vote yes. He says they could get nothing better without a strike. His unspoken message is that since he is against a strike, he wouldn't lead a serious one.

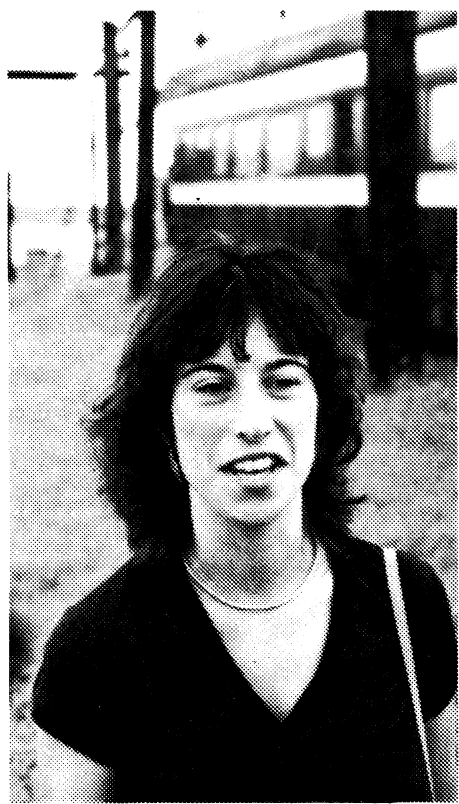
Union negotiator Marc Stepp says a strike now will make the company go under.

Chrysler's vice-president for industrial relations, Thomas Miner, says that Fraser's promise to Chrysler workers to start on the "long road back" to parity with GM and Ford auto workers is "unrealistic."

"Whether the union likes it or not," Miner told the *Detroit Free Press*, "Chrysler will never pay General Motors- and Ford-type wages and benefits," because Chrysler is "too small."

A Jefferson assembly worker said, "They have been spending millions on robots and automation. That's money that should be going into my pocket."

Elizabeth Ziers works on the line at Ford's River Rouge plant near Detroit. She is a member of UAW Local 600.



Nancy Schwalb

Militant/Frank Lord

Virginia railroad worker wins job back in victory for union

BY GEORGE KONTANIS

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Nancy Schwalb, a trustee of International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers Local 485, has been called to take a physical in preparation for her return to work.

This is a victory for the trade union movement. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad (C&O) had subjected Schwalb to a board of inquiry in which the company tried to fire her from her laborer's job on grounds of alleged falsification of her employment application.

Schwalb, who is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in Virginia's 1st District, told the *Militant* that the charges were "fabricated by C&O because of my union activity and socialist ideas."

C&O has harassed Schwalb for some

time. She has worked little since falling off a caboose last October. The company has since refused her light-duty work, which a doctor cleared her for, despite the availability of light-duty work to other laborers who requested it.

Six days after she announced she was running for Congress, the company admits, C&O began its investigation of her.

Schwalb helped bring union co-workers to the Solidarity Day labor march in Washington, D.C., last September 19. She has also helped defend co-workers in her local, many of whom are Black, against the company's racist practices.

She explained that the company's attempt to fire her was "an attack on the union and on the right of every worker to be active and have their own ideas."

At the board of inquiry, which was held August 18, C&O's trumped-up charges were torn to pieces. The company failed to prove any of the falsifications it charged Schwalb had made.

Schwalb was represented at the hearing by Junious Banks, her local's chairman. Other co-workers also testified for her at the hearing: Morris Martin, a pier laborer; David Feaster, a laborer for seven years; and James Askew, a line catcher.

The mostly Black union local represents the lowest paid of the rail crafts in the Newport News yard. Following the Solidarity Day march last year, a new group of younger, militant laborers became active in the union, and in a recent election many of them won positions in the union's leadership.

Schwalb points out that the C&O's attempts to fire her were motivated by the fact that the union is standing up to the company's age-old racist practices.

Morris Martin, after the hearing, described the discriminatory conditions in the yard: "The Newport News coal pier is a family and friend operation. Cronyism and nepotism thrive. At the Virginia Employment Commission, they tell you they're only hiring veterans. But if you're lucky enough to get a job at the coal pier, you find foreman's sons who aren't vets, and some of them who haven't even finished high school."

Prior to the inquiry, co-workers and other supporters of Schwalb held a picket line in front of the C&O offices here. They also held a news conference which received wide coverage.

A victory rally for Schwalb was held September 12.

Richard Frankel: socialist fighter

BY JERRY FREIWIRTH

LOS ANGELES — Richard Frankel, a member of the Socialist Workers Party for more than 10 years, died here this summer after a long bout with cancer. He was 32 years old.

Richard first joined the Young Socialist Alliance in Los Angeles in 1971. Like many of his generation he was angered by the U.S. government's murderous intervention in Vietnam, and inspired by the Vietnamese struggle against that intervention. Richard joined the YSA in large part because of its role in helping lead the antiwar movement in the United States.

Soon after joining the YSA, Richard joined the Socialist Workers Party and then traveled to New York to help in the construction of the party's national headquarters. He was part of the crew of revolutionary-minded young people with few skills, who were transformed into a top-flight construction team. Together, they helped transform a littered and dirty warehouse into modern office and workspace for the revolutionary movement.

Upon returning to Los Angeles, Richard became immersed in the building of the YSA on local college campuses. He was active in the antiwar and antiracist activities at University of California at Los Angeles, which he attended for some years. Richard also served as the regional organizer for the YSA, traveling around the Southwest in a battered car, going from campus to campus, bringing new people to the YSA and helping them organize new chapters.

Richard took a break from these activities when he traveled to Europe in 1976. He lived mainly in Sweden, where he worked closely with the Swedish co-thinkers of the SWP.

It was around this time that Richard

discovered that he had contracted Hodgkin's disease. But throughout his illness, Richard remained as politically active as his health allowed.

In 1980 he petitioned full-time in the effort to place SWP presidential candidate Andrew Pulley on the California ballot. And in 1981, Richard was able to fulfill a dream by participating in a *Militant/Perspectiva Mundial* tour to Cuba. He attended the massive May Day celebration there that year. To the day of his death, Richard maintained a great love for revolutionary Cuba. He was an avid reader of *Granma*, the Cuban newspaper.

Even in his last months, when his disease finally began to get the upper hand, Richard continued to pitch in to build the party he had devoted his life to. Last February, he participated in another party construction crew, this time to construct a Los Angeles office for the Mel Mason for Governor Committee, heading up the painting of the interior of the headquarters.

Although cut short by cancer, Richard Frankel's life was nevertheless a full one in the most complete sense of the term, one that was filled with a purpose broader than the concerns of self, the life of a revolutionary fighter.

Tribute to veteran socialist Howard Rosen

BY VIVIAN SAHNER

LOS ANGELES — On August 30, friends and comrades paid tribute to Howard Rosen, a founding member of the Socialist Workers Party and lifelong working class fighter. Rosen died on August 21 after a long illness. He was 69.

"Howard became a revolutionary socialist at a very young age," Asher Harer, a long-time leader of the party in San Francisco, told the audience. "I first met him in 1937 in San Francisco . . . he was already a veteran. He had joined the Young Peoples Socialist League [YPSL] in 1932 and was in San Francisco as the Young Peoples Socialist League's state secretary."

Many young workers like Rosen joined YPSL, the youth organization of the Socialist Party, during the 1930s under the impact of Hitler's rise to power in 1933, the Spanish revolution, and the depression here in the United States. In 1936, Harer explained, members of the Workers Party, a forerunner of the Socialist Workers Party, voted to join the Socialist Party and win these young fighters over to revolutionary politics.

"Howard was already won over to scientific socialism . . . he was already a regular reader of the *Militant*," Harer said, "and he helped educate and build the cadre that left the Socialist Party to found the Socialist Workers Party in 1938."

Rosen remained a consistent party-builder from then on.

When World War Two broke out Rosen found work at the Todd shipyard in San Pedro, California. He was elected as the night shift shop steward because of his role as a staunch union militant. And Rosen was the organizer of the San Pedro branch of the SWP, a branch of seamen, cannery and shipyard workers.

From 1945 to 1973 Rosen worked for Ford and was an active member of United Auto Workers Local 9. He was a leader of the Socialist Workers Party



Militant/Della Rossa

Howard Rosen

members working at Ford and those who were in UAW Local 246 at General Motors, Southgate.

"In 1949," Harer recalled, "socialists worked with the union leadership of UAW Local 9 and UAW Local 246 to organize a massive demonstration against the fascist Gerald L.K. Smith, and drove him out of Los Angeles."

During the cold war period of the 1950s Rosen was a party stalwart. He gave forums and educational classes, preparing party members for future political activity.

When the Cuban revolution broke out in 1959, Rosen jumped into and helped organize defense work. He was an active builder of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

And Rosen was one of the early builders of the protest movement against the war in Vietnam.

During all of these years as a political activist, Rosen found the time to pursue many different interests. "He loved the theater and music. He learned to play a

musical instrument and played chamber music each week," Tybie Martin told the meeting. "He became a terrific gardener and studied science, anthropology, and archeology. . . . He had a full and wonderful life."

Rosen continued to contribute to the SWP after his retirement. Jerry Freiwirth, the Los Angeles SWP organizer, said, "Howard took the party very seriously. He always maintained a regular financial contribution and assignment."

"Like clockwork every Monday Howard would staff the Los Angeles Pathfinder Bookstore — to lend an element of revolutionary professionalism to an important part of the party's efforts to talk to young people and workers."

People attending the meeting pledged over \$700 to the Howard Rosen Memorial Fund to help expand the Pathfinder Bookstore and continue this important work. Those wishing to support the fund can make checks payable to the Pathfinder Bookstore and send them to 2546 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90006.

New from Pathfinder The Founding of the Socialist Workers Party

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Documents from the early period of the SWP. Edited by George Breitman. A Monad Press Book, 398 pages, \$8.95.

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Reading on UAW history

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Led down the cow path — Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego was apparently one of those who



Harry Ring

really believed there was an energy shortage. Now an aspi-

rant for U.S. Senator, he had to explain how come he made \$75,000 in 1980, but paid no income tax. An aide said he lost on a business deal. He had "invested in a cow dung methane manufacturing company and it didn't work out as well as he had hoped."

They're going to abolish them? — "Mrs. Reagan assumes honorary post to aid arts and humanities" — News headline.

Just wash 'n wear — "Lug-

gage for the Marcos entourage began arriving at 9:30 a.m. About 800 pieces of luggage were delivered by five moving trucks and three vans. . . . Normally Mrs. Marcos travels with 200 pieces of luggage for her shorter stays." — News item on U.S. visit of Philippine dictator and spouse.

Beats praying — Ministers, priests, and rabbis employed by New York City voted to join the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees in the hope of raising their pay.

How concerned can you get? — Distraught by a \$33 traffic fine, an unemployed, handicapped Jamaican immigrant tried to jump from a courthouse ledge in Wheaton, Ill. The judge persuaded him to come back in, held a session during the recess, and rescinded the fine. "I think a human life is worth 30 minutes," the judge said, "even if it's my lunch hour."

Our sane society — "Neurotic businessmen have a better chance of striking it rich, according to a study at Washington

University. . . . The men classified as neurotic earned about 23 percent more than those diagnosed as 'well.' . . . They had mild depressive symptoms . . . a lot of anxiety problems . . . they were excessively compulsive." — News item.

Shopping tip — If you're into blond-toned fur coats, a mixture of martin, lynx, and sable will set you back a hundred grand. But you can get the same effect with assorted squirrel bellies for a fast \$7,000.

CALENDAR

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

March Against the False Amnesty and the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill. Sat., Sept. 25, 11 a.m. Meet at Olympic and Broadway; 1 p.m. rally at City Hall, 1st and Spring St. Ausp: Council for Visas and Rights of the Undocumented. For more information call (213) 266-2690 or 768-1171.

Picket Line and Candlelight Vigil to Defend David Wayte — No U.S. Intervention in Central America! Speakers: David Wayte, others. Mon., Oct. 11, 7-9 p.m. Federal Court House on Spring St. Ausp: L.A. Draft Resisters Support Committee.

Oakland

Why Working People Should Oppose the Simpson-Mazzoli Immigration Bill. Speakers to be announced. Sat., Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m. 2864 Telegraph Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign Committee. For more information call (415) 763-3792.

The Nicaraguan Revolution: Why Reagan Wants to Turn It Back. Sat., Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m. 2864 Telegraph Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Mel Mason for Campaign Forum. For more information call (415) 763-3792.

San Diego

Campaign Rally for Mel Mason. Speakers: Mel Mason, independent candidate for governor; Jorge Mancillas, Committee in Solidarity with Nicaragua; James Portis, Black Student Union, San Diego City College; Pablo Berrios, Chile en Lucha; Assam, General Union of Palestinian Students. Sat., Sept. 25; refreshments, 6 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. 1053 15th St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Mel Mason for Governor Campaign Committee. For more information call (714) 234-4630.

Rally to Support Ben Sasway and all Draft Resisters. Speakers: David Harris, writer and antiwar activist; David Wayte, indicted draft resister; Dolores Sasway, mother of Ben Sasway; Forrest Curro, poet; David Clennon, actor from *Missing*. Sun., Oct. 3, 2 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. New Town Park, India and "G" St. For more information call (714) 234-4630.

COLORADO

Denver

The Palestinian Movement After Beirut. Speakers: Nizar Badwan, General Union of Palestinian Students; David Martin, Young Socialist Alliance. Fri., Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m. 126 W 12th Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Denver Socialist Forum. For more information call (303) 534-8954.

FLORIDA

Miami

African Freedom Struggle Today. Speaker: Jerry Hunnicut, Socialist Workers Party; others. Fri., Sept. 24, 8 p.m. 1237 NW 119th St., N. Miami. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (305) 769-3478.

Malcolm X Speaks: A Film and Discussion. Speaker: David Tucker, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Congress in 13th District. Fri., Oct. 1, 8 p.m. 1237 NW 119th St., N. Miami. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (305) 769-3478.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Grand Opening of Socialist Workers Party Campaign Headquarters. Speakers: Ed Warren, candidate for mayor; Marie Cobbs, candidate for governor; Rick Young, candidate for lieutenant governor. Sat., Sept.

25, 6:30 p.m. 555 W. Adams St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (312) 559-9047.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Rail Worker's Fight — What's Behind the Rail Strike. Speaker: Art LeClair, Socialist Workers candidate for lieutenant governor, member of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 791. Sun., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m. 510 Commonwealth Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (617) 262-4621.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

The Crisis in Lebanon and the Role of the U.S. in the Middle East. Teach-in. Speakers: Dennis Brutus, South African political refugee; Joe Stork, reporter for Middle East Research and Information Project; Rev. Herbert Daughtry, president, National Black United Front; Anan Jabara, member, Palestine Aid Society; others. Fri., Sept. 24, panel on "The Invasion of Lebanon: Critical Issues for Americans," 6:30 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 25, panel on "Background to the Middle East Crisis," 9 a.m.; workshops, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; "An Evening in Solidarity," 7 p.m. Wayne State University. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Committee in Support of the Palestinian and Lebanese People. For more information call (313) 842-7010 or 965-0074

The Fight Against the Draft. Speakers: Jim Lafferty, cocoordinator, Detroit Committee Against Registration and the Draft; others to be announced. Sun., Oct. 3, 7 p.m. 6404 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (313) 875-5322.

MISSOURI

St. Louis

Massacre in Lebanon: Stop U.S. Aid to Israel. Speakers: Tony Dutrow, Socialist Workers Party; others. Fri., Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m. 6223 Delmar (corner of Skinker). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 725-1570.

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

In Pursuit of Refuge. Slide and Tape Show on Peoples Forced to Flee Guatemala and El Salvador. Produced by Resource Center (formerly New Mexico People and Energy). Fri., Sept. 24, 8 p.m. 1417 Central NE. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (505) 842-0954.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

The Latino Woman and Reproductive Rights. Speaker: Dr. Helen Rodriguez. Tues., Sept. 28, 7 p.m. Borinken Neighborhood Health Center, 2253 3rd Ave. Ausp: Women's Committee of the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights.

NORTH CAROLINA

Winston-Salem

Reagan's Mideast Peace Plan: A Prescription for New Wars. Speakers: Basil Abu-Lieth, Palestinian recently returned from West Bank; Kate Daher, Young Socialist Alliance; others. Sat., Sept. 25, 7 p.m. 216 E 6th St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (919) 723-3419.

OHIO

Cincinnati

No More Vietnams: The Fight Against the Draft and Washington's Wars. Speakers:

Rev. Dan Buford, author, *Feet of Clay in the Black Community*; Kathleen Denny, Young Socialist Alliance; Suzanne Doerge, Central America Task Force. Sun., Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

OREGON

Portland

A Fighting Program for Working People. Speaker: Ron Richards, Socialist Workers candidate for governor. Sun., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

A Socialist Alternative to Street and Grey. Speaker: Sam Farley, Socialist Workers candidate for 2nd Congressional District. Sat., Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m. 5811 N Broad. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 927-4747.

Pittsburgh

Socialist Workers Campaign Open House. William Kalman, Socialist Workers Party candidate in the 14th Congressional District; other candidates. Sat., Sept. 25, 4 p.m. 141 S Highland Ave., 3rd floor. E Liberty Mall area. Ausp: Socialist Workers Campaign. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

TEXAS

Dallas

Join the Socialist Workers Campaign at the State Fair Tractorcade and Farm Protest Rally. Sat., Oct. 2, at the State Fair Park. For more information call (214) 826-4711.

Stop Washington's Wars — A Rally Against U.S.-backed Wars Going On Today in Lebanon, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. Speakers: Debbie Lazar, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Railroad Com-

mission, member of International Association of Machinists and Young Socialist Alliance; Lee Olsen, SWP candidate for Congress, member United Steelworkers; Willie Mae Reid, SWP candidate for U.S. vice-president in 1976, longtime activist in Black liberation movement; Josée Rinaldi, activist in Central America solidarity movement; Floyce White, antidraft activist; a Palestinian student. Sun., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m. 2817 Live Oak St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Socialist Workers 1982 Texas Election Campaign.

San Antonio

No Place To Run. Video Tape on the Plight of Salvadoran Refugees. Fri., Sept. 24, 8 p.m. 337 West Josephine St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (512) 736-9218.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Stop racist attacks! Speakers: Omari Tahir, Community Exchange; others to be announced. Sun., Sept. 26, 7 p.m. 4868 Rainier Ave. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

Disarm the U.S. Warmakers! Speaker: Christopher Remple, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate. Sun., Oct. 3, 7 p.m. 4868 Rainier Ave. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

Central America: Revolution and U.S. Intervention. An Educational Conference on Strategies for the Midwest Antiwar Movement. Speaker: Keynote address by Father Edgar Parrales, Nicaraguan Ambassador to the Organization of American States. Fri., Oct. 1, 8 p.m. Brooks Memorial Union Ballroom, Marquette Univ. Workshops Oct. 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. at Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Donation: \$8 for entire conference, \$4 students and unemployed. Ausp: Central America Solidarity Coalition. For more information call (414) 224-9352.

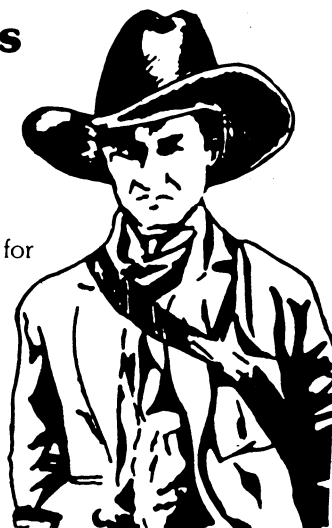
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Baltimore cops unleash occupation army

Continued from Page 20

night. Police approached him. One cop said: "I'm going to count to three, and if you are not off the phone I'm going to lock you up." He counted to two and took the phone out of the man's hand.

Many residents have reported that police have talked to them with racist slurs and other threatening remarks.

According to one Jamaican, "the people who are demonstrating out here, they're the ones getting hassled most."

Another told the *Militant*, "I'm arrested because I opened my mouth every night about justice for Rupert Campbell."

Another form of harassment has gone unreported in the local press. Jamaicans report that police have threatened many of them with deportation. One told the *Militant* that when he was arrested for loitering, police told him "the next time they lock me up they will give me seven days in jail and then try to deport me."

Police spokesman Hill said that Rastafarians were kicked out of Washington, kicked out of Prince Georges County, and kicked out of New York City. "We're in the process of doing the same," he added.

Intense police harassment of Jamaicans began long before the recent events. Hill admits that police have made at least 213 arrests on one Pimlico street corner since January 1. One Jamaican explained to the *Militant* that

while he has been arrested 10 times the police have never been able to produce any evidence to get a conviction.

One response to the problems in Pimlico has been the formation of the Rupert Campbell Alliance. The Alliance explains that it is "a formation of concerned citizens, from both the Jamaican and Afro-American communities enraged by the death of the young Black man, the circumstances around his death, and the subsequent military-like invasion by the Baltimore police department."

The Rupert Campbell Alliance and Councilman Reeves each held separate news conferences. They put forward opposing views of the problem and solutions.

The Alliance presented a statement read by spokesperson Sanifu Mwananchi. "The Jamaican and Afro-American communities are united in our efforts to achieve justice for Rupert Campbell. The efforts to deport Jamaicans is a disguise to cover up the real problem, which is police brutality and harassment of the Pimlico community."

People's tribunal set

The Alliance announced "in order to get out the facts we are announcing a 'people's tribunal' to be held on Saturday, October 2. At the tribunal, witnesses will give testimony on the death of Rupert Campbell and the numerous violations of the civil and constitutional rights of residents of Pimlico during the military siege conducted during the following week."

The struggle for justice in Pimlico continues. Mwananchi explained, "Rupert Campbell was murdered simply because he was a Black man and because the Black community is daily presented as a community of criminals by the media, and gives the police the license to come in here and kill."

"They're just trying to split Black people," George Lee told the *Militant*. "By attempting to split people, they are bringing them together."

Annie Chambers, leader of the Rupert Campbell Alliance, expressed the feeling of many when she said, "We need to govern our own destiny."

The Pimlico residents are fighting for justice. They demand that those responsible for Rupert Campbell's death be brought to justice; that the siege of their community be ended.

But the most common sentiment of the people is one that was painted on a wall the night Rupert Campbell died: "Tell the People the Truth."

This story was compiled by a Militant reporting team of Joe Wiley, Cynthia Mason, Marilyn Rice, Tom Headley, Marie Anderson, and Steven Fuchs.



SWAT team stalks Baltimore Black community

Duluth Blacks fight racist terror

BY WARREN SIMONS

DULUTH, Minn. — On the night of June 15, 1920, a mob of thousands stormed the jail here and lynched three Blacks held prisoner. The three were falsely charged with the rape of a 19-year-old white woman.

Some people in this city were reminded of that night recently. On August 31, a group of eight racists burned a cross outside the home of Wilbert Williams and John French, two Black city workers in Duluth.

Williams and French had been subjected to verbal abuse and threats on their lives since they moved into a predominantly white neighborhood.

On August 31, when racists came to their home, Williams called the cops twice. According to John French, "The cops took their time" responding to the call. They arrived after the rightwingers had already smashed the window of the car French and Williams were sitting in and had set fire to the cross.

This incident is not an isolated one. Williams told the *Militant* that several years ago a Black couple in the same neighborhood was constantly harassed and "finally they just moved away."

Williams and French have no intention of leaving. "I'm going to stand up for my rights," Williams said. "I'm staying here. Don't expect me not to fight back."

Williams has witnessed burnings of Black churches and houses in his native Kentucky. He noted the step-up in Klan and Nazi activity around the country and the government's attempts to steal

the gains of the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

He doesn't believe that cross-burnings and other racist violence reflect the sentiment of most working people. Williams reported that many of his neighbors have offered their support and have condemned the attack. He said, "Today more and more people are saying 'We don't need prejudice.'"

During the interview with the *Militant*, the two discussed some of the issues in the Minnesota gubernatorial campaign with Kathy Wheeler, Socialist Workers candidate for governor.

Williams has a definite opinion on one such issue — gun control. "If they passed a gun control law, who'd have the guns? The cops. And nine times out of ten, Blacks get popped whether they have a gun or not."

"Black men have a higher mortality rate. Forty-five percent of the men on death row are Black."

Williams noted that the cross-burning was a criminal act, but none of the attackers were arrested.

Williams intends to press charges even though he doesn't expect much justice from the court system. "America's controlled by a certain group of people — the wealthy," he said, "and what they do to the rest of us — that's organized crime."

When asked how community groups have responded to this attack, Williams said he was disappointed in the traditional civil rights organizations. "There was no real response," he said. "Some Blacks are willing to accept anything, even a mediocre position. Not me. I've been called a Black militant but I'm not a political person. I never joined any organization."

Williams is confident in the future. "We're not struggling hard enough yet but we're struggling," he said. "Look at what they've done to Blacks in this country. They hit you on the head, lock you up in chains, throw you in the bottom of a boat and drag you to another country."

"It may take a little while to spring back. But when we do, we're going to spring back with all we've got."

Socialist denounces Baltimore cop raids

The following is a statement by Yvonne Hayes, Socialist candidate for U.S. Senate in Maryland.

The Socialist Workers Party condemns the murder of Rupert Campbell and the police occupation of the Pimlico community. These attacks on the Black community of Baltimore are attacks on the rights of all working people.

Only a week after the death of Brother Campbell, 140 cops led by a SWAT team invaded Pimlico. The scene was reminiscent of the Israeli occupation in Lebanon, the British in Northern Ireland, or the United States in Vietnam. Only the tanks and armored personnel carriers were missing.

Six weeks ago we saw a similar scene in Dakota City, Nebraska, where the state police used tear gas, mace, and clubs against strikers who are members of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Baltimore city officials claim the police are protecting Pimlico residents. They claim that Brother Campbell and other Jamaicans are criminals.

This lie is deliberately reported by the newspapers and other media in order to divide the community — in the same way that the wealthy rulers of this country have always tried to divide working people.

This lie is also put forward by the Democratic and Republican politicians. They also aim to take our eyes off the real problem and the real criminals.

The real criminals are the police who are responsible for the death of Rupert Campbell. The real criminals are the police and other city officials who are responsible for the invasion and occupation of the community and the many attacks on the residents there.

In the final analysis, the real criminal is the capitalist system and the Democrats and Republicans who defend it.

To maintain its profits, the capitalist system requires the crimes of police brutality, wars abroad, strikebreaking at home, kickback contracts, and high prices and rents.

All working people have a stake in the events in Pimlico. The Socialist Workers campaign joins with others in



Militant/K.C. Ellis

Socialist Yvonne Hayes

demanding justice for Rupert Campbell. The police occupation of the Black community in Pimlico must end. The cops responsible for Brother Campbell's death must be brought to justice and tried for their crime.

The police have proved they are not a force for public safety. They should be withdrawn entirely and replaced with community patrols that would respect the rights of working people.

Meetings to protest Baltimore cop attack

The Militant Forum is sponsoring two meetings to protest the police attack on Baltimore Blacks. Annie Chambers of the Rupert Campbell Alliance will speak at the Baltimore Militant Forum on Friday, October 1, 7:30 p.m., at 2913 Greenmount. Donation is \$2.

A protest forum will be held in Washington, D.C., Sunday, October 3, 7:30 p.m., at 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. N.W. Donation is \$2.

For more information call (301) 235-0013 in Baltimore and (202) 797-7699 in Washington.

U.S. shares Israeli guilt in Beirut

Continued from Page 1

The scramble by the imperialists for control of the oil-rich and militarily strategic Middle East has been going on for more than a century. Britain added Egypt to its colonial possessions in the 1880s, and as a result of World War I the British grabbed control of Iraq, Jordan, and Palestine, while the French took over Lebanon and Syria.

Using the traditional method of divide-and-rule, the French played off the Christians against the Muslims in Lebanon, while the British promoted Jewish immigration to Palestine to build a counterforce to the bitterly oppressed Arab majority.

Wall Street moves in

Since the end of World War II, U.S. corporations have replaced British and French big business as the dominant force in the Middle East. Direct colonial rule over the Arab world as a whole is no longer feasible, so Washington exercises its control by indirect means. But the result is the same. Billions in profits for the oil barons, a few crumbs from the table for cooperative Arab regimes, misery for the peoples of the region.

In order to maintain their monopoly on the riches of the earth, the imperialists must be constantly ready to crush movements for progressive social change among the peoples of the countries they exploit. Such movements inevitably demand that the wealth of these countries be used to better the lot of the people at home, not to line the pockets of huge corporations in London, New York, and Paris.

That is why Washington supports reactionary regimes such as the monarchies in Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and — until the overthrow of the shah three years ago — Iran. That is why Reagan hailed the establishment of an ultrarightist Phalangist government in Lebanon.

But as the experience of Iran showed so vividly, foreign domination and superexploitation by imperialism undermines the stability of even the most brutal and dictatorial semicolonial regime. The oppression they are subjected to constantly provokes new struggles among the workers and peasants.

Where they can, the imperialist powers respond to such liberation battles with military force, and that is where Israel fits in. The Israeli military, armed to the teeth with the most modern U.S. weapons, plays a key role in maintaining the imperialist domination of the Middle East.

Foot soldiers for imperialism

When the Jews of Europe tried to flee after Hitler took over in Germany, they found the doors of the United States and Britain barred. Even after the extermination of the Jews and the end of World War II, Washington and London refused to accept the survivors. But the imperialists were perfectly willing to dump the survivors of Hitler's concentration camps in Palestine and to use them as foot soldiers against the Arab masses.

Almost one-quarter of all U.S. foreign aid goes to Israel every year — an indication of how useful the U.S. rulers find the Zionist state. Israel provides Washington with a counterrevolutionary army of 400,000 troops in the heart of the Middle East. In fact, Israel has been subsidized to the point where it has been able to build up a sophisticated industrial base and develop into an imperialist power in its own right.

In the wake of the Beirut bloodbath, liberal supporters of Israel here and elsewhere are trying to limit responsibility to Begin and his military chiefs. But Israel's current colonial war in Lebanon is no aberration. It fits into a pattern going back to its 1956 invasion of Egypt, an attack carried out in conjunction with Britain and France following the Egyptian nationalization of the Suez Canal.

In June 1967, the Zionist regime launched a savage sneak attack on neighboring Arab countries. Backed by Washington, it hoped to bring down the governments in Egypt and Syria and replace them with ones that would be more responsive to imperialist demands.

Over the years there have been repeated bloody commando attacks and air bombardments against Palestinian refugee communities and Arab cities.

Most of these imperialist adventures were undertaken before Menachem Begin ever came to power.

Alliance with world reaction

The establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine could only come about through the denial of the rights of the Palestinian majority. But the expulsion of some 750,000 Palestinians from their homeland in 1948 did not end the matter. Continued resistance by the

Palestinians has led Israel into an escalating conflict with the entire Arab world.

Already Israel has annexed Syrian territory and bombed a nuclear research center in Iraq, and now the Zionist rulers are determined to dictate political events in Lebanon.

Even further afield, Israeli agents collaborated with the CIA in training the shah of Iran's secret police, and are currently helping to arm and train the soldiers of the Guatemalan dictatorship.

Israel's alliance with the most reactionary forces in the world — including the apartheid regime in South Africa — is the course that is dictated by the needs of the Zionist state. It is becoming clearer and clearer that the maintenance of such a state is in complete contradiction with the interests of the Israeli working class, and of Jews throughout the world.

The Palestine Liberation Organization, which is slandered by the Zionists as terrorist, has been fighting since its birth for a democratic, secular Palestine — a country where both Arabs and Jews could live in peace and equality.

The Palestinians demand the right of the dispersed refugees to return to their homeland, compensation for a people whose land and homes were stolen, and the right to build a united Palestinian state that is again a part of the Arab world. In short, they demand the reversal of 34 years of Zionist oppression.

In keeping with this perspective, the Palestinians also demand the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon; Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967; and the establishment of a Palestinian state in any part of Palestine that the Zionists are forced to give up.

A program for peace

Such a program for national liberation is anti-Zionist, but it's not aimed against the Jewish people. As PLO leader Yassir Arafat said September 20, "The real Jews are those who refuse to be associated with the attempt to annihilate the Palestinian people. To all of them, to all of the Israeli or Jewish pacifists and democrats, I address the esteem and gratitude of the Palestinian people who will never forget their solidarity at the time of trial."

Peace in the Middle East and an end to atrocities such as the Beirut massacre will be won through a victorious struggle against the imperialist oppression of the Arab world — a struggle that must include as one of its goals the dismantling of the Zionist settler state and the creation of a democratic, secular Palestine.

Here in the United States, a rapidly growing number of working people have begun to understand something of the real character of the Israeli state as a result of the grim events in Lebanon. There is a growing realization among working people that they have been the victims of a stupendous big-lie campaign.

This changing consciousness means that there is a greater need and opportunity for protest actions, teach-ins, public meetings, and other educational activities about the true role of U.S. imperialism and Zionism, and about the profoundly progressive role of the liberation struggle being carried out by the Palestinian people. Such actions must demand that U.S. aid to Israel be stopped and that U.S. troops get out of the Middle East.

Equally important, we think, is to utilize the present circulation drive of the *Militant* to bring the truth about the Mideast to the greatest number of working people. That is the best way those of us here in the United States can pay meaningful tribute to the martyrs in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps.



Militant/Lou Howort

Fidel Castro speaks to trade unionists

The following are excerpts from a speech by Fidel Castro to the Tenth World Trade Union Congress, held in Havana on Feb. 10, 1982. Castro discusses issues facing trade unionists from the United States, to Cuba, to the rest of the world.

The huge capitalist propaganda machine continuously stresses the alleged virtues of its system. It refers to wealth and influence, to its economic indicators, its technology, and its consumer goods. Furthermore, it extols its social model, seeking to oppose it to the socialist society. It speaks of democracy, rights, and equal opportunities.

In the United States, a country seeking to present itself as a model, unemployment — which in 1981 reached 8.9 percent representing 9.5 million jobless people — was recorded as follows: white population, 7.8 percent; Black population, 17.4 percent; white youth, 19 percent; Black and Hispanic youth, 42.9 percent.

From the start, Mr. Reagan's government has been marked by a deeply antipopular and antilabor atti-

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

tude. He flung air traffic controllers out of their jobs with unheard-of harshness. And he has revived the most turbulent periods of trade union repression, resorting to the entire arsenal of legal measures, the use of the army, the banning of trade union activities, fines, the imprisonment of workers, and police brutality. His economic program is the living expression of the reactionary monopolistic policy, and, as many of his own countrymen have declared, it is aimed at making the poor poorer and the rich richer.

The world's labor movement is growing, not only in numbers, but also in scope and depth. The interrelation between economic problems and the most vital aspirations of a political nature becomes ever more manifest. If a few years ago wage demands were the basic motivation of labor strikers, today, on the other hand, they evince the struggle for employment, against layoffs, in favor of trade union rights, for the sovereignty and independence of their respective countries, against imperialist intervention, for denouncing the arms race, for transforming the war industry into a peace industry, for détente, disarmament, and peaceful understanding in international life.

[On September 19, 1981,] half a million U.S. workers came together to protest against the domestic and foreign policy of the Reagan administration, and millions more have thundered down the streets of the major European capitals, demanding jobs, security, and peace.

In our socialist society as well, trade unions occupy a major position. In our opinion, they too are called upon to be ever more active and efficient in carrying out their tasks.

Socialism, as a burgeoning political system, is not devoid of difficulties, inefficiencies, quests, and mistakes. But we have worked in all honesty and loyalty to foster a revolutionary and democratic trade union movement, with a strong class awareness, capable of aiming at and attaining great objectives on its own.

Our trade unions defend the revolution and defend and represent the interests and the rights of all workers and of all workers' collectives. The purest practice of proletarian democracy sustains them. Our trade union leaders are workers promoted by their fellow workers from the grass roots to the highest responsibilities.

Over and above any philosophical, religious, or political differences, that which unites the workers is far greater than that which separates them.

We are united by humanity's vital interest in peace; the determined struggle against the insane arms race; the aspiration of all the workers of the world to a better, worthier, more equitable, reliable, and just life; the right of the peoples to economic and political independence; the struggle against colonialism, racism, and fascism; the combat against the exploitation of the oligarchies and neocolonial plunder; the universal struggle for a new and more just international economic order; the feeling of solidarity for the peoples still struggling for their liberation!

History unites us, our destiny unites us, our future unites us!

Let us struggle with all our might for mankind's survival and for a future truly worthy of being called human!

For this reason, allow me to repeat here the noble slogan of those who were the immortal and unforgettable champions of the workers: Workers of the world, unite!

LETTERS

Babies for profit

Capitalism truly knows no limits. Recently it was disclosed that a U.S. "adoption" agency is secretly shipping Indian babies from Calcutta to sell here in the United States. The agency's concern is neither for the well-being of Indian children, nor for families wishing to adopt.

The story was reported in the *London Mail*, which said that the babies were carried on scheduled British Airways flights by off-duty flight attendants in an operation run by the U.S. adoption agency, Americans for International Aid of Atlanta.

The British airline had just found out about the operation and banned the flights pending a full investigation. The infants, some just a few weeks old, cost \$3,480 each. One baby, Nathan, died when he was eight-weeks-old after being bought by a cou-

ple in Oakfield, New York. The baby, sick when he left India, died in a Buffalo hospital of acute dehydration.

R.S.
Newark, New Jersey

Thrilled

I am presently in prison and I am interested in receiving the *Militant* newspaper. However, I'm without funds at the present time to pay for a subscription. I became interested in the *Militant* newspaper through a friend. I have read the *Militant* a few times, and I was thrilled after reading it. I would like to receive it for one year, and as soon as I get funds for it, I will be more than glad to send it to the *Militant*.

Your cooperation and indulgence is greatly appreciated. Thank you and may the peace, love, and joy of Almighty God be

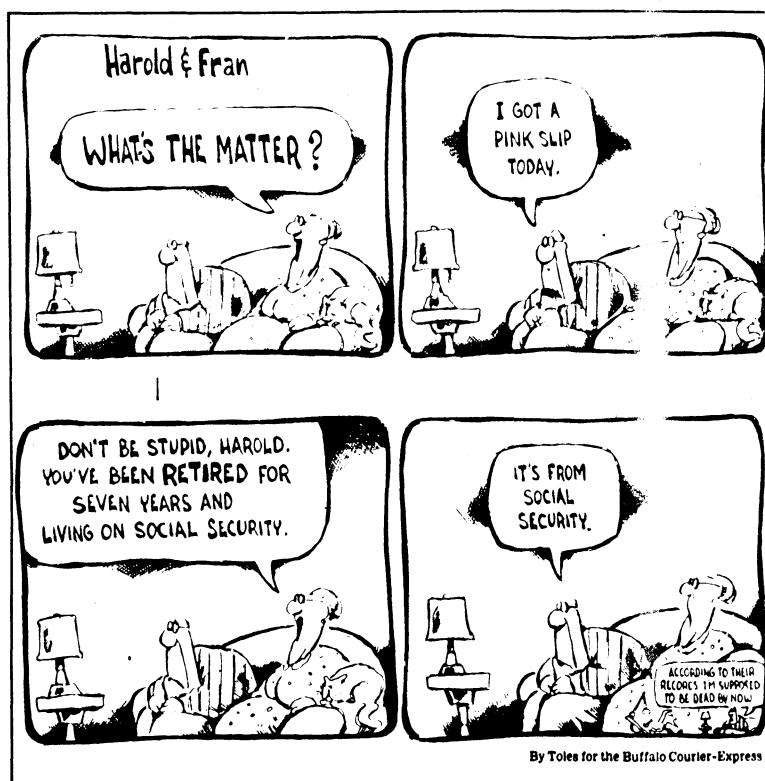
with you, your loved ones, and the rest of our comrades throughout the world.

In struggle we remain.

A prisoner
Boynton, Virginia

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

The 'Militant' special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. To help out, send your contribution to: Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.



Football players on strike: 'We are the game!'

BY WILL REISSNER

Professional football is not just a sport. It is also an enormously profitable subsidiary of the advertising industry. And the 1,532 players in the National Football League (NFL) are the sole reason for its profitability.

The players are extremely successful in drawing millions of potential consumers to watch loads of commercials on television. That's why the television net-

AS I SEE IT

works pay megabucks to broadcast football games. The most recent multiyear NFL broadcasting contract comes to \$2 billion!

In this regard, pro football players are performers as well as athletes, performers with blockbuster ratings. More Americans watch the Super Bowl every year than any other TV program.

The 28 NFL teams take in so much from their broadcast contracts that they would make profits even if they did not sell a single ticket. And down the line they are looking to even bigger profits from cable television.

Today the players association and the team owners are locked in a bitter strike over dividing the NFL's gross revenues, expected to top \$640 million in 1982 or about \$23 million per team.

When the talks between the players association and the team owners began, the players were asking for 55 percent of the NFL's gross revenues. Later they lowered their demand to 50 percent of the league's television revenues.

The owners, on the other hand, are squealing like stuck pigs. Some have denounced any revenue sharing as "socialistic."

Playing professional football is a tough way to make a living. After serving an unpaid apprenticeship in high school and college ball, the average player's career in the National Football League lasts just 4.2 years.

Moreover, "there is a 100 percent injury rate in pro football," points out Dave Meggyesy, former St. Louis Cardinal who now works for the NFLPA.

Take the case of Eugene "Mercury" Morris, the superfast running back for the Miami Dolphins and San Diego Chargers until his retirement after the 1976 season.

Morris began his career with the Dolphins in 1969. In 1973 he suffered a neck injury that was diagnosed as a sprain. With that injury he played through the playoffs and the Super Bowl. But when he reported for the Pro Bowl, his neck was reexamined and found to be broken.

In 1974 a knee injury was added to the neck problems. Morris says that that is when he started having second thoughts about a system "where you're supposed to be well enough to play, but not necessarily well."

In 1976 the neck injury was aggravated by an automobile accident. Morris began suffering severe headaches, and he decided to retire before the 1977 season began. He had reached the point, he recalls, "where no drugs, no prescription drugs, alleviated the pain."

By 1980 his pain was so severe that he was making midnight visits to doctors for injections of Xylocaine, the anesthetic he had used so often to numb his knees during his football career.

Eventually Morris needed a spinal fusion operation.

Today, at 35, Mercury Morris — now just plain Eugene Morris again — is penniless and faces drug charges that could land him in prison for 15 years.

In return for the physical punishment of playing pro football, players are paid an average of about \$85,000 per season. But that average is deceptive. Two-thirds of the 1,532 NFL players are paid between \$40,000 and \$70,000, according to the players association.

Are the players paid too much? After all, even \$40,000 is a lot of money.

But it is important to note that at present, of the more than \$640 million that the league takes in, the 28 team owners keep 70 percent, while the 1,532 players get only 30 percent.

The rallying cry of the NFL Players Association (NFLPA) is "We are the game." And that's the truth. How much revenue would be generated if the 28 team owners took the field instead of the players?

Why don't the sports columnists ever ask if the owners are overpaid? Just what do the owners do for their 70 percent of the revenues anyway?

While money issues have generated the most publicity in the present strike, safety is also an important concern of the players association. The NFLPA wants players to have access to their medical records. It wants a voice in determining the rules, in order to reduce injuries. It wants to get away from playing on the hard surfaces that underlie artificial turf.

The players association recently affiliated with the AFL-CIO labor federation, and all 28 team "locals" are part of their state and local AFL-CIO bodies.

The players are anxious for the support of the union movement. Players' union leader Gene Upshaw told the *AFL-CIO News*, "we don't expect an unemployed auto worker to have sympathy for our level of income, but to understand the common struggle. The figures are different," he said, "but the career length is different too."

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Cops unleash occupation army against Baltimore Blacks

"The military invasion, which the police spokesperson described as a 'surgical precise sweep' to release Pimlico neighborhood from a hostage situation, should instead be characterized as an all-out assault in which the Baltimore Police Department held the Pimlico community hostage." — Statement of Rupert Campbell Alliance

"... a well executed operation — one of the best we have ever done." — Dennis Hill, Baltimore Police Department

"It looks like Lebanon." — Michael Brown, Bethlehem Steel worker

BALTIMORE — Just before dawn on September 15, some 140 police launched a coordinated invasion of the Black community of Pimlico here. They were equipped with flak jackets, rifles, and shotguns. They used battering rams to break down doors of houses. They ransacked homes and a neighborhood store and arrested 29 people.

The raid climaxed a week of police harassment and community protest which began when Rupert Campbell, a 25-year-old Jamaican resident, died while handcuffed in the custody of city police.

On the evening of September 8, police chased Campbell through streets and alleys. They shot at him at least once. Campbell ran into the home of a friend, cutting his leg when he went through a glass door.

Elaine Nelson, who was in the house, told how she and her eight-year-old daughter were threatened by a cop who said, "Is the man down there? Bitch, if you don't tell me I will shoot you."

Campbell was caught and handcuffed in the house.

'So many police'

One witness told the local newspaper, "they picked him up, threw him on the floor and stomped. There were so many of them ... so many police beating on one man."

Rupert Campbell was dead on arrival at a nearby hospital. No cause of death has been officially disclosed and the police involved have been instructed not to talk to the press.

The police claim that Campbell was a



Militant/Steven Fuchs

Invasion force of cops was sent into community after protests over police murder of Rupert Campbell

drug suspect. They say he appeared to draw a gun. No drugs were found on him. No gun was ever produced.

That night spontaneous protests erupted. Police, armed with shotguns and rifles, barricaded the area through the night.

The news media and police deliberately blamed the events in Pimlico on Jamaican residents, some of whom belong to the Rastafarian religion. They accused the Jamaicans of being responsible for drugs in the community, for violence, and for vandalism. Norman Reeves, a Black Democratic city councilman, claimed there is "one big problem: Blacks and Jamaicans are at odds. . . ."

But the very next day, Pimlico residents, U.S.-born and Jamaican together, protested the killing of Rupert Campbell at the local police station.

Community meeting

On Friday, September 10, some 300 residents gathered around the steps of

the Pimlico Multi-purpose Center and held a spirited rally.

City Councilman Reeves had scheduled a community meeting at the same center with Maj. Joseph Bolesta of the Baltimore police. Reeves wanted to allow only 15 to 20 people to attend, but the crowd forced him to allow 150 people into the room while others waited outside.

Reeves opened the meeting by saying he wanted to discuss the problem of "divisions" in the community.

The people explained that the community was united and that drugs were not the issue. They wanted to talk about the problem of police brutality and the death of Rupert Campbell.

Reeves adjourned the meeting early, saying he would no longer hold open community discussions.

Hundreds of community residents continued meeting outside. Many people saw the issue of drugs and "community tension" as just a way to divert attention from the real problem of police brutality. Ken Morgan, a member of the National Black Independent Political Party, said, "it should be noted that all the people here tonight are Afro-Americans, there is no split."

Protests continued through the weekend. Rupert Campbell was buried on Tuesday, September 14. Before the next sunrise, the police invaded Pimlico.

They arrived in a fleet of rented U-Haul vans. At 6:14 a.m., 140 police moved simultaneously into position. At 6:15 they moved into action.

Undercover police had been in Pimlico for a week. The stage was set for the police by the flood of reports that tried to blame Jamaicans and other Pimlico residents for the problems of drugs and violence.

In an effort to justify the raid, police spokesman Dennis Hill claimed, "Some of their people were told outright 'this is what we're going to do, we're going to set up an ambush to kill police.'"

It was a classic example of what Malcolm X called turning the victim into the

criminal, and the criminal into the victim.

The following events of that Wednesday morning were reported to the *Militant*:

A 74-year-old man stepped onto his porch to see what was happening. Police forced him at gunpoint to lay face-down while they searched his home.

Police broke through the glass doors of the Ace of Spades grocery. They confiscated \$8,500 and smashed holes in the ceiling and door.

'Like Nazi Germany'

Police entered a house with an unsigned warrant. They put a gun to the neck of a Jamaican man. They forced him to walk around the house while they goaded him to reach for a gun. The man told the *Militant* "It was like Nazi Germany." He was arrested on a drug charge although no drugs were found.

The morning raid was directed against the whole Black community. Of the 29 people arrested, 7 were Jamaicans, 22 U.S.-born Blacks.

Police broke into the home of Willie Brown. Their warrant cited a person who did not even live at that address, but they arrested Brown's son. Brown said, "I don't blame the Jamaicans for the police coming into my home. The police disturbed my house, not the Jamaicans."

George Lee, a Jamaican arrested that morning, said police carried out the raid to crush the developing community movement. "Every day a few more people were marching," he told the *Militant*. "The police were hoping that people would stop marching."

Since Wednesday morning's invasion, intense police harassment has continued. Many other arrests have been made. They have gone unreported by the local news. One Jamaican told the *Militant* he was arrested Wednesday night after he had walked into the Ace of Spades. "They took me out of the store and arrested me for loitering."

A young Black man told the *Militant* he was using an outdoor pay phone at

Continued on Page 17



Militant/Steven Fuchs

Annie Chambers of Rupert Campbell Alliance speaks out at news conference protesting cop rampage; along with Jaqueline Frazier, community resident; and Sanifu Mwananchi of Alliance.