

London rally demands sanctions on S. Africa

BY MARGARET JAYKO

LONDON — "Sanctions now!" was the demand of the 70,000 people who turned out here October 24 for a march and rally against the British government's support to the apartheid system in South Africa.

The protest was a repudiation of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to allow the adoption of sanctions against South Africa at an October conference of the British Commonwealth countries.

At the head of the youthful march was a large contingent of members of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO). They are the two main liberation organizations in southern Africa.

As we lined up along the Thames River, waiting for the march to begin, the ANC and SWAPO contingent sang freedom songs and chanted in their native languages. Many participants carried pro-ANC and pro-SWAPO placards, in response to Thatcher's recent slander of the ANC as "terrorist."

The march stepped off with a brightly colored banner that read, "Free South Africa, Sanctions Now, Free Namibia." Hanging off the bridge overhead was a banner with the slogan, "Stop apartheid, boycott Shell." One participant carried a placard reading: "Shell fuels South African Army."

The most popular chant was "What do we want? Sanctions! When do we want them? Now!"

There were several contingents from Britain's trade union movement.

The largest came from the National Union of Railwaymen. About 200 strong, they had been mobilized largely through the work of Rail Against Apartheid, an organization of rail unionists. Members of the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association, which organizes white-collar workers in the rail industry, also marched.

The Durham branch of the National Union of Mineworkers participated in the march. The NUM had cosponsored a con-



Militant/Ove Aspoy

Rail Against Apartheid contingent in last year's London anti-apartheid action. This year rail workers were largest of the labor groups. Inset, Namibian freedom fighter Sam Nujoma, who addressed rally.

ference in September with the Anti-Apartheid Movement — the group which organized the march. That conference called for an end to British importing of South African coal.

There were contingents from several other unions, including the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers; Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers; National Union of Teachers, Transport and General Workers' Union, National Communications Union, General Municipal Boilermakers, Tobacco Workers, and the Rolls-Royce Shop Stewards Committee.

The National Union of Students' campaign to mobilize for the demonstration

drew large participation by students, who made up the majority of the crowd.

There were several contingents from Britain's large Asian and Black communities — from Turkey, Pakistan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Iran, and various Caribbean countries. The Indian Workers Association and the Labour Party Black Sections both had banners, as did the Labour Party Irish Section. One sign read, "No to Britain's pass laws — stop all deportations."

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, which has organized massive protests against Britain's nuclear arsenal, **Continued on Page 13**

Sandinistas win over Indian contras to peace and Coast autonomy

BY LARRY SEIGLE

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The Nicaraguan government is continuing to register gains with its political initiatives aimed at dividing and disarming counterrevolutionary military forces and encouraging the return of thousands of rural working people who fled or were forced to leave their homeland as a result of the contra war.

The peace process is most advanced on the Atlantic Coast, where most Nicaraguan Indians and Blacks live. This is a product of the decision by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) to champion the struggle of these groups for autonomy. A law guaranteeing the political, economic, cultural, and religious rights of the peoples of the Atlantic Coast was adopted by the National Assembly September 2. The law established autonomous regional governments on the Atlantic Coast.

The result of the autonomy policy has been the transformation of the Atlantic Coast from the potential Achilles' heel of the Nicaraguan workers and peasants to a bastion of their revolution, strengthening the political power and self-confidence of the working people of the entire country.

Many Miskitos had earlier joined the contra forces, mistakenly believing that

they were fighting for Indian rights. They viewed the Sandinista government as their enemy. Now, however, most have been convinced that the government of the workers and peasants is their firm ally.

In a news conference here October 23, Minister of the Interior Tomás Borge said that the contra war on the Atlantic Coast has been almost halted. The most recent development in this direction was the decision by a group of 125 armed Miskitos operating in the area of Prinzapolka to end their fighting. Prinzapolka is about 40 miles south of the Atlantic Coast city of Puerto Cabezas.

A few weeks earlier, a band of 400 Miskito troops reached an agreement with the government and stopped fighting. Under the terms of that accord, one-third of the former contra fighters will be integrated into government military units. Another third will be placed in productive jobs, and the final third will get scholarships to enable them to study.

Return of refugees

The decline in the fighting on the Atlantic Coast has opened the door wider to the return of war refugees from Honduras. A political campaign by Miskito organiza-

tions and the Nicaraguan government is being waged to encourage repatriation of these refugees and to urge members of the contra units to lay down their arms and return to their homes.

According to official estimates, some 18,000 people, Miskitos and others, have returned to the Atlantic Coast since this political effort began late in 1984.

Some have come through official points of entry; others have made their way across the Río Coco, the river that forms the border between Honduras and Nicaragua. According to reports, 52 of the 84 settlements that existed on the banks of the Río Coco before the revolution have now been reestablished.

There are still some 17,000 Miskitos in Honduras, however, according to Hugo Calderón, a local representative of the FSLN on the Atlantic Coast. The Honduran government has refused to allow the unrestricted return of those Nicaraguan citizens who want to come home.

There is a growing demand, especially among residents of the areas of Nicaragua near Honduras, that the Honduran government end its restrictions and allow free passage back to Nicaragua for those who want **Continued on Page 10**

Bosses fail to crack paperworker unity

BY JON HILLSON

JAY, Maine — International Paper Co.'s stepped-up efforts to crack the unity of 1,250 striking paperworkers here are meeting stiff resistance.

On October 14 the company released a rosy profits statement, announced its take-back proposals had been successfully imposed at the struck Androscoggin Mill, and told the union that only 50 jobs remained for striking union members. According to IP management, the 800 to 900 scabs now working in the mill are permanent employees.

The Maine press presented this as a unilateral announcement by IP that the strike was over. But the response from union members — who have been on strike since June 16 — was not what the company hoped for.

Instead of the back-to-work movement the company was trying to create, only five union members crossed the picket line. This brings the number of local members who have gone back in to 50. The strikers are members of United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 14 and Firemen and Oilers Local 246.

The weekly union/family meetings — held every Wednesday night in the Jay community building — are at the heart of the locals' ability to keep the strike solid. Strikers, spouses and family members, retirees, friends, and other supporters gather to hear weekly reports of strike activity and an update of new developments. There's an open atmosphere where those present can speak their minds.

The October 21 meeting showed that strikers had bounced back from IP's blow the previous week. Many had been braced for the possibility of more defections, and morale was high after the reports of the company's failure.

'We strike for dignity'

"We strike for jobs," Local 14 President Bill Meserve told the 1,200 people present. "We strike for premium pay. We strike for Christmas. We strike for justice, and we strike for dignity."

"Has any of that changed?" Meserve asked. The strikers roared back, "No!"

"Are we going to go back?" he asked. "Fifty say 'yes.'" The meeting responded with a deafening "No!"

The company is demanding the locals accept a concessions contract that includes an end to double-time pay for Sunday work, elimination of Christmas as a shutdown holiday, and implementation of a productivity plan that would drastically reduce jobs in the mill and increase speed-up.

Meserve reported that the union will participate in a negotiating session called by federal mediators for November 9.

Present at the October 21 meeting were representatives from eight UPIU locals — one from as far away as Alabama — who came to participate in the October 22 workshop sponsored by the Jay locals. The purpose of the gathering was to discuss more effective action against the deepening concessions drive in the paper industry.

Pulled together on a few weeks' notice, the meeting represented an important beginning in efforts to unify the UPIU locals facing IP's offensive.

Reaching other UPIU locals — those in the IP chain and those at other paper companies — is part of the Jay strikers' outreach plan. They also aim to get out the truth about the strike by speaking to mem- **Continued on Page 2**

Fellow unionists help locked out Alabama paperworkers

BY STEPHEN BLOODWORTH AND CHERI TREMBLE

MOBILE, Ala. — It was late in the afternoon October 12 when we pulled into the parking lot of United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 1421's hall. The unionists, who work for Scott Paper Co., were just getting out of their union meeting.

"It's gone beyond a union versus company thing," explained one member. "This is all-out war. They're trying to destroy those people, and they'll come after us next."

He was referring to the 1,250 workers who have been locked out of International Paper Co.'s Mobile mill for more than six months.

Local 1421 members have been among the strongest supporters of the four UPIU locals and one International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) local that represent the locked-out IP workers. They've had weekly "bucket brigades" at the Scott mill gates to collect donations, and local members have voted to contribute an extra \$10 a month in union dues to help the IP workers.

The IP workers won an important victory on October 2, when the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Appeals Board ruled that they were eligible for retroactive unemployment benefits. This reversed an earlier negative decision. The workers are getting an average of \$3,100 in back payments. Because of the length of

the lockout, however, many workers' benefits are already starting to run out.

IP is appealing the ruling.

The lockout began on March 21, a month after the old contract expired. Workers arrived for work as usual and were turned away. IP says they can't come back until they ratify a new three-year concessions contract. The union's offer to work while negotiations continue has been rejected by the company.

Since March, International Paper has used the notorious scab-herding outfit B.E. & K. Construction to try to keep the mill running, along with management personnel and other "temporary" workers.

Mobile IP workers are running up against the same stonewall that IP workers on strike in Jay, Maine; DePere, Wisconsin; and Lock Haven, Pennsylvania have faced when it comes to negotiations. The giant paper corporation has simply refused to negotiate seriously.

The workers at the Mobile mill have already given up a lot in concessions, starting back in 1980. Now IP wants more: an end to premium pay for Sundays and holidays; the right to unrestricted subcontracting; and more work rule changes.

Union members have organized to "go on for as long as it takes," explained Jimmy Roberson, who helps organize the food pantry. One of the UPIU local's union hall serves as the strike center, including the job bank and food pantry. The hall was bustling with activity the day we were there. Visitors and volunteers are warmly welcomed. We learned the Mobile workers were planning to send a delegation to an IP mill in Texarkana, Texas. The UPIU's contract there expired in mid-October.

Textile workers, miners, and chemical workers, and other area unionists have lent support to the locked-out workers.

There's also an active Ladies' Auxiliary. Candy Anderson, chairperson of the group, told us, "They didn't just lock out those working in the plant — they locked out the wives and children too." The group's weekly meetings involve members of other unions, family members, and other supporters.

The "locked-out ladies" fill speaking requests, make sure families needing extra help get it, and collect and distribute paper products and school supplies for the children. They maintain a list of area doctors, merchants, and others willing to donate or discount merchandise or services. In addition, they organize events almost every weekend, from fish fries to walk-a-thons.

For more information, contact: UPIU Local 265, 1105 N. Wilson Ave., Prichard, Alabama 36610. (205) 457-0265.



Militant/Stephen Bloodworth

UPIU Local 265 food pantry is also lockout headquarters

Maine bosses fail to crack unity

Continued from front page

bers of other unions.

There have been 30 such speaking engagements in the last three weeks alone, said Local 14 member Brent Gay. He is helping coordinate this part of the outreach efforts.

Reports on three engagements were given at the October 21 meeting.

Local 14 executive board member Mike Burke spoke at two membership meetings of the International Union of Electronic Workers (IUE) Local 201 at the big General Electric plant in Lynn, Massachusetts. Nearly 40 IUE members signed up to do a plant-gate collection for the Jay strikers. Burke also got a warm reception at a recent meeting of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO.

Strike activists Kathleen Davis and Harry Dwyer spoke about their experience at the Southern New England District Council meeting of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) in Fall River, Massachusetts, on October 1. After hearing the strikers' story and appeal for solidarity, the Local 14 members got several more requests to speak and nearly \$1,000 in donations and pledges.

Several Local 14 members also got a warm reception at the mid-October National Organization for Women (NOW) Maine state conference.

"We don't realize how many friends we have out there," Dwyer told the union/family meeting. "They all want to help." He asked for more volunteers to help fill speaking engagements.

Mike Burke added that the striking locals have to work at winning solidarity because "the further you get away from Jay, the less people know about the strike."

Letter from Texarkana

The degree to which paperworkers around the country are looking to the struggle in Jay

was shown by a letter Local 14 received from John Anthony, president of a UPIU local at International Paper's Texarkana, Texas mill. The Texarkana workers have been solid supporters of the Mobile, Alabama, UPIU members who have been locked out by IP since March.

The letter said, in part, "I find it difficult to put into words the gratitude and admiration I have for you and the good people of Local 14 for the brave stand you have taken against IP. We last negotiated back in December of 1985, . . . and I must confess we fell victim to the company propaganda and lies and accepted the concessions you are now fighting. We realize that you are engaged in a fight that has a direct bearing on all of our futures, and I want you all to know that we support you 100 percent in what you are doing."

"The company started this fight," the letter continued, "and the good people in Jay, Maine; DePere Wisconsin; Lock Haven, Pennsylvania; and Mobile, Alabama, chose to carry the fight and now it is up to the rest of us that are working to do our part. Each of us owes you a debt and although we will never be able to fully repay it, we intend to try and give like our jobs depend on it, because they do. . . . You are not alone because we are with you in mind and in spirit. March 21, 1987: remember it. From that day on, our cry must be, cut one of us and we all bleed."

Maine AFL-CIO President Charles O'Leary told the meeting that the annual state convention of the labor body would move to Jay for the November 4 regular union/family meeting.

Jay strikers cheered when President Meserve announced over 1,200 UPIU members in Chester, Pennsylvania, went on strike October 14 against Scott Paper Co.



Militant/Dennis Koncewicz

Labor Day march supported UPIU strikers

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Tomás Borge: 'Who benefits from war?'

Sandinista leader answers slanders by opponents of Guatemala peace accords

BY CINDY JAQUITH

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Who is to blame for the continuation of the contra war against Nicaragua, two and a half months since the signing of the Guatemala peace accords?

The capitalist daily *La Prensa*, the Catholic church hierarchy, and the political parties of Nicaragua's employers and landlords say the Nicaraguan government is at fault. Echoing Washington, they charge that the Sandinistas are failing to live up to the accords, that they don't really want peace.

In a major address October 17, speaking for the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) leadership, Interior Minister Tomás Borge answered these charges. The occasion was a rally here celebrating the eighth anniversary of the establishment of the Ministry of the Interior.

Borge was joined on the platform by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, Sandinista army head Humberto Ortega, First Vice-minister of the Interior Luis Carrión, and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. This larger than usual presence of top government officials at such a rally demonstrated the FSLN's united determination to

metic," Borge noted. That's to cover up the fact that they don't really want peace to come to Nicaragua; they want the war to continue.

Jeane Kirkpatrick's party

To illustrate his point he described an October 11 party sponsored by the U.S. embassy here. The guest of honor was Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

To laughter from the crowd, Borge described the Nicaraguan guests who turned up at the party: capitalist politicians, businessmen, and landowners most identified with the contras.

"Twelve hundred people, drunk on liquor and hysteria, were crying out that the only free territory that exists in Nicaragua is the U.S. embassy," Borge said. "When one of those present kissed the feet of Madame Kirkpatrick, it wasn't a gesture of gallantry but rather the most abject servility."

"When another desperately demanded that the Yankee marines invade Nicaragua, when many of them waved as many as three little U.S. flags in each hand, they were expressing their euphoric surrender to a foreign power. It didn't even occur to them — out of good taste or even to keep up appearances — to raise a single Nicaraguan flag."

Who are 'the people'?

Kirkpatrick and those joining her at the party claimed to be speaking in the name of "the people," Borge noted. "When we talk about the people," he continued, "we are referring in the first place to the working people of the countryside and the cities, the poor people of our land, those who were the main actors in the victory [of the Sandinista revolution] and who are the major shareholders in the revolutionary process."

Also part of "the people" are those Nicaraguans from other class backgrounds who are using their education and skills to advance the revolution, he added, working as technicians, administrators, artists, soldiers, police, and government employees.

Peace is in the interests of the great majority of Nicaraguans, those who have sacrificed their lives and living standards to defeat the U.S.-imposed contra war, Borge explained. Peace also benefits "those who will receive amnesty or pardons," he added, noting that "confused peasants" who joined the contras have died "the saddest of deaths, defending slavery and seeking to restore the past."

With peace, Nicaragua will be able to begin alleviating the poverty its working people suffer.

"Of course, once peace is obtained, the solutions to our material and social needs won't fall from the sky," he continued.



Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. ambassador to United Nations. Idol of the contras was guest of honor at party for opponents of the revolution held at U.S. embassy in Managua.

carry out the Guatemala peace accords.

In recent weeks the Nicaraguan government has taken important steps to comply with the accords: allowing *La Prensa* to resume publication, lifting all censorship, establishing cease-fire zones in four areas of the country, and initiating a series of "national dialogue" meetings with opposition parties.

Nicaragua's enemies inside and outside the country dismiss these moves as "cos-



Militant/Roberto Kopec
From left: Ray Hooker, Tomás Borge, Humberto Campbell, and Dorotea Wilson at Atlantic Coast Autonomy Law discussion that took place in Nicaragua's National Assembly. Sandinistas' support for Indian, Black rights in that region has undercut contras and strengthened revolution.

"But resources, energies, and men will dedicate themselves to creative and productive work. And in a specific historical time period, the answers to these needs will come. It's for that, in the final analysis, and precisely for that, that we made the revolution."

Who benefits from war?

"If Nicaraguans in general benefit from peace, who benefits from war?" Borge asked. "In the first place, the U.S. government — which wants to eliminate the Sandinista government and wipe it off the face of the earth."

But the war also benefits those Nicaraguans "who dream of a return to the past, the Somozaist Guard, the Somozaists, the neo-Somozaists, those who lost their privileges, the magnates of yesterday, the landowners whose land is today in the hands of the peasants, those who speculate on the hunger of the people, the traitors of the day before yesterday, yesterday, tomorrow, the day after, and forever."

Who's intransigent?

Borge described the latest moves by these forces to obstruct implementation of the accords.

"To the political opening they have responded with intransigence," he said, referring to the boycott of national dialogue meetings by the capitalist Social Democratic and Liberal Constitutionalist parties.

"To the proposal for a cease-fire, they have responded with violence," Borge continued. He pointed to an October 15 attack by 900 contra troops on the only highway in south-central Nicaragua that links the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

"The enemy projected a very ambitious offensive," Borge noted, "but it ended in the most resounding of defeats."

Response to Oscar Arias

Borge also took up the statement by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, himself a key drafter of the accords, that the Nicaraguan government should sit down and negotiate with the contra commanders. Arias proposed Miguel Obando y Bravo, the pro-contra cardinal here, as mediator.

"We're pleased with the Nobel Prize awarded to President Arias," Borge said. "He's the one who established the basis for the peace accord signed by the five Central American presidents, which explicitly mandates that there be a national dialogue — but with those the presidents call the unarmed opposition and with those who have accepted amnesty."

"We have the right to hope and the obligation to demand that the international community be as firm in its support for peace as Ronald Reagan is in his support for war," Borge continued.

"That contribution to peace must include, in our judgment, political solidarity and material aid — without discrimination — to an impoverished region that has been

turned into an economic wasteland, not by the will of God, but by the cruel and selfish policy of the current U.S. administration."

The Nicaraguan government will not bow to pressures or relinquish any of the conquests of the Sandinista revolution, Borge stressed. "We are free, with our heads held high, sovereign, dignified, proud of our nationality, intransigent patriots who rebel against all foreign pressures," he said. "We will not raise foreign flags or kneel before them."

He explained that "the perspective of peace has opened up, but as long as the war continues we will be in full combat readiness for anything, not giving or receiving quarter in combat, fighting like lions, with greater audacity, courage, valor, and heroism than ever."

Who fears State Security?

Borge singled out for special praise the State Security division of the Ministry of the Interior, which has succeeded in preventing the formation of a counterrevolutionary internal front and Nicaragua-based terrorist cells.

"Some say State Security produces fear," Borge noted. "But who is afraid of State Security? The counterrevolutionaries, the conspirators, those who kiss the feet of imperialism, and those who cry out for Yankee intervention. They fear State Security and I really think they have reason to!" he said to cheers from the crowd.

Likewise, Borge continued, enemies of the revolution demand the dissolution of Sandinista Defense Committees, the neighborhood block associations responsible, among other things, for community vigilance against counterrevolutionary crimes.

"Don't the people have the right to organize after they have conquered power?" Borge asked. "Or do only the enemies of the revolution have that right?"

"Those who believe the Sandinista Defense Committees are going to disappear," he said, "are the same ones who vainly believe 'the people are going to surrender, get down on their knees, and give up.'"

"We have the right to dream beautiful dreams. We will keep on dreaming of what some day will be seen by the eyes of future generations," he said. "Of course we don't deny our enemies the right to have nightmares, or to dream of the return to a past that will never come back."

Next week's 'Militant' on Che Guevara

The *Militant* will feature Cuban President Fidel Castro's October 8 speech on the 20th anniversary of Che Guevara's death. The issue will also contain an interview with David Deutschmann, editor of the new book *Che Guevara and the Cuban Revolution*, published by Pathfinder/Pacific & Asia in Sydney, Australia.

'Miami Herald's 'error' exposed

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — On October 12, the *Miami Herald* ran a story by its man in Managua about imprisoned former members of the National Guard. The National Guard were the paid torturers, rapists, and assassins of the dictatorship headed by the Somoza family, which ruled Nicaragua until 1979. Some, it seems, are now refusing to cooperate with prison authorities.

Most of the information in the *Herald* story was taken from an interview with Alvaro Guzmán, Nicaragua's director of prisons, printed two days earlier in the Sandinista daily, *Barricada*. Guzmán had reminded readers that one of the leaders of the ex-Guardsmen's protest, Guadalupe Pineda Galo, had been responsible for the assassination of Sandinista militants during the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship. Among those murdered, Guzmán pointed out, were Oscar Turcios, Ricardo Morales Avilés, Juan José Quezada, and Jonathan González — names known to almost everyone here.

The *Herald*, displaying the respect for facts that it shares with other capitalist

dailies, duly reported that among the "imprisoned former national guardsmen who are refusing to work" are — you guessed it — "Oscar Turcios, Ricardo Morales Avilés, Juan José Quezada and Jonathan González."

The following Saturday, October 17, in a speech to a large public rally here, Sandinista leader Tomás Borge read aloud from the *Herald* story — provoking hoots and laughter from the crowd. The point, Borge said, is that "some people ignore facts, as if they simply did not exist."

Several days after Borge's speech, a small item appeared in the *Miami Herald* under the heading "Setting the Record Straight." The four names, the *Herald* said, "were inadvertently included in a list of prisoners who are refusing to work. In fact, the four were Sandinista leaders who the government has cited as victims of National Guardsmen."

The *Herald* editors declined to offer any explanation of how the error was made, nor did they make any reference to Borge's speech. — LARRY SEIGLE

Peace tour reaches thousands in N. America

Ben Linder's example inspires others to join Nicaragua work brigades

BY FRED FELDMAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The band of contras — organized, armed, and financed by the U.S. government — that murdered Benjamin Linder and two Nicaraguan co-workers in Nicaragua last April 28 probably thought they had scored an important success. Not only had they disrupted construction of a network of electric power plants for the peasant villages of northern Nicaragua, but they expected to strike fear into the thousands of volunteers from the United States and other countries who were helping Nicaragua.

The terrorist attack has backfired on the perpetrators — both the contras and their directors in Washington.

The murder of Benjamin Linder, and the example he set in devoting his life to helping the Nicaraguan people build a better future, stirred hundreds of thousands of people in this country.

Months-long tour

One reason for this is the Benjamin Linder Peace Tour. Initiated by Linder's family — David and Elisabeth, his parents; and John and Miriam, his brother and sister — it has been joined by four people who knew and worked with Ben in Nicaragua.

For months they have traveled from one end of the country to another, getting out the truth about Ben Linder, why he went to Nicaragua, what he did there, and why and how he was killed. The tour has been co-sponsored nationally by the Nicaragua Network, Quixote Center/Quest for Peace, and National Witness for Peace.

The national tour is scheduled to end in mid-November, although family members will continue to be available for some speaking engagements.

In order to get an overall, national picture of what the tour has been accomplishing, I talked to the team of antiwar activists who have been organizing the tour out of a tiny office here, near the George Washington University campus.

They are Theresa Delgadillo, Jerry Freiwirth, and Joanne Heisel. When I arrived at the office on October 23, Lois Wessel, one of Ben Linder's friends and co-workers who has been on the tour, was there too. She had arrived in Washington at 6 a.m. that morning, after speaking in Charlottesville, Virginia.

As a volunteer in Nicaragua, Wessel has been a translator for the Nicaraguan National Assembly and a frequent participant in harvest brigades. After having spent two months on tour — with an average of three speaking engagements a day — in the eastern United States, she plans to return to Nicaragua in November to resume her work there.

Volunteer workers

Other volunteer workers in Nicaragua who participated in the tour are Anne Wihbey, a health worker who belongs to the order of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and who has worked in Nicaragua since 1984; Rebecca Leaf, an engineer who met Ben while both were working for the



John Linder — brother of Ben Linder, a U.S. volunteer killed by Nicaraguan contras — with Ben's coworker Lois Wessel speaking at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Along with other members of peace tour they spoke to thousands of students, unionists, farmers, and peace groups.

Nicaraguan agency that oversees building and maintaining power plants; and Tom Kruse, an architect who has participated in housing construction projects in Nicaragua.

"There have been well over 1,000 tour meetings — probably many more, we haven't made a final count yet," said Freiwirth. Wessel, who estimated that the tour has gone to 44 states, calculated that tour speakers do an average of three engagements a day.

One measure of the tour's success is the Benjamin Linder Memorial Fund, which set the goal of raising \$200,000 to complete the projects Ben was working on in Nicaragua. Joanne Heisel said well over \$170,000 has been collected, and she was sure that the target would be surpassed by the end of the tour. "Lots of \$5 and \$10 contributions come into the office with notes saying things like, 'I'd like to give more, but I'm on Social Security.'"

"This tour is unique," Heisel continued. "There was simply very broad support and a very deep response to hearing the family and friends of a U.S. citizen killed while helping people in Nicaragua. What has surprised me is how long the response has lasted. In quite a few cities, activists say that the Linder tour meetings have been the biggest they have ever held on Central America, or the biggest in a long time."

Winning new support

The report sent in by an antiwar activist who helped organize a tour for Rebecca Leaf in Oklahoma was typical. "Judging from the radio talk shows and the questions after Rebecca's presentation, it seems that people were reached at a gut level, with something that they could identify with and with evidence that the big lies could not defeat."

From its inception, Delgadillo told me,

the tour had sought to reach both individuals and groups that had not been involved in antiwar activity before. "I think it was successful just about everywhere in doing that. Almost every report we got from local areas talked about people attending meetings who had never come to any previous antiwar activity. Almost all the tours reached some group of people — a union, a farming community, a church or synagogue — who were getting the truth about Nicaragua for the first time."

Peace tour in Canada, Sweden

"The peace tour is also extending to other countries," Freiwirth said. "John Linder toured Montreal and Toronto in late October at the invitation of Canadian Action for Peace and Tools for Nicaragua. Miriam Linder is going to western Canada in November at the invitation of Farmers for Peace."

For one week beginning November 7, John Linder will also be speaking in Sweden, along with a Nicaraguan high school student, as part of an annual tour in solidarity with Nicaragua set up by the Swedish Social Democratic Party's youth and women's organizations, and other groups.

"The murder of Ben Linder has struck a chord among farmers, and that was reflected in the tour," said Freiwirth. Local farmers' protest groups helped sponsor the tour, particularly in the Midwest.

"John told me that farmers sometimes came from many miles away to attend meetings that he spoke at," Freiwirth continued. "The one held in Paullina, Iowa, impressed him the most. And workers and farmers frequently made up the audiences at local meetings held at churches, especially in the smaller cities and towns that the tour visited."

Heisel noted that John Linder had been a featured speaker at a banquet held by the Federation of Southern Cooperatives in Alabama, attended by more than 200 Black farmers.

Farm workers turn out

Miriam Linder, staff members reported, had just spoken to well over 100 farm workers at a meeting in the Yakima Valley, where the United Farm Workers of Washington State has been organizing a fight against union-busting by the growers. "This was regarded as a big event in the town," Delgadillo said. "Even the marquee at the motel where she stayed carried the message: 'Welcome Miriam Linder.'"

And Anne Wihbey spoke to a meeting of more than 100 farm workers in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

The Benjamin Linder Peace Tour has also gained a hearing in the unions. Freiwirth cited two examples — a meeting of an International Association of Machinists local in Minneapolis, attended by more than 200 Northwest Airlines workers, where John Linder spoke; and a "labor breakfast" for Elisabeth Linder and Tom Kruse attended by more than 30 unionists — including United Electrical

Workers union President James Kane — in Pittsburgh.

The New Jersey Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador played an important role as a sponsor and organizer of the tour in Trenton, Newark, and New Brunswick.

Theresa Delgadillo said she was beginning to compile a list of the campuses where the peace tour held meetings. "So far I've listed at least 40," she said.

Wessel said that some of the most successful speaking engagements, in her opinion, had been at high school assemblies.

In Champaign, Illinois, a predominantly student audience gave David and Elisabeth Linder a five-minute standing ovation at the end of their presentation. "Ben Linder inspires many students," said Delgadillo. "They feel under tremendous pressure to think about nothing but landing a job and making money. After hearing about Ben Linder, many of them make comments about how Ben's example makes them think about how to live a useful life."

Right wing responds

Right-wing organizations, particularly the Young Americans for Freedom, have made occasional attempts to picket or otherwise protest at meetings. Heisel described seeing a few ultraright pickets wearing T-shirts boasting, "I killed Ben Linder."

Wessel said she had been struck by the wide coverage the tour has won from much of the U.S. news media. And the sympathy that interviewers and reporters voice in their coverage for Ben Linder. The staff members showed me a sheaf of scores of clippings from local newspapers.

"The news coverage has stepped up, especially in the smaller cities and towns, because contragate and the Central America peace accords have placed events in Nicaragua in a new light. Much of it is very sympathetic and some journalists even make contributions to the fund after talking to me."

"This tour has made great headway in spreading the idea that you should go to Nicaragua and see for yourself," Freiwirth said. "Hundreds of people who attended meetings have indicated interest in work brigades or tours." He showed me a letter from Apache Junction, Arizona, that demonstrated the impact of the tour.

"Yes, I would like to go to Nicaragua and volunteer to work with the people of Nicaragua. . . . I have no fear of the contras. They may kill my body but not my soul."

While the Benjamin Linder Peace Tour does not organize brigades and other trips to Nicaragua, the success of the tour has inspired others to step up their efforts.

"Casa Nicaraguense Español is now carrying out its first tour of the Midwest to recruit people to study at their language school in Nicaragua," Delgadillo said. "Before they had had many students from the East and West coasts, but just about nobody from the Midwest. Then when they started getting names from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and places like that in the wake of the tour, they were encouraged to reach out there."

Louison speaks in Britain on overturn of Grenada revolution

BY RICH PALSER

SHEFFIELD, England — George Louison, a former minister in the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada before its overthrow in October 1983 and now a leading member of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement, was a guest speaker here October 3.

The gathering was organized by South Yorkshire supporters of the British biweekly newspaper *Socialist Action* so that Louison could get out the truth about the Grenada revolution and its overthrow.

Louison detailed events leading up to the placing of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop under house arrest by Bernard Coard and his supporters. He explained how Coard and his supporters organized within the governing New Jewel Movement to remove Bishop from the leadership.

"The process in Grenada should teach us what can happen when extremism, ultra-

leftism, coupled with personal ambition, take hold within a revolutionary party," he said.

"It led to the execution of Maurice Bishop, the man who personified the revolution, and the other martyrs of October 1983, to the Coard supporters turning their guns on the masses, and degenerated into savagery with the mutilation of the bodies and the subsequent reign of terror."

Louison was asked how Coard's group could have won support within the New Jewel Movement.

He explained: "Our own policy on recruitment helped them do this — we were all at fault in this. We said we would not have artisans or those that owned land as members, and this excluded many who had helped make the revolution. And rather than resulting in a party of workers, it was the intelligentsia that came to dominate the party."

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Burkina Faso coup

African leaders issue condemnations

BY SAM MANUEL

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia have added their voices to those of other African heads of state in condemning the military coup and execution of President Thomas Sankara in the West African country of Burkina Faso.

In press conferences in Harare and Lusaka, Mugabe and Kaunda condemned the murder of Sankara, calling him "a true revolutionary." Mugabe is also chairman of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, and Kaunda is chairman of the Organization of African Unity.

October 15 coup

On October 15 soldiers loyal to Capt. Blaise Compaoré, minister of state and justice, attacked the presidential palace and residence. Sankara and 12 of his aides were killed in the assault.

The Sankara-led government came to power in 1983 as the result of a popular, democratic revolution. It won widespread support within the population for carrying out a series of social programs in the interests of peasants and workers. It was widely respected among revolutionary fighters throughout Africa, as well as in other countries, for its consistent opposition to imperialism.

The military regime, imposed upon the people of Burkina Faso by the counterrevolutionary coup, calls itself the Popular Front of October 15. Along with Compaoré, its top leaders are Jean Baptiste Lingani, army chief of staff, and Henri Zongo, former minister of economic development.

Compaoré, Lingani, and Zongo are the central leaders of the Union of Burkinabè Communists (UCB). The UCB, which has some civilian members as well as military personnel, was formed by Compaoré in 1985. By the time of the coup it had obtained many prominent positions within the government, the army, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, and other mass organizations.

The regime immediately declared a 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. curfew and took control of all communications systems including the national radio. They also sealed the borders and closed the airports.

Socialist denounces 'Radio Martí,' contra aid in Miami mayoral debate

BY PETE SEIDMAN

MIAMI — The bankers, realtors, and lawyers who attended the Tiger Bay Club political forum greeted Socialist Workers Party mayoral candidate Ernest Mailhot with polite applause. Mailhot addressed the first full debate between the five candidates officially certified for the November 3 primary election for mayor here.

Mailhot, a baggage handler at Eastern Airlines and member of the International Association of Machinists Local 702, is the only worker and trade unionist in the field.

At the debate, held a few weeks ago, Mailhot said that working people in Miami need a mayor who fights to end U.S. funding for the Nicaraguan contras. He denounced recent programs on Radio Martí, the U.S. government station that broadcasts counterrevolutionary propaganda to Cuba. The station has been witch-hunting those in the Cuban community here who are said to have had contacts with Cuban diplomats. He called for shutting down Radio Martí.

Mailhot called for ending all restrictions on Haitians and other immigrants coming into the United States and for recognizing "their right to receive all government services in Creole and Spanish as well as English."

A grim-faced group of police officials heard him demand that Miami police guilty of murdering Black youths be "locked away."

Mailhot asked the opposing candidates what they would do to help workers at Eastern Airlines, who face company demands for wage cuts of up to 50 percent. Mayor Xavier Suarez and former Mayor

Leaders of the Popular Front have attempted to justify their coup by claiming that Sankara was planning to arrest and execute his political opponents in the governing body, the National Council of the Revolution.

The Compaoré regime did not officially announce Sankara's death for four days. Compaoré has claimed that Sankara was killed while resisting an attempt to arrest him.

This story is contradicted, however, by most other accounts. The October 26 *New York Times*, for example, reported the account of a Western diplomat who said he had interviewed one of Sankara's surviving bodyguards.

According to the report, Sankara was unarmed at the time of the attack. "He raised his hands and said: 'Take me. I'm the one you want,'" the diplomat reported. The soldiers then opened fire on him with automatic rifles and a grenade.

Compaoré now claims that his men acted without orders from him when they discovered the plot by Sankara. He told *New York Times* reporter James Brooke, "Without waiting to inform me about this plot, my men went to arrest him."

Congo, Ghana denounce coup

In the People's Republic of the Congo the national radio and television paid homage to Sankara as "the first revolutionary head and popular leader of Burkina Faso." In reference to Compaoré the radio declared, "This personal friend of Sankara... thought he could solve a problem by killing a worthy son of Africa, forgetting that, as the deceased himself stated, 'tomorrow there will be 20 more Sankaras.'"

In an October 21 statement, the Union of Congolese Socialist Youth appealed to the youth of Burkina Faso to "refuse all collaboration" with the new regime, which it labeled "a government of national treason." The youth announced plans for a mass rally on October 29, at which a school in the capital city, Brazzaville, will be named for Sankara.

The government of Ghana was the first to officially respond to the coup. An October 17 communiqué of the Council of Ministers expressed its concern at the events in Ouagadougou and called upon the



Militant

Ernest Mailhot

Maurice Ferre declined to answer. Republican Arthur Teele promised "real leadership" to bring union and company together.

A number of Mailhot's coworkers have offered to help out his campaign. One participated in a major renovation of the campaign headquarters. Another volunteered to help write campaign literature, and others expressed interest in attending campaign debates.

A number of Cuban coworkers told Mailhot that they agree with his opposition to Washington's funding of the contras and think that Radio Martí should be closed.



Militant/Ernest Harsch

Slain Burkina Faso President Thomas Sankara speaking in New York's Black community of Harlem 1984.

new leaders to settle their differences without resorting to violence.

Following the news of Sankara's death, Ghana declared a week of mourning. Ghana's president, Jerry Rawlings, announced on October 25 that the country's highest medal, the Star of Ghana, had been awarded to Sankara posthumously and that a public square in the capital would be named in his honor.

Burkina's new Popular Front regime has dispatched a delegation, headed by Lingani, to several West African countries to explain its actions.

Officials and spokespeople of the Popular Front, sent throughout Burkina Faso to explain the coup and win support, have met with widespread condemnation.

Burkinabè youth oppose regime

According to the Paris daily *Le Monde*, students at the Zendar High School in Ouagadougou threw stones and chased away Lt. Oumar Traoré, an official of the Popular Front, who came to explain the coup.

Le Monde also reported that the university in Ouagadougou was shut down after incidents between the large majority of students and a handful of Compaoré supporters. In an effort to curb student protests, all schools were closed for one week.

In the days immediately following the coup the Popular Front declared a national holiday and called upon the people of Burkina Faso to march in the streets in support of the regime. The march was canceled for lack of participation. Officials of the Popular Front have been unable to point to a single rally in its support.

By contrast thousands still flock to the gravesite of Sankara and his aides despite the heavy presence of soldiers. The mound of earth covering Sankara's body has been adorned with flowers and the flag of Burkina Faso. "Thomas Sankara, the Burkinabè people will never forget," read a hand-written note left at the grave. "Sankara, cowardly murdered by traitors," read another. "We are all Sankara," read a third.

Many at the gravesite expressed outrage also at the treatment of the president's and other victims' bodies. According to the *New York Times* correspondent, the bodies were initially shoved into a common grave. Under the cover of darkness and the curfew, soldiers later reburied the bodies in separate plots. The regime has forbidden any funeral for Sankara.

The Popular Front has taken several steps to consolidate its power. Immediately following the overturn, the Sankara-led National Council of the Revolution was dissolved along with all other government bodies. Pierre Ouédraogo, general secretary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, was placed under house arrest and later dismissed.

Sankara supporters arrested

More recently two former ministers in Sankara's revolutionary government were arrested — Nongma Ernest Ouédraogo, minister of territorial administration, and Eugene Tlata Dondassé, minister of finances. They were charged with having led

a "campaign of disinformation" against Compaoré.

Four other left-wing and trade union leaders are in hiding. They are Valère Somé and Basile Guissou, leaders of the Union of Communist Struggle Reconstructed (ULCR); Fidèle Toé, a former minister of Social Security; and Adama Touré, a leader of the Burkinabè Trade Union Federation and a member of the Patriotic League for Development (LIPAD).

The October 23 *Le Monde* reported a Popular Front statement broadcast on Burkina Faso's national radio aimed at dispelling rumors of dissent within the army. The statement denied that Capt. Boukari Kaboré an airborne commander of the third military region had refused to obey orders of the regime.

But the October 25-26 weekend edition of *Le Monde* confirmed that Kaboré had refused to recognize the regime. "I cannot sit still before the murder of Comrade Thomas Sankara and support the person who killed him," Kaboré declared according to *Le Monde*. Kaboré commands 400 paratroopers in the garrison town of Koudougou, about 50 miles west of the capital.

International condemnation

The October 19 *Barricada*, daily newspaper of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) of Nicaragua, reported on a statement by Julio López, head of the Department of International Relations of the FSLN. López said, "The Sandinista Front regrets the death of the Burkinabè leader and repudiates the coup d'état that took his life and the lives of other respected political leaders of that African country."

The October 20 *Le Monde* reported the Cuban Communist Party daily, *Granma*, called the death of Sankara and the coup "tragic and regrettable events." It stated further that Sankara "was held in great affection by our people. Whatever the future development of events in Burkina Faso, all of its friends in the world are today concerned about the tragic unfolding of the division of the left forces."

Black American columnist for the *New York Daily News* Earl Caldwell wrote of the coup, "Once again, the death of hope in Africa." Recalling Sankara's visit to the Black community of Harlem in 1984, Caldwell wrote, "He was young but the ideas he had and his enthusiasm soon stamped him as a leader of promise."

Haiti Progrès, a French-language Haitian weekly published in New York, ran a five-page spread on Sankara and the accomplishments of the democratic revolution in Burkina Faso under his leadership.

From a different stance, the Libyan news agency JANA reported that Sankara had been "removed" from power and emphasized Compaoré's "attachment to the goals and principles of the revolution."

Gnassingbé Eyadéma, president of Togo was the first African head of state to publicly support the Popular Front counterrevolution in Burkina Faso. In an official statement broadcast on the national radio, Eyadéma said his government would strive to strengthen cooperation with Ouagadougou.

Publications fund needs your help

\$150,000 to aid socialist press

BY NORTON SANDLER

Militant readers including new subscribers will soon receive a letter encouraging them to make a contribution to the \$150,000 Socialist Publications Fund.

The support many readers have already given to the fund is greatly appreciated. But to make the drive in full and on time by the November 24 deadline we are going to need additional help from you and from those who have not yet made a contribution.

This is the largest fund organized by the socialist publications in several years. Every penny is budgeted and, as the letter explains, the \$150,000 fund is crucial to expanding the distribution of the *Militant*, the Spanish-language monthly *Perspectiva Mundial*, the Marxist journal *New International*, the French-language *Nouvelle Internationale*, and Pathfinder books and pamphlets.

Our financing comes from working people — our readers and distributors — who understand how vital it is for the truth to be told.

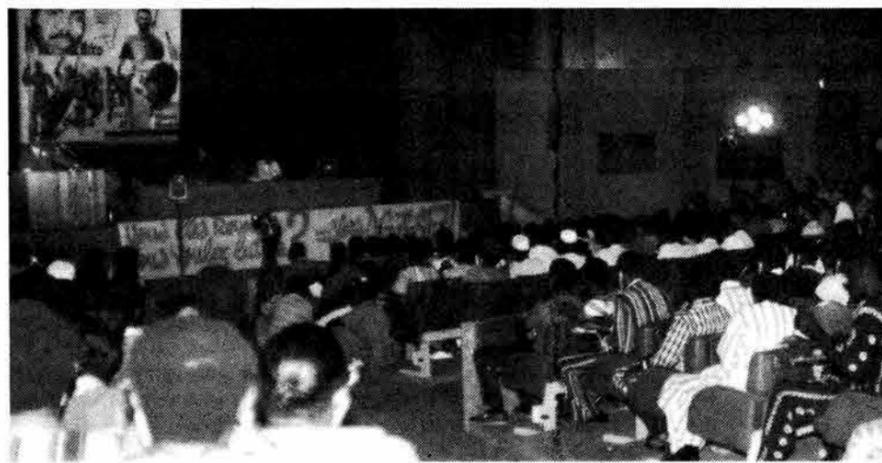
Every week the *Militant* explains how the fights of working people in this country are interrelated with the struggles of workers and farmers around the world.

Since Nicaragua's workers and farmers toppled the Somoza dictatorship in 1979, the *Militant's* Managua, Nicaragua, Bureau has provided weekly coverage of the unfolding revolution.

In the last year, the *Militant* has provided on-the-spot reporting from Angola, Burkina Faso, Cuba, the Philippines, Britain, Haiti, and Trinidad and other countries.

Last month Sam Manuel and Margaret Manwaring traveled to Burkina Faso to cover the October 8-13 Pan-African anti-apartheid conference in Ouagadougou. The revolutionary government there was overthrown a few days after the conference, and its central leader, Thomas Sankara, was murdered.

The *Militant* is making a special effort to get the truth about the accomplishments of the Burkina revolution under the Sankara leadership into the hands of as many work-



Militant/Sam Manuel

Militant reporters attended recent anti-apartheid conference in Burkina Faso. Socialist Publications Fund makes such important coverage possible.

ing people in this country and around the world as possible.

On October 24 supporters in New York helped put out a special 700-piece mailing including last week's issue, with extensive coverage of Burkina Faso. It went out to newspapers and political activists in this country, Canada, the Caribbean, and Africa. The mailing cost over \$1,000.

We thought readers would also be interested in hearing about a few other expenses the fund is helping to meet.

One is the cost of producing the weekly paper. The price of newsprint is rising, and we recently had to pay \$4,000 more than normal for a truckload of paper.

We try to get each new issue of the *Militant* in the hands of distributors within 36 hours after it is printed. This is crucial to having the paper circulated nationally at plant gates, in working-class communities, and on campuses in a timely manner.

The fund is far behind schedule both in terms of the amount pledged and the total collected. The challenge before all supporters is to immediately get the amount pledged up from the \$123,500 where it is now, to over \$150,000. In each local area, many more supporters can be organized to make a contribution to the fund. Others who have made pledges already can be encouraged to increase their contributions.

There is also less than a month to go on the campaign to win 6,000 new *Militant* readers.

As a result of the October 17-24 *Militant* subscription target week, several areas have begun to build the kind of momentum that will be needed in the remaining weeks to meet the goal.

In New York, supporters signed up 103 new *Militant* subscribers and 25 new readers of *Perspectiva Mundial* during the

target week. Seattle added 75 regular *Militant* readers and five *PM* readers. Phoenix signed up 58 new *Militant* subscribers and 23 *PM* subscribers.

Talking about the events in Burkina Faso helped a three-person New York team sell 11 *Militant* subscriptions and 6 *PM* subscriptions on a busy Bronx street corner.

"A few people had heard of Burkina Faso and knew about the coup," team member Meryl Farber explained. "We convinced them that by reading the *Militant* over the next few weeks they could learn the truth about what happened."

Mike Shur, who coordinates the New York drive, explained that supporters there held several discussions to try to turn around their slow start in the drive. They took time to discuss the political contents of the paper before sending teams out.

Iona Gersh, who is working on the subscription campaign in Seattle, said their effort was aided by several swings to campuses around Washington State. Some of the teams coincided with campus speaking engagements for Marea Himelgrin, a leader of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Gersh pointed out that since the beginning of the drive Seattle supporters have sold 20 subscriptions in factories where they work.

Phoenix supporters raised their goal from 110 *Militant* subscriptions to 140, based on their target-week success. Danny Booher reported that 21 people participated in the target-week distribution effort in that city.

Booher said they tried to clear the decks of other activities so each supporter could circulate the paper at least three times during the week. He said this was in addition to the regular weekly plant-gate sale that many supporters there participate in.

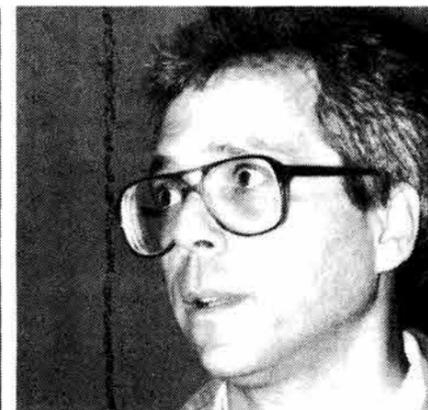
Fall Sales Scoreboard

Area	Militant subscriptions			New International single copies			Perspectiva Mundial subscriptions		
	Goal	Sold	% Sold	Goal	Sold	% Sold	Goal	Sold	% Sold
Portland, Ore.	80	65	81	40	25	63	30	4	13
San Diego	85	69	81	25	12	48	40	28	70
Greensboro, N.C.	140	112	80	20	14	70	15	6	40
Louisville, Ky.	5	4	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boston	200	154	77	50	25	50	100	33	33
Cleveland	105	77	73	20	0	0	15	4	27
Des Moines, Iowa	125	89	71	35	11	31	15	2	13
Cincinnati	10	7	70	-	-	-	-	-	-
Houston	200	135	68	50	0	0	40	12	30
Los Angeles	300	197	66	100	58	58	175	89	51
Seattle	300	193	64	50	22	44	50	26	52
Morgantown, W.Va.	130	83	64	25	0	0	5	1	20
Baltimore	140	85	61	40	0	0	10	1	10
Detroit	200	121	61	35	9	26	25	5	20
Phoenix	140	83	59	25	10	40	100	60	60
Miami	120	71	59	40	0	0	40	17	43
Washington, D.C.	130	76	58	60	25	42	30	19	63
Omaha, Neb.	70	40	57	20	5	25	10	7	70
Birmingham, Ala.	150	84	56	35	0	0	5	4	80
Albany, N.Y.	20	11	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas City	105	57	54	25	2	8	20	8	40
Salt Lake City	150	81	54	25	3	12	25	7	28
San Francisco	180	96	53	50	0	0	70	44	63
Twin Cities, Minn.	180	95	53	75	38	51	20	5	25
New York	600	316	53	350	234	67	200	151	76
Atlanta	120	63	53	35	15	43	20	12	60
Annandale, N.Y.	20	10	50	-	-	-	-	2	-
Oakland, Calif.	150	74	49	100	14	14	50	12	24
St. Louis	175	86	49	50	18	36	10	5	50
Newark, N.J.	350	171	49	75	26	35	125	41	33
Austin, Minn.	85	41	48	10	0	0	15	2	13
Milwaukee	115	54	47	35	18	51	15	4	27
Philadelphia	150	70	47	50	0	0	50	8	16
San Jose, Calif.	75	34	45	-	-	-	50	19	38
Charleston, W.Va.	125	48	38	20	3	15	-	1	-
Price, Utah	48	14	29	10	0	0	2	0	0
Chicago	225	61	27	50	0	0	75	13	17
Amherst, Mass.	5	1	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh	175	27	15	-	-	-	10	2	20
Davenport, Iowa	5	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coal Teams	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other U.S. areas	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Britain	75	69	92	140	116	83	5	2	40
Canada	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
New Zealand	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Other Internat'l	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Totals	5,763	3,308	55%	1,770	703	35%	1,467	688	46%
Drive Goals	6,000			2,000			1,500		
Should Be		4,248	71%		1,416	71%		1,062	71%

Managua Bureau staff change



Cindy Jaquith and Larry Seigle



Militant photos by Holbrook Mahn

The Managua Bureau of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* has a new director effective this week. Larry Seigle is replacing Cindy Jaquith in the assignment of heading up the three-person bureau in Nicaragua, which also includes reporters Roberto Kopec and Harvey McArthur.

Seigle, a former *Militant* editor, has played a leading role in the Socialist Workers Party's campaign to win wide support for the lawsuit brought by the party and Young Socialist Alliance against political spying by the U.S. government.

Seigle has been a contributor to the Marxist magazine *New International*.

His article in the current issue, entitled "Washington's 50-Year Domestic Contra Operation," examines the history of government spying and disruption against the labor, Black rights, and antiwar movements. He looks at this history of FBI lawlessness in light of the SWP and YSA suit.

He also helped edit several Pathfinder books on Cuba.

Jaquith, a longtime staff writer and former editor of the *Militant*, has headed the Managua Bureau since August 1985. She will be returning to the *Militant's* staff in New York.

The Managua Bureau of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* was established in August 1979, just a month after the victory of the Sandinista revolution. No other weekly publication in the United States has maintained such a consistent presence in revolutionary Nicaragua.

This continuity provides *Militant* and *PM* readers with the most accurate and timely direct reports on the progress of the Nicaraguan revolution available in North America. It has also facilitated the broad dissemination of the statements of the Nicaraguan government and Sandinista leaders on many important subjects.

Auto union gets new contracts at GM, Ford

Claim that pacts offer job security masks speed-up drive, plant closings

BY SUSAN LaMONT
AND JEFF POWERS

This fall the United Auto Workers union (UAW) reached agreements on new three-year contracts with Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. They cover 104,000 workers at Ford and 335,000 at GM.

The negotiations and resulting contracts have generated a lot of coverage in the big-business media, and many workers in other industries followed them with interest.

The truth about what the contracts will mean for auto workers is buried under an avalanche of praise from both corporations and the UAW tops. Roger Smith, chairman of the board of General Motors, described the new contract as "a big turning point in our relationship with our employees" which will help get GM "cost competitive and quality competitive worldwide." This echoes Ford President Harold Polling's description of the new Ford contract as a "historic document."

'Job security'

At the center of the hoopla is the claim that the new contracts will provide unprecedented job security for UAW members. UAW President Owen Bieber says the new GM contract will "achieve job security for our GM membership and make stable employment a part of the way the corporation does business." Similar claims are made for the Ford agreement.

Called "Secure Employment Levels" (SEL) at GM and "Guaranteed Employment Numbers" (GEN) at Ford, the idea is that auto workers who have been on the job for a year or more cannot be laid off except if there is a decline in sales. A worker whose job is lost for some other reason — automation, for example — can be asked to take another job in the company, including a nonunion one, or be transferred to another plant.

The SEL at GM will be funded by \$1.3 billion for the three years of the contract. The GEN at Ford has a \$500 million cap. Workers who are laid off will supposedly receive their full pay from these funds. A little arithmetic shows that as few as 3,000 workers at Ford and less than 10,000 workers at GM could be covered by these programs for the three years of the agreements.

Much more serious, however, is the fact that this "job security" program is being used by the UAW leadership to mask its agreement to quietly go along with General Motors' decision to close 14 plants and curtail production at 5 more, resulting in the layoff of some 37,000 union members.

In addition, the union agrees that the number of jobs that remain "secure" will be reduced through the life of the contract by an additional 30,000 to 40,000. This means that the work force at GM could go from 335,000 in 1987 to 280,000 by 1990 — that's assuming a "decline in sales" doesn't occur.

'Efficiency' teams

Also damaging to auto workers is the agreement of the UAW itself to take responsibility for coming up with proposals for "plans . . . or changes needed to improve quality and efficiency" at each GM plant within six months after the contract is ratified. According to Bieber, "GM must regain market share through better products and processes."

Included in the proposals are "the establishment of the team concept and/or pay-for-knowledge wage structure" and "examination of new forms of work organization, such as job assignments relating to just-in-time or other quality-enhancement systems" and "initiatives to reduce chronic absenteeism."

Translated into plain English, this means the union is going to go even further than it



Auto workers face spread of "teams" and other labor-intensification schemes as auto corporations push for higher profits.

already has in helping the company discipline workers on the job, including helping the company come up with plans to get union members to work harder and faster.

The implementation of the "team concept" is central to GM's reorganization drive. The company model is the New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc. (NUMMI) plant in Fremont, California. At that plant, which is a joint GM-Toyota venture, the same number of cars are being made with half the number of workers as were in the plant before it reopened with "teams."

The new GM contract gives the blessing of the union leadership to this labor-inten-

sification campaign. And what isn't accomplished in the national contract will be driven through in the local contracts, where more details about work rules and line speed are dealt with.

Included in both the GM and Ford settlements are a 3 percent wage increase the first year of the contract and lump-sum payments equaling 3 percent for each of the two following years.

This means that between 1984 and 1990 — the span of two contracts — auto workers will have received yearly pay increases equal to half of one percent per year. During this time, both Ford and GM have made billions in profits.

Kentucky frame-up trial targets UMWA

BY DUNCAN WILLIAMS

CANADA, Kentucky — "My husband is innocent, but the defense is going to have to prove him innocent, not the government prove him guilty. The media has already tabbed him guilty."

This statement comes from Barbara Thornsby, the wife of David Thornsby, one of six men facing serious federal charges in relation to the 1984-85 United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) strike against A.T. Massey Co. and its affiliates in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia.

In early August of this year, five of the men were indicted on various federal charges involving use of a weapon to interfere with interstate commerce. The charges stem from the May 29, 1985, shooting death of Hayes West, a scab coal hauler for Samoyed Energy, which was being struck by the UMWA at the time.

Indicted were Donnie Thornsby, president of UMWA Local 2496; his cousin David; Ervin Smith, vice-president of the same local; his brother James Darrell; and Arnold Heightland. In October Paul Smith was indicted and arrested on the same charges. All except Heightland are members of the UMWA.

The men were rousted out of bed at dawn by gun-toting FBI and Kentucky state police agents. In at least one case, the family was held at gunpoint while the miner was handcuffed and taken away.

All the men are still in jail, having been denied bail under the provisions of the 1984 Bail Reform Act.

The arrests are part of the antiunion campaign waged by A.T. Massey and its affiliates since October 1984, when the UMWA strike against them began. Tear gas, dogs, company thugs, state police, and court injunctions were used on the strikers.

The government's case has all the markings of a frame-up. Without presenting any evidence, the prosecutors have put out reports and rumors that the weapons have been found, that they have witnesses being held under the witness security program, and that one of the defendants will testify against the others.

The Citizens for Justice has been organized here "to solicit donations from people who feel the guys are entitled to fair and decent representation," according to its chairman Charles Dixon. "An indictment is not proof of guilt," he added.

Another committee supporter, Tunis Smith, told a television reporter, "A lot of

people have been convicted. Somebody's got to stand by them. They are union brothers."

All six men have attorneys now, Dixon told the *Militant*. While a great deal more money needs to be raised, the committee is "satisfied with the progress we've made."

Dixon, who is also a member of the UMWA International executive board from District 30, indicated the committee

would participate in and raise funds at the Jobs and Justice rally in Nashville on November 1. "Most of our support so far has come from unions and union members," he said.

A bank account for defense of the miners has been established at the First National Bank of Pikeville. Donations should be mailed to: Citizens for Justice, P.O. Box 8, Canada, Ky. 41519.

Events mark Grenada revolution

BY MIKE TABER

NEW YORK — Events were held here and in Grenada, Cuba, and elsewhere in October to mark the accomplishments of the Grenada revolution from its triumph in 1979 to its overthrow in 1983. On October 19 of that year, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was murdered following a coup led by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, opening the island to a U.S. invasion later that month.

In Grenada, the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM) and Maurice Bishop Youth Organisation (MBYO) sponsored an activity October 19 in the town of Victoria in St. Mark's Parish. According to MBYO leader Terry Marryshow, some 3,000 participated.

The day-long event included sports activities, Calypso performances, poetry readings, and speeches by MBPM leaders Einstein Louison, Terry Marryshow, and Kendrick Radix.

According to Marryshow, the event was part of the MBPM's reorganization drive to recruit new members, especially among the youth of Grenada. MBPM and MBYO meetings are being held in villages throughout the island, he said. The activity closed with the video "Maurice," produced by Cuban filmmaker Estela Bravo.

On October 25, a 10-kilometer race was held from Grenada's international airport — begun by the revolutionary government — to the cemetery, to honor the martyrs of October 19, as well as the Grenadian soldiers and Cuban construction workers who fell in combat resisting the U.S. attack in 1983.

Out of these two activities, the MBPM has launched a petition campaign to demand that the Grenadian government return MBPM leader Einstein Louison's passport, which was revoked two years

ago. The petition also demands that the U.S.-installed government stop its victimization of Marryshow, a certified doctor trained in Cuba. On political grounds, the government has refused to grant him a license to practice medicine in Grenada.

In Cuba several activities were held to commemorate the October 1983 events. On October 23, the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP) held a news conference in Mariel featuring MBPM leader Don Rojas, followed by a meeting that afternoon.

On October 25, the MBPM in Cuba sponsored a meeting in Havana to discuss the state of the Caribbean region four years after the Grenada events. Participants included Grenadian students in Cuba and representatives from other English-speaking Caribbean islands.

Several events were also held in New York City. On October 17, a meeting of 50 people at St. Gregory's Church in Brooklyn discussed Bishop's political legacy and the situation in Grenada today. Speakers included a representative from the MBPM; Dessima Williams, former Grenadian representative to the Organization of American States; Rev. Herbert Daughtry; and Rev. Lucius Walker, executive director of the Inter-religious Foundation for Community Organization.

On October 19, 500 people attended a meeting at Hunter College to commemorate Bishop, Mozambique leader Samora Machel, who was killed in October 1986, and murdered Burkina Faso leader Thomas Sankara.

On October 25 an event was held in Brooklyn sponsored by the MBPM Support Group and the Grenada Foundation. Queens College Professor Rod Thurton and Grenada Foundation leaders Joachim Mark and Wilton DeCoteau spoke.

Support the Fall Socialist Publications Fund

At a rally August 13 we announced the launching of this fund, which has a goal of raising \$150,000 by November 24.

Its purpose is to finance publication of the *Militant*, the monthly *Perspectiva Mundial*, the Marxist magazine *New International*, the French-language *Nouvelle Internationale*, and Pathfinder books and pamphlets.

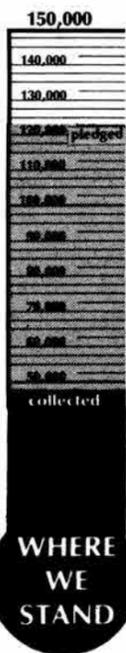
As of October 28, \$123,500 has been pledged and \$47,700 collected.

I wish to help the fund, enclosed is:

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WHERE WE STAND

The 'Cuban missile crisis' — 25 ye

Why U.S. policy of invasions, blockades, and threats against Cuba and its rev

BY MARGARET JAYKO

October marks the 25th anniversary of what the Cuban people call the "October crisis" or "Caribbean crisis." The U.S. media refers to it as the "Cuban missile crisis."

In the wake of the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961, Cuba had received missiles from the Soviet Union capable of carrying nuclear warheads for defense against future U.S. attacks. In October 1962 President John Kennedy demanded that the missiles be removed. Washington ordered a blockade of Cuba, threatened an immediate invasion of the island, and placed U.S. forces throughout the world on nuclear alert.

Within Cuba, a massive mobilization of the population took place as the country prepared for the possibility of U.S. attack.

The crisis abated following an agreement by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev to remove the missiles in exchange for a commitment by Kennedy that Washington would not invade Cuba.

Two and a half decades later, reminiscences by U.S. and Soviet government officials involved in the events, and ruminations by media commentators, abound.

In March of this year, eight veterans of the Kennedy administration, along with a dozen or so professors, gathered at a luxury resort in the Florida Keys for a four-day conference to "relive" the events.

And at Harvard University in October, a meeting brought together some of the same senior members of the Kennedy administration with Soviet officials.

Main things not discussed

No matter what point in the capitalist political spectrum they come from, however, the analyses in the major media of the October 1962 events all share certain common features:

- The events are presented as a tense and deadly duel between the governments of the United States and the USSR. *Cuba* — its revolution and its government — are seen as peripheral. But that's precisely what the events were about. The cause of the crisis was not a Soviet nuclear threat to the United States. It was a U.S. threat to invade Cuba.

- No one questions whether Washington had any right to threaten to wipe the

sovereign nation of Cuba off the map for procuring weapons to defend itself against actual and threatened U.S. military aggression. Or suggests that the Soviet government has the right to provide weapons to any country that asks for them — without having to face off with the Pentagon.

- Most contend that lessons learned by the White House from the October 1962 events have prevented Washington from repeating its unsuccessful 1961 invasion attempt at the Bay of Pigs — not the military strength and preparedness of the Cuban people for 25 years.

Revolution on Washington's doorstep

The origin of the tensions between the U.S. and Cuban governments lies in Washington's hostility to the victorious Cuban revolution.

On Jan. 1, 1959, the triumphant Rebel Army led by Fidel Castro ousted the U.S.-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista.

What irked Washington about this upheaval was that the revolutionary government was determined to remove the boot of U.S. economic and political oppression and exploitation from the neck of the impoverished Cuban people.

The more uncompromising the revolutionary regime was in putting the needs of Cuban working people over the profits of U.S. business interests in Cuba, the more belligerent Washington became.

In March 1960 President Dwight Eisenhower secretly ordered the creation of a counterrevolutionary mercenary force made up of Cuban exiles in preparation for an invasion.

On July 5, 1960, his administration stopped purchase of Cuban sugar. On October 19 he declared a trade embargo.

On Jan. 3, 1961, Eisenhower broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Kennedy, who was sworn in on January 20, took over command of the secret war. The military invasion began on April 15. Two days later, the expeditionary forces equipped by the CIA and Pentagon landed at Playa Girón in the Bay of Pigs. The invasion was defeated in 64 hours.

On Feb. 3, 1962, Kennedy made the trade embargo complete. And he adopted "Operation Mongoose," which included burning crops, blowing up planes, infect-

ing Cuban livestock with contagious diseases, and numerous attempts on Castro's life.

In the face of this belligerence the Cuban government asked for, and got, help from the Soviet Union. This included anti-aircraft weapons as well as medium and intermediate-range missiles. The U.S. government learned about the nuclear-capable missiles on October 15.

But even before that, in response to the anti-aircraft weapons, and other military aid, the U.S. big-business media went wild. In the weeks preceding the October crisis, headlines screamed, "Russian Troops Mass in Cuba," and "Castro Gets Red Missiles." And senators from both sides of the aisle clamored for immediate invasion of the island. This emboldened right-wing Cubans to step up terrorist attacks against Cuba.

A key piece in Washington's hate-Cuba campaign was pressuring its imperialist allies in Europe, and Latin American governments, to join the embargo against Cuba and support Washington's military moves. Fearful that the example of the Cuban revolution would lead to uprisings in their own countries — and reluctant to disobey orders from Washington — the regimes in the hemisphere fell in line behind Washington, though Kennedy was unable to get their open support for an invasion of Cuba.

Kennedy threatens nuclear war

On October 22 Kennedy made a nationwide broadcast in which he revealed that Moscow was sending the medium and intermediate range missiles that Cuba could use to defend itself.

The U.S. president announced a naval blockade of Cuba and indicated that it would be followed up with "whatever action was necessary to securing the removal of the missiles."

As he spoke, the navy deployed 180 ships in the Caribbean, and troops were moved to Florida and other southeastern states. The Defense Department announced it would begin stocking its bomb shelters with food and water. A B-52 bomber force, fully loaded with atomic weapons, was ordered into the air. U.S. armed forces around the world were put on alert. Both the United States and Soviet Union were on nuclear alert.

Kennedy issued a secret ultimatum to Khrushchev on October 27. It reportedly demanded immediate recall of the missiles in return for U.S. agreement to withdraw its obsolete Jupiter missiles from Turkey, and a pledge not to invade Cuba.

Cubans not consulted

On October 28 Khrushchev submitted to the ultimatum and also agreed to Kennedy's demand for United Nations' inspection of the missile sites in Cuba. This was done without any consultation with the Cuban government, a fact that the Cubans protested at the time and that Castro has spoken about many times since.

In *Castro's Cuba, Cuba's Fidel*, a book written by Lee Lockwood and published in 1967, Lockwood asked Castro if there was some way Cuba could have kept the missiles once Moscow and Washington reached the agreement. "It would have been at the cost of a complete break with the Soviet Union, and that would have been really absurd on our part," replied Castro.

As far as sentiment in Cuba went, Castro explained, "We were all of us advocates of keeping the missiles in Cuba. . . .

"That does not mean that we would have been opposed to the death to any solution whatsoever, but we would have preferred a more satisfactory solution, with the participation of Cuba in the discussion," Castro added.

What might have been an alternative, Lockwood asked the Cuban leader.

"At that moment we were advocates of confronting the events. We felt that we had a clear right as a sovereign country to adopt measures that were pertinent to our defense, and we were absolutely opposed to

accepting the demands of the United States, which in our view curtailed the rights of our country."

In a February 1985 interview that appeared on the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, Castro explained, "Look, we would not have opposed seeking a solution, no. We would have agreed to sit down and discuss it. We would not have preferred war for the sake of war under any circumstances. We disagreed because the decision was made without consulting us. This is the crux of the problem. . . .

"Now then," he continued, "after 15 years elapsed it was proven that they were right, that a war, a nuclear war, was avoided and that Cuba was not invaded. At least during these years we had to accept that they were right. It's not the way we would have done it. But actually the objective thing, the argument was right, the fundamental argument."

New revelation

At the March reunion of missile crisis participants referred to earlier, a new fact came out about the negotiations. Former



Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro refused to allow UN inspection of missile sites, citing the role of UN forces in the assassination of Patrice Lumumba in the Congo.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk revealed that Kennedy had decided, in case Moscow rejected his ultimatum, that he would ask U Thant, then secretary general of the United Nations, to publicly propose removal of both the Jupiters and the missiles in Cuba, to avoid war and allow the Soviet government to save face.

This shows that there were hesitations in U.S. ruling circles about paying the huge political price launching an attack that could lead to nuclear war would have entailed. However, it is being touted today as an example of how Kennedy was willing to "go the extra mile to avoid a conflict," a notion that the Cuban victims of Kennedy's undeclared war would have trouble understanding. An invasion of Cuba was an operative military option — one that had already been attempted 18 months earlier.

Assumed imminent U.S. invasion

The Oct. 14, 1987, *Miami Herald* had a front-page article reporting another new "revelation."

"The Soviet Union secretly installed nuclear missiles in Cuba 25 years ago this week largely because they believed an American invasion of the island was imminent, a Soviet official said Tuesday," according to the report. This "news" was revealed at the previously mentioned Harvard meeting on the October crisis.

Former defense secretary Robert McNamara responded to the announcement, "Can you imagine that!" as he



Bohemia
During missile crisis, Cuba mobilized its population to defend the country against possible U.S. invasion. This act, the arming of Cuba, and the more recent creation of the Territorial Troop Militia have prevented U.S. invasions since its attempt in 1961.

Years later Revolution have failed

pounded the table. "We had no intention of invading Cuba."

Castro has explained many times that the missiles were installed, after discussions between the Soviet and Cuban governments, as a step toward putting defense of Cuba on a new level; that is, making it clear to Washington that an attack on Cuba would risk a war with the Soviet Union.

In an article in the April 1, 1984, issue of *Parade Magazine*, Tad Szulc quotes Castro saying that in the wake of the Bay of Pigs invasion, the Cuban government told the Soviet government, "though we didn't speak of missiles — that it was necessary to make it clear that an invasion of Cuba would mean war with the Soviet Union. . . . It could be a military pact." Then Castro said, the Soviet government proposed the missiles.

During the October invasion threat, the Cuban people mobilized in their millions. This was designed to let Washington know that were U.S. troops to land on the island, the war would be protracted, bloody, and the outcome not at all predetermined in the Pentagon's favor.

'Cuba is not the Congo!'

The Cuban government refused to go along with Kennedy's demand for UN inspection of the sites.

Posters displaying a photograph of Patrice Lumumba and the slogan "Cuba is not the Congo!" went up all over Cuba as a pointed reminder of how the leader of the Congolese revolution was assassinated in 1961 and his government destroyed during the intervention of UN forces there.

In an October 23 television address, Castro explained, "We refuse to give permission to anyone to examine, to investigate our country — no matter who it is."

"Cuba is not the Congo. Under the UN flag they went to the Congo and killed its leader and the spirit of independence of that people."

"Anyone who comes to inspect anything in Cuba had better come prepared for battle. We don't ask to investigate in others' territory."

Protests hit U.S. war moves

Protests in the United States and around the world condemned the U.S. threats against Cuba.

On October 27, some 2,000 people picketed at the United Nations. In Washington, D.C., 1,000 people picketed. In San Francisco, 3,000 protested.

The following day, 10,000 people again demonstrated at the United Nations — the biggest demonstration ever held at the United Nations up to that time.

A wave of protests also swept Latin America. And thousands marched in Trafalgar Square in London. In China, a vast rally in Beijing sent a pledge of support to Castro and the Cuban people.

25 more years of aggression

The removal of the Soviet missiles didn't mark the end of U.S. aggression against Cuba. That has continued up until the present.

In 1975 a Senate committee headed by Frank Church reported that from 1960 to 1965, U.S. officials organized a series of plots to assassinate Castro. Revelations also appeared on Washington's use of chemical and biological warfare to destroy crops and spread deadly diseases in Cuba.

For years, Cuban counterrevolutionaries have openly undergone military training in Florida, with the full knowledge and backing of the U.S. government.

The Pentagon carries out enormous and provocative military maneuvers in the Caribbean.

In fact, the U.S. government maintains a military base right on Cuban territory at Guantánamo.

The criminal trade embargo continues and Washington still carries out spy flights in Cuban air space.

Cuban diplomats in the United States face illegal restrictions on their ability to



Twenty-five years ago President John Kennedy gave ultimatum that Soviet-provided missiles be removed from Cuba. U.S. warships stopped shipping bound for Cuba, creating international crisis. Above, U.S. destroyer interdicts Soviet merchant ship.

travel and move around.

In the early 1960s a ban on travel to Cuba was imposed, which lasted until 1978. It was reimposed in 1982.

In May 1985 Washington started up an anti-Cuba propaganda station in Miami, named Radio Martí after Cuba's national hero, Jose Martí.

Nicaragua, Grenada: a turning point

With the 1979 victories of the popular revolutions in Nicaragua and Grenada, and the rapid growth of the left-wing rebel forces in El Salvador, U.S. military intervention in the Caribbean and Central America increased accordingly.

When it became clear to Washington that both the Nicaraguan and Grenada revolutions could not be bought or sold by imperialism, and that their example was inspiring the peoples of the hemisphere and the rest of the world, Washington began its moves to undermine them.

The threats against Grenada and Nicaragua also included a new round of military threats against Cuba.

A critical point occurred in the fall of 1981. On November 4 that year, unidentified U.S. administration officials chose to make public that Secretary of State Alexander Haig had asked the Pentagon "to study a show of airpower, large naval exercises, a quarantine on the shipment of arms to the island, a general blockade as part of an act of war, and an invasion by American and possibly Latin American forces," according to the November 5 *New York Times*. Haig had said that Cuba was the "source" of Washington's problems in the hemisphere.

The armed forces of Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada were on full alert.

In 1982 Congress passed the Symms Amendment, a virtual word-for-word repetition of a congressional resolution adopted in 1962.

It stated that Washington is determined to "prevent by whatever means may be necessary, including the use of arms, the Marxist-Leninist regime in Cuba from extending by force or the threat of force its aggressive or subversive activities to any part of this hemisphere"; and to "prevent in Cuba the creation or use of an externally supported military capability endangering the security of the United States."

Noninvasion pledge

These renewed threats raised the question of whether Washington was openly saying that the 1962 pledge not to invade Cuba was still in effect.

In an interview with the U.S. magazine *Newsweek* in 1983, Castro explained that a U.S. invasion of Cuba "would flagrantly violate the 1962 accords, and, while we count fundamentally on our own forces for defense and therefore consider ourselves an absolutely independent country, no one can predict the consequences for world peace an invasion of Cuba would entail."

In a 1985 interview with the *Washington Post*, Castro said, "We maintain that the country's defense is our people's number one task. And to those who doubt Cuba's independence, we can say that a country is independent when it is capable of defending itself and we have taken on this task decisively. . . . We disregard the 1962 Crisis, the 1962 agreements."

Castro continued: "It is true, the agreement and commitments exist, but Cuba's defense can't be based on commitments or agreements between other countries; the defense of our country is a task for our people above all else and the capacity of

our people to defend themselves and struggle to the end. . . .

"Should the commitment be broken, are we going to wait until then to prepare the country? Are we going to wait for military action to prepare the country? We have to look ahead and spend years preparing."

Territorial Troop Militia

An important step the Cubans took to defend themselves was to establish the Territorial Troop Militia.

In his 1980 May Day speech, Castro called for the formation of a militia, for the first time since the early years of the revolution. It is organized into small units in each workplace and neighborhood. Participation is voluntary. More than 1 million Cuban men and women have enrolled to date.

At the same time, Cuba carried out some of the largest demonstrations in the history of the island, to show the imperialists that if they invaded, they would face the wrath of the entire Cuban people.

On April 19, 1980, more than a million Cubans marched in Havana to show their support for the revolution.

Less than a month later, on May 1, more than one and a half million Cubans rallied.

Then on May 17, over a million people marched in front of the U.S. Interests Section chanting, "Jimmy Carter, you rat, remember the Bay of Pigs!"

On May Day the next year, a million Cubans participated in the Fighting March for Production and Defense.

U.S. policy a fiasco

Unable to mount a direct invasion of Cuba since the Bay of Pigs debacle, Washington has nevertheless kept up a steady drumbeat of military and economic pressure on Cuba.

The goal is two-fold: to attempt to pressure the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party to modify its unparalleled internationalist support for the oppressed and exploited throughout the world and its communist political course at home; and to erode support for the revolution among the Cuban people by imposing a maximum of economic hardships and a constant war of nerves on the military level.

After 28 years of trying, however, ap-

plying all the force that the White House, Pentagon, and Wall Street could muster, U.S. policy toward Cuba has been a miserable failure.

The Cuban revolution is politically, economically, and militarily stronger. It is more popular among the people of Cuba and of the world; less isolated in the hemisphere; more of a beacon of hope and inspiration; and more of a factor in world and U.S. politics than it has ever been in its history.

When the people of Angola, in 1975, asked Cuba to send troops to help fend off a South African invasion and allow Angola to declare its independence, the Cubans responded. The Cuban people have sent tens of thousands of teachers, doctors, and technicians to dozens of countries — with no strings attached.

When revolutionary Nicaragua recently sounded the alarm on its shortage of fuel, Cuba was the first country to make a donation, despite its own difficult financial situation.

Cuba has been the leading voice in the world exposing and condemning Washington's aggression against Nicaragua and its intervention in El Salvador.

Cuban construction workers were helping to build the sorely needed international airport in revolutionary Grenada at the request of the country's prime minister, Maurice Bishop.

And when Bishop's government was overthrown by a coup led by Bernard Coard in October 1983, and Washington responded by invading, Cuba got out the facts about the bloody coup and tried to head off the invasion.

Cuba led the Latin American protests in 1982 against British imperialism's war to retake the Malvinas Islands from Argentina.

And Fidel Castro has become the voice of hundreds of millions of people in Latin America, Asia, and Africa who are saying that the foreign debt their countries "owe" to the imperialist bankers is morally and financially unpayable and that a new, equitable, international economic order is urgently needed.

Within Cuba, the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party has embarked on

Continued on Page 13

New!

Che Guevara and the Cuban Revolution



Writings and Speeches of Ernesto Che Guevara

Che Guevara and the Cuban Revolution Writings and Speeches of Ernesto Che Guevara

Published 20 years after Guevara's death, this selection includes articles and speeches on the Cuban revolutionary war, Cuba's efforts to overcome economic backwardness in the face of U.S. attacks, the task of developing a new social consciousness in a society on the road to socialism, and Cuba's commitment to freedom struggles throughout the world.

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Nicaraguan artist speaks in New York

BY STEVE CRAINE

NEW YORK — In the next several months, the Pathfinder Mural Project will be bringing a number of international artists to the United States.

In addition to painting a huge political mural on the wall of the Pathfinder Building in Manhattan, they will be speaking widely about art and the revolutionary struggles in their countries.

The first of these international participants is Nicaraguan painter Arnoldo Guillén. On October 26 he began painting his portrait of Augusto César Sandino on the wall. Sandino, the symbol of the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua, led a peasant army against the U.S. Marines, who occupied Nicaragua in the 1930s. He is one of more than 20 revolutionary fighters whose portraits are central to the design of the mural. Pathfinder has published the writings of most of these fighters.

Even before he began painting, Guillén had already spoken to a variety of audiences in New York — from college and high school art classes to participants in anti-war actions, to artists and activists attending a reception in his honor. And the mural project has lined up a full month of additional engagements for him in six or more other cities.

Guillén's message to his New York audiences has centered on the interrelation of politics and art, explaining the liberating impact of the Nicaraguan revolution on artistic expression there.

Beginning in 1972, Guillén worked to organize artists in support of the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship. Immediately after the triumph of the revolution in July 1979, he was approached by leaders of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) to initiate the Sandinista Association of Cultural Workers (ASTC).

Guillén points out that the only condition the new revolutionary government sought to place on artists was that they produce quality works. Commander Bayardo Arce told him that they would "rather have a well-painted rose than a bad rifle."

He also stresses the importance of international solidarity to the survival of the revolution. "It is your solidarity that has made our courage possible," he told a reception at the Musicians' Union local hall here.

The reception also heard greetings from representatives of the three sponsoring organizations: Brazilian jazz musician

Thiago de Mello for Ventana; painter Eva Cockcroft for Artmakers, Inc.; and Mike Alewitz, director of the Pathfinder Mural Project.

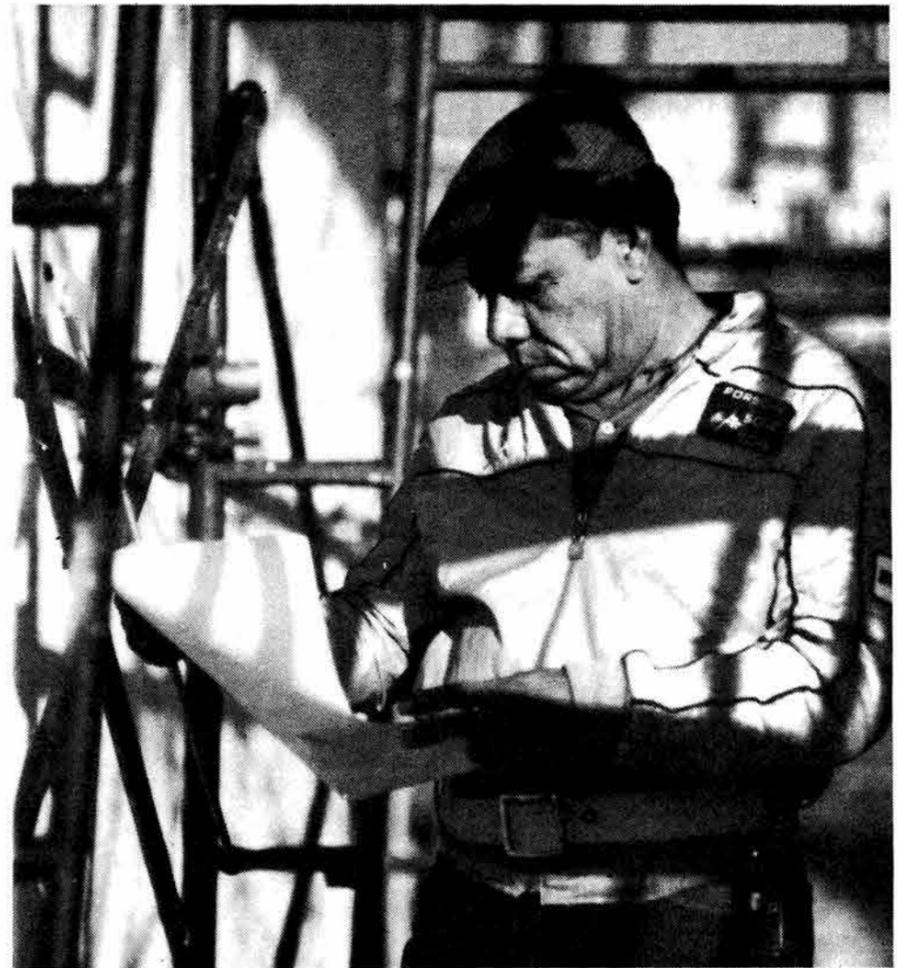
Guillén thanked Ventana, a cultural group in solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution, for its role in "getting the cultures of our countries closer together, which made my visit here possible." He praised Pathfinder for publishing the works of leading revolutionary figures from around the world and for the "ambitious and important" mural project that celebrates those publications.

Guillén also spoke to about 200 high school art students at a Saturday class at Cooper Union art school. He opened his talk with a brief history of Nicaragua under the U.S.-backed Somoza dictatorship, the struggle against that oppression, and the achievements of eight years of revolution.

After showing slides of several of his works, Guillén fielded questions from the students. Most wanted him to explain more fully how each painting and the themes, colors, and techniques used in them expressed the reality of his country's experiences. A lively discussion of Nicaragua's fight to defend itself from the U.S.-backed contras continued after the formal presentation.

A newly printed brochure on the Pathfinder Mural Project was distributed to all the students, and about 15 volunteered to help on the mural in one way or another.

The brochure, which reproduces the preliminary sketch of the mural and explains the purpose of the project, is now available in bulk from the Pathfinder Mural Project. Please fill out the coupon below to order copies, to join the growing list of sponsors, or to contribute badly needed funds to the project.



Militant/Selva Nebbia

Nicaraguan artist Arnoldo Guillén working on part of 60-foot mural being painted on the Pathfinder Building in New York. Guillén will paint portrait of Augusto César Sandino.

- Please add my name as a sponsor of the Pathfinder Mural Project.
- Enclosed is a tax-deductible contribution of \$_____. Make checks payable to the Anchor Foundation.
- I would like _____ copies of the mural project brochure.
- I would like to work on, paint, or document the project.

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 Organization/union/school _____

Sandinistas win Indian contras to peace

Continued from front page

it. This is coupled with calls on the Honduran government to take action to expel the contra army from its bases in Honduras, in accordance with the agreement reached by the five Central American governments in Guatemala in August. The Honduran regime has not yet taken any steps in this direction.

The political developments on the Atlantic Coast have resulted in the further isolation of those figures who have, until now, refused to break from the U.S.-organized and -financed counterrevolutionary war. The best-known of these personalities are Brooklyn Rivera and Steadman Fagoth, who are today leaders of a Miskito group known as Yatama. As armed units affiliated with Yatama have been reaching agreements with the government, the pressure on Rivera and Fagoth to return to Nicaragua has been growing.

Interior Minister Borge announced October 23 that negotiations with Rivera on the conditions for the repatriation of the Yatama leaders had been close to success, but they were torpedoed by the main contra organization, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN).

The Sandinista government had been prepared to agree that the Yatama leaders would be allowed to return to the country without formally submitting to the terms of the national amnesty law covering those who voluntarily lay down their arms. The government made this offer, Borge explained, "to consolidate the work of bringing peace to the Atlantic Coast."

However, this offer became impossible to maintain when the government learned, from various sources, that the top FDN leadership was plotting to use the proposed agreement with Yatama to insist that FDN officials be allowed to enter the country on the same terms.

The contras' goal was to press their demand that the Nicaraguan government recognize them as a legitimate force and negotiate with them. Some contra figures have even publicly stated that they intend to fly into Managua to insist that the government open negotiations with them.

"We have only one thing to say to these gentlemen," Borge declared. "If they come to Nicaragua without accepting the terms of the Amnesty Law, they will be jailed and they will be put on trial for their participation, as leaders, in the systematic massacre of the Nicaraguan people." Nica-

raguan union leaders have advised workers to be ready to go to the airport to "help the government arrest" any contras who try such a stunt.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican officials forced Nicaragua to suspend the recently established weekly family gatherings at the border crossing point of Peñas Blancas. Nicaragua has encouraged families with members who have fled to Costa Rica because of the war to come to Peñas Blancas to visit with their relatives and urge them to come home. Nicaraguan officials suspended border crossing regulations at Peñas Blancas, making it easier for Nicaraguan residents to cross into Costa Rica and facilitating the return of those living in Costa Rica.

Costa Rican authorities initially cooperated. But on October 18 they refused to allow Nicaraguan residents in Costa Rica to approach the meeting area at the border. Instead, according to a statement by the Nicaraguan government, an organized effort was undertaken to encourage those who crossed from the Nicaraguan side into Costa Rica to remain there as "refugees."

Apparently fearing that the situation might lead to provocations that could worsen relations between the two countries, the Nicaraguan government decided to suspend the border gatherings until further notice. Similar gatherings at the Honduran border are continuing, however, attracting thousands of Nicaraguans each Saturday.

In a related development, one former public mouthpiece for the contras, Edgar Chamorro, who now lives in Miami, returned for a visit to Nicaragua. He applied for amnesty and said he had come to "normalize my status" with the Nicaraguan government. Chamorro was a leader of the propaganda operation run by the contras and the U.S. government from 1981 to 1984, when he quit, citing disagreements with the contras' goals and methods.

At a Managua news conference October 22 Chamorro said the contras have "failed as a military force" and that they have no political support in the country. He called on Washington to open negotiations with the Nicaraguan government.

Subscribe to 'Perspectiva Mundial' Land reform in Nicaragua

As a reader of the *Militant* you are familiar with our weekly coverage of the struggles of working people around the world.

If you can read or are studying Spanish, there is a complementary monthly magazine for you: *Perspectiva Mundial*. *PM* is a Spanish-language socialist magazine that carries many of the same articles you read in the *Militant*.

The October issue of *PM* includes an article by Harvey McArthur on the fight for land in Nicaragua. This struggle was one of the forces that gave birth to the revolution. Under the leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, urban and rural workers started to take the reins of society. Because of that, 100,000 peasant families have received land titles. But 60,000 more still need land.

This article reviews the struggle of peasants and farm workers for land since 1979 and the current proposals to meet their demands.

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Pa. state cops harass paper strikers

BY VALERIE JOHNSON

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Paperworkers at International Paper Co.'s Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, mill are under serious attack from both IP and Pennsylvania state troopers, reported Ron Shearer, secretary of United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 1787.

On October 6 the company informed the local that only 60 jobs remained for union members. More than 400 scabs — considered permanent employees by IP — are working in the mill.

At the same time, state troopers have been on a harassment campaign against the 688 strikers and their supporters in the community. Shearer told the *Militant* that more than 40 strikers have been arrested since the strike started June 20.

One striker was arrested for allegedly kicking a scab's car — with no witnesses except the scab. Another striker was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct for saying "bullshit," and another for failing to use his car's turn signal.

A community resident who is not a striker, was standing in his yard near the plant. The cops ordered him to go inside his house. When he pointed out that he was on his own property, the cops responded that it didn't matter. In yet another incident, out-of-town relatives of a striker were ordered to move their car from a legal parking space in a neighborhood near the plant.

One hundred twenty state troopers were present when UPIU International President Wayne Glenn addressed a mass meeting of strikers, their families, and supporters on October 8.

On any given day, between eight and 30 troopers may be present at a shift change. Shearer said, "What is happening here is

unbelievable. It's unconstitutional and against our First Amendment rights."

Outreach efforts

The Lock Haven strikers have received support from other unionists in the area. Members of the United Auto Workers Union (UAW) do picket duty while strikers attend union meetings. Steelworkers union members have produced T-shirts to help raise money for the strike.

On October 17 Shearer spoke to the United Steel Workers of America (USWA) District 15 Legislative Conference at the request of Bill Morris, president of USWA Local 13836.

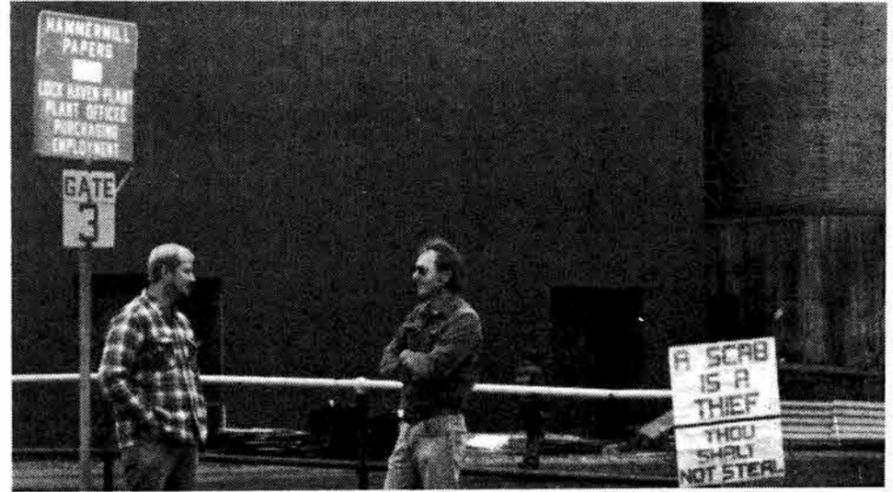
After hearing the story of the paperworkers' fight against IP's concession drive and union busting, the conference cheered enthusiastically for a motion to send a message to Pennsylvania Governor Robert Casey protesting the use of state troopers against the strikers. (Casey, a Democrat, had promised his labor backers that he would not use state troopers against strikers. His reversal has angered many union members.)

Over \$400 was raised at the conference. Shearer thanked the steelworkers and explained that 71 USWA locals had already made financial contributions to the strikers.

At the recent 35th Mid-Atlantic District Convention of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers Union (UE), more than \$200 was raised.

For more information, contact UPIU Local 1787, P.O. Box 773, Lock Haven, PA. 17745.

Valerie Johnson is a member of USWA Local 13836 at Rockwell International in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.



Militant/Valerie Johnson

Striking paperworkers picket at International Paper's Lock Haven mill

—WORLD NEWS BRIEFS—

U.S. soldiers arrested in Panama protest

Nine U.S. soldiers along with leaders of the National Civic Crusade were arrested in Panama City for participation in acts of vandalism during a nighttime antigovernment protest October 7. The Crusade is an antigovernment coalition dominated by the Chamber of Commerce, Catholic Church hierarchy, and associations of doctors, dentists, life insurance brokers, real estate dealers, and other professionals and businessmen. Five of the U.S. soldiers carried U.S. Air Force identification cards, three were sailors, and one was on special services at Howard Air Force base, a U.S. installation in Panama.

The nine were charged with burning cars and tires near the intersection of Via España and Via Porras. José Guillermo Lewis Galindo, a Crusade leader, was arrested as he reportedly urged people to carry out violent actions, and burn cars in order to close down Via España.

The Panamanian government has sent a protest note to U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis charging the United States with violation of the canal treaties in view of the actions by U.S. soldiers. Over the last four months 11 U.S. soldiers and a diplomat have been arrested while participating in antigovernment protests. Among those arrested on October 7 were Maximo Castillo Guerra, identified as a U.S.-Mexican member of the Panama Canal Commission.

Referring to the October 7 incident, the Panamanian government has charged Washington with meddling in the country's domestic affairs, of supporting an opposition conspiracy to install a conservative government, and of trying to negotiate a military presence at the canal after the year 1999 when control of the canal is to be turned over to Panama.

Iraqi regime dynamites Kurdish villages

At least 500 Kurdish villages in Iraq have been dynamited over the last six months in a drive by the Iraqi government to deny sanctuary to Kurdish guerrillas fighting against that regime.

An estimated 8 million Kurds live in Iraq, Iran, and Turkey, where they suffer discrimination against their language and customs. Since the end of World War I the Kurds have demanded the establishment of an independent state in the areas they live in.

The heaviest fighting has taken place in northern Iraq, where much of the country's oil is located. Iraq has charged that Kurdish guerrillas are operating jointly with Iranian Revolutionary Guards there. It is estimated that as many as 500,000 Kurds have been displaced by the Iraqi dynamiting.

Dominica official said to get money from CIA

It has been reported that Prime Minis-

ter Eugenia Charles of the Caribbean island country of Dominica received \$100,000 from the CIA for her support of the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, which took place in October 1983. The payment was revealed by *Washington Post* editor Robert Woodward in a new book on the CIA. Charles has denied the allegation.

On October 19 Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard overthrew the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada headed by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Coard ordered the execution of Bishop and several other leaders of the government. Coard's action paved the way for the U.S. military invasion on October 25.

Prime Minister Charles appeared with President Ronald Reagan at the White House on the morning that the invasion was announced.

Bangladesh uproots indigenous peoples

A report issued by the Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples' Support Committee charges "indiscriminate oppression" and deliberate denial of basic human rights of indigenous minorities in that country.

Approximately 600,000 Chakmas, Baums, and Marma peoples occupy a 5,000 square mile area of Bangladesh bordering on Burma, and northeastern India. The area, known as the Chit-



tagong Hill Tracts (CHT), remained independent until it was annexed into the British-Indian Dominion in 1860. It was granted limited self-government in 1900.

The report states that the elected representatives of the CHT have demanded regional autonomy and restoration of the "excluded area" status in order to protect their language, culture and religion, and to prevent exploitation by nonindigenous people.

According to the report their demands have been answered with the massive deployment of the Bangladesh armed forces in the CHT. The report cites several cases of attacks by Bangladesh troops against indigenous villages, including beatings, rape, and shootings. In response to these attacks some of the indigenous people formed an armed force called the Shanti Bahini (Peace Force) to defend themselves.

Scott Paper workers walk out

BY HENRY HILLENBRAND

CHESTER, Pa. — The workers at Scott Paper Co.'s home plant here are on strike for the first time in 77 years. On October 13 members of United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 448 voted 1,073 to 187 to strike.

At 12:01 a.m. the next day, some 600 members picketed at the gates of the big plant, which covers four blocks along the Delaware River, south of Philadelphia. Later that day, a county judge issued a restraining order limiting the number of pickets per gate to four. Local 448 President John Brodie pointed out that this order was sitting on the judge's desk before the union members had even voted to strike.

Scott Paper, a major producer of paper towels and toilet paper, is demanding that members of the local accept a "Work Effectiveness Program" as part of a new contract.

This plan, similar to productivity schemes being pushed by other paper companies around the country, would require produc-

tion workers to do jobs out of their classifications and perform maintenance while the line is running. The company also wants to reduce the pool of workers who fill in temporary vacancies. This would either reduce the number of operators on a line and/or force double shifts. The company wants the right to require maintenance workers to put in 72-hour weeks.

Brodie said this is an attempt by the company to "destroy all past procedures. The language is so ambiguous," he explained, "that if we voted for it, the company could then say it meant anything they wanted it to mean."

"The company is going to unilateral scheduling of maintenance workers for 12- to 16-hour shifts, whether they [the workers] want it or not," Brodie said.

Many workers are out of the plant because of on-the-job injuries. Others are working with missing fingers and other permanent injuries. The result of the Work Effectiveness Program would be more such injuries, Brodie explained. "We have a strong safety concern about workers performing jobs they are not trained to do."

Many Local 448 members are older workers with years of seniority. As they describe it, working for Scott used to be "just like family." A sign at the first day's picketing indicated the change in thinking that's going on. It said, "The biggest fairy tale ever — the Scott Family."

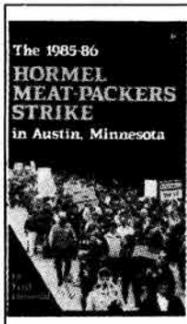
The workers' anger runs deep because of the sacrifices they made under the recently expired contract — sacrifices made because the company claimed in 1984 they were necessary to keep the plant from shutting down. Many workers put in a lot of overtime building a new power plant for the company, which it said was necessary to cut high energy costs.

Scott Paper says it produced \$3 billion of products in 1986. It's also making money from the new power plant by selling excess power to the Philadelphia Electric Company.

The company is trying to undercut support for the strikers by claiming they make \$51,000 a year. Picketing workers point out that they make less than half that amount, including overtime pay.

In September Local 448 sent a donation of \$1,269 to striking UPIU members at the International Paper mill in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania.

A pamphlet on meat-packers' struggle



The 1985-86 Hormel Meat-Packers Strike in Austin, Minnesota presents the facts about the Geo. A. Hormel & Co.'s union-busting attack on the workers at its Austin plant, and about how the Hormel workers fought back and won support from unionists and farmers across the country.

Every unionist facing takeback demands and other attacks will want to read this story. 44 pp. \$1.00

Available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12, or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please add \$.75 handling.

ARIZONA

Phoenix

Washington's War Against Iran. Speaker: Barbara Greenway, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.; preforum dinner, 5:30 p.m. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (602) 279-5850.

Behind the Coup in Burkina Faso. Panel discussion, speakers to be announced. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 279-5850.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

Young Socialist Alliance Picnic. Sat., Oct. 31, 2-6 p.m. Elysian Park. Sponsor: YSA. For more information call (213) 380-9460.

Nicaragua: How the Media Distorts the Truth. Speaker: Miranda Collette, editor of *Barricada Internacional*. Translation to Spanish. Sun., Nov. 1, 2 p.m. Reception to follow. 2546 W Pico Blvd. Donation \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (213) 380-9460.

FLORIDA

Miami

Socialist Campaign Rally. Speaker: Ernest Mailhot, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Miami. Translation to Spanish and Creole. Sat., Oct. 31. Reception, 7 p.m.; rally, 8 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Socialist Workers 1987 Mayoral Campaign. For more information call (305) 756-1020.

Behind the Coup in Burkina Faso. Speakers to be announced. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (305) 756-1020.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Socialist Educational Conference:

"Grenada's Revolution — Its Achievements and the Lessons of Its Destruction." Speaker: Sam Manuel. Class 1. Sat., Oct. 31, 1 p.m. Class 2. Sun., Nov. 1, 10 a.m.

"Coup in Burkina Faso: a Severe Blow to Revolutionary Process." Speaker: Sam Manuel, *Militant* staff writer, just attended Pan-African anti-apartheid conference in Burkina Faso. Sat., Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. All events held at 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Translation to Spanish. Donation: classes, \$1 each; rally \$3. Sponsors: Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

Rally to Protest Cop Murder of Eddie Lee Callahan. Speakers: Members of the Callahan family and others. Tue., Nov. 10, 7 p.m. Canterbury Center, 471 Fair St. (near Atlanta University). Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance and Georgia Black Students Association. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

MARYLAND

Baltimore

Meet the Socialist Candidates. Reception for Reba Williams Dixon, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, and Dana Burroughs, SWP candidate for city council president. Sun., Nov. 1, 4 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Sponsor: SWP Campaign. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

A Tribute to Thomas Sankara and the Four-Year Legacy of the Revolution in Burkina Faso. Speakers: Sam Manuel, *Militant* staff writer; representative, African National Congress of South Africa. Translation to Spanish.

Sun., Nov. 8, 2 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Why Washington Should Get Out of the Persian Gulf. Speaker: Russell Davis, Socialist Workers Party, member International Union of Electronic Workers Local 201. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (617) 247-6772.

MINNESOTA

Austin

A Victory for Democratic Rights. Celebration of recent court rulings against government intrusion into private political activity. Speaker: Fred Halstead, national spokesperson for Political Rights Defense Fund. Sun., Nov. 8. Reception, 3:30 p.m.; rally: 4 p.m. Downtown Motel, room 36 annex. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Political Rights Defense Fund. For more information call (507) 433-3461.

St. Paul

Behind the Coup in Burkina Faso. Speakers: August Nimitz, Socialist Workers Party; others. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

The Peace Accords and the Struggles in El Salvador and Nicaragua. Speakers: David Allen, Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador; Susanne Derby, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI

Kansas City

Socialist Educational Weekend. Speaker: Fred Halstead, Socialist Workers Party, longtime union and socialist activist, author of *Out Now!* and "The 1985-86 Meat-Packers' Strike in Austin, Minnesota."

1. Class: "The American Movement Against the Vietnam War: How It Was Built, Its Lessons for Today." Fri., Nov. 6, noon. Penn Valley Community College, room HB-107.

2. Forum: "The Central America Peace Accords: The Sandinista Revolution Advances." Translation to Spanish. Fri., Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. Party and raffle to follow. 4725 Troost. Donation: \$3.

3. Class: "From Montgomery to Selma: A History of the Civil Rights Movement." Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 7, 2 p.m. 4725 Troost. Series sponsored by Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (816) 753-0224.

St. Louis

The Stock Market Plunge: What It Means for Working People. Speaker: Matt Monroe, Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

Socialist Publications Fund Rally. Speakers: Michael Butler, *New Internationalist* reader; Janine Thome, coordinator of Evergreen Political Information Center; Tomas Villanueva, president of United Farm Workers of Washington State; Carlos Maradiaga, member of Sheetmetal Workers Union Local 99; Cathy Sedwick, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Sponsor: Pathfinder Bookstore. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

Cuba and the Rectification Campaign. Two classes by Cathy Sedwick. Sun., Nov. 15, 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King

Dr. Sponsor: Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (314) 361-0250.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Socialist Educational Weekend. Two classes on "The 50-Year Struggle to Build a Communist Party in the United States: Lessons of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance Lawsuit Against the FBI." Class I: "Class Struggle Policy in World War II and the Birth of the Mass Struggle for Black Civil Rights." Sat., Oct. 31, 3 p.m. Class II: "From World War II to Contragate to the Bork Nomination: What is the Threat to Democratic Rights in the United States?" Sun., Nov. 1, 11 a.m. Translation to Spanish. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$1 per class. Sponsors: Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (212) 226-8445 or (201) 643-3341 in New Jersey.

U.S. Out of the Persian Gulf! Speakers: Georges Sayad, Socialist Workers Party; Said Othman, General Union of Palestinian Students; Fred Dube, African National Congress. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

Evening of Political and Cultural Presentations in Support of Palestinian Rights. Speakers: Hassan Abdul Rahman, director, Palestine Information Office in Washington, D.C.; Julie Mungai, defendant in Los Angeles 8 deportation case; Nadia Habash, Bir Zeit University; Sechaba Singers; others. Sat., Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. Altschul Auditorium, Columbia University, 420 W. 118 St. Donation \$5. Sponsor: Arab Club at Columbia University, in conjunction with Second National Convention of November 29 Committee for Palestine. For more information call (212) 557-5410.

Rally to Stop the Strip Searches of Women Prisoners in Northern Ireland. Sun., Nov. 8, 3-5 p.m. British consulate, 845 3rd Ave (between 51st and 52nd streets).

New Paltz

South Africa Slideshow and Discussion. Speakers: Fred Dube, representative of African National Congress and professor fighting against firing by State University of New York; Tony Savino, photojournalist. Wed., Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. Lecture Center 100, SUNY. Sponsor: New York Public Interest Research Group. For more information call (914) 257-2280.

Queens

Hear Bernadette Devlin McAliskey. Fri., Nov. 6, 9 p.m. The Breefing Inn, 40th St. and Queens Blvd., Woodside. Donation: \$10. Proceeds to send legal observers to Birmingham 6 appeal and Liam Quinn trial in Northern Ireland. Sponsor: Committee for Legal Justice in Northern Ireland. For more information call (718) 833-7741 or 436-4770.

OHIO

Cleveland

The Fight for Women's Rights Today. Speaker: Lynn Emerson, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 31. Preforum dinner, 6 p.m.; forum, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2; dinner, \$3. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (216) 861-6150.

OREGON

Portland

The Coup in Burkina Faso: Blow to Revolution. Speakers: Floyd Fowler, Socialist Workers Party; others. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 2732 NE Union. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 287-7416.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh

Why the Bork Nomination Failed. Speaker: Sue Skinner, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers of America. Sat., Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. 4905 Penn Ave., Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

Panic on Wall Street: the Marxist View. Speakers: representative, Socialist Workers Party, others. Sat. Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 4905 Penn Ave., Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

UTAH

Salt Lake City

Solidarity with Workers and Farmers in Struggle. Speaker: Rena Cacoullos, National Secretary, Young Socialist Alliance. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 147 E 900 S. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Stock Market Crash of 1987: Can Capitalism Work? Speakers to be announced. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. 3165 Mt. Pleasant NW. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston

The Central American Peace Agreement: A Blow to the U.S. War in Nicaragua. Speakers: Maggie McCraw, Socialist Workers Party; others. Sun., Nov. 1, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (304) 345-3040.

Morgantown

The Russian Revolution — Legacy and Lessons of 70 Years. Film: *The Last Years of the Tsars*; Speaker: Pattie Sanchez, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. 221 Pleasant St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (304) 296-0055.

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

Haiti Today. Speaker: Patrick Dellegarde-Smith, professor of Afro-American studies, UWM, recently returned from visit to Haiti. Sat., Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. 4707 W Lisbon Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

Join Nicaragua construction brigade on Atlantic Coast

On Jan. 5, volunteers will go to Atlantic Coast town of La Fe near Bluefields to build housing for the English-speaking Black community there. Participants will have opportunity to witness autonomy process of the Coast peoples. Cost: approximately \$650. Scholarships available. For more information contact: ACLA, P.O. Box 4184, Atlanta, Ga. 30302. Tel: (404) 377-1079; or Witness for Peace, 222 E. Lake Dr., Decatur, Ga. 30030.

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Where to find the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, and Pathfinder bookstores.

ALABAMA: Birmingham: SWP, YSA, 1306 1st Ave. N. Zip: 35203. Tel: (205) 323-3079.

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CALIFORNIA: Los Angeles: SWP, YSA, 2546 W. Pico Blvd. Zip: 90006. Tel: (213) 380-9460. **Oakland:** SWP, YSA, 3702 Telegraph Ave. Zip: 94609. Tel: (415) 420-1165. **San Diego:** SWP, YSA, 2803 B St. Zip: 92102. Tel: (619) 234-4630. **San Francisco:** SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 282-6255. **San Jose:** SWP, YSA, 46 1/2 Race St. Zip: 95126. Tel: (408) 998-4007. **Seaside:** YSA, c/o Brian Olewude, 1790 Havana St. Zip: 93955. Tel: (408) 394-7948. **Stockton:** YSA, c/o Ted Barratt and Gustavo Mendoza, 825 N. San Jose St. Zip: 95203. Tel: (209) 941-8544.

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NEW YORK: Albany: YSA, c/o Lisa Sandberg, 120 Lark St. Zip: 12210. Tel: (518) 463-8001. **Mid-Hudson:** YSA, Box 1042, Annandale. Zip: 12504. Tel: (914) 758-0408. **New York:** SWP, YSA, 79 Leonard St. Zip: 10013. Tel: (212) 219-3679 or 925-1668. Pathfinder Books, 226-8445. **Rome:** YSA, c/o Cosmos Andoloro, 7172 Rickmeyer Rd. Zip: 13440. **Stony Brook:** YSA, P.O. Box 1384, Patchogue, N.Y. Zip: 11772.

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WASHINGTON: Seattle: SWP, YSA, 5517 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

WEST VIRGINIA: Charleston: SWP, YSA, 116 McFarland St. Zip: 25301. Tel: (304) 345-3040. **Morgantown:** SWP, YSA, 221 Pleasant St. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

WISCONSIN: Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 4707 W. Lisbon Ave. Zip: 53208. Tel: (414) 445-2076.

The struggle continues — In Matewan, West Virginia, scene of the coal-strike film of the same name, 150 students were suspended when they looked at a



Harry Ring

school lunch and, in defiance of the rules, left the building to get pizza. The students staged a walk-out, parents are picketing, and four school bus drivers refused to

cross their line.

That'll learn 'em — An Israeli paper reported that the colors of the Palestine Liberation Organization — red, green, white, and black — are very popular in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, especially in T-shirts. The report says, "The security forces in the territories fight this nuisance every day and, in accordance with the law, undress youngsters wearing such T-shirts."

But only at moderate prices — One of the judges on Reagan's list of possible substitutes for Bork is Richard Posner. In one essay, Posner proposed eliminating adop-

tion agencies and legalizing the sale of babies on the open market.

His Xmas gift? — A news report on the failure of wine coolers to take off cites a New York yuppie who figured out they taste like cheap wine. "I had a six-pack that was sitting in my refrigerator for six months," he said. "I gave it to the doorman."

And probably not then — A congressional study found the Federal Aviation Administration's program and standards for checking jetliner safety "inadequate and outdated." Rep. James Oberstar found this "chilling." He said the FAA has been ducking the problem "and refuses to face up to it

until a disaster occurs."

Meanwhile... — At least twice this year, Eastern Airlines ordered pilots to fly planes with busted altitude alert devices — and suspended a pilot who balked. Responding to this, Eastern officials said they followed federal rules as currently applied. The FAA said, yes, that's true.

But not to worry — "Nearly one-fourth of all Americans have been exposed to carcinogens or other hazardous substances on the job and most of them are unaware of it, according to an estimate from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health." — News item.

Obviously that's different — The air force persists in shipping a deadly rocket propellant chemical around the county by truck through populated areas. Officials assure there's no problem. Meanwhile, on air force bases, trucks carrying the stuff are required to use special "explosive routes."

Knock your sox off — Saluting the latest styles of French designer Christian Lacroix, the *New York Times* enthused: "They are for women who love to dress, and for them, Mr. Lacroix restores some of the excitement of buying new clothes. The average price is around \$3,000; more decorated evening styles go for up to \$9,000."

London rally demands sanctions against apartheid

Continued from front page

marched. The Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign organized a contingent with placards demanding, "Boycott South Africa, not Nicaragua."

The same day as the London demonstration, some 2,000 left supporters of the Labour Party and other independent socialists, meeting in Chesterfield, adopted a resolution supporting the demonstration. About 4,000 anti-apartheid activists marched in a coordinated demonstration in Cardiff, Wales.

The president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, led a delegation to Thatcher's residence at Downing Street, calling on her to reverse her stance against divestment and to impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa and Namibia immediately.

A rally was held in Hyde Park after the march. The main speakers were leaders of the ANC and SWAPO.

Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO, described the "reign of terror" maintained by the 100,000 South African occupation troops in Namibia. "It has mobilized death squads, who are committing untold atrocities," he reported.

"Hundreds of innocent Namibian civilians are being arrested, detained, tortured, and killed," he said, "in an attempt by the regime to break the Namibians' heroic resistance to apartheid colonialism."

Nujoma described the suppression of struggles by unionists for livable wages, improved working conditions, and an end

to apartheid's occupation of Namibia.

The armed struggle being waged by the liberation movement in Namibia, said Nujoma, is a factor in propelling the inevitable collapse of the apartheid state.

Nujoma reported on the emerging opposition among whites in Namibia to Pretoria's rule, including the formation of organizations in support of Namibian independence. This is a "clear indication that the liberation movement is extending its influence in the white community" and winning friends and allies, thereby further isolating the regime.

Many white Namibians are refusing to serve in the army, and some are joining SWAPO. This is a "significant advance for our struggle," emphasized Nujoma.

Johnstone Makatini, head of the International Department of the ANC, also addressed the crowd. "Let us organize the workers, housewives, students, everybody in this country, to impose peoples' sanctions," said Makatini.

Ron Todd, General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union — one of the largest in the country — said that "Thatcher doesn't talk for the working people of Great Britain" when she refuses to back sanctions against South Africa.

"If she won't impose sanctions, we will," he said, referring to a number of recent cases where British workers have refused to handle South African goods. Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, also spoke.

Joan Lestor, from the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, con-

demned Thatcher's Conservative Party administration for refusing to take action against a recently revealed conspiracy to assassinate leaders of the ANC.

The government had just announced its decision to drop charges against three men accused of a plot to kidnap ANC officials in London, citing "national security" as the reason. The men were arrested in July 1987, and documents from Britain's secret intelligence were found on them.

On his arrival in London to speak at the demonstration, Nujoma said he believed the release of the three to be a cover-up involving the South African and British governments and intelligence services.

The ANC in London responded saying that the case "raises matters of the gravest concern to the ANC and indeed the whole of Africa."

Greetings were read to the rally from Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock. Glenys Kinnock, who recently returned from a conference on children under apartheid held in Zimbabwe, spoke about the South African regime's torture of children.

Greetings were also read from U.S. politicians Sen. Edward Kennedy and Jesse Jackson.

Good sales at London action

Supporters of the British biweekly *Socialist Action* sold over 200 copies of that paper to participants in the October 24 anti-apartheid demonstration in London. They also sold 40 copies of the last week's *Militant*, which had extensive coverage of the events in Burkina Faso, and an additional 65 copies of an earlier issue of the *Militant*. Many of the papers were sold in the contingents organized by backers of the African National Congress and South West Africa People's Organisation.

In addition, the *Socialist Action* supporters sold 18 copies of the issue of the Marxist journal *New Internationalist* that contains an article by Jack Barnes titled "The Coming Revolution in South Africa." Some \$725 worth of revolutionary literature was sold on three *Socialist Action* literature tables.

10 AND 25 YEARS AGO

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE
Nov. 4, 1977

The white supremacist regime in South Africa has attempted, with one sudden blow, to turn back the tide of massive Black political protests that has engulfed that country for more than a year.

Early on the morning of October 19, the Vorster regime outlawed more than 20 Black and other anti-apartheid organizations and banned two Black-run newspapers.

The move, which was carried out under the provisions of the draconian Internal Security Act, is the most drastic action against Black political organizations since 1960.

Vorster's new round of bannings has been accompanied by a series of arrests. In predawn raids October 19, police seized about 50 prominent political activists, community figures, teachers, journalists, and students. An unknown number of others were served with banning orders.

The crackdown was launched partly in response to a mounting wave of protests over the death in police custody of Steve Biko, one of the country's most influential young Black leaders and a founder of the nationalist current known as the Black Consciousness movement.

THE MILITANT
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OCT. 30 — Fear of worldwide repercussions has been a significant factor in temporarily staying the Kennedy administration from launching a U.S. invasion of revolutionary Cuba.

The horror aroused in the vast majority

of mankind by President John Kennedy's October 22 proclamation of his act-of-war blockade of Cuba was reflected indirectly by actions and declarations emanating from high world councils, including the United Nations and the Vatican. Direct opposition to Washington's brink of nuclear war moves has been shown by mass actions of workers and students both in this country and in many countries of Latin America, Europe, and Asia.

It is not any alleged missile bases on Cuba which the U.S. ruling class fears and cannot tolerate. It is a weapon far more awesome to the U.S. bankers and industrialists than any H-bomb. It is a world-shaking idea — the idea that the workers and peasants, the oppressed and miserable of this earth, can take political power into their own hands and run society for their own benefit.

A hint as to the reason why Kennedy has not taken the final fatal step [invasion] which the governing clique in Washington has been seriously contemplating, is given by Washington correspondent Max Frankel in today's *New York Times*. He writes:

"Administration officials, looking back today on the fateful choice [an act-of-war blockade rather than a sudden invasion] revealed that the final decision was made for moral as well as tactical reasons. Grave questions were raised in the President's inner circle about the blot that an assault on Cuba would place on the United States record and repercussions it would have around the world."

A wave of pro-Cuba demonstrations last week throughout Latin America gave some open indications of the sentiment pervading Latin America. On October 26 there was a violent demonstration of some 3,000 unionists in La Paz, Bolivia, before the U.S. embassy. In Caracas, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, the Ecuadoran port of Guayaquil, in Montevideo, Mexico City, Santo Domingo, Bogota, and Managua, demonstrations and other protest actions took place.

1962 Cuban missile crisis

Continued from Page 9

what it calls the "rectification" process — a historic turning point within the revolution.

This process is dealing with the growing problems of bureaucratization, corruption, demoralization, and depoliticization that was affecting the revolution.

The most tangible and important result so far of this rectification process has been the revival, on a truly massive scale, of the volunteer construction brigades. (See October 16 and October 23 issues of the *Militant* for extensive coverage of the work of the "minibrigades.")

These advances the Cuban people are making in becoming more communist, more internationalist, and more political can only serve to win their revolution even broader support among the workers, farmers, and youth of the world and make even higher the price Washington pays for its belligerent policies.

Reagan had come into office in January 1981 pledging to increase hostility to Cuba. With bipartisan support, he carried this out.

But after six years of such moves, Cuba is less isolated than ever — and Washington has been unable to exact a single concession from the Cubans in foreign or domestic policy. Moreover, the U.S. rulers find themselves with less leverage than ever before for putting pressure on Cuba.

It's this failure that has spurred a new debate among capitalist politicians and newspaper commentators over reestablishing diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba.

A front-page article in the October 11

Miami Herald, for example, was titled "U.S.-Cuba relations thawing." It began, "Despite continued public antagonism, bilateral relations between Cuba and the United States are improving and might lead to the renewal of a U.S.-Cuba immigration agreement suspended two years ago."

"The outward signs of improvement include last month's assignment of an American diplomat to Havana to head the U.S. Interests Section there. The position had been vacant for nine months. Last week, the head of the Cuban mission in Washington returned to the United States after a lengthy stay in Havana."

The *Herald* quoted a U.S. official: "There is a return to normal procedures. It is appropriate to say that this reflects improvement over what existed before."

A similar article appeared in the October 4 *New York Times*. It was titled "U.S. ties with Cuba in warming trend."

In February of this year, Sen. Claiborne Pell, chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, commented, "I'd like to see a normalization in our relations with Cuba."

These are important signs that some in U.S. ruling circles believe normalizing relations with Cuba is necessary. Washington's trade embargo, military provocations, and goal of overturning the Cuban government, however, still remain a serious threat.

That's why all opponents of U.S. intervention in the Caribbean and Central America and all supporters of the Cuban revolution must continue to demand, "Hands off Cuba!"

The move to chop social spending

Congress and the White House have joined hands to use the gyrations of the stock market as justification for new cuts in government-financed social programs. Combined with the persistent employer drive against wages and working conditions, this further reduces the living standards of working people — with the poorest, again, hit the hardest.

Administration officials and legislators argue that by reducing the federal deficit there will be less need for the government to borrow money. This, they say, will help lower interest rates, which in turn will encourage business to get loans to invest in expansion and head off a possible recession. This, presumably, would allay the fears of stock market speculators and restore stability on Wall Street.

However, compared with the total federal debt — now over the \$2 trillion mark — the proposed reductions in the 1988 deficit are chicken feed. (A “very modest achievement” and no panacea in terms of U.S. economic ills, advises House Speaker Jim Wright, the Texas Democrat.)

But in terms of the impact on the lives of working people, the cuts will prove substantial. The bipartisan congressional team and administration representatives, have agreed on a declared initial goal of cutting the budget by at least \$23 billion. This is the amount that would assertedly be lopped off under the new automatic deficit reduction law.

(Actually the automatic cut would be \$10 billion, not \$23 billion, since a 4.2 percent inflation factor is included.)

Even under the automatic cutting procedure, now being discarded as too minimal, the reduction in social services would be harsh.

Federal housing for the elderly would be cut back by 1,000 units.

Rural housing, slashed 50 percent since 1980, would be cut another \$180 million.

Expenditures on the dangerously inadequate air traffic control system would be sliced by \$400 million.

Spending for education would be cut by \$900 million.

The scandalously insufficient AIDS research and treatment program would be cut \$23.8 million.

With pious hypocrisy Reagan, and the Democrats, assure that the one thing that won't be touched is Social Security benefits.

That's a fraud. A new cut, indirect but real, has just been imposed without a murmur from Congress.

In 1988, Social Security benefits will be increased 4.2 percent to compensate for inflation.

But at the same time, the monthly premium paid by Social Security recipients for Medicare coverage is being increased from \$17.90 to \$24.80. That's a hike of nearly 40 percent, the biggest so far.

That increase means that for the average retiree the net increase will be closer to 2 percent than 4.2 percent. Measured against inflation, that's a cut, not an increase.

The budget-cutting team is reportedly weighing increases in such “user” taxes as those on gasoline, tobacco, alcohol, and telephone service. One trial balloon speaks of a national sales tax. All such taxes, of course, are calculated to put a disproportionate burden on working people.

However, it's promised that there's no plan to hike income taxes. If true, that would be fine — if they were simply talking about workers, who certainly have been hit hard enough.

But there is absolutely no justification for not increasing taxes on big business.

With last year's so-called tax reform law, working people got a few miserable crumbs at best. The real reductions went to corporations and to wealthy individuals.

And those cuts came at a time when rich people are pocketing a greater share of the nation's wealth than ever.

Last year, the wealthiest 20 percent of the people in the country took 43.7 percent of the national income, the highest percentage yet.

Now these people want to load the burden of the present crisis onto the already overburdened backs of working people.

We should say a strong “no” to that. One area where Congress has remained stubbornly reluctant to make any meaningful cuts is the monstrous military budget.

With the annual budget for weapons of destruction now near the \$300 billion mark, they're speaking of a token \$11.5 billion cut at most.

Since Reagan took office in 1981, military expenditures, approved by Congress, have totaled an astronomical \$1.6 trillion!

It's time for working people to demand a halt to that. The entire military arsenal, which threatens all of humanity, should be scrapped. The trillions poured into the war machine should be used for what's really necessary. That is, to expand social programs, not cut them.

AFL-CIO, Teamsters reunification

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland told the recent federation convention in Miami that the readmittance of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters into the AFL-CIO represents a “major step . . . toward reunification of the entire labor movement under the banner of the AFL-CIO.”

But that reaffiliation of the 1.7-million-member Teamsters union, which goes into effect November 1 after a 30-year separation, will do little to strengthen the fighting capacity of the labor movement.

The merger announcement comes in the context of threats of a Justice Department lawsuit aimed at getting rid of the Teamsters executive board and having the union placed under government control. In trial balloons floated about the takeover, the government says it wants to remove the union from the grip of “organized crime.”

The corruption of the Teamsters officialdom and the lack of democracy in the union is no secret to millions of workers.

But the last thing the billionaire ruling-class families and their government are concerned about is lack of union democracy. For more than a decade they have waged a relentless war on working people. Throughout this period unionists have been under the gun to give concessions on wages, work rules, safety conditions, and union rights.

But as the pressure has mounted, workers have begun resisting these attacks. This is shown by the fights of meat-packers, cannery workers, farm workers, paper workers, coal miners, and others over the past year. The employers recognize that the methods used in the first half of the 1980s — getting union officials to convince workers to go along with concessions — will become increasingly ineffective, and they are preparing to use rougher measures. This includes laying the groundwork for curtailing democratic rights and giving the government a free hand to intervene directly in the unions.

Right now a majority of the rulers are unwilling to launch such a frontal attack. They calculate it could provoke massive resistance. But by going after unpopular targets such as the Teamsters officialdom that may be more vulnerable, they seek to grease the skids for doing this down the road.

Sensing the opposition of many workers to the govern-

ment's probe, Kirkland put the AFL-CIO on record against a government takeover of the Teamsters, a stand all unionists should support.

Kirkland also stressed that the readmittance of the Teamsters into the AFL-CIO was based on solidarity. But solidarity has little meaning for the officials of the AFL-CIO or of the Teamsters. The Teamsters tops look at the merger as a way of strengthening their hand against the government, not the solidarity of Teamster members with other unionists, let alone nonunion workers. For Kirkland and the others in the AFL-CIO hierarchy the merger means an increase in funds pouring into the federation's coffers in the face of declining membership.

As the employers' offensive heated up during the 1980s, officials of both the AFL-CIO unions and the Teamsters demonstrated that they have no strategy to fight back. In most instances, the union bureaucracy's approach has been to accommodate the employers' concession demands in order to help keep their companies profitable and to “save” jobs.

As workers have tried to struggle, the employers use court injunctions and antilabor laws to prevent workers from using union power to win their demands. Faced with this, the officials have thrown their own book of rules at the workers to further hamstring their fight.

This approach has resulted in millions having their wages slashed, faster line speed in most plants, and a growing number of on-the-job injuries.

It has resulted in the employers getting away with increased use of lockouts, scab-herding, and outright union-busting. It has resulted in a decrease in the size of the organized union movement and a drop in the labor movement's stature in the eyes of the working class as a whole.

Bringing the Teamsters under the roof of the AFL-CIO will by itself do nothing to turn this around.

A new strategy for labor will develop out of future battles as more and more unionists come to the conclusion that they have irreconcilable differences with the employers and their government in Washington. That strategy will rely on turning the unions into instruments of struggle where the mobilization and organization of the ranks is used to settle disputes with the employers day-to-day on the job as well as at contract time.

Should socialists have abstained on Bork debate?

BY DOUG JENNESS

The *Militant* welcomes suggestions for improving our coverage, including disagreements with our positions, which we attempt to present clearly and frankly. However, Stansfield Smith, who criticizes our treatment of the Robert Bork nomination in a letter on the facing page, unfortunately also gives an erroneous account of our stand.

He says that our view is that “real Marxists do not involve themselves in Supreme Court choices on princi-

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

ple.” And that we “dismissed” the whole business “as a liberal-conservative Senate struggle from which leftists should abstain.”

But this is not our view. In the articles Smith refers to (October 9, 16, and 23 *Militant*), we made our opposition to the Bork nomination and our celebration of his defeat unambiguously clear.

Normally, working people have little interest in Supreme Court nominations. They are routinely approved by the Senate and don't usually reveal a great deal about the current stage in the struggle between the working class and the capitalist rulers.

But the Bork nomination was different. And most working people recognized this was the case.

By appointing a judge who has persistently campaigned to reverse the entire body of progressive decisions made by the high court in the past 30 years, President Reagan brazenly challenged rights that have been conquered in struggle by the labor, civil rights, and women's liberation movements. The appointment signaled the prospect of a full-steam-ahead offensive against affirmative action for Blacks and women, abortion rights, and the right of privacy for individuals and organizations.

Moreover, the Bork nomination offered a rallying point for the right-wing supporters of Reagan to try to recoup their losses in the 1986 elections and as a result of the Iran-contra arms exposures.

The debate over the nomination also disclosed a dispute in ruling circles over how rapidly and to what extent tougher measures, including drastically curtailing democratic rights, should be used against strikes, demonstrations, and other working-class struggles.

Our recognition that the debate among Democratic and Republican politicians was fundamentally over the tactics the exploiting class should use against the exploited classes is a far cry from dismissing the dispute as simply a “liberal-conservative Senate struggle” as Smith accuses.

To the contrary, the *Militant* pointed out that the debate helped illuminate a little better the current stage in the employing class's assault on the working class. It shows that a majority in the ruling circles think a frontal assault on democratic rights, at this time, would unnecessarily provoke a revolt.

The employers' offensive of the past decade has enjoyed considerable bipartisan backing, but the debate over the Bork nomination reflected certain limits to this consensus at the present time. As the pressure to use harsher methods increases, however, in the face of working-class battles against concession contracts, speed-up, wage cuts, and so on, there will be growing support among the employers and their political representatives to crack down on constitutional rights.

This was camouflaged during the debate because the liberal opposition portrayed itself as champions of democratic rights.

The congressional opponents of Bork, and many who supported them, also gave the impression that Bork's vote on the Supreme Court would be decisive in overturning the conquests of the past three decades, if not more.

In opposing the Bork nomination, one of the principal tasks of vanguard forces in the working class, in addition to exposing Bork's record, was to explain that advances in democratic rights, codified by court decisions and constitutional amendments, have been won as the result of struggles by working people, not the goodwill of the courts. And that for the employing class to reverse them will also require massive battles.

This means showing how the outcome of fights workers are engaged in today — strikes, defense cases, and so on — affects whether or not democratic rights are advanced or set back.

The debate around Bork was not an occasion for abstention, but for actively explaining — in the unions, on campuses, and at anti-Bork rallies — the working-class stakes in opposing Bork and defending and advancing constitutional rights and how that can be achieved.

Smith says it wasn't only “liberals” who actively opposed Bork. That's true. But unfortunately most of those calling themselves socialists accepted the leadership and echoed the arguments of the liberal capitalist opponents of Bork. Their standpoint was not the interests of working people.

How Daniel Ortega talked to U.S. students

BY HARRY RING

NEW YORK — It's not every day that people in this country get to see a political figure who listens to questions carefully and answers them in a patient, well-reasoned way. When it does happen, it's appreciated.

This was apparent when Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega was at Columbia University following his October 8 address to the United Nations.

The Columbia meeting was hosted by the graduate school of journalism, and admission was limited to students and the media. The 750-seat hall was jam-packed.

As we reported earlier, the Nicaraguan leader got an excellent reception, and as the evening went on, it got

AS I SEE IT

better. It was clear that many in the audience were influenced by what he had to say.

The students plied him with questions and listened intently to his answers. This seemed particularly so with questions about what's happening within Nicaragua.

One of the early questions was about an agreement Nicaragua had made with Costa Rica for a joint lumber-cutting project in a rain forest that's part of the border area of the two countries. Soon after it was made, the agreement was scrapped.

Ortega's explanation was brief and to the point. The Nicaraguan government had approved the project, and he had done so personally. But almost immediately, he added, there was protest from environmental activists and from the Nicaraguan government agency charged with wildlife preservation. They pointed to the environ-

mental damage that would be done.

"So," Ortega said, "the project was canceled." The audience clapped in approval.

What about the counterrevolutionary prisoners, a student wanted to know. With the new peace accord, will they be pardoned?

Ortega took out a piece of paper and gave precise numbers — 1,234 were pardoned between 1980 and 1987. Another 1,518 were freed after completing their sentences. So, he explained, Nicaragua's policy of pardoning and releasing prisoners began well before the accords were signed.

But, he firmly added, there will be no pardons for "hardened criminals."

He added another point. The maximum jail term in Nicaragua is 30 years and there is no death penalty. That drew applause.

What about the status of women in the new Nicaragua? Most important, Ortega responded, there is a massive integration of women into the tasks of the revolution — "politically, economically, and in defense of the country."

But, he continued, "women have specific grievances." Principal among these, he said, was the lack of child-care facilities, a lack that is a big barrier to greater integration of women into the revolutionary process.

A priority has been given, he said, to building such centers in the countryside and at factories. But the critical lack of resources has imposed big limits on this.

Once peace comes and the resources become available, he declared, building an adequate number of day-care centers will be a "key priority."

Supposing, a student asked, new elections were held. Would the Sandinistas win again?

Ortega responded by recalling that in the 1984 elections his campaign for the presidency did not include any promises — except the promise that with the continuation of the contra war and economic difficulties, there would be even greater sacrifice and hardship ahead.

On that "platform," he observed, the Sandinistas won two-thirds of the vote.

Consider, he told the students. If at the time of the next elections there is peace in Nicaragua and the Sandinistas can realistically pledge advances in housing, food, medical care, and other social needs, is there any reason to believe they would lose?

For the audience, it was a persuasive reply and, again, won a round of applause.

The students seemed equally impressed with an answer Ortega offered to a question that hadn't been asked.

He said that as he came to the meeting he had seen a campus rally in progress in solidarity with Nicaragua. Nearby there was a counterdemonstration of right-wing students chanting, "USA."

It would have been good, Ortega observed, if these students had attended his meeting, "so they could explain what their viewpoint was, and we might have the opportunity to clarify things."

He told the audience, "I hope that in your contact and conversation with them you will clarify that there is no war between the United States and Nicaragua. There is a war being waged by the United States government against Nicaragua."

He emphasized that Nicaraguans distinguished between the people of the United States and the government.

LETTERS

Ecological destruction

Enclosed is \$12 for a six-month renewal to the *Militant*. Thanks for the stimulating paper.

I was very interested in the few articles you ran on the environment and ecological destruction going on worldwide. More articles on how workers can grapple with these devastating problems, please!

G.D.
San Francisco, California

Bork I

I think the *Militant* errs in stating that the opposition to the nomination of Judge Robert Bork was led and organized by liberals. To call all these "liberal" is simply saying that all who actively opposed Bork were liberals; all who opposed him but did nothing about it were radicals like yourselves. This seems to flow from your position that real Marxists do not involve themselves in Supreme Court choices on principle.

You put forward an abstract statement as an alternative to the anti-Bork campaign: Democratic rights will not be won by Supreme Court decisions, but "will be defended and extended in the course of victories won in big battles between workers and farmers and their exploiters." This is true insofar as it is true that these two can be conceived of as opposed methods of winning rights.

However the Bork case does not fit into this sort of schema. The broad popular opposition to the rightist views represented by Bork is a lightning rod in the battles between the people and the rulers over whose view of democratic rights will be enforced. It should be understood as such rather than dismissed as a liberal-conservative Senate struggle from which leftists should abstain.

Stansfield Smith
Chicago, Illinois

Bork II

The October 9 *Militant* printed a letter from a reader who states that Judge Robert Bork is a Libertarian.

Although Bork has said he was a Libertarian in the late 1960s, he also says he changed most of his libertarian views around 1970.

Bork believes that a majority has the moral and constitutional right to impose its views on a

minority. Thus, he argues that school prayer should be permitted, abortion should be outlawed, oral sex in private should be banned, criminals should be sterilized, and contraceptives should be banned, all if the majority favors these policies.

He doesn't believe in the concept of natural rights. He is therefore the precise opposite of a Libertarian.

The Libertarian Party national convention last month passed a resolution opposing Bork's placement on the U.S. Supreme Court.
Richard Winger
San Francisco, California

TWA strikers

The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals has turned down a petition by Trans World Airlines seeking a rehearing of the court's earlier decision ordering reinstatement and back pay for some 1,500 flight attendants, members of the Independent Federation of Flight Attendants (IFFA).

The ruling requires the airline to replace 463 junior flight attendants — hired after the union called off its 1986 strike against TWA — with senior attendants who had struck.

In addition, the court let stand its earlier ruling that up to 1,200 union members who returned to work during the strike must give way to more senior full-term strikers.

IFFA President Vicki Frankovich commented, "This ruling will cost the company \$55 million, and a favorable ruling in our bad-faith bargaining lawsuit could result in hundreds of millions more."

In addition to this decision, IFFA is seeking reinstatement and full back pay for approximately 5,000 strikers in the bad-faith bargaining suit, which is currently pending in U.S. district court in Kansas City.

It is not yet known whether TWA will appeal this decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. Most strikers feel that an appeal is certain as the company continues to use its legal department and its financial resources to fight their court-ordered return.

Marcia Halverson
Former TWA striker
Cleveland, Ohio

Ortega in Bronx

While in the United States, Daniel Ortega, his wife Rosario Murillo, and their children attended a program at Highbridge Community Life Center in South Bronx, New York. School children and religious and community activists let them know that the people of this country do not agree with Washington's war against Nicaragua.

Children from the third grade class at Community Elementary School 114 sang "We Are the World" and "La Bamba." They also presented in both Spanish and English a letter to the Ortega children and all the children of Nicaragua, letting them know that the third graders wished only peace for Nicaragua.

The Sacred Heart Middle School Choir and the Brazilian musician Thiago de Mello also performed.

During his talk to the group, Ortega said that if Ronald Reagan really represented democracy, he would allow the people of the United States to vote to see if they agree with his war policy in Nicaragua.

A representative of 125 solidarity and peace groups presented Ortega with 27,000 signatures of New Yorkers against contra aid. The signatures were collected in just one day of tabling throughout the city. "It's clear that the North American people do not support the government," she said.

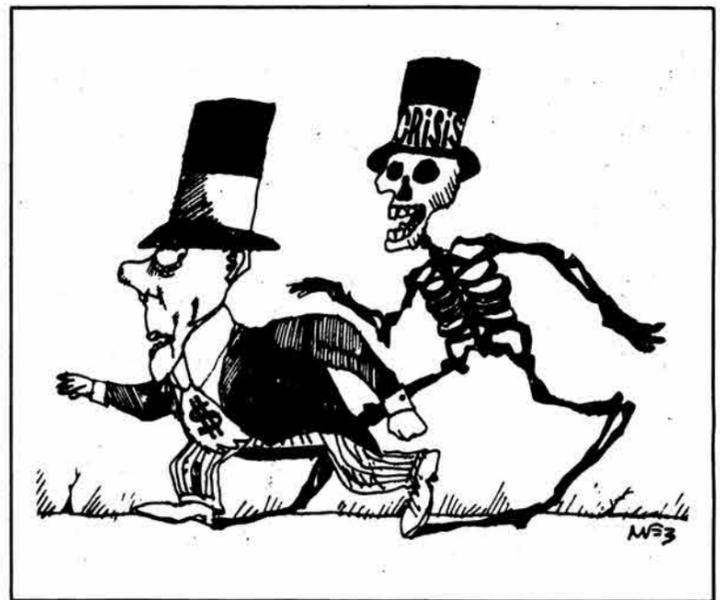
Ortega ended his talk at the community center with "a new call to the president of the United States and his advisers to end the war against Nicaragua."

Becky Ellis
Newark, New Jersey

Paperworkers coverage

The Pathfinder Bookstore here in Birmingham recently got a phone call from a student at Auburn University. She was in the process of writing a paper for a labor studies course on the strikes against International Paper Co.

She told us she had called the United Paperworkers International Union's local office in Mobile, Alabama, where the workers have been locked out by IP since March 21. The union member who answered the phone at the office referred her to us, saying that the *Militant* was the best source of in-



formation on their struggle.

Naturally we were happy to help by sending her the October 23 *Militant* along with several back issues.

Dennis Koncewicz
Birmingham, Alabama

Child labor

With tears in my eyes, I read your article on the exploitation of child labor around the globe (*Militant*, October 2).

This is the cruelest aspect of capitalism, that not even the children are spared, but are forced to work under hellish conditions. Children as young as four are broken like domestic animals to work as much as 75 hours a week and receive as little as 15 cents an hour. These children fabricate glass, gems, carpets, etc., which are sold in North America and Europe for huge profits.

This is nothing less than slavery. The capitalists steal the childhood and very lives from these children.

This nightmare of child abuse can only come to an end with the struggles and revolution of the working people.

John-Michael Eggertsen
Salt Lake City, Utah

'The other side'

I am writing in response to an article in your September 18 issue, "Utah demonstration protests execution." As I was reading, I found myself left with a unanswered question: What were the events that led to the execution of

Pierre Dale Selby?

In your article, it appeared that the execution was a racial act because Selby was a black, sentenced by an all-white jury. If all the facts had been stated it would not have appeared this way.

I think you left out just a few details. There were not three, but five victims. Selby and his accomplice, William Andrews, forced the victims to drink Liquid Drano. Following that, three of them were shot in the head at point-blank range.

In your article you quoted Selby from a letter he wrote to the *Salt Lake Tribune*, "With this case especially, there's only one way to go: 'Hang the niggers.'" No, Selby, in my opinion, Liquid Drano would have done just fine.

Selby took away the "right to life" from three people and in doing so he gave up his "right to life" three times over.

As I was left with a question, I will leave it with you: Your article stated that the death penalty is a "cruel and unusual punishment" (from the criminal's point of view), which is prohibited by the Constitution. Then what is a murder to an innocent victim?

Tara Ploczek
Des Moines, Iowa

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.

Wyoming miners under attack

84 strikers arrested trying to block buses carrying scabs

BY SCOTT BREEN

SHERIDAN, Wyo. — In what is becoming a major showdown between the labor movement and big business, 84 striking coal miners were arrested and charged with "disorderly conduct" here on October 23. The miners were participating in a sit-down blockade that prevented two busloads of scabs from leaving Sheridan for the Decker Coal Co. mine.

Some 270 members of United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Local 1972 have been on strike since the beginning of October at the large Decker strip mine, which is north of Sheridan, just across the Montana state line.

Decker is owned and operated by Peter Kiewit and Sons and Nerco Coal Co. Omaha-based Kiewit is, according to the *UMW Journal*, the largest construction company in the United States.

Five days after Local 1972 struck Decker, the 44 members of UMWA Local 2055 went on strike at Big Horn Coal. The contract at that mine, which is also owned by Kiewit, expired March 23, and the company had unilaterally imposed a \$1.25 wage cut after the union and the company reached an impasse in negotiations.

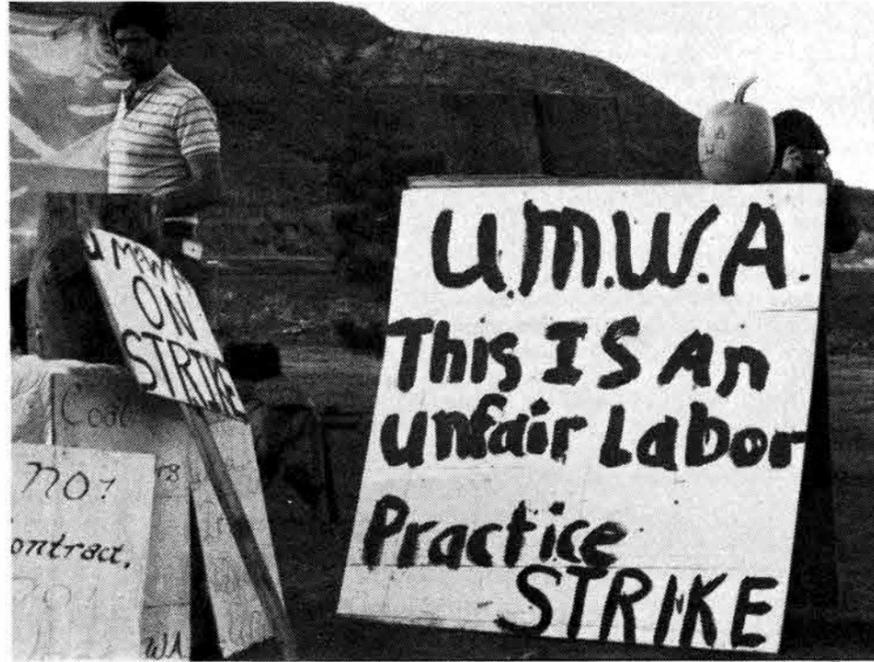
At issue in both strikes are job security and benefits. The UMWA is demanding contract provisions protecting their membership's jobs from being eliminated by subcontracting.

In addition the union wants a three-year contract to replace the one-year contract it signed in 1986 and a clause granting laid-off miners the right to preferential recall at other Kiewit mines.

The company is seeking cuts in medical care coverage and a wage freeze. Miners have only received one raise of five cents an hour since 1982.

The union is demanding a \$500 lump-sum bonus the first year of the contract, followed by a \$700 bonus the second year and a wage raise of 35 cents an hour in the third year. But union members are quick to point out that wages are not the real issue. They say the company wants to bust their union.

In 1980 the workers were forced out on strike at Decker. At that time the mine was organized by the Progressive Mine Workers, whose leadership turned its back on the



Militant/Scott Breen

UMWA was forced on strike at Decker mine at beginning of October. Operators want to prevent coal union from organizing other mines in Powder River Basin.

scabbers. In a 1983 election, the miners chose the UMWA as their bargaining representative.

For three years the company refused to allow the miners to have their union dues deducted from their paychecks. In 1986, three years after the union was voted in, the company finally agreed to a one-year contract. The company is now refusing to negotiate seriously.

A UMWA press release quotes union President Richard Trumka as saying, "Instead of using resources to bargain in good faith to reach mutual faith agreement for the best interest of our members, the community, Wyoming, and Montana, management has engaged in a series of illegal actions designed to foster an atmosphere of coercion, intimidation, and confrontation."

On the second day of the strike, the company sent out letters to all employees telling them they would be replaced if they did not return to work by October 12. The company placed advertisements for scabs in local papers and chartered buses to get

scabs and company personnel into the mine.

Decker has hired Baker and Associates, a notorious union-busting outfit. The professional strikebreakers have maintained continual surveillance of the picket lines, videotaping the workers and their supporters from the hillsides. Baker thugs have also tried to provoke violence on the picket lines and have harassed strikers and their families in Sheridan.

The company is also making full use of the courts and cops against the strike. On October 13 the union organized a peaceful sit-down blockade of the Decker coal mine entrance which prevented work at the mine that day. A week later the company got a

30-day restraining order from a Montana district judge that prohibits blockades.

After the October 23 action in Sheridan, a restraining order against blocking Kiewit's office was issued by a Wyoming judge. Earlier, during a mass car and truck caravan from Sheridan to Decker, union members and supporters were stopped at the Montana border. License numbers were taken down by the cops. Strikers and their supporters have now been harassed and arrested by sheriff and police deputies so often that many carry \$160 in bail money with them at all times.

Despite these odds, the union is holding firm. Support for the strike has come from other area unions, particularly members of the United Transportation Union, who are refusing to move coal cars along the rail bed leading from the mine. The strikers are getting strong support from UMWA members throughout the West, many of whom have sent delegations to participate in the picketing.

This battle has far-reaching implications. In the nearby Powder River Basin are many nonunion strip mines in what has become the most productive coal mining region in the country. Six of the top 10 U.S. coal producing mines are located in Campbell County, Wyoming. Many are owned by the large oil companies.

The Decker and Big Horn mines have given the UMWA a foothold in this area from which to organize. Representation elections are scheduled at two mines in early November, and both the coal bosses and the workers are carefully following the battle at Decker.

Messages of solidarity and donations can be sent to UMWA Local 1972, P.O. Box 66, Sheridan, Wyo. 82801.

Scott Breen works at the Amoco Refinery in Salt Lake City, Utah, and is a member of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 2286.

1,000 in Indianapolis hit killing of Black youth

BY KAREN SMITH AND ANDY COATES

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Nearly 1,000 people, the big majority Black, gathered outside police headquarters October 3 to protest the September 24 killing of Michael Taylor.

A 16-year-old Black youth, Taylor was shot in the head while seated in the back of a police car with his hands handcuffed behind him. Official reports of the Indianapolis cops claim that Taylor shot himself.

Protesters chanted "No more killings!" and "We want justice — Now!" Relatives of Taylor led a march around police headquarters. During a rally on the steps of the building, a coffin was raised up to the front door. It bore a sign reading, "Is this spot waiting on your child?"

A petition demanding an open meeting with Indianapolis police and the coroner was circulated. An alliance of Black clergy took contributions to hire a private investigator.

Many of the protesters were trade unionists, including auto workers. There is a large Chrysler plant here.

On September 24, Taylor was arrested on suspicion of trying to steal a car. Police took a photograph of him a short time before his death. He is shown handcuffed, standing in front of a cop car, wearing a tank-top T-shirt, shorts, socks, and sneakers.

Cops searched him twice before taking him to the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center, where reports say the shooting occurred as the police car entered the grounds.

Charles Penniston, the cop driving the car in which Taylor was shot, was one of the cops who searched him earlier that day.

According to Indianapolis Police Department and coroner reports, both Penniston and Taylor had gunpowder residue on their hands. But city investigators contend that insufficient amounts were present to decisively conclude who fired the .32-caliber handgun with which Taylor was shot in the temple.

The cops claim the lack of fingerprints on the gun was due to its aged and marred condition. The weapon itself has been traced as one that disappeared in a January 1986 residential burglary, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Department. Police claim no further knowledge of the gun's whereabouts.

On September 28, police released a videotape that was intended to suggest it was physically possible for Taylor to shoot himself. Recruits at a police training center were shown sitting handcuffed in the back seat of a patrol car. Several, but not all, succeeded in getting a gun to their heads. The type of handcuffs used in the video demonstration, however, were felt by some who saw it to not be identical to the ones used on Taylor.

Ga. cops claim fourth victim

BY MACEO DIXON

ATLANTA — Lamar Bradley, 29, became the fourth person to die as a result of police actions in this area in six weeks.

He died October 15 of a ruptured spleen, after having reportedly been shot in the knee by a cop in Douglass High School the day before. Fulton County medical examiners claim there was no evidence that Bradley had been beaten, but say they do not know why his spleen burst.

Although police say that Bradley was shot only once, the wall near where he was shot was peppered with bullet holes. The police department claims that the cop, responding to a report of a burglary, fired bullets into the wall to make sure his gun would be empty just in case the alleged burglar grabbed it.

This implausible story heightened outrage here, already running high over the gunning down of Eddie Lee Callahan, a Black Vietnam veteran.

On September 10 two cops at the Carver Homes housing project — which the police have branded a "war zone" — came upon Callahan arguing with his sister about the family car. Callahan got into the car and drove off.

The police chased him, claiming that they thought he was a car thief, and the

pursuit ended in a crash.

The cops pulled Callahan from the car, beat him, and shot him six times — five times in the back and once in the side. They say he tried to get one of their guns.

Residents of the project say that Callahan was lying face down with his hands cuffed behind his back when he was shot. The police say they did not put handcuffs on Callahan until after they had shot and killed him.

Five marches have been held to demand that the cops be brought to justice.

Michael Long, the cop who pulled the trigger, has now been indicted for involuntary manslaughter — carrying a maximum sentence of one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The other cop was exonerated.

Mayor Andrew Young expressed shock that any indictment would be leveled against "police officers performing their duty."

But especially in the Black community, there is anger at the grand jury for letting the police gunman and his cohort off lightly. Even police officer Wali Kareem, president of the 400-member Afro-American Patrolmen's League, criticized the grand jury and said Black police officers "want questions answered" about the killing.