

Mandela gets giant welcome; calls for continued sanctions

3 cities in Canada greet ANC leader

BY GARY KETTNER

TORONTO — More than 40,000 cheering people jammed Queen's Park June 18 to welcome African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela at his first mass rally during an 11-city tour across Canada and the United States.

In a 25-minute speech, Mandela thanked the people of Canada and the world for their support in the fight against apartheid.

"We are on the threshold of major changes in South Africa," Mandela told the rally. "We are confident that victory is in sight. But, as in a steeplechase race, the last hurdles are the most difficult to overcome. As we enter that last lap, we call on the people of Canada to double and redouble their efforts and endeavors in support of our struggle."

"We call on you to pursue with the utmost vigor the demands that all political prisoners and detainees be released, political trials ended, exiles returned, repressive legislation repealed, and the state of emergency ended in its entirety," the ANC leader said.

"We must emphasize that we do not at all question the integrity of [South African] President de Klerk and his colleagues. We accept that they will abide by what was agreed," he continued. "Yet, until we have achieved our objectives, neither we nor the international community should lower our guard."



Nelson Mandela, arriving in New York from Canada June 20, speaks at airport welcoming ceremony. Hundreds of thousands welcomed the ANC leader during the first stop of his U.S. tour. Winnie Mandela is at his right.

"In this context we call on the international community to maintain sanctions," Mandela stated. "Sanctions were asked for by us and

imposed as a peaceful means to end apartheid. Apartheid has not ended. We are not yet

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750,000 at New York parade

BY GREG McCARTAN

NEW YORK — Nelson Mandela was given a tumultuous hero's welcome here on the first day of his eight-city U.S. tour.

"We have visited several countries, both in Africa and in Europe," he told a massive press conference upon his arrival at John F. Kennedy International Airport June 20. "Our simple message in all these countries is that sanctions should be maintained. We are saying

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so because sanctions were introduced for the purpose of dismantling apartheid and of making sure that every South African, Black and white, is able to determine his own future."

Arriving from a three-day tour of Canada, the deputy president of the African National Congress is accompanied by a delegation of leaders of the ANC and the South African Congress of Trade Unions (COSATU). They were welcomed at the airport by New York Mayor David Dinkins, the governors of New York and New Jersey, ranking foreign diplomats, trade union and religious leaders, anti-apartheid activists, and members of the ANC.

Some three-quarters of a million people lined the streets for a motorcade of the delegation through Brooklyn and a ticker-tape parade in Mandela's honor in Manhattan. A rally outside the mayor's office drew tens of thousands who cheered the ANC leader.

Many governments and corporations around the world have been forced to break economic, political, cultural, sporting, and other ties with the apartheid regime. Calls for continuation of these sanctions by speakers during the day's events were greeted by applause.

"Keep the pressure on apartheid" buttons, Continued on Page 10

July 9 trial: big battle in Curtis fight

An important battle in Mark Curtis' fight for justice is shaping up. The jailed Iowa unionist and political activist faces a July 9 jury trial in a civil lawsuit brought by Keith and Denise Morris. They are seeking punitive damages for the "pain and suffering"

preme Court. His appeal argues forcefully and convincingly that he was the victim of an unfair trial and that his rights under the U.S. Constitution and Iowa state law were violated.

A decision by Judge Gamble to uphold the 1988 conviction would again deny Curtis his day in court. Such a ruling would limit the jury to determining the financial award he would have to pay the Morris.

In the July trial the jury could order a massive monetary judgment for the Morris. This could open a life-long court harassment campaign, including garnishment of Curtis' wages to collect the debt. This would create an onerous burden on Curtis and his wife Kate Kaku.

Striking workers have first-hand experience with economic burdens accumulated

during strike battles, including unpaid bills, harassment by debt collectors, tightfisted landlords, and the need to feed and clothe children. These pressures can have a crushing impact on strikers' families. The employ-

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EDITORIAL

they claim Curtis inflicted on their daughter.

A pretrial motion filed by the Morris' attorney is now being considered by Iowa District Court Judge Arthur Gamble. It asks the court to rule that Curtis' guilt has already been established by his 1988 criminal conviction.

But that conviction is far from settled. Curtis has taken his case to the Iowa Su-

Machinists on picket line: "We've been Shugrued!"

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

In the weeks following Martin Shugrue's appointment as trustee of Eastern Airlines, many strikers had hoped that the dismissal of Frank Lorenzo — former head of the carrier — would result in meaningful negotiations between the International Association of Machinists (IAM) and Eastern. But as it has become clear that this is not what is happening, Machinists are picking up the slogan "No contract, no peace" and resolving to keep fighting. A supporter of the walkout from Pittsburgh reports strikers are carrying

signs on the picket line that say, "We've been Shugrued."

Since his appointment on April 18 Shugrue has projected a course that he hopes will strengthen Eastern and put the airline back on its feet.

Efforts have included:

- A \$310 million asset sale to American Airlines of Eastern's Latin American routes to be completed in August.
- The announcement that Eastern will expand service from Atlanta to Houston on July

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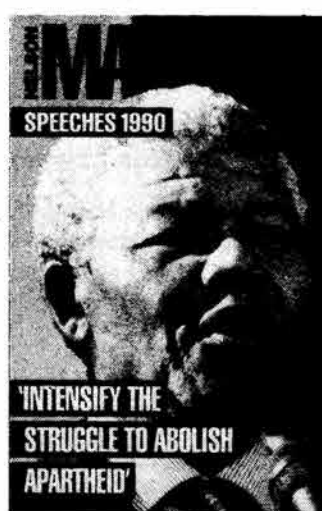
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Saab-Scania auto workers subscribe in Sweden

BY RONI McCANN

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — *Militant* supporters here completed the recent international circulation drive that ended May 19, winning 110

supporters made to reach union workers in struggle at the Saab-Scania truck factory in Södertälje, just south of the city. "During the sales drive, 20 Saab-Scania workers

which continues today, sparked an interest in the *Militant* as supporters organized to introduce the paper to their co-fighters on the job, at the bigger-than-usual union meetings, and in residential areas where Saab-Scania workers live. Sales of the paper at the factory gate also picked up. "One worker decided to subscribe at a plant-gate sale," Isacsson mentioned.

One of the first efforts supporters made to reach a wider layer of workers at the Saab-Scania plant was a door-to-door sale to bachelor hotels in Södertälje. "These are housing units near the plant where several hundred workers live — mostly footloose, young men and women." On the first visit five residents bought subscriptions to the *Militant* or *Perspectiva Mundial*.

Aside from the success in winning new readers working at Saab-Scania, other supporters stepped up sales on the job as well. At Konsum Chark meat-packing plant, for ex-

ample, seven workers subscribed to the socialist press, said Isacsson.

Although the sales drive ended with a bang it got off to a slow start. A few weeks into the sales drive, Isacsson explained, supporters in Sweden began organizing regular discussions on the importance of convincing workers and youth of regularly getting the *Militant*, the Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial*, and French-language *Lutte ouvrière* — instead of buying just one. With this focused effort, combined with a broad approach to meet potential new readers, subscription sales picked up.

During the April target week supporters redoubled their efforts to win new readers. They started setting up literature tables regularly at Stockholm University and visited student dorms. Four students signed up to get subscriptions.

On many Saturdays sales teams traveled to market places in working-class suburbs of Stockholm.

During the drive seven shoppers signed up to get the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial* from these teams. And nine new readers were won at the Pathfinder bookstore and at public forums held there during the sales campaign.

May 1 was one of the most successful sales days during the campaign, explained Isacsson. *Militant* supporters sold the paper at May Day demonstrations in Södertälje and Stockholm, then held a public forum that night at the Pathfinder bookstore. Twenty-one new readers were won from the day's efforts, including two West Africans who saw copies of *Lutte ouvrière* on the literature table.

New subscribers were also won among activists in solidarity with Cuba. "Nine members of the Swedish-Cuba Friendship Society signed up to get subscriptions during the sales campaign, as well as four participants in the Nordic Brigade to Cuba," Isacsson reported.



GETTING THE MILITANT AROUND

new readers — 112 percent of their goal, which they had raised during the effort. This includes 58 new subscribers to the *Militant*.

In an interview here with Carl-Erik Isacsson, who helped to organize sales during the subscription effort, he described some of the challenges and highlights of the drive. A central aspect of the successful campaign, he said, was special efforts

signed up to get subscriptions to the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*," said Isacsson.

He and two other *Militant* supporters work at the Saab-Scania plant, which employs 5,000, and others have sold the paper at the factory gate for several months.

In February workers there mounted a fight for higher pay, given a rise in inflation in Sweden. This battle,

1,200 pamphlets, papers sold as Mandela arrives

BY RONI McCANN

"Our literature tables were swamped! There were so many opportunities we couldn't take advantage of them all," said Maggie Trowe from Toronto.

"There was a constant stream of people surrounding the sales tables. We couldn't even talk to everybody!" said Gary Watson from Montréal.

"It was fantastic! We were deluged. People were lined up waiting to get a glimpse of the books," said Janet Post from New York.

Militant supporters from Toronto, Montréal, and New York were reporting results of sales of the paper, the Spanish-language monthly *Perspectiva Mundial*, and French-language quarterly *Lutte ouvrière* during the first stops on the North American tour of African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela. The ANC leader visited Ottawa, Toronto, and Montréal on June 16-19 and arrived in New York June 20.

In all, 264 people bought copies of the socialist press at the events in Canada and 64 subscribed, including 42 who signed up for the *Militant*. Participants also bought 272 copies of the new Pathfinder pamphlet *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid"* and \$2,800 in other Pathfinder titles.

In New York after the first day of a three-day visit to the city, 223 people bought copies of the *Militant* and 19 subscribed. Close to \$2,000 in Pathfinder literature was sold, in addition to 547 copies of *Nelson Mandela*

Speeches 1990.

Militant supporters around the country are on a campaign to expand the readership of the paper during the eight-city U.S. tour of Mandela. They are offering introductory subscriptions to the paper, along with a copy of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*, for \$10. And for an additional \$5 new readers can get *New International No. 5*, which features "The Coming Revolution in South Africa" by Jack Barnes. Twenty-three copies of the magazine have been sold so far.

Friends of the Pathfinder Mural were selling posters and postcards of the portrait of the ANC leader painted on the six-story mural in New York by South African artist Dumile Feni. Participants in the tour activities bought 31 posters and 150 postcards in New York and Toronto.

During Mandela's tour the Young Socialist Alliance will be inviting youth to participate in a class series on the struggle to abolish apartheid. It will also be sponsoring open houses after some of the major events. In New York, some 130 people stopped by an open house held after the June 20 ticker-tape parade for Mandela. Another open house will be held in Boston, June 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. after the Mandela rally at Community Church, 525 Boylston between Dartmouth and Clarendon.

And in Atlanta, the YSA will hold an open house all day June 27 at the Comfort Inn, 120 North Avenue N.W. across from Georgia Tech.



At events during first four days of Mandela's North American tour, participants bought 819 copies of *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990*, 433 copies of the *Militant*, 86 subscriptions to the socialist press, and \$4,800 in Pathfinder literature.

Militant/Greg McCartan



If your subscription is running out you'll want to renew it right away so as not to miss on-the-scene reports in the *Militant* from Nelson Mandela's 11-city tour through Canada and the United States.

The *Militant* will also be featuring speeches Mandela gives during and following his tour. The paper has consistently reported on the struggle against apartheid and recently sent a reporting team to South Africa.

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British Coal calls for stockpiling in case miners strike over jobs

BY PETE CLIFFORD

SHEFFIELD, England — Energy Minister John Wakeham has issued a directive to recently privatized electricity generating companies — National Power and PowerGen — to hold 27 million tons of coal stock, worth £16 million, at the start of winter for the next few years. The action is to guard against a possible strike by the National Union of Mineworkers. This stockpiling is just under the 30 million tons the power companies reportedly held when the 1984-85 miners' strike began.

The government directive followed a May 22 announcement by British Coal that it plans to cut 7,500 miners' jobs in the next three years. Officials of the government-owned company said this is dictated by less demand for coal from the electric power companies. By 1993 only 65 million tons of coal will be delivered, compared to 70 million tons this year.

Meanwhile, speculation continues about an even bigger cut in coal deliveries. The *Yorkshire Post* reported June 8 that evidence before a parliamentary energy committee estimates that by the year 2003 power companies might be taking just 38 million tons. According to the *Post*, this would lead to a loss of 32,000 miners' jobs.

The government argues that job losses may be necessary because of steps to cut emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide — which cause acid rain — from coal-fired power stations. The 12-country European Community has directed that a cut of 60 percent in such emissions be made by the year 2003.

Previous plans for installing flue gas desulfurization equipment in most coal-fired power stations and building three new power stations with such equipment have been shelved. Instead, energy needs are to be drawn from natural gas, low-sulfur coal, and nuclear power. Coal currently accounts for 80 percent of the energy supply.

At the time of the 1984-85 strike, 170,000 miners worked at 173 mines. Since then, 101 mines have been shut down. Today, there are only 64,000 miners, yet production has fallen only 17 percent.

According to the June 3 *Sunday Independent*, the rise in labor productivity is the result of closing the least-productive pits. But there "comes a point," the paper argued, "where productivity increases can no longer be achieved by job cuts and must be achieved by individual effort." This is leading to growing pressures on workers in the mines.

Ken Capstick, National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) delegate from the Stillingfleet mine, part of the Selby complex in North Yorkshire, explained that, "throughout the coalfields, British Coal is trying to attack wages and conditions through bonus schemes, using them to intimidate miners."

At Stillingfleet, Capstick explained, there is a massive shortage of skilled electricians and fitters, with no new apprentices taken on since the 1984-85 strike. At the same time

"men have relied on the bonus to make up their low wage," he said, "but many have left the industry for better pay and conditions. Those who have stayed," the miner reported, "have had to work more and more overtime, many seven days a week, to make up for the shortage of labor."

Capstick explained that skilled miners have decided "instead of allowing British Coal to use them to paper over the cracks, they will no longer work excessive overtime."

Since then skilled miners at Whitemoor, another Selby mine, have joined the protest. At a June 10 meeting of 100 skilled miners from throughout the Selby complex, electricians and fitters from the Riccal mine also got involved. British Coal has called this an industrial action and have stopped making bonus payments of up to £40 per week. On June 17 miners decided to suspend industrial action, pending further talks with British Coal.

Jim Spaul, a NUM member at the Kellingley mine in North Yorkshire, explained how British Coal is trying to counter the miners' resistance.

"Bonuses have been low, but now they may substantially rise with a new scheme," Spaul explained. "If the mine produces 50,000 tons four weeks running then the miners will get an extra £10 a week. Then for every 1,000 tons extra produced, a further £1 per week bonus is given. But to get that, 100 percent attendance and no disputes are required. These are the first steps to try to get a no-strike deal," he said.

Billy Doughty, NUM branch secretary at Kellingley, said this bonus scheme is set up to pressure the union to drop its objections to cutting coal on weekends. "If we cut coal here seven days a week, we'll jeopardize the future of other pits," Doughty said.

Spaul reported that among those working at the Kellingley mine "there are many who are fed up with the jackboot tactics of British Coal. Some say they don't care if they shut the lot. But where are we going to work if that happens and what will happen to the energy that's needed from coal production?"

Spaul explained that the government of Margaret Thatcher is in a weaker position

because of public opposition to the new poll tax, and that any attacks against the NUM would become an issue for all the unions.

ROTHERHAM — Five thousand miners and supporters took to the streets of this Yorkshire city near Sheffield June 16 on the occasion of the annual Yorkshire miners' gala.

Delegations of miners from throughout Yorkshire and the surrounding area marched behind their union branch banners. Contingents from the Women Against Pit Closures; striking engineering workers from Renolds Chains in Cardiff, Wales; and striking glass workers from Waterford Crystals in Ireland also marched.

The demonstration was led by Arthur Scargill, Peter Heathfield, and Jack Taylor, leaders of the NUM. Miners from South Africa and Namibia also were at the head of the march.

Speakers at a post-march rally noted the new round of threatened mine closures by the government. Speakers included Rodney Bickerstaffe, National Union of Public Employees; Tony Blair, Labour Party employment spokesperson; Crosby Moni, National Union of Mineworkers in South Africa; and Sandi Sijake of the National Union of Namibian Workers.



G.M. Cookson

Striking members of the National Union of Mineworkers rally in London during 1984-85 national coal strike. Britain's coal bosses fear future strikes like this one. Their threatened mine closings and job cuts were big topic of discussion and protest at the Yorkshire miners' annual gala June 16.

Cuba museum in Miami bombed; protests urged

BY DAN FEIN

MIAMI — The Cuban Museum of Arts and Culture here was bombed for the second time on June 14. The first bombing was in 1987 by terrorists opposed to the museum auctioning the works of artists living in Cuba.

The latest bombing occurred in the context of political polarization in the Cuban exile community. A few days before the attack, Gustavo Arcos — a leader of a "human rights" group in Cuba — called for a meeting

of Cubans on the island and in exile. There are more than 500,000 Cubans living in the Miami area. Ramón Cernuda, a well-known spokesperson for the museum, publicly supported Arcos' call.

Radio Mambi, a Spanish-language radio station in Miami run by right-wing Cuban exiles, responded by threatening Cernuda over the airwaves.

And Armando Valladares — a cop under the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista, which was overthrown in 1959, and currently U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission — called Arcos a "traitor." Valladares said a dialogue would legitimize the present Cuban government.

Osvaldo Monzón, executive director of the Cuban Museum, said, "Valladares' statement creates a climate for terrorism."

The museum board of directors met after the bombing and issued a statement denouncing the damage to several works of art and "the moral damage" that the explosion caused. The works were part of an exhibit celebrating the 10th anniversary of the boatlift of Cuban exiles from the port of Mariel.

The museum officials stated the museum "will remain open."

The bombing caused \$40,000 worth of damage. There are now 18 bombings or bomb attempts in Miami that the FBI says are linked. No one has ever been arrested for any of these crimes.

Monzón said, "We want to see the authorities take a more energetic role in discovering who the perpetrators of this attack and the 17 others are." He added, "The city, state, and federal governments should take action with the same force as they did in the federal judges' mail bombing cases."

"Miami's mayor and city commissioners have not protested the terrorism," Monzón said. Referring to the city government's threat to not renew the lease on the city-owned building occupied by the museum, he asked, "Will the city protect the victim of terrorism by evicting us?"

For three days following the bombing, local artists painted a mural on the boarded-up front doors and wall of the museum. Argentine, Cuban, Chilean, and U.S. artists painted, among other things, slogans in defense of freedom of speech and artistic expression. Many supporters of free speech have visited the museum to show solidarity.

The museum is asking letters to be sent to the mayor's office protesting the bombing and demanding the speedy arrest of the terrorists. Copies should be sent to: Cuban Museum of Arts and Culture, 1300 S.W. 12th Ave., Miami, Fla. 33129.

Suit hits cop surveillance

BY JON HILLSON

NEW YORK — A New York City police commander who ordered political surveillance of the April 7 "U.S. Hands Off Cuba" demonstration by photographing participants is being investigated for possible violation of a court ban on such activity.

The probe of the Manhattan South borough commander, Assistant Chief Thomas Walsh, by the New York police department legal bureau, was made public here June 14.

Called by a coalition of more than 60 organizations to protest Washington's threats

against Cuba, the April 7 action attracted 1,500 marchers.

Some 1,000 right-wing Cuban émigrés counterdemonstrated nearby. Opponents of the Cuban revolution had publicly vowed to physically stop the April 7 protest from taking place.

Leaders of the U.S. Hands Off Cuba Coalition informed police officials prior to their action that photographing demonstrators would be a violation of the Handschu agreement, a 1985 court-sanctioned settlement that limits police surveillance and infiltration of political groups.

The cops stated they would film police movement at the protest and counterdemonstration for "training material."

On April 7, according to police, six to eight plainclothes cops wearing badges photographed and videotaped demonstrators.

Several days later, attorney Franklin Siegel, who had participated in a session between coalition leaders and police officials, sent a letter to New York City Police Commissioner Lee Brown, protesting the "saturation photo surveillance" of the April 7 action.

His complaint was joined by the New York Civil Liberties Union. The lawyer noted the "intimidating" function of police filming of political activity.

"We routinely photograph and videotape large-scale demonstrations, political and otherwise, where there is a possibility of disorders, civil disobedience, or violations of the law," Walsh stated in defense of his orders.

On June 14 the New York Civil Liberties Union also called for the overhaul of the police department Civilian Complaint Review Board, formed in 1966. Since then, of 8,000 cases that have gone before the board, according to Martin Gottlieb, "in not a single one did a police officer give information against another." Gottlieb coordinated research on the board for the NYCLU.

Yorkshire forum on miners' fightback

BY PETE CLIFFORD

ROTHERHAM, England — Under the theme — "Miners fight back around the world" — 75 miners, trade unionists, and others attended a forum here following the June 16 Yorkshire miners' gala.

Featured was Joan Levitt, who talked about the victory of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) against the Pittston Coal Group in the United States, and explained the importance for working people of the strikes at Eastern Airlines and Greyhound.

Levitt, a member of the UMWA from Birmingham, Alabama, brought greetings to the miners' gala from Carol Davis, executive director of the Coal Employment Project, an organization that helps women get and keep jobs in the mines.

Yorkshire miner Jim Spaul chaired the program and said "to fight we'll need to look for solidarity around the world." Spaul visited the coal miners' Camp Solidarity in Virginia during the Pittston strike. "The biggest eye opener for me during the visit was that I found miners here and miners in the U.S. were like two railway lines running together," he said.

Paul Galloway, a National Union of Mine-

workers member from Nottinghamshire, explained that the government and employers in Britain face more problems today than at the start of the 1984-85 miners' strike. "That's why they have to try to justify pit closures by claiming that they're doing so in the interests of the environment. But the environmental argument is a smoke screen," he said.

"Since 1985 they've closed 49 pits in Britain which produce low-sulfur coal. And the fact is that high sulfur content can be filtered out. These technologies have been available for years," Galloway pointed out.

A highlight of the forum was the appearance of Crosby Moni, a union activist at the Matla mine in South Africa, 80 miles from Johannesburg. He described the conditions faced by miners in his country.

Dean Robinson, a worker at Renolds Chains in Cardiff, Wales, spoke about the fight recently waged by workers at his job. Rich Palser, a participant in a *Militant* reporting team to South Africa in March and April, also spoke.

The meeting was sponsored by the Militant Forum.

Messages express worldwide solidarity for Curtis

Mark Curtis is a unionist and political activist from Des Moines, Iowa, who is serving a 25-year jail term in the John Bennett state prison in Fort Madison, Iowa, on a frame-up conviction of rape and burglary.

The Mark Curtis Defense Committee is leading an international campaign to fight for justice for

to the ongoing struggle to free Mark Curtis, unjustly imprisoned for having *dared* to participate in the struggle with those who want to live decently as men and women worthy of this name at the end of the 20th century.

Mass struggle across borders is our strength. Take heart, together we will win.

Victim of a racist frame-up incarcerated in the Springville, Alabama, state prison

As farmers we are well aware of the injustices of the courts. The only justice in the courts is for the rich. The upcoming trial is another attempt to punish someone who fights for the rights of others. We continue to stand with Mark until victory is won.

Carroll Nearmyer
Vice-president, American Agriculture Movement, Iowa

Mark Curtis is a *trade unionist*. This is a fundamental point — a fellow worker is under attack. It is our duty and our obligation to close ranks and defend trade unionists in struggle.

P.E. Heathfield
General Secretary, National Union of Mineworkers, Britain

Mark Curtis has assumed the proportions of a movement. Anti-imperialists throughout the world are convinced of his innocence and sympathize with his cause.

Rafiq Khan
Former political prisoner under the Zia regime in Pakistan

There is no justice in America for working people. The corporations and politicians are concerned for the money that the workers can earn for their greed. But we hard-working

people are tired of injustice. If enough of us stand together in what we believe is right and just, we can overcome in our struggle and be recognized — and people like Mark Curtis will be free.

Jackie Counts
Recording Secretary, United Mine Workers of America Ladies Auxiliary, Castlewood, Virginia

On behalf of the Finnish Food Workers Union, which represents 40,000 bakery, dairy, meat-packing, butchery, brewery, tobacco, and other food-industry workers, we greet Mark Curtis and his friends. Our hearts beat for your struggle!

International solidarity is the only way of securing life, peace, human rights, and dignity in the world!

Jarl Sund
President
Arto Talasmäki
Secretary-General
Finnish Food Workers Union
Helsinki, Finland

We use the words justice and freedom together, because in Mark's case one cannot exist without the other. There will be no justice until Mark is free. There is no freedom without justice. That is why we should use every legal means available to us to fight for Mark's freedom.

We must fight because we know our fight is for a just cause.

Benjamin and Gloria Hoover
and family
Victims of brutality by

Mississippi police who now face nearly a dozen trumped-up charges

When I first heard about Mark Curtis, I was deeply touched. I feel that what I found out proved that he was wrongly accused. There is no doubt in my mind that he is innocent in all respects.

He is a fighter for everyone. Not only is he fighting for himself in prison, but he is also fighting for other people's welfare as well. I feel that Mark Curtis is a man that is filled with love for everyone. I mean what I say.

Where I come from, it's a small place. It's a small county and we have only one industry here, which is coal. We recently were in a 10-month strike against Pittston Coal Group. I deeply believe that if it weren't for people everywhere who stood with us we would still be on the picket lines today.

I know you probably wonder why a high school kid like myself is so concerned. I am concerned for the wrongdoing being put on innocent people everywhere. People trying to live a decent life should get treated decent.

I wish I could be there with you in person, so I hope that next time I hear from you that your struggle is won. I'll fight with all I've got.

Yours in solidarity,
Carmen Mullins
President, United Mine Workers of America Student Auxiliary, Dickenson County, Virginia

DEFEND MARK CURTIS!

Curtis. For more information about the case or how you can help, write to the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311; telephone (515) 246-1695.

If you have news or reports on activities in support of Mark Curtis from your city or country, please send them to the *Militant*.

Below we reprint excerpts from some of the messages sent to the Mark Curtis defense rally held in Chicago on June 9. More than 900 people attended the event at the Bismarck Hotel. Dozens of solidarity messages came from across the United States and from around the world, reflecting the commitment to Curtis' fight for justice shown by defenders of democratic rights, working-class militants, and others.

The General Confederation of Workers brings its absolute support

General Confederation of Workers (CGT)
France

Your struggle to expose a criminal frame-up of a young working-class leader is a necessary ingredient in the fight to protect and advance the economic and political rights of American workers.

Keep up the battle!
Frank Rosen
President, District Council 11
United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE)

Individually we are weak, but collectively we are strong. Collectively in the struggle for the freedom of Brother Curtis we are strong, and we will win, because the cause is a just one. Today it's Mark, tomorrow it could be you or a loved one. In the struggle there's strength — in ease, there is weakness. Let's be strong for Brother Curtis.

Johnnie Imani Harris

Hearing held on motion in lawsuit against Curtis

BY JON BIXBY

DES MOINES, Iowa — At a June 18 hearing, Iowa District Court Judge Arthur Gamble announced that he would study a motion for summary judgment made in a lawsuit against Mark Curtis and would announce his ruling at a later date. The judge is also reviewing legal papers submitted by Curtis' attorneys on the matter.

The lawsuit against Curtis was brought by Keith and Denise Morris. It seeks a financial judgment against Curtis for damages they claim he inflicted on their daughter. The suit is slated to go to trial July 9.

The motion for summary judgment in the lawsuit was made by the Morris' attorney, Stuart Pepper, on May 8. Its aim is to convince the judge to rule that Curtis' guilt has already been established for the July trial by his 1988 frame-up rape and burglary conviction.

This is to prevent the jury in the coming trial from making a judgment on Curtis' innocence.

At the hearing, Pepper concluded his argument for the motion by urging Judge Gamble to leave only one issue for the July jury trial — how large the financial award to the Morris' should be.

Curtis, a unionist and political activist, is currently serving a 25-year jail term at the John Bennett Correctional Center in Fort Madison, Iowa.

His 1988 conviction is now on appeal to the Iowa Supreme Court because of the prejudicial and unconstitutional rulings that barred him from presenting relevant evidence, including information about the arresting officer's history of lying on arrest reports. The cop was the central witness for the prosecution against Curtis.

Curtis' attorney, George Eichhorn, presented legal papers outlining how the political and union activist was denied a fair trial. He introduced further evidence that supports Curtis' charge that he was framed up.

A central problem in the state's case against Curtis was the time the woman claimed he assaulted her on March 4, 1988. While she said she did not look at a watch and could not place the time that way, she insisted she was attacked five minutes after her favorite television program, "Video Soul," came on the air.

Eichhorn produced a copy of the Black Entertainment Television Network log from the night of March 4. It confirms that the show aired at 8:00 p.m. At the criminal trial, Brian Willey, a coworker of Curtis', provided undisputed testimony that Curtis was with him and dozens of others in Los Compadres restaurant from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Eichhorn concluded that both the record of prejudicial rulings in the 1988 trial and the evidence show that Curtis has never received a fair trial on the frame-up charges against him. The 1988 conviction, he argued, should not be used to deny him the right to fight to prove he was a frame-up victim in this new trial, Eichhorn argued.

After learning from both attorneys that Curtis is currently appealing his conviction to the Iowa Supreme Court, Judge Gamble requested materials from the appeal as part of his review of the motion for summary judgment.

A large financial award in the Morris' lawsuit against Curtis could result in a life-long harassment campaign, including garnisheeing wages by the courts, to collect the debt from Curtis and his wife, Kate Kaku. Curtis was a packinghouse worker until he was arrested in 1988, as was Kaku until she was laid off a few months ago.

A dozen supporters of Curtis' fight for justice attended the court hearing, including Jim Armstrong and Harold Ruggless, the president and vice-president of the United Auto Workers Union Local 270 in Des Moines.

Eichhorn and John Studer, the coordinator of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, addressed supporters outside the courtroom after the hearing.

"At every step we will fight to defeat this attempt to attack Mark and Kate financially," Studer said. "Every unionist who has ever been forced out on strike knows what it is like from their own experience

with financial pressure that comes down, from car payments, rent, and other bills that press down.

"I want to thank you for coming today," Studer added. "We will need broad political and financial support if we are going to meet this challenge and insure that it does not prevent us from continuing to expand Mark's defense all around the world."

Studer called on Curtis' supporters to contribute urgently needed funds to the Mark Curtis Defense Committee to help meet the legal costs of the July 9 trial.

1,000 rally in New York demanding freedom for Joseph Doherty

BY MARC LICHTMAN

NEW YORK — Just two days before Irish republican Joseph Doherty began his eighth year in federal prison here, 1,000 people attended a June 16 march and rally demanding his release.

Speakers included Doherty's mother Maureen, British attorney and activist Richard Harvey, and Doherty's attorney Mary Pike. Several speakers referred to Nelson Mandela's U.S. visit and pointed out that mass support can win the release of political prisoners.

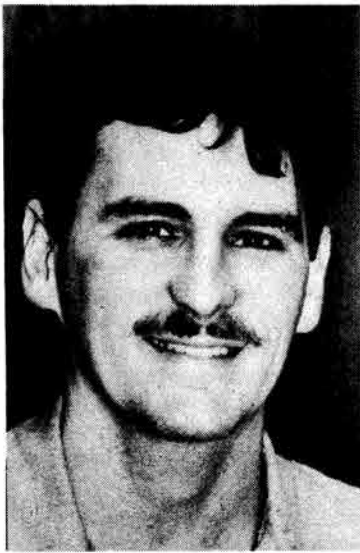
After the rally, demonstrators marched to the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan where Doherty is incarcerated. The street on which the center is located was renamed "Joseph Doherty Corner" by New York Mayor David Dinkins the day before. "New York City does not name corners for criminals," Dinkins told the press, "Joseph Doherty is a political prisoner and U.S. justice has been dead for seven years in the Doherty case."

Doherty is a member of the Irish Republican Army, which is fighting to end the British occupation of the north of Ireland and to reunite Ireland. He escaped from a Northern Ireland prison in 1981 and was sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment for his role in an armed encounter with British troops. A British officer was killed during the conflict.

Doherty is currently awaiting the outcome of a federal court appeal of decisions by two U.S. attorney generals that are an attempt to deport him to Northern Ireland and deny him the right to reopen his application for political asylum. A recent motion for bail is also pending.

DEFEND MARK CURTIS!

Materials available from Mark Curtis Defense Committee:



The Stakes in the Worldwide Political Campaign to Defend Mark Curtis by John Gaige. A pamphlet that explains the political background to Curtis' case, the frame-up, and unfair trial. 25 pp. \$1.00

The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis, a VHS video produced by Hollywood director Nick Castle. This effective 49-minute documentary has clips from TV news broadcasts on Curtis' fight for justice, scenes from the trial, and interviews with Curtis, his wife Kate Kaku, and others. This video is available for the cost of reproduction and shipping. \$10.00

Justice for Mark Curtis: 'An injury to one is an injury to all.' Buttons. \$1.00

State of Iowa v. Mark Stanton Curtis. Transcript of September 1988 jury trial proceedings that found Curtis guilty of rape and burglary. 446 pp. \$30.00.

Brief of Mark Curtis' appeal to Iowa Supreme Court. 20 pp. \$.50

Mark Stanton Curtis v. City of Des Moines, et al. Civil lawsuit brief submitted in U.S. District Court by Curtis claiming damages against Des Moines police who beat him after his arrest. 10 pp. \$.50

For these and other materials write or call the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, P.O. Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311. Phone (515) 246-1695. Bulk quantities are available. Payments should accompany orders and checks can be made out to Mark Curtis Defense Committee. Please allow 2 weeks for delivery.

Curtis supporters get warm welcome from Finnish Communists

BY RONI McCANN
AND LASSE JOHANSSON

VANTAA, Finland — Supporters of framed union and political activist Mark Curtis received a warm welcome here at a June 2-3 conference of representatives and members of the Kommunistinen Työväenpuolue, (KTP, Communist Workers Party).

Vantaa is an industrial suburb north of Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Many young workers and their families who move from the northern part of the country to find jobs live here because of the high cost and shortage of housing in Helsinki. The national headquarters of the KTP is also located here.

The conference, attended by 150 delegates and guests, was held at a local vocational college. Curtis supporters had materials on the case in English and Swedish and copies of the pamphlet *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis* by Margaret Jayko. They also brought a video that included a documentary on the case produced by Hollywood film director Nick Castle and a segment on the Curtis trial from the "On Trial" TV program, reproduced with Swedish subtitles.

Several conference participants had already read about Curtis' case from two prior articles published in *Työkansan Sanomat* (Workers' News), the monthly paper of the KTP. Gathered around the literature table the first day, a group of KTP members asked questions and commented on the case.

Curtis, Joe Hill

Many knew the story of Joe Hill, a Swede who immigrated to the United States in 1901 and several years later became an organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World. The 33-year-old activist was framed and executed in 1915 in Utah.

One participant at the conference worked as a seaman and described the discrimination and maltreatment he and fellow seafarers suffered at the hands of the U.S. Coast Guard because they were communists from Finland and members of the seamen's union. It was easy to believe, several said, that unionists are victimized in the United States.

A big majority of industrial workers in Finland are members of trade unions. The national industrial trade union federation has 1 million members. There are also union federations of health workers, public employees, teachers, and technicians, numbering one-half million members.

One participant was a member of the construction workers union that, with 100,000 members, is the second-largest industrial union in Finland. He said that since the more repressive period of the 1930s there haven't been many cases of victimization of union activists. Other participants felt that times would get harder, however, and that it was

important to defend gains workers had already won — including democratic rights and the right to be in the union.

Immigrant workers

One participant wanted to know about the situation of immigrant workers in the United States. He said Curtis' defense of immigrants in his plant had something to do with him being targeted by the authorities and the police. Referring to the fact that Curtis is a socialist and political activist he said, "You can say you're for many different things but as soon as you start to act — to defend the union, for example — that's what they can't stand."

Few immigrant workers live in Finland, which has a population of 5 million; but this is changing. Recently workers from Poland have come to Sweden and Finland. Many are paid lower wages, making \$4 an hour compared to \$12 that Finnish workers earn. Most are not union members. Some participants thought that if Finland joins the 12-member European Economic Community, more foreign-born workers would immigrate to the country.

Tens of thousands of Finnish workers emigrate to Sweden, often getting the worst jobs and suffering discrimination based on their nationality and language, which is very different than Swedish.

Petition signed

Kirsti Kunnas, an early endorser of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, started on the first day of the meeting to circulate a petition demanding freedom for Curtis. She passed it around during the two-day conference, gathering 107 signatures. Several conference participants endorsed the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, including several leaders.

Marja Lappalainen, a leader of the KTP, drafted greetings to be presented at a June 9



Coverage of Curtis' fight for justice in Finnish Food Workers Union newspaper (left) and in *Workers' News*, the monthly of the Finnish Communist Workers Party.

Chicago rally in support of Curtis. The message, which expressed outrage at the victimization and jailing of Curtis, was read by Lappalainen and approved by the conference.

During the discussion one participant stressed the importance of demanding Curtis be freed and wanted to make certain the message assumed this. They decided a copy of the message in Finnish would be sent to the Iowa prison authorities as part of protesting the restrictions on inmates receiving materials in languages other than English.

Several participants were eager to get more information on Curtis' case, the international support it has won, and his upcoming appeal.

A few workers attending the meeting were members of the Finnish Food Workers Union. The day before the conference began, Curtis

supporters visited the headquarters of the union in Helsinki. The union organizes workers in the meat-packing, baking, food processing, dairy, and tobacco and beverage industries. The union was formed in 1905 and has some 50,000 members.

A supporter of Curtis who is Finnish and lives in Sweden, Irma Palo, introduced officers of the union to the Curtis case several weeks ago. Three union officials met with the Curtis supporters June 1 to hear an update on his case. They wrote an article on the case in the last issue of the union newspaper, *Elintäe*; sent a donation of \$185; and purchased a copy of *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis* by Castle. Finnish Food Workers Union President Jarl Sund and Secretary General Arto Talasmäki signed greetings sent to the June 9 rally.

Latest effort by prison authorities to victimize Curtis is reversed after telegram campaign

BY JOHN STUDER

DES MOINES, Iowa — A new effort by prison authorities to victimize union and political activist Mark Curtis has been reversed.

On June 13 Curtis was given a major disciplinary report by prison officials charging him with "unauthorized possession," "disobeying a lawful order," "obstructive and disruptive behavior," and "attempt at complicity." If found guilty of these charges, Curtis could have been transferred to the Iowa State

Penitentiary, the state's maximum security prison.

Earlier that day, Kate Kaku, Curtis' wife, visited him at the John Bennett Correctional Center, a facility in Fort Madison, Iowa, where Curtis is currently being held. It is across the street from the penitentiary.

During the visit, they went outside so Kaku could smoke a cigarette. Because she was wearing a skirt with no pockets, she handed Curtis \$1.35 in dimes and quarters she had with her to buy a soda from the vending machine.

At the end of the visit, Curtis reported to the Dress Out Room where inmates are searched before being admitted back into the unit. Curtis handed the change to the guard, explaining that his wife had forgotten to take it. The guard told Curtis it was no problem, the prison could either send it back to his wife or put it in his account. He waved Curtis back into the prison.

Five hours later Curtis was presented with the disciplinary report.

Curtis has been in the John Bennett Unit for one month, after being transferred from the Iowa State Men's Reformatory at Anamosa. Two weeks ago he had been written up for lending his cassette tape player to someone. Curtis, who had not been given a copy of the institution's rule book, did not know this was disallowed. That write-up was reduced to a reprimand and entered into his record.

Following the most recent charges, he informed the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, here in Des Moines about them and the committee contacted dozens of supporters of Curtis' fight and others concerned with human rights.

Many responded by deciding to send telegrams to Crispus Nix, the warden responsible for both the state penitentiary and the John Bennett Unit, urging that the report be dropped.

Among those who agreed to send telegrams were Kathy Andrade, education director of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Local 23-25 in New York; Dr. Regula Burki, president of Utah Women Physicians; Manolo Coss, director of *Claridad* in Puerto Rico; Fred Dube, a professor in Olympia, Washington, who was victimized at a New York university for his political views; Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit; Dr. David Linder, father of Ben Linder, who was murdered by the *contras* while volunteering in Nicaragua; Puerto Rican poet Piri Thomas; Sammie Roberts, past president of Alabama National Organization for Women; and Des Moines community activists Ako Abdul Samad and Edna Griffin.

Others were past Des Moines Human Rights Committee chair Alfredo Alvarez, Nan Bailey, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Iowa; Doug Womack, president of United Auto Workers Local 879 in Marshalltown, Iowa; musician Thiago de Mello; veteran civil rights leader Fred Shuttlesworth; and Rowena Moore of the Malcolm X Memorial Foundation in Omaha, Nebraska.

On June 19 Curtis was informed that the report had been dropped. He was told the \$1.35 would be credited to his account.

On June 20 Curtis received a letter from Warden Nix informing him that he would be treated fairly, as all prisoners are, and transmitted to him 16 unopened telegrams.

How to write Mark Curtis

✍ Address letters to Mark Curtis #805338, Box 316 JBC Dorm, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Sender's full name and address must be in upper left of envelope. Sign name in full at end of letter. Greeting cards and photos less than 8 1/2 x 11 inches are permitted.

Kaku to participate in Denmark conference on human rights

Kate Kaku, a leader of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee and Curtis' wife, left Des Moines, Iowa, June 15 for Copenhagen, Denmark, where the Conference on Human Development is taking place.

The gathering, which began in early June and goes through the end of the month, runs parallel to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The CSCE is a product of the Helsinki "process," an agreement reached by 35 governments in 1975 to foster economic and technological cooperation between East and West Europe, to increase contact between citizens of East and West, and to foster recognition of human rights.

The Conference on Human Development is sponsored by nongovernmental organizations from Denmark and other countries. The event's steering committee has scheduled a June 21 workshop by Kaku on Curtis' fight for justice. The International Press Center at the meeting will also be hosting an international news conference for her.

Other workshops will discuss the Bir-

mingham Six defense campaign in Britain, Kurdish rights in Turkey, the rights of indigenous peoples, anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, the rights of oppressed nationalities in Eastern Europe, government blacklisting of political activists in West Germany, and other topics.

During her one-week stay in Denmark, Kaku will also be meeting with the chairperson of the national packinghouse workers' union of Denmark and the first deputy-secretary of the central council of the Soviet Union's lawyers guild.

Local Copenhagen television is planning an interview with Kaku in preparation for its August airing of *The Frame-Up of Mark Curtis*, a video documentary produced by Hollywood director Nick Castle.

Danish supporters report that they have raised \$10,000 for the Curtis international defense campaign since Kaku first toured Denmark in April. More than half has been contributed by trade unions. An official trade union mailing to all local unions encouraged support and financial contributions for Curtis' defense campaign.

'Shugrue and Currey got to go!' unionists chant

Some 8,500 International Association of Machinists (IAM) members struck Eastern Airlines March 4, 1989, in an effort to

world. Readers — especially Eastern strikers — are encouraged to send news of strike solidarity activities to this column.



SUPPORT EASTERN STRIKERS!

block the company's drive to break the union and impose massive concessions on workers.

As of the *Militant's* closing news date, Wednesday, June 20, the strike was in its 474th day.

The Eastern workers' fight has won broad support from working people in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, Canada, Bermuda, Sweden, New Zealand, France, and elsewhere in the

A spirited labor rally in Birmingham, Alabama, on June 2 drew activists from many unions, who formed a picket line and marched around the Eastern Airlines gate at the airport.

Their voices filled the airport with "Fly cheap, die cheap," "We are union," and "Shugrue and Currey got to go," referring to the chairmen of Eastern and Greyhound.

After an hour the 20 protesters piled into cars and moved on to the Greyhound bus station to be joined by other unionists and union supporters. A picket line of 75 people formed.

The rally was initiated by striking Greyhound workers, members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1493, and Alabama Jobs With Justice. In less than two weeks more than 2,500 rally fliers were distributed at plant gates and mine entrances.

The rally was endorsed by Ace Trammel, president Alabama AFL-CIO; Norman McBroom, president, Jefferson County Labor Council; IAM District 100; Alabama Jobs With Justice; United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) International Union; Tommy Buchanan, UMWA International board member; Tom Youngblood, UMWA District 20 president; James Allen, president

United Steelworkers of America Local 1013; Nathaniel Willoughby, president Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Lodge 992; and others.

Passengers arriving at the San Francisco International Airport May 26 were greeted by a picket line of more than 100 unionists shouting, "We're still fighting! Don't fly Eastern!" and, "We want a contract! Don't fly Eastern!"

People in passing cars waved and honked. Other airline workers arriving to work accepted leaflets. One USAir ticket agent told a strike supporter, "It makes a difference when you have these pickets. Passengers ask us what it's about, and when we tell them, they're impressed that you're still out here."

Twenty-five members of the

United Food and Commercial Workers who were on strike against Gallo Salami at that time swelled the picket, wearing union T-shirts and carrying signs from their strike. The strikers — mainly Latinos — added chants in Spanish, which were enthusiastically taken up by the other picketers.

Leaflets for the picket had been distributed at the airport, the maintenance base at United Airlines, at the Gallo picket line, and at a rally for the Greyhound strike. Union members from the IAM at United and TWA airlines joined the picketing, as did members of the United Farm Workers of America.

Those attending the airport rally were invited to a June 1 rally to support the Gallo strikers.

Alyson Kennedy, from Birmingham, Alabama, and Kathleen Denny from San Francisco contributed to this column.

"We've been Shugrued!" say striking Machinists

Continued from front page

5 and from Atlanta to Cancún, Mexico, on July 7.

- A massive television and newspaper advertising campaign launched on June 17 to convince the public to give Eastern another try. Shugrue joins the ranks of corporate heads like Lee Iacocca, Frank Perdue, and Victor Kiam who make personal appearances in their company ads. He promises that "for the next 100 days Eastern is going to get a little better every day."

- A luncheon at Eastern's expense on June 6 in Atlanta for 400 travel agents to meet with Shugrue — an attempt to win their confidence to book customers and clients on the airline.

- A June 12 scab hiring session in Houston, where Eastern plans to resume flights.

- Eastern's "Y-not" fare promotion, which offers full refunds to first-class passengers who are not satisfied with the service.

- Discounted one-way fares reaching below \$50 for senior citizens. Children fly for \$29 each way.

Airline still in trouble

But Eastern remains in trouble. Each day the company is losing \$1 million, and the carrier's debt to unsecured creditors stands at \$980 million. In May only 54 percent of the seats were filled.

There is also a dark cloud hanging over Eastern's safety record and maintenance checks. A grand jury in New York has been investigating whether Eastern managers falsified maintenance records at Miami, Atlanta, and New York airports before the strike began.

Concerns about safety have made business travelers wary of flying on Eastern. The June 9 *New York Times* reported, "One of the travelers, Matt Sullivan, in the banking de-

partment at Kidder, Peabody in New York, is a member of Eastern's frequent-flier program but told Mr. Shugrue that he had avoided the carrier for years because of his concern over safety."

Shugrue responded, the *Times* reported, by stating that Eastern had been one of the most inspected airlines in the country and that all the big carriers had been fined by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Throughout the strike, the IAM has concentrated on maintaining picket lines and reaching out for solidarity. After 16 months the strike of ramp workers, aircraft cleaners, mechanics, stock clerks, and facility cleaners remains solid.

From San Francisco to Boston, and cities in between, support for the strike has grown. Broad solidarity has also been won in Canada, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, Bermuda, France, Britain, Sweden, New

Zealand, in South Africa, and elsewhere.

Of 8,500 IAM members who walked out, only a few hundred have crossed the line to return to work.

When the leaderships of the pilots' and flight attendants' unions ended their sympathy strikes last November and sent their members back to work, the Machinists continued to fight.

Strikers' determination

What accounts for this stamina is the determination of the strikers themselves. They vowed to stay "one day longer" than Frank Lorenzo, and they did.

Lorenzo failed in his attempts to break the Machinists strike. Shugrue has been appointed in the hope he can get the airline in shape and make it attractive to potential buyers.

A flier issued by the strikers at La Guardia airport in New York reads, "At Eastern Air-

lines our fight is not over. Martin Shugrue, the new court-appointed trustee, has insisted that the airline can be run safely with scabs. This is impossible. A fair and equitable settlement with the IAM is the only way to put the Lorenzo era behind us and defend the interests of both Eastern's workers and its passengers."

In a number of cities, the IAM has recently organized a round of expanded picket lines.

The flier from La Guardia calls for an expanded picket on June 23 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the airport. A similar action is planned at the Pittsburgh airport July 1 at 1:00 p.m.

A flier entitled "Freedom for Nelson Mandela, Justice for the Eastern Strikers" calls for picketing June 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Detroit airport. Machinists plan to distribute the leaflet at tour activities for the African National Congress leader.

Passenger ends up driving Greyhound bus

Bus drivers have been on strike against Greyhound for over three months. On March 2, 9,300 members of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), which includes 6,300 drivers and some 3,000 mechanics, cleaners, and clerks, walked off the job after negotiations broke off.

The company demanded that ATU members accept a contract that included no wage increases, cuts in benefits, unlimited contracting out of routes and maintenance work, and other union-weakening measures.

Since then, Greyhound has hired hundreds of scab drivers in its effort to defeat the union. These drivers are pulling out of the depots in 38,000-pound, 40-foot-long buses and are

zipping down the highway at speeds up to 65 miles-per-hour with very little training.

The following Associated Press story headlined, "Passengers Go Greyhound, and Driving Is Left to Them," appeared in the June 16 *New York Times*.

A bus passenger took the wheel yesterday from a replacement driver for strike-plagued Greyhound Bus Lines and drove from Delaware to New York after the driver told riders he didn't know how to use a stick shift.

"I have been traumatized all day," said Rosa White, a Brooklyn native who was a passenger on the bus from State Road, Delaware, to the Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York City. "I went through the whole morning like a zombie. In all my years, I have never been through something like that."

A spokesman for Greyhound, George Grazley, said the driver started at a junction in State Road and "it was obvious very quickly that he could not drive that bus."

"We don't know how the guy got through the training school," Mr. Grazley said.

The driver, whom he would not identify, was dismissed.

Ms. White, 47, an office assistant for Consolidated Edison, said she was on the bus when it pulled into State Road at about 5:00 a.m. Friday to switch drivers.

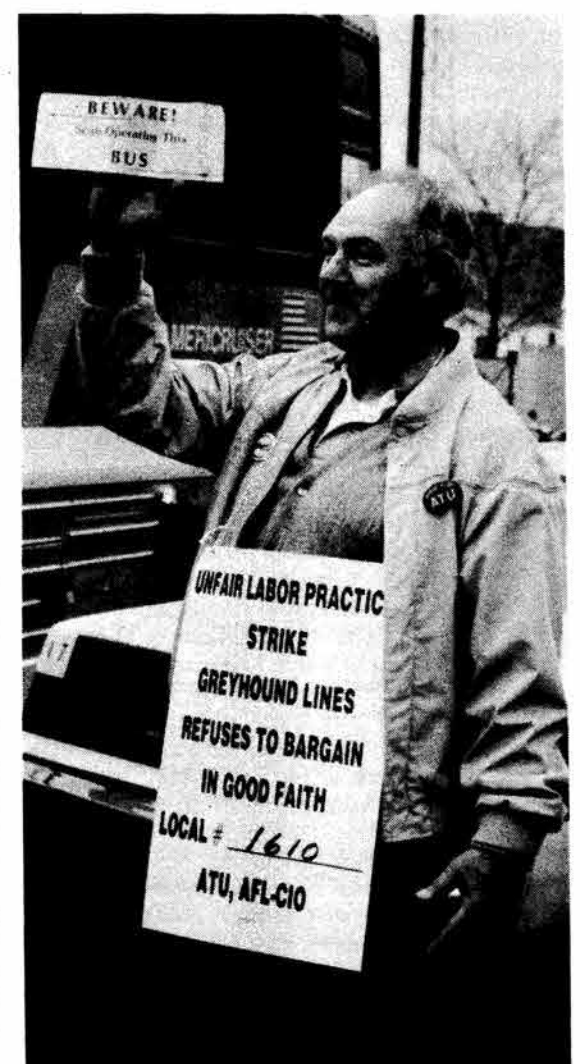
"When he started to pull off, it sounded like he had clutch trouble," she said. "Then we get down the highway and we get to the big trucks. He almost ran us into one of those. He was swerving."

"And he made an announcement that Trailways hadn't trained him to shift the gears and he didn't know how

to drive the bus."

A woman Mr. Grazley and the union identified as Diane Monteiro, a licensed bus driver for another company, came forward.

"The lady got there and tried to calm us down," Ms. White said. "She did very well."



Militant/Nancy Brown
Greyhound striker warns passengers that scab drivers aren't safe drivers.

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TRADE UNIONS IN THE EPOCH OF IMPERIALIST DECAY

BY LEON TROTSKY



INCLUDES TRADE UNIONS, THEIR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE BY KARL MARX



Militant/Cecelia Moriarity

Cops arrest picketing miner at Rum Creek Coal — a Massey subsidiary — last January.

Gov't files charges against mine union; aids union-busting at Massey Coal

BY MAGGIE McCRAW

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The federal government's National Labor Relations Board has filed charges against the United Mine Workers of America for "illegal" picketing at an A.T. Massey Coal Co. subsidiary.

The civil and criminal contempt charges, filed in federal court on May 10, stem from the strike against Massey's Rum Creek Coal Sales and its nonunion contractors, Con-Serv, Inc. and Mate Creek Trucking.

Rum Creek Coal closed its operation in DeHue, Logan County, and declared bankruptcy in July 1989. The owners blamed its financial woes on the Pittston Coal strike, which began in March. The Pittston strikers were supported by widespread sympathy walkouts by UMW miners throughout Appalachia and the Midwest starting in June 1989. The Rum Creek miners joined these actions.

A few weeks after the bankruptcy filing, the company canceled its contract with the union and reopened nonunion.

Picket lines were set up and community

residents and miners organized large protests to prevent coal from being moved. They were met by violence and provocations from employees of Con-Serv, an antiunion outfit that supplied bosses and scabs during a bitter 1984-85 UMW strike against Massey in West Virginia and Kentucky.

In April 1990 another Massey subsidiary, Dingess-Rum Coal Co., began preliminary work to open a nonunion strip mine in Ethel, a short distance from DeHue.

Protests are being organized in Ethel, where Massey has evicted families, blocked public roads, and is threatening to destroy family grave sites.

UMWA International Executive Board member Howard Green said, "Massey wants a major nonunion complex in Logan County, like Elk Run in Boone County and Marrowbone in Mingo County."

Massey's complaint and the National Labor Relations Board charges are an attempt to restrict the community and the union and to pave the way for establishing a nonunion enclave in the southwestern part of the state.

Named in the charges are the UMW International, Charleston-based UMW District 17, five local unions, and 20 miners and union officials.

Criminal contempt charges were filed against Marty Hudson, coordinator of the union's 11-month strike against Pittston, which ended in February this year. Also named were Howard Green, the Executive Board member, and Bernard Evans, an international representative. Green and Evans coordinated picketing at Pittston's mines in Logan County.

The NLRB, acting on the Massey complaint, is asking the court for a sweeping judgment against the miners' union. The complaint asks the court to name U.S. District Judge Dennis Knapp as permanent "special master" to hear the charges. Knapp has ruled against the union for decades.

It also asks that the International and the district be fined \$10,000 for each alleged violation; that named individuals be fined \$1,000 per violation; the union be forced to pay NLRB costs and attorneys fees; the union

pay all expenses for federal marshals Judge Knapp ordered into Logan County; and that UMW President Richard Trumka send a court-approved letter to all union members explaining the charges and take other steps to "purge" the union from contempt.

The board is pressing for fines and six-month jail terms for Hudson, Green, and Evans because they had been previously charged with violating court orders and are specifically named in a 1987 "broad order."

The "broad order" is an extremely restrictive permanent injunction handed down following the miners' defeat in the 1984-85 strike against Massey. In that walkout miners in southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky attempted to beat back Massey's demand for concessions and sought a single, company-wide contract patterned on the national contract between the UMW and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association.

The order severely limits strike activity against Massey, any Massey subsidiary, and at any company doing business with Massey. It restricts such activity in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania.

The order required the union to mail the injunction to all its members and to hold meetings to explain it. It requires that before any strike, union officers must conduct "training programs" to explain the order, monitor picketing, and must deny strike benefits to any miner who violates the injunction. Five pages of the order are devoted to procedures the union must follow in any future strike. Large fines were also imposed against the union.

The current NLRB petition seeks to expand the "broad order," asking for higher fines, further debarment of miners and union officials from picketing, and more restrictions on strike benefits for those found in contempt.

Green said, "We feel the union will be vindicated on these charges. A number of Massey employees have been charged with violence, including attempted murder. They have violated the rights of the community and the union. Their cases have not yet been heard, all the facts have not come out."

Cops frame up Earth First! bomb victims

BY SANDRA LEE

OAKLAND, Calif. — Two leaders of the environmentalist group Earth First! were arrested here while hospitalized as a result of injuries sustained when the car they were traveling in exploded. On May 24 a pipe bomb planted in the back seat of the car went off near Oakland High School, severely injuring the car's driver, Judi Bari, and passenger Darryl Cherney.

Bari is hospitalized in Highland Hospital. She was being held under police custody in lieu of \$100,000 bail. Bari and Cherney were accused of transporting the explosive device that hurt them.

Darryl Cherney is currently free, his \$100,000 bail raised by supporters. Activists held steady vigils at Oakland police headquarters until bail was raised and Cherney released on May 28.

Earth First! is a loosely knit nationwide group of environmental activists founded in 1980 under the slogan, "No compromise in defense of Mother Earth." It conducts research and compiles statistics on environmental problems. It believes that ozone depletion and destruction of forests threaten ecological ruin and demand radical solutions.

After the explosion, police and federal agents searched Bari's and Cherney's homes in Mendocino and Humboldt counties north of here. They admitted they found no bombs or explosive materials.

Organizers of Earth First! say the two leaders had been receiving several anonymous death threats recently. A dozen people have received letters similar to the one sent to Earth First! spokesperson Daniel Barron reading, "We have distributed your phone number to every organized hate group." It was signed "Committee for the Death of Earth First!"

Authorities in Mendocino County, where many of the Earth First! activists live, refused to investigate any of these threats.

On May 31 a three-page, single-spaced typed message was delivered to the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*, the paper of a town, between here and Mendocino.

The message provided accurate details matching never-disclosed information about a bomb that blew up in Cloverdale, Sonoma County, on May 9 that police have been trying to blame on Earth First!

The letter has been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for analysis.

The Oakland police and Alameda County district attorney's office, which so far has balked at filing formal charges in the case, have declined to comment on this latest turn of events.

In a telephone interview from his home in Sutherlin, Oregon, unionist Gene Lawhorn, who has worked with Bari, talked about the connection between the fight to save the environment and workers' rights.

Lawhorn is a lumber worker and member

of Local 2949 of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union at Roseburg Forest Products in Roseburg, Oregon. He is a member of the Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network, a coalition of organizations whose goal is to bring together environmentalists and workers.

Lawhorn described press conferences held this April in Oregon and California by Earth First! activists where they renounced the tactic of spiking trees to thwart their being cut down. Tree spiking is the practice of driving long spikes into a tree so that when a chain saw hits the spike, it can shatter and cause serious injury to the person working the saw.

"The renouncing of tree spiking in Oregon and California is a big step in bridging the gap between workers and environmentalists," said Lawhorn.

Protests across Canada meet abortion restrictions

BY SUSAN BERMAN

MONTREAL — "Criminelles — plus jamais!" (Criminals — never again!) and "Keep your laws off my body" were chanted by 150 abortion rights demonstrators as they marched from the Montréal Court House to Conservative Party headquarters. In Vancouver, British Columbia, 180 people marched to the office of federal Justice Minister Kim Campbell. Four hundred demonstrated in Toronto.

More than 20 demonstrations were held across Canada on May 25 to protest Bill C-43, a bill to recriminalize abortion. Two weeks earlier, several thousand people demonstrated for abortion rights in 16 cities.

The bill was finally approved by the House of Commons on May 29 by a vote of 140 to 131. This decision was met by a new round of demonstrations across the country.

On Jan. 28, 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the 1969 federal law on abortion violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms by denying women the right to control their bodies. Before the Supreme Court ruling abortion was a crim-

inal offense.

Since the day the law was struck down the opponents of abortion rights have been trying to lay the groundwork for imposing a new law and restricting access to abortion.

Today in the province of Prince Edward Island, hospitals perform no abortions. In Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dr. Henry Morgentaler, an abortion rights veteran, is currently facing 14 charges of performing abortions in an independent clinic, which is considered illegal in that province. His Halifax clinic has been barred from performing abortions since Nov. 6, 1989.

William Vander Zalm's Social Credit government in British Columbia froze all funds for abortions in that province one month after the Supreme Court decision. While his government was forced to lift the freeze, he subsequently launched a \$4 million campaign to convince women to not have abortions.

The new law once again makes abortions illegal except where a woman's psychological, mental, or physical health is endangered, as determined by a physician.

Under provisions of Bill C-43 anyone performing or participating in an "illegal" abortion can receive a prison term of up to two years.

A number of abortion clinics in Québec have announced that they will continue performing abortions in defiance of the new legal restrictions. The Québec government immediately responded by announcing that it will file criminal charges against doctors who violate the law. Women who have "illegal" abortions can be charged and jailed as well.

This is a dramatic turnaround from the policy that the Québec government has followed for the past 13 years. Under the pressure of mass sentiment and action in favor of abortion rights, Québec has been the one province where the federal law has not been applied. A new fight has now opened up to determine whether this will continue to be the case.

The May 25 actions were the second round of nationally coordinated demonstrations. On May 12 several thousand people demonstrated for abortion rights in 16 cities.



Militant/Seth Galinsky

Nicaraguan government's policies step up erosion of land reform

Farm workers on coffee plantation, northern Nicaragua. Land reform carried out in early years of revolution was slowed to a halt by 1989, leaving hundreds of thousands of peasants landless.

BY SUSAN APSTEIN

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Two laws on property ownership decreed by President Violeta Chamorro in May are aimed at accelerating the erosion of gains made by rural working people in the early years of the Nicaraguan revolution.

One measure calls for the "review" of all expropriations during the past 11 years. The second decree authorizes the immediate leasing of some state farmland to former owners, as a step toward eventual return of the land to capitalist hands. The measure does not include property taken from former dictator Anastasio Somoza and his close associates.

These moves are the most recent in a series of steps that began under the former Sandinista National Liberation Front government and have been leading to worsening conditions for poor peasants and reconcentration of land among capitalist farmers and landowners.

The struggle of poor peasants for land was one of the driving forces of the 1979 revolution that overthrew the U.S.-backed Somoza government. Peasants demanded the return of land stolen from them through fraud and violence to set up coffee, cotton, and sugar plantations and vast cattle ranches.

Poor peasants face worsening conditions as land ownership is reconcentrated in hands of capitalist farmers.

Tens of thousands of peasants joined the struggle against the government of the capitalists and landlords, some as FSLN guerrillas, many more as supporters. Landless toilers seized land in hundreds of takeovers during the revolutionary struggle. From 1964 to 1973, 240 takeovers were recorded in government records in the provinces of Chinandega and León alone, where thousands had been evicted by large cotton planters.

Formed in 1978, the Association of Rural Workers (ATC) grew out of local committees of poor peasants and farm workers who were fighting for land and for better wages and conditions. It organized demonstrations to denounce the torture and murder of peasants by Somoza's National Guard.

In the course of a 1978 hunger strike and march in the town of Diriamba, more than 1,200 ATC members clashed with the National Guard. News of the Guard violence set off other hunger strikes throughout the country by students, the national women's rights organization, and ATC activists.

FSLN Historic Program

The FSLN backed the peasants' struggle for land, and spelled out its commitment to a far-reaching land reform in its Historic Program, published in 1969.

Under the heading "Agrarian Revolution," the program outlined the policies to be implemented by the revolution. These included expropriation and elimination of "capitalist and feudal estates" and the turning over of land to the peasants according to the principle "the land should belong to those who work it." The Historic Program called for guaran-

teed credit and marketing and technical assistance to peasants, along with insuring other rights. It also advocated measures to "stimulate and encourage the peasants to organize themselves in cooperatives."

Immediately after the July 1979 triumph, the new government expropriated the estates owned by the Somoza family and its close allies. These holdings represented 20 percent of the country's agricultural land. The government organized state farms on these properties.

However, hundreds of thousands of rural working people remained landless, or with plots too small to provide a living. As the revolution advanced, putting the interests of the toilers ahead of capitalist property rights and prerogatives, poor peasants stepped up their demands for land distribution.

In 1980 and 1981, peasants organized and mobilized in growing numbers, carrying out massive demonstrations and land takeovers.

Thirty thousand peasants and farm workers marched through the streets of Managua in February 1980. Brandishing their machetes in the air, they demanded confiscation of farms belonging to capitalists who refused to maintain production or failed to meet the new government's standards on wages, working conditions, and social benefits for farm laborers. They also called for cancellation of debts owed by small farmers to the banks, which were now state-owned, and sharp reductions in interest rates on new loans to small farmers.

The response of the FSLN-led government was to back the peasants. "We know your demands are just and this march gives us confidence to advance, to make further transformations," FSLN Commander Jaime Wheelock told the demonstrators.

The Sandinista Front did more than just respond to the peasants' demands. FSLN activists often led direct actions, including the land takeovers. Sandinista Front members also fought to build peasants' organizations, including establishment of militias to defend the farmers' gains.

In 1981 the government decreed an agrarian reform law, authorizing confiscation and distribution to landless peasants of land that was idle, inefficiently used, abandoned, or being rented out. It also nationalized many of the farms that had been occupied by peasants.

To protect small farmers from losing their land, the law prohibited the private sale of plots distributed under the agrarian reform. Peasants who received parcels could work the land as long as they chose, and could leave it to their heirs.

No upper limit on holdings

The law did not, however, place any upper limit on the size of farms. Capitalist holdings in cotton, coffee, and cattle — some of the biggest concentrations of land — were largely left intact. Capitalist farmers thus continued to dominate the production of the country's major exports.

Large landowners fiercely opposed the 1981 law. They wanted not only to insure their continued ownership of the land, but also to maintain the supply of landless peasants on whom they relied for cheap labor during the harvest season.

Distribution of land was only one aspect of a commitment to radical agrarian reform.

Equally critical were government credit policies and other forms of assistance to small farmers.

In the first year after the revolution, almost half of all small farmers received credit from the government for the first time in their lives — 70,000 families. The banks, which had been taken over by the revolutionary government, financed up to 100 percent of the costs of planting and harvesting each crop, at low interest rates. The government supplied credit in the form of seeds, tools, and fertilizers.

The bank also allowed farmers to buy imported supplies and equipment at a subsidized price by maintaining an artificially low official exchange rate for the national currency.

New roads built

The Ministry of Agrarian Development and Reform built roads in areas of the interior highlands where often there had been no way to get harvests out to the market. By 1984 new grain silos and warehouses had expanded national storage capacity by one-third over 1979.

Government agricultural technicians brought training in improved farming and storage methods. They took their place alongside teachers and others who risked their lives in areas of the country under attack by the U.S. mercenary forces.

Literacy and health campaigns and hundreds of clinics and schools built throughout the countryside were also fundamental to the revolutionary government's commitment to peasants.

Through the National Basic Foods Corporation (ENABAS) the government tried to guarantee prices for small farmers' crops. ENABAS sought to buy a large percentage of basic food crops, freeing small farmers — who produce most of the country's food — from exploitation by capitalist middlemen. However, wholesale trade remained largely in capitalist hands, and even with large government subsidies, ENABAS could buy, transport, and store only a portion of the food crop.

Slow pace of land distribution

From the second half of 1981 through 1984, the distribution of land continued at a relatively slow pace, despite continuing demands by peasants. Hundreds of thousands of toilers in the countryside remained without land, forced to live year-round on what they could earn during the harvest season as temporary workers, or could pick up in odd jobs.

With the escalation of the contra war, organized and financed by Washington, this situation created a danger for the revolution. In several parts of the country some poor peasants who had never benefited from the land reform program were influenced by the contras' political propaganda. At the same time, peasants began stepping up mobilizations demanding land.

In 1985 the government responded by speeding up distribution and backing away from its previous policy of requiring that most recipients of land agree to work in collective farms or cooperatives, even though many would have preferred to farm the land individually. The government also helped expand local militias and reserve units. Steps were also taken to arm members of farm cooperatives so they could defend themselves from

contra attacks.

These measures underlined the challenge facing the revolution, which was to strengthen the organization, self-confidence, and consciousness of working people in both the countryside and cities. This would bring them increasingly in conflict with the prerogatives of the capitalists and their domination of production and trade. And it would ultimately pose expropriating the exploiters and taking steps to establish a planned economy. This would have made possible a strengthening of the vital alliance between workers and small peasants, and a securing of the small peasants' ability to make a decent living.

But instead of proceeding in this direction, the FSLN top leadership and the government began more and more to subordinate the interests of the small peasants to the policy of seeking an accord with the capitalists based on maintaining their property rights and prerogatives.

As the economic costs of the war and the capitalists' sabotage and profiteering mounted, the FSLN government began implementing policies that shifted the weight of the crisis increasingly onto the shoulders of the small peasants and workers.

One aspect of this retreat was the slowing of land distribution. The number of families receiving land dropped from 16,005 in 1986 to 9,300 in 1987 — the lowest level since 1982. In 1988 it fell even more.

The government estimated in 1987 that 60,000 peasant families — that is, nearly 400,000 people — did not have enough land to derive a livelihood.

In January 1989 the government announced that no more land would be confiscated from capitalist farmers. The aim of this step was summed up in a statement by Agrarian Reform Minister Wheelock to the *New York Times*: "We want to make a long-term strategic arrangement with the private owners, which is to say that the expropriations have finished."

In 1988, in response to the sharpening capitalist crisis, the bank cut back the amount of credit available and began indexing interest rates to keep up with inflation. This effectively ended cheap credit, and hit working peasants particularly hard.

The government also eliminated indirect subsidies on imported agricultural supplies by drastically increasing the official exchange rate. This devaluation meant many small farmers suddenly could no longer afford to buy seed, chemicals, and other imported supplies, pay for machinery, or pay owners of tractors for services. The cost of many supplies increased 500 percent overnight.

Many collective farms, cooperatives, and individual small farmers were forced to sell livestock and farm equipment to pay off bank loans.

Small farmers began to fail. One immediate effect of the new policies was that 80 percent of small chicken farmers in the country went under.

Benefitting capitalist growers

However, not all farmers were affected equally. Stating that increasing exports of coffee and beef was the key to solving the country's economic problems, the FSLN government implemented policies aimed at

Continued on Page 13

Int'l fighters greet socialist convention

Grenada, S. Africa leaders welcomed

BY GREG McCARTAN

CHICAGO — Terry Marryshow, leader of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement in Grenada, and Yusuf Saloojee, representing the African National Congress, were among the international guests at the 35th Convention of the Socialist Workers Party, held here June 7-10.

Saloojee, who is the head of the ANC's North American and Caribbean Desk of the Department of International Affairs in Lusaka, Zambia, was welcomed by thunderous applause and chants of "ANC! ANC!" at the opening of his greetings to the meeting.

"We bring to you a message of hope for the building of a new, nonracial, democratic South Africa," he said.

The "beginning of a new era," in South Africa, he said, is the result of several developments. One is the mass protests in the United States and Europe that forced corporations and governments to impose economic and other sanctions against the apartheid regime.

In addition, Saloojee said, the continued struggle by millions of people in South Africa, "spearheaded by the Congress of South African Trade Unions," and the armed struggle, "made the country ungovernable," during the 1980s.

"A major regional contribution," he continued, which is "one we will never forget," is that of "the heroic people of Cuba for throwing the so-called invincible South African Defense Force out of Angola, particularly at the battle of Cuito Cuanavale" in 1988.

The situation in South Africa today requires the "continued solidarity on your part." Noting several victories scored recently against the system of apartheid, Saloojee explained, "In the next few months, after 30 years in exile, the ANC will move its headquarters back into South Africa."

For a constituent assembly

The ANC is demanding "free and fair elections for a constituent assembly where every South African will have the right to vote," in order to establish a "nonracial South Africa, a democratic South Africa, and a united South Africa."

"The victory we have earned," the ANC

In Catalunya, immigrants rally for their rights

BY MIKE EAUDE

BARCELONA, Spain — The Autonomous Government of Catalunya centered here prides itself on defending the rights of the Catalan minority in Spain. But this same spirit doesn't extend to immigrant workers, especially those who are Black, who face racism and discrimination in this city.

A rally of 400 immigrant workers, the first of its kind, was held in Ciutadella Park here May 6. Entitled "Catalunya in Solidarity with Immigrants," the rally was called by a range of Black groups and supported by trade union and Christian organizations.

A manifesto of the event demanded repeal of Spain's 1985 immigration law. The legislation was adopted by the Madrid government to "regularize" the situation of immigrant workers. In concert with other governments of the 12-member European Community, the Spanish capitalist rulers aim to open up the country's borders with the EC while tightening restrictions on immigration from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Speakers at the rally denounced the discriminatory application of the law. Large numbers of Black workers are forced to live and work illegally, often doing the worst jobs and deprived of democratic rights.

In recent months police pressure in the streets of Barcelona has become so great that few Blacks venture into the city. Most live in Mataró, 30 kilometers to the north, where wages are very low as a result of the illegality imposed on the workers. In the Mataró textile mills, the wages are as low as 50,000 pesetas (US\$475) a month.

Rally speakers pointed to the willingness of the Spanish government to hail Nelson Mandela while condoning discrimination and racism within its own house.

leader noted, "is a contribution to the cause of international peace and justice and solidarity."

Bringing "warm and revolutionary greetings" to the convention, Terry Marryshow said, "We of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement are continuing our struggles within Grenada to put Grenada back on the world stage of politics. The revolution of 1979-83, led by Maurice Bishop, our greatest hero and martyr, changed the course of politics in Grenada in an irreversible way."

Due to the recent events in Eastern Europe, Marryshow said, "we can better understand the phenomenon of Stalinism, and the role it played in the destruction of the Grenada revolution." In 1983 a counterrevolutionary faction led by Bernard Coard overthrew the revolution and assassinated Bishop and other leaders.

Despite the collapse of governments in Eastern Europe, and their warming relations with Washington, "We see for ourselves, with the invasion of Grenada, with the invasion of Panama, and the low-intensity wars waged against the peoples of Nicaragua, Angola, and Kampuchea, that we can never afford to let our guard down for one single minute — even though imperialism is in crisis and is even dying."

Revolutionary Cuba is "the greatest example of confronting imperialist aggression, and probably the greatest example in the world today of a country which stands out as a beacon and symbol of hope, and inspiration for the oppressed peoples of the Third World," he said.

Marryshow described Cuba's internationalist aid to Ethiopia, Grenada, Yemen, Viet-



Militant photos by Eric Simpson

Terry Marryshow (left) and Yusuf Saloojee give greetings to convention.

nam, and Nicaragua. Without Cuba's contribution to the struggle against the apartheid regime, he added, "the changes that are taking place today in southern Africa, the independence of Namibia, the release of Nelson Mandela — all of this could not have been possible."

"Cuba remains," he said, "a shining example of what building socialism is all about, through relying on the consciousness and abilities of its people, of its workers and farmers — and also through its internationalist perspective. It is therefore our historic responsibility to insure that Cuba survives."

Greetings from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the governing party in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, were also read. Officials of the North Korean government are barred from traveling in the United States outside of a 25-mile zone around the United Nations in New York.

The Central Committee sent "warm congratulations," and "friendly greetings" to the convention and members of the SWP. It noted the convention would make a contribution to "the struggle to achieve the democratic freedom and rights of the working popular masses against imperialism."

Freed Salvadoran artist visits mural

BY MERYL LYNN FARBER

NEW YORK — After a broad campaign forced the Salvadoran government to release him from prison, artist Isafas Mata recently paid a visit to the Pathfinder Mural.

Mata, born in El Salvador, was arrested on Nov. 19, 1989, by Salvadoran security forces. He was picked up in downtown San Salvador along with his colleague, Imelda Iraitia, by heavily armed men dressed in civilian clothing. He was thrown into a jeep and taken to the Treasury Police station. After being held for 16 days, Mata was transferred to Mariona, the state prison.

The formal charges against Mata included that he was a "university ideologue" and "involved with international solidarity groups."

In the summer of 1989, Mata, a professor at the University of El Salvador School of Art, traveled to the United States to raise material aid for the school and promote the work of Salvadoran artists. While in New York, Mata added the portraits of Farabundo Martí and Archbishop Oscar Romero, martyred fighters for justice in El Salvador, to the Pathfinder Mural.

The mural, a six-story work of art in Manhattan's West Side, includes the portraits of revolutionary fighters from all over the world.

The Salvadoran artist explained that once he was transferred to Mariona, his wife was able to visit him twice a week and he found out that supporters in San Francisco, California, had formed a committee and were working to secure his freedom.

It was not until he was released that he realized the magnitude of the effort and the wide range of people who came to his defense and the defense of the other victims of the Salvadoran government's wave of repression.

"I found out that nationally and internationally," explained Mata, "performing artists such as Holly Near, the band U-2, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, actors Ed Asner, Raul Julia, stars from the TV series 'L.A. Law,' visual artists, professors, and members of Congress from around the country, and others from around the world sent messages to the Salvadoran government and sent money to help free me."

Mata thanked all those who participated in winning his freedom, including from artists who showed that "there are no borders between artists."

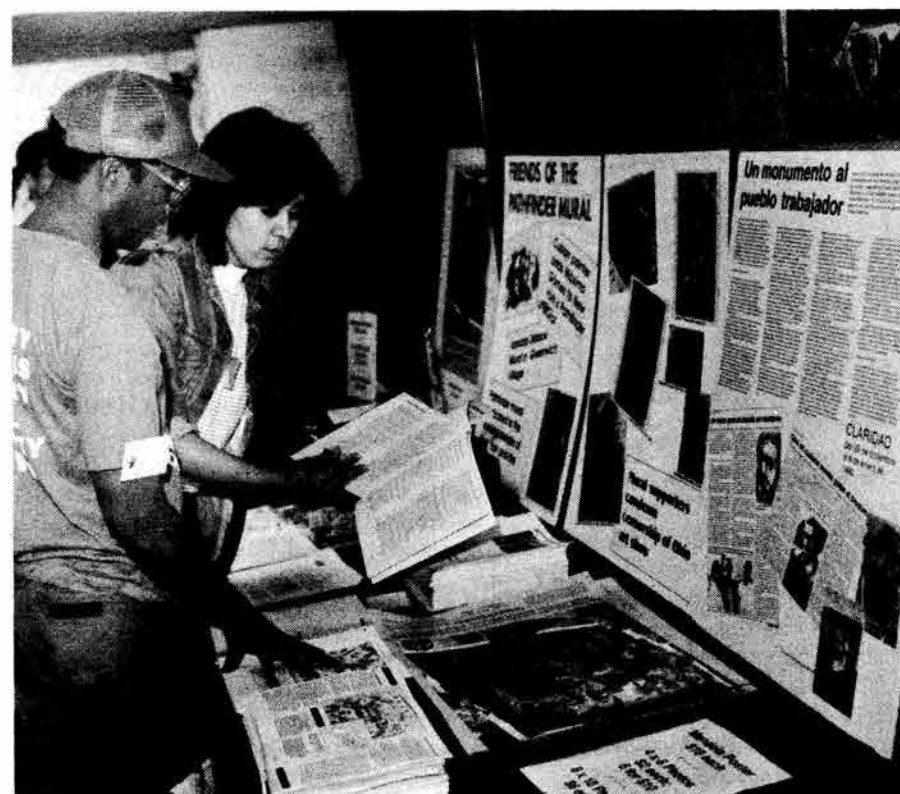
The Artists Committee to Free Isafas Mata organized lawyers to go to El Salvador to press the inquiry. After one month and two

days imprisonment, the Salvadoran government dropped the charges and released Mata. Imelda Iraitia was also released from the women's state prison.

Advised by his lawyers to leave El Salvador, Mata came to the United States in February and is currently living in San Francisco where he is working with a number of graphic arts groups and cultural centers.

When he saw the completed Pathfinder Mural for the first time Mata's response was, "It's beautiful!"

Friends of Pathfinder Mural plan big publicity during Mandela tour



Militant/Arthur Hughes

Friends of the Pathfinder Mural display in Chicago at recent Socialist Workers Party convention.

During Nelson Mandela's tour of the United States, the Friends of the Pathfinder Mural group plans to distribute its materials at Mandela events in eight cities. The African National Congress leader's portrait is featured in the mural and is the subject of a poster and postcard the Friends will be selling.

Visitors to the Chicago display included Dennis Barrie, the director of the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati who was

indicted on obscenity charges in an attempt by censors to close down an exhibition of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe. Barrie was in Chicago for a conference of museum directors.

Yusuf Saloojee, a representative of the ANC, accepted a complimentary Mandela poster from the table. Many participants at the SWP convention picked up materials for distribution in their local areas, including 240 Mandela posters.

Mandela gets giant welcome in N.Y.

Calls for continued sanctions against apartheid

Continued from front page

placards, hand-made signs, and T-shirts were held or worn by many. The black, green, and gold colors of the ANC were visible everywhere.

As Mandela's motorcade proceeded down the parade route, cheers of "He's coming! He's coming!" went up. Waves of applause, cheers, and clenched fists greeted Mandela and his delegation as the motorcade moved down the packed street.

"Mandela's coming to the United States is a symbol of progress and hope," one parade participant said. "Maybe it will help improve the conditions of Black Americans and we will see our problems as international — we will relate to South Africans and they to us."

Another, holding a "Free South Africa!" poster, said, "I'm glad they rolled out the red carpet for him after what he's done and been through."

"This is a historic moment," said a woman straining to get a glimpse of the motorcade. "Mandela for me embodies all of the qualities and struggles that distinguish Black people."

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo told the welcoming event that Mandela has "become to the whole world what he has been to his own people for more than a quarter of a century — a new symbol of courage, a new symbol of valor, a new symbol of hope."

He urged the New York state legislature to "pass, without further delay, the bill that requires New York State to divest its holdings in companies doing business in or with South Africa."

Mayor Dinkins said to Mandela, "We will pressure the banks and the businesses that provide the financial underpinnings of apartheid, and we will help to support the trade unions seeking economic justice" in South Africa.

The ANC leader said he was honored to be received by the dignitaries, and "equally important, to be received by the masses of the people who have throughout these years set the tempo for the immense support which we, in our struggle against racial oppression, have received from here."

Sanctions are needed, the ANC leader said, because "it is no use to demand that apartheid should destruct, to demand that every Black

man in the country should be able to exercise the vote. What brings about changes... is the type of action which we are prepared to embark upon in order to bring about those changes."

"We are therefore appealing to you, in all humility, and in all sincerity, that you must join us in the internal action that you are taking to force the government to abandon apartheid. You must join us, and the only way in which we can work together on this difficult road is for you to ensure that sanctions are applied," he said.

Mandela, released from prison in February, had served 27 and a half years of a life sentence on charges of sabotage. A 30-year ban on the ANC was also lifted the same month. Since then an accelerated wave of strikes, mass rallies, and protests in South Africa and a worldwide diplomatic offensive by the ANC have increased the pressure on the apartheid regime.

Mandela's visits to the United States and Canada are part of a 13-country tour to rally tens of millions internationally to the struggle to end apartheid. The tour follows a nine-country trip by South African President F.W. de Klerk in May to drum up support for lifting the sanctions.

A leader of the ANC prior to his arrest in 1962, Mandela had organized protests and campaigns of defiance against apartheid laws. When the government banned the organization in 1960 and stifled peaceful dissent, Mandela began organizing an armed struggle against the racist regime.

Breadth of support

The U.S. tour is being organized by the broadest coalition of organizations and individuals ever assembled for an anti-apartheid event, including trade unions, churches, entertainers, anti-apartheid organizations, elected officials, civil rights organizations, and others. Buses are being reserved in many areas for travel to mass rallies.

In addition to rallies and other events in eight cities, Mandela will address the United Nations General Assembly and Congress. He will also meet with President George Bush.

At a press conference the day before Man-

dela's arrival, Randall Robinson, of the anti-apartheid organization TransAfrica, said the South African government is attempting "to window-dress apartheid. Three thousand political prisoners remain in jail and apartheid remains intact with laws untouched."

Noting that the sanctions law adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1986 stipulates the measures cannot be lifted until "there is a substantial dismantling of apartheid," Robinson urged sanctions be maintained.

Laws such as the Group Areas Act, which restricts where Blacks can own land and live, and the Population Registration Act, which classifies people according to race have not been repealed, he pointed out.

Jim Bell, vice-president of United Auto Workers District 65, said the tour would deliver a "political message to New York and the world. We will carry that message to Washington, D.C." Entertainer Harry Belafonte added, "African countries, the Frontline States — whose future depends on the ending of apartheid — will look to the U.S. people to keep the pressure on until apartheid is ended and Africa is free."

ANC leader Zwelakhe Sisulu, who is also editor of the *New Nation* newspaper in South Africa, is part of Mandela's delegation.

"More people are dying today in our country than at any other time in our history," he told the press conference. "This is done under the banner of the right wing, instead of the government. But the government is responsible for what does and does not happen" in the country.

Chris Dlamini, the vice-president of COSATU, said that because of the sanctions, which the union federation supports, and "the actions of progressive forces, today we see Nelson Mandela released, the ANC unbanned, and talk of negotiations." Dlamini added, "Trade unions in this country have played a role of support for trade unions in our country," and he urged continued labor support for the union movement in South Africa.



Militant/Greg McCartan

Nelson Mandela in New York

At the rally outside the mayor's office Mandela told the enthusiastic crowd, "The Black people of South Africa are busy changing the political scene in our country. The dreams of those who once hoped that they would remain forever the masters — with the Blacks as servants — those dreams have been completely shattered by the actions of the people. We hope that this visit will help to strengthen the struggle in our own country."

"The people of South Africa have made great sacrifices, and will make as many more as necessary to bring about a united, non-racial, nonsexist, and democratic South Africa," he said.

"The new South Africa," said Mandela, "will be a country which banishes forever racism in all its forms." It will be a country that says, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." It will not be long, he concluded, "until South Africa will be free."

Mandela's next tour stops are Boston, June 23; Washington D.C., June 24-26; Atlanta, June 27; Miami and Detroit, June 28; Los Angeles, June 29; and Oakland, June 30.

Canadian cities greet ANC leader

Continued from front page

at the stage where we can say with confidence that changes in South Africa are profound and irreversible. It is therefore logical that sanctions should remain in place."

Rally participants responded with prolonged applause and chants of "Mandela" and "Amandla" (Power). Thousands waved ANC flags and wore gold, green, and black anti-apartheid T-shirts.

Participants in the rally came from across southern Ontario. One group of a dozen people traveled 1,100 miles from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Flags and banners from the Metropolitan Toronto Labour Council, the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW), United Brotherhood of Carpenters, United Electrical Workers, United Steelworkers of America, United Food and Commercial Workers, and Ontario Public Service Employees unions could be seen. Two busloads of workers came from CAW Local 1967 at the McDonnell Douglas aircraft plant.

Mandela's visit to Canada began in Ottawa, the country's capital, where the government accorded him an official welcome of the type usually reserved for visiting heads of state. While there he addressed a joint session of the two chambers of the federal Parliament.

'Nelson Mandela Day'

In the afternoon Mandela flew to Toronto, where more than 10,000 people gathered at City Hall for his first scheduled speech. But, tired by his hectic schedule, he canceled his appearance. Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton declared the occasion Nelson Mandela Day and made Mandela an honorary citizen of Toronto. Winnie Mandela accepted on his behalf and spoke briefly to the rally.

Then she led a march to the Ontario leg-

islature at Queen's Park. Lampposts along the route were decorated in ANC colors. Thousands more were already there when the march reached its destination.

Anglican Archbishop Edward Scott, president of the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa in Canada, chaired the Queen's Park rally, where Mandela spoke.

Brief appearances by Mayor Eggleton, Ontario Premier David Peterson, and federal External Affairs Minister Joe Clark were met with boos. In contrast, the crowd cheered loudly as Ontario New Democratic Party leader Bob Rae and Black Action Defense Committee representative Dudley Laws were introduced.

While the rally continued for four hours in a festive mood, with speeches and music, Mandela left for a state dinner in his honor hosted by Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. In a talk there, Mandela recalled the ANC decision to begin the armed struggle against apartheid in 1961, saying, "We did not hesitate."

Mulroney pledged US\$5 million to help South African exiles and political prisoners resettle once they are free. He also promised that the Canadian government would not ease its sanctions against South Africa.

The following morning, Mandela spoke to a meeting of more than 1,000 enthusiastic students who packed the Central Technical High School auditorium, chanting, "Viva Mandela!" Students cheered his call for their help in raising funds for the Nelson Mandela Fund. Its purpose, he explained, is to aid South Africa's Black students who face "a reign of terror by police" and education "vastly inferior to that available to whites."

BY JOANNE PRITCHARD

MONTREAL — Some 20,000 people

gathered here to hear Mandela in the rain on June 19.

The rally had been organized by the Montréal City Council. Mayor Jean Doré introduced the South African leader.

The crowd listened to Mandela's speech with serious attention, but repeatedly interrupted with loud applause and cheers. Many wore anti-apartheid T-shirts and buttons. Others wore T-shirts and buttons and carried flags of the struggle against the national oppression of the Québécois.

The connection between the two struggles was reinforced in the concert surrounding Mandela's speech when Gilles Vigneault, one of Québec's best-known artists, sang a song closely identified with the movement for Québec's national rights.

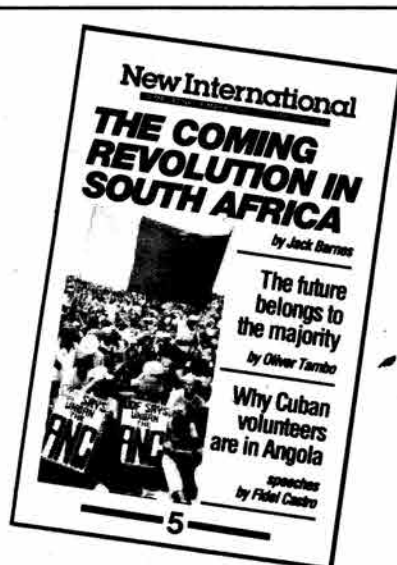
The rally chairman introduced the Native artist Kashtin, making the point that while South Africa is the worst reservation in the whole world, there are reservations in Canada as well. Oliver Jones and Charles Biddles, two well-known jazzmen, also played a piece dedicated to Mandela.

Mandela then went on to a packed meeting at the Union United Church in the working-class community of Saint-Henri. This event was specially organized for Montréal's Black community to have an opportunity to hear Mandela.

Joe Norton, chief of the Kahnawake Native reservation, welcomed him to "Mohawk territory." This remark drew enthusiastic applause from the 1,000 people in the street listening to the meeting on loudspeakers.

Describing racism as a "cancer," Mandela said, "We should fight racism in all of its forms wherever it rears its ugly head."

On his arrival in Montréal, he had met briefly with Québec's provincial Prime Minister Robert Bourassa and several other prominent people.



This issue of *New International* focuses on the revolutionary struggle in South Africa, its impact throughout southern Africa and worldwide, and the tasks of opponents of apartheid in the labor movement internationally.

The feature article, *The Coming Revolution in South Africa* by Jack Barnes, discusses the national, democratic revolution to overthrow the South African apartheid regime and establish a nonracial democratic republic.

Also included:

- *The Freedom Charter*
- *The Future Belongs to the Majority*, a message by African National Congress President Oliver Tambo

- *Why Cuban Volunteers Are in Angola*, three speeches by Cuban President Fidel Castro

Send \$7 to *New International*, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014

Pennsylvania miners welcome ANC leader

BY HOLLY HARKNESS
AND STEVE MARSHALL

IMPERIAL, Pa. — When members of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) here, on strike against Aloe Coal Co., heard that a representative of the African National Congress was coming to the Pittsburgh area, they quickly organized unionists to greet him.

At a June 15 rally of some 100 strikers and other unionists, ANC leader Yusuf Saloojee said, "This is the most important gathering I have spoken at because it gives me the opportunity to talk to workers and fighters." The meeting was held outdoors, at Camp Solidarity North — a farm used by the UMWA as an organizing center for the Aloe strike.

Saloojee, the head of the North American and Caribbean Desk of the ANC Department of International Affairs in Lusaka, Zambia, spent four days in northern West Virginia and Pennsylvania, speaking at public meetings, to union members and officials, and at numerous press events.

Mine workers in South Africa are "among the poorest in the world," Saloojee said. "They produce great wealth, but they get nothing for it. They are separated from their families for all but one week a year."

Through their struggles against these conditions, mine workers in South Africa have "created a giant union — the National Union of Mineworkers. They understand their struggle is global," he said.

Solidarity messages were given at the rally by Al Miller, president of UMWA Local 9636, on strike against Aloe; Dave Michel, UMWA International Representative; Donald Redman, president of UMWA District 5; and Carl Puskar, of the International Association of Machinists Local 1044 Eastern Airlines strike committee.

"Apartheid is still very much alive," the ANC leader said. "Nelson Mandela is out of prison, but he has to live in a Black township, and doesn't have the right to vote." Saloojee said.

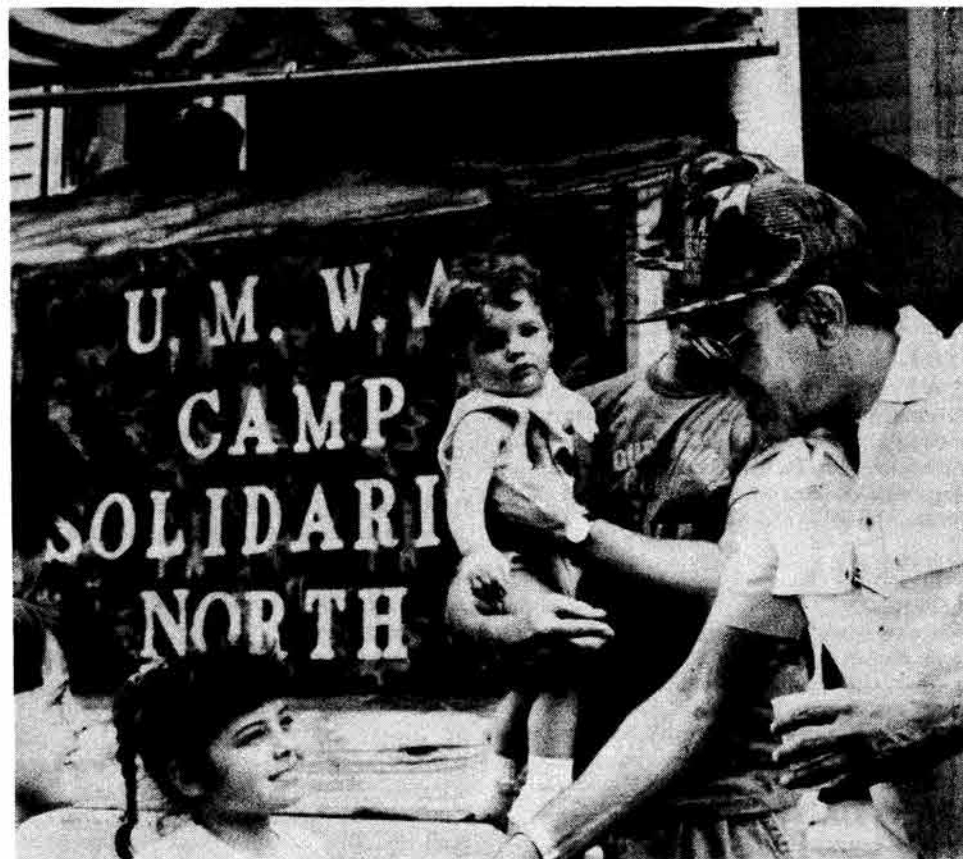
Saloojee also addressed a gathering of 175 at the University of Pittsburgh, chaired by Prof. Dennis Brutus. The meeting heard a proclamation of welcome sent by Mayor Sophie Masloff, as well as greetings from City Councilman Jake Millones, UMWA representative Michel, Gary Best of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, and Eastern striker John Burke. "They say de Klerk is a new man, a changed man,"

noted Saloojee. "It's true — but who has changed him? Who gets the credit?"

Pushing back some of the repressive legislation in South Africa "is not a victory for de Klerk, or for the National Party — it is a victory for all South Africans. But most important, it is a victory for hundreds of thousands, for millions of Black South Africans, who have struggled since 1652," Saloojee said. "You, the international community, and we, the people of South Africa, must take full credit for what is happening."

The ANC representative also spoke at the University of West Virginia in Morgantown to a meeting of 80. The event was organized by Prof. Wilbert Jenkins and Mary Brown of the local NAACP. In nearby Fairmont he met with UMWA District 31 President Eugene Claypole and miners' union International Executive Board member Steve Webber.

Saloojee's speeches were reported in the *Charleston Gazette*, the *Morgantown Dominion Post*, and the *Pittsburgh Press*. Several television and radio stations aired interviews with the ANC leader.



Militant/Steve Marshall
African National Congress leader Yusuf Saloojee visits miners' camp in Pennsylvania, June 15.

Cuban diplomat speaks in Minnesota

BY WILL REISSNER

MINNEAPOLIS — In a whirlwind visit to Minnesota that lasted barely 24 hours, Cuban diplomat Clinton Adlum addressed audiences on African Liberation Day at the Zion Baptist Church in the Black community here and at the University of Minnesota. Adlum also met with political and cultural figures and attended a labor breakfast.

Adlum's meetings on May 25, sponsored by the recently formed U.S.-Cuban Friendship Committee and the Africana Student Cultural Center at the University of Minnesota, drew large audiences.

The Cuban diplomat remarked that his reception in the Twin Cities was marked by "great warmth" and expressed his desire to return for a longer visit.

Adlum described the strides Cuba has made in health care and education and in overcoming discrimination against Blacks and women since the victory of the revolution in 1959.

"As a child," Adlum recalled, "I could not have even dreamed of working in the local bank in my hometown because of the color of my skin. But today, because of the revolution in our country, I can be the first secretary of the Cuban Interests Section in Washington, D.C."

Adlum traced the process that forged the Cuban nation, dating it back to Cuba's first revolution against Spanish colonial rule in 1868.

"Before that," Adlum maintained, "we had Africans, Spaniards, and Creoles [Cuban-born whites], but no Cubans." It was in the revolution against Spanish rule and against slavery that "for the first time the term 'Cuban' had any meaning."

As Cuba was about to win its independence from Spain in 1898, Adlum noted, "the United States declared war on Spain, using the pretext of the sinking of the battleship *Maine*." The United States then signed a peace treaty with Spain, granting Washington vast powers over Cuba.

Following the treaty, Adlum stated, "people from the United States descended on the Cuban economy, took it over, and made it one-sided and dependent."

Under the rule of U.S.-backed regimes, which only ended with the overthrow of the

government of Fulgencio Batista in 1959, "our country had massive problems," Adlum explained. He pointed to the 1.2 million illiterates in Cuba in 1959, the 600,000 unemployed, and the discrimination and oppression of women and Blacks in the country.

In response to questions, the Cuban diplomat discussed the "rectification campaign" that has been underway in his country since 1986. "While rectification is our process of change," Adlum stated, "we oppose changes that would take us back to where we came from."

Among the problems highlighted by the rectification campaign was the need for greater participation by women and Afro-Cubans in leadership positions.

Another problem, Adlum remarked, was "underestimating the importance of political and ideological work among the men and women creating socialism."

To laughter and applause from the audience in the Zion Baptist Church, Adlum remarked that Cuban revolutionaries believe profoundly in human beings. "We do not think human beings have to be sinners!"

Adlum noted that the minibrigades of volunteers working to build housing in Cuba help to "establish the type of solidarity that should motivate men and women in our society."

While in Minnesota, Adlum met with St. Paul Mayor James Scheibel, who expressed an interest in visiting Cuba. He also met with Tom Trow of the Minnesota Cuba Project, which has organized exchanges with Cuba for more than a decade.

The Cuban diplomat was interviewed by two radio stations and was the guest at a labor breakfast hosted by figures active in Minnesota Trade Unionists for Peace.

Puerto Rican 'assassins,' or freedom fighters?

BY JAMES HARRIS

Mayor David Dinkins labeled as "assassins" three Puerto Rican independence fighters flying to New York to welcome Nelson Mandela. Who are these men and women?

Lolita Lebrón, Irving Flores, and Rafael Cancel Miranda, along with Oscar Collazo and Andrés Figueroa Cordero, are heroes of the Puerto Rican independence struggle.

They are Puerto Rican nationalists who served 25 years or more in prison for taking up arms against the colonial status Washington imposes on the island.

They were the longest-held political prisoners in the western hemisphere. In September 1979, as a concession to mounting world public opinion against the length and conditions of their imprisonment, four of the five were released from prison and granted unconditional executive clemency by President James Carter. Cordero was released in 1978 just before he died of cancer.

The story of the five is bound up with the struggle of Puerto Rico for self-determination.

In April 1950 U.S. Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson met with Puerto Rican Gov. Muñoz Marín to make plans to destroy the influence of the Nationalist Party, then a major political force on the island. This campaign was launched in October 1950 with the arrest of numerous proindependence activists.

Responding to these attacks, the Nationalist Party launched a revolt on October 30 under the leadership of Pedro Albizu Campos.

Fighting spread rapidly to all major cities in Puerto Rico. For five days U.S. tanks, planes, and troops fought the rebels. Hundreds of Puerto Ricans were killed and thousands arrested during and after the uprising.

Some received prison terms of up to 400 years, although all had been released by 1979.

While U.S. forces were crushing the rebellion on the island, two Puerto Ricans living in New York, Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola, carried out an armed attack on Blair House, the temporary residence of President Harry Truman. Torresola was killed in the attack and Collazo severely wounded. Collazo was later sentenced to death. The sentence was eventually commuted to life imprisonment.

In 1954, after Congress passed legislation proclaiming Puerto Rico a "free, associated state," Lebrón, Cancel Miranda, Flores, and Figueroa Cordero protested the imposition of this new form of colonial status on their country by shooting up the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five members of Congress. The four were sentenced to prison terms ranging up to 50 years.

In prison the five nationalists became symbols of Puerto Rican resistance to U.S. colonial rule. The movement for their release gained wide support.

By the 1970s both houses of the Puerto Rican legislature, four ex-governors of the island, and all political parties, as well as numerous trade union, student, religious, and civic organizations in Puerto Rico, demanded their freedom. The Movement of Non-Aligned Countries called for their unconditional release.

On Aug. 15, 1979, the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization passed a Cuban-sponsored resolution also calling for their release.

During their long imprisonment none of the nationalists ever wavered in their support

for an independent Puerto Rico. Even though they might have been released years earlier had they asked for clemency, all refused to acknowledge U.S. government jurisdiction over them.

After their release they spoke at rallies where thousands celebrated the victory. In Puerto Rico, for example, 7,000 people turned out to welcome them home.

Mandela speeches just published

BY JAMES HARRIS

NEW YORK — Pathfinder has announced the publication of a new pamphlet, *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid."* The attractive 74-page pamphlet is the first collection of Mandela's major speeches since the ANC leader's release from prison in February.

The new compilation is "the best way to find out — in Nelson Mandela's own words — how the African National Congress is working to advance the struggle for a democratic, nonracial South Africa," Pathfinder editorial director Steve Clark said.

Pathfinder is the U.S. publisher of Nelson Mandela's book *The Struggle Is My Life*. Described by the author as "my autobiography," the book is published in collaboration with the London-based International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa.

"*Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid*" is Pathfinder's "salute to Nelson Mandela's historic tour of North America," Clark said. "With this visit, millions in the United States who answer Mandela's international call to 'intensify the struggle to abol-

ish apartheid' will be able to see and hear the ANC leader for themselves. And they can read and study his ideas in this timely, inexpensive new collection."

Included in the selection is Mandela's 1989 letter from prison to then South African President P.W. Botha; his speech to 80,000 anti-apartheid activists in London; his tribute to Angola and Cuba in Luanda, Angola, May 10; and his May 23 talk to South African business executives.

The collection also includes the ANC's program, the Freedom Charter, as well as photos, maps, three pages of historical and biographical notes, and a brief introduction written by Greg McCartan, a staff writer for the *Militant*. Five of the speeches in the pamphlet have previously appeared in the *Militant*. Photographs were taken by Margrethe Siem, who accompanied McCartan and *Militant* correspondent Rich Palser on a reporting trip to South Africa in March and April.

The pamphlet is available for \$4 from Pathfinder, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014.

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Report Back from South Africa. Slide presentation by Margrethe Siem, *Militant* photographer and correspondent recently returned from reporting on upheaval in South Africa. Sun., June 24, 1 p.m. 1306 1st Ave. N. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (205) 323-3079.

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco

Protecting the Environment: A Marxist View. Speaker: Doug Jenness, editor of the *Militant*. Sun., June 24, 4:30 p.m. 3284 23rd St. (at Mission). Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (415) 282-6255.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Welcome Mandela! Young Socialist Alliance Open House. All day Wed., June 27. Programs at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. Videos, literature, refreshments, discussion. Comfort Inn, 120 North Ave. NW (across from Georgia Tech). For more information call (404) 577-4065.

MARYLAND

Baltimore

Struggle in South Africa: Educational Week-end. Class: "Nature of Apartheid," Sat., June 30, 4 p.m. Forum: "Importance of Mandela's Tour for Working People," Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. Class: "What African National Congress Wants for South Africa — Background to the Freedom Charter," Sun., July 1, 11 a.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation requested. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Rally to Defend Mark Curtis. Speakers: Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, archdiocese of Detroit; Nathan Head, United Auto Workers Civil Rights Dept.; John Studer, Mark Curtis Defense Committee; Kgati Satheke, African National

Congress Youth Section; Sunge John, Students Against Apartheid, University of Windsor. Sat., June 23. Reception, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Church, Cass & Forest streets. Sponsor: Detroit supporters of Mark Curtis.

South Africa, Cuba, and the United States. Speaker: Cleve Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

MINNESOTA

Austin

The Frame-Up of Leonard Peltier. Speaker: Raúl González, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

Nelson Mandela: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid." Video presentation of Mandela's Cape Town speech. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

St. Paul

Defend the Rights of Immigrant Workers! Speakers: Alfredo Lares, co-coordinator, Community Equality Action Committee, Albert Lea; Raúl González, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers of America Local 15199; Long Vang, recently on strike against Quality Tool. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI

St. Louis

"Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apartheid." Video of Mandela's Cape Town speech following his release from prison. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (314) 361-0250.

NEBRASKA

Omaha

Fight for the Rights of Immigrant Workers. Speaker: Héctor Marroquín, Socialist Workers Party, Mexican immigrant who successfully waged 11-year battle for U.S. residency. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 140 S 40th St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (402) 553-0245.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

Tear Down the Korean Wall! U.S. Troops Out of South Korea! Speaker: Peter Thierjung, *Militant* staff writer. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey St., 2nd floor. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

South Africa: The Fight Against Apartheid. Speaker: Margrethe Siem, *Militant* photographer recently returned from covering upheaval in South Africa; Jane Harris, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress, 14th C.D., member United Transportation Union Local 800. Translation to Spanish and French. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey St., 2nd floor. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Brooklyn

The Coming Revolution in South Africa: "Intensify the Struggle." Speaker: Greg McCartan, *Militant* staff writer and editor of *Pathfinder* pamphlet *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: "Intensify the Struggle to Abolish Apar-*

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- "The Fight Against Apartheid and Racism in the United States" Mon., July 16, 7 p.m.

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heid, recently returned from covering upheaval in South Africa. Translation to Spanish and French. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 464 Bergen. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (718) 398-6983.

Manhattan

South Africa: The Fight Against Apartheid. Speaker: Ernie Mailhot, strike coordinator, International Association of Machinists Local 1018 at Eastern Airlines, activist in Nelson Mandela Welcome Committee. Translation to Spanish and French. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 191 7th Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (212) 675-6740.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro

Defend Mark Curtis, Framed-Up Unionist and Political Activist. Speakers to be announced. Sat., June 30, 7 p.m. 2219 E Market. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO

Cleveland

Nelson Mandela and the South African Freedom Struggle. Speakers: Grace Jones, Cleveland TransAfrica; representative of Socialist Workers Party. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (216) 861-6150.

OREGON

Portland

Farewell to Portland Pathfinder Bookstore. Political and social event to mark contribution of Pathfinder and Socialist Workers Party. Discussion with leaders of the SWP in Seattle and Portland and of the Communist League in Vancouver about the growing crisis of capitalism and prospects for workers' struggle in the 1990s. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 2730 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (503) 287-7416.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Revolutionary Cuba Today. Speaker: Jon Hillson, *Militant* reporter who covered May Day events in Havana. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 9 E Chelton Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (215) 848-5044.

TEXAS

Houston

The World Economic Crisis: The Battles

Ahead for Working People. Speaker: Al Budka, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 4806 Alameda. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. For more information call (713) 522-8054.

UTAH

Salt Lake City

The World Economic Crisis: The Battles Ahead for Working People. Speaker: Jesse Smith, Socialist Workers Party, member International Association of Machinists Local 568. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 147 E 900 S. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Canada's "Meech Lake" Crisis and the Fight for Québec's Rights. Speaker: Paul Kouri, Communist League of Canada. Sat., June 23, 7:30 p.m. 1405 E Madison. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (206) 323-1755.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston

Inside Cuba Today: Deepening the Struggle for Socialism. Slideshow and presentation by Nancy Brown, Socialist Workers Party, member International Association of Machinists on strike against Eastern. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 30, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 345-3040.

BRITAIN

Manchester

South Africa Belongs to All Who Live In It. Celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Freedom Charter. Speaker: representative of Communist League. Wed., June 27, 7:30 p.m. Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Donation: £1. Sponsor: New International Forums. Tel: 061-839 1766.

CANADA

Montréal

Support the Fight Against Racism and National Oppression from Québec to South Africa: Young Socialist Open House. Speakers: Communist League candidates Michel Dugré and Katy LeRougetel. Sun., June 24, 5:30 p.m. Ramada Inn, Sherbrooke "C" Room, 5500 Sherbrooke E. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

CANADA

Meech Lake: The Fight of Québécois and Native People for Their National Rights

Joe Young

Communist League candidate in Ontario elections, member Int'l Association of Machinists Local 2323, Air Canada.

Michel Dugré

Communist League candidate for mayor of Montréal, steelworker.

Toronto

Mon., June 25, 7 p.m. 410 Adelaide St. W, Suite 400. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Montréal

Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Forum Lutte Ouvrière. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

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OREGON: Portland: 2730 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Zip: 97212. Tel: (503) 287-7416.

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: 9 E.

Chelton Ave. Zip: 19144. Tel: (215) 848-5044. Pittsburgh: 4905 Penn Ave. Zip: 15224. Tel: (412) 362-6767.

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

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 3165 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699, 797-7021.

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

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

AUSTRALIA

Sydney: 181 Glebe Point Rd., 2nd floor, Glebe. Postal address: P.O. Box 259 Glebe, Sydney NSW 2037. Tel: 02-692 0319.

BRITAIN

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

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

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

Sheffield: 2A Waverley House, 10 Joiner St., Sheffield S3 8GW. Tel: 0742-729469.

CANADA

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

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

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

ICELAND

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

NEW ZEALAND

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

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

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

SWEDEN

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

—THE GREAT SOCIETY—

Scabs bash bags best — In a survey of 12 major airlines by the U.S. Department of Transportation,



Harry Ring

strikebound Eastern Airlines had the highest percentage of bags reported lost, damaged, delayed, or pilfered.

ANC: "Coke Is Not It" — Supporters here said the African National Congress rejected a Coca-Cola offer to help finance Nelson

Mandela's U.S. visit because the company still does business in South Africa. In 1986, Coca-Cola "divested" its busy bottling plants there, but continues to provide them the soft drink concentrate.

He fooled us — "He doesn't want people to understand how smart he really is." — Irving Fisher, building contractor and flunky for Donald Trump.

British roulette? — British Nuclear Fuels will reprocess spent nuclear fuel from West Germany. That's in addition to fuel from Japan and Italy, which arrives in special double-hulled ships. The West German fuel will traverse busy shipping lanes in freight ferries of a type that

sink rapidly on collision. Two have gone down in the past five years.

No big deal — The nuclear flasks that will be ferried from Germany to Britain will each contain as much radioactivity as the Hiroshima bomb.

Law 'n order, Israeli style — Three Israeli soldiers were convicted of abusing a West Bank youth, 12. A lieutenant who bashed him in the head with his steel helmet was given a five-month suspended sentence. A sergeant-major who kicked him was busted to sergeant and given five months suspended. A corporal who put out a cigarette on the boy's body was busted to private,

plus three months suspended.

The right to glimpse — Ivana Trump provided her parents in Czechoslovakia a five-bedroom house with a satellite dish on the roof and a Porsche in the garage. One paper, *The European*, said it will give townspeople "a glimpse of what the U.S. dollar can do now that the Communists are gone."

Meanwhile, back at the ranch — In a U.S. poll for the International Association of Financial Planners, 86 percent agreed that in the 1990s college education will be out of reach for a majority of the people. And 69 percent saw the possibility of a deep or prolonged depression. A gloomy financial planner said,

"It's a very pessimistic report."

Fun while it lasted — To appease creditors, David Paul sold his \$7 million yacht for \$3 million. Chairman of the busted Florida thrift, CenTrust, Paul had billed most of the yacht's operating expenses to the bank. It features silk wallpaper, a marble fireplace, and \$700 bedsheets.

Morality, the bottom line — "Some people say recording conversations is immoral. But where's the immorality, whose rights are being violated, when you're doing it to protect your assets?" — Ex-cop Frank Jones, proprietor of New York's Spy Shop, which features hi-tech recording devices.

'Bosses, not owls, are the problem,' says socialist

The following is a statement by Robbie Scherr, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress in Washington State's 7th District, Seattle.

A battle over jobs, logging, and the environment is under way in the Pacific Northwest. Unionists, independent loggers, environmentalists, and others have been drawn into the debate. In their insatiable drive for profits, the timber barons have stepped up attacks on working people as they plunder the environment.

Their wanton destruction of natural resources is not limited to the Pacific Northwest, or even to North America. It is most brutal in Third World countries, like Brazil. There, in the vise grip of a massive debt to banks in the imperialist countries, important resources like the Amazon rain forest are being devastated.

Like others in North America, woodworkers have been fighting against concession contracts aimed at weakening their unions and eroding their health and safety. They've identified with and found inspiration in the militant struggle of Machinists against Eastern Airlines and in the victory of coal miners against the attempt by Pittston Coal to bust their union.

Over the past few years, thousands of pulp, paper, and plywood workers have been thrown out of work. More devastating unemployment lies ahead as the bosses shut additional mills.

Natural resources have also fallen victim to the timber monopolies and bankers. Millions of acres of timber land, owned by giant corporations, banks, or insurance companies, are bought and sold as a source of investment, tax shelter, or speculation without regard to proper use management. These robber barons clear-cut forests, razing them and leaving little to regenerate.

Forests on public lands

In the United States, timber companies have been cutting down trees in federal- and state-owned forests at an alarming pace. Prior to World War II, virtually no timber was cut from these public lands. Today, 50 percent of the virgin forest that stood in Washington State's Olympic Peninsula in 1974 has been sawed down. In neighboring British Columbia's Carmanah Valley, not only jobs and the environment, but Indian land and fishing rights have fallen prey to these corporate thieves.

Old-growth forest is an irreplaceable resource with unique plant and animal life. Its destruction severely despoils the ecosystem and causes massive soil erosion.

The timber bosses and capitalist politicians claim that the problems confronting logging and mill towns result from steps to protect the northern spotted owl. The impending U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to list this bird on the endangered species list would require the government to ban logging in spotted owl habitat areas.

The spotted owl is blamed for everything from massive unemployment and mill closures to school cutbacks and the coming recession. But it's not the bird that causes these problems. It is the workings of the capitalist system in deep crisis.

The average rate of profit in the wood industry, like in industry in general, continues to decline. And wood mill owners, like other industrialists, resist investing capital in the maintenance and upgrading of plants. Lum-

ber prices have remained stable for 10 years while log prices have soared. This profit squeeze is what has led to mounting mill closures.

Increased labor productivity

The job losses had nothing to do with the spotted owl. They resulted from big increases in productivity due to new equipment and forced speedup. Over 13,000 woodworkers' jobs have been eliminated in Oregon alone over the last decade. This occurred during record production — 20 percent more lumber and 10 percent more plywood.

In Canada membership in the International Woodworkers of America declined by 30,000 over the 1980s. Industry forecasters predict more drastic job reductions.

Working people should stand up to the logging giants' blackmail by refusing to choose between the right to a job and a clean, enjoyable environment. We can protect old-growth forests and defend our livelihoods at the same time.

- Working men and women should benefit from productivity gains, not suffer longer hours or layoffs. Reduction of the workweek throughout the country from 40 to 30 hours without a cut in pay would open up hundreds of thousands of new jobs.

- The practice of clear-cutting should be outlawed. We need planned logging at biologically sustainable levels. The spotted owl should be protected with the full strength of the Endangered Species Act.

The standing forests on federal, state, provincial, and private lands should be inventoried so that we can judge the extent of the

damage and take steps to reforest, a process that would create many jobs.

The government forest services, which act as agencies for the timber monopolies, cannot be trusted to defend wildlife, forests, and recreation areas. The books of the corporations should be opened to public inspection so that working people can examine the dealings of Weyerhaeuser, Boise-Cascade, MacMillan-Bloedel, and the rest.

- Working people should stand squarely opposed to a ban on log exports. This is a deadly trap. It diverts our fire from our real enemies — the multinational corporations — and divides us from our natural allies — fellow workers around the world.

The North American capitalists have already used the U.S.-Canada free trade agreement to pit Canadian and U.S. workers against each other, even though we often belong to the same international unions or work for the same companies.

- We need to add our voices to the call for cancellation of the Third World debt, to fight to end the plunder of the resources of those countries.

We must get out of the bosses' framework of blaming little birds or working people in other countries for their crisis. Working men and women in the United States, Canada, Japan, and elsewhere should unite in placing the blame where it belongs — on the profit drive of the capitalists.

Winning these demands will require mobilizing union power and building international solidarity to challenge the multinational corporations and the capitalist governments that back them up.

Unity is a prerequisite to finding a road



Militant/Angel Lariscy
"Timber barons have attacked working people and plundered environment," says Robbie Scherr, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress.

out of this crisis. Workers around the world, united in a common fight and unrestrained by chauvinism, can put an end to the capitalists' devastation of our livelihoods and the environment.

Nicaraguan land reform undermined

Continued from Page 8

increasing the profitability of investment in these areas, thus benefitting capitalist ranchers and coffee growers in particular.

Concessions to capitalist farmers also included some initial steps toward returning confiscated farms to capitalist ownership. In a few instances the government actually did return land to former owners, although this process was still only in an early stage when the FSLN was voted out of office in February of this year. These cases were seen as important, however, because they marked the accelerating reversal of direction.

The erosion of the agrarian reform was also reflected in the decline of peasant militias in the countryside. These units had been decisive to the defense of state farms, collective farms, and cooperatives.

Sale of land allowed

A further blow to agrarian reform was the adoption March 30 of a law allowing the unrestricted sale of land distributed to peasants under the agrarian reform, reversing one of the major conquests of the 1981 agrarian reform law. The measure was adopted by the FSLN-dominated National Assembly after the election but before Chamorro's government took office in April, and was championed by FSLN assembly members.

The capitalists and their government will use this law, as well as Chamorro's subsequent decrees, to move to undo what peasants have won over the past decade. But how

much the rulers will be able to accomplish remains an open question.

Farmers have demonstrated that they will fight to protect their conquests. Most attempts so far to return confiscated land to former owners have encountered resistance, some-

times from peasants with arms. The degree of organization and consciousness of the small farmers and their allies will determine how fast and how far the government of capitalists and landlords can go in reversing what the peasants have won since 1979.

—10 AND 25 YEARS AGO—

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE 40 CENTS

June 27, 1980

In the bloodiest attack since the Soweto rebellion four years ago, South African riot police killed up to 60 Blacks and wounded 200 others in Cape Town June 17.

Tear gas floated across the entire area throughout the night, as Black youth tied up traffic, erected street barricades, and set bonfires around the Elsie's River community.

The protesters are from that section of the Black population classified by the government as Coloured (of mixed ancestry).

The entire work force of 4,000 Black auto workers closed down Volkswagen's plant in Uitenhage June 16 in a strike for higher wages. The Ford and General Motors plants are also shut down because of strikes by parts workers.

The June 17 police assault came one day after the fourth anniversary of the Soweto

student revolt. Fearing that meetings to commemorate the June 16, 1976, uprising would spark even greater defiance of the apartheid rulers, the government banned all gatherings of more than 10 people.

Thousands of workers in the Cape Peninsula did not go to work for a second day to mark the anniversary.



JUNE 23 — As we go to press, news reports from Algeria remain unclear and inadequate.

The military coup led by Gen. Houari Boumedienne that overthrew the Ben Bella regime is obviously a political move of the deepest significance for the Algerian people and the world socialist movement.

Nelson Mandela's reception

At the beginning of this year the African National Congress (ANC) was a banned organization in South Africa, Nelson Mandela was still a prisoner of the apartheid regime, and the state of emergency that had been in existence since 1986 was still in force.

In the United States, as recently as October 1986, Congress included in the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act — which imposed some sanctions on trade with South Africa — the charge that the ANC promotes "terrorism" and engages in "unprovoked violence." It called for greater restrictions on ANC operations in the United States and pressed for an investigation of the organization by the U.S. attorney general for "actual and alleged violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act." The act called upon Pretoria to legalize the ANC only if the ANC would agree to "suspend terrorism," thus demanding that the ANC proclaim itself guilty of terrorism.

Scattered throughout the legislation are similar slanders and charges against the ANC.

Only three years ago, when ANC President Oliver Tambo was in the United States and met with Secretary of State George Shultz, Shultz was still publicly pressing the State Department line that the ANC was a "terrorist" organization controlled by Moscow.

He was not alone. The big-business media, including the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post*, were churning out the same slanders.

Today Nelson Mandela is free, the ANC has been unbanned, and the state of emergency has been lifted in most of the country. Mandela is visiting many countries where hundreds of thousands have turned out to welcome him and hear him speak and tens of millions more have heard and seen him on radio and television. In New York he was met by a ticker-tape parade of 750,000 and given the key to the city. Even the Empire State Building has been lit up in green, gold, and black — the ANC colors.

Moreover, the heads of state of the world's most powerful countries are meeting with him.

This reception is the result of the momentous advances in political understanding and organization of a decades-long battle by the oppressed masses of South Africa. It is these gains that have placed the freedom struggle in South Africa at the center of revolutionary struggle today.

As Mandela said at a rally of 125,000 in Soweto on February 13, "I have seen with my own eyes the masses of our people... making history."

The masses of South Africa are carrying on a struggle that cannot be ignored even by the longtime allies of the apartheid regime. Their fight has resulted in the understanding among workers, farmers, and all progressive-minded people the world over that apartheid is a crime against humanity and that it must be abolished. This understanding by tens of millions has become a material force in world politics. It is not easy for the world's governments to get away with appearing to support the apartheid state, which is not only increasingly seen as an abomination, but is falling apart and is historically doomed.

A key turning point in the freedom struggle was the defeat of the South African army at Cuito Cuanavale in

Angola in 1988. This blow was dealt by the combined forces of Cuba, Angola, the South West Africa People's Organisation. It reversed Pretoria's expansionist course and led to the independence of Namibia.

The reception given to Mandela is the result of these historic changes in the relationship of forces inside South Africa and the growing isolation of the apartheid regime internationally. It is not due to changes in Mandela's views.

Mandela emerged from prison a revolutionary, holding the same perspectives he did 27 and a half years before when the prison doors closed behind him. His message is the same: abolish apartheid, fight to implement the ANC program — the Freedom Charter — and keep struggling for a democratic, nonracial South Africa.

Like other mass revolutionary leaders of our time — Malcolm X, Thomas Sankara, Ernesto Che Guevara, Fidel Castro, and Maurice Bishop — Mandela remains uncompromising in the struggle against oppression.

Since his release he has taken the moral high ground and pointed the way forward for that struggle. This has been essential in placing the South African regime and all those with a stake in maintaining apartheid on the defensive.

Mandela has consistently met every challenge before the revolutionary movement. He has taken the struggle to the "homelands," where 50 percent of the African masses live in rural poverty. He has called for unity in Natal province, which has been the arena of considerable violence, thereby undermining the support for Gatscha Buthelezi and the Inkatha organization, who collaborate with the regime. And he is taking the fight to keep the sanctions against the apartheid regime to the world.

Mandela is leading the ANC to address, not just the hundreds of thousands who are convinced, but the tens of millions who have yet to be organized into the struggle and become active participants. The ANC is seeking to win the leadership of the majority and organize a movement that speaks for it.

The message that Mandela has brought has been clear and unambiguous — maintain and strengthen the sanctions against South Africa. The fight to maintain the sanctions is the way that workers from all over the world can solidarize with the fighting masses of South Africa.

We are better able to conduct that fight today than at any time in the past. The gains won in South Africa have opened up political opportunities for workers and farmers, not just in South Africa but all over the world. More and more working people who are inspired by the struggle recognize that a victory in South Africa will be a victory for the oppressed worldwide. They are becoming part of this fight, and as they do they are learning lessons from it that can be applied to their own struggles. A victory in South Africa will help revive and politicize the working-class movement internationally.

Now is the time for workers and farmers and all progressive-minded people to push forward in opposition to apartheid. We can press this fight in our unions, student organizations, and community groups and become a part of the people who are making history.

July 9 trial and Curtis' fight

Continued from front page

ers bank on this to break the fighting spirit of workers and erode solidarity from their families.

The aim is the same in Curtis' situation — to break his will to fight and to drive a wedge between him and his wife, who has been his foremost defender.

Kaku is very much a target in this legal action. She has been an effective representative and spokesperson for the Mark Curtis Defense Committee. Her recent tours to Europe and Canada have netted impressive new support in her husband's fight for justice. The forces who want to keep Curtis locked up would like to demoralize and shut her up.

A large financial judgment against Curtis also penalizes him a second time for a crime he did not commit. He is already serving a 25-year jail term for the 1988 conviction. This double jeopardy reveals the class bias of the capitalist justice system in which workers may never stop being penalized once they are caught in its web.

The lawsuit has another purpose as well.

The Des Moines cops and Polk County prosecutor who put Curtis behind bars, and the Iowa attorney general who is challenging his Supreme Court appeal, are not winning the battle for international public opinion. Tens of thousands have extended support to Curtis' fight and more than 8,000 trade unionists, defenders of democratic rights, political activists, government figures, and others from several continents have endorsed the efforts of the defense committee.

To undermine this growing support, the cops and prosecutor attempted to smear Curtis and his supporters leading

up to and during the 1988 criminal trial. They tried to portray the defense campaign as an effort to victimize a Black working-class family. The Workers League, an anti-labor outfit that claims to be socialist, has all along acted as a mouthpiece for the cops and prosecutor, and has aggressively peddled their line internationally. They recently published a slickly packaged 250-page book, *The Mark Curtis Hoax*, to step up the smear job.

The cops, county prosecutor, state attorney general, and Workers League all hope the lawsuit against Curtis will breathe new life into this lie and undermine the international defense campaign.

The fight for justice for Mark Curtis now needs to be stepped up in a big way. All supporters need to be contacted, the stakes in this new stage of his fight need to be explained, and backing needs to be rallied in a campaign up to, during, and immediately after the trial.

Urgently needed funds have to be raised. Potential contributors and contributing organizations need to be approached for large financial donations to cover legal and publicity expenses.

New supporters need to be signed up. Defense committee literature needs to be distributed at political events, union meetings, on the shop floor — anywhere new support can be enlisted. Public meetings should be held. Volunteers are needed to help in the defense committee office in Des Moines.

The lawsuit against Curtis poses a big challenge to his supporters in the United States and around the world. This attack can be turned back and wider support can be won.

Imperialist intervention and civil war in Korea

BY DOUG JENNESS

Shortly after the Korean War began on June 25, 1950, the *Militant* carried a front-page letter addressed to President Harry Truman and members of Congress. Written by James P. Cannon, then the national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party in the United States, the letter declared, "The American intervention in Korea is a brutal imperialist invasion, no different from the French war on Indochina or the Dutch assault on Indonesia." He called for the withdrawal of U.S. troops and the right of the Korean people to determine their own affairs.

The massive step-up of U.S. military forces in Korea came in response to the movement of troops from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the north, cross-

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

ing the 38th parallel into the southern part of Korea. The south was governed by the tyrannical puppet regime of Syngman Rhee set up by U.S. military occupation forces over the previous five years.

President Truman called the movement of Korean troops from the north to the south a communist invasion. Cannon, however, didn't see this as an invasion. To the contrary, he explained, "The explosion in Korea on June 25, as events have proved, expressed the profound desire of the Koreans themselves to unify their country, to rid themselves of foreign domination, and to win their complete national independence."

Moreover, the SWP leader pointed out, the conflict in Korea is "more than a fight for unification and national liberation. It is a civil war. On the one side are the Korean workers, peasants, and student youth. On the other are Korean landlords, usurers, capitalists, and their police and political agents. The impoverished and exploited working masses have risen up to drive out the native parasites as well as their foreign protectors."

Cannon pointed out that as the Korean troops from the north swept through the south, the "people's committees" that had been set up in 1945 after Japan's surrender, but then destroyed by U.S. occupation forces, were reborn. "The North Korean regime," he noted, "desiring to mobilize popular support, has decreed land reforms and taken nationalization measures in the territories it has won. . . . These reforms, these promises of a better economic and social order have attracted the peasants and workers. This prospect of a new life is what has imbued a starving subject people with the will to fight to the death. This is the 'secret weapon' that has wrested two-thirds of South Korea from U.S. imperialism and its native agents and withstood the troops and bombing fleets of mighty Wall Street."

The U.S. and its Korean puppet forces continued to retreat until early August. Then, in a counterattack, the North Korean troops were driven back to the 38th parallel by the end of September. On September 30 U.S. and allied forces fighting under the banner of the United Nations, entered the north in a drive to smash the North Korean government and lay the basis for bringing the entire peninsula under imperialist domination. They advanced all the way to the Yalu River on the Korean-Chinese border.

The war then took another turn as hundreds of thousands of battle-tested Chinese volunteers, who had just a year before won a revolutionary victory in their own country, joined with Korean troops to push the imperialist forces back to the 38th parallel. By the end of 1952, 1.2 million Chinese troops were engaged in the war. By the end of the conflict in June 1953, some 900,000 Chinese volunteers had fallen in battle.

Action against Washington's aggression in Korea and countering its economic blockade and military threats against China led to a deepening of the Chinese revolution. During the war the pace of the agrarian reform was speeded up, capitalist ownership of basic production was eliminated, and a monopoly of foreign trade was established.

On numerous occasions the U.S. ruling circles considered using atomic bombs against North Korea and China. But this was rejected.

U.S. saturation bombing of northern cities, factories, and mines was devastating. From early November 1950 until the end of the war, the policy was to create a wasteland in the north. Napalm was used extensively on civilian centers. On Aug. 29, 1952, for example, 697 tons of bombs and 10,000 liters of napalm were dropped on Pyongyang, the north's largest city.

The estimated deaths were 4 million in a nation that had 30 million people in 1950. This included 2 million North Korean civilians, 500,000 North Korean troops, and 1 million South Korean civilians. Some 5.7 million U.S. soldiers were engaged in the three-year conflict and 54,000 were killed.

The war resulted in a stalemate with the Korean people remaining divided into two states with sharply conflicting social systems. This was a sharp blow to the U.S. imperialist rulers' attempt to restore capitalism in North Korea and to their previous position of always being undisputed victors in their wars.

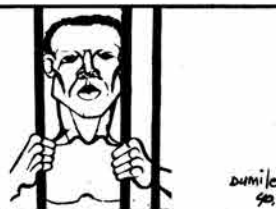
'Break of Dawn' — story about a fight for justice

BY MARK CURTIS

FORT MADISON, Iowa — *Break of Dawn*, a film about the life of Pedro González, was shown on Iowa Public Television last month while I was incarcerated at the state prison in Anamosa.

I saw the movie together with other inmates, including a young Mexican who used to work at the same meat-packing plant in Des Moines as I did. My friend's first comment

BEHIND PRISON WALLS



was, "That movie was exactly like what happened to you, Marcos."

Break of Dawn is an inspiring story about working people who stand up to fight against injustice and win.

González was born and raised in the northern Mexican state of Chihuahua. He began working as a telegraph operator for the railroad as a young man. But something bigger than the railroad changed his life forever. During the Mexican revolution that began in 1910 millions of people, mostly peasants, fought for the right to the land they worked and to defend their country's sovereignty against the United States.

González joined Francisco "Pancho" Villa's revolutionary army and became Villa's personal telegrapher. He was nearly executed after his capture by those fighting against Villa. As he stood on the firing line, a group of young women dashed out between the rifles of the firing squad and González. They delayed the shooting long enough for a call to be made to the governor, who halted the execution.

Cuca Ochoa, a school teacher, organized the rescue. At a party some years later González met Ochoa and her daughter María Salcido, who was among the young women who had saved his life. Three months later González and Salcido were married in El Paso, Texas.

The couple moved to Los Angeles in the 1920s. *Break of Dawn* begins the story here. Living with relatives, González got a job working as a longshoreman on the docks in Wilmington, California.

While loading and unloading ships, González sang bal-

lads he had written. Coworkers recognized his talent and urged him to try his luck at the local radio station, so he went for auditions. "In Spanish? No, we can't use it," the station manager told González.

Refusing to accept this rejection, González convinced the manager to hire him to read ads in Spanish. One day he took a chance and sang a song in Spanish on the air. He was fired, but calls from many people in the Mexican community who wanted to hear more of his music swamped the station.

He was rehired and began to broadcast his own program called "Los Madrugadores" (The Early Risers) between four and six in the morning. The audience was *mexicanos* and Chicanos getting ready to go to work in the fields and factories. His style and beautiful music made the program very popular.

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, tens of millions of workers lost their jobs, and millions of farmers lost their land. Cuts in wages, longer hours, and worse conditions faced those who continued to work. This situation forced working people to fight back. Unions were organized. Strikes were called. Unemployed leagues were set up. And the government and employers attempted to break these struggles by using the police, courts, and National Guard.

Racist campaigns scapegoating immigrant workers were launched to keep working people divided. Nearly 500,000 Mexican workers were picked up and deported by the U.S. government.

In Los Angeles Kyle Mitchell, the district attorney, called for more deportations and fanned racial hatred by blaming Spanish-speaking workers for unemployment and "stealing American jobs." González knew Mitchell. He had run campaign advertisements on his program for the district attorney. Mitchell had been elected by the "big turn out from the East Side," which still is predominantly *mexicano* and Chicano.

When González spoke out against deportations, he quickly became an enemy of Mitchell. The film shows unions with many immigrant members rallying against deportations and one rally being raided by police. González called the raids racist. "This is our home, we have a right to be here," he said.

This angered the district attorney, who ordered his stooge Hector Rodríguez to get González out of the way. After arresting him several times on minor charges that were later dropped, the cops cooked up a serious frame-up against González. A young woman who had been raped by another

man was bullied by police into fingering him.

An all-white jury found González guilty. He was sentenced to 50 years in California's San Quentin prison. All his appeals were denied. Two years later the young woman admitted that González had not committed the crime and that police had pressured her to make the accusation. But the judge refused to release him, claiming that the time limit for appeals had passed.

Despite brutal treatment in jail, time in solitary confinement in the "hole," and offers to release him if he admitted the crime, González refused to be broken. The film covers little of his time in jail. But those who see it will not be surprised to hear that he was nicknamed "The Defender" by other prisoners because he stood up for their rights. He organized 5,000 prisoners in the first hunger strike ever at San Quentin. It was successful and the hated prison director was replaced.

María Salcido took over her husband's air time at the radio station. She, along with many of his friends and supporters, launched the Pedro González Defense Committee, which spread throughout the Southwest. The movie shows her speaking to people about the frame-up, collecting signatures, and raising funds. The defense committee collected 300,000 signatures on a petition to the governor of California calling for González's release. Two ex-presidents of Mexico and the Mexican counsel to the United States also endorsed the efforts of this international campaign.

"Looks like you and him are in the same boat, Mark," said one of my cellmates, who was also watching the movie.

The government was finally forced to release González after he served six years in prison. Although he had "papers" allowing him to live in the United States, he was deported, a practice which is still common today. In 1972 González and Salcido were permitted to return to the United States.

Although the U.S. government granted González citizenship, they remain committed to maintaining his frame-up. In 1985 his last appeal for a formal pardon was denied on the excuse that the woman who had falsely accused him recanted too late and only in the presence of the Mexican counsel.

Break of Dawn is a movie that belongs to working people everywhere and deserves to be seen.

Mark Curtis is currently an inmate at the John Bennett Correctional Center in Fort Madison, Iowa. He is serving a 25-year jail term on a frame-up rape and burglary conviction.

—LETTERS

Boycott of Koreans

Each evening I listen to New York-based Black talk radio. Therefore, I think I may know more about the Korean boycott than this McCann person [Militant staff writer Roni McCann].

If the woman who was brutalized were white, the merchants would have been hung from the nearest tree. But since the victim was Black, the people of Flatbush should scratch their heads, shuffle their feet, and pray it never happens again.

Jews, Koreans, and others who make their living in Black neighborhoods should respect our people. If they choose not to, it is our duty to put them out of business.

We will no longer allow benevolent whites to tell us what is in our best interest. The only solution to our economic situation is to support Black businesses, build our own institutions, and separate ourselves from the enemy of our people.

A reader
Kansas City, Missouri

A few comments

I recently subscribed to the *Militant*. I would like to share a few comments and obtain feedback regarding the scope of the paper.

First, I noticed the section of letters to the editor was quite small. Would you consider increasing the section to a full page?

With 8,414 new readers, maybe the paper can afford to increase the editorial section. Do you allow guest editorials?

I enjoy reading progressive positions, however, some of the dogmas of yesteryear should be avoided. One major source for books I have purchased are reviews by folks familiar with progressive struggles.

The news analysis by Roni McCann on the Korean boycott missed the major issue of that conflict. In a system where one makes an inordinate amount of profits off the backs

of poor people, the writer should have addressed that issue.

How much do the Koreans contribute back to the community where they earn their profits? Why is it possible for folks to get off the plane one day and enjoy more benefits than those who spent most of their lives in the trenches?

Montsho Rakeletso
Omaha, Nebraska

Tiananmen Square

June 4 marked the first anniversary of the massacre of peaceful demonstrators by Chinese government troops at Tiananmen Square. Worldwide demonstrations were held to protest the killings and demand democratic rights in China.

In Vancouver, British Columbia, 300 Chinese refugees gathered June 2 at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen park to demand a memorial plaque be installed there in memory of those who were killed. Funds have been raised for the plaque, but the Chinese embassy has pressured local authorities not to allow its addition to the park.

On June 3, some 150 marched in pouring rain through Seattle's International District to protest the deaths and arrests a year ago.

Both events were sponsored by coalitions of Chinese student, cultural, and political groups. The Seattle event was also sponsored and led by Amnesty International.

Sue Kawakubo
Seattle, Washington

No-strike clauses

I want to thank Della Rossa (letter, *Militant* June 1) for lifting me out of my old-age slumber and digression in regard to the letter I wrote about Harry Bridges (*Militant* May 4).

My choice of words was handed down to me by others. I shouldn't have praised him as a great leader, because he headed a union that for the most part was run by the workers.

GEOGRAPHY LESSON



I remember several international unions taking a no-strike pledge during World War II. I don't doubt but that Bridges did it also. I oppose any no-strike clause in any union contract anywhere on this planet. With a no-strike clause, a contract is not worth the paper it is written on and has no leverage.

Grady Vandiver
Rialto, California

From a Turkish prison

I would like to have your newspaper, the *Militant*. I'm a political prisoner and journalist. I was editor-in-chief of a weekly socialist paper. After I was arrested, I was sentenced to 36 years because of my thoughts and articles. I have been in jail 11 years.

As a journalist my possibilities are rather restricted in prison. I speak English and French. So I want you to send me your paper. Thank you.

I also need books on the latest

developments in Eastern Europe.

A prisoner
Canakkale, Turkey

Medical care

Having suffered from a chronic lung disease for two years, I was told by my physician that I would need to see specialists for further treatment. I was given the name of an associate specialist physician. When I called to make an appointment, I was told that I could be "worked in" at the end of September. It was mid-May when I called.

I picked a second clinic from the phone book and was told I could get an appointment within a week, but I would need \$200 "up front" and an insurance card to get treatment. Without insurance I would have to pay the entire bill at the time of my appointment.

Fortunately, I have the \$200 and an insurance card, and I can get treatment. But what happens to the

approximately 40 million or more Americans who don't have insurance or the money "up front"? I suppose that many of them suffer and die in this land of plenty.

Those millions are no less human than I am or than the trade unionist who has insurance. We need a national health plan that provides free medical attention to everyone. It would be the human thing to do in this country, which is becoming less human all the time.

John-Michael Eggertsen
Salt Lake City, Utah

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.

Socialists back language rights

Minnesota candidate speaks to farm workers

BY BRUCE CAMPBELL

AUSTIN, Minn. — "The working class in Minnesota and Iowa is changing rapidly. It is more multinational. More Latinos, more Southeast Asians, and more Blacks are moving here. This is good," declared Wendy Lyons, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Minnesota governor.

"The bosses talk about so-called illegal aliens," she said. "But we're all the same to them." Lyons was speaking to an audience of 50 people, including more than a dozen migrant farm workers, attending a campaign-sponsored hog roast at a farm near here.

For decades, migrant workers have come to Minnesota in the spring to cut asparagus, pick rocks and weeds in the fields, and then

work on the corn and bean harvest. Many come to the northwest part of the state to work in the sugar-beet fields. Growing numbers are taking up permanent residence, often going to work in meat-packing plants or canneries.

The camps for migrant workers are overcrowded and unsanitary. Most have no water for drinking or cooking. This year the work has been slow. The situation is made more desperate by recent layoffs of more than 1,200 workers at Farmstead Foods in nearby Albert Lea. Many workers are forced to seek government aid.

Despite this need, the Albert Lea Victims' Crisis Center was denied funds to hire a Spanish translator for the summer months.

One county commissioner said a letter should be sent to Texas telling people not to come here since there are no jobs. Another suggested that people were coming to enjoy "the good life" on welfare.

In response, a fight has developed in the town to reverse the decision. The Community Equality Action Committee is speaking up for the rights of Spanish-speaking workers and publicizing the conditions in the migrant labor camps.

In a statement in both English and Spanish, Lyons explained where the party's Action Program to Confront the Coming Economic Crisis fits into this fight.

"As a result of battles like that of the Machinists union against Eastern Airlines and the meat-packers here in Austin against Hormel, more working people see the need for unity," the socialist candidate said.

Working people "need measures to make up for the discrimination that is built into the profit system," she said. "We should support affirmative action programs that give preference to minorities and women."

"The problem of unemployment," Lyons stated, "cannot be solved by trying to keep some groups out. And the workweek must be shortened with no cut in take-home pay" to provide "jobs for all."



Militant/Margrethe Siem

Wendy Lyons

"The Third World debt should be canceled," she said. "The terrible devastation created by this debt has forced millions to seek work elsewhere or starve."

As the worldwide crisis of the capitalist system worsens, "we need to rebuild the labor movement around the old adage 'United we stand, divided we fall.'"

'No to Alabama English-only law'

BY DAVE PAPARELLO

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A referendum to establish English as the "official" language of the state of Alabama was overwhelmingly approved by voters in early June.

"This amendment is an attack on democratic rights," declared Sue Skinner, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor. "It aims to deepen the divisions among working people and legalize discrimination on the basis of what language you know best. This weakens the democratic rights of all of us."

The amendment states, "The Legislature shall make no law which diminishes or ignores the role of English as the common language of the state." Little discussion of the amendment or opposition to it preceded the voting. It was promoted by the Alabama English Committee, which argued that the new law would cut government spending.

Committee director Tom Doron was quoted in an article in the Birmingham *Post-Herald*, as pointing to the Canadian government as an example of the kind of problems that can arise. He claimed millions of dollars are spent in Canada to prepare documents in both English and French.

The use of many languages "is the most serious threat to our nationhood at this time in our history," said Georgie Anne Geyer, a columnist for the Universal Press Syndicate, speaking before the Rotary Club here.

Skinner, who called for a no vote on the referendum, explained, "The English-only amendment is an attack on working-class unity just when more and more working people see the need to stick together."

The SWP candidate pointed to the example of the Eastern and Greyhound strikers. "Unity among strikers — white and Black, male and

female, English-, Spanish-, or whatever language-speaking — has been the key to their success so far.

"Working people need to fight for full democratic rights for immigrant workers — bilingual education, the right to programs, documents, forms, and information in their own languages," Skinner said.

Québec: 'School board plan targets immigrants'



Militant/Arthur Hughes

Michel Dugré

BY GARY WATSON

MONTRÉAL — At public hearings here May 31 and June 1 Michel Dugré, Commu-

nist League candidate for mayor, blasted the Montréal Catholic School Board's proposal to ban the use of any language other than French on the premises of its French-language schools. The plan calls for the use of disciplinary measures and would apply in classes, corridors, during extracurricular activities, and in private conversations.

The Catholic board's proposed ban primarily targets immigrant students whose first language is not French.

"Your proposal is totally reactionary, divisive, and undemocratic," Dugré, a Montréal steelworker said, "No school board, no government, no boss has the right to tell anyone what language they must speak to their fellow students, coworkers, or anyone else."

Québec's school system is organized along separate religious and language lines. The Catholic schools are largely French and the Protestant schools largely English. Previous attempts to modify the confessional character of the Québec school system have been declared unconstitutional by Canada's courts.

The Catholic school board claims it is acting to defend the rights of all Québécois. But, as Dugré pointed out to board members, the divided school system is "archaic and reactionary."

"That system, reinforced by your language ban, will only deepen the linguistic and national divisions among working people in this country," Dugré added, "It thus will undermine rather than strengthen the fight against the national oppression of Québécois."

French-speaking people in Canada receive lower wages, have poorer health and education facilities, and have a higher mortality rate than English-speakers. The Québécois constitute the largest French-speaking community in the country and represent 80 percent of the population of the province of Québec.

In 1977 the Québec government adopted Law 101, affirmative action legislation designed to help overcome this systematic discrimination. Since its adoption, however, Canada's rulers have waged a campaign claiming that it violates the rights of Québec's English-speaking minority.

The Supreme Court has ruled that several aspects of Law 101 were in violation of Canada's 1982 constitution. The massive opposition of Québécois to the constitution, partly on the grounds that it denies the Québec government the full powers needed to defend the rights of those who speak French, is at the

heart of this country's current political crisis.

In the context of the attacks on French-speakers' rights, many nationalist organizations, as well as much of Québec's capitalist-owned French-language media, support the school board's proposal.

But the plan's openly anti-immigrant character has drawn widespread opposition, especially from working people and from students.

The Québec Teachers' Federation, for example, opposes the ban. A longtime defender of the national rights of Québec, the federation favors further promotion of French by strengthening Law 101, not by banning other languages. The proposed language ban comes a year after the Québec government adopted Law 178, which banned the use of languages other than French on exterior store signs.

The latest language ban is part of an effort by procapitalist forces in Québec, including in the nationalist movement, to blame immigrants for the continuing oppression of the Québécois. This drive has gone hand in hand, Dugré pointed out, with the racist claim of Canada's capitalist rulers that immigrant workers threaten the jobs of Canadian-born workers.

"Immigrants are not responsible in any way for any of the problems faced by Québécois," the communist candidate told the hearing. "National oppression is a product of capitalism, not of immigration. It is the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression that is responsible for the oppression of Québécois and immigrants alike, as well as Blacks and Native Indians."

"It's only by uniting all the victims of the bosses' profit system in the fight against every form of discrimination and oppression that our common enemy can be defeated. That's why I'm campaigning to win working people to the fight to scrap the school board's racist proposal."

Dugré pledged his full support to the predominantly immigrant students at St-Luc's School in Montréal whose response to the ban has been "Yes to French! No to sanctions!"

He also called for the abolition of the confessional school system. "We need one single public system that has French as the common language but in which all other major languages are taught and freely spoken. Anything else is profoundly undemocratic and divisive."

N. Carolina socialist protests censorship of Ohio art show

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Socialist candidate Rich Stuart sent a message of solidarity to Dennis Barrie, director of the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati. Barrie and the arts center, where 175 photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe are on exhibit, were indicted April 7 on obscenity charges.

"This blatant attack on freedom of expression by the courts and self-appointed morality crusaders, including Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, drips with hypocrisy," Stuart wrote in his June 14 message. He is running for U.S. Senate against Republican incumbent Helms and Democratic Party candidate Harvey Gantt.

"It is these same forces that would condemn women to back-alley abortionists, arm the death squads in El Salvador, and offer their services to the racist apartheid rulers of South Africa. Their morality would take food out of the mouths of infants," through cut-

backs in federal programs the socialist said. "And they take land from farmers who could feed the hungry."

"The working people of North Carolina know well that this great 'concern' for our well-being has led to our having among the highest infant mortality rate, worst educational system, and lowest wage and unionization rates in the country," Stuart said. "These thought controllers aim to shackle the minds, mouths, and hands of any who would dare to think, discuss, and act against their deteriorating conditions of life."

"Whether it be rap musicians, artists, union organizers, or those seeking to travel freely to Cuba, all defenders of political, artistic, and civil liberties must stand united against the censors. The attack on you as an individual opens the door to attacks on millions," Stuart said in closing. "An injury to one is an injury to all."