

Protests demand action against Israeli massacre of Palestinians

Scores killed and wounded when troops open fire

BY SELVA NEBBIA

The October 8 killing of 21 unarmed Palestinians by Israeli police has been met with condemnation around the world. The massacre, in which dozens were also wounded, took place around and inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem during a demonstration against plans by right-wing Israelis to build a temple there.

Israeli police fired on Palestinians seeking refuge inside the mosque and at ambulances that were moving the dead and wounded. Tear gas was fired into the hospitals where victims were taken. Since the attack, government troops have been firing tear gas and rubber bullets at Palestinians protesting the killings in Arab East Jerusalem and in several towns in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and

Speech by Cuba's ambassador to UN condemning blockade of food to Iraq, see pages 6-7.

Gaza Strip. The Israeli regime imposed curfews, keeping most of the 1.7 million Palestinians living there restricted to their homes. In East Jerusalem, the police rounded up more than 40 Palestinian leaders.

At the United Nations, delegates from Arab countries and elsewhere called on the Security Council to condemn Israel for the killings. A proposal by the Cuban delegation called on the council to investigate the killings and the oppression of the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories. The Italian foreign minister said at the European Parliament that his government would support the Cuban proposal.

The Soviet Union and the European Community warned that U.S. refusal to join the condemnation of Israel would threaten the



Protests in 25 cities October 20 will demand withdrawal of U.S. forces from Middle East. Above, August antiwar action in Seattle.

coalition of forces lined up behind Washington's war threats in the Middle East.

Despite Washington's attempts to prevent the linkage of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory to the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, almost all the speakers discussing the massacre at the Security Council meeting did so.

At the Bekaa refugee camp near Amman,

Jordan — home to 100,000 Palestinians — young people gathered October 10 to protest the killings. Of Jordan's 3.2 million people, 53 percent are Palestinian.

"Surely, the world can't simply close its eyes about what happened," said Emil Abut Ettah, a doctor at the camp. "What happened yesterday must open the eyes of

Continued on Page 5

Oct. 20 rallies against U.S. war moves win backing

BY PETER THIERJUNG

NEW YORK — Activists from peace organizations, ad hoc coalitions, solidarity committees, churches, trade unions, and other groups are building anti-war protests for October 20 in the United States, and the list of cities where actions are planned is growing. The protests were called to respond to the massive U.S. military buildup in the Middle East.

Marches, rallies, and other activities demanding "Bring the troops home!" and "No war for oil company profits!" are now slated for more than 25 cities — including Atlanta; Birmingham, Alabama; Boston; Chicago; Cleveland; Honolulu, Hawaii; Houston; Los Angeles; New York; Portland, Oregon; San Francisco; San Diego; and Seattle — according to Greg Butterfield, a volunteer for the New York Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East.

Butterfield said that calls for more information from around the country, or with additional local support, have been coming into the coalition office here daily. Locally, young people and students stop by the office every day to pick up leaflets and help with various organizing projects, he said.

Activities have also been organized to help build the October 20 protests. More than 50

Continued on Page 5

Eastern strikers maintain, deepen fight

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

Talks between the managements at Eastern and Northwest airlines over a possible buyout of strike-hobbled Eastern are continuing.

While strikers are keeping an eye open for

any developments that come out of discussions between the two airline companies, they also emphasize the importance of maintaining the picket lines and advancing solidarity for their fight for jobs and a contract.

Northwest Airlines has taken an interest in buying Eastern, with a particular eye on Eastern's gates in Atlanta and maintenance facilities in Atlanta and Miami.

A purchase of the airline would enhance Northwest's route system and would make the airline stronger in the southeast. Northwest is also interested in Eastern's newer fleet of DC-9s and its more fuel-efficient Boeing 757 fleet.

In addition, Northwest Chairman Alfred Checchi has held some discussions with the International Association of Machinists (IAM). The Machinists union represents 20,000 workers at Northwest and 8,500 at Eastern.

It has also been reported that Delta Airlines, a nonunion carrier, has made an offer to purchase 18 of Eastern's gates in Atlanta, which constitute about a third of Eastern's gates there. And recently, Aeroflot, the Soviet Union's national airline, opened discussions with Eastern's management to buy or lease 13 of its Lockheed L-1011 jetliners valued at \$12 million to \$14 million each, and ranging in age from 13 to 18 years old.

These moves come as the strength of the 19-month strike of 8,500 members of the IAM has prevented all efforts to get Eastern going as a successful nonunion operation. Frank Lorenzo spearheaded a course of trying to defeat the strike. Instead, the bankruptcy judge ended up removing him from day-to-day operations in April and appointed

Martin Shugrue to take over as trustee of the airline. In August Lorenzo was forced to leave the airline industry altogether.

Following Shugrue's appointment, the striking Machinists remained determined and refused to back off. Given the fact that Eastern could not get back on its feet, only two management options are left: liquidate the airline with the creditors receiving only a tiny portion of what they are owed, or try to find a buyer for the carrier. Shugrue's job has been to protect the interests of Eastern's creditors, who are owed \$1 billion, and hold the airline together long enough and get it in good enough shape for someone else to buy it.

'Keep the pressure on'

"The morale among strikers is up," Ernie Mailhot, a strike staff coordinator and member of IAM Lodge 1018 at New York's La Guardia Airport, said in an interview. "People feel very good about the possibilities of the Northwest deal coming through, which we think would mean union jobs for strikers."

"But at the same time we're very clear that we have to keep the pressure on," he continued. "Working out a deal to buy Eastern can take time. Until this thing is finally settled, and settled with union jobs, we can't ease up on our pressure on Eastern. Another reason to keep the picket lines strong is to show Northwest that in any deal they make, they will have to come to terms with the IAM."

Over the last few weeks, striking Machinists in a number of cities have stepped up their activities. In Baltimore; Boston; Detroit; Los Angeles; Miami; Greensboro, **Continued on Page 4**

British coal miner rallies defend union against slander campaign

BY CLIVE TURNBULL

MAESTEG, South Wales — Over 500 trade union and labor activists filled Maesteg Town Hall September 27 to hear British National Union of Mineworkers President Arthur Scargill and General Secretary Peter Heathfield speak out on the slander campaign against the NUM and International Miner's Organisation.

"This issue has not only national, but international connotations," Scargill told the meeting. Those behind the witch-hunt "seek to destroy the inspiration that was provided in the 1984-85 strike. They cannot live with the thought that men and women decided that there is another road. There is an alternative to 'new realism.' You stand and you fight."

"We are guilty of a crime," Heathfield said, the crime of "using all our strength, all our energy, and all our resources, in line with an instruction of the National Executive Committee, to insure the fabric of the NUM was maintained, and that we continued to function as a trade union during the year-long strike."

The meeting was organized by the South

Wales Women's Support Groups formed during the national miners' strike. Support group secretary, Kath Jones, opened the meeting explaining that "the attacks were on the NUM, not an attack on individuals, but an attack on the 1984-85 strike," which is still "an inspiration for future struggles."

Heathfield said that while he and Scargill had been invited to address NUM meetings in every mining area, he was saddened that they had not spoken in the Scotland and South Wales areas. NUM leaders in those areas have bitterly opposed Scargill and Heathfield since the 1984-85 strike. They argue that the NUM has to be realistic and accept British Coal management demands to change shift patterns, enact longer working hours, recognize a small company union, and retreat in other areas. None of these leaders attended the Maesteg meeting, nor a 500-strong meeting organized by Edinburgh Trades Council in Scotland the previous day.

The witch-hunt began with charges that Scargill and Heathfield had used money raised during the 1984-85 miners' strike to

Continued on Page 13

Cuban author gives impressions of U.S.

From April 3 to May 18, Cuban economist and author Carlos Tablada toured the United States, speaking on "Che Guevara and the Fight for Socialism in Cuba Today." Guevara was a leader of the Cuban revolution who was murdered in Bolivia in 1967.

Tablada is the author of *Che Guevara: Economics and Politics in the Transition to Socialism*, published in English by Pathfinder Press in June 1989. Pathfinder also organized Tablada's tour.

In his presentations Tablada discussed the character and challenges facing the revolution today, Guevara's contributions, and the rectification process under way in Cuba.

During his tour of over 25 cities in 10 states and the District of Columbia, more than 3,700 students, workers, and political activists attended the various meetings.

In addition, a significant number of endorsements for and speakers at Tablada's meetings came from among professors, teachers, and university departments; trade union locals and activists; and political groups and individuals.

On October 17, Tablada will start a similar six-week tour of Britain and the Nordic countries, organized by Pathfinder. He is currently scheduled to speak in 20 cities in seven countries.

In its August 17 issue, the Cuban weekly *Bohemia* published the following interview. Translation is by the *Militant*.

BY MARTA G. SOJO

His office, in the Various Products Enterprise (EMPROVA), is quite different from what tradition says an office should be. Maybe that's why I liked it.

Books and papers rested on a circular table. Bookshelves filled with more books and reports surrounded the rest of the room. Photos of his two children sat on a shelf alongside booklets and some items of handicraft. On the white walls were a number of images of Che, including one painted by the Ecuadorian artist Guayasamín.

A reclining chair occupies the main spot in the office. It is clearly the favorite place for meditation by Carlos Tablada Pérez, a sociologist and economist who is completing work on a doctorate in economics.

Before we began the interview, Tablada pointed to a poster of Che inscribed by the journalist Felix Contreras. "He was the one who told me, after he suddenly showed up in 1987 to arrange an interview for *Bohemia*, that I had won the special Ernesto Che Guevara prize awarded by Casa de las Américas."

Three years later, and once again without advance notice, the 80-year-old publication paid a return visit. This time it was to learn Tablada's impressions of his recent tour of the United States, where he spoke at meetings on the Cuban economy and rectification process and presented the second edition of his award-winning book [*Che Guevara: Eco-*

nomics and Politics in the Transition to Socialism].

Bohemia. Tell us about the tour.

Tablada. It was my first visit. I was invited by 28 universities to give classes on the Cuban economy and Cuban society today. The visit also coincided with the launching of the second edition of my book in the United States.

I visited 32 cities in 10 states. I also had the opportunity to visit the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C., and to meet with eight U.S. congressional aides as well as with leaders, workers, and various organizations that helped out on my tour.

My visit coincided with a movement in solidarity with our revolution. A process is unfolding that is a little like what happened in the 1960s. What's happening in Cuba? Why is there so much criticism of Cuba? People want to find out the truth.

Bohemia. What do you think the reason for that is?

Tablada. Things have boomeranged. The government has raised big expectations. The press, which answers to vested interests linked to spheres of power, has stepped up the campaign against Cuba in recent years — and especially in recent months — based on what is taking place in Eastern Europe and the turn toward capitalism by many countries there. They promoted the illusion that something similar would take place in Cuba, even going so far as to set a timetable for it.

But instead, what has occurred in our country is big demonstrations in support of the revolution and socialism. So people in the United States are wondering: Why isn't what is happening in Eastern Europe happening in Cuba?

In university circles, even the most conservative of the professors, at least the honest ones, want to know what is happening in Cuba. There is a feeling that their government talks a lot about human rights but that these rights are being trampled by the U.S. ban on travel to Cuba.

There are many solidarity groups focusing on the need for support to Cuba. In reality, they are also helping themselves. Because as the Bush administration continues to escalate its policy against our nation, this may also involve the people of the United States.

But I felt quite welcome. I saw some very interesting aspects of the United States, my hosts were friendly and respectful, and in general I had no difficulties at all during the tour.

Bohemia. Do you think our press and media provide an adequate picture of the situation in the United States?

Tablada. I have the impression that it is not captured in all its depth. There are many nuances and, after seeing the United States



Militant/Selva Nebbia

Carlos Tablada spoke in more than 25 cities in 10 states and the District of Columbia during U.S. tour last spring.

firsthand, you realize that despite all the defects our society suffers from, the path Cuba has embarked on is the most just and humane in the history of humanity. My experience in the United States made me return more of a communist.

Bohemia. What happened that makes you say that?

Tablada. I mentioned that there many nuances. Here in Cuba we see U.S. films showing the houses and automobiles, the people who own this and that. But do we see what lies behind all that?

For one thing, we are not familiar with work in its brutal form. I met Cubans, many of them *marielitos* [who left Cuba in 1980 boatlift from Mariel], and the majority regretted they had left Cuba. They told me that in Cuba they had worked at most an eight-hour day; there they are bled dry by a workday of 12 hours.

The tax system is incredible. Forty percent of your wages are taken in the form of taxes. You are taxed on the wages you're paid. You pay a tax when you buy items for personal use. Your savings are taxed. Once a year you're taxed on the totality of your income and property.

Another striking thing is the contrast between wealth and poverty. I never thought

the gap would be so big because it is such a rich country — the center of the empire. I thought the deterioration would be less abrupt. The degree of social destitution, the lack of security for retired people, for old people, and children in general — these are gigantic problems. The contrasts, the beggars living in doorways, are things that we must bring, in an authentic way, to the Cuban people.

It's good to know these things, because we tend not to compare ourselves with the countries we are part of. Cuba is part of the underdeveloped world, but it would never occur to Cubans to compare their standard of living, their level of development, with Panama, Haiti, or even with Venezuela. The standards we have, we draw from the United States, which is something that is quite human. Man is constantly trying to attain greater spiritual and material well-being. From this point of view, I don't think we should reproach ourselves for making comparisons with countries that have a higher standard of living or for not looking back, because we know that the problems of the past have in many ways been resolved. That's why I think it is important to show the people the nature of U.S. society and the abundance of its complexities.

Bohemia. Do you think they are headed for a recession?

Tablada. A very interesting process is under way in nearly every U.S. city. Many factories are closing and moving to the southern states or to Mexico, where labor costs are lower. Signs of economic crisis are mounting daily. The prediction by Cuban and some U.S. economists that the United States is on the brink of a recession appears to be correct.

This climate, along with the violence that permeates U.S. movies and television, stems from a social and economic situation in which people feel helpless, have increasingly fewer possibilities of finding work, and suffer increasingly greater cuts in social services.

Bohemia. What do they think about Cubans who live in Cuba?

Tablada. They think we are very monolithic. One of the campaigns of the U.S. administration is to portray us as all cut from the same cloth, isolated, unaware of what is going on in the world, and ignorant of the various contemporary cultural currents. People were surprised when I told them I liked the music of the Beatles, that I have a poster of John Lennon in my house, and that movies from the United States and other countries are shown in Cuban theaters and on Cuban television. They seemed to think I had come from another planet. But eventually they realized we were equals, that is, human beings. Perhaps I was a communist but there was nothing wrong with that; it was simply another way of organizing society.

'For news from Cuba and on the rectification process, I turn to the *Militant* every week.

It gives me information I need to defend the Cuban revolution and take its example to working people.'

BRIAN ADAMS

Washington, D.C.,
Pledge of Resistance



You can't afford to miss one... get the

MILITANT

Weekly news and analysis on the struggles of working people worldwide

News on strike at Eastern Airlines • Speech by Cuban leader at UN on Iraq blockade • Reports on building October 20 protests • Coverage on fight to reunify Korea

SUSCRIBE TODAY

12 ISSUES FOR \$10

☐ \$15 for 12-week renewal ☐ \$45 for a year

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Phone

Union/School/Organization

Send to the Militant, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

The Militant

Closing news date: October 10, 1990

Editor: GREG McCARTAN

Circulation Director: RONI McCANN

Nicaragua Bureau Director: CINDY JAQUITH

Business Manager: DOUG JENNESS

Editorial Staff: Susan Apstein (Nicaragua), Seth Galinsky (Nicaragua), James Harris, Yvonne Hayes, Roni McCann, Selva Nebbia, Janet Post, Judy Stranahan, Peter Thierjung.

Published weekly except the last two weeks of December by the Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone: (212) 243-6392; Fax 727-0150; Telex, 497-4278. Nicaragua Bureau, Apartado 2222, Managua. Telephone 24845.

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to The Militant Business Office, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Militant, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Subscriptions: U.S., Latin America: for one-year subscription send \$45, drawn on a U.S. bank, to above address. By first-class (airmail), send \$80. Canada: send Canadian \$50 for one-year subscription to Société d'Éditions AGPP, C.P. 340, succ. R, Montréal, Québec H2S 3M2. Britain, Ireland, Africa: £28 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution, 47 The Cut, London, SE1 8LL, England. Continental Europe: £35 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution at above address. Australia, Asia, Pacific: send Australian \$60 to Pathfinder Press, P.O. Box 79, Railway Square Post Office, Railway Square, Sydney 2000, Australia.

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

Party gains hearing from today's fighters

BY YVONNE HAYES

For the next four weeks, Socialist Workers Party candidates in 23 states and Washington, D.C., will be taking their election campaigns to plant gates and workplaces, onto college campuses, and into working-class and farming communities. The SWP is running more than 125 candidates for federal, state, and local office.

"There is a changing mood among U.S. workers," explained Joe Swanson, the SWP candidate for U.S. Senate in Nebraska, at a news conference launching the socialist ticket in that state. "There is a greater will-

SOCIALIST WORKERS '90 CAMPAIGN

ingness to fight the bosses. The strikes by Machinists at Eastern Airlines, coal miners against the Pittston company, and Greyhound workers show that a layer of workers are saying 'no more' to concessions."

Swanson noted that through these battles workers not only confront their bosses but run up against the government and the courts as well. This fact points to the need for a labor party, he said, which would help working people defend themselves as the employers' attacks sharpen.

Striking workers are among the socialist candidates. Margaret Pucci, an Eastern striker from Boston, is running as the party's candidate for lieutenant governor in Massachusetts. She is part of a slate that includes Mark Emanatian, a garment worker, for governor and Andrea Morrell for U.S. Senate. After a news conference kicking off their

campaign, the candidates headed for Logan Airport to show their support for the 19-month-old Eastern strike.

Need for labor party

"We think big battles lie ahead for working people over the U.S. military buildup in the Middle East, the deepening economic crisis, and the offensive against our unions," socialist candidate Cecelia Moriarity told workers at a steel mill in Huntington, West Virginia. "That's why we're here today, to discuss the need for working people to have our own party." Moriarity, who is running for Congress, was among several socialist candidates who campaigned at a shift change at the mill.

Doug Hord and Clay Dennison, SWP candidates for state senate and attorney general, were interviewed by the *Times West Virginian* about the need for independent working-class political action. "There is a growing dissatisfaction with the bosses' parties," Hord explained. "There is no fundamental difference between them on either foreign or domestic policy."

Socialist campaigners are making a special effort to reach farm workers around the country. In California, SWP candidate for U.S. Congress Mark Weddleton and a team of supporters visited Watsonville, a center for agriculture in the state. They distributed campaign leaflets in Spanish condemning the U.S. war moves in the Mideast and sold 10 subscriptions to the monthly *Perspectiva Mundial*.

A number of SWP candidates are members of the Young Socialist Alliance and are among the many opponents of Washington's military buildup in the area surrounding the Arab-Persian Gulf.

Brian Gibbs, a 21-year-old meat-packer, kicked off the press conference announcing the Nebraska socialist campaign by display-



Betsy Farley, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Alabama attorney general, campaigning among steelworkers at Trinity Industries in Bessemer.

ing a notice from the Selective Service System requesting his latest address. "The sending of 140,000 troops to Saudi Arabia is an attack on the peoples of the Middle East," said Gibbs, who is running for state attorney general. "It is Washington's attempt to extend economic, political, and military domination to the entire region."

Capitalism — nothing to offer

In Maryland the socialist ticket includes Maurice Peret for attorney general and Marty Michaels for U.S. Congress, both 25 years

old. "Young people and working people are discovering that capitalism has nothing to offer them," Michaels explained at a campaign rally in Baltimore. For this reason, the socialist campaign and the YSA are attractive to today's fighters, she said.

To get out their ideas, however, SWP candidates have to fight for political elbow-room. In many states, candidates petitioned for ballot status and in some places have had their right to be on the ballot challenged.

In Arizona, SWP candidate Danny Booher was ruled off the ballot, after being challenged by his Democratic opponent, despite collecting three times the required signatures. A judge also ruled that Booher had to pay court costs.

"As soon as Danny's signatures were turned in," wrote *Arizona Republic* columnist E.J. Montini, "the Democrats called in a couple of hired guns from the law firm of Lewis and Roca to challenge Danny's petitions in court."

Montini pointed out that Booher's opponent, now the only candidate on the ballot, is guaranteed to win. "There are several advantages to electing public officials in this way," he wrote. "For one thing, picking winners in October helps avoid the November rush. Also, this way eliminates the confusion many voters experience when several names appear on a ballot."

Booher has begun the process of appealing the court's ruling. In the meantime, he and the other SWP candidates in the state are stepping up their campaign efforts.

Kathryn Owen from Boston, Jim Altenberg from San Francisco, Lee Oleson from Omaha, Nebraska, and Jim Sarsgard and Baxter Smith from Baltimore contributed to this article.

New York socialists win victory; New Alliance suit denied

BY VIVIAN SAHNER

NEW YORK — On October 9 a federal judge here denied a lawsuit brought by the New Alliance Party that would have further restricted ballot rights in New York. NAP filed suit September 27 against the New York State Board of Elections, the Socialist Workers Party, Libertarian Party, and United African Party.

A September 18 lottery by the Board of Elections placed the SWP first on the November ballot behind parties with permanent spots. Among the other political parties that filed petitions for ballot status, the United African Party placed second, NAP third, and Libertarian Party fourth.

In their suit NAP attempted to get top billing among the four parties by asking a U.S. District Court judge to set aside the lottery and replace it with a system of ranking based on 1986 election results. This system is used in New York to rank only the major parties and results in the incumbent's party

Continued on Page 12

Contributions needed to meet \$150,000 goal

BY JAMES HARRIS

"They don't teach you this stuff in school," Maceo Dixon remembers one young man saying after a class on apartheid in South Africa sponsored by the Young Socialist Alliance.

"We were studying the differences and similarities between the Jim Crow system of segregation that existed in the Southern United States and apartheid in South Africa," said Dixon, who is a leader of the socialist movement in Atlanta.

"After Nelson Mandela's visit here, we, like socialists in other parts of the country, organized classes on South Africa and apartheid. We used the pamphlet *Nelson Mandela Speeches 1990: Intensify the Struggle to*

Abolish Apartheid, and *New International No. 5*, which features an article titled 'The Coming Revolution in South Africa.' The classes were well attended and there was a lot of discussion. They helped to win recruits and friends to the Young Socialist Alliance," said Dixon.

Dixon was explaining the way that the socialists and young fighters in Atlanta make use of the books and pamphlets produced by Pathfinder Press. This highlights one reason for this fall's Socialist Workers Party-Building Fund: helping to finance teams of socialists who reach out to strikers, young people, and others engaged in struggles with Pathfinder publications.

The goal of the fund is to raise \$150,000

by December. To date \$35,217 has been collected out of \$141,209 pledged. Our mid-point goal to raise \$75,000 dollars by October 15 has passed, and supporters of the socialist movement will need to redouble their efforts to get the fund back on schedule and make our goal in the next seven weeks.

The fund will provide the operating capital that the socialist movement needs to reach out to the thousands of workers, farmers, students, and young people who need to hear and discuss socialist ideas.

Unlike the capitalist ruling class, the socialist movement does not have vast reserves of capital at its disposal. Its financing comes primarily from fighting workers and farmers who understand the importance of providing other workers, farmers, participants in struggles such as the Eastern strike, or activists in the fight against the war drive in the Arab-Persian Gulf with a socialist perspective.

Two recent contributors capture this spirit perfectly.

A prisoner in California who contributed \$10 to the fund from his meager resources commented that he especially liked the *Militant* because of its coverage of the Mark Curtis defense campaign — which reminded him of his own case — and the coverage on the Mohawks' fight to defend their land and rights. The *Militant* is one of the publications that will benefit from the fund.

Another supporter contributed the settlement she received from being injured on the job to the Socialist Workers Party's Expansion Fund. Contributions of over \$1,000 are made to the \$1 million Expansion Fund, which is slated for long-term capital improvements for the socialist movement, such as buying new printing presses.

Her letter said, "Enclosed is \$5,000 received for a back injury due to the offensive of the packinghouse bosses. What a good feeling to use it to provide political weapons for growing numbers of workers who are entering the fight to put an end to the kind of abuse against all of us that led to the injury."

"As compensation for a permanent devaluing of one's labor power, the money is an insulting pittance. But by contributing it to the fund, it multiplies its value because it helps arm those coming forward to put an end to the rule of the Lorenzos, the packinghouse and other bosses, and their servants in Washington."

Socialist Workers Party-Building Fund

\$141,209 has been pledged to the fund.
\$35,217 has been paid.
Our goal is to get immediate pledges for \$150,000 and redouble our efforts to get back on schedule.

Socialist Workers Party-Building Fund

◆I pledge: ___ \$1,000

___ \$500 ___ \$250

___ \$100 ___ other

to the fund.

◆Enclosed is \$____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

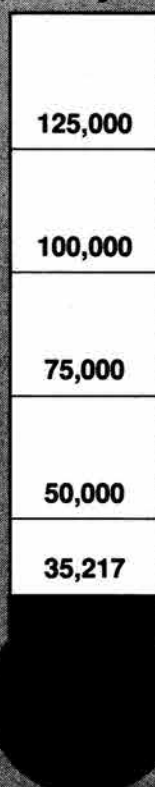
Send checks or money orders

to: Socialist Workers Party-

Building Fund, 406 West St.,

New York, N.Y. 10014.

\$150,000 by Dec. 1



Defense committee to campaign for release of Curtis at hearing

BY TOM FISKE

The Mark Curtis Defense Committee has launched an international campaign to win support for the release of Curtis at his next parole hearing, scheduled for November 20 at the John Bennett state prison in Fort Madison, Iowa.

Curtis will have served 26 months of a 25-year sentence by the time of the hearing. A packinghouse worker, Curtis was sentenced on Nov. 18, 1988, to 25 years for first-degree burglary and 10 years for third-degree sexual assault. He is serving the terms concurrently and has been in prison since his conviction on Sept. 14, 1988.

The defense committee has won thousands of supporters around the world in its campaign to defend Curtis and explain the stakes in the fight against his frame-up. In March 1988 Curtis was arrested, beaten, and then framed by the cops. The arrest followed his participation in protests against the deportation of 17 Mexican and Salvadoran coworkers at the Swift Independent meat-packing plant in Des Moines, Iowa, where Curtis worked at the time.

"Getting letters of support from prominent individuals for Mark's parole will be the central priority of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee over the next month and a half," stated committee coordinator John Studer.

"We encourage the broadest possible range of individuals and organizations — parliamentary figures, politicians, human rights activists, union officials, and leaders of civil rights and women's rights organizations — to send letters," he said.

Community support for the release of Curtis, as in the case of anyone up for parole, is one of the factors the parole board will weigh.

Record of service, activism

"Mark has served the normal time in prison for the kind of crime he was convicted of," Studer pointed out. "We believe that a decision to refuse him parole at this point is a continuation of the injustice done to him through his frame-up conviction. Given Mark's record of community service, political activism, and 'excellent' ranking in prison, there is no reason he should not be allowed out."

"Parole is the most likely route by which Mark will eventually be released," Studer said. "The state appeals are exhausted and the federal appeal, when filed, could take years to be heard or decided. This makes clear the political importance of an emergency effort to gather letters of support."

Letters already received

Among the initial letters of support is one from Frank Ortis, national Eastern strike coordinator for District 100 of the International Association of Machinists, who urged the parole board to grant Curtis' release.

Studer said, "Our goal is to get letters of support from individuals expressing their opinion that justice, the community, and the

broad public interest are best served by granting Curtis parole. The parole board does not decide on Mark's guilt or innocence." The defense committee leader encouraged those who have heard about the case, but not yet endorsed the committee, to also send messages.

The defense committee has several big advantages in embarking upon this campaign, Studer pointed out. New backing for the fight has been won over the last several months through various meetings of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and by fighting a financial harassment lawsuit against the Curtis family, filed by the parents of the woman Curtis allegedly assaulted.

Curtis continues to speak out

Moreover, at Curtis' first parole hearing last year, the board acknowledged his excellent work and personal conduct record as a prisoner. Curtis has a strong record in prison of helping other prisoners and continuing to speak out against injustices done to working people, women, and people of oppressed nationalities in the world.

Among other activities, Curtis was secretary of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Organization, an organization of prisoners at the Iowa State Men's Reformatory in Anamosa.

Curtis also established a record as a community activist before he was imprisoned. For many years, in Des Moines and elsewhere, he participated in activities against racist discrimination, for women's rights, and in defense of the rights of working people.

Eastern strikers maintain, deepen fight

Continued from front page

North Carolina; Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia; and elsewhere the picket lines remain steady and have been reinforced periodically with expanded picketing and strike activities supported by other labor unions.

In addition, strikers have gone to new areas, speaking before meetings of trade unionists to build support for their fight against the carrier.

Eastern's attempts to start flying in and out of Roanoke, Virginia, in September were met with a strong response from trade unions there and from surrounding states.

"At La Guardia we had a special outreach meeting last week to plan a number of activities, including doing another 'human billboard' October 27 at the airport," Mailhot said. "We also started making plans to work with other unions in New York to organize benefits for Eastern, Greyhound, and other strikers in the area. Plans are underway for a fund-raising campaign and we hope to raise money for a holiday fund for strikers."

"Our strike has already gotten a lot of support and IAM members on strike in other cities have found this to be true," he said. "We've seen what can be done. It's important — now more than ever — to keep up the



Militant/Stu Singer
Mark Curtis during his stay at Anamosa, Iowa, prison. November 20 parole hearing will be target of defense committee campaign to win his release.

"This helps to make clear that no interest of justice is served by keeping Curtis in jail," Studer said.

"It is significant that a substantial number of the prisoners sentenced on charges similar to those for which Mark was convicted are released in about the same time, or less, than Mark has already served," he said.

For prisoners released in Iowa between July 1988 and June 1989, the average time served for a "class C" felony — which includes third-degree sexual assault —

was 28 months.

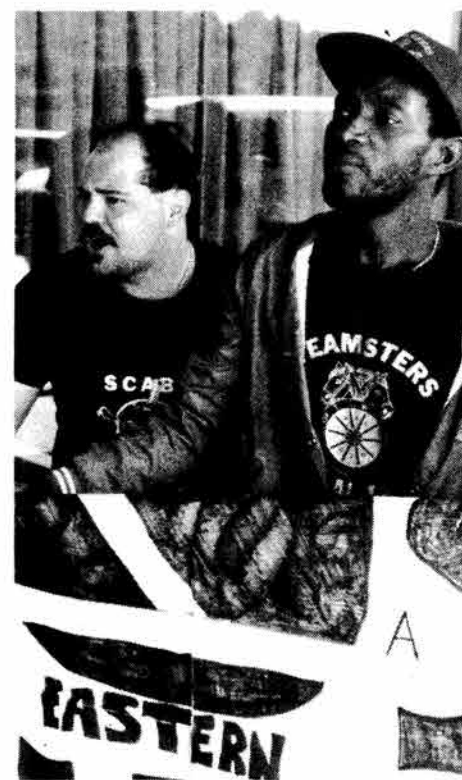
The defense committee is organizing a broad delegation of prominent individuals to attend the November 20 hearing. This will include leaders of trade unions, civil rights and women organizations, community and religious groups, and others.

The defense committee is also requesting that letters to the parole board be sent by November 7 to the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, P.O. Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311.

Checchi. But they read the papers. They see Eastern, they see Hormel. They have a feeling that once you start these concessions they never stop." He said that based on union members' comments so far, he would lean toward taking layoffs rather than reopening the union contract.

"Northwest's management is looking for more concessions from the unions," Mailhot said. "At Eastern we went through this for ten years. So we're very sympathetic to our brothers and sisters who work at Northwest."

"After years of taking concessions, we finally said 'no.' We stood up and defeated Lorenzo's attempt to bust the IAM at Eastern," he added. "This victory for our union and all airline workers is part of what makes our strike important. Our fight for union jobs and a contract continues, though. Such a victory can have an impact on what happens at Northwest and elsewhere. Northwest workers, all airline workers have a stake in our fight, and we should be ready to help our sisters and brothers at Northwest, too."



Militant/Ernie Mailhot
Supporters at Eastern strike picket line at La Guardia Airport in New York.

Eastern ads can't change 'negative' image

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

Back in July, Eastern Airlines started getting roasted by late night talk show host David Letterman. His jokes about Eastern helped make the airline company a laughing-stock.

One of Letterman's routines about Eastern was his "10 reasons why you should fly Eastern Airlines." The sixth reason to fly Eastern was "if you don't fly Eastern Marty Shugrue will make more of those stupid commercials," Letterman said, referring to Eastern's 100 days campaign. Shugrue, Eastern's court-appointed trustee, promised during the ad campaign that the airline would get a little bit "better every day."

The campaign, featuring Shugrue in the commercials on prime time television and in full-page newspaper ads, was launched in June.

Shugrue joined the ranks of corporate heads like Lee Iacocca, Frank Perdue, and

Victor Kiam who make personal appearances in their company ads. In the starring role, Shugrue explained the airline had a "large, deep hole to climb out of," but that this would turn around. It didn't. Instead, the strike by 8,500 Machinists hung tough, and Eastern sank deeper into the hole.

The campaign ended unceremoniously on September 12, with Eastern in worse shape than ever.

Now a new campaign has been launched to win back the business traveler, but without Shugrue. "We don't want to misuse him as a spokesman by turning him into a pitchman," said George Brennan, the vice-president of marketing at Eastern.

The new media blitz — costing \$45 million — promotes Eastern's corporate rates for first-class seats at economy prices. "Using the chief executive as a spokesman can be useful when a company is trying to regain credibility, but Mr. Shugrue's effectiveness

was hampered because he was relatively unknown to the public," said David Butler, the chairman of Lister Butler, a corporate and brand identity consulting company. Still others explain "it is hard to change the public's negative perception of a company."

While spokespeople at the airline have declared the new campaign a success, claiming the passenger load has risen to 70 percent, other reports indicate the load factor is more in the range of 40 percent to 50 percent.

Despite the lure of luxury in the air at rock-bottom prices, the passenger load factor was only 44 percent on the opening day of the airline's first-class program.

Airline analyst Kevin Murphy perhaps put it best when he explained, "A slick advertising campaign was not enough to offset Eastern's problems, which were out of control," and that anything Eastern does now is "simply rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic."

Protests hit Israeli killing of Palestinians

To date Washington has amassed almost 200,000 troops in Saudi Arabia.

Continued from front page
the world... to the need to give the Palestinian people their rights."

The 12 countries of the European Community condemned Israel for the use of excessive force against the Palestinian demonstrators in Jerusalem.

A U.S. State Department statement said Washington was "upset" by the deaths in Jerusalem and called on Israel to "exercise restraint in handling disturbances."

Expressing their fear of the extensive sympathy that exists among working people in the Middle East for the struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination, Saudi government officials said, "It is the worst time that this could happen. This is exactly what we don't need at a moment when we are facing Iraq."

In Syria, which is supporting Washington's massive military intervention, the official newspaper *Al Baath* said Israel "has chosen to execute this plot against the Palestinian people because it knows that there will be no adequate Arab response to this criminal act."

The governments in the region, *Al Baath* said, are divided by "deep cracks caused by the Gulf crisis," enabling Israel to "take advantage of a serious climate that prevails in the Gulf and the region."

Bassam Abu Sharif, an adviser to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, said in the PLO's first official comment on the attack that the situation was explosive. The Arab masses, he said, would no longer tolerate double standards toward UN resolutions on Iraq and on Palestine.

Since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Washington has won nearly unanimous support from governments around the world for its massive military buildup in the Arabian Peninsula and surrounding waters. Washington

has succeeded in getting the member countries of the UN Security Council — with the exception of Cuba — to adopt one resolution after another giving the green light to U.S. military moves.

"I believe that was a shameful day, a dishonorable day for the Security Council — the day that body gave its blessing to unilateral military action by the United States," said Cuban President Fidel Castro on September 28. "At that moment it became clear that the U.S. was running the show in the Security Council." (For extensive excerpts from Castro's speech see article below.)

Castro was referring to the UN resolution approving the use of force to back up a trade embargo against Iraq.

But while Washington has been pressuring governments throughout the world to back UN resolutions condemning Iraq and blockading that country, it has twice this year vetoed similar resolutions condemning the Israeli government's actions in Gaza and the West Bank. Israel has occupied these territories since 1967.

"The United States cannot keep using double standards for its dealing with Resolution 242 as against other resolutions concerning the Gulf and Kuwait," said PLO leader Sharif.

Resolution 242, passed by the Security Council after Israel's 1967 war against

Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, calls for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

As of October 10, the Security Council continued to meet in an attempt to come up with a resolution the United States would not veto. A resolution proposed by Yemen and other nonaligned members of the council had the backing of the PLO.

In the meantime, Washington continues its steady military buildup in the region. To date, Washington has amassed almost 200,000 troops in Saudi Arabia and in the Arab-Persian Gulf. Washington's stated aim is to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and to put the monarchy back on its throne. A country of 16 million, Iraq has 955,000 in its armed forces.

Some 26 other countries, including France, Britain, Canada, Australia, Argentina, Egypt, and Syria have sent troops and ships as part of the anti-Iraq drive. The Japanese government, which is already contributing to the financing of Washington's operation in the Mideast, recently announced it will also send troops. The Soviet Union, a member of the Security Council, is backing Washington's efforts as well.

The October 7 *New York Times* quoted administration officials saying they are confident that if there is "clear aggression by Iraq," the UN will authorize military action. "One circumstance could be if someone walked in and said a missile attack had just

been launched on Saudi Arabia," an official said. "Under a clear evidence of aggression, you could probably get a resolution at the United Nations in a matter of a couple of hours."

Representative Les Aspin (D.-Wisconsin) said, "Everything I've seen indicates the administration is looking more and more favorably on the war option."

Henry Kissinger said he would be "very uneasy" if Washington waited beyond the end of the year to use "military measures."

A similar opinion was expressed by the British magazine, the *Economist*, in an October 6 editorial. Titled "When to choose war," the article said, "A war against Iraq could be devastating, for both sides. Many of those who have supported the blockade will shrink from taking part in a war."

"But time is a weapon," said the *Economist*, "that Mr. Hussein [the Iraqi president] must not be allowed to exploit." By the new year, "if not before," Washington and its allies "will have to take the hard decision and declare that peace has been given its chance and failed, and that the next step is war."

"It's premature to say that war is becoming inevitable," a U.S. government official said. "The completion of the military buildup does not foreclose the president's options; it simply completes them."

Fidel Castro: 'We had the honor of being the only country to vote no!'

The following are excerpts from the speech delivered by Fidel Castro in Havana, Cuba, at the main ceremony celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution on September 28, 1990. The speech will appear in the forthcoming Pathfinder pamphlet *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast*:

Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations.
(See ad on page 6.)

In recent days we have been more than a little concerned about the fate of dozens and dozens of Third World countries. You will have noted the conduct of our representative on the UN Security Council around the crisis in the Arab-Persian Gulf. We have made extraordinary efforts to achieve peace. We have sought to find a solution to the problem without war, a solution that is just.

We did not hesitate to reject and condemn the occupation and annexation of Kuwait. We did so as a matter of principle and on the basis of norms of international law that we believe should hold sway in our world.

But at the same time, we have energetically opposed everything we consider unjust. And one of the most unjust things is the attempt to force an entire people to surrender

been approved in the United Nations, when the United States unilaterally decided to establish a naval blockade on its own, without UN authorization.

But then something occurred that was truly shameful: the Security Council passed a resolution giving its blessing to the unilateral blockade by the United States, a resolution we opposed. I believe that was a shameful day, a dishonorable day for the Security Council — the day that body gave its blessing to unilateral military action by the United States. At that moment it became clear that the United States was running the show in the Security Council.

Now they have approved an air embargo. Cuba voted against it, the only country to do so! We had the honor and glory of being the only country to vote "No!"

While several of the resolutions approved in the Security Council lead to war, we have fought for peace in the Security Council. And not only there, but everywhere, because we have made many silent, quiet efforts in the search for a political and nonmilitary solution to the conflict.

A political solution, in our opinion, necessarily includes an end to the occupation of Kuwait and the reestablishment of that country's sovereignty. Of this we have no doubt whatsoever. Our line is principled, firm, and clear.

We believe there should be guarantees for all the countries of the region. And we believe that if the United Nations is able to achieve a political solution, it could also work out formulas to provide guarantees to all the countries of the region. This would include both the withdrawal of Iraqi troops to their border and their territory, and the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO troops from the Arab-Persian Gulf.

Failure to attain a political solution would be a defeat for humanity.

But such a war will not only cost many lives on the battlefield there. Such a war would also be a catastrophe for the world economy, especially for the economies of the developing countries, of the non-oil-producing Third World countries, which are the vast majority. Just as some countries will be swimming in money, others will be swimming in misery, sacrifice, and suffering of every type. For every life lost on the battlefields of the Arab-Persian Gulf, a thousand persons will die of hunger in the Third World. Such a fate would be unavoidable.

Several of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council, rather than facilitating the road to a political solution, have moved further away from it and made it more complicated.

Oct. 20 rallies against U.S. war moves

Continued from front page

people, for example, held a picket and rally at the University of Cincinnati on October 9. A coalition is now planning an October 20 demonstration at the city's Federal Building.

October 20 protests against the U.S.-led war drive are also being held in London; Rome; Stockholm, Sweden; Sydney, Australia; and Toronto. And anti-war actions were recently called in Panama and Guatemala.

While a war has not yet exploded in the Middle East, a trickle of body bags bound for the United States has already begun. Some 22 GIs have been killed in accidents as the U.S. war machine gears up. Eight marines are also reported missing after two helicopters crashed in the North Arabian Sea.

GIs refuse military duty

Two U.S. army recruits have announced their decision to refuse military duty because they oppose U.S. government intervention in the Arab-Persian Gulf.

Matthew Brown, 20, from Albany, California, and Patrick Colclough, 21, of Saugerties, New York, spoke to a large group of reporters at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., September 18.

Brown enlisted in June and was promised training as a medical corpsman and a European assignment. "When I joined [the army], the Berlin Wall was coming down and *glasnost* was in the air," Brown said. "Since then, President Bush has sent 150,000 troops into the Persian Gulf solely on his own authority. He seems determined to have a war with Iraq, but I don't believe that the Kuwaiti royal family or cheap gasoline are valid reasons for thousands of American GIs to die."

Colclough is enrolled in the army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and can be ordered to active duty. During his junior year in college, while studying in Sweden, Colclough met students from Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay, who explained to him how the U.S. government had helped maintain dictatorships in their countries. This, he said, deeply affected his views.

Two U.S. marines, Jeffrey Paterson and

Erik Larsen, previously refused to serve in the Middle East. Paterson is currently locked up in the naval brig in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and has been designated as a "threat to national security" by the Marines Corps brass. He is awaiting military trial for being absent without leave and disobeying a direct order. Larsen continues to speak out at protests around the country.

Canadian sailors discontented

"I didn't join the navy to get into a war," a steward aboard the Canadian flagship stationed in the Gulf said, according to a report in the October 5 *Toronto Globe and Mail*.

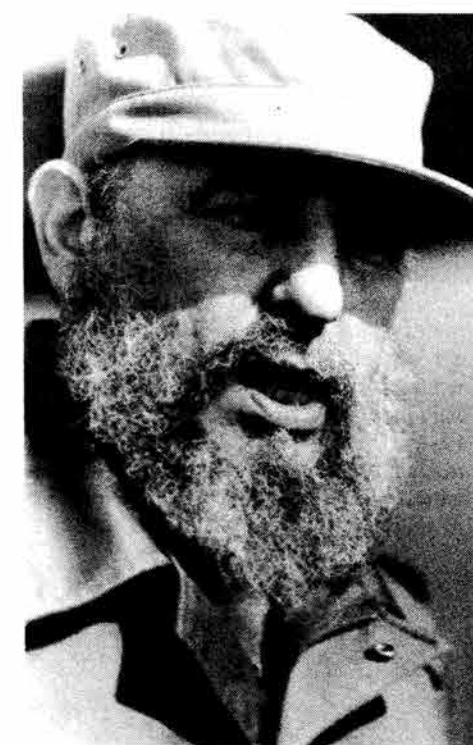
"That lament is echoed often among Canadian sailors, especially the younger ones on the lower decks," the report said. "Rumors are rife, and there is more than a little discontent about the dangers and duration of their duty in the Gulf."

One officer volunteered to the *Globe* reporter that "I'm already worrying that my guys are going flat."

Some 200 prominent activists, progressive organizations, local unionists, church figures, student groups, and others have been listed by the coalition here as endorsers of the October 20 protests.

Among them are the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee; Rev. Joseph Lowery of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Black Vets for Social Justice; Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general; United States Student Association; Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit; Casey Kasem, broadcaster; Clergy and Laity Concerned; National Conference of Black Lawyers; Nelson Mandela Reception Committee; Palestine Aid Society; International Committee for Peace and Reunification of Korea; Women for Racial and Economic Equality; *Haiti Progrès* newspaper; and National Lawyers Guild.

For more information on the October 20 actions, call (212) 254-2295 in New York, (415) 821-6545 in San Francisco, or (213) 973-7675 in Los Angeles. Information on protests in other cities is available from the New York coalition office.



Militant/Selva Nebbia
"We have sought to find a solution to the problem without war," said Cuban President Fidel Castro in September 28 speech.

through hunger. This is what the embargo amounts to.

This is a detestable practice. Yet this is what the United States has sought to do and has done, in opposition to Cuba's efforts to clearly define the embargo and to exclude from it food and medicine.

Hardly had the resolution on the embargo

'Inhuman' to use food as weapon

Cuban ambassador's speech at UN protesting food embargo against Iraq

On September 13 Ricardo Alarcón, Cuba's ambassador to the United Nations, made the following statement to the UN Security Council. In it Alarcón explains his government's opposition to Resolution 666, passed by the Security Council that day. The resolution restricted shipments of food to Iraq. It passed by a 13-2 vote, with Cuba and Yemen voting against.

A resolution presented by Cuba, affirming that access to basic foodstuffs and adequate medical care are inalienable human rights, was defeated by a vote of 3 to 5 with 7 abstentions.

The 15-member council includes five permanent members with veto power — Britain, China, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union — and 10 rotating members without veto power — currently Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Finland, Ivory Coast, Malaysia, Romania, Yemen, and Zaire.

The Security Council had previously passed several resolutions on the situation in the Mideast. Resolution 660, which Cuba voted for, called for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. Resolution 661, which Cuba did not vote for, called for an embargo on trade with Iraq.

The text of this statement is based on a UN translation and transcript. It is part of a forthcoming Pathfinder pamphlet, which will include the full text of the Security Council resolutions concerning developments since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and statements by Alarcón, Cuban President Fidel Castro, and *Granma* — the Cuban Communist Party daily — explaining Cuban government opposition to Washington's accelerating war preparations in the Mideast.

* * *

I wish first to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of September.¹ I wish also to congratulate the Permanent Representative of Romania on the way in which he conducted the complicated work that faced the council last month. We also wish to welcome the new representative of the United Kingdom as he takes up his

“We do not believe anyone has the political, juridical, or moral authority to apply inhuman measures . . .

work in the Security Council.”

Mr. President, my delegation is pleased to see you presiding over the Security Council, not only because of your professional qualities as a diplomat, which will certainly contribute to our work, but also because you represent a country — the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics — that is united to mine by deep-seated ties of brotherhood and friendship. The Cuban people will be forever grateful to the Soviet people, to its government, and to its party for the cooperation they extended to us at the very beginning, when my country had to confront a ferocious and tenacious economic, trade, and financial blockade. That blockade has been in force for almost 30 years now. Of course, it includes a total denial of any possibility of access to the markets of foodstuffs, medicine, or medical supplies in the country that is illegally imposing that blockade.

Thus, we are very familiar with the subject now before the Security Council. That is why we have various reasons for not being in agreement with the draft resolution submitted to the council in document S/21747 [Resolution 666 (1990)]. Cuba regards as completely inadmissible the very idea of claiming that hunger can be used to deprive peoples of what is an absolutely fundamental right of every single human being in every part of the world and in any circumstances — that is, the right to receive adequate food and appropriate medical care.

We do not believe that anyone has the

political, juridical, or moral authority to apply inhuman measures such as those whose sole and exclusive victims would be innocent civilians. And that is what we are concerned with here.

Hasty action by Security Council

Moreover, we must recall that this draft resolution has been put before us in a concrete context. It has its own history. The Security Council was able to act expeditiously and with singular energy when it adopted sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait that were more comprehensive than any ever envisaged before. It acted equally hastily in adopting a resolution whose legality is at the very least open to question or, to be more accurate, a resolution that entirely violates the UN Charter. I refer to Resolution 665 (1990), which permits the continued exercise and deployment of military force in the Gulf region in an effort to impose, by force if necessary, the total sanctions that have been imposed against Iraq and Kuwait.

Resolution 661 (1990), on the other hand, at least contained reference to the possibility of providing food in humanitarian circumstances. Practically since the day it was adopted — or, to be more specific, since the establishment of the Committee on Sanctions — we have spent countless hours trying to define the criteria the council should follow in interpreting these clauses of Resolution 661 (1990).

While that was occurring, the council received information from various sources as to the consequences for thousands and thousands of innocent individuals. Affected first and foremost were the citizens of Kuwait, a country that has fallen victim to a situation we have condemned and rejected. We continue to call for an immediate solution to that situation. The Security Council has also punished — even more so now, with these new measures — the people of Iraq and the nationals of many other states present on Iraqi or Kuwaiti territory.

Alarming reports

Every day, in increasingly alarming terms, there are reports on the situation confronting the populations there. Even had we not been informed of this by the mass media, the council has received more than one formal and official request for the adoption of urgent measures to keep people from dying for lack of food. We have read the letters from the ambassadors of India, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and other countries. They have called upon this body, which was not compelled to adopt Resolution 661 (1990), to take humanitarian measures to deal with the situation in which these innocent persons find themselves. Not only has the Security Council not responded to those appeals; it is now invited to adopt a draft resolution that would basically make even more difficult and distant the possibility of even hoping any concrete content can be given to our supposedly humanitarian premises.

The draft resolution submitted to us does not explain what will happen to the 100,000 Sri Lankans who have been trapped on Kuwaiti territory, and no one has even suggested how they can receive food. The Security Council will now establish machinery that is neither pressing nor urgent. It is not motivated by the anxiety and haste that caused us to spend so many nights in this chamber in

August but rather by exemplary patience and singular tranquility at a time when we are dealing with human suffering.

First of all we would entrust the secretary-general with the urgent task of gathering information on the situation regarding the availability of foods in Kuwait. And the secretary-general, as we all know, has reported to members of the council on the difficulties the organization is having in the field. He has reported that the organization basically has no representation there in a position to shoulder responsibilities, particularly those that would flow from this resolution.

Means for humanitarian aid

On the basis of such information the committee could proceed to analyze the data with a view to determining whether or not there exist circumstances indicating it is of utmost urgency that Iraq or Kuwait be given humanitarian aid. The result would be the production of a report, not food, and I expect that the report would then come to the council.

“Draft resolution does not explain what will happen to 100,000 Sri Lankans trapped in Kuwait . . .

But nowhere in the resolution is there even a suggestion as to what this council would do to find ways and means of ensuring help for the nationals of third countries and, please let us not forget, those of Kuwait, to whom no specific reference appears in the resolution we are invited to adopt — although it was clearly covered in the resolution the council preferred to reject a few minutes ago. Nor, I repeat, is there mention of Iraqi citizens.

We might envisage that, beginning now, the council would resume the spirit of those moments in August and begin dealing with pressing urgency with these very serious problems now confronting so many innocent people. Frankly, I see no special reasons for feeling enthusiastic about that possibility, because this very council has also received a series of urgent requests under Article 50 of the Charter,² asking us to adopt decisions that would help alleviate the serious problems confronting countries other than those we have mentioned. To date, the list includes 10 member states of our organization, with Jordan at the top of the list. The moment is drawing near in which we may be compelled to act at a pace that stands in marked contrast to the speed with which we acted in August.

Resolution on Jordan

Soon a month will have passed since the Permanent Representative of Jordan, in a well-documented communication, told the council about the very serious economic and social consequences the sanctions established in Resolution 661 (1990) would have on his country. If, after all this time, the council was even able to do as much as adopt a resolution

2. Article 50 provides that “if preventative or enforcement measures against any state” by the Security Council place a country in economic difficulty, that country “shall have the right to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems.”

regarding Jordan — and it is not yet clear to my delegation that this is the case — we would finally be showing some kind of concern about the case we all acknowledge to be the most urgent and gravest of all, the one that most of all ought to be dealt with speedily.

I am not in a position to say much that is encouraging to the nine other colleagues on the list, whose cases we have not even had a chance to consider yet. I believe this council has a great moral responsibility. On the one hand, it is right that we should all try to ensure full implementation of the basic resolutions we have adopted — above all, in our opinion, Resolution 660 (1990), which calls for an end to the conflict in the region. It is also correct for us to monitor, through the Sanctions Committee,³ complete implementation of these measures as they were stipulated in the text of the resolution adopted here. But on the other hand, I also think the council should act as a body that demonstrates maturity and a sense of responsibility.

The history of this organization is perfectly well known. The hour is too late for me to take the council through the lengthy list of countries that were represented here when the council or the General Assembly discussed the question of economic sanctions in the past. Any case we might choose at random would clearly demonstrate that before the adoption of any decision there was painstaking care to take into consideration the economic consequences that decision might entail.

Case of South Africa

In certain cases, such as that of South Africa, there is an inexhaustible store of quotations from some permanent members of the council, even very recent quotations — there's no need to go back into history — in which they argued that economic sanctions should not be imposed against South Africa because these would also harm the country's Black majority. I know that our colleagues from the United States and the United Kingdom are very familiar with that position, because it is one they consistently maintained for many years; they continue to maintain it to some extent.

Then there is the case of the economic sanctions that were imposed against Southern Rhodesia. At that time the United States — which is not a Third World country or a

“Resolution would in fact extend the sanctions against Kuwait and Iraq to include food . . .

poor country, but a wealthy developed country — felt it had to violate them by continuing to import chromium from Southern Rhodesia. It stated as much right here, in the Security Council, in this very chamber. And the council, as far as I know, sent no fleets, adopted no resolutions of condemnation, and took no special measures of any sort. It seemed to consider it natural that the representative of the United States should say something I am going to quote. It will be one of the few quotes I cite: “The United States representative explained that the decision to resume imports of Southern Rhodesian chrome had been prompted by genuine considerations of United States national security and by its requirements of materials of strategic importance which could not be obtained cheaper anywhere else.”

Exemption for ‘strategic materials’

Can you imagine, fellow representatives, if any state in the world were today to apply the same logic to oil, for which we now have to pay at least double the price we were paying before this crisis? Isn't oil a strategic material for everyone? Hasn't this been explained clearly by the 10 representatives who have communicated with the council under

3. The Sanctions Committee, headed by Marjatta Rasi of Finland, was established by Resolution 661 (1990) to oversee implementation of the trade embargo against Iraq. It is composed of all members of the Security Council.

Coming soon from Pathfinder

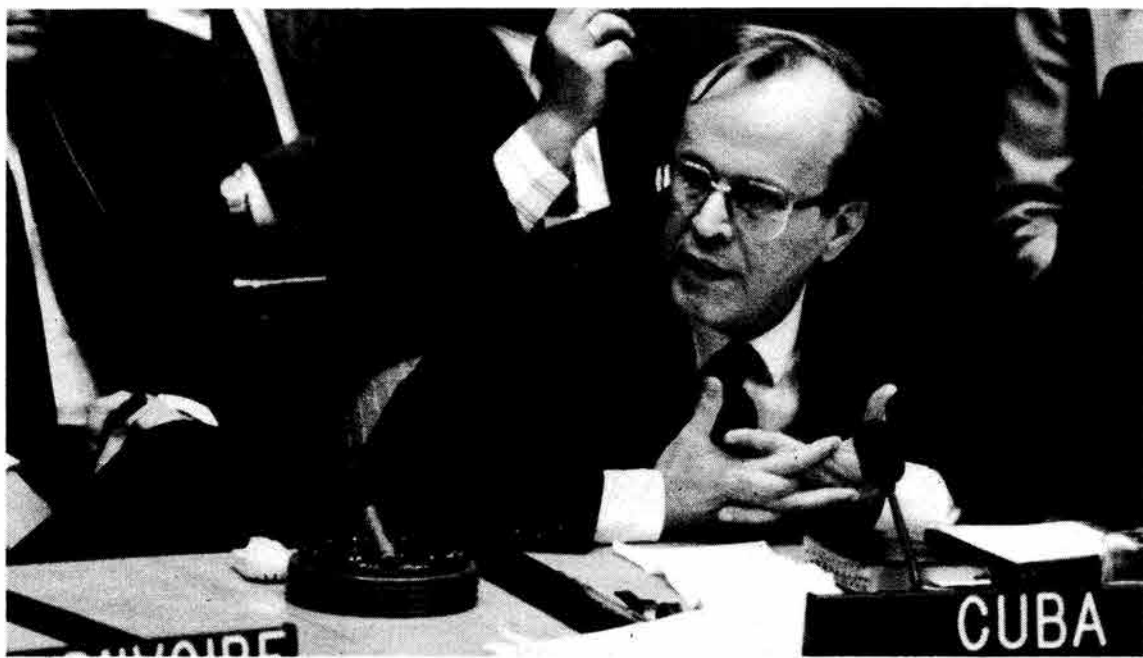
U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations

This pamphlet features the statements made before the United Nations Security Council by Ricardo Alarcón, Cuba's ambassador to the UN, as well as letters and speeches by Cuban President Fidel Castro explaining Cuban government opposition to Washington's war preparations in the Mideast. It also includes the full text of the Security Council resolutions concerning the developments since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. 88pp.

\$6.00

Order from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12 or from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please add \$1 postage and handling.

1. The presidency of the Security Council for the month of September was held by the Soviet Union, whose ambassador to the UN is Yuliy Vorontsov.



Ricardo Alarcón, left, addresses the UN Security Council on September 25. Above, people lining up for bread in Iraqi city.

UN Photo

Article 50 of the Charter? But in the document I quoted from — which is not something from ancient history — it seemed to be natural for a great power to tell the Security Council that it had decided to continue to buy chromium, despite the ban, because it could not find it cheaper elsewhere.

Another quotation: "He pointed out the United States imports of strategic materials from Southern Rhodesia amounted to only 2 percent of the territory's total exports of those commodities."

It was in 1972 that the then Permanent Representative of the United States [George Bush] told that to the Security Council. The council adopted no special measures, and the import of chromium continued.

U.S. hypocrisy on sanctions

The following year the representative of the United States again explained his country's position. This quotation is even shorter: "The United States representative objected to the fact that many speakers had

“
There is a dangerous
tendency to
water down sanctions
against South Africa ...
”

singled out his government for blame as a violator of sanctions. He emphasized that although the United States had authorized the importation of chrome from Southern Rhodesia, such imports constituted only 5 percent of that territory's annual exports."

One year it had been 2 percent; the following year it was 5 percent. Still, it was a figure that was more or less acceptable to the council, and the imports continued for as long as the United States government felt them advisable.

'Previous contracts' argument

There are also many references I could cite on how the arms embargo against South Africa was handled. Shortly after the embargo was adopted by the Security Council, the representative of the same country explained why the United States continued to send arms to South Africa, and the explanation was apparently satisfactory at the time: "Current deliveries of arms to South Africa," he said, "consisted entirely of spare parts supplied under contracts made before Dec. 31, 1963, the effective date of the United Nations embargo."

Can you imagine what would take place in the Sanctions Committee if any country on earth dared say it was delivering exports to Iraq or Kuwait because the contracts were made before the date sanctions were adopted? I think the first to leap up and call this a clear violation of the sanctions would be the very country that was able to be so flexible when commercial advantages or contracts it felt must be respected were at stake.

I want to say that if this council were in the future to deem it necessary to impose sanctions with the same strictness and firmness that have marked this case — for which there is no comparison in the organization's history; the council has never taken such action before — it should at least be obliged to foresee the consequences its decision might entail for other states that are not supposed to be the object of the sanctions. And it should be obliged to foresee the implication for millions of individuals who, simply because they live in the area of the conflict,

could suffer grave consequences. If such foresight were impossible because the sanctions resolution had to be adopted within a few hours, the world might at least expect that in the course of the following month we would be able to adopt a consistent position on the problems arising from the implementation of our decisions.

Request to aid Indian nationals

My delegation considers that exactly the contrary has occurred. The council has been compelled — for reasons that we all know, which I need not repeat here — to follow one course of action and one alone. But something has occurred in the course of the past week that my delegation frankly finds irritating. I am revealing no secret here. I think that all of us in this building know what happened in the Sanctions Committee. We all know about the lengthy consultations that were held on the communications that had been received from the ambassadors of India and the Philippines on the one hand, and Sri Lanka on the other, about the efforts that should be made to take rapid steps, at least with regard to the specific requests that we had received. And we all know how what began with what seemed to be a very simple discussion about whether or not we would authorize an Indian vessel to deliver food that was urgently required by the Indian population in the region ended up, by some strange twist of fate, with the resolution we have before us now.

That occurred despite the fact that the council and its committee had precedents — not from ancient history but from the recent past — as to how such questions should be settled when they were raised not by Third World countries but by other states.

Everyone knows that when authorization was requested to fly the aircraft of some members of the council to pick up nationals of their countries who wished to return to their country of origin, or to fly Iraqi airplanes to do the same, there were no long negotiations, lengthy discussions, or complicated texts.⁴ The Sanctions Committee quickly and simply expressed agreement to such operations. We did it once, and since then it has recurred without the committee having to discuss it again.

My delegation entirely agrees with that interpretation of the request that was received at that time from the United Kingdom, if I

“
Access to food and medical
assistance is a fundamental
right to be protected
under all circumstances ...
”

am not mistaken. I expect that in the carrying out of such activities there had to be communication with the Iraqi authorities and there had to be some financial payments. It is normal to pay for the overflight, for airport services, and so forth.

But when India comes and tells us that tens of thousands of its nationals are in a distressing situation in which they lack food, and they tell us that they have a vessel that stands ready and loaded with food to send to Kuwait, we then become involved in the most complicated negotiations simply to authorize India to send one vessel to Kuwait one time to deliver food to those individuals.

4. Between September 1 and 6, six flights left Baghdad evacuating from Iraq close to 1,000 citizens of the United States, Japan, and several European countries.

It would involve no financial transaction benefiting Iraq, but it might help save some innocent persons who have the right to live and who, by the way, have nothing to do with the parties in the conflict. I wonder whether it is really fair for us to be so painstaking with regard to the drama of people of the developed countries, the countries of the north, while we remain impassive before the clamor of hundreds of thousands of individuals whose names appear nowhere in the big newspapers, whose stories have not been told, but who, in the view of our delegation, have precisely the same rights as those from the wealthier countries, or who bear passports that are obviously more useful.

At the very least, my delegation cannot accept having the Security Council act in such a distinct and discriminatory fashion with regard to the various parties. We might have thought that one month later the Security Council would at least be in a position to deal with these problems and be responding to one or more of the cases of which we were notified. But instead we find something much worse. A draft resolution has been put before us that would in fact extend and reinforce the sanctions against Kuwait and Iraq to include food. That means our taking a tortuous path, one that in fact may be a dead end, with regard to imperative and urgent needs and requests received from various member states, needs that we ourselves know to exist.

Israeli occupation

It has been said on a previous occasion, as it may be now, that it is justifiable to take such drastic measures and be so cold in the face of human suffering in order to ensure that these measures are implemented and the goal attained — independently of whatever effectiveness we may have demonstrated in the past. But East Jerusalem has also been occupied and annexed by an occupying power. The Golan Heights was and continues to be annexed by an occupying power. This is not ancient history. It is a current fact. But there is no talk about that; there is no talk about sanctions; there is no talk of measures to force the occupier of those two territories, whose name is perfectly familiar to the members of the council, to abide by the decisions of this same body.

I have quoted some material about South Africa. That is not ancient history either. At this very moment the General Assembly is considering a report from the secretary-general on the implementation of the declaration adopted by consensus only a few months ago.⁵ At this very moment. This is not ancient history. Tomorrow the debate will continue here in this building, and, as the secretary-general knows full well, his report contains information and replies from member states that certainly do not indicate they are complying or will continue to comply with the sanctions against South Africa. Rather what the General Assembly is facing today — and our African brothers and sisters know this full well — is a dangerous tendency to water down the policy of sanctions against South Africa, to try to undermine the position of the international community against apartheid and to seek measures of accommodation with the Pretoria regime before the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions are complied with.

But it was also this very council that

5. A special session of the United Nations General Assembly on apartheid, meeting Dec. 13-14, 1989, unanimously adopted a declaration setting out guidelines for South Africa's transition to a nonracial democracy.

established the committee to monitor the implementation of the sanctions adopted in Resolution 418 (1977),⁶ and everyone knows that that committee has been sleeping the sleep of the just for approximately two months. Why? Because we had to concentrate on the real sanctions, sanctions there was a will to apply, sanctions that, come what may, will cost the lives that they will cost. We cannot accept this approach. And this is not ancient history. We believe that if we are to have a minimum of consistency we must consider the possibility of rescuing from almost certain death that other Sanctions Committee and that other set of partial sanctions, affecting weapons alone, that this council decided on in the case of South Africa.

Kuwaiti sovereignty

My delegation firmly believes that the conflict that has arisen through the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq must be settled by means of the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. We firmly believe that the full sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of Ku-

“
We believe the full
sovereignty of Kuwait
must be restored ...
”

wait must be restored immediately. We believe that the third-state nationals in Iraq or Kuwait have rights that no one should abrogate, limit, or infringe upon, such as the right to leave and return to their country, and the right to adequate food, and to all other conditions inherent in maintaining their human dignity. But we also believe that these same rights are possessed by the people of Kuwait, the civilian population of Iraq, and the third-state nationals in the region, despite the fact that those third states have the ill fortune of belonging to the Third World rather than the world of riches.

We are not prepared to support any action that would continue to ignore the tragedy for which those who originally caused this conflict are responsible. But the Security Council is also responsible, because of the measures it adopted, and because in doing so it did not take into consideration the problems it was creating for innocent people.

That is why we put forward a draft resolution that we believed would receive the council's approval. If you reread it, you will see that on the basis of quotations from the charter of our organization, it focuses on a principle that, while it did not receive the necessary votes, nonetheless continues to be a principle that no one has the right to flout — the principle that access to basic food-stuffs and to adequate medical assistance is a fundamental right to be protected under all circumstances.

Since it will henceforth be increasingly difficult for millions of innocent individuals to exercise that right, and since, far from mitigating the suffering of individuals — as it claimed in the draft resolution we are discussing — the council's decision would instead perhaps increase it, my delegation is unable to vote in favor of the draft resolution that has been submitted.

6. Security Council Resolution 418 (1977) established a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa. Resolution 421 (1977) set up a committee made up of all council members to oversee implementation of the embargo.

Official N. Korean daily criticizes recognition of South by Soviet Union

Below is an editorial from the October 5 *Rodong Sinmun*, the official daily of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. It appeared in English in the October 6 issue of the weekly *Pyongyang Times* under the headline, "Diplomatic relations bargained for dollars." Both papers are published in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The Workers' Party of Korea is the governing party in the northern part of that divided country.

The *Militant* is reprinting this document for the information of our readers. The subheadings are by the *Militant*, as are minor changes in translation.

The advance of history is always accompanied by the rise and fall of changing alignments of countries and nations. It includes chapters shining with honor as well as scandalous and stained incidents.

The Soviet Union, making a complete about-face in its stand, has decided to establish "diplomatic ties" with south Korea. We dare say this belongs to the latter category.

According to international press reports, a "joint communiqué" on the decision to open "diplomatic relations" between the Soviet Union and south Korea was published in New York on September 30. There is nothing mysterious in this. It is simply the realization of the longtime rumors that have now run their course. This establishment of "diplomatic relations," which smears the reputation of the Soviet Union, comes at a time when the Soviet Union is going downhill to ruin, floundering in chaos and confusion in the vortex of "perestroika."

'Unavoidable circumstances'

At the Korea-Soviet foreign ministers' talks in Pyongyang early in September, the Soviet side, explaining the "unavoidable circumstances" that forced it to decide to establish "diplomatic relations" with south Korea, emphasized passionately that the Soviet Union today is not that of days past, but a completely "new state" and "new society."

Later, through various channels, the Soviet side contended that opening "diplomatic relations" with south Korea "proceeds from the interests of the Soviet Union." And, being a question "to be decided by the Soviet Union itself, a sovereign state," it didn't need anyone's "approval."

To make a long story short, this meant that the Soviet Union of today is not the Soviet Union of the past, when it adhered to socialist internationalism. Rather, it has degenerated into a state of another character and, therefore, found itself looking for "new friends" corresponding to that change. It didn't hesitate to encroach upon the interests of other countries, other nations, and even its allies in pursuit of its own interests. Therefore, if it had made a promise to us on the question of its relations with south Korea, that is no longer valid.

In a sense this may be regarded as a rather frank confession.

As to its subterfuge, however, we think it's necessary to say what we want to say and square accounts.

Moscow shares blame for divided Korea

Only a few years ago, the top Soviet government official said the USSR would never change its principled stand toward south Korea.

The Soviet diplomatic chief more than

once told us the same thing.

A DPRK-USSR joint communiqué, published in December 1988, proclaimed that "the Soviet side confirmed no change in its principled stand toward south Korea" and that "it is not willing to officially recognize south Korea or establish political and diplomatic relations with south Korea."

Today, the Soviet Union throws all these unequivocal commitments into the dustbin and decides to establish "diplomatic relations" with south Korea. Can this be described otherwise than "betrayal?"

The Soviet Union has systematically violated and ignored the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the DPRK and the Soviet Union.

It talks about "recognition of reality" and a "change in the situation" in an attempt to justify its unseemly behavior.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it shares responsibility with the United States for dividing Korea at the 38th parallel after World War II. At the same time, it was the first to recognize the DPRK as the only legitimate state of the Korean nation.

'Two Koreas'

The Soviet Union's establishment of "diplomatic relations" with south Korea means legally recognizing the existence of "two Koreas," thereby totally abandoning its commitments and acting against the reunification of Korea, using the phrase "recognition of reality" as an excuse.

As for its argument about a "change in the situation," it is not the situation that has changed but rather the Soviet Union's stand.

If the Soviet Union's breach of commitments resulted from a change in governmental power, as in some other countries, it would be understandable to some extent.

In the case of the Soviet Union, however, it is quite different.

It is those who made the commitments to us who are now feigning innocence and openly going back on their words. From this we can take the measure of their moral value and level of conscience.

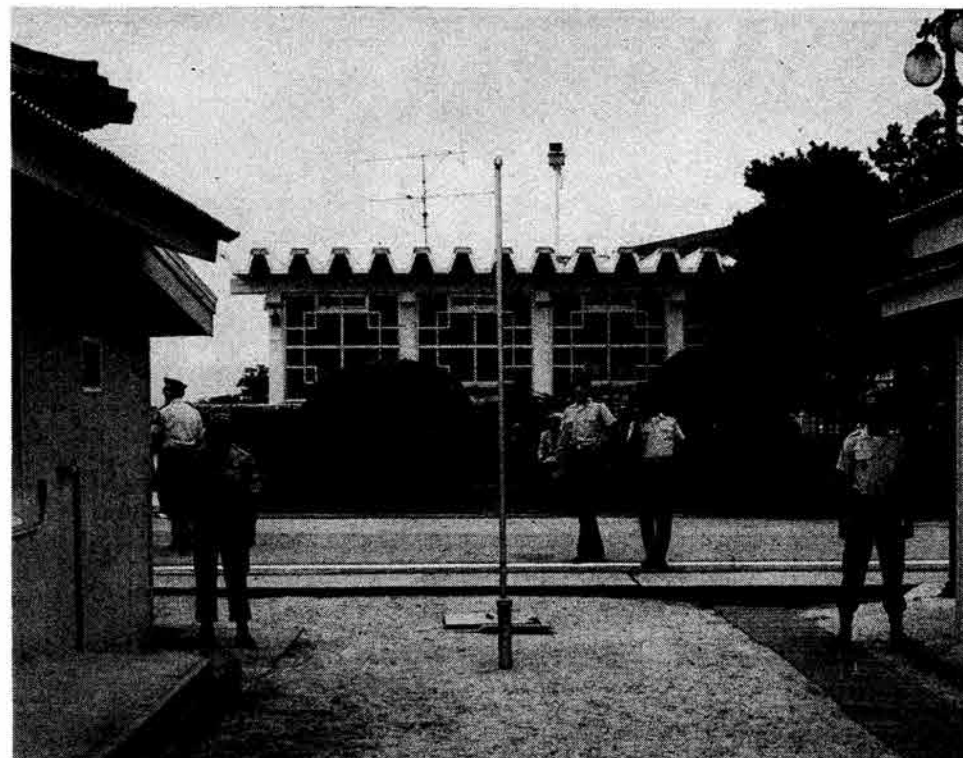
In fact, in the Soviet Union itself, the glorious history of the Soviet people's difficult struggle ever since the October [1917] Revolution is now denied, defined as "an era of darkness." This being the case, it matters nothing to them to discard the commitment they made to us.

Viewed from another angle, the establishment of "diplomatic relations" with south Korea by the Soviet Union — no matter what the intentions may be — must be construed, in the final analysis, as openly joining with the United States in its strategy of freezing the division of Korea, isolating us internationally, and pressing us toward a policy of "openness," thereby overthrowing the socialist system in our country.

Reunification 'irresistible trend'

Viewed from the present stand of the Soviet Union, which makes it an unchallengeable rule to avoid confrontation and establish "relations of companionship" between the superpowers according to the "new thinking," there would be nothing strange even in being rewarded for betraying an old friend and cooperating with the United States in its "two Koreas" policy.

This means U.S.-Soviet-south Korean collusion against Korea. And it will be the link in the chain of encirclement designed



U.S. troops in South Korea at the Military Demarcation Line

according to the "peaceful transition [to capitalism]" strategy to disorganize socialism in Asia.

Reunification of divided countries is an irresistible trend today. In Korea, the desire of the people in both the north and south for reunification is greater than ever.

It's at this very juncture, against this trend of the times, that the Soviet Union recognized south Korea as "a state." It made an about-face toward obstructing reunification and inciting division, claiming that "two states" exist in Korea. This can only be interpreted as an intention to take joint steps with the United States.

More than once we warned that if the Soviet Union established "diplomatic relations" with south Korea, it would run counter to Korea's reunification, increase the misfortunes and sufferings resulting from national division, shatter the balance of forces, aggravate north-south confrontations and the arms race, and greatly strain the situation on the Korean peninsula.

These warnings, however, fell on deaf ears.

As long as dominationist forces exist in the world, victimization and trifling with the destiny of small countries and nations will not cease.

This was borne out by the barbarous U.S. armed invasion of Panama in late 1989 — right after the summit talks in Malta.

The establishment of "diplomatic relations" with south Korea by the Soviet Union cannot be regarded as the Soviet Union's decision alone.

"Soviet-south Korea summit talks" were held in the United States last June through the good offices of the U.S. President [George] Bush. As a direct extension of this, the establishment of "diplomatic relations" between the USSR and south Korea was announced on U.S. soil.

This fact alone strongly suggests that this is an offspring of covert Soviet-U.S. collusion.

From this, the implications of the "new thinking" and "ideology-free international relations" ardently advocated by the Soviet Union are evident.

They mean, in essence, making "friends" with Uncle Sam, meekly accepting whatever he demands, and winning his favor in order to preserve peace.

Therefore, it is logical that the Soviet Union does not want to stand against the United States in support of its "ally," the DPRK, concerning the Korean issue, but rather subordinates the DPRK to its strategic plan, hand in hand with its "companion," the United States.

Soviet economic crisis

Another one of the "unavoidable circumstances" that forced the Soviet Union to establish "diplomatic relations" with south Korea was explained by the Soviet side in Pyongyang. The USSR, they said, has no alternative but to set up "diplomatic relations" with south Korea because its economy now is totally ruined and facing a crisis.

This reminds us of the old saying that a drowning man will grasp at a straw. But seeing such a thing really happen makes us feel a sense of futility.

How did it come to pass that the Soviet Union, which has fancied itself a superpower, brought the country to the brink of bankruptcy in five years of the "restructuring"

policy and is today asking for south Korea's assistance?

Coinciding with the news that the Soviet Union decided to establish "diplomatic relations" with south Korea, Seoul announced it had decided to grant the Soviet Union an "economic cooperation fund" to the tune of \$2.3 billion.

The Soviet Union sold the dignity and honor of a socialist power, and the interests and faith of an ally, for \$2.3 billion.

The Soviet beginners, who are making painstaking efforts to acquire basic knowledge of capitalist economic management methods while turning the socialist economic system into a market economy, may feel satisfied at having learned that selling of a nonmaterial commodity — that is, "diplomatic relations" — at a "high price" is a profitable capitalist dealing.

As everybody knows, morality and obligation are not worth a farthing in capitalist dealings. Everything is dominated by the interest of each in remaining alive at the expense of others.

Double-dealing tactics

To tell the truth, the entire course leading to the Soviet Union's announcement of establishment of "diplomatic relations" with south Korea was characterized by hypocrisy and betrayal through double-dealing tactics.

Today south Korea is not in a position to issue such a colossal sum of money. It's highly probable that it will come from the U.S. imperialists' special fund for disorganizing socialism.

When the Soviet Union started "perestroika," we sincerely wished it success in rejuvenating socialism and the USSR's prosperity and development.

Still now we hope that the Soviet Union's "perestroika" will bear good fruit.

To this end it must rely on its own strength.

There is no change in imperialism's basic strategy of overthrowing socialist countries by means of military threats and blackmail, economic bribery and subjugation, and ideological and cultural disorganization.

A dignified and independent socialist country must heighten vigilance against this and never get involved in the crafty disrupting moves of the imperialists, obsessed with dollars.

The global situation is complicated and acute at present. "Reconciliation" between superpowers is said to be bringing détente to the international situation. In some regions, however, it is upsetting and aggravating the situation.

Although the changing alignment of great powers, each seeking their own interests, still has a great effect, the world today is by no means ruled only by the will of the great powers.

The present is an era of independence.

No matter how serious the twists and turns may be, we will go our own way to the end, making a detour around whatever rocks that may crop up along the way.

History has not allowed, and will not allow, perfidy and betrayal, injustice and arbitrariness.

Our people will march forward, full of confidence in victory, without vacillation, under the unfurled banner of the Juche idea, and defend their socialist position as an impregnable fortress, realizing the cause of national reunification.

USSR moves 'betray' Korean unification

BY MARGARET JAYKO

PYONGYANG, North Korea — North Korean authorities termed the recent decision of the government of the Soviet Union to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea for the first time since this country was divided 45 years ago a "betrayal" of the fight to unify Korea. (See document reprinted on facing page.)

An editorial in the October 5 *Rodong Sinmun*, the daily of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, called Moscow's decision a move to openly join Washington's decades-long efforts to legitimize the division of Korea, as well as the imperialists' campaign to isolate the North.

According to top party officials here, the editorial is the first time they have publicly pointed to Moscow's coresponsibility with Washington for dividing Korea in 1945. With Japanese imperialism's defeat in World War II, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin agreed to divide Japanese-occupied Korea at the 38th parallel, leading to U.S. military occupation of the southern part of the country, and the Korean War.

On September 30 Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze issued a joint announcement with Choi Ho Joong, South Korea's foreign minister, after signing the agreement establishing diplomatic relations. Shevardnadze invited Choi to visit the Soviet Union and was invited, in turn, to visit South Korea. They met and sealed the recognition in the United States at the United Nations.

"There will be an exchange of visits at high levels, including the summit level," the Soviet foreign minister said shortly after signing the agreement.

A Soviet delegation is also due in Seoul, the South's capital, next month to discuss "economic matters," Choi said.

The same day as his meeting with Choi, Shevardnadze held talks at the UN with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy. They issued a joint statement upgrading relations between Tel Aviv and Moscow.

Gorbachev-Roh meeting set stage

The establishment of diplomatic links between the Soviet and South Korean governments culminated a series of steps toward closer relations that began in June of this year when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and South Korean President Roh Tae Woo met in San Francisco. Prior to that, a foreign ministry spokesperson here warned that such a meeting would "be a serious political issue" that would help "freeze the division" of Korea.

Seoul hopes that its new relations with Moscow will make it possible for South Korea to take a seat in the UN. Currently neither half of the divided country is a member, and the position of firm supporters of Korean reunification, including Pyongyang,

is that North and South should be represented by a single UN delegate until reunification takes place.

The five permanent members of the UN Security Council must all approve admission of a new member. Of the five, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States have diplomatic relations with South Korea. Only China does not.

Seoul's Foreign Minister Choi said he hoped the new agreement with Moscow "would bring some favorable results in our efforts to normalize relations with China."

In Seoul, Kim Hak Jun, an aide to President Roh, said his government would exchange trade offices with consular functions with China following the September 22–October 7 Asian Games in Beijing.

Choi dismissed Pyongyang's position of a single seat for North and South as "impossible."

"We will try to convince North Korea to change their basic position and join with us [as two separate states] in the United Nations," said Choi. "We have the good example of Yemen and Germany. They have been members of the UN together, separately, but they achieved unification."

In a speech to the UN the next day, U.S. President George Bush reiterated Washington's longtime insistence that there are two Koreas and that each should join the UN separately.

Mass pro-reunification sentiment

These diplomatic moves to legitimize the division, enforced by imperialist arms, that denies Korea its self-determination come at a time when support for reunification runs deep among the majority of the Korean people at home and abroad. The popular struggle in the South to press Roh's regime to hold reunification discussions with the North is gaining momentum. This is occurring despite government repression of those in the labor and student movements and wider circles who advocate reunification.

It is this pressure that forced Seoul to participate in the first high-level governmental talks with Pyongyang since the peninsula was divided. The first round of discussion took place in early September in Seoul, and the second is scheduled here October 16.

The degree of support for reunification was shown once again at the Asian Games. As at other international sporting events, including the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, separate teams for the North and the South faced off against each other. Pyongyang's proposals to field one unified Korean team — a popular idea with Koreans at home and abroad — was rejected at the last minute by Seoul.

Athletes here who went to the games described how the two teams fraternized with each other — and how many more medals Korea could have won if the North and South

had combined their efforts.

In a blow to Washington's efforts to keep the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK — North Korea) isolated internationally, a delegation from two major political parties in Japan visited here in September. The entourage included major figures in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the Japanese Socialist Party. They issued a joint declaration with the Workers' Party of Korea on September 28.

The statement declared that Japan should officially apologize to and fully compensate the DPRK for the crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists against their former colony.

Japan's rulers annexed Korea in 1910, beginning a 35-year reign of terror designed to obliterate the existence of Korea as a separate nation and enslave the Korean people.

The Korean army was disbanded and a military government imposed by the Japanese emperor. Vast amounts of peasants' land were stolen, and Koreans were denied the right to freedom of assembly, association, speech, and press. Koreans were barred from engaging in business or management positions and technical-level occupations. Most skilled trades, such as driving locomotives, were made illegal for Koreans to learn or hold. Koreans were forced to worship at Japanese Shinto temples, the school system banned the study of the Korean language and history, and Koreans were forced to adopt Japanese names.

During World War II, Tokyo drafted hundreds of thousands of Koreans into the Japanese military and sent them to work in Japan in mines, factories, and military bases.

Through a massive political and armed resistance, the Korean people finally defeated Japanese imperialism at the cost of thousands of martyrs. And many Koreans were killed and maimed when Washington dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. With Japan's surrender at the end of World War II, Japanese rule over Korea came to an end.

The parliamentary delegation here from Japan also urged that Tokyo establish diplomatic relations with the DPRK. North Korea is the only country in the world with which Tokyo does not have diplomatic relations. To prepare the way for normalization of relations, the delegation urged political, economic, and cultural exchanges, including direct air services. Currently, every Japanese passport states that it is "valid in every country of the world except North Korea."

The joint Korean-Japanese statement also demanded that Tokyo end discrimination against the more than 700,000 Koreans resident in Japan. Like their counterparts in other countries, Koreans living in Japan are pressing hard for reunification of their homeland, as well as for equal treatment in Japan. Thus, the "Korean question" is a large — and growing — internal problem for the Japanese rulers, as well as a foreign affairs matter. This is a big factor in Tokyo's decision to diverge from Washington's position and move toward normal relations with Pyongyang.

Negotiations between the two governments to accomplish these goals are proposed to begin in November.

45th anniversary of Workers' Party

A large delegation of Koreans living in Japan were treated as special guests at the opening gathering of celebrations here marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The Workers' Party, originally under the name Communist Party, was founded Oct. 10, 1945, and led the struggle against the 1950–53 U.S. war against the North. Some 276 party, government, trade union, and other delegations from more than 126 countries are participating in the week's events.

The first U.S. delegation to arrive was from the Socialist Workers Party, including SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes and National Committee member Margaret Jayko. Their political discussions with the party leadership, activities, and interviews received extensive television, newspaper, and radio coverage. Barnes delivered greetings from the SWP National Committee to the Workers' Party.

"The Socialist Workers Party pledges to tell the truth about the history and current reality of Washington's unceasing aggression against your sovereignty," the statement said. "These facts have been covered up and hid-

den from the working people of the United States," it continued.

"Our party, and our newspaper, the *Militant*, are proud of our unbroken continuity of more than 60 years in opposing Japanese colonial rule and U.S. imperialist domination and intervention on the Korean peninsula.

"We will continue to demand that Washington get its troops and nuclear weapons out of Korea, sign a peace treaty ending the state of war that has existed for 40 years, and normalize relations with the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"We further pledge our uncompromising support for the Korean people's just struggle for reunification. Your call to tear down the wall built by the South Korean forces with U.S. aid, for freedom of travel and exchange between north and south aimed at signing a nonaggression pact, and for a united front of all Koreans for reunification deserves the support of working people everywhere," the SWP message concluded.

'Come to the bosom of freedom'

Of the many places the SWP delegation was able to visit during its two-week stay, the 150-mile-long concrete wall that divides the northern and southern halves of Korea was perhaps the most striking. It was a crystal clear day, and the telescope set up by the North Korean military offered a sharp view of the barrier, with its accompanying lookout towers, pill boxes, and gun placements sticking out.

The wall was built by Seoul, beginning in 1977, on the South Korean side of the Demilitarized Zone, which is situated between the North and South. The Seoul regime claims the wall is simply a series of tank traps. The Korean People's Army officer stationed at the observation site responded that the fact that part of the wall runs across the tops of mountains gives lie to that claim — unless there are flying tanks.

Three slogans were painted in Korean on the part of the wall this reporter saw. According to the translator, they read, "Let's live in Seoul," "Come to the bosom of freedom," and "Free love." There are also 24-hour-a-day deafening broadcasts from the South through massive loudspeakers next to the wall. They urge people to defect, trying to lure them with good old U.S. offers of "freedom" and women.

Barnes told the soldiers at the border that he thought the reason Washington continues to keep more than 45,000 troops in South Korea, a 1,000-strong nuclear arsenal, and a concrete wall is that "the U.S. rulers are afraid of the people of South Korea, not an invasion from the North, which they know is not being prepared."

"Why does Washington support German reunification and the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, yet refuse to back down from its 'two Koreas' policy one iota?" he continued.

"Because each year that goes by, South Korea becomes less and less — not more and more — stable. They do not have even short-run confidence in the capacity of the Seoul regime to govern without direct U.S. occupation. And this in the prize capitalist 'economic miracle' of Asia," he said.

"It's a beautiful illustration," said Barnes, "of the fact that the dominant trend in the world today is not the crisis of communism but a crisis of capitalism."

"Coming out of World War II, Washington, Moscow, and London imposed an arbitrary division of the Korean nation at the 38th parallel. Under the cover of the UN flag, Washington then organized a massive war against the North, in an attempt to bomb it back to the Stone Age.

"The U.S. bomber command even bragged to the White House that there were no targets left worth bombing in the North and it would take more than 100 years to rebuild Pyongyang."

"Then Wall Street set out to impose an 'economic miracle' on the South, putting it forward as an example of how capitalism, even at this late date, really can develop the impoverished countries of Asia," Barnes continued.

"But what have been the results of this 'miracle'? Industrialization and changing over to agriculture for export has bred not only a small middle class and a layer of technical workers and advanced export-oriented manufacturing centers, but extreme social polarization, poverty, and repression

Continued on Page 11

Hunger strikers at UN say 'End division of Korea'



Militant/Heather Randle

NEW YORK — Members of Young Koreans United and other solidarity activists launched a hunger strike here October 1 at a park across from the United Nations. At an October 5 rally of some 350, speakers demanded withdrawal of the 45,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and reunification of the country. Speakers included activists from organizations in solidarity with struggles in El Salvador, Palestine, and South Africa. The hunger strikers targeted the UN because of its role in providing cover for the U.S. government's division of Korea.

Coal miners among new readers in Cape Breton

BY KIP HEDGES

GLACE BAY, Nova Scotia — "It's a good little paper." "It's a paper of the common people." "Useful, very useful." These were a few of the reactions from coal miners to the

ers of America (UMWA) recently ended a six-week strike against the government-run Cape Breton Development Corporation, DEVCO. The sales team's visit to Cape Breton was the third by *Militant*

introduced the paper to UMWA members at the three mines where the strike took place. Armed with 100 copies of the *Militant*, supporters ran out of papers twice during the four days. In all, 172 miners, their family members, and other workers bought copies of the *Militant* and nine subscribed.

At the Phalen and Langan mines, where more than 1,000 miners work, 92 workers on two shifts bought the *Militant* and one signed up to get the paper for 12 weeks. At the Prince mine, the third largest mine on Cape Breton, 22 miners picked up every copy of the paper supporters had, including back issues.

One miner there said he had read the *Militant* the night before when a coworker showed him the paper.

"The *Militant* is all over down there," he said. "A lot of men have

read it. A lot like it. Some hate it. Some of them are saying it's a socialist paper, but I don't see that much difference between socialism and unionism."

Most miners gave the paper a try based on the coverage of their strike and other labor battles, like the Eastern Airlines strike and the fight of British miners to defend their union. Some also wanted to see what the *Militant* had to say about the struggle of the Mohawks in Québec and the U.S. war moves in the Middle East. A miner at the Phalen colliery said, "It really covers the whole world. It's almost too much to absorb!"

When salespeople went door to door with the *Militant* in Glace Bay and nearby New Waterford, 14 people bought copies of the paper. One woman — who, like many, had

family members working in the mines — took subscription blanks and said she would promote the *Militant* among her friends. Some miners asked if supporters could call them back in a few weeks after they had financially recovered from their strike.

Many striking hospital and bank workers on Cape Breton Island also liked the paper. When a salesperson told a striking bank worker that the *Militant* is distributed by workers in eight countries, he responded, "This is exactly what we need — we need to get this strike off the island."

Militant supporters also got a warm reception from Native rights activists on the Micmac Native Reserve who have been forced to close down their own paper, *Micmac News*, because of government cutbacks.



GETTING THE MILITANT AROUND

Militant when salespeople traveled to the coalfields of Nova Scotia September 22-25.

Here on Cape Breton Island, off Canada's Atlantic Coast, 2,300 members of the United Mine Work-

supporters since the strike began August 15.

Along with selling the socialist press door to door in mining communities and visiting the Micmac Native Reserve, *Militant* supporters

UN-sponsored negotiations stall in El Salvador

BY LUIS MADRID

United Nations-sponsored talks between the government of El Salvador and the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), aimed at "political agreements toward a cease-fire" in the country's 10-year civil war, ended without progress September 18, in Costa Rica.

Mediated by UN representative Álvaro de Soto, the five-day session was the latest in a series of meetings held since spring. The FMLN is made up of five guerrilla organizations that have fought to overthrow the U.S.-backed regime.

Talks were suspended in late October 1989 after the offices of the National Federation of Salvadoran Workers' Unions (FENASTRAS) were bombed. The FMLN then launched a major military offensive to "stop the fascists and open up the possibility to put an end to the war." The offensive was followed by severe repression by the government of Alfredo Cristiani, leading to thousands of dead and wounded.

After a meeting in New York with UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar at the end of September, FMLN leader Schafik Handal attributed the current impasse to "the Salvadoran government's inflexibility."

From the beginning of the negotiations, and as a precondition for beginning a cease-fire, the FMLN proposed demilitarization of the country, prosecution of offenses by military officers, purging top military officers, and reducing the size of the armed forces.

Objective of talks

At a round of talks held in May in Caracas, Venezuela, representatives of the Salvadoran government and the FMLN signed a document reiterating their "initial objective" to reach political agreements — to be implemented under UN supervision — toward a "cessation of armed confrontations" by mid-September.

Leading up to the Caracas talks, the FMLN had offered a number of concessions, including laying down its arms if the army ousted

some right-wing officers and if the government began political reforms.

The rebels also said that if the U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran government were halted, the FMLN would end its resupply operations and accept on-site international verification of compliance with the agreements. In fiscal 1990, aid from the U.S. government to the Salvadoran regime totaled \$315.4 million, \$85 million of which was military aid.

In the October 15 issue of the *Nation*, FMLN leader Salvador Sánchez also stated that if the reforms proposed by the FMLN were implemented, "the future of El Salvador could be determined through elections."

On the other hand, a Salvadoran presidential aide said at the time of the May talks that the government was willing to reduce the army to about 18,000 troops from the current level of 60,000. El Salvador has a population of 5.5 million.

U.S. government conditions

On June 27, the U.S. House of Representatives approved its foreign-aid bill for 1991, including a provision to continue military aid to El Salvador at the \$85 million level. Half

of the amount will be held back unless the FMLN fails "to negotiate in good faith" with the Salvadoran government on a cease-fire, or if it "significantly" increases its military activity.

The aid package is also contingent on the regime continuing the talks with the rebels and pressing ahead with the investigation into the November 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests, their maid, and her daughter in San Salvador, the country's capital.

While indictments were presented in January against nine soldiers — including a colonel and three lieutenants — the judicial investigation has been marred by a series of irregularities, including the transfer of officers connected to the assault and the reported forgery of a military logbook containing the names of personnel involved.

In addition, the regime's continuing record of human rights violations remains an embarrassment to the U.S. administration. A U.S. congressional study released last May, for example, showed that 14 out of 15 of El Salvador's highest ranking officers had commanded troops responsible for killing and kidnapping civilians, torturing prisoners, and other abuses. Of the 14, 11 were U.S.-trained.

Referring to the administration's stance toward the current developments, Bernard Aronson, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Latin America, told the *Washington Post*, "We want to say yet again that the Jesuit case is and continues to be a turning point. Those atrocities must be punished." At the same time, he added that the FMLN should not "wait for the U.S. to bail you out. Don't stall on a cease-fire."

In a guest column that appeared August 31 in the New York-area Spanish-language daily *El Diario-La Prensa*, responding to demands by the Cristiani regime that the rebels lay down their arms, FMLN leader Joaquín Villalobos wrote, "The FMLN's military forces are not negotiable as long as the government's armed forces are not willing to dissolve themselves."

Villalobos added that the FMLN will continue negotiating for a cease-fire reached on the basis that the army's ability to act without fear of punishment is ended and "real democratic spaces are open for the people as a whole."

Another round of talks is to be held in Mexico before November 4.

Glace Bay paper runs story on 'Militant' team

The following article is reprinted from the *Coastal Courier* of Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Titled "Militant Journalist Supports Striking Miners," it appeared in the paper's September 19 issue.

BY ALICE REID

Cliff Mack of Ontario, a member of the Canadian Auto Workers union and a freelance writer with the *Militant*, a socialist newsweekly published in the interests of the working people, based in New York, visited Glace Bay recently with *Militant* coworker Nancy Walker to support the struggle of the 2,300 striking miners with DEVCO [Cape Breton Development Corporation], and to gather information for an article on the month-old strike to appear in a future edition of the *Militant*.

Mack had been laid off from the Ford auto plant in Ontario. As a member of the Canadian Auto Workers union he was returning home Wednesday to prepare for strike duty of his own. With some time on his hands Mack was traveling the country. Before coming to Cape Breton he was observing and collecting information for another *Militant* article. The *Militant* has taken a strong stand against the government and army for their treatment of the Mohawks, said Mack.

The *Coastal Courier* caught up with Mack at the miners' relief committee food depot at St. Annes Parish Centre where he was helping the committee unload a shipment of food that had been received.

According to Mack, the *Militant* is distributed internationally and the UMWA [United Mine Workers of America] District 26 strike can be found on the front page of the September 14 issue.

In an article written by *Militant* staff writer Al Cappe, the headline reads, "Canadian coal miners on strike keep picket lines solid."

Cappe spoke with Sheldon MacNeil, UMWA District 26 board member, who is quoted as saying, "The miners felt cheated and lied to by DEVCO." Cappe gave a detailed account of the circumstances that sparked the wildcat strike and reviewed the month-long struggle the miners have had with the crown corporation.

Mack explained that UMWA miners across the United States have been watching closely the district's developments here in Cape Breton. They feel a solidarity with their

striking brothers, said Mack, and many of them are facing similar difficulties with their employers.

Other strikes addressed by the *Militant* in the September 14 issue included a legal strike by Eastern Airlines employees, members of the International Association of Machinists; a legal strike by more than 9,000 Greyhound workers in the United States; a legal strike by over 1,000 North Sea offshore oil workers, and reviews of some UMWA expiring contracts in various districts.



Striking Cape Breton miners and their supporters march to mass union meeting September 12.

Militant/Cliff Mack

New from Pathfinder in Spanish

Nelson Mandela: Intensifiquemos la lucha

Nelson Mandela: Intensify the Struggle. Ten speeches given by the leader of the African National Congress since his release from prison in February 1990, including three speeches given during Mandela's June 1990 tour of North America and the Freedom Charter. 112 pages plus 16-page photo section.

Prepublication offer until Nov. 1

\$9.95
(regular price \$12.95)

Available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12, or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Postage and handling \$1 per book.

Teams, union, campus sales will boost drive

BY RONI McCANN

Militant supporters on an international campaign to win thousands of new readers are gearing up for a target week set for October 20. They are making plans now for a special seven-day effort to reach wider numbers of working people, farmers, and youth with the socialist press.

By stepping up sales this week and mapping out an aggressive target effort, *Militant* supporters will build the momentum needed to come out of the target week with the eight-week international circulation drive on schedule. The campaign to sign up 7,800 new readers to the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, and *Lutte ouvrière* and sell hundreds of copies of *New International* and *Nouvelle Internationale* by November 17 is lagging a week behind.

Supporters' plans for a hard-hitting, international seven-day effort include special sales teams, big mobilizations on the two target Saturdays, stepped-up efforts on the job, and organized sales activities every day of the week.

The target week begins on October 20, the day nationally coordinated protest actions are planned against U.S. intervention in the Mideast. Protesters will be especially interested in the *Militant*'s weekly coverage and analysis of new developments in the Middle East.

In addition to the socialist periodicals and *New International* and *Nouvelle Internationale* magazines, supporters will be armed with a new Pathfinder pamphlet slated for publication in time for the protests. Titled *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations*, the pamphlet features speeches by Cuban President Fidel Castro and Cuba's representative to the United Nations, Ricardo Alarcón, on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and Washington's war moves. The pamphlet and a 12-week subscription to the *Militant* will be offered for \$14 during the sales campaign.

The aim of the circulation drive is to sell thousands of introductory subscriptions to

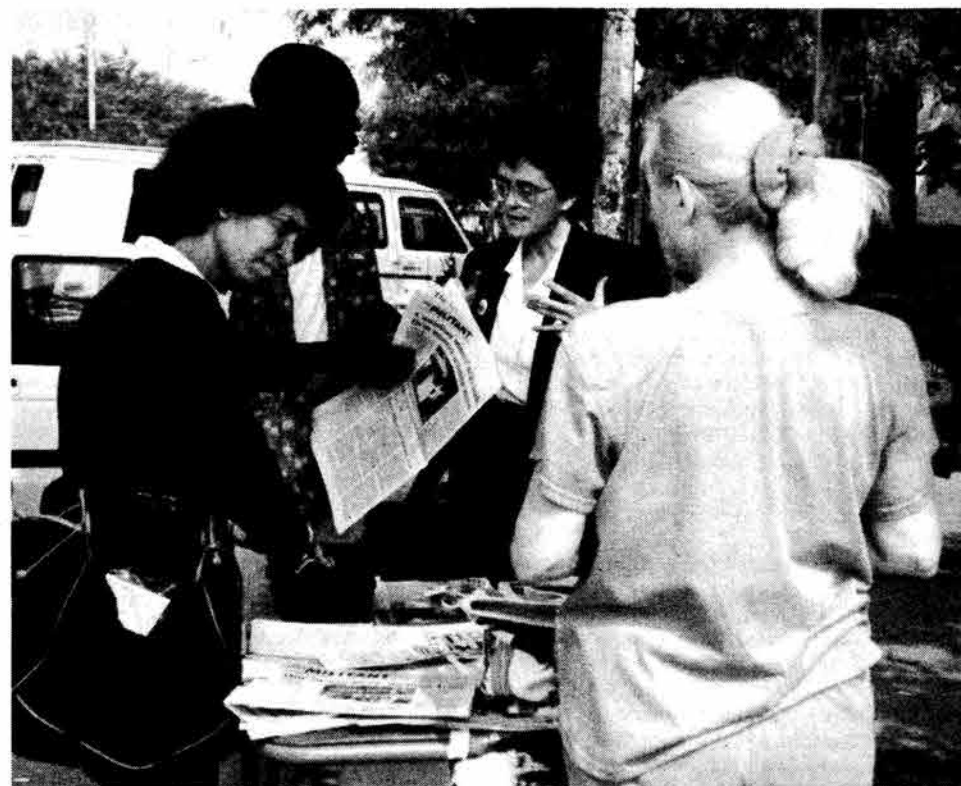
the socialist press — the first step in winning long-term readers. That is why supporters have found the best discussions during a circulation campaign are those that rapidly lead to selling a subscription.

By reading the *Militant* for 12 weeks many workers, union activists, young people, and others come to appreciate its truthful and accurate reporting on the struggles of working people around the world along with the world perspective it presents. The *Militant* is "must reading in my household and on the picket line," said one longtime Machinist active in the Eastern Airlines strike in North Carolina. "Once you start getting the *Militant* you will want to keep on getting it," he added.

Supporters in Greensboro, North Carolina, are planning to go out every day during the upcoming target week. Last Saturday they spent the day visiting Siler City and Mebane near a big poultry plant. After asking people around town where poultry workers live, one man purchased a *Perspectiva Mundial* subscription and took them to a trailer park. Six new readers were won at two parks.

At an October 6 rail workers rally in Cumberland, Maryland, 10 participants subscribed to the *Militant* and 20 more picked up copies of the paper. Supporters from Salt Lake City and Price traveled to a college campus in Pocatello, Idaho, for two days and won 15 new readers. And two rail workers from Oakland, California, and Seattle joined supporters in Vancouver, British Columbia, at a United Transportation Union Region 10 conference in Canada where nine participants signed up to get the *Militant* and two subscribed to *Lutte ouvrière*.

Two week-long sales teams to the farm worker areas of the Salinas valley in California and the Yakima Valley in Washington State hit the road last week. Six new readers were won in Washington on the first day of the team and 12 were won in California after two days.



Militant/Val Libby

Militant sales in Cincinnati. This week supporters will be mapping out plans for an international target week needed to get sales drive on schedule.

Subscription Drive SCOREBOARD

DRIVE GOALS		Total		Militant		Perspectiva Mundial		New Int'l		Lutte ouvrière	
Areas	Goal	Total Sold	% Sold	Goal	Sold	Goal	Sold	Goal	Sold	Goal	Sold
UNITED STATES											
Price, Utah	80	21	26%	55	15	13	6	10	0	2	0
Seattle	190	43	23%	115	32	48	6	25	4	2	1
Austin, Minn.	90	20	22%	60	13	18	7	10	0	2	0
Greensboro, NC	115	25	22%	85	11	13	7	15	7	2	0
San Francisco	175	38	22%	110	21	35	13	25	4	5	0
Los Angeles	400	85	21%	200	55	115	29	80	0	5	1
Salt Lake City	185	39	21%	130	29	23	2	30	7	2	1
Kansas City	125	22	18%	88	17	10	2	25	3	2	0
Morgantown, WV	155	25	16%	115	25	8	0	30	0	2	0
Birmingham, Ala.	170	26	15%	138	21	10	2	20	3	2	0
Oakland, Calif.	190	27	14%	125	19	35	8	25	0	5	0
Detroit	180	24	13%	140	20	10	0	25	2	5	2
Twin Cities, Minn.	225	30	13%	175	28	17	2	30	0	3	0
Atlanta	198	26	13%	135	13	20	7	40	5	3	1
Cleveland	160	21	13%	115	14	18	3	25	4	2	0
Miami	200	26	13%	110	19	30	5	40	0	20	2
St. Louis	205	26	13%	162	25	10	0	30	1	3	0
Chicago	280	34	12%	185	26	45	6	45	1	5	1
Brooklyn	345	39	11%	190	16	70	8	60	10	25	5
Baltimore	125	14	11%	90	12	12	2	20	0	3	0
Omaha, Neb.	120	13	11%	85	13	18	0	15	0	2	0
Pittsburgh	130	14	11%	105	13	5	1	18	0	2	0
Charleston, WV	135	13	10%	95	12	13	0	25	1	2	0
Des Moines, Iowa	180	17	9%	135	13	25	4	18	0	2	0
New York	520	49	9%	275	20	120	20	95	9	30	0
Newark, NJ	340	32	9%	180	23	60	7	70	1	30	1
Houston	145	13	9%	98	6	25	0	20	7	2	0
Boston	235	21	9%	140	14	45	7	35	0	15	0
Philadelphia	185	16	9%	115	9	38	3	30	4	2	0
Washington, DC	150	12	8%	100	7	20	5	23	0	7	0
Phoenix	95	6	6%	55	2	28	3	10	1	2	0
Cincinnati	17	6	35%	12	4	2	2	3	0	-	0
Ft. Madison, Iowa	10	2	20%	10	2	-	0	-	0	-	0
Las Vegas, Nev.	5	0	0%	5	0	-	0	-	0	-	0
Louisville, Ky.	7	0	0%	7	0	-	0	-	0	-	0
New Haven, Conn.	14	8	57%	10	6	2	2	2	0	-	0
Portland, Ore.	11	3	27%	10	3	1	0	-	0	-	0
Other U.S.	-	0	-	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0
U.S. TOTAL	6,092	836	14%	3,960	578	962	169	974	74	196	15
AUSTRALIA											
BRITAIN	50	9	18%	30	7	12	1	6	1	2	0
Cardiff	58	14	24%	40	7	2	0	15	7	1	0
London	174	24	14%	113	16	15	0	42	8	4	0
Sheffield	100	8	8%	70	8	9	0	20	0	1	0
Manchester	62	4	6%	45	3	1	1	15	0	1	0
Other Britain	-	13	-	-	6	-	1	-	6	-	0
BRITAIN TOTAL	394	63	16%	268	40	27	2	92	21	7	0
CANADA											
Vancouver*	120	31	26%	80	25	15	4	20	1	5	1
Toronto	155	31	20%	100	20	25	6	25	5	5	0
Montréal	210	40	19%	75	17	35	7	35	2	65	14
CANADA TOTAL	485	102	21%	255	62	75	17	80	8	75	15
FAEROE IS.											
FRANCE	10	3	30%	10	3	-	0	-	0	-	0
ICELAND	40	8	20%	10	0	5	0	5	0	20	8
NEW ZEALAND	43	1	2%	35	1	2	0	5	0	1	0
CHURCHILL											
Christchurch	60	19	32%	51	19	2	0	6	0	1	0
Auckland	110	17	15%	91	17	10	0	8	0	1	0
Wellington	70	6	9%	61	6	2	0	6	0	1	0
Other N. Z.	10	1	10%	9	1	1	0	-	0	-	0
N. Z. TOTAL	250	43	17%	212	43	15	0	20	0	3	0
PUERTO RICO											
SWEDEN	15	3	20%	2	0	12	3	1	0	-	0
Int'l teams	80	9	11%	43	5	25	4	10	0	2	0
Other Int'l	50	0	0%	10	0	34	0	5	0	1	0
TOTAL	7,585	1,077	14%	4,835	739	1,169	196	1,274	104	307	38
DRIVE GOALS TO BE ON SCHEDULE	7,800	1,950	25%	5,000	1,250	1,225	306	1,250	312	325	82
* Raised goal during drive											

Soviet moves a 'betrayal'

Continued from Page 9

for the vast majority of South Korea's workers and farmers.

"Washington has put in place and supported a series of dictatorial regimes in order to prevent the Korean people from rising up to put an end to the miracle turned nightmare.

"Washington, Wall Street, and the Pentagon's domination of the South has bred something new — the gravediggers of the Seoul regime and South Korean capitalism. In order to run the factories, farms, and businesses, the capitalists have fostered the growth of a large, powerful, and educated industrial working class; a massive student population; and farmers who have close links with their fellow toilers in the cities," Barnes explained.

"This has led to battles to form trade unions and farmers and student organizations, and growing demands for democratic rights and reunification.

"People in the South are sick of the U.S.-sponsored repression, nuclear-tipped missiles that can kill only Koreans — and by the tens of thousands if they are ever unleashed. And they are fed up with the trampling on their national dignity by the U.S. military and poverty, disease, and hunger.

"It is this growing pressure for something different than the capitalist exploitation, imperialist domination, and national division of the past 45 years that the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons are aimed at countering. This is what is keeping 45,000 U.S. troops in the South," Barnes said.

"Washington doesn't fear the North Korean regime. We have seen the results of massive construction efforts to build dams, factories, housing, irrigation systems, and schools. The North has been taking troops away from the border so they can help with these construction projects. Clearly a people undertaking civilian projects of this scope and effort — which are so vulnerable to massive bombing — is not interested in yet another devastating war. And Washington is well aware of this," he added.

"The U.S. rulers fear movement toward reunification of Korea because they know that it would unleash massive struggles against what capitalism has wrought, rather than the desire in the North for the robust economy of the South."

Barnes continued, "That's why the people of North Korea are not allowed to come to the United States and talk to working people. That's why Washington makes it so difficult for people from the United States to travel to North Korea. That's why Washington defends the anomaly of 'two Koreas.'

"The division of Korea is the most important and explosive unresolved national division imposed by the U.S. imperialist rulers in the aftermath of the Second World War," the SWP leader said. "The fight for a united, independent, and sovereign Korea will become a more and more weighty issue in Asia and world politics.

"We are confident that the people of North Korea will continue to be unyielding in resistance to imperialist domination, capitalist promises, and all excuses postponing the reunification of Korea; just as in our hemisphere the Cuban people have demonstrated they will not bend their knee to world capitalism and in Africa the people of South Africa have refused to accept tyranny and racism.

"Washington can't prevent growing struggles by workers, farmers, students, and patriots in the South, and it hasn't been able to force the people of the North to back down from their commitment to defend the gains won through two-thirds of a century of bloody struggle against Tokyo and Washington, and to fight for a reunified nation. And in the middle of this is Washington's massive nuclear arsenal and tens of thousands of soldiers.

"That is why it is more important than ever for the working people in the United States to learn the truth about Korea — North and South — and to learn about Koreans in Japan, the United States, and around the world, and to demand U.S. hands off Korea," Barnes concluded.

ALABAMA

Birmingham

End the Parole Moratorium. Defend Prisoners' Rights. Speakers: Georgia Fleming, Irish freedom activist whose husband was framed up on gun-running charges; Susan Battles, Gary Tyler Defense; Joan Levitt, activist in Birmingham Supporters of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee; and a representative of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. Sat., Oct. 13. Potluck dinner, 6:30 p.m.; forum, 7:30 p.m. 111 21st St. S. Donation: \$2 dinner, \$3 forum. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (205) 323-3079.

COLORADO

Denver

End the U.S. Ban on Travel to Cuba. Speakers: James Joy, executive director American Civil Liberties Union; Wilfredo Garcia, first secretary of consulate affairs, Cuban Interests Section; entertainment by Su Teatro. Sat., Oct. 20, 3 p.m. Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Theater, 20th and Washington. Donations accepted. Sponsors: American Civil Liberties Union, Hands Off Cuba Coalition. For more information call (303) 936-4425.

FLORIDA

Miami

South Africa: Challenges Facing the Freedom Struggle Today. Speakers: Rodney Thompson and Gary Spencer, Coalition for a Free South Africa. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (305) 756-1020.

Hands Off Iraq. Troops Out of the Gulf. End the Blockade. Panel discussion. Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (305) 756-1020.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Young Socialist Alliance Classes. Series on "Women: Roots of Oppression, Road to Liberation." Tues., Oct. 16, 1 p.m.; Thurs., Oct. 18, 1 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: 50 cents per class. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Support Native Peoples' Fight for Land Rights. Eyewitness report from Oka, Québec. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

MINNESOTA

Austin

Stop the Occupation of Mohawk Lands in Canada. Speaker: Sylvia Giesbrecht, Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Oct. 14, 7 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (507) 433-3461.

St. Paul

Malcolm X. Film showing. Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

NEW YORK

Brooklyn

The Battle Against AIDS. Speaker: Marty Anderson, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. Translation to Spanish and French. 464 Bergen. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (718) 398-6983.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro

Justice for Darryl Hunt and Other Political Prisoners. Speakers: Rev. Carlton Eversley and Rev. John Mendez, Darryl Hunt Defense Committee. Sat., Oct. 13, 7 p.m. 2219 E Market. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO

Cleveland

The Fight Against Art Censorship. Speakers: Valerie Libby, *Militant* reporter at Dennis Barrie trial in Cincinnati; Martha Pettit, Socialist Workers candidate for attorney general; representative Rock Out Censorship; Cherylee Wilson, Arts Network director. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (216) 861-6150.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston

What's Behind the Violence in South Africa? Speakers: James Gibbs, president United Mine Workers of America Local 2490; Jason Huber, executive chairperson Marshall Action for Peaceful Solutions; representative Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 20, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (304) 345-3040.

AUSTRALIA

Sydney

Fiji Since the Coup. Fri., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. 19 Terry St., Surry Hills. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: 02-692 0319.

BRITAIN

Cardiff

The Struggle in South Africa Today. Sat., Oct. 20, 7 p.m. 9 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0222-484677.

London

What Led to Defeat of Workers' and Farmers' Government in Nicaragua. Fri., Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. 47 The Cut, SE 1. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 71-401-2409.

Manchester

Che Guevara: Meeting to Celebrate His Life and the Relevance of His Ideas for Today. Fri., Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 061-839 1766.

Sheffield

The International Fight to Defend the National Union of Mineworkers. Speakers: representatives from NUM, Women Against Pit Closures. Fri., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. 2A Waverley House, 10 Joiner St. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0742-729469.

CANADA

Montréal

Defend the National Union of Mineworkers in Britain. Speaker: Cheryl Pruitt, recently returned from *Militant* reporting trip to Cape Breton, Canada, coal miners' strike. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Forum Lutte Ouvrière. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Vancouver

End the Blockade Against Iraq. Canada-U.S. Out of the Mideast. Speaker: Maggie Parks, Communist League Central Committee. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

Hear the socialist candidates

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco

German Unification. What Does It Mean for Working People. Speaker: Mark Weddleton, Socialist Workers candidate for Congress. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 3284 23rd St. (near Mission). Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (415) 282-6255.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Socialist Workers Campaign Rally. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Defend British Coal Miners! Speaker: Mary Zins, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Senate, member United Mine Workers of America Local 2295. Sat. Oct. 27, 7 p.m. 545 W Roosevelt Rd. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (312) 829-6815 or 829-7018.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

German Unification: Advance or Setback in the Fight for Socialism. Speaker: Mark Emanation, Socialist Workers candidate for governor. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

U.S. Out of the Mideast: Workers, Farmers, and War. Discussion with socialist candidates. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

didates. Sat., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

After the Cold War: Prospects for Socialism in the 1990s. Speaker: Don Mackle, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Senate. Translation to Spanish and French. Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey St., 2nd floor. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum/Foro Perspectiva Mundial. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Meet the Socialist Candidates. Open House after Oct. 20 "U.S. Out of the Mideast!" protest. Sat., Oct. 20, 4-7 p.m. 191 7th Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: New York Socialist Workers Campaign. Tel: (212) 675-6740.

CANADA

Montréal

Bring the Troops Home. No War for Oil Company Profits. Speaker: Communist League candidate for mayor. Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent.

Vancouver

Why U.S. Lost the Cold War. Election Campaign Open House. Speaker: Nancy Walker, Communist League candidate for mayor; other Communist League candidates. Sat., Oct. 20, 3:30 p.m. 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

New Alliance Party loses ballot suit

Continued from Page 3

being listed first on the ballot.

It was the third challenge in five weeks launched by the NAP against the rights of parties seeking to participate in the New York elections. One resulted in the Board of Elections removing the Unity Party from the ballot. A second challenge, decided after the most recent suit was filed, disqualified the United African Party.

In hearings before U.S. District Court Judge Robert J. Ward on October 5, SWP attorney, Edward Copeland of the Rabinowitz, Boudin, Standard, Krinsky, and Lieberman law firm, argued against the NAP's claims. Copeland pointed out that NAP had not provided any proof that it would be harmed by being placed on the ballot behind the SWP. He introduced court rulings which held that ballot placement based on election results are unconstitutional.

Judge Ward ruled against NAP's suit because, he said, they "failed to demonstrate irreparable harm" to their standing in the November 6 election.

"The denial of this suit is a victory to democratic rights," said Craig Gannon, the Socialist Workers candidate for governor. "Election laws in this country are saturated with rules and restrictions which give advantage to the bigger parties while, in many

cases, making it impossible for new parties to even appear on the ballot.

"Despite claims that they are defenders of democratic rights," Gannon added, "the NAP's court moves have been motivated only by partisan considerations. They have nothing in common with real efforts to make the ballot more accessible to workers, farmers, and political activists. Their attempts to restrict ballot rights should be rejected by all supporters of democratic rights."

NEW YORK

Support the Reunification of Korea!

Speakers: Seung Eun Chung, member Young Koreans United, executive member of hunger strike protest at UN; Heather Randle, national secretary Young Socialist Alliance, recently returned from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Sat., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.

191 7th Ave. Manhattan

Donation: \$3

Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum

Tel: (212) 675-6740

IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP

Where to find Pathfinder books and distributors of the *Militant*, *Perspectiva Mundial*, *New International*, *Nouvelle Internationale*, and *Lutte ouvrière*.

UNITED STATES

ALABAMA: Birmingham: 111 21st St. South. Zip: 35233. Tel: (205) 323-3079, 328-3314.

ARIZONA: Phoenix: 1809 W. Indian School Rd. Zip: 85015. Tel: (602) 279-5850.

CALIFORNIA: Los Angeles: 2546 W. Pico Blvd. Zip: 90006. Tel: (213) 380-9460. **Oakland:** 3702 Telegraph Ave. Zip: 94609. Tel: (415) 420-1165. **San Francisco:** 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 282-6255.

CONNECTICUT: New Haven: Mailing address: P.O. Box 16751, Baybrook Station, West Haven. Zip: 06516.

FLORIDA: Miami: 137 NE 54th St. Zip: 33137. Tel: (305) 756-1020. **Tallahassee:** P.O. Box 20715. Zip: 32316. Tel: (904) 877-9338.

GEORGIA: Atlanta: 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd Floor. Zip: 30303. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS: Chicago: 545 W. Roosevelt Rd. Zip: 60607. Tel: (312) 829-6815, 829-7018.

IOWA: Des Moines: 2105 Forest Ave. Zip: 50311. Tel: (515) 246-8249.

KENTUCKY: Louisville: P.O. Box 4103. Zip: 40204-4103.

MARYLAND: Baltimore: 2913 Greenmount Ave. Zip: 21218. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston: 605 Massachusetts Ave. Zip: 02118. Tel: (617) 247-6772.

MICHIGAN: Detroit: 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

MINNESOTA: Austin: 407 1/2 N. Main. Zip: 55912. Tel: (507) 433-3461. **Twin Cities:** 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI: Kansas City: 5534 Troost Ave. Zip: 64110. Tel: (816) 444-7880. **St. Louis:** 4907 Martin Luther King Dr. Zip: 63113. Tel: (314) 361-0250.

NEBRASKA: Omaha: 140 S. 40th St. Zip: 68131. Tel: (402) 553-0245.

NEW JERSEY: Newark: 141 Halsey. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK: Brooklyn: 464 Bergen St. Zip: 11217. Tel: (718) 398-6983. **New York:** 191 7th Ave. Zip: 10011. Tel: (212) 727-8421.

NORTH CAROLINA: Greensboro: 2219 E Market. Zip: 27401. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO: Cleveland: 2521 Market Ave. Zip: 44113. Tel: (216) 861-6150. **Columbus:** P.O. Box 02097. Zip: 43202.

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 Almeda. 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.: 523 8th. St. SE. Zip: 20003. Tel: (202) 547-7557.

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: 19 Terry St., Surry Hills, Sydney NSW 2010. Tel: 02-281-3297.

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. Posta 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.

Cuba faces goods shortages, rations food

BY RONI McCANN

The government of Cuba recently announced that 28 food items would be added to food-rationing lists and that restrictions would be placed on the sale of household items, clothing, and electrical appliances. The measures, which took effect September 26, attempt to minimize the impact of goods shortages in the wake of faltering deliveries from Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union.

To insure fair distribution and prevent hoarding, food items previously sold freely — such as canned meat and fish, cream cheese, and bacon — were added to the list of rationed foodstuffs. Already rationed are staples such as milk, beans, rice, and meat, according to an official government statement published in *Granma*, the newspaper of the Cuban Communist Party.

Among the 242 industrial products that have been restricted are shoes, clothes, textiles, furniture, and toys.

One month earlier the Cuban government implemented fuel rationing and energy-saving measures due to lack of oil supplies — including a 20 percent drop in fuel imports from the Soviet Union.

Because of uncertainty over future deliveries and the need to conserve energy, washing machines, radios, blenders, pressure cookers, and other electrical appliances will now be rationed. Air conditioners will not be sold at all as long as the supply problems persist.

Two days after the measures were announced, Cuban President Fidel Castro gave a speech at a ceremony in Havana marking the 30th anniversary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDRs). These neighborhood committees were formed in 1960 for vigilance against counterrevolutionary activities following the triumph of

the Cuban revolution. Throughout the years CDR members, numbering 7.5 million today, have joined in many efforts such as public health campaigns and education activities.

In his speech, reported in the U.S. government's Federal Broadcast Information Service bulletin, Castro explained the challenges facing the Cuban people today. He focused on the impact of spiraling oil prices resulting from the imperialist aggression in the Middle East, the continued unequal trade between the industrialized countries and the Third World, and the mounting economic and social crisis in the Soviet Union.

Cuba has had trade relations with the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries spanning many years, said Castro, and

Cubans will always be appreciative of that economic cooperation. But "part of that historic period has ended," he said.

"We do not know what the bases of our trade with the Soviet Union will be next year. No one knows at this time how much they are going to pay for our sugar, for our products," Castro said. "What amount of fuel are we going to receive?"

He explained Cuba has a deficit of 2 million tons of fuel supplies. This is aggravated by the Arab-Persian Gulf crisis and the steep jump in the price of oil. "Imagine if we are asked to pay the crisis price for oil, while being expected to receive the garbage-dump price for sugar, the so-called price on the world market," Castro explained that in-

creasing oil prices always widen the inequality of the prices of basic products from Third World countries.

The Cuban president said that the limitations the country is facing could become greater and "we must resist, fight, and win." The Cuban people have prepared for the possibility of a total military blockade of the country as part of their defense efforts over the years, he said. The plans and programs were for "a special period in case of war."

"The concept of a special period in peacetime has now emerged," Castro said. "We will have to undergo this trial."

Range of steps

The Cuban president described the range of steps being taken to confront the challenges, along with curtailment of electricity consumption and control of the distribution of scarce products.

In great detail he outlined projects that have been started to increase the production of sugar, rice, pork, citrus fruit, vegetables, seafood, and dairy products.

Housing for agricultural workers is being built in Havana Province by volunteer mini-brigades as part of a project to achieve self-sufficiency in fruits and vegetables. This includes reorganizing the agricultural enterprises themselves to make more efficient use of the labor force.

"Agricultural workers are being treated as least important in our society," said the Cuban president. "We owe the agricultural workers the same standard of living that members of cooperatives enjoy."

He outlined the government's plan to purchase 500,000 bicycles in addition to 200,000 recently acquired and to convert certain bus factories — which "turned out to be bankruptcy on wheels because of the amount of gasoline" spent — into bicycle factories.

Developing the tourist and pharmaceutical industries will continue to be a priority, said the Cuban leader.

To carry out these projects other measures will be taken, explained Castro. For example, no new social programs will be started, such as schools, hospitals, or day-care centers.

"Only a socialist system can face this," Castro said. "In a capitalist system having these kinds of problems, they would double or triple the prices and that would be it," he said. "Two thirds of the 15,000 Havana city bus employees would be fired" and "the workers, the poorer people would be harmed."

Castro declared the Cuban people could face the challenges together. "Ours is a small country that does not produce important hydrocarbons," he said, "but we have our intelligence, the intelligence that has developed the revolution throughout these years. We have developed abilities."

"Our moral values and revolutionary principles helped us send over 300,000 internationalist combatants" to countries the world over. "This country is now required... to conduct an extraordinary internationalist mission: to save the Cuban revolution, to save socialism in Cuba."



Vegetable stand in Havana in 1982

Militant/Michael Baumann

Rallies defend British coal miners union

Continued from front page

pay off home loans. Then it was alleged that more than £1 million (£1=US\$1.95) donated by Soviet miners to the NUM during the strike had been diverted to the International Miners' Organisation of which Scargill is president.

The NUM hired a leading lawyer, Gavin Lightman, to conduct an inquiry into the charges. Lightman's report found that there was no truth to the allegations that Scargill and Heathfield had taken funds. However, Lightman did criticize the NUM leaders for measures they took to protect the union from government moves to cripple its functioning during the strike. The Report is to be discussed at a special two-day NUM conference October 10 and 11. On the second day NUM delegates will decide what action the union will take to back up demands for a £50 per week wage increase.

"The Lightman Report was written by a man who's made a judgment as a lawyer, but this is something that can only be judged by someone who is a worker and a trade unionist," stated Tower colliery NUM Secretary Tyrone O'Sullivan. Addressing the Maesteg meeting from the floor, he said, "I'm totally convinced that at the national conference you, Peter, and you, Arthur, will be totally cleared of all charges."

BY DEBORAH LIATOS

NEW YORK — A September 29 meeting of some 100 unionists and other activists was held here in defense of the British National

Union of Mineworkers. The meeting, sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum, featured an international panel of speakers and sent a message of solidarity to the NUM and its leaders.

"We pledge to do the utmost to get out the truth about your important fight and win support for your defense. Drop all the charges! Defend the NUM and IMO [International Miners' Organisation]!" read the message, which was sent to NUM President Arthur Scargill and General Secretary Peter Heathfield.

Ruth Howells, a member of Women Against Pit Closures and the General and Municipal Workers Union in Sheffield, England, said the slander campaign and the government charges against the two union leaders "are part of the whole attack by the government to prepare for a bigger onslaught against the coal miners as well as other workers in Britain. Coal miners are under particular attack because miners have led, and will continue to lead, the fight against the attacks that accompany the deepening economic crisis."

Howells said Women Against Pit Closures is "an organization of women that stood and fought with the miners during the 1984-85 strike. It is one of the central organizations in defense of Scargill, Heathfield, and the NUM."

Mary Zins, an underground coal miner and member of the United Mine Workers of America, explained the support won for the defense of the NUM at the UMWA's recent

convention in Miami.

A member of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union from Canada, Beverly Bernardo, also spoke. She had recently returned from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where members of the UMWA in Canada went on strike to defend their union. Nancy Brown, a Machinist on strike at Eastern Airlines, explained the victories won in the fight at Eastern and the continued struggle for a contract and jobs.

"In Britain the miners identify with the struggles of workers in the U.S.," read a message to the meeting from Heathfield. "We recognize the support we got from miners and other trade unionists in the U.S. during the 1984-85 strike. Just as the miners of Pittston were attacked last year, so too the miners in Britain have continued to be attacked. This latest attack is designed to remove the leadership of the NUM. We are standing firm. We will continue to fight and maintain our union, the NUM."

— 10 AND 25 YEARS AGO —

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEDLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

60 CENTS

Oct. 17, 1980

One factor in Iran's ability to stall the Iraqi invasion has been the support of the Arab nationality that makes up the majority of the population in Khuzistan province, where most of the fighting is going on.

U.S. "intelligence" agencies foresaw that the Arab and Kurdish minorities would use the occasion of an Iraqi invasion to strike against the Tehran government since the dominant nationality in Iraq is Arab. But the uprising never got off the printed page. And efforts to concoct it faded as the war continued.

The Arab population of Khuzistan has been in the forefront of the fighting that has bogged down Iraqi forces.

The Kurdish people, who were close to full scale war with the Tehran government at times in recent months because of government attempts to block demands for autonomy, appear to be centering their fire on the Iraqi regime.

The "experts" underestimated both the Iranian revolution and the determination of

the oppressed nationalities to defend what they have gained through revolution.

THE MILITANT

Published in the Interests of the Working People

Oct. 18, 1965

Price 10c

As presidential nominee of the Socialist Workers Party in 1964 and its candidate for Mayor of New York this November, I [Clifton DeBerry] feel obligated to make my views on the war in Vietnam perfectly plain.

I believe the U.S. intervention in Vietnam is one of the most shameful episodes in our nation's history. This undeclared and illegal war disgraces the people of the United States in the eyes of the rest of the world and is utterly alien to the principles of democracy and our best revolutionary traditions. It should be stopped without further delay.

This government is not telling the truth. U.S. soldiers are not being sent across the Pacific to bring the blessings of freedom and democracy to Vietnam, as they are told. That is a hoax.



"Cuba Will Never Adopt Capitalist Methods"

Excerpts from
Fidel Castro's
July 26, 1988 speech
32 pp. pamphlet, \$2.50

Order from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Please include \$1 for postage and handling.

Condemn Israel's brutality

The savage massacre of 21 unarmed Palestinians by Israeli soldiers at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem brings to the world's attention, once again, the decades-long struggle of the Palestinian people. It exposes the double standard applied by the imperialists when the rights of the Palestinian people conflict with the interests of imperialism. Washington and its allies will do nothing to uphold the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination despite their hypocritical pronouncements in support of the same goal for oil-rich Kuwait. The reality is clear: the massive U.S. government reaction to the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the timid response to Israeli atrocities.

The U.S. government has attempted to shove the Arab-Israeli conflict into the background while it mounts its war drive in the Arab-Persian Gulf. But the Palestinians continue to fight. And Israel, emboldened by the massive presence of imperialist forces in the region, responds as it always has: with brutality. For Israel the massacre was more or less business as usual. Since the beginning of the sustained Palestinian rebellion, or *intifada*, 33 months ago, Israeli forces have killed over 900 Palestinians.

The colonial-settler regime of Israel was founded in blood and war against the Palestinian people, driving them from their land in 1948 through massacre after massacre. Israel has waged successive wars of expansion against the Arab peoples since then — seizing the Golan Heights, the West

Bank and the Gaza Strip, and it continues to occupy southern Lebanon. Israeli dominance in the region is maintained by force made possible through massive material aid received from imperialist countries. The U.S. government alone provides some \$5 billion annually to Israel.

Israel's support from the world's imperialist nations flows from its strategic position in the region, which allows it to play the role of junior imperialist cop against the desires of the Arab masses for self-determination. At times other imperialist powers find it expedient to back away from some of Israel's more barbaric acts — such as this one — but their basic support remains.

From the beginning of its massive war drive in the Gulf, the U.S. government has attempted to persuade its ally to keep a "low profile" in the conflict, making it easier for the capitalist and landlord regimes in the region to support Washington's military buildup and to promote the fiction that this invasion stems from progressive aims on the part of the imperialist powers. The massacre makes this lie more difficult to maintain.

Workers and farmers throughout the world should condemn the brutal action of the Israeli regime and support the struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination. We should support the upcoming October 20 demonstration which demands, "Bring the troops home!" and "No war for oil company profits!"

Support Canadian steelworkers

The 10-week strike of 16,000 steelworkers at the Steel Co. of Canada (Stelco) and Algoma Steel Corp. in Canada deserves the support of working people and their unions throughout North America and worldwide. The two strikes against the bosses' concession demands and attempts to weaken the workers' union — the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) — have closed down 54 percent of Canada's basic steel production. This constitutes the strongest strike action by steelworkers in North America in many years.

These strike battles follow more than a decade of attacks by the steel companies on wages, working conditions, and union rights, as the bosses have driven to become more competitive by producing more steel with fewer workers.

During that period the USWA has given major concessions leading to lower wages, two-tier wage structures, and speedup, in the hope of saving jobs or staving off further attacks. However, as the experience of the 1980s has shown, concessions merely whet the bosses' appetites and undermines the unions' capacity to defend workers' interests, including the potential to conduct a united labor battle to fight for jobs for all.

In the face of deepening international competition, the Canadian steel bosses are driving hard to increase their competitive position at the expense of the work force. This is the context in which Stelco is pressing to reduce the cost-of-living allowance and Algoma is pushing to contract out union jobs. Stelco is also trying to break up chain bargaining among the union locals in its nine plants in Ontario, Québec, and Alberta.

Stelco's failure to break the chain in a six-month-long strike in 1981 put the workers in a stronger position to resist

the current concession demands. In addition, growing unity between Stelco and Algoma strikers and the support of nonunion steelworkers at Dofasco, Algoma's parent company, strengthens the fight.

About 50 workers have been arrested in the two strikes for their efforts to block company shipments, including for breaking court-imposed antipicketing injunctions.

Stelco's efforts to use its steel stockpiles to break the strike has led to increasingly sharp confrontations on picket lines with scabs and cops, and has revealed the extent to which the courts and cops serve the interests of the bosses, not those of working people.

The banner carried on the Labour Day parade in Hamilton, Ontario, which read "Police and courts — hands off Stelco strike," points to one of the central demands unionists should make in coming to the aid of the strike. In addition, all charges against the arrested strikers must be dropped.

Building solidarity with these two strikes is important not only for steelworkers throughout North America and internationally, but for all working people. Its outcome will have important consequences for all workers faced with the bosses' concession demands and union-busting efforts.

The strong support for the strike from delegates to the international convention of the USWA held in Toronto August 27–31 points the way forward. Delegates marched to Stelco corporate headquarters. In addition, steelworkers from Local 1010 in Chicago invited strikers to their Labor Day picnic to show their support.

By unions actively stepping up such acts of solidarity, and by joining together with other labor battles around the world, such as the 19-month strike against Eastern Airlines, the steelworkers' strikes can be strengthened.

A victory for democratic rights

The "not guilty" verdict rendered October 5 by a jury in the trial against the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center and its director, Dennis Barrie, is a big victory for democratic rights and for working people.

Barrie and the center were charged under "obscenity laws" for an exhibition of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe. The exhibition included 175 photos, including studies of human figures, pictures of calla lilies, nude children, and homosexual and sadomasochistic images.

When a campaign by city authorities to prevent the exhibition failed to intimidate Barrie, cops swept into the gallery April 7 with a search warrant. They cleared the crowd, videotaped the exhibition, and presented Barrie with grand jury indictments.

Barrie and the center, however, fought back and won support across the United States from artists and art institutions and defenders of democratic rights and civil liberties. Hundreds protested in the streets of Cincinnati against the censorship attack. The response was a sign of the support that can be mobilized to successfully defend democratic rights, when a fight is waged.

This censorship attempt is just a part of the wider drive against freedom of expression and democratic rights in the United States. Recently a record store owner in Florida was convicted on obscenity charges after refusing to stop selling an album by the 2 Live Crew rap band. The record was ruled obscene by a federal judge. The band itself will soon

face trial on obscenity charges in Miami.

Headway made by censorship advocates is also reflected in the self-censorship now being practiced by the government-funded National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA recently decided not to fund some artists who have refused to sign an agreement that the artists say amounts to an antiobscenity loyalty oath.

Congress is now considering rewriting NEA legislation to give the courts the power to decide what is pornographic and what is art. Under the proposed legislation, an artist found guilty of obscenity would have to return grant money to the NEA and would be prohibited from receiving new funds for three years.

Some proponents of censorship, revealing their contempt for working people, faulted the Cincinnati jury's working-class composition for the "not guilty" verdict in the Barrie case. An October 10 article in the *New York Times*, which poses as a defender of democratic rights, even expressed surprise at the verdict because the jurors were "lifelong working-class Cincinnatians who were not regular museumgoers" with an "admitted lack of exposure to art."

The jury's verdict, however, reflected some working-class wisdom. Freedom of speech and expression, the right of free association, and other civil liberties — and the political space to exercise them — are essential for working people to be able to discuss, organize, and fight to defend our unions, living standards, and constitutional rights to day.

What is 'independent' political action?

BY DOUG JENNESS

In spite of President Bush's declarations about defending Kuwait's sovereign rights, most working people recognize that the war Washington is preparing in the Middle East is in the interests of Big Oil. The oil monopolies, and the banking interests with which they are extensively connected, will benefit most from the U. S. government's greater military and political role in the region.

Working people in the Middle East and the United States are bearing the cost of the military mobilization and will suffer from the horrible slaughter that is being prepared. And it's the toilers in the debt-burdened Third World countries who are the most severely hit by the economic consequences of Washington's actions in the oil-rich Arab-Persian Gulf area.

Seldom has it been more transparent that the foreign policy of the U.S. government doesn't defend "national"

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

interests, as State Department propagandists claim, but promotes the interests of a tiny class of big businessmen and bankers. Clearly, working people need our own foreign policy — one that ends U.S. military aggression and bullying of other countries, eliminates use of working-class and farm youth as cannon fodder, and helps deepen solidarity with working people throughout the world.

At the same time that they prepare for war, Capitol Hill and the White House have joined forces to impose heavier taxes on working people, as well as cuts in federally funded social services. All this is under the guise of trying to reduce the government's large debt and its budget deficit.

Moreover, in recent experiences on the picket line, workers are running up against government intervention backing the employers. This has been shown in struggles of coal miners and the Machinists' strike against Eastern Airlines. When Eastern's big business creditors, for example, lost confidence in Frank Lorenzo's ability to safeguard their interests, the government intervened through court action to place Martin Shugrue as trustee over Eastern's operations.

These developments and others are stirring a layer of workers to begin thinking about and discussing the need to have our own foreign and domestic policies and a political way to fight for them. In this context, Socialist Workers Party candidates across the country are raising the proposal that fighting workers take the lead in forming a labor party. Such a formation, the socialist candidates say, is badly needed to unite workers from many industries throughout the country together in an effective fight for our interests.

In the 1990 elections a few other candidates are talking about "independent" political action. Among them are members of the Nation of Islam running for office in Washington, D.C.; the Unity Party and the United African Party in New York; Bernard Sanders for Congress in Vermont; and other local officeholders.

None of them, however, are helping to advance a fight for working people to chart their own independent road. "Independent political action" in general — that is, political action empty of any working-class perspective — is an obstacle to this course.

This abstract "independence" isn't without class content, however. Many middle-class and capitalist parties and candidates project their efforts as "independent" or as "people's" tickets when workers and farmers begin to express discontent with dominant capitalist political formations like the Democratic and Republican parties. Abstract formulas like these usually serve to camouflage blocs, tickets, and parties designed to draw working people into uniting with class forces, especially "progressive" capitalist politicians, who have very different interests from ours.

To run an "independent Black" campaign, as the Nation of Islam candidates are doing, doesn't avoid this problem. There's nothing inherently progressive about candidates who are Black. This, too, is an abstraction behind which very different class interests can be operating.

The Nation of Islam's candidates, for example, who had originally filed as Democrats, are orienting to and are based primarily on middle-class layers, rather than to working people and their struggles, including workers who are Black. And this is in the context of deepening class differentiations within the part of the U.S. population that is Black.

The fact that Sanders also presents himself as a "socialist" as well as an independent, doesn't change one bit the roadblock he represents to independent working-class politics and the struggle for a labor party. He's a middle-class radical who isn't based in the working-class movement and doesn't speak to its interests.

Sanders, who served as mayor of Burlington for several years, sees the "welfare state" capitalism of Sweden as his model. But as the capitalist crisis deepens in that country, many workers are awakening to the realization that collaboration with the employing class and lots of reforms have not brought permanent security or prosperity. Swedish imperialism is not the road forward for working people in the United States or anywhere else. Nor are middle-class "independent" campaigns. We need our own movement that puts no interests ahead of those of working people.

—THE GREAT SOCIETY—

Good to be back — With this column we're aiming toward the reasonably regular reappearance of the "Great Society." (We're recuper-



Harry Ring

ating from an encounter with a bug.) Our thanks to the many contributors who continued to send clippings

even while the column was not appearing. We'll try to use as many of them as we can.

Photo op — "We need a force that is militarily worthwhile, self-sufficient, and looks good on television." — British government spokesperson on intervention in Middle East.

Greyhound, anyone? — Jennifer Bressoud takes the Greyhound twice a week from Sacramento to Mountain View, California. Now, most often, she has to sit behind the scab driver and direct him how to

get there. She's been blind since she was two.

And arks — Thomas Schelling, a Harvard economics prof, suggests it would cost trillions to curb global warming and this might be better spent on dikes, irrigation, and air conditioning.

Operation Free World — We received a sheaf of clippings on the decision by Phillip Morris and R.J. Reynolds to airlift 34 billion coffin nails to the USSR to help curb protests against cigarette shortages there. And, as a primer in Free World

principles, payment will be in hard currency (\$\$\$\$), plus some barter items.

Kids don't guard investments — "Every child in the world could be immunized against six fatal diseases — tuberculosis, diphtheria, polio, measles, pertussis, and tetanus — for the price of one Trident submarine (\$1.28 billion)." — *Women's Day*

Might clog their arteries — In Orange County, California, a theater vetoed a production of "Romeo and Juliet" in which the lead couple

would have been interracial. A board member said the theater's patrons were predominantly older and "would not easily accept a mixed relationship in the play."

First we bill all the lawyers — "A rise in the number of lawyers who steal from their clients has forced the state to severely discipline three times as many attorneys this year as last." — Cape Cod, Massachusetts, *Times*

Preferably wide ones — "We're no longer competing for men's minds. Just their seats." — Aeroflot ad in U.S. travel agent's magazine

—LETTERS—

Young socialists

The Young Socialist Alliance held a forum on the U.S. war drive in the Arab East at the University of Louisville on September 18.

During the discussion, a member of the Progressive Students League and Rainbow Coalition raised the idea that people should support a United Nations solution to the conflict. A vigil called here lists this as a demand.

Could the *Militant* go into the history of the UN, which was founded by imperialism after World War II, and its role in defending imperialist interests? I don't think it is good for those that oppose U.S. policy to rely on the UN.

Bronson Rozier
Louisville, Kentucky

Shameful attack

The shameful attack by the army and police on the Mohawks at Oka, Québec, has clearly shown that the Canadian ruling class will use any means, no matter how brutal, to crush the democratic demands for self-determination, be it of the Indian people or the Québécois nation.

The parallel between the army occupation of Indian territory at Kahnawake and Kanesatake and the occupation of Québec during the October crisis is striking. Basic rights were abrogated — freedom of the press at Oka, and the imposition of the War Measures Act, which took away the rights of all Canadians during the crisis.

These actions were intended to teach working people that demands that threaten the power of the rulers will not be tolerated.

But Oka has shown just how vulnerable that power really is. The Mohawks appealed for and got support of non-Natives nationally and internationally. Hopefully the next phase of the Indian struggle will find stronger support from organized labor, women's groups, and oppressed minorities in Canada and worldwide.

Bea Bryant
Blenheim, Ontario

Iraq correction

Enclosed is a check to renew our subscription for a year.

I particularly appreciated the article on Iraq by Selva Nebbia and Doug Jenness in the September 28 issue. The *Militant*, of course, always had the main political points of opposition to imperialist inter-

vention and support to the Arab revolution correct. The correction on the nature of the Iraqi government and the invasion of Kuwait was important, however.

I work in a war plant organized by the International Association of Machinists. There is a small but important group of workers who oppose the U.S. war moves. Most of them, I think, would agree with the reader's letter you quoted. In discussions over the past weeks, I found it was possible to have discussions that led many of them to support the Arab revolution in a more general way than even before the invasion, but they would not accept the invasion as a good thing.

I mention this because I think your correction indicates more than an ability to intellectually deduce a correct position while sitting in an editorial office.

It seems to me this shows the *Militant* and the Socialist Workers Party are still dynamic, revolutionary forces that pay attention to events and pay attention to workers, and respond.

Thank you.
Jim Burfeind
Berkeley, California

Palestine

A brief report on the national convention of the Palestine Solidarity Committee in the September 28 *Militant* contains an inaccuracy. Zuhdi Terzi, the permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Ribhi Aruri, a West Bank journalist, did not address the banquet, but participated on panels during the convention sessions. The featured speakers at the banquet were Edward Said, a member of the Palestine National Council, and Alexander Cockburn, a columnist.

Mehdi Assar
New York, New York

Battle stars

Wearing the "No contract, no peace" button when you're traveling by air teaches you how much support there is for the Eastern Airlines strike among other airline workers. This was brought home to me recently aboard the United Airlines shuttle between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

On the way to Los Angeles, the flight attendant asked if I was with Eastern. I said, "No. I'm a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, but I walk the



picket line every week at the San Francisco airport."

She then proudly told me that the United pilots had been wearing battle stars on their uniforms from their 1985 strike. Now the airline has hired a number of Eastern pilots who had not gone back to Eastern after their organization ended its sympathy strike against the airline in November 1989. The UAL pilots gave them battle stars as well.

On the way home, a young UAL ticket agent expressed surprise after seeing my button. "You mean they're still on strike?" she asked.

When I pointed out they had already won a big victory getting rid of union-buster Frank Lorenzo, she said, "That's just what I was going to say." She had worked for Continental Airlines and hated Lorenzo for busting the unions there.

Margaret Jayko
Oakland, California

Missed issues

I have been a subscriber to the *Militant* (thanks to a friend on the outside) for over one year now. During this time I have not had any problem receiving my weekly issues, until recently. For some reason I did not receive either the August 17 or August 31 issue of the paper.

Generally, due to numerous court decisions in favor of prisoners, the California prison system respects First Amendment rights dealing with receiving and reading any and all political material. Therefore, I

am at quite a loss as to why I did not receive the two issues in question. I would appreciate it if you would send me these issues.

A prisoner
Represa, California

Editor's note: Due to a break in our publication schedule, the *Militant* did not publish an August 17 issue.

Environment

As a Marxist environmentalist, I strongly agree with the main points in Doug Jenness's August 24 column, "Capitalism saps both nature and labor." I think he goes too far, though, in blaming nearly all our society's environmental problems on capitalists. They are guilty as sin. But does that mean there's nothing the rest of us can do about ecological problems pending a revolution? I don't think so.

Jenness notes that workers and farmers in this society are mostly "wage slaves" and "debt slaves" with little decision-making power over the economy. That means we're not to blame for environmental problems, he argues; and this is mostly right. At the same time, though, there is nothing in Marxist and socialist theory that says ordinary people are helpless.

Working-class Americans demonstrate their power, even in this unjust and alienated system, every time we hold a successful strike or union organizing drive, every time we win a limited victory for Black

rights or the rights of women, every time we hold a successful demonstration against war in the Middle East or Central America.

Given the grave threat that capitalist technology poses to natural ecosystems that are the material basis for all human civilization, we need to use this same history-making power to fight for even small environmental changes on the farm, in the factories, in the supermarkets, and in our homes.

John Andrews
Washington, D.C.

Most informative

I would like to be placed on the list to receive each issue of the *Militant*.

I have two brothers who have been sent to Saudi Arabia, and I wish to send them articles. Of all the discarded newspapers I managed to scrape together in my cell, the *Militant* was the most informative.

I would like to continue being informed of the truth.

A prisoner
Amarillo, Texas

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.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION

(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

- 1A. Title of publication: The Militant. 1B. Publication No. 349040.
2. Date of filing: Sept. 25, 1990.
3. Frequency of issue: Published weekly except the last two weeks of December. A. No. of issues published annually: 50. B. Annual subscription price: \$45.00.
4. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014.
5. Complete mailing address of the headquarters of general business offices of the publisher: 408 Printing & Publishing Corporation, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014.
6. Full names and complete mailing addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor. Publisher: 408 Printing & Publishing Corporation, 410 West Street,

- New York, N.Y. 10014. Editor: Doug Jenness, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. Managing editor: none.
7. Owner (if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual, must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.): 408 Printing & Publishing Corporation, 410 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014. Stockholders: Jack Barnes, 406 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; G. Craig Gannon, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; Mary-Alice Waters, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; 406 West St. Realty, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.
8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total

- amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: Anchor Foundation, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; Jack Barnes, 406 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; G. Craig Gannon, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014; Mary-Alice Waters, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.
9. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (DMM Section 423.12 only): Does not apply.
10. Extent and nature of circulation. Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months. A. Total no. copies (net press run): 12,558. B. Paid and/or requested circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, and counter sales: 4,917. (2) Mail subscription: 5,225. C. Total paid and/or requested circulation (sum of 10B1 and 10B2): 10,142. D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies: 422. E. Total distribution (sum of C and D): 10,564. F. Copies not distributed: (1) Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: 1,984. (2) Return from news

- agents: 10. G. Total (sum of E, F1 and 2 — should equal net press run shown in A): 12,558.
- Actual no. copies of issue published nearest to filing date. A. Total no. copies (net press run): 11,200. B. Paid and/or requested circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, and counter sales: 5,412. (2) Mail subscription: 3,313. C. Total paid and/or requested circulation (sum of 10B1 and 10B2): 8,725. D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies: 399. E. Total distribution (sum of C and D): 9,124. F. Copies not distributed: (1) Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: 2,067. (2) Return from news agents: 9. G. Total (sum of E, F1 and 2 — should equal net press run shown in A): 11,200.
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
(signed)
Janet Post
Business Manager

Steel strikers keep Stelco closed

BY BRIGITTE GROUX

TORONTO — Some 600 members of the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) on strike against the Steel Co. of Canada (Stelco) successfully stopped trucks trying to enter the Greening Donald warehouse in Hamilton, Ontario.

About 4,000 strikers had been attending a mass union meeting at Hamilton's Ivor Wynn stadium September 28 when news of the truck movements were announced.

"They were trying to sneak trucks through while we were at the meeting," explained Ed Sutherland, vice-president of USWA Local 1005 in Hamilton. Hundreds of strikers rushed from the rally to block the steel shipments.

Members of a motorcycle gang had been hired as truck drivers because Teamsters union members refused to move the steel. Brief clashes broke out as the truck drivers tried to pick up the steel.

Since the beginning of the strike, members of Local 1005 have organized secondary pickets of warehouse and storage yards where Stelco had stockpiled \$900 million worth of steel prior to the strike.

The membership meeting took place the day after the union had left the bargaining table. Stelco had refused to put forward a



Striking steelworkers set up a tent on rail line leading into Stelco plant in Edmonton, Alberta.

comprehensive economic proposal and company negotiators "have just been scamming us for five weeks," said USWA official John Martin. He explained that the company had not included details of the cost-of-living for-

mula it proposes to implement. Full cost-of-living protection is one of the main issues in the strike.

In a pledge to stop Stelco from getting steel out of company warehouses and plants,

Martin announced picket lines would double and that the union will defend any strikers arrested or otherwise victimized during picketing.

"I don't want to be on strike any more than the next guy, but that's what it's going to take to win," said one of the strikers after the meeting.

Rail workers hold rally in Maryland

BY JOHN COX

CUMBERLAND, Maryland — "There will be no scabs on the railroad. Rail unions are going to stick together," Dan Anderson, general chairman of the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers at Norfolk Southern, told a crowd of some 250 rail workers and supporters here October 6. The rally was called by seven unions at the CSX railroad to protest subcontracting of maintenance and repair work and to demand a contract.

Workers at CSX, as well as workers at Norfolk Southern, Amtrak, and several other freight and passenger carriers, have been working under an expired contract since the spring of 1988.

Although rail workers have been kept in the dark about the contract negotiations currently underway, indications are that the companies are demanding the unions agree to reductions of train crews to only an engineer and conductor, increasing the work load, and decreasing safety. The last contract en-

abled the companies for the first time to run with a three-person crew — an engineer, conductor and brakeman. CSX is already running some trains with crews of two, in violation of the old contract. Each crew member is paid an additional "reduced crew allowance" to compensate for not having a second brakeman.

A leaflet distributed at the rally by the seven rail unions states, "while numbers of CSX workers are laid off, CSX is sending work that has been performed in their own locomotive shops for over 50 years to vendors in California, Illinois, Idaho, and other states far away from our community and our local economy. Their latest excuse for sending this work away is their shop is overcrowded and working at capacity. The truth is they have closed many local shops."

Several speakers at the rally talked about CSX's increasing harassment of workers who are injured on the job. CSX routinely suspends workers for five days for on-the-job injuries under the pretext of a violation of

work rules. As a result, some workers continue working while injured, fearing victimization.

The company has also stepped up using disciplinary measures against workers for minor rule violations. Company spies, sometimes equipped with binoculars, watch crews from a distance. A worker can get 30 days off for stepping on a rail.

Anderson recounted several recent examples of the growing resistance among rail workers to the deepening attacks on their rights and working conditions. Electricians at the B&O railroad and maintenance workers at the L&N have had work stoppages in Virginia and Maryland and "no scabs went in" in either case, Anderson reported. Some 2,500 railroad workers rallied in Conoba, West Virginia, in August protesting company attacks.

"I guess they thought labor was dead. During the '80s we took a few blows, and I guess we got sleepy, but we're fighting back in the '90s," Anderson said to loud applause. "We're in a war in this country — a class war. Our class against theirs, the rich against the workers. We're going to take on the Lorenzos, the Curreys, and the Fred Taylors," Anderson continued, referring to the ousted head of Eastern Airlines, the president of Greyhound, and a local official of CSX.

Striking Eastern workers from Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C., traveled to Cumberland to support the rail unions. Nancy Brown, a striking Machinist at Washington National Airport, addressed the rally. "We're fighting the same enemy," Brown said. "We've also learned that we have a lot of friends, but not in the courts and not in the government."

Brown mentioned the role that rail workers played in a rally at Roanoke airport last month when Eastern started flights out of Roanoke for the first time since the strike began. "We had more than triple the number of people on the picket line as the number of passengers on each of the two flights that day," Brown said. She added that it was the broad labor solidarity for the striking Machinists that brought Lorenzo down. "It's not just the 8,000 Machinists who have defeated Lorenzo, it's all of our brothers and sisters" in the union movement. She concluded by urging those in attendance to participate in an upcoming rally at the Roanoke airport.

John Cox is a railroad brakeman and a member of United Transportation Union Local 769 at Norfolk Southern.

missed due to on-the-job injuries.

Jerry Helmick, Local 576's business representative, pointed out to the local media that workers compensation injuries are common in the meatpacking industry. "People are constantly hurt," he said. "If you look around this line right here, you're going to see people that have just been operated on, and everything else."

Wilson Foods Corp. was purchased by Doscocil Companies Inc. in 1988. Since then, they've been trying to sell Wilson and on March 5 of this year, Doscocil declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy. In June, 500 workers were laid-off, closing down the kill line. Since the strike began, the company has sent certified letters to the laid-off employees, trying to lure them into scabbing. The union reports that virtually no union members have crossed the line. A skeleton crew of management personnel is operating several production lines in the plant. At United Refrigeration, a trucking company that's attached to the Wilson plant, members of the Teamsters have vowed to honor the UFCW picket line.

Gary Stonelake and K.C. Ellis are both members of UFCW Local 576.

650 packinghouse workers walk out against Wilson's takeback demands

BY GARY STONELAKE AND K.C. ELLIS

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — After 18 months working under an expired contract, 650 members of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 576 went out on strike September 22, against Wilson Foods Corp. in Marshall, Missouri.

The 367-6 strike vote came after the company refused to negotiate and posted a notice in the plant declaring that the company's final proposal would go into effect the following week. The union had proposed a wage freeze and retention of current benefits. "It's time that either we take a stand or we don't," said Ray Arnett, a union steward at the hog-slaughtering plant.

The company's proposal included cutting the base wage from \$9.24 an hour to \$7.50 and the new-hire rate from \$7.50 to \$6.00. Deep cuts in health insurance, resulting in a higher deductible and less coverage were also demanded.

In addition, the company was seeking a stringent attendance policy that would lead to the termination of any employee who missed 25 days in a year, including days

No steel moved

No steel has been moved in the last several weeks at any of the warehouses.

On October 5, 34 strikers were arrested at the Stoney Creek warehouse for blocking trucks loaded with steel. "We all just sat there refusing to move," explained Eric Butt, one of the strikers arrested. "We had to do what we had to do. The courts forced this action upon us," he said.

The arrests took place despite a ruling by the Ontario Court of Justice setting aside two lower-court orders allowing sheriffs to escort trucks from the warehouse.

The Court of Justice ruling explained that "the pickets were merely expressing their constitutionally entrenched right to freedom of expression." Stelco is now facing the loss of major orders from General Motors and other customers because of the strike.

The Stelco strike involves 10,000 workers at 8 plants in Ontario, Québec, and Alberta. Six thousand steelworkers are also on strike against Algoma Steel Corp. in Northern Ontario. The two strikes have shut down 54 percent of all steel production in Canada.

In a phone interview, Doug Watt, vice-president of USWA Local 2251 at Algoma, explained that a bus with 40 strikers will go to Hamilton October 9 to seek financial help from nonunion employees of Algoma's parent company, Dofasco, the largest steel company in Canada.

At the end of September, Dofasco workers donated \$34,500 to Stelco strikers during a two-day collection at the plant gate. The Dofasco steel mill is the largest nonunion plant in the country.

While they are in Hamilton, Algoma strikers plan to participate in Stelco picket lines.

In addition to these two strikes, 611 members of USWA Local 7580 have been on strike against Placer Dome mining company in northern Ontario since May 7. Bill Crockett, president of the local explained that the "company is trying to starve workers out, so they would have to accept concessions."

The strikers have sent letters to other USWA locals asking for financial help. Some 12 locals in the United States have already made contributions, as well as several locals in Canada.

Several thousand members of the USWA are also on strike across the country, including 400 at Distex in Montreal and 1,100 at Brunswick Mining and Smelting in New Brunswick.

Brigitte Groulx is member of USWA Local 8496 in Mississauga, Ontario.