

No blood for oil! Stop the bombing now!

Opening guns of World War III

The following statement by the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party was released January 22 by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes.

In the few days since Washington launched the most intensive bombing assault in the history of warfare, the horrible realities to which hundreds of millions of people closed their eyes for months have become increasingly and brutally apparent.

- The war launched with bipartisan support by the U.S. government will not be short; it will be long.

- It will not be an air war; it will be a bloody ground war.

- It will not be a limited war; it will be a total war, like other mass slaughters of the modern era from the U.S. Civil War through World Wars I and II.

- It will not be a war limited in its aims, allegedly to "liberate Kuwait."

The goal of the U.S. capitalist rulers remains what it has been throughout the escalation of their war drive since early fall: a devastating military defeat of Iraq and the imposition of a de facto U.S. protectorate in Baghdad.

Beginning with thousands of bombing
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Thousands march on January 19

BY SETH GALINSKY

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Some 25,000 people protested here on January 19 in the first national march against the U.S. government's war on the Iraqi people. "Bring the troops home"; "This is poor men's blood for rich men's gain"; and "No blood for oil!" were among the signs and chants.

The march and rally was sponsored by the National Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East.

The largest number of participants came from the New York City area and from Washington, D.C.

Large numbers of spirited high school and college students joined the action. A significant percentage of participants were Black or Latino.

Junior high school student Felito Sánchez heard about the demonstration from the Puerto Rican Community Center in Boston.

"I tell my classmates, they're fighting over oil," he stated. "But some of them don't believe it. Me, I don't want a war."

One student protester from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, in Troy, New York, said most of her classmates are for the war. "But a lot of people are going to die and I just don't think that's fair," she said.

Although she supports sanctions against Iraq, she noted that "Rensselaer has \$8.5 million invested in companies that do busi-
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Militant/Marc Lichtman

Young people with homemade signs at January 19 protest in Washington, D.C., capture truth about U.S. bombing of Iraq.

Secret Service interrogates two Des Moines unionists

BY TED LEONARD

DES MOINES, Iowa — Priscilla Schenk and Harold Searcy, members of the United Auto Workers (UAW), were interrogated at Emco, an auto parts plant where they work,

by the U.S. Secret Service and the Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation agents January 18.

On the job, both Schenk and Searcy have been outspoken opponents of Washington's war drive in the Mideast. They are active in their union and are political activists in the city.

On January 18, the day after the U.S. bombing of Iraq and Kuwait began, the company personnel manager came to Schenk and told her "two gentlemen" were in the front office waiting to speak to her.

In the office the two shut the door, flashed identification badges, and claimed they had received an anonymous phone call saying that Schenk and another worker in the plant, Searcy, had been overheard threatening to kill U.S. President George Bush and the governor of Iowa. Schenk denied the charges as outrageous and provocative.

Told to sit down, Schenk asked if she was under arrest. The agents said no, but they wanted to ask her some questions. Schenk responded that she had nothing to say to the two political police.

Longtime political activist

Schenk is an experienced political and union activist. Currently the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) candidate for school board here, she has recently participated in union and family farmers' conferences. She is active in the fight to win support for Mark Curtis, a union and political activist framed-up by the Des Moines police.

Schenk's husband is Héctor Marroquín, a union and political activist from Mexico. He fought the U.S. government for more than a decade to win his right to live and work in the United States, despite government at-

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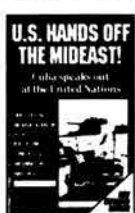
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Curtis supporters to attend UN meetings

BY CHRIS REMPLE

DES MOINES, Iowa — The Mark Curtis Defense Committee will send a delegation to attend several weeks of the upcoming session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The six-week meeting opens January 28 and takes place in Geneva, Switzerland.

Kate Kaku, Curtis' wife, and John Studer, coordinator of the defense committee, will head the delegation. They will be accompanied by Lynda Little from Canada, and supporters from Britain, France, and Sweden.

The defense committee is encouraging supporters to contribute to a special \$30,000 fund to finance the trip, and to join a drive to win new endorsers.

Funds raised will also help pay for legal costs in the continuing fight: the filing of an appeal in federal court of Curtis' 1988 conviction and preparations for a trial in the civil rights lawsuit by Curtis against the City of Des Moines and the cops who beat him.

Curtis, a packinghouse worker, was arrested and framed by Des Moines police on rape and burglary charges. He was convicted in 1988 and is now serving a 25-year jail term. The frame-up stems from his union and political activities, particularly his defense of Latino coworkers arrested during an immigration raid at his plant.

In Geneva, Kaku will address the UN commission and urge its members to support Curtis' fight for justice. She will explain that his case is only one of many violations of human rights in the United States. The commission is composed of representatives of 43 governments elected by the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

Curtis' supporters will meet with representatives of countries participating in the meeting. Commission members from Cuba, Ghana, Iran, and Libya have already pledged to help arrange such meetings.

The delegation will also meet with representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) accredited by the Human Rights Commission. Several NGOs support Curtis' fight, including the American Association of Jurists, the International Indian Treaty Council, and Service, Peace, and Justice of Latin America.

The defense committee's decision to send the delegation to Geneva is part of an ongoing campaign to win UN action on Curtis' behalf and build international support for the defense effort.

Curtis' supporters will also speak before union and political meetings and with the European press while in Geneva.

Following the UN meeting, Kaku and Studer will go to France to meet with backers of the defense effort. They will then go to

London for a meeting with representatives of Amnesty International's American Bureau, which is considering adopting Curtis as a prisoner of conscience.

Special fund drive

A team of volunteers from across the United States is beginning to work on raising the \$30,000 fund. John Rubinstein from Seattle is working out of the Des Moines defense committee office for a month to help with the fund. Candace Wagner of Austin, Minnesota; Mark Weddleton of Omaha, Nebraska; Salm Kolis of Atlanta; and Lisa Potash of St. Louis are also assisting the effort.

"Supporters are glad to be asked to help," Rubinstein said. "They appreciate the time we take to fill them in on developments in the defense effort and they are happy to contribute."

"The more we explain about the stakes in this effort, the growing fight for parole, the importance of the delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission, and the significance of the lawsuit against the cops, the better they understand the difference their financial contribution can make," he explained. Rubinstein reported that he re-



Militant/Peter Thierjung
Curtis defense committee leaders at November 1990 meeting of UN Third Committee. From right: John Studer; Kate Kaku; and supporter Brigitte Grouix.

ceived pledges of \$270 in the first two hours of his phone calling.

The defense committee is making fundraising a central activity of its volunteers. Phone calling from the office is organized twice a week and has already raised hundreds of dollars in pledges. Defense committee activists are urging supporters around the

world to participate by launching local fundraising efforts.

Contributions and pledges toward the \$30,000 fund should be sent to the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311. Tax deductible contributions should be made out to the Political Rights Defense Fund, Inc.

Catfish bosses 'underestimated us'

BY GEORGE WILLIAMS

INDIANOLA, Mississippi — United Food and Commercial Workers organizers Rose Turner and Mary Young are proud of the accomplishments of their strike against Delta Pride Catfish Inc. Delta Pride employs more than 1,000 workers at three fish-processing plants.

Young is one of six workers who started the union organizing drive at Delta Pride in 1986. "The owners underestimated us," she said in an interview January 12. "They thought that being poor single women, we would easily be intimidated and not continue the fight. We showed them how wrong they were."

After a hard-fought, four-month strike, 480 members of UFCW Local 1529 voted overwhelmingly on December 14 to ratify a new 34-month contract with Delta Pride.

Workers with at least a year at one of the company's two unionized plants are to receive an immediate wage increase of 60 to 65 cents an hour, with additional increases in the second and third years. Upgrading of job classifications and premiums bring the average wage increase to 75 cents an hour. The company had originally offered a miserly increase of six and a half cents an hour.

Workers won some of their main demands during the strike: a joint union-management

safety committee, an additional paid holiday, no restrictions on bathroom breaks, and the right of union representatives to visit the plant.

Strikers are to be recalled to work in order of seniority. They will continue to receive unemployment insurance and strike benefits until they return to work. As of January 12, 285 strikers had been recalled.

At issue when the workers struck September 12 were average wages of \$4.05 an hour, unhealthy and unsafe working conditions, and management's authoritarian treatment of the workforce. A big majority of the workers are Black women who head households.

"The plantation mentality carried over from the field to the plant," explained Turner.

The 180 capitalist catfish farmers who own Delta Pride — all of them white — tried to intimidate the workforce and bust the union. Despite arrests of picketers, drive-by shootings, pistol-waving supervisors, the brutal police beating of one striker, and the attempted bribery of a member of the union's bargaining committee, strikers held firm. With only 300 scabs inside the plants, production and productivity dropped sharply.

Workers and union officials reached out to other unions, church leaders, and civil

rights organizations, gaining support and solidarity. A nationwide boycott of Delta Pride catfish was launched, and sales dropped sharply in St. Louis, Detroit, Atlanta, and Houston.

Some \$250,000 was donated to the strikers. A national civil rights march and rally in Indianola was organized for December 15. The company settled one day before the rally, which was attended by 1,000 people.

"The support we got from people, the truth about Delta Pride's treatment of workers, and our ability to remain strong despite their violence brought the owners back to the bargaining table," said Turner.

As strikers return to work, their next goal is to sign up more union members and enforce the terms of the contract.

"This is the first contract and a few gains were made, but the fight is not over," Turner emphasized.

On January 21, Delta Pride strikers will be leading the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade in Atlanta.

George Williams is a packinghouse worker and member of UFCW Local 442 at the Geo. A. Hormel & Co. in Atlanta, Georgia.



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Eastern shuts down: strikers stay out 'one day longer'

BY JUDY STRANAHAN

At midnight on January 18, Eastern Airlines stopped flying. After a 22-month strike to stop the union-busting drive by the company, members of the International Association of Machinists celebrated the final demise of the carrier.

"Rest in Peace. Rest in Pieces," read one Miami striker's placard as he walked the picket line the following day. A steady flow of Machinists and their supporters began filing into the strike headquarters the previous night after hearing on the evening news that the airline was shutting down.

On January 19 in New York, strikers at the LaGuardia Airport were jubilant and congratulated each other. "This is a great day for labor. Management tried to destroy us and they couldn't," said Hugh Brady, a ten-year ramp worker. Another striker, Eddie Camargo, echoed the sentiment. "I'm very happy this day came up," he said. "It's been a long 22 months, but fighting is the only way. If others follow our example, we'll have strong unions."

At the National Airport in Washington, D.C., 25 strikers crowded the picket line when it was confirmed Eastern was closing its doors.

In Boston at Logan International Airport, 30 striking Machinists gathered in freezing temperatures outside Eastern's airport terminal. They wore strike t-shirts over heavy winter coats and carried picket signs.

In one of the larger January 18 gatherings, 300 Machinists and supporters descended on Eastern's maintenance hanger in Atlanta to "bid farewell." As the scabs left work that evening, dragging their roll-away tool boxes behind them, strikers greeted them with union banners. At midnight, someone played taps on a bugle.

At the strike office, one person reported seeing dozens of planes grouped together by type outside the hanger, "like they're getting ready for a fire sale."

Rumors that Eastern was closing down began circulating in Atlanta late in the evening on January 17. The next morning many of the city's stores and banks refused to cash Eastern's paychecks.

Strike opens in March 1989

After 15 months of contract talks and company demands for \$150 million in concessions from the union, 8,500 ramp workers, aircraft cleaners, and mechanics organized by the IAM went on strike against the airline on March 4, 1989. Until late November 1989, they were

joined by Eastern's pilots and flight attendants.

Eastern's workers had suffered years of harassment, victimization, firings, forced overtime, and speedup in what strikers called Frank Lorenzo's "reign of terror."

Lorenzo successfully busted the unions at Continental Airlines in 1983. His Texas Air Corp. purchased Eastern in 1986, hoping to add the airline to its nonunion empire.

Lorenzo tried to break the strike and bust the union at Eastern by hiring scabs. But the Machinists' waged a tenacious fight and won solidarity from unionists throughout the country and in other parts of the world. In the labor movement, Lorenzo's name became synonymous with union-busting.

Over the course of the strike, Eastern's losses mounted, and a \$1 billion debt built up to creditors.

On April 18, 1990, Lorenzo was removed from control of the airline's day-to-day operations by a bankruptcy court and was replaced by a court-appointed trustee, Martin Shugrue. On August 9, Lorenzo sold his stake in Eastern to Scandinavian Airline Systems and was forced out of the airline industry altogether.

Shugrue tried to hold the airline together long enough to locate a suitable buyer. Through mid-1990, the airline slashed fares even more and offered special promotions to draw passengers, especially business travelers. Despite these efforts, Eastern's planes flew half empty and the airline lost millions of dollars each day it operated.

During the same period, several airlines, including Northwest, expressed interest in buying parts of the carrier, but this dissipated as fuel costs began to rise.

Eastern was also plagued by problems over safety practices. In July 1990, Eastern and nine current and former senior managers were indicted for failure to properly maintain aircraft, and for falsifying safety and maintenance documents.

Had 'run out of time'

On January 19, Shugrue announced Eastern had run "out of time and resources," and said that all 170 of the airlines planes had been parked.

It had been reported that Eastern was trying to get some business by making the airline available to the military, but the idea was discounted because crews for the airline would be too costly, and its planes have relatively short ranges and are not ready for cargo.

Native rights activist in Vancouver brutally beaten, arrested by police

BY COLLEEN LEVIS

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Kelly White, a native rights activist in Vancouver, was brutally beaten by police, then arrested and charged with assaulting police officers December 19.

White had been a key organizer of a special event in solidarity with the struggles of the Mohawk and Lil'Wat peoples, held at the Vancouver Indian Center five days earlier.

Some 700 people turned out for the well-publicized event. The speakers, who had defied the police and army at Oka, near Montréal, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) at Mount Currie, in British Columbia last summer, discussed the struggle to press Native demands for land and sovereignty.

Eight of the speakers were part of the Western Canada Mohawk speaking tour. The tour went from Winnipeg to Vancouver Island, explaining the events at Oka and seeking support for their fight. Two of the speakers had been arrested November 6 at Mount Currie, where the RCMP stormed the four-month-old blockade of the Duffey Lake Road, arrested 63 people, and destroyed the barricades.

Kelly White opened her home to lodge participants in the tour as well as many of those arrested at Mount Currie while they stayed in Vancouver for court appearances.

On December 18, two men claiming to be police were led to White's home by neighbors. They said they were looking for White's 14-year-old daughter and refused to produce a warrant or to show any identification.

Under these circumstances, White declined to give the two men any information. The two undercover cops then forced their way in and grabbed her by the throat. Her head was pounded against a wall, giving White a severe concussion. The cops then called for "reinforcements" on their two-way radio. Almost immediately, her house was filled with some 16 uniformed cops.

White was arrested and charged with assaulting police officers. As they threw her into the paddy wagon, one cop said, "Where are your warriors now?" Another yelled, "We'll dump her off at Oka."

White is scheduled to appear in court February 5, the same day the Mohawk fighters arrested at Oka will stand trial in Montréal. Over 50 phone calls protesting this flagrant violation of democratic rights were received by police and City Hall in the hours following her arrest, including from the British Columbia Civil Liberties Union.

White's lawyer, Alderman Harry Rankin, is in the process of filing a civil suit and criminal charges against the two cops for the racist assault.



Pickets in Roanoke, Virginia. Machinists applauded Eastern's end after 22-month strike.

Several airline companies have indicated interest in picking up parts of Eastern. Delta Air Lines Inc., which is based in Atlanta, says it wants to buy Eastern's gates at Hartsfield International Airport in Atlanta. Northwest and TWA are also considered likely candi-

dates to make bids for Eastern.

Zena Miller from Miami, Susan Anmuth from New York, Susie Winsten from Washington, D.C., and Liz Ziers from Atlanta contributed to this article.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS IN ACTION

The Young Socialist Alliance is a revolutionary organization of students and young workers across the United States. YSA members seek to organize other young people in the fight against the wars, economic devastation, racism, and sexism bred by the capitalist system.

At the center of the YSA members' political activity today is the fight against the bloody war opened against Iraq by Washington and its imperialist allies. They are engaging in the debates and discussions taking place on college campuses, in factories, and among GIs, on the war in the Mideast. They are active in coalitions building street protests and other actions against the U.S.-led war.

The YSA seeks to advance the worldwide fight against apartheid in South Africa, defend the Cuban revolution, and back the struggle to reunify Korea. We encourage members of the YSA, and members of the Young Socialists in Canada and New Zealand, to contribute items for this column.

Armed with the *Militant*, *International Socialist Review* supplement, and boxes of Pathfinder's *Malcolm X Talks to Young People* and *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* books, the Young Socialist Alliance has launched a sales team to university campuses in Mississippi and Louisiana.

"We're heading to the South to campaign against the bloody U.S. war being waged against the Iraqi people," said YSA National Executive Committee member Derek Bracey.

Bracey, heading up the two-week effort, said YSA members will be joining him from Birmingham, Alabama; Houston, Texas; and other cities. The team will hit the road January 21.

"We want to get out copies of *Malcolm X Talks to Young People* because Malcolm X is clear and effective in explaining many things youth today want to know," said Bracey. "We think this book, along with the *Militant* and other books and pamphlets, can help all those who oppose the war to be better equipped to win others to actively taking a stand against it."

"One of the places we want to visit is Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, where students have organized protests against the war. Many have friends and relatives that the U.S. government has sent to Saudi Arabia," he said.

One of the student leaders at Jackson State traveled to New York in December to attend a national meeting to organize the upcoming January 26 march in Washington, D.C., said Bracey. "We think many of these students will want to get the *Militant* every week to get both the facts and a fighting working-class perspective against the war."

Other sales team stops will include the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and campuses in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. "We also want to try to visit military bases in the area to meet young GIs and sell the *Militant*," said the YSA leader.

Bracey said the team to the South will be the first of two being planned. Funds are needed to get the teams on the road. "We need to raise money to effectively get out and campaign against the war and win young people to the YSA," said Bracey. Contributions earmarked for the teams can be sent to the Young Socialist Alliance, P.O. Box 211, New York, NY 10011. Volunteers for future teams should write the above address or call the YSA national office at (212) 727-8422.

YSA National Chairperson Aaron Ruby and national committee member Shellia Kennedy traveled to Paris, France, for an International Youth Emergency Conference, "No to War in the Gulf" January 12-13.

The conference was organized by the World Youth Initiative for Peace in the Middle East, a network of youth, student, and peace organizations from around the world. The meeting was called "in response to the urgent need to mobilize youth and student opinion all over the world against the initiation of a catastrophic war in the Gulf," the invitation stated.

Ruby said some 150 young people attended. Participants marched in the January 12 demonstration in Paris of some 60,000.

The YSA and Student Action Union (SAU) participated from the United States. Both groups represented the National Student and Youth Campaign for Peace in the Middle East.

Youth from Sweden, Yemen, Tunisia, Germany, Spain, Libya and a host of other countries participated in the Paris meeting, said Ruby. "Many participants were interested in what was happening in politics in the United States — particularly the sentiments of young people and their activities against the Mideast war," he said.

Some were familiar with the Cuban government's position against the imperialist war, including a Vietnamese student who referred to the book *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* in his contribution from the floor of the meeting. Eleven participants at the conference bought copies of the book.

A delegate from Libya bought a copy of the book along with an issue of the *Militant* and a copy of the *International Socialist Review*. Participants also bought two copies of *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*, seven copies of the *Militant* and Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial*, and a dozen *International Socialist Reviews*.

U.S. and allies continue criminal bombing of Iraq

BY SELVA NEBBIA

In the first four days of the criminal bombing of Iraq, U.S. and allied warplanes flew 7,000 missions, dropping some 5,000 tons of bombs a day on Iraq and Kuwait.

Under the name Operation Desert Storm, the U.S. government has unleashed the most sustained and devastating aerial and missile bombardment in history.

By comparison, Washington's Rolling Thunder campaign in Vietnam involved about 3,150 attack missions a week; the Linebacker II campaign in December 1972 dropped 20,000 tons of bombs in 11 days.

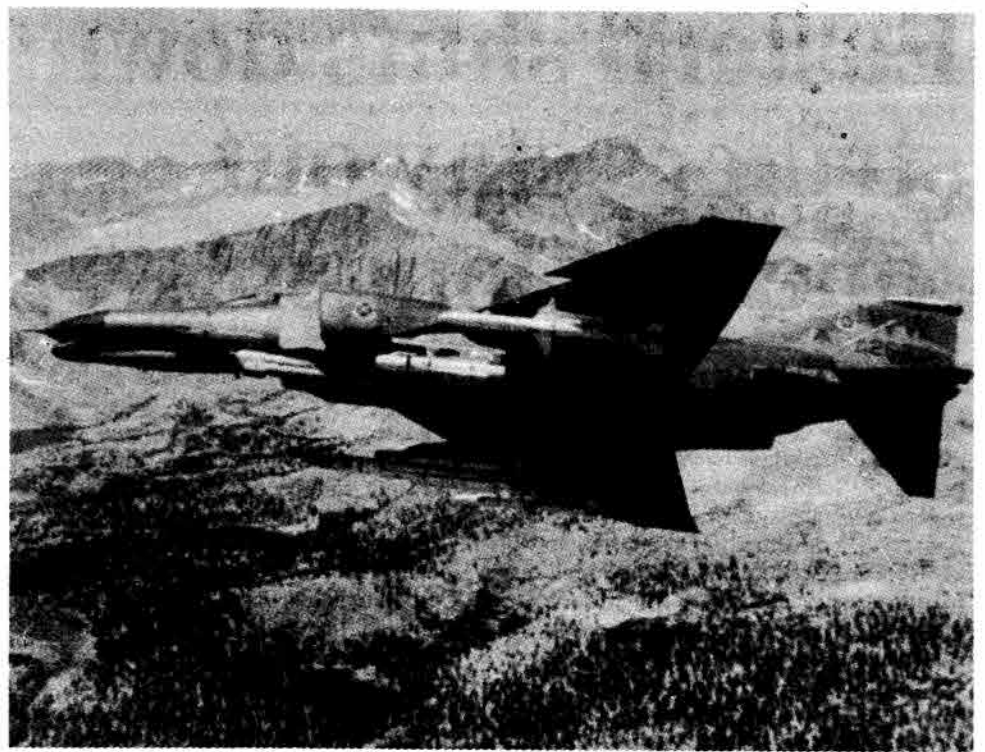
Involved in the initial air attack on Iraq were U.S., British, Saudi, Kuwaiti, and French forces. The missions were conducted with some of the most sophisticated weapons in the imperialists' arsenal.

U.S. President George Bush gave the order to attack Iraq 19 hours after the January 15 deadline set by the United Nations Security Council for Iraqi forces

to withdraw from Kuwait.

"This is a historic moment," said Bush during a news conference at the White House two hours after the bombing of Iraq began. "We have in this past year made great progress in ending the long era of conflict and cold war. We have before us the opportunity to forge for ourselves and for the future generations a new world order, a world where the rule of law, not the law of the jungle, governs the conduct of nations." Bush claimed the target of the bombs was Iraqi military installations.

At a news conference following the first few hours of the bombing, U.S. Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, described what had been unleashed in the skies over Iraq. "B-52's were used, F-117's, F-15's, F-16's, A-10's, F-111's, F-18's, A-6's, A-7's, Apache helicopters," said Powell. "Tornadoes from the United Kingdom, Tornadoes from Saudi Arabia, Jaguars from the French." Toma-



U.S. F-4G aircraft with antiradar missiles is part of imperialist arsenal hurled at Iraq.

Weekly chronology of U.S.-led imperialist war against Iraq

January 15 — British and Canadian parliaments vote overwhelmingly in favor of military action against Iraq.

France says its diplomatic moves towards Baghdad have failed. "In any international police operation, the fatal moment comes when one must act," says French Prime Minister Michel Rocard. The moment for military action "has now arrived," he said.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein visits troops while in Baghdad. Hundreds of thousands march through streets chanting, "Victory to Saddam."

Three Palestinians are killed and more than 30 wounded by Israeli troops during protests in Jerusalem against January 14 murder of two leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Tunis.

The U.S. Justice Department says the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been ordered to track down as many as 3,000 Iraqis in the United States whose visas have expired.

Several U.S. factories rush to fill orders for 16,099 body bags contracted by the defense department in December.

About 25,000 students march against the war in Milan, Italy, and 4,000 demonstrate in Sydney, Australia.

January 16 — Massive bombing of Iraq and Kuwait by U.S.-led forces begins at 12:50 a.m., January 17, local time. U.S. Cruise missiles; B-52 bombers, and the full range of U.S. air power is unleashed. British, Kuwaiti, French, and Saudi warplanes join the massive bombing attack against Iraq.

"The liberation of Kuwait has begun," says White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater announcing the bombing at a press conference. "In conjunction with the forces of our coalition partners, the United States has moved under code name Operation Desert Storm to enforce the mandates of the United Nations Security Council."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein says "a fateful dual battle has begun — a clash between believers and infidels."

Military authorities in Israel declare a civil emergency. Israelis are ordered to remain in their homes.

The French National Assembly votes in favor of backing military action against Iraq. Hours before the war begins, Paris announces that French troops in the Gulf will be placed under U.S. command.

Japan responds, pledging to contribute more money to the U.S.-led war.

British Home Secretary Kenneth Baker orders the arrest of 28 Iraqis still awaiting deportation. They are accused of being a risk to national security.

Cuban President Fidel Castro condemns the attack against Iraq and criticizes the United Nations for not taking measures to avert a war.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev calls

for suspension of law guaranteeing freedom of the press. Gorbachev faces growing protests after the gunning down of demonstrators in Lithuania by Soviet forces that left 14 people dead on January 13.

January 17 — Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney tells the press that the military "operation is going very well."

Some 1,000 combat missions, including bombing raids, were flown in the first 14 hours. One hundred cruise missiles were launched at Iraq during the same time. One U.S. and one British warplane are shot down.

"We are in the very early stages of an operation that may run for a considerable period of time," says Cheney.

The Turkish Parliament votes to authorize U.S. fighters and bombers based in that country to launch strikes against Iraq.

More than 200,000 people across Germany protest the war.

January 18 — Iraqi Scud missiles hit the Israeli cities of Haifa and Tel Aviv. Iraq also fires missiles at Saudi Arabia. No casualties result from the missile attacks.

January 19 — Washington escalates war by sending Patriot antimissile missile batteries to Israel, as well as U.S. military personnel to operate them.

Israeli officials say they would not now retaliate against Iraq after several more Iraqi missiles hit two Israeli cities.

Some 25,000 people in Washington, D.C.; 8,000 in Los Angeles; and 50,000 in San Francisco protest the U.S. war.

In Algeria 400,000 take part in actions to protest the war. In Yemen thousands participate in two days of protests.

British Prime Minister John Major says that it might be a "considerable" time before Iraq is defeated.

French Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Gen. Maurice Schmidt says, "It is a reasonable hypothesis to count" on the war lasting "two or three months."

The French government orders the expulsion of 13 Iraqi diplomats in Paris.

After three days of carpet bombing, Washington claims it has air control over many areas of Iraq and is now able to intensify bombardments of Republican Guards, the elite Iraqi ground forces.

Pentagon spokesmen say thousands of the U.S. Army's Rapid Deployment Force in Saudi Arabia began moving north to border positions, to prepare for the offensive against Iraqi forces in Kuwait.

January 20 — U.S. and allied forces place losses at 10 aircraft. Baghdad claims to have shot down 101 allied planes.

Forces from a Soviet interior ministry unit gun their way into a government building in Riga, Latvia and kill four people.

Some 7,000 bombing missions have now been flown by U.S. and allied warplanes.

hawk sea-launched cruise missiles were also fired into Iraq — the first time these weapons have been used.

The January 17 *Washington Post* described the destruction that the bombing causes:

"One 2,000-pound bomb typically leaves a crater 36 feet deep and 50 feet in diameter," said the *Post*. "Shrapnel from the blast is considered lethal in a radius of 1,200 feet. The payload from a three-plane 'cell' of B-52's can crater an area 1.5 miles long and one mile wide." The B-52's are among the largest military planes, and can carry up to 90,000 pounds of explosives each.

Yaaqoub Chahine, a Palestinian teacher who fled Kuwait after the bombing began, described the ordeal. "When the planes come, people run left and right and look for basements and shelters," he said. "Their faces are pale, their bodies tremble from the unknown. This is the reality."

Another refugee, Nimr Madi, said he saw three cars full of bodies and coffins at a gas station in Basra in southern Iraq.

"There are many civilian casualties in Basra and Kuwait. I saw many coffins in Basra, some of them small," said Madi, adding that an oil refinery in Basra had been hit.

"When the planes come to hit a target they also hit homes around them," he said.

Speaking to an ABC newscaster January 22 from Amman, Prince Hassan of Jordan said at "any given time there are 4,000 refugees" entering his country from Iraq. Jordan shares its northeast border with Iraq.

But Hassan predicted the number would not rise because the intense bombing made it increasingly difficult for those fleeing to reach the border.

"The Geneva convention said people should be positioned outside the combat area," said Hassan, "but there is no 'outside the combat area' now in Iraq. He compared the amount of bombs dropped on Iraq over the first few days as "the equivalent of two Hiroshimas." Hassan was referring to the nuclear bomb the U.S. government ordered dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima in 1945.

Because of the "staggering death toll," the Movement of Nonaligned Countries was calling on all parties in the fighting to establish a cease-fire, said Hassan.

The Cuban ambassador to Iraq, Juan Aldama, reported that Cuban doctors and nurses who are currently in Iraq began to treat the victims of the bombs in a medical center and at the Karama hospital soon after the raids began.

Officials in the Cuban Embassy in Baghdad said the city was a "picture of desolation."

There is no electrical power or telephone service in the city and water is scarce. Thousands of civilians have fled to the countryside and other cities to escape the relentless bombing.

These few reports stand in stark contrast to the reportage from the big-business media. Hours of TV programming and pages of daily newspapers simply reprint U.S. military news releases. Little coverage is given to the actual war being waged against Iraq.

Imperialist powers back Washington

Just hours before the bombing began, the French government announced that its troops would be placed under Washington's command.

The war against Iraq is being directed by

the commander of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf. Unlike London, Paris had earlier said its forces in the Gulf would only serve under French command. France and Britain are the two imperialist countries with the most forces in the region after the United States.

Washington's German, Japanese, and French imperialist rivals stand to lose if the U.S. government achieves its goal of smashing the Iraqi armed forces and imposing a protectorate in Iraq. This would give U.S. imperialism decisive control over the vital Gulf oil resources and greater economic leverage against its competitors. Given the stakes in the conflict, the governments in Germany, France, and Japan have been forced to contribute troops or funds.

French President François Mitterrand said it was "inconceivable" that France would not join the United States and the other members of the alliance in their war against Iraq.

Convened only hours after the January 15 deadline, the French Parliament voted overwhelmingly in favor of military action against the Iraqi people.

The German government expressed its solidarity with U.S., British, and French allies in the war.

"German soldiers will not be sent to the Gulf but we should not forget that our U.S., British, and French allies now carry the main responsibility for the defense of justice and freedom," said German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. While Germany has not sent any troops to Saudi Arabia, it has 18 jets stationed in Turkey and has contributed financially to the war.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev condemned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and laid the blame for the war on the Iraqi president's refusal to pull out of Kuwait.

The Italian Parliament voted January 18 to authorize the use of its air and naval forces in the Gulf.

On January 17, the Turkish Parliament authorized the opening of a second front in the air war against Iraq when it gave the go-ahead to U.S. fighter planes and bombers to launch strikes from the Incirlik Air Base in Turkey.

Getting ready to take advantage of any possibility of gaining some Iraqi territory, Turkish President Turgut Ozal also won parliamentary agreement to allow Turkish soldiers and any foreign troops that may be sent to Turkey to enter Iraq.

On the other hand, Cuban President Fidel Castro condemned the attack against Iraq and blamed the United Nations for "not being able to avoid it and for letting itself be urged on by the United States."

Escalation of the war

With more than 430,000 GIs in the Arab-Persian Gulf, the U.S. forces comprise 69 percent of the ground troops deployed in the region against Iraq.

The principal forces from Arab countries now in Saudi Arabia include 45,000 Saudi, 30,000 Egyptian, and 17,000 Syrian troops.

On January 18, two days after the bombing of Iraq began, seven Iraqi Scud missiles hit the Israeli cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa in the early morning hours. No casualties were reported from the missile attack.

In response to the Scud attack against Israel, Washington escalated the war by send-

Continued on Page 12

High court deals blow to busing

BY JAMES HARRIS

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled January 15 that school districts can be released from federal court-ordered busing plans even if this results in resegregation of the schools. The 5-3 ruling by the Supreme Court upheld the essence of a decision by the Oklahoma City school board to set aside its busing plan.

In 1963, a federal district court found that Oklahoma City had intentionally segregated both schools and housing, and that it was operating a "dual" school system that was segregated by race. The "Finger Plan," as the busing program is called, was enacted in 1972 after the court decided that the Oklahoma City school board would not comply with a court order to desegregate its schools. The plan required busing of Black and white students to end racial segregation.

Then, in 1985, the district court upheld the Oklahoma City school board's decision to end the court-ordered busing program. The immediate result was the return of the segregated school system that was in place before the Finger Plan was enacted.

The *Washington Post* reported, "In a system with 40 percent Black enrollment, 10 of 58 elementary schools . . . became virtually all Black. Five other schools are 80 percent white, although whites account for 45 percent of the city's school population."

Segregation by 'private decision'

The district court, however, held that the school board had met the terms of the original desegregation decree and that the subsequent segregation in the schools was not connected to the "vestiges" of prior segregation that required the Finger Plan. The court claimed that the current segregation stemmed from housing patterns that were the "result of private decision making and economics."

Speaking against the district court's decision, Julius Chambers, director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, said, "What's advocated here is that you desegregate for a few years and then you go back and do what you were doing before."

"If that's all that a board need do, then *Brown* and all of the cases that followed it will mean very little," he said, referring to the landmark 1954 decision, *Brown v. Board of Education*. In that decision, the Supreme Court ruled against segregated schools.

Agreeing with the district court, the Supreme Court majority decision reads:

"From the very first, Federal supervision of local school systems was intended as a temporary measure to remedy past discrimination. . . . Dissolving a desegregation decree after the local authorities have operated in compliance with it for a reasonable period of time properly recognizes that 'necessary concern for the important values of local control of public school systems dictates that a Federal Court's regulatory control of such systems not extend beyond the time required to remedy the effects of past intentional discrimination.'"

Rather than reinstate the district court's decision which ended the Finger Plan, the Supreme Court sent the case back to the district court, giving it a chance to shape a decision in compliance with the Supreme Court guidelines.

Advising the lower court, the Supreme Court decision states: "The District Court should address itself to whether the Board had complied in good faith with the desegregation decree since it was entered, and whether the vestiges of past discrimination had been eliminated. . . . In considering whether the vestiges of *de jure* segregation had been eliminated as far as practicable, the District Court should look not only at student assignments, but every facet of school operations."

Court-ordered busing to achieve equality in education was instituted in many areas of the country after the massive civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s that demanded an end to segregated education. The decision by the Supreme Court invites further litigations from hundreds of school districts across the country that remain under court-ordered desegregation plans and offers them guidelines on how to go about it.

Campaign to sell socialist press to unionists

Third week in sales effort best yet

BY RONI McCANN

Members of 10 industrial trade unions are campaigning against the bloody imperialist war unleashed by Washington and its allies against the peoples of Iraq. Socialist workers are striving to sell subscriptions to the *Militant*, copies of the *International Socialist Review* supplement, and Pathfinder's *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* book to coworkers and unionists.

This week was their best one yet. Sales results doubled the sales of the first two weeks of the campaign. The *International Socialist Review* is getting an especially good hearing: 441 industrial workers bought copies last week!

From the Business Manager

Militant Business Manager Doug Jenness said 4,800 copies of the *International Socialist Review* were shipped out January 16 bringing the total number of supplements ordered to 9,800 so far.

"In addition, some 22,000 copies of last week's *Militant* were sent out to subscribers and distributors who were geared up to get the press out widely among coworkers, GIs, young people, and participants in antiwar actions January 19," he said. Almost 25,000 *Militants* rolled off the presses last week — nearly double the usual run size. "Before half the week was over six cities had run low and ordered more of the same issue," Jenness reported.

Achievements of the Week

News of the week's results — 553 subscriptions, books, and *International Socialist Reviews* — came in by fax, mail, and hand-delivery.

Members of the *International Union of Electronic Workers* held the first-place spot for the third week in a row. The *United Auto Workers* members are now in second place after selling 63 *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* books and copies of the supplement this week. And *United Transportation Union* workers went from last place to sixth with members getting out 28 books and 59 copies of the *International Socialist Review* in the last seven days.

The unionists with the highest goal — *International Association of Machinists* — sold the most as a whole: 139 supplements, three subscriptions to the *Militant*, and 17 books.

At the Plant Gate

Newark: Mike Baumann reports that sales to workers at the Newark International Airport have picked up from one or two *Militants* each week to five.

New York: In the four days after the war began 53 *Militant* supporters sold the paper at 12 plant gates in the city. Rich Stuart said opinions varied among airline workers at the Trans World Airlines terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport hours after the



Sales at January 19 protest against war on Iraq in Washington, D.C. Socialist workers are also campaigning among coworkers and last week's sales results doubled.

SCOREBOARD

Union	Total %Sold	Militant* Sold (Goal)	Mideast Book Sold (Goal)	ISR** Sold (Goal)
IUE	76%	4 (23)	32 (41)	67 (72)
UAW	46%	5 (75)	27 (75)	83 (100)
ACTWU	45%	6 (38)	13 (41)	47 (67)
IAM	44%	12 (170)	39 (170)	200 (225)
UMWA	43%	0 (22)	13 (28)	28 (45)
UTU	39%	9 (77)	33 (105)	77 (127)
ILGWU	35%	2 (22)	16 (45)	27 (61)
OCAW	29%	4 (50)	40 (100)	42 (150)
UFCW	26%	10 (85)	12 (70)	61 (163)
USWA	24%	2 (90)	15 (77)	63 (171)
Total	38%	54 (652)	240 (752)	695 (1181)
Should be	52%	217	250	886

Unions listed are ACTWU, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; IAM, International Association of Machinists; ILGWU, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; IUE, International Union of Electronic Workers; OCAW, Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers; UAW, United Auto Workers; UFCW, United Food and Commercial Workers; UMWA, United Mine Workers of America; USWA, United Steelworkers of America; and UTU, United Transportation Union. *Also includes subscriptions to *Perspectiva Mundial* and *Lutte ouvrière*. ***International Socialist Review* goals are taken for a four-week campaign ending February 1 and include those copies given free with purchase of subscriptions or books.

bombing of Iraq began. One worker bought an *International Socialist Review* and said the U.S. government had no business in the Mideast. But another said that Iraq should be bombed, and a coworker at his side added that Israel should be put in charge of the whole region.

Some of the socialist workers are turning successful sales of the *International Socialist Review* into subscriptions to the *Militant*, the part of the campaign that needs strengthening.

International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU): One coworker in Price, Utah, bought an *International Socialist Review* in December and decided last week to subscribe.

International Union of Electronic Workers: John Naubert of New York writes: "I am sure some of the supplements I have sold can be turned into subscriptions, but I have found the need to take a fresh approach toward every coworker." He has sold three copies of the book and 16 *International Socialist Reviews* to coworkers at a ball-bearing systems plant in Port Washington, Long Island.

Just off the Fax

An *International Association of Machinists* member in Charleston, West Virginia writes: "Two unionists and members of the

reserve armed forces at the Rhône-Poulenc chemical plant, in nearby Institute, got copies of the *International Socialist Review* last week. One received a copy after buying the book *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* The other was in the marines during the U.S. invasion of Grenada in 1983. He said he had been watching news coverage from Iraq before the war broke and could not help but think that the people he was seeing on TV might die. He bought a copy of the supplement even though he was not sure if the U.S. government was doing the right thing or not."

Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU) member Dean Athens from Cleveland, Ohio, writes: "Two coworkers at Joseph and Feiss garment shop joined us at an antiwar coalition meeting. One subscriber to *Perspectiva Mundial* took 100 leaflets for an upcoming demonstration and passed them out at the plant gate the next day." ACTWU members there sold two *Militant* subscriptions, one *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* book, and two supplements last week.

International Association of Machinists member Patti Iyama reports 17 coworkers bought copies of the *International Socialist Review* last week, four got copies of the book *Malcolm X Talks to Young People*, and one bought a copy of *Perspectiva Mundial*. "I go around talking to people about the supplement showing it to them page-by-page and telling them what it is about," she said.

United Food and Commercial Workers member Bob Miller from Washington, D.C., reports: "In November a coworker of mine at Mash's packinghouse bought a copy of the *Militant* and said he was impressed with one of Cuban diplomat Ricardo Alarcón's speeches and liked a newspaper that reported on Cuba. Recently he decided to subscribe to the *Militant* and a week later bought a copy of *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!*" The coworker also marched in the January 19 demonstration in Washington, D.C., and plans to attend the January 26 action as well, Miller added.

From our Mailbag

ILGWU member Martyn Amhet of New York sent this note: "Please add these figures to the total shown in the *Militant* last week: Six supplements, two subscriptions to *Perspectiva Mundial*, and one copy of *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!* These were sold on the job, at a Hispanic CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women) meeting, and at a garment shop plant gate sale."

IAM member Mary Selvas of Houston wrote: "This week we had big success with the *International Socialist Review*: we sold four copies at our union meeting and two at work."

Overtime, security steps imposed as war starts

This column is dedicated to reporting the resistance by working people to the employers' assault on their living standards, working conditions, and the unions.

Working people around the world are involved in skirmishes

plant instituted a seven-day workweek at the beginning of September, and lengthened the workday from eight to nine hours. The forced overtime was begun, workers were told, in order to meet supply demands for U.S. troops stationed in the Mideast. But the

people is also attacking workers' rights and living standards here at home.

At the Philadelphia airport, International Association of Machinists (IAM) members are discussing the new security measures implemented by the airport's management. Supervisors told workers that the airport is now on "red alert." They claim this is necessary because of the increased likelihood of terrorism as a result of the war in the Arab-Persian Gulf.

The measures include increased police presence and new identification badges. Workers are told they must stop and question people not wearing the new badges and to report anyone acting suspiciously. Suspicious behavior is defined as people who buy one-way tickets, pay in cash, have no luggage, or who are nervous.

Workers are now required to go through metal detectors before they get to their work stations. Because of the location of the detectors it now takes longer for workers to report to their jobs.

A major aim of the restrictions is keeping GIs isolated while they are in the airport terminals. Soldiers are told to stay in the United Service Organizations' (USO) area in the airport. A guard is posted at

the door to keep "unauthorized personnel" out. The attention to security, however, does not translate into concern for the comfort and well-being of these workers in uniform. Soldiers must often stay in the USO overnight on the floor if a flight is cancelled. Sometimes they are not allowed to disembark flights at the gates despite spending hours on the planes. Workers have reported seeing incidents where soldiers are hit on their feet with nightsticks by patrolling police. The soldiers are told they cannot sit on the ground with duffel bags while awaiting their flights.

Many workers think that the "red alert" and the steps the employers are taking are necessary, including workers who are opposed to the war. One worker, however, explained that with growing problems in the economy, these types of things are used to divert their attention from problems here at home.

The United Steelworkers of America won a record \$415 million settlement from Continental Can Co. after a federal judge ruled the company had deliberately and systematically cheated employees out of their pensions.

The scheme was discovered when many workers at Continental

Can's Mifflin, Pennsylvania, plant were laid off just before they reached pension eligibility. It turns out that those laid off were victims of a company plan called, "Let's Limit Employee Benefits," or BELL, as it was known from its initials spelled backwards.

Management used computerized graphs and charts to help them determine which workers to lay off — or delay recalling from layoff — in order to deprive them of their pensions. The company went so far as to move work from plant to plant, turn down orders, and even close entire plants to avoid making pension payments.

Leon Lynch, USWA international vice-president, said the union spent \$2.5 million to bring the company to justice. Workers cheated by the company will receive awards from \$10,000 to more than \$250,000. Many have waited over ten years for their pensions.

Continental Can is owned by Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc. In a written statement, Peter Kiewit said, "Although the settlement is substantial, Continental assets far exceed the amount needed to cover the settlement amount."

L. Paltrineri from Omaha, Holly Harkness from Pittsburgh, and Maureen Colletta from Philadelphia contributed to this week's col-

ON THE PICKET LINE

over speedup, forced overtime, layoffs, and attacks on health and safety benefits. Unionists faced with steep takeback demands, lockouts, or union-busting moves by the employers have gone on strike to force the bosses to back down. These struggles will become intertwined with resistance to the U.S.-led imperialist war in the Gulf.

We invite you to contribute short items to this column as a way for other fighting workers around the world to read about and learn from these important struggles. Jot down a few lines to let other *Militant* readers know about what's happening at your workplace or in your union. If there's an interesting political discussion going on at work, we would like to hear about that, too.

Management at the Swift-Eckerich Omaha pork-processing

exhausting schedule has also meant that workers, members of the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 47P, are getting much larger paychecks than usual.

This prompted a discussion among the workers on whether the U.S.-led war against Iraq is good for the economy. Some said that it is, and expanded war production means their jobs are more secure — even with the onset of a recession.

The discussion took a sharp turn, however, when, in spite of the huge military orders and forced overtime, the company laid off almost 20 percent of the work force. Those that remain on the job are still working the seven-day schedule. After the layoffs, workers began having even deeper discussions about the relationship between the war and the economy. They began to get at the fact that the class that is waging war against the Iraqi

Koreans in Japan are denied their basic rights

Continued from Page 16

their Korean citizenship, while their papers are still marked to indicate their Korean origin — which allows employers and others to discriminate against them.

Discrimination in hiring

Employer discrimination was highlighted in the 1970s when Park Chong Suk, a second-generation Korean, obtained a job with Hitachi, the electronics giant. Later, after reviewing his family records, the company fired him with the accusation that he falsified his application by using a Japanese name. After a four-year court battle and an international campaign, Park was reinstated. The court ruled that Hitachi's action violated the Labor Standards Act.

The pattern of discrimination, continues, however. The vast majority of Koreans are either engaged in small businesses, such as restaurants, or they work for small firms — often Korean-owned — at the bottom of Japan's multitiered subcontract system. Here they endure long hours and atrocious conditions, in return for wages that are only a fraction of those paid in the big industries.

By law Koreans are still unable to work in national or local government jobs, or to practice law. Recent changes permit Koreans to deliver and serve meals in schools, but they still may not take positions of higher responsibility, including teaching school. The major unions in the large industries have not defended the rights of Korean workers.

Bully attacks on Korean schoolchildren or on isolated individuals speaking Korean in public are not uncommon. The word "Korean" is often used as an epithet for inferior objects.

Since Park Chong Suk's battle in the 1970s, support among the Japanese people for the rights of Koreans has grown.

In the 1980s this was shown in the fight against the hated fingerprinting requirements for "aliens." Fourteen thousand Koreans and other foreigners refused to have their fingerprints taken in 1985. Following this, local governments in Tokyo, Osaka, and other cities with large Korean populations refused to report fingerprint-refusers to the police. One-third of Japan's 3,300 municipalities called for reforming the Alien Registration Law (ARL).

The government responded by making fingerprinting a "once-only" requirement, raising the fingerprinting age from 14 to 16, and replacing the bulky passbook with a laminated card. But penalties for ARL violations were increased, and fingerprint-refusers have been denied re-entry permits, preventing them from making study

and other trips abroad.

In May 1990, in response to threats from South Korea's President Roh Tae Woo to cancel a visit to Japan, Tokyo announced that third-generation Koreans born after January 1989 would no longer be required to undergo fingerprinting. While appearing to herald an end to the hated requirement, the measure had severe limits: it applied only to individuals identifying themselves as affiliated with South Korea and to grandchildren of Koreans resident as of 1971.

The 1965 "normalization" treaty between Seoul and Tokyo, which guaranteed the right of first- and second-generation Koreans to reside in Japan, has also been used as an instrument to pressure Koreans in Japan to affiliate as "South Koreans."

Most Koreans in Japan originally hailed from the southern part of Korea, but the majority have not been sympathizers of the regime in Seoul. For some years the main organizations of Koreans were those that identified with North Korea during the 1950s, reflecting the historic struggle by Korean workers and peasants against Japanese colonial oppression.

Through the 1965 treaty, Seoul secured some advantages for those registered as South Koreans, including less likelihood of deportation. The Japanese government has long been hostile to North Korea, as symbolized by the Japanese passport, which specifies that it is not valid for travel to the DPRK — a provision that will be dropped in April. Despite these pressures, a strong minority of Koreans in Japan remain affiliated with the North. The latest fingerprinting reforms do not apply to them.

The South Korean government extends its influence into the Korean community in Japan in other ways as well. Under the National Security Law, South Koreans having contact with their countrymen from the North are liable to be hauled up on charges of "espionage" for the Pyongyang government. Six Koreans from Japan and 15 others with connections to Japan discovered this upon making visits to South Korea in the 1970s and '80s, where they were arrested because of alleged contacts with Northerners resident in Japan. In many cases those they were charged with meeting were members of their own families.

A series of partially successful fights have been waged for the release of these prisoners. However, a representative of Minkinkyu, a Korean committee for human rights based in Japan, reports that two individuals — Lee Hoenichi and Son Yu Hyong — are still serving 20-year sentences as "North Korean spies."



Militant/George Buchanan

Korean community in Osaka, Japan.

Special offer to GIs

\$5 for 12 weeks of the Militant

The *Militant* is offering GIs a special introductory subscription offer of \$5 for 12 weeks. Each new subscriber will also receive a complimentary copy of the *International Socialist Review* supplement featuring the article "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive: Fighting the employers' offensive at home and abroad."

Men and women in the armed forces — whether stationed in the United States or in other countries, particularly Saudi Arabia — have a special stake in getting clear, working-class explanations of Washington's reactionary assault on Iraq.

The offer is good for soldiers, sailors, and airmen and women of all countries. Readers and distributors can help sign up subscribers.

Men and women in uniform have the constitutional right to read and discuss the same newspapers, books, pamphlets, and other literature that all citizens do. If soldier-subscribers find they are not receiving their papers, they should notify the *Militant* Business Office right away.

The reduced rate — one-half our normal introductory offer — recognizes that working people in uniform don't have much money. In order to help make up the difference, we ask that as many of our other readers as possible contribute to help defray the costs.

☐ Enclosed is a contribution of \$100 \$50 \$10 Other _____
☐ Enclosed is \$5 for a GI subscription.

NAME _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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

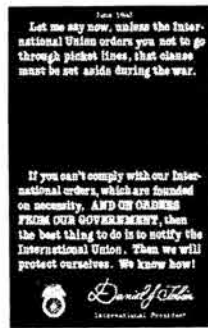
PATHFINDER

books for a
working-class campaign
against imperialism and
its war in the Middle East

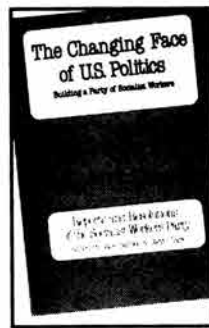
Pathfinder publishes a number of books and pamphlets that are invaluable weapons for working people and youth opposed to the imperialists' war in the Mideast. Below is a selection of titles documenting earlier opposition to imperialist war and assaults on the unions and democratic rights at home since the 1930s.



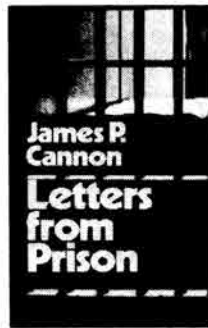
Out Now!
A participant's account of the movement in the U.S. against the Vietnam War, by Fred Halstead, 759 pp., \$29.95



Teamster Bureaucracy
The trade union campaign against World War II, by Farrell Dobbs, 304 pp., \$17.95

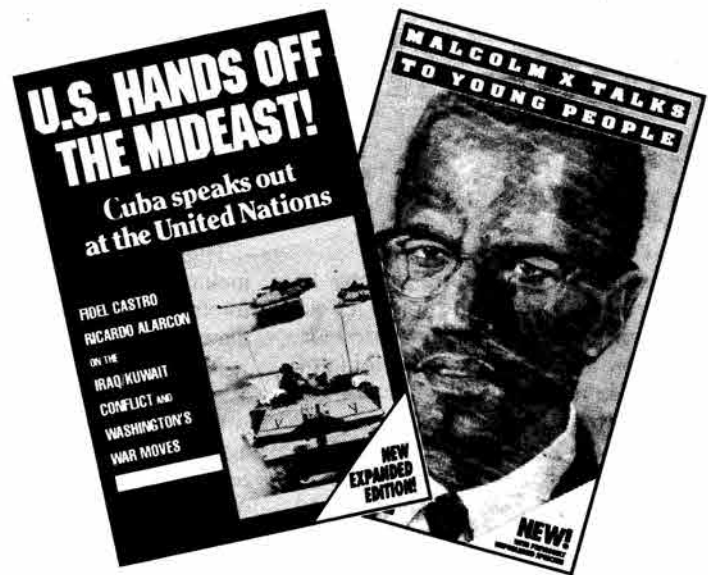


The Changing Face of U.S. Politics
The proletarian party and the trade unions, by Jack Barnes, 346 pp., \$18.95



Letters from Prison
The communist campaign against wartime repression, by James P. Cannon, 362 pp., \$19.95

BOOKS FOR WORKERS WHO WANT TO GET THE FACTS



\$9.95 each Special discounts for bulk orders. See coupon below.

U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations, also available in Spanish, is an irreplaceable tool in the fight against the U.S.-led war.

Featured in the book are statements by Cuban Ambassador Ricardo Alarcón and President Fidel Castro that rebut the pretexts and arguments used by Washington to justify its unilateral acts of aggression. An introduction by Mary-Alice Waters outlines the stakes for working people in opposing the war. The book also contains a useful chronology of the U.S.-led war preparations since August 1990 and 10 UN resolutions adopted on the Gulf crisis.

Malcolm X Talks to Young People, just off the press, contains speeches and discussions by Malcolm X, most in print for the first time. In meetings with young people on three continents, he denounces U.S.-organized wars against struggles for national liberation in Vietnam and Africa: "The oppressed masses all over the world are crying out for action against the common oppressor."

Unionists, GIs, veterans, reservists, and other workers involved in struggles against the employers' offensive at home can use the facts and arguments contained in these books to arm themselves. They can help convince others to join in campaigning against the slaughter now being carried out by the same employers, through their government, in the Mideast.

Help distribute these books by getting extra copies to sell to coworkers and others.

OTHER TITLES FROM PATHFINDER . . .

U.S. POLITICS/LABOR

The Eastern Airlines Strike
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE RANK-AND-FILE MACHINISTS AND GAINS FOR THE LABOR MOVEMENT

Judy Stranahan and Ellen Berman

The story of the strikers who brought down notorious union-buster Frank Lorenzo. 64 pp., photos. \$4

COINTELPRO: The FBI's Secret War on Political Freedom
Nelson Blackstock

The FBI's campaign of spying and disruption aimed at socialists and activists in the Black and antiwar movements. Includes FBI documents and an introduction by Noam Chomsky. 190 pp. \$14.95

Blacks in America's Wars

THE SHIFT IN ATTITUDES FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR TO VIETNAM

Robert Mullen

"Reveals many little-known facts about the role and treatment of the Black GIs" — *Publishers Weekly*. 96 pp., photos. \$7.95

CUBA

In Defense of Socialism

FOUR SPEECHES ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION
Fidel Castro

In these speeches from 1988-89, Fidel Castro argues that economic and social progress is possible without the dog-eat-dog competition of capitalism. Castro also discusses Cuba's role in Africa. 142 pp., photos. \$12.95

Che Guevara: Economics and

Politics in the Transition to Socialism

Carlos Tablada

Examines Guevara's contribution to building socialism, which sees the key to this process in growing political consciousness and control by working people. 286 pp., plus 16 pp. of photos. \$16.95

AFRICA

The Struggle Is My Life

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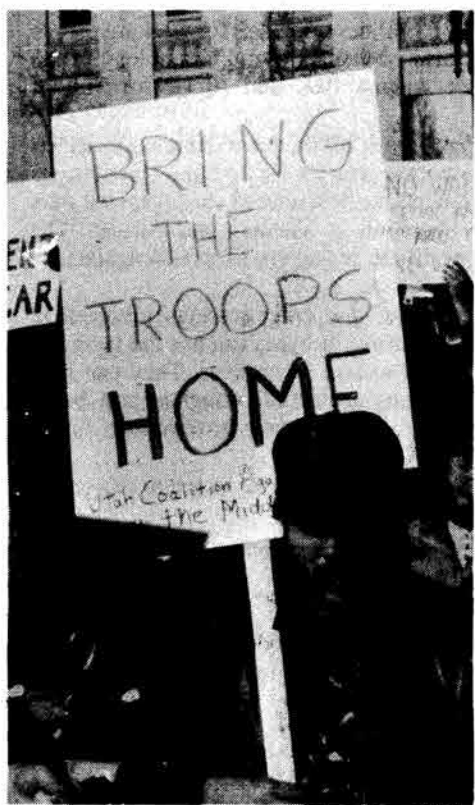
Worldwide protests demand end to U.S.-led Mideast war

BY SETH GALINSKY

Demonstrations demanding an end to the U.S.-led war against the Iraqi people took place in scores of cities worldwide leading up to, and after, the unleashing of the criminal bombing assault January 16.

In Manchester, England, 5,000 people joined an antiwar march January 12. Many participants carried placards saying "U.S., British troops out of the Gulf." Others carried signs reading "Sanctions, not war"; "Diplomacy, not destruction"; and "Gulf war? Oil war!"

"It is more vital than ever before that trade unionists understand the implications of the threat for war and come into the campaign in their thousands," union official Roger Lyons urged. Lyons is assistant general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science, and Finance union. Another demonstration of 700 took place January 16, just after the U.S. air attack began.



Militant/Dave Wulp
Salt Lake City demonstration, December 8.

High school students, and in some cases junior high school students, have been at the forefront of many of the actions in the United States.

More than 500 high school and junior high school students in New York and New Jersey walked out of classes January 14, and rallied against the war in Times Square and Union Square. They chanted "No blood for oil!" — now a popular slogan at demonstrations across the country — and carried hand-lettered posters. The protest was organized by Students Against War.

On January 15, 200 students from John Dewey High School in Coney Island, New York, left school and marched to Lafayette High School, three blocks away. They pounded on the school's doors shouting, "Walk out, walk out." About 100 Lafayette students then joined them.

"We know that it might not stop the war, but we are showing support and respect for the soldiers," said Gabriel Edwards, 17, a senior at Dewey. "We want to show that the majority of America is not for war."

Later in the day 600 students from two Brooklyn high schools marched against the war.

High school walkouts of hundreds have occurred in Cleveland, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Chicago. High school students have either held their own demonstrations or joined in contingents in Berkeley and Santa Monica, California; Washington, D.C. and other cities.

'We won't go for Texaco'

University students have also been actively opposing the war.

Also on January 15, 2,000 students attended a rally at Columbia University in New York. The next day, after receiving word of the U.S. bombing raids on Iraq, 1,500 Columbia students joined a march to the United Nations. Their arrival helped swell the crowd to more than 4,000.

At a third demonstration January 17, 6,000 protestors chanting "What do we want? Troops out! When do we want it? Now!" gathered at Times Square.

Demonstrations have taken place on every major campus in Ohio, activists there report.

A noon rally drew 700 students January



Militant/Kathy Lissienko

Antiwar demonstration in Auckland, New Zealand, December 7.

16 at Kent State University in Ohio, where, in 1970, National Guardsmen shot and killed four students protesting the Vietnam War.

Counter-demonstrators held a U.S. flag aloft, chanting "Liberate Kuwait," and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Antiwar students responded with "No war for oil!"

After discussions between the two groups, which numbered about the same size according to press reports, the rally was turned into an open forum. Speakers rotated between the two groups.

King events protest war

Events in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday January 15 included antiwar speakers.

In spite of a constant downpour, more than 1,000 people assembled in Central City Park in Atlanta for a rally sponsored by the National Coalition of Conscience. It was endorsed by United Auto Workers District 65, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Some of the demonstrators sang "All we are saying, is give sanctions a chance."

Joseph Lowery, national director of SCLC, told the rally, "Bush wants to wage war in the Middle East while he's waging war on the poor in this country."

Five hundred people attended a King commemoration in Cleveland, Ohio at the Mt. Sinai Baptist Church. Marvin McNickle, president of the Cleveland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, criticized U.S. President George Bush for making the deadline for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait the same day as King's birthday.

"We are on the verge of a war that cannot be limited to Kuwait and Iraq," McNickle said. "When bullets fly, they'll fly all over the world."

"The troops should be brought home," he added. "Our problem in America is not Iraq. Our problems are racism, poverty, hunger, and homelessness."

Commenting on the disproportionate number of Blacks and Latinos in the U.S. Army, McNickle stated, "It's not right to ask Black and brown people to protect democracy in other parts of the world and then find that the president has vetoed the Civil Rights bill at home."

Earlier in the day 600 protesters marched in downtown Cleveland. They were met by 75 counter-demonstrators who harassed the antiwar activists, tried to provoke a fight, and chanted "Support our troops." Peace activists chanted back "Support our troops." Police on horseback and on foot separated the two groups.

Chanting "No war in the Mideast!" and carrying signs that said "Give peace a chance," "No blood for oil," and "Let the sanctions work," 3,000 demonstrators gathered at City Hall in Palo Alto, California. Among the demonstrators were students from Stanford University and army reservists.

In San Jose, California, 5,000 people demonstrated at the Federal Building January 14. Some of those participating have relatives stationed in Saudi Arabia.

Several demonstrations took place in San Francisco on January 15. More than 7,000 surrounded the Federal Building and blocked

traffic at rush hour. A thousand protesters then marched to the Bay Bridge and shut it down for two hours.

Some demonstrators were escorted off the bridge by police, while other protesters cheered from the side. Others refused to move and were arrested.

Later in the day, 6,000 marched through the Mission district.

A "march for peace" to the White House, sponsored by the Council of Churches of Greater Washington, and other religious groups, swelled to 5,000 on January 14. An advertisement for the event said its purpose was "a public witness for the urgent need to persevere in resolving the Gulf crisis through peaceful means."

On January 16, within an hour of the announcement of the start of the bombing against Iraq, hundreds of people headed to the White House. While President Bush delivered his televised speech, the protesters chanted "Arrest Bush — murderer."

Further antiwar protests are planned for the United States, Canada, and Britain January 26.

Protests in Europe, Mideast, Africa

Daily demonstrations spread across Germany beginning January 12. Germany has dispatched warplanes to Turkey as part of a North Atlantic Treaty Organization force aimed at Iraq.

More than 200,000 people took part in protests across the country January 17. In some factories, such as at the Volkswagen and Opel auto plants, the workers stopped production for five minutes to protest the war. In Berlin alone, some 100,000 marched from two assembly points, according to news reports.

On January 18, thousands of demonstrators poured into the streets of Khartoum, Sudan, to protest the war. The day before, angry crowds hurled stones at the residence of the Egyptian ambassador in Amman, Jordan. Egyptian soldiers are part of the U.S.-led forces arrayed against Iraq.

Several hundred students marched in Lebanon on the campus of the American University in Beirut.

About 25,000 antiwar students marched past the U.S. Consulate in Milan, Italy, and four thousand demonstrated in Sydney, Australia January 15.

There have also been demonstrations in Greece, Belgium, and Spain. In South Africa, 17 Muslim protesters chanting "Hey, hey, Uncle Sam, not another Vietnam!" were arrested outside the U.S. embassy in Cape Town.

Cable Network News reported January 19 that 400,000 took part in an action in Algeria, called by the Islamic Salvation Front. In Yemen, two days of protests, "involving thousands," hit the U.S. war against the Iraqi people.

Angela Lariscy from New York; Helen Arthur and Chris Morris from Manchester, England; David Marshall from Cleveland; Diana Cantú from San Francisco; Miguel Zárate from Atlanta; Susie Winsten from Washington, D.C.; and Lüko Willms from Germany contributed to this article.

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The supplement contains two articles by Socialist Workers Party leader Jack Barnes, "Working-class campaign against the imperialist war drive: Fighting the employers' offensive at home and abroad" and "War and the communist movement."

Barnes outlines the stakes for working people in the war in the Mideast, the fight being waged by Cuba against this war, the changes in the U.S. working class that make it possible to carry out an effective campaign to mobilize unionists and other working people against imperialist war, and the prospects for building the communist movement today.

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Thousands join Jan. 19 antiwar protests

Continued from front page

ness with South Africa. The sanctions against apartheid in South Africa have been too slow and not real effective. But with Iraq nothing is going through, not even food."

'I haven't made up my mind'

Phil Krauth came to hear the speakers. "I haven't made up my mind on whether or not this war is justified," he said. "On the one hand, Kuwait is being oppressed. But on the other, you have the issue of oil."

Carmelita Strong, 29, an unemployed Black woman, said she thought Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was a lot like Gen. Manuel Noriega from Panama.

"They both had sweetheart deals with the CIA, but then had a falling out. Until this war, the U.S. government was backing Hussein."

Like many of the demonstrators, Strong doesn't trust the U.S. news media. "They try to make you believe they're not killing civilians when they bomb Iraq. And that they can win the war just with an air attack. I just don't believe it," she said.

Helen Beichel, 29, has a brother in the Gulf. "He says he joined to fight and this is what he's supposed to do."

"I'm sending him books about the Mideast to try to convince him this is a mistake," she said.

"I don't think the invasion of Kuwait was right," said Cassandra Holcomb, 19. She is a student at American University in Washington, D.C. "We could have gone more slowly and negotiated."

"But now this is going to be a chain reaction. Who knows where it's going to lead."

Hand-made signs and banners

While some peace and church groups marched with banners, most people came to the protest on their own after seeing a leaflet or hearing an announcement about the action. This was reflected in the hundreds of hand-made placards and banners.

Among the signs demonstrators carried were: "Negotiate, don't annihilate"; "Support our troops, don't kill them"; "The U.S. is not the world's police"; and "No more Vietnams, bring our troops home now." There were also placards reading "Fight AIDS, not Iraq. Money for health care not for warfare"; "Shame, shame, on Congress"; "Stop the war. Feed the poor"; and "President Bush — Whatever happened to 'a kinder gentler America?'"

One of the first speakers at the rally in front of the White House was Nancy Tuttle, mother of an 18-year-old GI stationed in Saudi Arabia. She told the crowd, "I am promilitary and pro-law enforcement, but I am opposed to the war that is now under way."

Directing her remarks to GIs, Tuttle said, "The news media wants you to believe that you are dying for democracy, but you will be dying for the death machine."

One of the best received speakers was radio personality Casey Kasem.

"Mr. President, I have one very important question," Kasem said. "Why is there always enough money for war?"

Kasem pointed to U.S. government cut-backs on funding for pollution control, housing for the homeless, scholarships, and other social services. The crowd shouted along with Kasem after each example, "But there is always enough money for war."

'Just like in Korea'

Seung Eun Chung, from Young Koreans United, spoke of the U.S. war against Korea in the 1950s.

"They are going to be killing the Arab and Iraqi people, just as they killed the Korean people," she said.

Many in the crowd gasped when she told how "the Korean war killed 54,000 U.S. soldiers and 3 million Korean civilians."

There are "40,000 U.S. troops and 1,000 nuclear weapons still stationed in South Korea," she said.

"Stop the war right now," Chung emphasized. "U.S. troops out of the Mideast! U.S. troops out of Korea!"

Jesse Jackson condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq along with the U.S. war. He said that the "same yard stick" should be used to judge the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, U.S. intervention in Central America, and Soviet violations of the rights of the people of Lithuania.

"Some people say that now that the war has started, let's get it over with," Jackson continued. "No. Now that it has started, let's stop it. Stop the killing. Every time a bomb falls in Kuwait or Iraq or Israel and they lose lives, we lose our humanity."

"Stop the bombing and start the talking," Jackson concluded.

A spokesperson from the coalition sponsoring the march said that sanctions are a form of economic warfare against the people of Iraq. "When they talk about sanctions they are talking about starving the Iraqi children," she noted. "We do not want an economic war or a military war."

Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general and a founder of the coalition, called for an immediate cease-fire.

Other speakers at the White House rally and one held near the Capitol at the conclusion of the march included Dacajeweah of the American Indian Movement; Katherine Tompka from Daughters of Mother Jones; former New Mexico governor Tony Anaya; Panamanian activist Esmeralda Brown; and Daniel Ellsberg.

Demonstrations against the war also took place on January 19 in Los Angeles, where 8,000 marched, and Cincinnati, where 300 rallied.

BY JIM ALTENBERG

SAN FRANCISCO — In the largest of many antiwar protests held in the United States January 19, more than 50,000 people

demonstrated here against the U.S. war in the Middle East.

The protest, organized by the January 19 March and Rally Coalition, capped three days of large demonstrations in the Bay Area that began in response to the U.S. bombing of Iraq January 16. Crowds of up to 10,000 gathered day and night at the San Francisco Federal Building, the Pacific Stock Exchange, and the bridges across San Francisco Bay, blocking traffic and chanting antiwar slogans.

Some unionists marched in contingents at the January 19 event, including members of the Oakland and San Francisco locals of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union and the local of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees at the University of California at Berkeley.

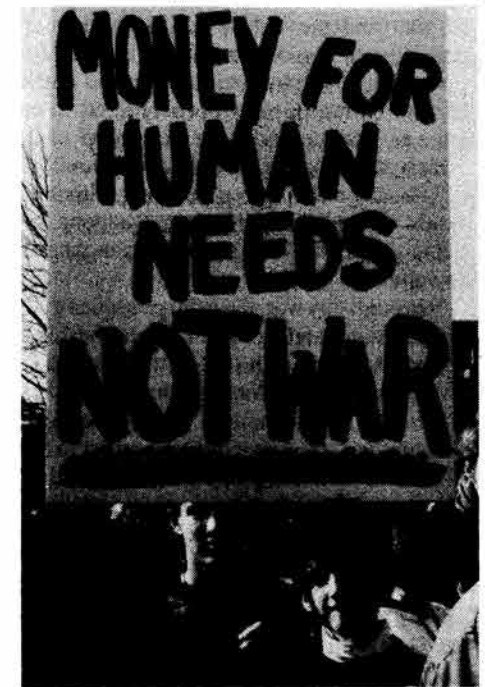
Two hundred Palestinians marched. There were contingents from Young Koreans United and Chicanos Against the War. A group of demonstrators carried a banner reading "Asian and Pacific Islanders Against the War." One thousand people from Santa Cruz, California, also participated.

Demonstrators brought their own hand-lettered signs reflecting a wide range of views on the war. Many in the overwhelmingly young crowd carried signs in Spanish, and a few brought signs in Vietnamese, Chinese, or Korean.

"Bring the troops home" and "No war for oil" were common on placards. Antiwar activists at the Lawrence Livermore weapons research lab printed "No war" signs. Some

placards called for "Sanctions, not war." Signs saying "Support our troops — Bring them home" were also carried.

"Demand your right to know"; "First Amendment: first victim"; and "How many Iraqi deaths?" were among the signs denouncing the U.S. government's press censorship and threats to democratic rights.



Militant/Margrethe Siem
Youth at January 19 march in Washington, D.C.

HANDS OFF THE MIDEAST! Campaigning worldwide against the imperialist war

Working people — in and out of uniform — are discussing and debating the imperialist war in the Mideast led by the governments of the United States, Britain, Canada, France and Australia. In factories, mines, mills, on warships, and among those now stationed in Saudi Arabia, workers and farmers have discussed and expressed opposition to the war against the Iraqi people.

Rallies, marches, and conferences are being held with broad participation, especially from youth; action coalitions have been formed in cities around the world; veterans, GIs, and reservists have been speaking out; antiwar buttons are being worn at work; and planning for more antiwar actions is under way.

We encourage readers to contribute items to this column that will help campaign against and build visible opposition to the war.

Prior to the bombing of Iraq by the United States, a number of readers sent in notes on discussions at their workplaces about war in the Middle East. This week's column is devoted to reporting some of these discussions.

Lea Sherman from Detroit works at a meatpacking plant and is a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers union. She writes that there have been numerous discussions and debates on the war drive at her workplace.

One of her coworkers has had trouble finding a job as a truck driver. "He thinks a war will bring jobs, but is open to discussion," she wrote. "He and a worker from Lebanon were discussing the United Nations vote calling for the use of force against Iraq. The Lebanese worker insisted that the UN was not a voice for peace. I was able to point to the UN's role in Korea and talk with them about socialist Cuba's role in the UN Security Council in opposition to the imperialist war drive."

"One bought a copy of U.S. *Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations*, published by Pathfinder and has read parts of the book. He says it is very straightforward, and wants to read it again. He also got a copy of the antiwar supplement *International Socialist Review*.

"The coworker who wants to be a truck driver still thinks the U.S. will go to war, will win because of its technological superiority, and that this victory will benefit workers. Another coworker who is Black argued with him and said, 'Blacks should not fight in this war.'"

Sherman concluded that there will continue to be discussions and debates at work.

"This war is senseless and not worth the loss of life. This is going to end up like Vietnam," said a fabric cutter in a lunchtime discussion at a sewing factory organized by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in Atlanta, where Miesa Zárate works.

"I don't know," said another cutter, "in some ways the war is good, and in some ways it isn't. But really we don't have any business being over there." The worker said he thought too many Blacks were being sent to Saudi Arabia. "There are too many Blacks over there. It's out of proportion to the number of Blacks in the population. They're sending too many reserves. A lot of my friends are in the reserves and they're all over there."

Another person at the table explained he was against a war with Iraq, but at the same time did not approve of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. "I'm for America. I'm an American. But America doesn't need to be policing the world. When they start crossing the Chattahoochee [River], then we can talk about war."

He also pointed out how money that should be used for social programs in the United States would be used instead for war. "They always want to cut welfare, but too many people can't work and really need welfare," Zárate added that war would have a big impact on workers both in the United States and in Third World countries.

A sewing machine operator raised that "everybody suffers during a war. This is about money and oil. I don't have either one. The working people are always the last ones to be thought about and to know anything. Really we don't know what this war is about. There's a lot they're not telling us."

Zárate reported that several of her coworkers, including some in this discussion, were interested in the *International Socialist*

Review and passed it around to each other.

Recently, an episode of the "Different World" television series focused on the story of a reservist who was called up to go to Saudi Arabia. From Detroit, Joanne Murphy, a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers reported that she and a coworker who is a reservist talked about the show. Murphy wrote, "Both of us thought it was good. While we were talking, another coworker came up and said, 'I'm so glad to see you. Every day I see you here, I'm happy you're not over in Saudi.'"

"I raised with both of them the need to get out and march on January 26 in Washington D.C. to demand the troops be brought home now."

Murphy explained, "The December issue of our union's magazine carried a prowar column. Some of us are sending off a letter in response. We need to find more ways to discuss this war within our union. We hope our letter will help open up that discussion."

Miguel Zárate from Atlanta works at an automobile plant organized by the United Auto Workers union. He reports there have been many lively discussions among his coworkers.

He said that when he asked a coworker what she thought about U.S. troops being in the Gulf, her response was, "Well, I'm going to be honest with you, and you might not want to hear this, but I think something has to be done to stop Saddam Hussein. But what disturbs me is why should we use our troops. Don't they have enough people in the other countries that can fight?"

She also questioned why Blacks were having to fight. "We can't get any jobs except when there's a war," Zárate says this comment drew some more discussion. "Yeah, I don't think George Bush's son will be going over there. Bush says he wants to stop aggression, but look what he's done for Blacks here."

One coworker who participated in the discussion took interest in the U.S. *Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* book and said she wanted to buy it.

Opening guns of World War III

Continued from front page

sorties to rain terror and destruction on Iraqi soldiers and civilians, the U.S. government is now escalating its war against the people of Iraq and the Palestinian and other oppressed peoples of the region. For the first time ever, U.S. troops, attached to Patriot missile batteries, have been ordered to engage in warfare under the command of the Israeli armed forces. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. and allied troops, together with thousands of tanks and modern weapons, are being readied for the ground onslaught soon to come.

Through this war, the ruling families in the United States seek to shift the relationship of forces in this oil-rich part of the world decisively in favor of a Washington-London axis.

The U.S. rulers are aiming to bring Washington's massive military might to bear to redress their declining economic and political power relative to their imperialist rivals — especially Japan, Germany, and France.

They are seeking to establish a new and more favorable balance of power in the Middle East built around an axis of a weakened and U.S.-dominated bourgeois regime in Iraq and the capitalist governments of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and — if possible — Syria as well.

And they are pushing (perhaps under the cover of concessions wrung from Tel Aviv) to gain recognition of the state of Israel from a new layer of governments in the region, thus strengthening this bastion of imperialism at the expense of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Increased stakes

Not since World War II have Washington's stakes in the outcome of a war been so great. The administration has tossed the lives of tens of thousands of soldiers and civilians on all sides onto the table like so many poker chips. By putting such massive destructive power on the line to extend control over Mideast oil reserves and recast the political relations in the region, the U.S. rulers have also increased the stakes for workers and farmers in the United States and the world over. This makes all the more important the most effective possible organization of opposition to these war policies and the goals they serve.

At each stage of the war drive that began last August, U.S. President George Bush and White House officials have said they were simply "shielding" Saudi Arabia and seeking through "peaceful" diplomacy to force Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to withdraw Baghdad's forces from Kuwait. That these statements were deliberate lies should now be clear.

In fact, these claims fly in the face of what Washington has been preparing to carry out for more than a decade. This war is the culmination, and the first major test, of the U.S. rulers' third militarization drive in this century — a drive begun by President James Carter at the opening of the 1980s, and pressed forward with bipartisan support in Congress throughout the Reagan and now Bush administrations.

Far from miscalculating or gambling, Washington has been driven by powerful economic and political considerations to commence the brutal slaughter now under way. Imperialism must, and will, attempt to hold together through force and violence the crumbling capitalist world order.

But the U.S. rulers will break their teeth on this onslaught against the Iraqi people, as Washington and its allies attempt to carry out the next stage of this attack — a bloody ground war to conquer Iraqi territory inch by inch.

The imperialist assault on Iraq will continue to unleash uncontrolled social and political forces throughout the region. And Washington will respond to each new development through widening the war and drawing more countries and peoples toward its vortex.

* * *

In seeking to justify its drive toward war over the past six months, Washington seized on the reactionary invasion of Kuwait by Hussein's forces. (Baghdad had been led to believe through U.S. diplomatic contacts that

the administration would do nothing major in response to this annexation.) Now the U.S. government is exploiting the Iraqi regime's callous disregard for the rights of prisoners of war as a pretext to "declare" the objective that the U.S. rulers have in reality been pursuing for months — to prepare to march on Baghdad.

Washington wants to roll back the clock and reassert its domination over Iraq and other countries in the region, most of which did not even win their independence from colonial rule until after World War II.

To control oil reserves

The wealthy ruling families in the United States want to reassert more direct control over the vast oil reserves in the region. They want to deal a blow to the workers and peasants throughout this part of the world — from Algeria, to Egypt, to Iran — who have waged hard-fought and unfinished battles over many decades for national sovereignty, and against exploitation and oppression by imperialism and by capitalists and landlords at home.

The Palestinian people — whose three-year-long *intifada* has shown the depth of the popular roots of the fight for a democratic and secular Palestine — are among the big-

U.S. rulers will break their teeth on the next stage of this war — a bloody ground war for Iraqi territory.

gest political victims of the U.S.-organized war. They are caught in the pincers of U.S. and Israeli-government violence on the one hand and, on the other, the fakery of bourgeois governments — in Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Libya, Syria, and elsewhere — who falsely claim to speak and act in their interests and in their name.

The big-business press is whipping up a hysteria campaign about Iraqi missiles fired on Israel. While world attention has been focused on the handful of reported deaths of Israelis from these indiscriminate and indefensible attacks on civilians, 915 Palestinians have died at the hands of Israeli troops and cops for simply demonstrating for their rights since the *intifada* began in late 1987. Over the past year alone, 171 Palestinians were killed, 11 during the last week of 1990.

The stakes in this war must be understood by all working people in order to effectively campaign against the devastation the U.S. government has unleashed against the peoples of the Middle East — and will soon inflict on the men and women in uniform whom the bipartisan hypocrites in Washington claim to cherish. In its character and scale, the assault threatens to evolve toward the scope of a third world war.

Faced with an ongoing decline in its economic and political weight relative to its strongest imperialist competitors, Washington is using its massive military might in an attempt to reverse the fortunes of U.S. capitalism. To accomplish their war goals, the U.S. rulers are willing to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of dead and wounded Iraqis, U.S. and allied soldiers, immigrant workers living in Kuwait and Iraq, and others throughout the region.

Cover-up of casualties

A massive cover-up is already being carried out to hide the extent of the civilian and troop deaths under the torrent of bombs being dropped on Iraq and Kuwait. Workers and peasants working and living in or near industrial and military targets have been certain victims of Washington's cold-blooded "surgical" strikes.

Statements by administration officials that the bombing will "soften up" targets, and that they are seeking to "spare" civilians in Iraq, simply mean that saturation bombing of population centers will follow if the Iraqi people do not submit unconditionally to imperial dictates.

The big-business media has abandoned even the pretense of "objectivity" and is



U.S. tanks in Saudi Arabia, heading for Kuwait. "U.S. rulers aim to use massive military might to redress their declining economic and political power."

shamelessly fostering chauvinist fervor. As during the Vietnam War, the major dailies and television and radio news programs regurgitate the "facts" released by the U.S. administration and its military command — day after day, hour after hour, sometimes minute by minute. While issuing feeble protests against Washington's censorship of war news (the harshest restrictions in at least a half century), the bourgeois media is doing its part to aid the U.S. government in rendering the Iraqi people faceless and covering up the horrible human toll from the thousands of bombing raids.

In the months prior to the unleashing of the bombing, most people in the United States denied that such a war would, or could, take place. The tactical divisions that opened within the bipartisan congressional consensus in early November around the size and pace of the administration's troop buildup obscured the fact that all-out war was being systematically prepared by Washington throughout the fall. Today, as at the start of all imperialist wars, Democratic and Republican politicians alike have fallen in step behind the flag and the "commander-in-chief."

The criminal economic blockade of Iraq; the unprecedented military buildup in the Gulf; Washington's success time after time from August through November in winning diplomatic cover from the other four veto-wielding governments in the United Nations Security Council (Britain, China, France, and the Soviet Union); the character of peace probes culminating in Secretary of State James Baker's trip to Geneva in early January — all these elements were part of the drive to justify starting the war, not efforts to prevent it.

March to depression

This mammoth U.S. war drive is intertwined with the march toward a worldwide depression. Whether set off by a deep recession, a breakdown in the banking system, a war spun out of control, or other partial crises, such a worldwide deflation and collapse in production and trade is on the horizon in the closing decade of this century. And it will give rise to a social crisis of global proportions.

Already, the mounting impact of the current recession, together with sharply rising oil prices, is putting the squeeze on the livelihoods of millions of working people throughout the world. The consequences are particularly devastating for toilers throughout the Third World, where interest payments on the enormous (more than \$1.2 trillion) external debt are more and more onerous, and have grown as the U.S. administration has prepared for war.

For most workers and farmers who are alive today this is the first war born of deepening economic crisis and breakdowns in the capitalist system, similar to those of the 1920s and 30s that propelled humanity into the second world imperialist slaughter of 1939-45. The employers, as always, hope to use the "national war effort" to make more difficult what will become the inevitable resistance by working people to the effects of this crisis. An imperialist war is always accompanied by ruling-class efforts to restrict the democratic space that has been won by working people to engage in politics and resist takebacks and social injustice.

Even in the few days since Washington unleashed its bombs over Iraq, examples can be pointed to of the stepped-up assault by the employing class on the democratic and social rights, political space, living standards, job conditions, and union organization of

working people in the United States.

From patriotic appeals to work harder to support the war effort; to "security" crack-downs at airports and other workplaces; to FBI and other police harassment of people of Arab descent and those who speak out against the war — the U.S. government is seeking to intimidate opponents of its bloody assault on Iraq and prepare public opinion for restrictions on political rights.

Just the day before the U.S. bombs began falling, the U.S. Supreme Court dealt a body blow to the fight against racist discrimination, upholding a lower court decision allowing Oklahoma City to scrap busing to promote school desegregation.

The New York City administration announced the layoff of some 16,000 city workers and big cuts in social services, health, and education.

And the tip of the iceberg of efforts by the coal bosses to boost their profits by concealing serious safety violations in the mines was revealed when the largest U.S. mining corporation got a slap on the wrist for falsifying federal safety reports.

But the U.S. employers haven't been able to get their way without a fight. They continue to confront a working class and labor movement at home that has not been defeated, demoralized, or pushed out of politics.

Members of the International Association of Machinists, who went on strike against Eastern Airlines in March 1989, kept on fighting. And their slogan "One day longer" was again confirmed, as it had been at the key turning points of this struggle earlier in 1990, when Eastern finally shut its doors on January 18 of this year. The bosses' attempt to show the way to run a profitable, union-free airline had failed.

Mineworkers, steelworkers, catfish processors, newspaper printers, and others are resisting the employers' union-busting and concession demands.

As the horrendous death toll of bloody ground combat mounts in the Gulf, workers and farmers in the United States, Britain, Canada, and elsewhere will increasingly tie their resistance to the bosses' offensive at home to building opposition to the bosses' war in the Middle East. And workers and farmers in uniform from all the "allied forces" will increasingly come to oppose the slaughter as well.

Through combining resistance to the employers' antilabor, anti-democratic, and anti-social justice offensive at home, and their brutal war against Iraq, the reactionary policies of Wall Street and Washington can be pushed back.

'Them' and 'us'

Through their monopoly of the press, the government, and other capitalist institutions, the employing class promotes the lie that "we" includes not only the government, its armed forces, and the Democratic and Republican parties that protect the interests of the handful of wealthy families who rule the United States. They say "we" also includes the majority of working people in this country who produce that wealth through our labor and are maimed and killed in their wars.

Moreover, the bosses tell us that "they" — the people of Iraq — are the "enemy."

But the opposite is the truth. Workers and peasants in Iraq share a common exploitation, common class enemies, common interests, and a common destiny with working people in the United States and the world over.

In seeking to resist employer union-bust-

Continued on Page 13

Iowa reservist: 'Oh, great, I want one of those'

Supporters of the Militant have been campaigning against the U.S.-led war in the Mideast and helping to build working-class opposition to the bloody slaughter unleashed against the people of Iraq. They are engaging

Bill Etherington, vice-president of the Durham branch of the National Union of Mineworkers, was interested in Cuba's firm opposition to the war and to the U.S.-imposed economic sanctions against Iraq. He decided to order 50 copies

the span of 30 minutes. About half the drivers stopped to talk to sales team members. Three copies of the *International Socialist Review* were sold.

"Oh, great, I want one of those," responded one reservist after *Militant* sales people explained it was a socialist newspaper opposed to Washington's war drive against the Iraqi people. He said he had not yet been called up for active duty. A young woman in a medical reserve unit knew a fellow reservist who subscribed to the *Militant*. She decided to get a copy of the antiwar supplement also.

Two soldiers who were interested didn't have any money on them. Said one, "Even if we can't get your paper today, you can count us as supporters."

The third person who bought the *International Socialist Review* was a student from the University of Northern Iowa. When she read the headline — "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive" — she laughed and said, "This doesn't seem like a very good place to be with that paper."

When *Militant* supporters told her that many people from the base were interested in what the paper was saying, she got very excited. She said she had been following

the war discussions in the U.S. Congress and would look up the Pathfinder bookstore in town. She was also planning to see if anyone on campus was planning to go to the antiwar march in Washington, D.C., on January 26.

Not everyone at the camp was opposed to Washington's aggression. One woman explained she backed the government's moves but thanked the sales team for coming. Others just said they weren't interested.

At a January 10 protest against the war in the Mideast held in Reykjavik, Iceland, supporters of the *Militant* sold 23 copies of the *International Socialist Review* and half a dozen copies of the *Militant* — all the papers they had brought to the action.

The event was called by the Iceland-Palestine Association (FÍP) and the turnout was larger than organizers had expected. "Many participants wanted to discuss politics with us," said *Militant* salesperson Gylfi Páll Hersir. "One young person we met there came to the Pathfinder bookstore the next day."

Alan Sapper, general secretary

of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) in Britain, said the *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* book is "really timely in order to support the growing numbers of people across all spectrums of society who are horrified" about the war in the Mideast. The ACTT represents close to 30,000 media workers.

The book "helps to substantially pierce the propaganda screening that enables [U.S. President George] Bush and [British Prime Minister John] Major to manipulate the media to hide the full horrors of the war," Sapper said, as happened with previous U.S. and British invasions "in the Falklands, in Grenada, in Panama, in Korea, and indeed in the covert wars in other areas of Latin America. . . .

"It is important that this book exposes the reason for the war hysteria — and this reason has nothing to do with democracy or the well-being of the peoples in Kuwait or the world at large."

Sara Lobman from Des Moines and Sigurlaug Gunnlaugsdóttir from Iceland contributed to this week's column.



GETTING THE MILITANT AROUND

in discussions about the war with coworkers and other unionists, GIs at military bases, youth, farmers, and farm workers. In the last few weeks hundreds of workers and young people have purchased subscriptions to the *Militant*, copies of the December *International Socialist Review*, and Pathfinder books.

At a January 12 demonstration in London against the war in the Middle East, supporters of the *Militant* distributed the paper and Pathfinder books and pamphlets as they spoke with working people and other participants.

of the Pathfinder book *U.S. Hands Off the Mideast! Cuba Speaks Out at the United Nations* so that every coal miner from Durham at the protest march could read it.

More than 120 copies of the *Militant* and 20 copies of the *International Socialist Review* were sold at antiwar actions in Britain.

Militant supporters visited the Camp Dodge military base just outside Des Moines, Iowa, on January 5 to meet and talk with members of the Army, the National Guard, and Air Force reserves there for weekend training.

Two dozen cars left the camp in

Turkey's rulers seek spoils of war by aiding U.S.

BY SETH GALINSKY

The Turkish parliament voted on January 17 to authorize U.S. fighters and bombers to launch strikes against Iraq from Incirlik Air Base in Turkey.

Moving rapidly to take advantage of the decision, U.S. officials announced that two flights of F-15 fighters were sent from Turkey to destroy missile bases in Iraq.

These actions follow the stationing of German, Italian, and Belgian troops and war planes at bases in Turkey. The forces arrived after the December request by Turkish President Turgut Ozal to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) that it bolster Turkey's air power in anticipation of the imperialist war against Iraq.

The request by Ozal and the decision by the parliament are the latest in a series of moves since August to back the U.S. government's war drive against Iraq. In the long run Ozal seeks to shore up the country's economy, modernize its military forces, and get part of the spoils of war in the event of an Iraqi defeat.

"We are taking measures in case of geographical changes in the region," Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut told the parliament, referring to the possible dividing up of Iraqi territory. "Our armed forces should be ready."

Turkey, about twice the size of California, with a population of 54 million, shares land borders with Iraq, Iran, Syria, Bulgaria, Greece, and the Soviet Union. It is a member of NATO. Turkey's armed forces of 650,000 number second only to the United States in the NATO alliance.

'A two-front war'

Although Turkey has not placed any soldiers directly under the command of the U.S.-headed forces in the Arab-Persian Gulf, it has sent more than 100,000 troops to its 175-mile long border with Iraq. This has forced Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to maintain 120,000 troops near the border and to back these forces with additional equipment.

Recently, Iraq publicly protested Turkish violations of its airspace.

"Obviously, the Iraqis do not want to have to fight a two-front war," one European chargé d'affaires told the *New York Times*.

A Mideastern diplomat told the *Times*, "Whenever the decision is taken to attack, the Turks are going to do their bit."

Referring to the Turkish forces on the Iraqi border, the diplomat added, "It's like the Sword of Damocles hanging over the Iraqis. If you can tie down eight out of Iraq's 58 divisions without firing a shot, then that's pretty good — you've diverted some troops from the main battle front."

While Turkey's main trading partner is

Germany, it also had significant dealings with Iraq until the start of the UN-sponsored embargo.

In August Turkey imposed sanctions against Iraq by shutting down twin pipelines that stretch from Iraq through Turkey to the Mediterranean Sea. The pipelines carry more than half of Iraq's oil exports.

As a result of the break with Iraq, Turkey could lose \$7 billion a year. It now must also buy 60 percent of its oil elsewhere at higher prices.

The results have been devastating on working people, especially those living in the Turkish region closest to Iraq.

Perhaps 4,000 or more trucks a day — in and out of Iraq — used to pass through the town of Silopi. Now, the *Times* reports, "Townsmen spend empty hours in cafes, sipping strong coffee and tea, denouncing President Saddam Hussein of Iraq but cursing the embargo as well."

The Turkish government seeks to be repaid for its efforts. Although Turkey's application was denied last year, it plans to reapply for membership in the European Economic Community in 1993. Turkey's foreign ministry announced the government hopes that U.S. President George Bush will visit Ankara, the capital, in February.

"We've been very pleased with the way the Turks have conducted themselves in the crisis," U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney stated. "Ozal has been one of the leaders of the effort."

Washington and its Arab allies have promised billions to the Turkish government to make up for the loss in trade. Turkey is already the third-largest recipient of U.S. military aid in the world — \$550 million in 1990.

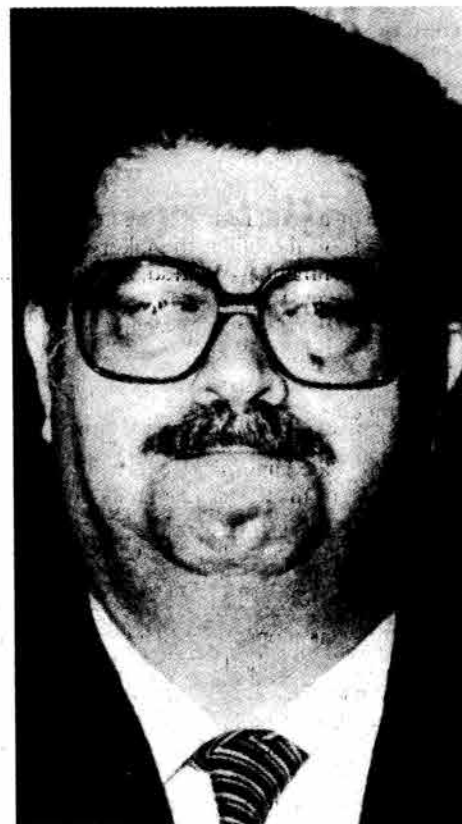
In November, the Bush administration approved a major increase in the amount of textiles and clothing Turkey can import into the United States.

The drive to war has not met with unanimous agreement among Turkey's ruling class. In mid-October, as President Ozal increased collaboration with the moves against Iraq, the foreign and defense ministers resigned. In December, Gen. Necip Torumtay, chief of the armed forces, quit in protest of Ozal's handling of the Gulf crisis.

By assuming the leadership of the government's steps to aid the U.S. war drive, Ozal has significantly strengthened the presidency in Turkey, which had been a mostly ceremonial position. Executive power was in the hands of the prime minister. But Ozal has emerged as the central leader of the government.

Torture and massive repression

Washington's backing of the Turkish government is one more example of U.S. Presi-



Turkey's President Turgut Ozal. Regime is preparing for division of Iraq.

dent George Bush's hypocritical claim that U.S. intervention is part of a fight against the "brutality" of a "dictator."

In 1980 a U.S.-backed coup d'etat brought a military government to power in Turkey. During the three years of martial law that followed, hundreds were executed for political offenses. Another 30,000 were jailed and sentenced to at least five years in prison.

Even though civilian rule was reestablished in 1983, most political parties re-

mained outlawed and their leaders prohibited from participating in politics. The government remains notorious for arbitrary arrests, torture, and repression.

Amnesty International reported that in 1989 hundreds of political prisoners suffered torture by electric shocks, hoseings with cold water, and beatings on the soles of their feet.

At least 30 journalists, including 17 editors, were arrested in 1990 for publishing political views unacceptable to the Ozal regime. Eighteen newspapers were forced out of circulation. In particular, the government goes after papers that defend the rights of the Kurdish people.

There are an estimated 8 million Kurds in Turkey, an oppressed nationality not only in Turkey, but in Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Soviet Armenia as well.

In April 1990 the Turkish government gave the regional governor of 11 provinces the authority to forcibly evacuate entire villages, as part of the battle against Kurdish guerrillas who are fighting for independence. Since 1984, 2,000 people have died in the course of fighting between the government and the guerrillas.

Working people have also sought to defend themselves against the effects of skyrocketing inflation and other aspects of the country's economic crisis. At least 1.5 million workers stayed at home in a one-day general strike January 3 to demand wage increases up to 500 percent to offset inflation. They also sought to end a ban on union involvement in politics. Average per-capita income in Turkey was \$1,435 in 1989.

The strike was organized by Turk-Is (Turkish Trade Union Confederation), the only legal union federation in the country. In addition, 50,000 miners have been on strike since November.

New Zealand bookshop vandalized

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — In the early morning hours of January 12 the window of the Pathfinder bookshop here was smashed.

The window prominently features posters advertising activities against the U.S. and allied aggression in the Mideast, as well as books and pamphlets in support of the Palestinian and South African freedom struggles.

In a press statement released the next day, shop manager George Fyson said, "This attack occurs in the context of the buildup to Washington's ghastly January 15 deadline,

which will see a massive attack launched against the people of Iraq. This buildup is wholeheartedly supported by the government of New Zealand.

"The attack," Fyson continued, "will not deter supporters of the bookshop from continuing to mount opposition to, and get out the facts about, the march toward war. We defend the right to free discussion on the question of war and peace, both now and after the war begins," he said.

No items were reported stolen from the shop.

ARIZONA

Phoenix

Socialist Educational Weekend. "Working-class Campaign Against Imperialist War. U.S. Hands Off the Middle East! Bring the Troops Home Now!" Speaker: Tom Leonard, Socialist Workers Party and veteran trade unionist. Sat., Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. Donation: \$5. Class on "Lessons from SWP Experiences in Workers' Struggles Before and During World War II." Speaker: Tom Leonard. Sun., Feb. 3, 3 p.m. Donation: \$3. Supper to follow. Donation: \$3. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (602) 279-5850.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

March and Rally against the War. Sat., Jan. 26. Assemble: 10 a.m., Olympic and Broadway; Rally: 12 noon, City Hall. Sponsor: Los Angeles Coalition against U.S. Intervention in the Middle East. Tel: (213) 655-3728.
Open House. Meet Socialist Workers Party 1991 candidates and members of the Young Socialist Alliance. Refreshments. Sat., Jan. 26, following antiwar march and rally. 2546 W Pico Blvd. Sponsor: Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. Tel: (213) 380-9460.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Working-Class Campaign against the Imperialist War Drive. Class series. Every Wednesday through Feb. 20. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd

floor. Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance. Tel: (404) 577-4065.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Black History Month Series. "Blacks in America's Wars." Panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.; "The Crisis Facing Black Farmers." Speaker: Kathie Fitzgerald, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.; "Malcolm X in Today's World." Video presentation. Sat., Feb. 16, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; "South Africa: One Year After Mandela's Release." Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Roger Jardine, South African student just returned from two-month visit home. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

The Fight against Imperialist War: World War I to Today. Every Wed., Jan. 23-Feb. 27, 5 p.m. University of Minnesota, Room 308, Coffman Union. Sponsor: Young Socialist Alliance. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

The War against Working People at Home and Abroad. Join a discussion. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. 191 7th Ave. Donation: \$4. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (212) 675-6740.

Daily U.S. bombing of Iraq

Continued from Page 4

ing U.S. troops and 72 Patriot antimissile systems into that country. The USS *Forrestal* was deployed off the Israeli coast, the seventh carrier the U.S. government has sent to the region.

Israel gave Washington assurances that it would not respond to the Iraqi missile attack for now, thus avoiding a possible breakdown in Washington's alliance with governments in the region who object to Israel entering the war.

"We cannot [retaliate] in a vacuum," said Yossi Ben-Aharon, a close aide to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. "It has to be done in coordination with all the powers that are involved there. It has to be done in a way that will not widen the conflict," he said.

U.S. and allied troops massed near the Kuwaiti and Iraqi borders have begun to shift positions in final preparation for a ground assault on Iraq and Kuwait.

"Many people have said that we could win this with an air war alone," said General Schwarzkopf. "That's entirely conceivable." But, he added, "many people have said that it's absolutely necessary to have a ground war. That's entirely conceivable also."

The Pentagon reports that key Iraqi military installations have been badly damaged by the massive carpet bombing. But officials admit that most of Iraq's air force remains intact and well-dug-in troops have not been dislodged. Unable to defeat the Iraqi people

through air power alone, Washington will throw tens of thousands into a protracted ground war to conquer Iraq.

Speaking at a January 18 press conference, Bush spoke of being "concerned about the initial euphoria in some of the reports and reactions" to the bombing raids. "This effort will take some time," he said.

"We must be realistic," Bush said. "There will be some losses. There will be obstacles along the way. And war is never cheap or easy."

Socialists condemn war against Iraq

Continued from Page 16

stay in the region to play a "humanitarian role."

"Mulroney said last night that now is the time for Canadians to set aside our differences and close ranks behind the war effort. Chrétien and McLaughlin say the same thing.

"They want striking nurses, Native people fighting for land and sovereignty, and Québécois fighting for the right to self-determination to give up our rights and struggles in the name of national unity. As the rulers launch their war, our democratic rights are being attacked here and around the world," explained Nancy Walker.

In Toronto, Joe Young announced his campaign as the Communist League candidate for mayor of Toronto just hours before the war started. Young blasted the impending war, explaining that as the economic crisis deepens, "the ruling families of Canada have no alternative but to wage war abroad and at home against workers and farmers."

BRITAIN

Cardiff

A Working-Class Campaign against the War — End the War, Feed the World. Speaker: Brian Edwards, member Farmers Union of Wales. Sat., Jan. 26, 7 p.m. 9 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 0222-484677.

London

Working-class Campaign against Imperialist War Drive. Panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. 47 The Cut, SE 1. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 71-401-2409.

Manchester

Malcolm X: His Ideas for Today. Video. Speaker: representative, Communist League. Fri., Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m. Unit 4, 60 Shudehill. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Militant Forums. Tel: 061-839-1766.

CANADA

Montréal

Demonstration against the Middle East War. Sat., Jan. 26, Assemble: 1 p.m., Parc Lafontaine, corner of Sherbrooke and Avenue Parc Lafontaine (Métro Sherbrooke). Sponsor: Coalition against the War in the Arab-Persian Gulf. Tel: (514) 982-0496.

Young Socialists Open House. Discussion on working-class campaign against the imperialist war. Sat., Jan. 26, 4:30 p.m., following demonstration. 6566, boul. St-Laurent. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Québec and Native Sovereignty. How the Working Class Can Unite against the Capitalist War at Home and Abroad. Speaker: Michel Dugré, Communist League Central Committee and member United Steelworkers of America. Sat., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. 6566, boul. St-Laurent. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Forum Lutte Ouvrière. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Toronto

Canadian and U.S. Troops Out of the Gulf. Demonstration. Sat., Jan. 26. Rally: 12 noon, City Hall; March: 1 p.m. Sponsor: Coalition for Troops Out of the Gulf. Tel: (416) 588-0922.

José Martí Dinner and Dance. Music by Septiembre 5 — direct from Cuba. Special guest: Alfredo Armenteros, consul general of Cuba. Sat., Jan. 26. Cocktails: 7 p.m.; Dinner: 8

You're invited to Open Houses after the January 26 Protests

The Young Socialist Alliance invites you to open houses following the January 26 antiwar marches in Washington, D.C., and San Francisco, January 26, to meet the Socialist Workers Party's 1991 candidates.

Washington, D.C.

Place: Hotel Washington, 15th St. and Pennsylvania NW.

Time: 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Speakers: James Warren, SWP candidate for mayor of Chicago; and Aaron Ruby, national chairperson, Young Socialist Alliance.

Donation: \$3

San Francisco

Place: Service Employees' International Union (SEIU) Hardy Hall, ground floor. 240 Goldengate between Hyde and Leavenworth.

Time: 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Speakers: Stuart Crome, SWP candidate for Seattle city council; representative, Young Socialist Alliance.

Donation: \$3.

p.m.; Dance: 9:30 p.m. Tickets: \$20 advance, \$25 door. Sponsor: Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association. Marina Banquet Hall. 877 St. Clair Ave. W. Tel: (416) 323-3808 or 987-5603.

Vancouver

Stop the War in the Gulf! Rally and march. Sat., Jan. 26, 1 p.m., Vancouver Art Gallery. Sponsor: Middle East Peace Action.

The Fight against the War in the Middle East and the Ideas of Malcolm X. Video. Discussion. Sat., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

Why Are Canadian Troops in the Middle East? Stop the Bombing! Troops Out Now! Speaker: Nancy Walker, Communist League candidate in British Columbia. Sat., Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. 1053 Kingsway, Suite 102. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

NEW ZEALAND

Wellington

Teach-in against War in the Middle East. Featuring: Owen Wilkes. Sat., Jan. 26, 10 a.m.—5 p.m. St. John's Church, corner Willis and Dixon streets. Donation: \$5. Sponsor: Committee on the Gulf Crisis. Tel: 828-129.

SWEDEN

Stockholm

Stop the War in the Middle East. Demonstration. Sat., Jan. 26. Assemble: 12 noon, Kungsträdgården: March to U.S. Embassy. Sponsors: peace, solidarity, and political organizations.

Open House. Speaker: Inge Hinnemo, Communist League. Sat., Jan. 26. Open 11 a.m. and following Stockholm demonstration. Vikingagatan 10 (T-bana St Eriksplan). Sponsor: Communist League. Tel: (08) 31 69 33.

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

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

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MISSOURI: 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: 1863 W. 25th St. Zip: 44113. Tel: (216) 861-6150. Columbus: P.O. Box 02097. Zip: 43202.

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: 9 E.

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

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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.

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AUSTRALIA

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

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CANADA

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

ICELAND

Reykjavík: Klapparstíg 26. Mailing address: P. Box 233, 121 Reykjavík. 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.

Keep shouting — In Tokyo, Yoshihiko Kato won a Loud Voice Contest sponsored by a cough drop company. In a voice louder



Harry Ring

than the racket of an elevated train, he shouted, "If you want a war, you go."

Big riddle — With the recent

freeze-induced shortage of citrus fruit, California growers have to decide if they will use the limited crops to meet export commitments or keep them in the United States, where the fruit will command top dollar. A California agriculture official saw this as a painful dilemma for the growers. A Sunkist spokesperson tersely responded that the fruit would follow the price, period.

Progress report — Responding to angry protests, the school board in Oakland, California, is reconsidering its policy of selling lists of home phone numbers of high school seniors to military recruiters.

Maybe with sausage? — "I'm not opposed to purity in government, but I truly never met an elected official who I thought would change his vote because someone paid for his pancakes at breakfast." — A Los Angeles lobbyist on a new law relating to the ethics of city officials.

Gold bars — "Riding a dramatic increase in America's prison population, correctional feeding has blossomed into a \$1 billion market nationwide." — *Nation's Restaurant News*

Growth industry — Joseph

Robinson, a Philadelphia entrepreneur, is starting off nicely with a chain of franchise outlets which offer replacement engines for cars. "The way they make engines today," Robinson chuckled, "we'll be in business forever."

Key ingredients — Members of a Soviet electoral commission have been visiting the United States to learn how it's done here. The Federal Election Commission reports that on a recent visit, the delegation attended a seminar designed to give them information on two aspects of the U.S. electoral system: "private sector involvement in elections and the role of the courts in campaigns

and elections."

Could add a \$ sign — The Claude Montana boutique in Beverly Hills was offering a white T-shirt with a big M on front for \$150, but they're no longer available. Sniffed the manager, "We do not renew last season's styles."

Change of address — The "Great Society" is now being written from Los Angeles. Clippings for the column are still greatly appreciated. When feasible, they should be sent directly there. Send to: Harry Ring, Pathfinder Bookstore, 2546 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90006.

Secret Service interrogates Des Moines unionists

Continued from front page

tempts to deport him for his political activity. Schenk was a prominent spokesperson for Marroquin's defense committee.

In 1981 Schenk testified on behalf of the SWP in its historic lawsuit against the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and other government agencies — for spying, harassment, and other violations of the First and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The SWP won the case in 1986 and later secured a court ruling protecting it from further government intrusion into its affairs.

Demanded lawyer, steward

The agents insisted they had to get some answers to "clear things up." Demanding an attorney, Schenk said in an interview after the incident, that the "cops refused, saying they had a few questions and they wanted to get this over with quickly."

When she then demanded that her union steward be present, the cops also refused, saying the questioning was not a union matter. The agents finally gave in to her demand that a steward be present.

"At first they tried to get me to answer by intimidating me with their charges," Schenk said. "Then they tried to act like they were my friend, saying that if I was innocent, then someone must be out to get me and they wanted to protect me."

"Finally, they tried to get me to talk by appealing to me as a worker, saying they just had to get some answers for their forms," Schenk said.

"I repeated over and over again that I had nothing to say to them. I was anxious for the union steward to arrive, so I went to the door, put my hand on the door knob, and said I was going to check to see if the union representative was coming," she said.

"The Secret Service cop held the door closed and told me: 'You're not going anywhere.' I asked again for my steward and finally they let him in," the union activist said.

"They spent several more minutes harassing me and my union steward with questions," she said. "They asked, 'Are you going to the inaugural ball tonight? Do you carry a gun to work?' Finally, after I told them I didn't have to answer their questions, and my steward backed me up, they let me go," she said.

As Schenk left, company officials brought Searcy in through another hallway. Searcy also asked for his union steward. The cops again refused.

Searcy said later that the government agents "asked me questions like: 'Do you belong to any organizations? Do you go to peace rallies? Do you own a gun?'"

At the end of the questioning, Searcy said, the cops "told me they were going to do a 'background check' on me. If they found anything, they said, they would be back to interrogate me again."

Attack on rights

"This is an outright attack on our rights as working people and on the rights of our union," Schenk said. "Accusing us of threatening to kill the president and the governor is an extremely serious charge," she said.

The provocative accusation feeds the terrorism mania the government is promoting, she said, "as a way to undercut democratic rights and intimidate resistance to the employers' offensive at home and opposition to their war abroad."

"The company collaborated with the cops. The company had previously told Searcy that

we both should 'keep our lips buttoned' about our opposition to Washington's war, 'or else.'

"The questioning by the cops took place on company property. They demanded that I answer questions about my activities on the job and in politics. The personnel manager even tried to sit in and participate when the agents interrogated Harold. This was a blatant attempt to intimidate us and other union members, to limit free discussion about the war in the Mideast and company policy," she said.

In discussions with coworkers and at a union meeting Schenk said she let other unionists know that "No one is ever required to talk to the police or FBI. These are attempts to find out about our union and political activities, and to get more names to target for victimization."

Both Schenk and Searcy spoke at a January 20 Militant Labor Forum protesting the U.S. war.

"We will get out the word about the move, and seek support from unionists, farmers, GIs, students, and others to defend our right

to speak out against the war," she said.

Searcy added that "over the past few weeks I read a lot in the papers about how people in this country had to beware of terrorists from the Middle East. It turned out the only people I have been harassed by showed up at Emco, and they were from the government."

"If they thought they would intimidate me, they were wrong," he said. The young unionist joined the Young Socialist Alliance the same weekend.

Union and political activists in the area are already speaking out in defense of the two unionists. Jim Armstrong, president of UAW Local 270 at Fawn engineering, said, "No worker should be subjected to interrogation at the workplace."

On January 21, People for Peace in the Middle East met to discuss future activities. Sally Frank, an attorney and a leader of the group, reported on the attack on Schenk and Searcy, explaining that activists have the constitutional right to refuse to answer questions from the police.



Militant/Arthur Hughes
Union and antiwar activist Priscilla Schenk.

2,300 troops sent to Gulf from Puerto Rico

BY RON RICHARDS

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — With the January 9 call-up of a National Guard unit and a unit of Military Police from the army reserves, more than 2,300 Puerto Rico-based reservists have been mobilized for duty in the Arab-Persian Gulf.

Puerto Rico became a U.S. colony in 1898, when U.S. troops invaded, taking the place of Spanish colonialists who had occupied the island.

Puerto Ricans, including those who live in the United States, are only 2.5 percent of the combined population of the United States and its colonies, yet they make up 5 percent of the armed forces. By the time the number of U.S. troops in the Gulf reaches 450,000, an estimated 20,000 will be Puerto Ricans.

The U.S. military is highly visible here. Since August it has been common to see military transports climbing the steep mountain pass that crosses the island divide. In shopping malls, AT&T booths allow families and friends to send faxes to the troops.

From the southeastern part of the island AWACS radar planes can regularly be observed landing at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station — one of several U.S. military bases that occupy 13 percent of Puerto Rican territory. These spy planes were moved here less than a year ago in a buildup of the U.S. military presence.

With unemployment officially at 14 percent and average factory wages at \$5.50 per hour, many working people have taken jobs in the military. Soldiers get 30 days' vacation per year and relatively good health and family benefits.

The ruling Popular Democratic Party supports maintaining the colonial status quo, and the New Democratic Party backs statehood for Puerto Rico. Both parties support the war drive of the U.S. government.

The mayor of San Juan, Héctor Luis Acevedo, staged a send-off rally for some reserve units in the Plaza de Armas. He is a major in the National Guard.

The U.S. war drive in the Middle East was protested at two recent picket lines. These were the first antiwar protests in Puerto Rico since the U.S. government began sending troops to Saudi Arabia in August.

The first was held November 28 and drew

50 people, including supporters of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, which favors independence for the island, and various religious groups.

Protest leader Eunice Santana, a minister and leader of the National Ecumenical Council, told the *San Juan Star* that she was opposed to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. "But the Arab nations should be permitted to find a solution to the conflict without having the

area turned into an international bloodbath," she said.

The second action, held December 6, was attended by 150 persons. Demonstrators demanded that no Puerto Ricans be sent to the Mideast and that nobody die for oil.

Several further antiwar activities are planned, including a mother's march against the war and a distribution of leaflets to soldiers at Fort Buchanan.

Opening guns of World War III

Continued from Page 10

ing and takeback demands, working people cannot wage an effective fight to defend our interests if we are misled into seeing "we" as the company and the union — instead of "we" as working people and our allies, and "they" as the employers, their bipartisan political representatives, and their government in Washington.

Extended to a world scale, working people have a common interest in resisting assaults and wars by "them" — the handful of billionaire families in the United States, Britain, Canada, France, and elsewhere in the capitalist world. And today working people in Iraq, throughout the Mideast, and within the belligerent countries — the real "we" — must wage a common struggle to defeat the imperialists' efforts to move toward an ever-widening slaughter.

Workers and farmers in the United States must reject the U.S. government's self-proclaimed right to police the globe, interfere in other country's affairs, and intervene against the struggles of working people and the oppressed world over.

In many parts of Europe, protest demonstrations demanding a halt to the war against Iraq are also raising demands that all U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces be withdrawn from these countries; there are currently some 200,000 U.S. troops stationed in Western Europe. Similar demands will be raised by growing numbers of workers, farmers, and youth in Japan, where 50,000 U.S. troops are based.

Opponents of Washington's Mideast war

— in the United States, throughout Asia, and elsewhere — can also link up with the fight for the reunification of Korea and the end of the U.S. occupation of the southern part of that country by some 45,000 U.S. troops. We should join with all those opposed to the racist apartheid system in southern Africa; to the continued assaults on the people of El Salvador; and to the 30-year-long U.S. trade embargo of Cuba, which continues to deny the basic human rights of food and medicine to the workers and farmers of that nation.

Working people resisting the employers' offensive today can join in campaigning against Washington's war by getting out the truth about it and engaging in discussion and debate on the job and in the unions; reaching out to GIs — getting the facts into their hands and defending their constitutional rights as citizen-soldiers; speaking out against the war on high school and college campuses; helping to organize local, regional, and national demonstrations against the war; and deepening solidarity with strikers, locked-out workers, and other social protesters seeking to defend their unions and democratic and social rights.

We should join with the growing numbers in this country and around the world who have found the common cry "No blood for oil!" and who are demanding of the bipartisan government in Washington and its allies:

Stop the bombing!

Bring the troops home now!

All foreign troops out of the Mideast!

End the sanctions and blockade against the people of Iraq!

End gov't ban on Iraq officials

The January 12 decision by U.S. President George Bush's administration ordering the Iraqi ambassador to the United States to cut his embassy staff to four people in order to reduce Baghdad's "capability to orchestrate terrorism" should be roundly condemned by all working people.

The next day the British government followed suit, ordering reductions in the Iraqi embassy staff in that country. It gave them 48 hours to leave.

The imperialists' measures came 96 hours before Washington began a massive aerial bombing of Iraq, unleashing one of the biggest mobilizations of air firepower ever assembled against heavily populated cities, including the country's capital.

In acting against the diplomats, the U.S. State Department claimed evidence of "terrorist planning [sponsored by Iraq] in Africa, Asia, and Latin America" and "most regions of the world."

Earlier that week the state department announced tighter travel restrictions will be imposed on the Iraqi envoy to the United Nations, already confined to a 25-mile radius from Columbus Circle in Manhattan. This will be the third round of restrictions imposed on Baghdad's representatives since August.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service declared it has begun photographing and fingerprinting everyone entering the United States with an Iraqi or Kuwaiti passport. The FBI is also conducting interviews of Arab-Americans across the country.

Through the use of the FBI, INS, State Department, and other government agencies, the U.S. rulers seek to label all

Iraqis and Arabs as terrorist threats. Their aim is to intimidate them and keep them from speaking out against the devastation being wrought on Iraq.

The U.S. rulers want to make the Iraqi people faceless in order to escape condemnation by working people the world over for the results of their brutal assault. The travel bans and other restrictions limit Iraqi officials' ability to speak out to wider numbers of working people against Washington's bloody onslaught on their country.

In stark contrast to the treatment of Iraqi citizens and government personnel by the U.S. warmongers, foreign journalists and U.S. diplomats in Baghdad have been allowed to remain in the country and travel freely. One British journalist visited bomb shelters in Baghdad and spoke with Iraqi citizens living underground where he said he found no hostility.

All working people, other opponents of the U.S.-led war against Iraq, and defenders of democratic rights should join in condemning the restrictions, the denial of rights, and the discriminatory treatment of all Iraqi nationals and Arab peoples, including officials of the Baghdad regime, at the hands of the U.S. government.

The police agencies that Washington is using to harass and abuse Iraqis living in the United States are the same outfits the employers and their government use to harass and spy on unionists in struggle and other working people fighting for their rights. By taking a strong stand in defense of the rights of Iraqis and Arab-Americans, working people and their unions can be in a better position to defend themselves.

Keep the 'Militant' informed

An essential part of the *Militant's* campaign against imperialism and its war has been publishing statements by the Socialist Workers Party, such as the SWP Political Committee statement featured this week. They explain the war and chart a working-class course for fighting the employers' war at home and abroad.

The SWP National Committee statement carried in the November 9, 1990 issue and the special December *International Socialist Review* articles by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes are invaluable tools for building working-class opposition to the imperialist slaughter. We solicit the aid of our readers in widely circulating these documents, discussing them, and sending in questions or opinions about them.

We also urge readers to send in articles and information on the discussions, debates, and activities taking place, in workplaces, military units, on the campuses, or in communities, as the imperialists deepen the war in the Arab-Persian Gulf. This week we feature an article from Des Moines, Iowa, on political police harassment of unionists and other articles on the effects of the war on working people — in and out of uniform. We want to increase this coverage in the *Militant*.

From the beginning this war has been two wars — a war abroad and a war against working people at home. The big-business mass media engages in self-censorship as they cover the war. These media empires are no more interested in publicizing the discussions and activities of working people at home than they are in telling the truth about the war abroad. Owned and controlled by the same tiny handful of oil billionaires, bankers, and industrialists who hope to benefit from the slaughter, their "news" is little more than cheerleading for the imperialist war effort.

The employers view the working-class soldiers on both sides as cannon fodder. They are willing to march tens of thousands to their deaths to enrich themselves and expand their power. In their own countries, the ruling rich cynically use the war as an excuse to drive down the working conditions, living standards, and democratic rights of working people.

The employers are seeking ways to clamp down on "trouble makers" — anyone who speaks out against the war or who fights to protect their rights on the job. They will also encourage divisions among workers by fanning racist sentiment, anti-Arab prejudice, and violence. But working people will resist these attacks and fight back.

As our masthead says, the *Militant* is published in the interests of working people. Since the beginning of Washington's war drive, the *Militant* campaigned against this catastrophe and explained the truth about the horror that the imperialists were preparing. Articles in the *Militant* have exposed the lie that this war is our war, and have explained that working people do not have the slightest interest in the imperialists winning a victory over the Iraqi people.

Working people are the only force with the potential power to take the ability to wage war from the warmakers. To organize this power, workers need the knowledge of the struggles and experiences of working people around the world. This is the type of information our readers can help make sure appears in each issue of the *Militant*.

To obtain both issues of the *Militant* with the November SWP National Committee Statement on the war drive and the *International Socialist Review* articles, please send \$3.00 to the *Militant* at the address listed on page 2.

Victory over arts censorship

The January 9 ruling by Los Angeles Federal District Judge John Davies finding the thought-control clause in National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grants unconstitutional is a victory for working people and defenders of democratic rights. It pushes back a concerted government assault aimed at limiting artistic expression, hoping to open the door to wider attacks on constitutional rights.

The legislation adopted by Congress in 1989, opponents of the measure pointed out, violated rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The measure stipulated that federal money could not be used for works of art that included "depictions of sadomasochism, homoeroticism, the sexual exploitation of children, or individuals engaged in sex acts, and which, when taken as a whole do not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific merit."

Seizing on the measure, a requirement was adopted that forced all NEA grant recipients to sign a clause stating that they would censor themselves and abide by the new rules. Refusing to sign meant losing the grant.

While Congress was busy writing up limitations on constitutional freedoms, censorship proponents pressed forward on other fronts.

Dennis Barrie, the director of the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center, fought his indictment on obscenity charges for organizing an exhibition of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe.

Also 2 Live Crew, a rap music group, refused to buckle after being charged with violating obscenity laws.

Supporters of the Pathfinder Mural, located in New York, organized a campaign to defend the mural following editorials by New York's *Daily News* and the *New York Post* calling for its destruction because of its political content, and a subsequent attack by vandals.

The broader fightback forced Congress last October to drop the antiobscenity restrictions on the NEA. It also led to the recent Los Angeles court victory.

Opponents of censorship can use this victory against other challenges to art censorship pending in federal courts.

Working people have a giant stake in insuring these and other assaults on freedom of expression are pushed back. Those rights are essential for being able to organize resistance to the employers' offensive at home and opposition to the government's war abroad.

War is extension of government's domestic policy

BY DOUG JENNESS

The foreign policy of a government is an extension of its domestic policy. And war is no exception.

Washington's onslaught against Iraq, for example, is not the result of government officials failing to work things out or leadership ambition. Rather, it is deeply rooted in the same social and economic relations that shape government policies at home.

The government that is waging war against Iraq is dominated by the same private owners of the mines, factories, oil refineries, and other productive operations that heartlessly attempt to squeeze more profits out of working people in the United States. These profiteers will benefit most from

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

bringing Iraq's vast oil resources under greater U.S. control.

The violence of the ruling families and their government against Iraq is rooted in the same system of exploitation and dog-eat-dog competition that drives them to ruthlessly push rivals out of business at home, and to use hired thugs, cops, troops, and eventually fascist gangs to try to smash strikes and workers' protests.

Many workers know or sense this as a result of their own experiences of the past decade. Copper workers in Arizona and packing-house workers in Minnesota have been the target of National Guard mobilizations. *Daily News* strikers in New York know first-hand about the employers' armed thugs.

This dual offensive lays bare the connection between the assault of the employers and their government on wages, working conditions, social services, school desegregation, affirmative action for Blacks and women, and the criminal slaughter against Iraq.

This is why more people want to look beyond the chatter and outright jingoism of the big-business media and learn about the fundamental causes of the war. Under the blows of what capitalism has to offer working people, many are more open to considering the explanations and proposals of socialists.

Stepped-up sales of the *Militant*, and the interest in and reception to the *International Socialist Review* supplement with the article, "Working-class campaign against imperialist war drive: Fighting the employers' offensive at home and abroad," are one reflection of the desire to get a working-class perspective on political developments and struggles today.

A good introduction to socialism — one that is very timely — is *Socialism on Trial* (Pathfinder, \$14.95). This volume contains the testimony of James P. Cannon, then the national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, in the 1941 trial of prominent members of the SWP and leaders of Minneapolis Teamsters union Local 544.

Eighteen of the 28 defendants were convicted and imprisoned for 10–13 months during 1944–45. Cannon and the others were jailed because they were part of the vanguard of workers, coming out of the rise of the labor movement in the 1930s, who attempted to continue advancing the working-class struggle against the employers and their government as Washington prepared to intervene in the second world imperialist slaughter.

In his court-room testimony, Cannon explained what capitalism is, why wars are inevitable under this system, and the road forward for working people and all of humanity presented by socialists.

Modern wars, Cannon pointed out, "are caused by the conflict of imperialist nations for markets, colonies, sources of raw material, fields for investment, and spheres of influence." This, he explained, was the cause of the first and second world wars.

"As long as the capitalist system remains," the SWP leader continued, "and with it those conditions . . . which flow automatically from the operation of the capitalist and imperialist system, wars, recurring wars, are inevitable."

Cannon predicted that war conditions would result in worsening conditions for working people. It would lead the unions to "be pushed more and more along the lines of aggressive action." The capitalists, he said, "will try to use the pretext of 'national defense' and the war danger to deprive the workers of the right to strike. And once they have deprived the workers of the right to strike on so-called patriotic pretexts, then the capitalists will begin squeezing down wages and refusing concessions, and pushing workers on the road to a more radical attitude toward the state of affairs, and our party will grow with that."

This is what began happening by 1943 and continued through the end of 1946. Then the capitalist system restabilized itself for several decades.

Capitalism's wars and economic crises can only be ended once and for all when working people are able to organize a massive movement capable of taking political power from the capitalist rulers. "We propose in place of the capitalists' [government] a workers' and farmers' government," Cannon said. The main task of this government, he told the court, "will be to carry out the transfer of the important means of production from private ownership to the common ownership of the people."

Packages for 'our troops' aid company assault

BY CLEVE ANDREW PULLEY

DETROIT — Management at General Motors' Lake Orion Assembly Plant near here is experiencing difficulty reaching production goals. Both quality and volume have fallen far short of normal. More is involved than the usual kinks that accompany the introduction of a new product, in this case the 1991 Oldsmobile "98," which we produce along with the Cadillac de Ville.

Management has refused to agree to a local contract with the United Auto Workers after five months of talks, and three months after the union and GM signed a national

UNION TALK

contract. Therefore, individually and collectively, the work force is less willing to do more than what is absolutely necessary on the job.

Periodically, management has stopped the production line to hold "quality breaks." During these breaks, work groups meet with foremen, or watch management personnel on closed-circuit television exhorting us to produce quality vehicles. This is in addition to the weekly half-hour work group meetings.

To buttress its position, management has also used patriotic and prowar arguments and tactics.

A GM spokesman told us on TV that before the Iraqi regime's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, a share of GM stock was valued near \$50. Since then, fuel costs have risen and

GM's stock value has dropped to around \$30, he said. With the help of some prowar officials in the union, management is also trying to win union members to the view that GM and working people have a common interest in the U.S. government's drive toward war against the Iraqi people.

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, management and the union local's veterans committee set up bins at plant entrances and other strategic areas. The leaflets, which urged us to send "care packages," had little tanks and helicopters drawn on them and were signed "UAW/GM Operation Desert Shield." This operation appears to have flopped. I saw only trash and cigarette butts in those bins. "Dateline," which had been a daily plant bulletin published jointly by the company and the union, but now is run solely by management, printed their response to this situation December 4.

"On any day, our servicemen and -women may face more than we could face in a lifetime," it read. "Your coordinator and work group manager will be asking that you donate \$1, which will be used to purchase needed items for Americans serving in the Persian Gulf."

A separate leaflet signed by the veterans committee supporting the effort said, "Keep in mind that it doesn't matter if you agree about the reason our troops are in the Middle East... they deserve our respect and all the moral support we can give..."

Neal, a coworker, told me he disagreed with this. He said that a contribution would amount to support of the U.S. policy and therefore he would not contribute. In discussions with several workers in my work group, I made it clear I

would not donate anything because this was a slick way of building support for the coming war. Many, including the coordinator, were informed that I would speak against any collection formally raised in the work group meeting.

Instead of sending packages or money, working people should be protesting in the street to oppose this war for Big Oil, I explained. We should demand that U.S. and all foreign troops be withdrawn.

They are not "our" troops in the Mideast. The troops, overwhelmingly workers and farmers in uniform, are part of the U.S. imperialists' vast order of battle aimed at the Iraqi people. Just as unionists should reject management takeback demands in support of "our company," so too we should not support the U.S.-led war drive by accepting arguments about "our" troops or "our" country.

As at GM, other employers will attempt to use the U.S. war drive in the Mideast to bolster their assaults on working people here.

Despite the announcement in the company newsletter, collections were not taken by work groups. Those who decided to donate could do so at a table in the cafeteria — staffed by union officials.

"Donations for our Operation Desert Shield have been very sparse," wrote the chairman of the Local 5960 veterans committee in the union newspaper December 12.

Clearly, the work force was not aroused to support this prowar venture.

Cleve Andrew Pulley is a member of United Auto Workers Local 5960.

LETTERS

Connected to world

I would just like to say thank you for keeping those of us in prison up-to-date on the Mideast crisis. I have no TV or radio to listen to because I'm in lockup. Your paper is my connection to the outside world.
A prisoner
Tehachapi, California

Wife sent to Gulf

In San Diego the Coalition for Peace in the Middle East organized a march and rally of over 1,000 people on January 13.

The speakers at the rally included Michael Meyers, whose wife has been sent to the Persian Gulf. He called on military families to join the protest to bring their families home. Interested sailors watched from the sidelines throughout the demonstration.

Demonstrators and onlookers were receptive to the *Militant* and open to discussion concerning the Mideast, Eastern Europe, and the rectification process in Cuba. Five *Militants* and one *Perspectiva Mundial* were sold.
Sylvia Hansen
Santee, California

Malmierca speech

I like the article you published about the United Nations resolution on Iraq — the speech by Cuba's foreign minister, Isidoro Malmierca, in the December 14 *Militant*. I hope that you'll write more about this and that it will go to every state of this country and to Latin America and Europe.
A prisoner
Ashland, Kentucky

Farmers and war

As a farmer I remember the Saudis and Kuwaitis for their bogus oil shortages of the late 1970s. More American farmers were torn from their land than anytime since the Great Depression.

And I remember Reagan's "information age," telling our youth that there was more money and more future in buying, selling, reselling, accounting, and insuring that which was produced elsewhere than was produced here.

But I remember too that our forefathers were farmers and craftsmen who fought against the foreign monarchs so we could control our own land and our own future.

Now the price of our crops and our fertilizers and our fuels and the availability of seed and affordability of land is decided in boardrooms by people who've never seen the sun rise over what they grew and may not even live in this country.

And now the average American farmer is 60 years old and there are more soldiers than farmers and our children are paid mercenaries for foreign monarchs who once again seem in control.

There are big demonstrations planned in January against the war in the Mideast. I plan to be there with mud on my boots.
Michael O'Gorman
Salinas, California

Behind bars in Turkey

I am a *Militant* reader in prison. We read the paper regularly. It's very useful to us. Many thanks for everything.
A prisoner
Malatya, Turkey

Labor party

There seems to be some movement toward more open forum discussions in the *Militant* and more articles directly dealing with the building of a labor party in the United States. I would like to see that trend continue. We need to begin tying together some goals and working toward effective revolutionary structures. The *Militant* is a fine organ through which to begin.
J.B.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Selections from left

How about adding a new column entitled "Selections from the Left" like the old *Intercontinental Press*, which contained excerpts from various left-wing publications from the U.S. and elsewhere? It would give readers of the *Militant* a better idea of the richness and diversity of viewpoints in the world workers movement on various subjects.

I for one am very curious about how various groups are assessing the collapse of the Stalinist regimes in Eastern Europe.
Larry Thomas
Glendale, Arizona

'Feel proud'

Enclosed are two renewal subscriptions: one for *Perspectiva*

Mundial and one for the *Militant*. Feel proud of the fighting publications you're affiliated with.

I suggest coverage of the Workers Party of Brazil — the barriers they've faced and solutions they've created — and compare that to the near future of the U.S. labor movement.

Also, coverage of the upcoming social crises, especially natural disasters (the soon-to-be Missouri earthquake?) and the completely inadequate government response and/or inability to cope... another reason to bring the troops home now!
Hos Kerr
Denver, Colorado

Press coverage of Curtis

I love Harry Ring's column. I'd be interested in an article about what kind of coverage, if any, the Mark Curtis affair is getting in the rest of the press.
D.W.
Eugene, Oregon

Growing restive

A few of my neighbors are now reading the *Militants* I pass along to them. Maybe some of them will order a subscription soon.

Amazing how times have changed in just a couple of years. People seem to be growing restive. Keep up the fine reporting about unions and working people.
J.B.
Santa Fe, New Mexico

In prison library

So many people here in prison ask to read my *Militant* newspapers that I donated them to our library so people can go there to read them.

I truly enjoy your articles on "Learning About Socialism."
A prisoner
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

'Daily News'

Along with 80 others, I attended a forum at Hunter College in solidarity with the New York *Daily News* strike on December 5. Spon-



M.G. Lord

sored by the Student-Worker Solidarity Committee and other organizations at the college, it was held to explain the stakes for workers and students in the strike and to encourage people to actively involve themselves in supporting this important labor battle.

Juan Gonzalez, a striking reporter, explained how the newspaper is trying to race-bait the strike. "The *Daily News* is the only paper that lost a federal lawsuit for racial discrimination. The people who filed the suit and won it are leading the strike today," he said. "The *Daily News*'s claim of concern for Blacks and Latinos is hypocritical and opportunistic."

"This is not only about us here, but about the Eastern strikers, the

Greyhound strikers, and the Black and Haitian workers at Domsey."

Gonzalez, who spent last Christmas covering the U.S. invasion of Panama, said the invasion was "one of the sorriest parts of U.S. history.... I'm going to be at the peace rally on Sunday. There's a direct link between what's happening there and here."

Deborah Liatos
Jersey City, New Jersey

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.

Militant Prisoner Fund

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to help defray the costs of providing *Militant* subscriptions to prisoners.

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Socialist candidates condemn imperialist war against Iraq

BY SANDRA DILLON

CHARLESTON, West Virginia — Socialist Workers Party candidate Linda Joyce announced her candidacy for mayor of this city, in the heart of Appalachia's coal fields, January 16.

"The U.S. war against the Iraqi people, combined with the deepening capitalist economic crisis, are the most important issues facing working people today," Joyce said at a press conference.

"Our campaign will be speaking out everywhere we can against the war the U.S. government has launched." Many workers in uniform from West Virginia have been sent to the front lines in Saudi Arabia, and others "are on the picket lines at Ravenswood," she said, referring to the lockout of members of the United Steelworkers of America by the Ravenswood Aluminum Corp.

Joyce, 43 years old, is a member of the International Association of Machinists on layoff from Union Carbide Construction. Also running on the socialist ticket for city council are Mary Nell Bockman and Mark Wyatt.

Wyatt is 24 years old and a member of the Young Socialist Alliance. Bockman, 31, works at a chemical plant and is a member of the United Steelworkers union.

Supporters of the campaign are organizing to overcome undemocratic restrictions on ballot access — raising funds to pay a \$600 non-refundable filing fee, and collecting 134 signatures for Joyce from voters who are then not allowed to vote in the primaries. Supporters must also collect 621 signatures for each city council candidate.

Several days prior to the press conference, Joyce and Wyatt joined 80 people, mostly young, at an antiwar teach-in sponsored by the Coalition Against War in the Gulf. Student leaders from West Virginia State University, representatives of the Black community, and others spoke out against the U.S. war drive.

Wyatt called on the audience to participate in upcoming national demonstrations against the war drive in Washington, D.C. "Young people today have two choices: unemployment and minimum wage jobs, or the prospect of killing or being killed in an unjust war."

On January 15, the two joined an antiwar picket line of 200 at the federal building in downtown Charleston.

"There is a war abroad and a war at home," Joyce told the demonstration. "The companies who have locked out the 1,800 Ravenswood steelworkers and 700 steelworkers at Monsanto are the same bosses who want workers to fight a war in the Gulf so they can control the oil there. We should oppose the union-busting of the bosses and the government's war drive."

The candidates are urging supporters to help raise the funds, and to participate in the petitioning effort from February 2-23 to get the party on the ballot.

BY CHRIS HORNER

BROOKLYN — From January 9-12 supporters of Socialist Workers Party candidate Angel Lariscy fanned out to all corners of the 29th Councilmanic District here.

By the end of the four-day effort they had collected 3,348 signatures to put Lariscy on the ballot in a special election called to fill a city council vacancy. The city requires 1,663 signatures to be filed.

The 25-year-old member of the International Union of Electronic Workers, who is also a national leader of the Young Socialist Alliance and an activist in antiwar coalitions in New York, held a news conference January 15 at Brooklyn City Hall to file the petitions.

While collecting signatures, petitioners focused on discussing Washington's impending war in the Mideast with working people, GIs, students, and other youth. They sold

nearly 100 copies of the December *International Socialist Review*, containing the article, "Working-class campaign against the imperialist war drive." One group of petitioners, taking a break at a restaurant, signed up all the customers during a discussion on the war.

A young reservist explained that he would be joining his two brothers who are already stationed in Saudi Arabia. "This time they're taking whole families," he said of the U.S. government.

A disabled Vietnam veteran stopped by to talk with one group of campaign supporters, telling them that, "People don't realize the extent of the destruction that will take place because of the technology involved." He predicted that the wounded and disabled veterans of this war would receive no better treatment from the government than his generation had.

Some working people the campaigners spoke with supported the war drive, and explained that "we have to draw the line against" Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Campaign supporters passed out thousands of leaflets building support for antiwar actions taking place in January.

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Denouncing the bombing of Iraq, Maggie Trowe, Communist League candidate in the British Columbia provincial elections, said the U.S.-led war "is not a war for sovereignty, liberation, or democracy. It is a war for profits, for oil, and to deepen the political and economic domination of the U.S., Canadian, and other imperialist powers in the oil-rich region of the Middle East."

Trowe, speaking at January 16 emergency press conference, was joined by Nancy Walker, and Robert Demorest, also Communist League candidates for the B.C. provincial legislature.

The previous night, during a parliamentary debate on the Middle East, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced the opening of the war and Canada's full participation in it.

Canada currently has over 1,700 troops in the Middle East. It is one of six countries to participate in the first air raids on Iraq. Liberal Party leader Jean Chrétien, and New Democratic Party leader Audrey McLaughlin both expressed their support for "our" troops in the Middle East.

Liberals and the NDP had supported using sanctions against Iraq rather than immediately launching into a war. "The so-called peace parties, the Liberals and the NDP, called for sanctions as a kinder, gentler way of attacking Iraq. But the sanctions are part of the war effort aimed at the people of Iraq," the Communist League candidate explained.

After the war began, Chrétien quickly called for standing behind the Canadian war effort. McLaughlin called for the troops to

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Chicago socialist says campaign will give voice to war opposition



Militant/Don Davis

January 15 Chicago news conference for James Warren (center in light suit), Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor. "The socialist candidates will help give a voice to the broad opposition to the U.S. war against Iraq," Warren told media.

Koreans in Japan denied basic rights

Most Korean residents in Japan are considered 'aliens' by the government

BY GEORGE BUCHANAN

TOKYO — Forty-six years after the end of Japan's colonial rule over Korea, Koreans in this country still face deep discrimination and denial of basic rights.

During the past decade many protests targeted the mandatory fingerprinting of all Korean residents in Japan, most of whom are considered "aliens" by the government. Not limited to recent immigrants, the measure extends to second- and third-generation Korean residents.

On January 10 the Japanese government announced an agreement to end the fingerprinting requirement next year. However, it will still require identity cards bearing photographs. The agreement was signed by the Japanese and South Korean foreign ministers at the end of a two-day visit to Seoul by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan.

Japanese officials said that they plan to keep restrictive conditions on Koreans obtaining Japanese citizenship.

Discriminatory policies have driven the 680,000 Koreans, along with an increasing number of immigrant workers from elsewhere in Asia, into inferior economic and social conditions in Japan. A dramatic gap exists between these workers and those who work in the big industrial plants and in middle-class occupations.

Among Tokyo's many glittering shops, local street sweepers sleep in their hand carts amidst the rubbish. In Osaka's Kamagasaki slum alone, 200 to 300 homeless day laborers die each winter from exposure.

Forcibly brought to Japan

Koreans were forcibly brought here following the Japanese annexation of Korea in 1910. Peasants were deprived of their land and conscripted into the Japanese army or brought to Japan as laborers in mines, on construction sites, and in munitions factories.

An extreme example of the savage treatment suffered by Korean workers occurred in the aftermath of the Tokyo earthquake of 1923, which destroyed much of the city. Rumors that Koreans were planning a revolt were used by capitalist politicians and the media to encourage gangs of thugs and armed troops to roam the streets looking for Koreans.

Many Koreans were bayoneted, shot, and torn limb from limb. Some 6,000 were killed — half of Tokyo's Korean population at that time.

Those arrested for their part in this pogrom were officially pardoned the following year, under an amnesty to mark the marriage of the emperor's son, Prince Hirohito.

In Korea itself, the Japanese occupation forces suppressed the Korean language and place names, and forced observation of the Shinto religion as opposed to Buddhism and other religions practiced in Korea.

By the end of the second imperialist world

war, in 1945, some 2.1 million Koreans — 10 percent of Korea's population — had been taken to Japan. This included 700,000 for work in the mines in Sakhalin (then part of the Japanese empire, now part of the Soviet Union) and in the Pacific islands.

It also included 360,000 conscripts into the Japanese army and 170,000 Korean women who were forced to accompany the army as prostitutes, officially known as "military comfort women."

Two-thirds of these Koreans returned home in 1945, but the division of Korea soon stopped this process. Apart from some 90,000 who returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) in 1958-59, almost all those remaining in Japan in 1945, and their descendants, have stayed here.

Japanese law does not grant citizenship by birth, so the second- and third-generation descendants of the forced laborers of the colonial period remain in a permanently vulnerable situation. During the colonial period itself, and up to 1952 (when rule by the U.S. armed forces in Japan ended), Koreans here were officially considered "Japanese."

But in 1952 this was changed. Koreans were required to register as "aliens" and to carry a pass with their fingerprints. This was similar to the pass laws introduced for Africans in South Africa.

Since 1954 some 500,000 Koreans have been arrested for being on the street without their pass.

Koreans can become Japanese citizens, but only if they accept stiff conditions. They must adopt a Japanese name and abandon

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