

THE MILITANT

INSIDE

Socialist candidate
condemns war drive

— PAGES 8-9

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 56/NO. 30 AUGUST 28, 1992

Socialists launch Youth for Warren and DeBates

BY PAUL MAILHOT

OBERLIN, Ohio — At a special gathering of campaign supporters August 9 at the close of the International Socialist Conference here, Socialist Workers candidates for U.S. president and vice-president, James Warren and Estelle DeBates, announced the launching of Youth for Warren and DeBates.

This step will help organize the significant support the campaign is getting among students, young workers, and unemployed youth. Dozens of young people signed up right away to become members of the new campaign organization.

The socialist conference was attended by 850 people from throughout the world. Reports on the conference will be featured in coming issues of the *Militant*.

"Organizing the many young people who are interested in our ideas and have become active campaigners will be a big boost to reaching out to the thousands of young fighters today who will be attracted to a socialist alternative," explained James Warren.

Young fighters who have been organizing actions to defend abortion clinics, leading protests against police brutality, and demonstrating against Washington's war moves have begun to identify with the campaign during the past several months. Many of these young activists have given the campaign a big boost by joining petitioning teams traveling around the country to put the Warren and DeBates ticket, and many local socialist candidates, on the ballot in close to 20 states. They have also helped out with street corner campaigning.

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Millions strike to protest apartheid

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

The August 3-4 general strike called by the African National Congress was a powerful display of the growing organization and discipline of the working people of city and countryside in South Africa in their fight to end apartheid political rule.

The strike was called as part of a mass action campaign led by the ANC to demand a multiracial interim government by the year's end and a sovereign, democratically elected constituent assembly.

According to the ANC, 4 million workers struck, surpassing the response to an antitax strike last November. Employer groups admitted that absentee rates in major industrial areas and urban centers were 80 percent or higher. In the Johannesburg area more than 90 percent of the workers stayed away.

"This has been successful beyond all our expectations," said Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) spokesperson Neil Coleman. COSATU is considering another strike later in the year if the government does not meet the ANC's demands.

Capping off the two-day general strike were a series of marches in several cities. In Pretoria, the seat of apartheid political power, 70,000 demonstrators rallied in front

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Socialist candidates demand: Stop war threats against Iraq now!

The following statement was released August 17 by James Warren and Estelle DeBates, Socialist Workers candidates for U.S. president and vice-president.

The twin parties of war, racism, and economic depression — the Democrats and Republicans — are once again on the verge of a brutal assault against the Iraqi people.

We call on youth, working people, and all opponents of imperialist war to join in demanding that Washington end the war threats now!

A new pitch in these war moves was reached on the eve of the Republican national convention when the *New York Times* leaked a report exposing the Bush Administration's plans for a massive air campaign against Iraq.

Incensed at the report, President Bush lashed out, calling the leak "ugly speculation." But he only confirmed its validity when he blamed it on "a clear breach of security."

Washington's wars and threats of military aggression in Iraq, Yugoslavia, Libya, North Korea, and elsewhere grow out of the in-

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Washington is again moving toward war against Iraq. Jet fighters and other war planes and ships are stationed in the Persian Gulf poised to attack.

Houston pro-choice actions defend clinics against Operation Rescue

BY SARA LOBMAN

HOUSTON, Texas — "Buffalo! Baton Rouge! We'll kick you out of Houston too!" This chant and many others have rung out from around the 14 clinics in this city where hundreds of people have mobilized every day since August 11 to defend a woman's right to choose abortion.

Operation Rescue (OR), which has targeted Houston, hopes to close clinics and deny women their right to abortion. The campaign is called Operation GOP — Guard Our Preborn. The convention of the Republican Party, also known as the GOP, will open here August 17.

The attacks here follow on the heels of offensives by OR in Wichita, Kansas, last summer; Buffalo, New York, this spring; and New York City, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, earlier this summer. In addition local antiabortion forces have tried to close clinics in cities from Boston to Milwaukee.

While abortion rights activists were unable to prevent OR from closing clinics during its campaign in Wichita, they successfully outmobilized OR in Buffalo and New York and dealt a significant setback to the "right-to-lifers" in Louisiana. Out of these struggles, a layer of confident young leaders from several cities are emerging, prepared to organize the fight necessary to defend the right of women to control their own bodies.

The Houston battle, which is expected to continue through the end of the Republican convention August 22, builds on these previous struggles. While many are participating in clinic defense for the first time, others

come with experience in several cities under their belts.

Shannon Bishop and Kevin Patten spoke in an interview about their experience participating in the defense in Baton Rouge. Bishop, 23 years old, is a facilitator at the West Loop clinic. She is a student at the University of Houston. Patten, 20, grew up in Houston and now lives in New Orleans,

Louisiana. For both of them, Baton Rouge was their first experience defending a clinic from Operation Rescue.

Louisiana fight

"Operation Rescue believed they would have an easy time in Louisiana," Bishop

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Pro-choice defense line in front of Houston clinic

Militant/Sara Lobman



Tokyo stocks plunge

Japan's stock market took another plunge August 10. The closely watched Nikkei stock average fell by 3.4 percent, dropping below the 15,000 mark for the first time since March 1986. That leaves the index down 62 percent from its peak in late 1989, when the current market collapse began.

The market's continued decline came after a series of government measures that were supposed to boost both share prices and the weakening economy. The Bank of Japan cut its key interest rate from 3.75 percent to 3.25 percent July 27. At the beginning of August Japanese government officials indicated they might begin buying up property around the country to boost sagging real estate prices.

Unemployment in Germany up

Joblessness rose in both eastern and western Germany in July, according to a spokesman for the Federal Labor Office. In western Germany unemployment reached 1,827,000 or 6 percent. In eastern Germany more than 1,188,000 people registered as unemployed pushing the jobless rate to 14.6 percent, up from 13.8 percent the previous month.

Kohl cannot win on abortion

German chancellor Helmut Kohl is in trouble over a recently approved law legalizing abortion throughout Germany. The law was approved June 26 by the Bundestag, the lower house of parliament, despite opposition from Kohl's government. The new law reconciled the divergent situation after the country's unification in which abortion was available on demand in eastern Germany but illegal in the western part. Germany's Supreme Court blocked implementation of the law in an August 4 ruling but said its opinion was not final. The Court did not decide whether the law was constitutional or not.

The Court's "interim decision was not counted as a victory" by Kohl, commented an August 10 article in London's *Financial Times*.

"Whatever the final outcome, Mr. Kohl cannot win," the article said. "A verdict for the amendment [the new abortion law] will be read as a clear defeat for his government while a vote against will mean the defeat of a clear majority of the electorate."

Boom in New York welfare rolls

The number of New York City residents on welfare broke the 1 million mark last month for the first time since the 1970s, the last time the city was engulfed in a severe



Some 6,000 students marched through the streets of São Paulo, Brazil, August 11 to demand the impeachment of President Fernando Collor de Mello, who is under investigation on charges of corruption. Brazil is in a deep economic crisis and has \$116 billion in foreign and commercial debt.

economic crisis. The number of workers who have applied for welfare climbed to 1,005,210, a 22 percent rise since January 1990.

Most of those who applied for the first time for welfare were unskilled workers who found it difficult to get jobs due to the continuing recession in the U.S. economy, which began in New York in 1989. Only about a quarter of those who had lost their jobs had received any unemployment benefits. An additional 11 percent of those who applied were working but earning very little. Terrance McGrath, a spokesman for the Social Services Department, told the *New York Times*, "Almost 60 percent of the applicants reported that they tried to avoid welfare by getting help from family and friends."

Attorney general: Lock them up

"The problem of violent crime in America is largely the problem of the repeat, violent offender," begins a recently released report by U.S. attorney general William Barr. Barr complains that states treat those accused with violent crimes far more leniently than the federal system and "undercut and undermine" prosecutors and police.

His proposals? Pretrial detention of defendants whom judges deem "dangerous." This would require many states to change

their constitutions, revoking in many cases the right to bail. Also proposed is limiting eligibility for parole so that time served closely approximates the sentence. Discipline first time alleged offenders under 18 years of age by putting them in boot camps. The first candidate for office who embraces these proposals "will undoubtedly have an edge come November," claims an August 12 *Wall Street Journal* editorial resoundingly endorsing Barr's report.

U.S. lawyers group backs abortion

After a heated debate, the policy-making body of the American Bar Association (ABA) voted 276-168 in favor of a resolution supporting abortion rights. The vote took place at the organization's annual meeting August 11. At its annual meeting two years ago, the ABA — the principal national association of lawyers — had refused to take a position on the issue.

"You can't dodge an issue just because it's tough," said Michael McWilliams, ABA's new president. "And you can't call [abortion] a non-legal issue." U.S. attorney general William Barr was not pleased. "By adopting the resolution and thereby endorsing one side of the debate," Barr wrote in a letter to outgoing ABA president Talbot D'Alemberte, "the ABA will endanger the perception that it is an impartial and objective professional association."

Bush supports loans to Israel

U.S. president George Bush announced he now backs the Israeli government request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees ostensibly for building housing for immigrants. The loan guarantees had become a symbol of contention between Washington and former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Shamir. The agreement includes guarantees by newly elected prime minister Yitzhak Rabin that

U.S. financing will not be used for settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Under the agreement any money Tel Aviv uses to complete settlements will be deducted from the total amount. Rabin has pledged to halt most of the settlements planned by his predecessor.

Strikes in Poland

The austerity policies that successive governments in Poland have attempted to implement came under fire again in July in the country's most serious wave of industrial unrest in the last three years. As strikes by coal and copper miners continue, Fiat of Italy, a new would-be investor, also faced a work stoppage.

Workers at the FSM plant in Tychy, which is being sold to Fiat, went on strike July 22 demanding that their wages correspond to those paid to Fiat workers in its plants elsewhere. The strike followed a stoppage by 40,000 workers at the copper-producing combine in Lubin in western Poland, which began July 20. The miners are demanding a 30 percent wage increase. Real wages in Poland fell by 5 percent in the first five months of 1992 compared with the same period last year.

Fighting intensifies in Kabul

Fresh fighting has broken out in Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, which has suffered more death and devastation in the three months since the government takeover by rightist mujahedeen forces than in the previous 14 years of civil war. Forces of the mujahedeen faction Hezb-e Islami led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who opposes the government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani, fired hundreds of rockets into Kabul August 10.

The week-long fighting has already claimed 1,000 lives. The heavy shelling forced the International Committee for the Red Crescent hospital to suspend operations. The renewed onslaught marks the end for the time being of attempts to reach agreement between Hezb-e Islami and the coalition government in Kabul. Prime Minister Abdul Sabur Farid, himself a high-ranking member of Hezb-e Islami, left the country before the latest bombing began.

UN to send troops to Somalia

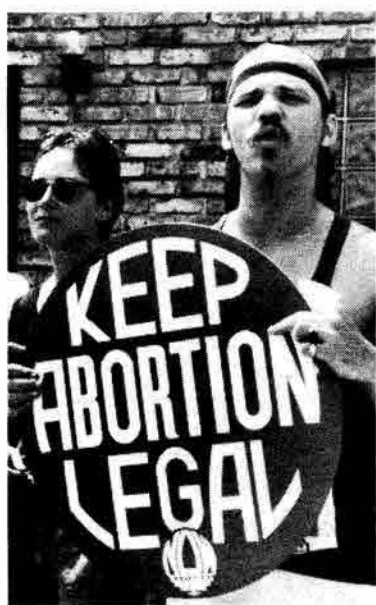
Mohammed Sahnoun, United Nations representative in Somalia, announced August 12 that he had won the agreement of one of the major warring factions there for the deployment of 500 armed UN troops to protect the delivery of relief supplies. Somalia, a mostly desert country on the Horn of Africa, has had no working government since the ouster of longtime dictator Mohammed Siad Barre in January 1991. The civil war that has unfolded since then and a severe drought have put one third of the country's 4.5 million to 6 million people at risk of death from starvation.

— ARGIRIS MALAPANIS

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The Militant

Closing news date: August 17, 1992

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Published weekly except for next to last week in December and biweekly from mid-June to mid-August by the Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. Telephone: (212) 243-6392; Fax (212) 924-6040; Modem, 924-6048; Telex, 497-4278.

Pacific edition printed in Wanganui, New Zealand, by Wanganui Newspapers, Limited.

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

Second-class postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Militant, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. Subscriptions: U.S., Latin America: for one-year subscription send \$45, drawn on a U.S. bank, to above address. By first-class (air-mail), send \$80. Barbados: Send \$90Bds for

one-year subscription to P.O. Box 891, Bridgetown, Barbados. Asia: send \$80 drawn on a U.S. bank to 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. Canada: send Canadian \$75 for one-year subscription to Société d'Éditions AGPP, C.P. 340, succ. R, Montréal, Québec H2S 3M2. Britain, Ireland, Africa: £35 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution, 47 The Cut, London, SE1 8LL, England. Continental Europe: £50 for one year by check or international money order made out to Militant Distribution at above address. Belgium: BF 3,000 for one year on account no. 000-1543112-36 of 1Mei Fonds/Fonds du 1 mai, 2140 Antwerp. Iceland: Send 4,000 Icelandic kronur for one-year subscription to Militant, P.O. Box 233, 121 Reykjavik. Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark: 400 Swedish kroner for one year. Pay to Militant Swedish giro no. 451-32-09-9. New Zealand: Send New Zealand \$90 to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland, New Zealand. Australia: Send Australian \$75 to P.O. Box 79, Railway Square Post Office, Railway Square, Sydney 2000, Australia. Philippines, Pacific Islands: Send Australian \$75 or New Zealand \$100 to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland, New Zealand.

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

Youth leaders from Cuba, South Africa explain people's revolutionary struggles

BY DOUG JENNESS

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota — Some 150 people heard youth leaders from Cuba and South Africa at a meeting here on August 15 describe the revolutionary struggles in their countries and how they are connected.

Peter Mokaba, president of the African National Congress Youth League, explained that a victory for the democratic revolution against apartheid in South Africa "will be a victory for the Cuban revolution. And it will also be a victory against racism in the United States."

Speaking from the same platform, Ibis Alviza González, a researcher at the Center for Studies of Youth in Havana, Cuba, paid tribute to the struggle in South Africa and described the conditions that led to the victory of the Cuban revolution in 1959 and the social achievements made by Cuban working people in the past 34 years. Alviza, 28, was one of tens of thousands of young Cubans who volunteered to fight against South African troops in Angola in 1988.

In opening the meeting, August Nimtz, professor of political science at the University of Minnesota and one of the organizers of the meeting, presented "Honorary Citizen Awards in recognition of outstanding character and achievement" to Mokaba and Alviza from Minneapolis mayor Donald Fraser. St. Paul mayor James Scheibel also sent messages welcoming both González and Mokaba.

The Cuban youth leader has been in the



Ibis Alviza González
Militant/Nancy Cole

Twin Cities as part of a nine-city visit sponsored by the Faculty and Students Coordinating Committee For Campus Lectures of Cuban Youth based at the Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York City (see page 12 for details).

Mokaba flew in from New York City where he had been involved in discussions at the United Nations.

The South African youth leader, who is also a member of the ANC national executive committee, criticized the "campaign of misinformation in the U.S. press about



Peter Mokaba
Militant/Sara Lobman

South Africa and Cuba." He cited the coverage of the recent two-day general strike of 4 million South African workers called by the ANC. You wouldn't be able to tell from this treatment, he said, that this was one of "our most massive successes. And this," he added, "was in the face of opposition from the government, Pan-Africanist Congress, Inkatha, and Azapo."

Alviza described the challenge the Cuban people face as a result of the U.S.-imposed embargo and the sharp reduction in trade from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

She said that this obligated the Cuban people to carry out a major effort to become self-sufficient in food production.

Alviza and Mokaba fielded a wide range of questions including: Is Cuba a nonracial society? How do you build a democratically structured youth movement? What white organizations in South Africa support the fight against apartheid?

A message from Thomas Hoffman, sub-director of United Steelworkers of America District 33, welcoming Mokaba "on behalf of several thousand members" of the USWA in the Twin Cities metropolitan area was read at the meeting.

Duane Williams, an aide to U.S. senator Paul Wellstone, read a message from the senator to Mokaba. "I hope your visit will give Minnesotans an opportunity to assess changes in South Africa," Wellstone stated. "We are honored to have you as our guest." In a separate message Wellstone also welcomed González to Minnesota.

During her stay in the Twin Cities, Alviza talked to some 250 people. She met with packing-house workers from the Long Prairie Packing plant in South St. Paul, Latin American solidarity activists, and leaders of the American Indian Movement. She also attended a reception at the Central American Resource Center, addressed a noon meeting at the University of Minnesota, and toured an abortion clinic, which opponents of abortion rights have targeted for weekly protests.

Los Angeles open house raises funds to rebuild Pathfinder bookstore

BY NELSON BLACKSTOCK

LOS ANGELES — The Pathfinder Bookstore hosted a well-attended open house reception at its temporary location here July 25. The original store, three doors away, was destroyed April 30 by a fire that gutted several stores on the block in the wake of the acquittal of police charged with beating Rodney King.

More than 150 people turned out for the event, which raised \$1,200 to rebuild the bookstore at its original address. Many came with home-cooked dishes for an international buffet, which served a constant stream of diners in the back of the store and in the parking lot at the rear.

Local artists displayed their work along the walls. They included prominent Cuban-American painter Gloria Longval and photographers Della Rossa, Carlos Ugalde, and David Moros. Also featured were prints by Jaime Coyle, paintings by Marta de Leon, and ceramic sculpture by Hector Michel Corona and Diane Jacobs. Proceeds from sales of these items went to aid the rebuilding effort.

Dozens who were unable to attend bought raffle tickets from friends on the job. The prize was a \$100 certificate good for books from the store. Bidders competed in a spirited auction for two newly published books by author Alice Walker. She had signed copies of *The Secret of Joy* and the 10th anniversary edition of *The Color Purple* to benefit Pathfinder.

Playwright Frank Greenwood recited poems by Langston Hughes. Actor Duane Shepard portrayed Malcolm X in excerpts from a play by Greenwood. Musicians played their instruments and sang.

An outpouring of support for rebuilding the bookstore began almost before ashes from the fire were cold. A national convention of the American Booksellers Association (ABA) in nearby Anaheim responded to the Los Angeles events by lending assistance to both Pathfinder and a second store destroyed by fire, the Aquarian Bookshop, long respected as a center for books by and about Black people.

Seated as guests of honor at the annual convention breakfast of the Multicultural Publishers Exchange were bookstore manager Eli Green, national Pathfinder Press representative Rich Stuart, and the two owners of Aquarian. Speaking at the breakfast were former U.S. president James Carter and noted Latin American writer Eduardo Galeano, who paid tribute to Pathfinder and

Aquarian.

Following the convention Dutton's Brentwood Bookstore sponsored a widely advertised benefit for Pathfinder and Aquarian at which Alice Walker signed copies of her new books. More than 500 turned out for the occasion.

In early July, Eli Green went to San Francisco to attend the American Library Association convention where a display on the Los Angeles store drew much interest. Johnson Publications, which puts out *Jet* and *Ebony* magazines, donated a selection of books.

UN embargo worsens lives of Yugoslavia's workers

LASSE JOHANSSON

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — The economic embargo imposed against Serbia and Montenegro six weeks ago has had a devastating effect on this country's working people.

Unemployment has reached 20 percent while wages have dropped by 40 percent in the first four months of this year. Inflation in June surpassed 100 percent in one month alone. More than 100,000 workers are on compulsory leave according to former Serbian prime minister Radoman Bozovic.

While there are no noticeable food shortages in Belgrade yet, long lines can often be seen at gas stations. Gasoline is rationed. Bus and tram schedules have been cut back.

"The government is using the sanctions against workers and making us pay for it," said Branislav Canak, president of the journalists' union, which is affiliated to Independence — a union formed in 1990 that is independent of the government-controlled unions. "Political protests are needed to overthrow this government," stated Canak.

A new set of economic measures announced by the government in June reduces wages while promising to freeze the price of basic foodstuffs like flour and sugar. In order to bring inflation down to about 20 percent a month, wages will be reduced by 40 percent, explained Bozovic. Public spending will be reduced approximately 40 percent.

Officials from the Trade Union of Serbia agree with these new economic measures.

Living Batch bookstore in Albuquerque, New Mexico, sponsored a well attended fundraiser for Pathfinder and Aquarian. Living Batch forwarded proceeds of more than \$400 to Pathfinder. On display at the open house were photos of the lively Albuquerque benefit, along with greetings signed by dozens who had attended.

Funds are still urgently needed to complete the rebuilding effort. Send contributions to the Pathfinder Bookstore Fund, 2552-B West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90006.

This government-sponsored union was until recently the only trade union in the country.

Independence came into existence after a miners' strike in 1990, which was opposed by the officialdom of the Trade Union of Serbia. Independence is now a union confederation with 150,000-200,000 members. It organizes journalists, metal workers, miners, truck drivers, chemical workers, teachers, public transportation workers, sanitation workers, and others. In June, Independence led a victorious strike by the Public Transport Workers Union in Belgrade. After blocking traffic in the city for 17 hours, the workers won an 83 percent wage increase to compensate for hyperinflation. The agreement also included a clause promising that no victimizations of strikers would take place. Many workers see this union as a tool to fight and have since joined, explained union president Rachuan Lackovic.

The Public Transport Workers Union signed up 200 new members in Belgrade after the strike, bringing its membership to 2,200 out of a work force of 8,000.

Unionists harassed

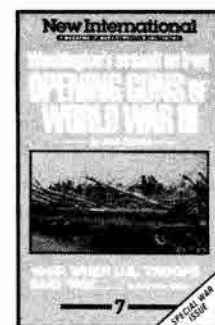
The government and management of most companies refuse to recognize Independence. Many members of Independence are receiving neither their wages nor promotions; journalists are being blacklisted. The union's members are described as traitors by the state-controlled media.

There are currently 47,000 private and

Continued on Page 5

New International no. 7 Opening Guns of World War III Washington's Assault on Iraq

by Jack Barnes



\$12

Available from Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12, or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. Please include \$3 handling, \$.50 for each additional book.

\$229,000 raised for reconstruction of Pathfinder printshop

In response to an appeal for funds to reconstruct the Pathfinder printshop located in New York City, participants in the August 5-9 International Socialist Conference in Oberlin, Ohio, pledged \$229,000.

More than \$120,000 of this was raised in contributions toward the \$150,000 George Novack Reconstruction Fund. Novack, a longtime leader of the communist movement in the United States, died July 30. The fund runs through December 1. An additional \$109,000 came from individuals in a position to contribute \$1,000 or more toward the International Expansion Fund.

The \$229,000 pledged is a big step toward the \$750,000 that will be needed to complete the reconstruction and reorganization of the Pathfinder printshop.

Further contributions toward the George Novack Reconstruction Fund can be sent to 406 West Street, New York, NY 10014.

Next week's *Militant* will have a feature article on the project.

Houston: pro-choice actions defend clinics

Continued from front page

explained. "They outnumbered us and they really seemed like a threatening force. They marched through town, 1,700 strong, with burning torches. They didn't expect us to organize defense, and we weren't sure we could." But, somewhat to the surprise of the abortion rights activists, not only were they able to mobilize every day that OR was there, but more people joined the defense lines as word got out about the scope of the fight.

"I've always been pro-choice," Bishop concluded, "but Baton Rouge was really a galvanizing experience."

Patten agreed. After Baton Rouge, he headed to New York City to join the defense lines there before coming back to Texas.

Organizing to defend 14 clinics, for two weeks, in a city the size of Houston, in the middle of the summer is a gigantic political and organizational challenge that has been taken up with enthusiasm and good humor. Houston spreads over 578 square miles, and has a population of 1.7 million. By July 11 more than 2,000 people had been trained in clinic defense.

A typical day begins at 5:00 a.m. Clinic defenders gather at one of five mobilization sites and at Planned Parenthood. Site coordinators, easily identified by their blue vests, do a head count and communicate by cellular phone to Command Central so that decisions can be made based on the defenders' real strength and not guesses or wishes. On Tuesday, August 11, it was reported that 400 people had turned out; on Wednesday, 600; and on Thursday it was back down to 400. After the count, volunteers are sought for redeployment to the remaining nine clinics. There is never a shortage of young people willing to do this.

New people integrated

Once everyone is settled at a site, facilitators, who wear red vests, organize training and drills. This serves as a refresher course for those who have already been trained, and also means that people there for the first time are quickly integrated into the effort. The abortion rights activists learn the best way to link arms and place their feet to withstand a charge by OR forces, how to form a corridor to allow clients to enter a clinic, and how to avoid unnecessary confrontations with either OR or the police. A favorite drill is the "hassle line" where some of the clinic defenders play the role of Operation Rescue, yelling and screaming at the defense line. The challenge is to hold the line solid and not to be distracted from the main goal which is defending the door to the clinic.

Clinic defenders are also reminded of the general guidelines for doing defense. No drugs or alcohol are allowed on the line, for example. If during an OR hit the police issue a general dispersal order, the activists are asked to remain in their places. "Don't give up the door to anyone, except under the orders of our leadership," the facilitators warn.

In order to efficiently move people around the city, the pro-choice forces need to know which clinics OR plans to hit. Kira

Bacal explained that each night several abortion rights activists attend the Operation Rescue rally to learn their plans for the next day. More than a hundred people are organized by phone tree to observe the OR caravan early in the morning.

These "co-caravanners" are able to give up-to-the-minute information which is rapidly passed on to site coordinators and clinic defenders. Bacal noted that regular and accurate reports of OR's whereabouts help maintain confidence and discipline on the lines. Bacal, a 25-year-old medical student, is one of four co-caravan coordinators. While she has always defended the right to abortion, this is the first action she has been part of.

Youth predominate

While people from many backgrounds have joined the clinic defense, most are young. Frog Gilmore, 19, saw some fliers posted several weeks ago. She came out to the Women's Health Clinic on the second day of defense. "I'll be back on the line tomorrow, and every day I can," she said.

Often, once an OR hit is over at a clinic, the decision will be made to leave a skeleton team and ask everyone else to join the co-caravan. That way, the abortion rights fighters can maximize the forces they have at the clinics OR attacks. A familiar sight has become the yellow school bus that Operation Rescue travels in pulling away from a clinic pursued by dozens of cars filled with abortion rights activists. This has created a highly mobile force of at least several hundred that can arrive at any clinic in town in less than half an hour. Sue Dillon, site coordinator at the Women's Health Clinic, reported that when OR began moving in on the clinic August 13, 70 reinforcements converged from other clinics "in almost no time." Dillon, a 28-year-old teacher who recently moved to Texas from Michigan to find work.

A sample of those defending the clinics includes:

- Phil Brewton, who just graduated from high school. He explained, "We're defending all of our rights; that's really what they're taking away."

- Sue Ross, 27, who regularly attends St. Stevens Episcopal Church. "The majority of people in my church are pro-choice," she reported. "They really resent how OR presents religion."

- Ardis Eichhorn, a social worker who enjoys working with film. When she heard that help was needed videotaping OR's activities she volunteered to join the "videographer" team.

Republicans for Choice

- Micky Marvins, 46, who was wearing a sticker that said, "Republicans for Choice, 71 percent can't be wrong." As the opening of the convention nears, a growing number of people are showing up on the line with these stickers.

- Laura Robertson, 20, is the president of the Reproductive Freedom Task Force of the NOW chapter at the University of Houston. She helped initiate clinic defense at the West Loop clinic in June. Now she's the assistant site coordinator there. Laura was one of the main chant leaders the first time OR showed up at West Loop. Popular chants range from the more well-known, "Not the church, not the state; women will decide their fate!" to those geared to the Texas heat, such as, "Go home, it's hot; we're right, you're not!"

This first week has been a preparatory week for both the abortion rights fighters and for OR. At this point OR only has a handful of people in town from out of state and about 50 local supporters. On August 12 four leaders of OR were jailed for ignoring an injunction ordering OR to stay 100 feet from any clinic.

While clinic defenders support the injunction, few think it will stop OR. Bernadette, the site coordinator at the Women's Health Clinic said that "basically the injunction is just a tool to help us on the legal front." Except for the four jailed August 12, the police have refused to arrest OR members for breaking the injunction.

On August 14, abortion rights activists had their first serious confrontation with Operation Rescue. Until then, OR had organized prayer rallies at various clinics but



Militant/Sara Lobman

Hundreds of pro-choice activists are defending abortion clinics in Houston. "I'll be back on the line tomorrow, and every day I can," said one determined activist.

had not actually tried to block entrances. The A to Z clinic is on the second floor of an office building. Clinic defenders, who had been ordered by management to stay away from the door, were standing along the perimeter of the parking lot when seven OR members charged the door. The abortion rights forces raced OR to the door and were able to keep them from entering the building, but were not able to prevent them from sitting in front of the door.

Meyer Goldberg, who had joined the defense team at the door, reports that the police then ordered everyone to disperse. "We told him, 'we're not moving until we hear from our leaders,'" Goldberg stated. The site leadership then arranged for the police to replace the abortion rights fighters who were at the door. The cops quickly cordoned off the area, closed the entire building, and began to arrest the Operation Rescue members. This took about 20 minutes, after which the building was reopened.

Meanwhile, the co-caravan as well as more members of OR began to converge on the clinic from other parts of the city. A defense line was established outside the police line and about 75 OR members began to push against an equal number of defenders of women's rights. A cry went up of "Hold the line!" As the police began to widen their circle, the clinic defenders moved OR toward the sidewalk. When OR broke ranks and headed for their bus, pro-choice fighters began cheering and chanting, "Go home, take a shower; We're the ones with staying power!" and singing, "na na na na, na na na na; hey hey hey, Go home!"

Defenders of abortion rights discussed the lessons of this skirmish. "We did awe-

some," 19-year old Beth Butler said as she ran to her car to follow OR to the next hit site. "The clinic stayed open!"

Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women (NOW), has joined in the defense efforts. She told the press that the arrangement with the police had worked well. Others were not so sure. One activist said that it doesn't much matter to a client if it was OR that was blocking the door or the cops shutting the building down. "It would be better if we could keep the door," he said. Goldberg pointed out that if more than seven OR members had sat down in the doorway, "the cops could have taken 30 hours to arrest them — like they have other places."

Activists discussing the incident at Planned Parenthood later that day concluded that if abortion rights fighters had been able to maintain defense at the door from the beginning, OR would not have been able to sit there in the first place.

As the opening of the Republican Party convention approaches, the discussions among working people in Houston deepen. Representatives of Houston Defending Choice, the coalition organizing the clinic defense, have already spoken to members of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW) union at the Lyondell refinery and to members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM). Several members of the IAM have participated in clinic defense and a handful of OCAW members have been trained.

Everyone expects the fight to heat up next week. "They'll bring a lot more people in once the convention starts," Bacal said, "but we'll have more too."



Militant/Steve Marshall

Rightists combine anti-choice and prowar messages in Wichita, August 1991.

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Socialists campaign at pro-choice actions in Houston, Texas

BY SARA LOBMAN

HOUSTON, Texas — Members of Youth for Warren and DeBates and other supporters of the Socialist Workers campaign from around the world have hit the streets and the clinic defense lines here, determined to introduce the socialist alternative to as many people as possible.

Estelle DeBates, socialist candidate for vice-president, arrived in Houston August 15 and went immediately to an outdoor rally organized by Houston Defending Choice. She will be in Houston for a week joining in the clinic defense lines to defend abortion rights. DeBates and Willie Mae Reid, national chairperson of the socialist campaign, were both able to address the crowd of 2,000, mostly youth. For most of the afternoon, young people crowded around the campaign table at the rally talking to campaign supporters. Afterward, DeBates spoke at an open house at the Pathfinder Bookstore, attended by about 35 people.

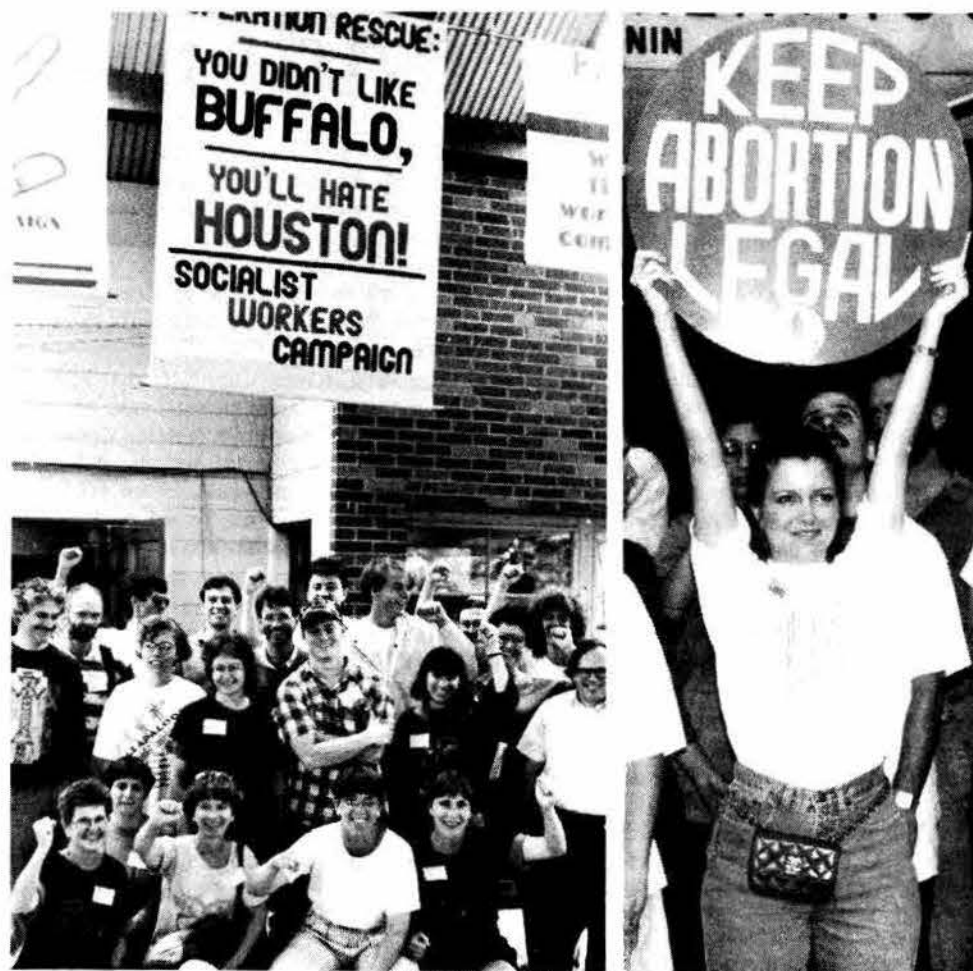
Bill Lambert, socialist candidate for U.S. Congress in the 22nd Congressional District, invited the audience at the open house to join Youth for Warren and DeBates at the clinics Monday morning. Vanessa, one of seven people at the event who had recently learned about the socialist candidates, joined other young people from the United States, Australia, and Canada in mapping out plans for the campaign for the coming week.

Every morning at 5:00 a.m., campaign supporters join the clinic defense. They find a real interest in the *Militant* and in the campaign. Others start the day distributing literature and selling the *Militant* to workers at one of the many area oil refineries or at

factories organized by the International Association of Machinists and other unions. Supporters are also setting up tables downtown.

Each afternoon the campaign sponsors an open house and political discussion. On the first day of clinic defense, a supporter from Britain spoke about the fight for abortion rights in Ireland. On August 17, DeBates will open the second week of the fight to keep the clinics open with a class on "The Communist Manifesto today."

Campaign supporters have taken goals for the 11 days of the battle to defend the clinics. These include selling 100 copies of the *Militant* and 15 subscriptions, collecting the remaining 500 signatures needed to qualify Patti Iiyama as an official write-in candidate for Congress, and signing up 75 people interested in the socialist campaign. As of August 16, 58 *Militants* and 2 subscriptions have been sold. Sixty people have signed up to find out more about the campaign, and more than 200 signatures have been collected.



Militant/Nancy Brown Militant/Sara Lobman
Socialist campaigners (left) head for Houston from the International Socialist Conference in Ohio. (Right) Pro-choice fighters outside clinic.

Millions strike to protest apartheid

Continued from front page

of President F.W. de Klerk's offices, chanting "De Klerk must go!"

ANC president Nelson Mandela spoke to the marchers in what the *Manchester Guardian* described as "one of the biggest marches in South Africa's history."

According to the *Guardian*, "Thousands of exuberant but disciplined ANC supporters occupied the amphitheatre below the Union Buildings, the government headquarters in Pretoria, hoisted the ANC flag and chanted for the installation of Mr. Mandela as president."

In his speech Mandela described the two-

day general strike as "one of the greatest events in our history." He went on to explain, "We have not come here to gloat. We are here to take South Africa along the road to peace and democracy."

Capturing the sentiment of the crowd, ANC secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa stated, "We look forward to the day when he [Mandela] will be the one in the office that F.W. de Klerk occupies illegitimately."

De Klerk spent the day sequestered in a windowless Cabinet room inside the building.

According to the South African Press Association, a rally of a comparable size took

place in Cape Town, along with simultaneous protests in Durban, Port Elizabeth, and Pietermaritzburg.

Police torture and murder

Meanwhile, revelations continue to surface about the role of the South African police in torturing and killing prisoners. In late July, Dr. Jonathan Gluckman, one of South Africa's most prominent independent pathologists, opened his files to the public on more than 200 cases of prisoners who died in police custody.

"Ninety percent of the people in these files, I am convinced, were killed by police," stated Gluckman, who remains a supporter of de Klerk. "I can't stand it any longer."

The South African government has also admitted that two of its agents, one of whom was a personal secretary to the chief of military intelligence, are under investigation for plotting to assassinate a former police captain who has testified against cop violence and fled to London. (See story on page 10.)

Tensions have remained high in the Black townships since the June 17 massacre of more than 40 people in Boipatong with the collusion of the South African police. In mid-August a Black police officer, testifying before a judicial inquiry, admitted that cops were present during the massacre and that his white colleagues had threatened him if he did not recant his testimony. The ANC broke off negotiations with the government June 23 because of its role in this attack.

At least four people were killed when attackers armed with machine guns attacked the Ivory Park squatter camp outside Johannesburg. According to the account by the *New York Times*, "Some said they saw white police officers in camouflage uniforms firing machine guns under the light of a full moon."

In response to an appeal by Nelson Mandela, the United Nations sent seven observers to South Africa to observe the mass action protests around the general strike in early August. UN secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali has recommended to the Security Council that this observer force be expanded to 40.

The ANC continues to demand that the government free the 440 remaining political prisoners. On August 13 Pretoria proposed a general amnesty that would include rightists as well as police and government officials implicated in political crimes.

The ANC rejected this idea declaring that for the apartheid regime to pardon public officials "would be equivalent to a criminal pardoning himself for the crimes he has committed." The ANC, however, left open the possibility of a general amnesty once de Klerk had surrendered power to an interim government.

Cappy Kidd and Jeri Mullan in Chicago contributed to this article.

Labor news in the Militant

The *Militant* stays on top of the most important developments in the labor movement. You won't miss them if you subscribe. See the ad on page 2.

Anti-choice forces emboldened in Milwaukee

BY NAOMI CRAINE

Some 4,000 opponents of women's right to abortion protested outside a clinic in Milwaukee August 8. Many participants helped tear down fences and pushed past police to block clinic doors.

The action, which was led by Missionar-

ies to the Preborn and organized out of local churches, closed down the Wisconsin Women's Health Care Center for several hours. Antiabortion forces also blocked Brown Deer Road, in front of the clinic, for 30 minutes in an attempt to stop police vans and buses carrying demonstrators to jail.

Supporters of abortion rights organized by the Milwaukee Clinic Protection Coalition arrived soon after the attack began from other clinics they had been monitoring. They were vastly outnumbered, however, and could not stop the anti-choice demonstrators from blocking the doors. Police arrested 546 abortion opponents.

The August 8 attack was part of several weeks of antiabortion actions in Milwaukee. At earlier confrontations, pro-choice supporters had been able to keep the clinics open, mobilizing up to 2,000 defenders in a single day. There had already been some indications, however, that the right wing was marshaling even larger numbers without being answered in kind.

On July 11, 100 clinic defenders were confronted by more than 500 antiabortionists at two clinics. In that instance, they did not try to shut down the clinics, but the show of force was a warning sign to supporters of abortion rights.

Right-wing forces in Milwaukee are using physical attacks and threats of violence as part of their campaign. On June 27, a team of patient escorts was attacked. Sara Gjertson, one of the defenders, explained, "Whenever we were escorting patients out of sight of the police, 5-10 of the right-to-lifers would attack the escorts. They would kick, they would shove, they would punch, and they would spit on us as they attempted to get to the patients."

The successes of the clinic attacks have emboldened the right-wing forces. They have organized large rallies, including one on August 7 that they say numbered 10,000. The August 8 action marked the eighth week of what was originally planned as a six-week campaign. Missionaries to the Preborn said they would continue to carry out the campaign for at least one more week.

"We are in the democratic movement to make it stronger as a whole," said Canak. "We don't have any other solutions."

Within the Independence Union there is a discussion about what kind of social system is needed. Canak says that he wants capitalism back and "can't see anything else."

Pavlusko Imsirovic, another leader of Independence, has a different view. "Our goal is to form a fighting workers movement independent of the government," he said. Imsirovic, who considers himself a socialist, said that "times are hard for socialists now. But we have more opportunities to fight along with other workers in Western Europe."

Independence has sent a statement to the United Nations Security Council opposing UN sanctions against Serbia. "Our attitude is that the Serbian people are punished by the sanctions for something they are not guilty of," says the statement. Sanctions only help "our ruling circles to defend their senseless tyranny by provoking chauvinism and xenophobia."

"We all know that the democratic public cares for peace and democracy in the former Yugoslavia and the Balkans and that it will resist the policy of the American and European governments who help to preserve weak and mutually opposed dictatorships instead of establishing democratic and peace making governments in Serbia, former Yugoslavia, and the Balkans."

The statement concludes by demanding an end to the blockade and sanctions as well as a halt to threats of military intervention.

Effects of embargo on Yugoslavia

Continued from Page 3

400 state-owned companies in the new Yugoslavia. The private enterprises are concentrated in commerce and retail, and employ less than 190,000 workers out of a work force of more than 4 million. Most heavy industries including auto, steel, chemical, mining, transportation, communication and banking are state owned.

Independence is a member of the recently formed Democratic Movement of Serbia (DEPOS), which is the major umbrella opposition group comprised of several political parties and prominent intellectuals. The four biggest parties and founders of DEPOS are the Serbian Renewal Party, a wing of the Democratic Party, the Serbian Liberal Party, and New Democracy. DEPOS, which organized the June 28 100,000-strong antigovernment protest in Belgrade, demands the resignation of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, the opening of roundtable talks between government and opposition parties, the formation of a provisional government, the holdings of parliamentary elections for a constitutional assembly, and elimination of political control of the major media.

The most influential leader of DEPOS is Vuk Draskovic of the Serbian Movement for Renewal (SPO). He was one of the main speakers at the June 28 rally. Other speakers included Serbian Orthodox Church Patriarch Paule and former crown Prince Alexander Karadjordjevic. "We support restoration of the monarchy," said Irina Maximovic, a representative of SPO, in a recent interview.

DeBates condemns execution in Utah

BY MIKE SHUR

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — As part of a three-day tour of Utah, Estelle DeBates, Socialist Workers candidate for vice-president, joined with more than 150 people at the Utah governor's mansion July 28 to protest the scheduled execution of William Andrews. The action was one of a series of vigils and picket lines at the governor's mansion. Andrews, who was executed July 30, had been on Utah's death row for 18 years.

"I just returned from South Africa where the apartheid regime for decades has used the death penalty against working people," DeBates told the protesters.

"Because of the massive actions of the last two years the South African government has been forced to retreat from executions. But when a white policeman was recently convicted of killing a Black, many people were in favor of his being executed," she said. "Nelson Mandela led a campaign against this, pointing out that the apartheid regime did not have the moral authority to execute anyone and that the death penalty is a weapon that under no

circumstances should be in the hands of the South African government.

"In the face of the growing number of working people being put on death row in the United States and around the world we need to say the same thing to these governments — 'you do not have the right to carry out these executions!'"

At a July 26 campaign rally that kicked off her tour, DeBates pointed out, "South Africa is where our class is doing the most to fight back. The mass actions of South African workers and youth are an example for workers around the world on how to fight the ravages of the capitalist crisis."

DeBates went on to describe some of what she witnessed on her recent trip to South Africa. "Millions of workers and youth have responded to the African National Congress' call for a rolling campaign of mass actions in the aftermath of the Boipatong massacre and the government's refusal to move to a democratically elected constituent assembly," she said.

Several young endorsers of the campaign helped to organize DeBates' tour.

Mike Bodily, who became a campaign

supporter while a student at the University of Utah, told the rally, "I started to become political around the Gulf slaughter of 1991. As I watched the buildup of forces in the Mideast I saw my deepest, nightmarish fears taking very real shape. I began to wonder what possible role I as an individual could have in changing the current laws of the world."

Bodily explained that he joined antiwar marches but felt the need to do more. "I investigated other radical groups and found them to be just that: radical groups. The SWP is different," he said. "They are radical, no doubt about that. But the SWP is a party based on concrete and progressive action. And what we need to change things is action."

"That is why I joined the party," he added. "I encourage any person with aspirations to do serious work to fight the new world disorder to join me as I work on the Socialist Workers 1992 campaign."

Brian Pugh, another young campaign supporter, chaired a meeting for DeBates at the University of Utah. At this event and at an economics class at the university DeBates was able to have a lively discussion with students on her trip to South

Africa, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the crisis of capitalism, and the socialist campaign's *Action Program*.

Several students challenged the idea put forth by DeBates that the answer to the economic crisis does not start with defending "American" jobs and the "American" economy.

"There is no national solution to the crisis of the capitalist system that workers in the U.S. face," DeBates explained. "The crisis will be resolved either by imperialism dragging us into another world war, or by workers worldwide joining together to fight against exploitation."

During the tour the local campaign committee won permission to campaign on company property at a number of area factories. DeBates and a campaign team went to the plant gate of Magcorp, a magnesium smelter organized by the United Steelworkers of America, in Rowley, Utah. Dozens of workers received literature and six purchased copies of the campaign newspaper, the *Militant*.

Both Salt Lake City daily newspapers, the *Deseret News* and the *Salt Lake Tribune*, ran articles on the tour, and radio stations KTTK and KSL aired interviews with DeBates.

Candidate visits fighting union members from Ravenswood during socialist campaign stop

BY CHRIS RAYSON

MORGANTOWN, West Virginia — Estelle DeBates, Socialist Workers candidate for vice-president, concluded a successful two-day tour here with a July 24 news conference.

Her working-class and antiwar views received wide media coverage in northern West Virginia. Attending the news conference were radio stations WCLG and U92, a West Virginia University station, and TV Channel 5 from Clarksburg. DeBates conducted separate interviews with the *Times-West Virginian* in Fairmont, the *Dominion Post* in Morgantown, and with public radio's "Dateline West Virginia" program.

A highlight of DeBates' tour was a visit to Ravenswood, West Virginia, site of a victorious 20-month struggle by United Steelworkers of America (USWA) Local 5668 against union busting by Ravenswood Aluminum Corp. (RAC). DeBates met with Dan Stidham, president of USWA Local 5668, at the union hall and held a house meeting with Bob Mays, one of the fighting union members and his wife, Linda, who is an active member of the Women's Auxiliary.

Stidham told DeBates that Steelworkers have faced constant company harassment since returning to work. "The company instituted a number of unilateral work rule changes that they didn't do for the scabs," Stidham said. "They did it to us to tow the line."

Some of the changes include designating no-smoking areas but not setting up areas to smoke. Workers are no longer allowed to take their breaks in the lunchroom. They can only go into the lunchrooms during breaks to use the vending machines.

Another problem faced by union members is job combinations. "Everyone must relearn a job," Stidham said. "There is a lot of training going on, and injury rates are going up."

Union activists have also received anonymous threats. Stidham received a postcard picturing a plane dropping a nuclear bomb on the union hall. Sue Ramsey, an organizer of the Lockout Assistance Center and a millwright in the plant, found a swastika in her toolbox.

Stidham indicated that morale is high in the ranks. In the contract settlement, RAC was able to get a grace period of 30 days to resume production. "After the 30 days," Stidham said, "you'll probably see members file more grievances."

The local remains active. The biweekly community support picnics that were held during the lockout are now organized once a month.

Chris Rayson is Socialist Workers candidate for Congress in West Virginia and a member of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union Local 622.



Estelle DeBates (center) and Chris Rayson met with Bob Mays (right), member of Steelworkers Local 5668, and Linda Mays, member of the Women's Auxiliary.

Socialist campaigns among GIs

BY SARAH HARRIS

RALEIGH, North Carolina — Bruce Kimball, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate, held a press conference at the state Board of Elections August 3 before turning in write-in petitions with more than 2,500 signatures from 30 counties for the offices of president, vice-president, and U.S. Senate.

Kimball blasted the undemocratic state laws that require third parties to petition for write-in status and pay 5 cents per signature. He made public a protest letter to the Board of Elections detailing irregularities encountered at the county level and demanded write-in certification.

The candidate explained how his campaign is responding to the U.S. war drive. "Last Saturday, I spent the day with campaign supporters in Fayetteville campaigning at a shopping center near Fort Bragg. We talked to many active-duty GIs, to veterans of Operation Desert Storm, and to military families. We expressed our opposition to any war moves against Iraq, whether by the United States or in the name of the United Nations. The socialist campaign got a good hearing even among those who favor U.S. intervention."

While campaigning near Fort Bragg, Kimball explained that, "the conflict last year was a war over oil and political domination between the rich people Bush represents and the rich people around Saddam Hussein. Working people in the United States have no interest in going to war against Iraq, a war that would only cause more suffering for the ordinary people of Iraq."

A wide variety of opinions toward Kimball's antiwar stand were expressed, but most people were eager to hear a different point of view and to meet a socialist candidate.

"I'm for nonviolence. I am against using violence to solve problems. There's got to be a better way than war," said a young airman from Virginia as he purchased the

Militant, the campaign newspaper.

Another GI who bought the *Militant* was pleased to meet a socialist candidate. "I'm for finishing up there," he said, in support of further military intervention. "But I only get one side of the story. I want to get that paper so I can hear about a different point of view."

In talking to two young GIs — one a Desert Storm veteran — Kimball explained that the moves toward war are part of the pressure from the worldwide depression and increasing interimperialist rivalry. While one of the soldiers said he supported intervention against Iraq, both men agreed that soldiers need more democratic rights to discuss politics.

Socialist campaign fund results

Payments to the Socialist Workers election campaign fund are continuing to come into the campaign office. Supporters have sent in contributions totaling more than \$57,100 so far in the drive to raise \$75,000.

The fund is to help finance international travel of the candidates, cover expenses of the teams of volunteers petition-

ing to get the candidates on the ballot, and pay for publicity materials.

Donations are urgently needed to meet the overall goal. Many pledges to the fund are still outstanding; the target is to collect all these by August 31.

Send contributions to: Socialist Workers 1992 National Campaign, 191 7th Avenue, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011.

Contributions received up to August 14

City	Goal	Received	City	Goal	Received
Atlanta	\$2,800	\$2,915	New Haven	\$700	\$380
Baltimore	2,300	1,070	New York	9,000	3,916
Birmingham	2,200	1,690	Newark	7,000	1,476
Boston	3,000	940	Philadelphia	2,500	2,314
Chicago	3,500	2,075	Pittsburgh	2,100	2,695
Cincinnati	700	175	Portland		500
Cleveland	2,300	2,075	Salt Lake City	3,000	3,060
Des Moines	2,000	2,235	San Francisco	6,000	6,025
Detroit	2,200	1,925	Seattle	2,000	800
Greensboro	1,600	1,480	St. Louis	2,500	3,260
Houston	2,700	2,112	Twin Cities	3,600	3,625
Los Angeles	5,500	4,742	Wash., DC	2,300	2,385
Miami	2,000	1,655	Other		1,029
Morgantown	2,800	550	TOTALS:	\$76,300	\$57,104

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Warren: U.S. threats against Iraq are key issue in politics today

BY ARNOLD WEISSBERG

PITTSBURGH — One fact stands out above all in politics today: the continuing drive of the U.S. government toward war in Iraq. This is a decisive question for working people," declared Socialist Workers presidential candidate James Warren, opening his talk here August 1. "Don't be lulled because the current crisis has passed."

Warren said Washington wants "a government beholden to them in Iraq, and they won't rest until they get it. The question is not settled on any level." In fact, he noted, 2,400 U.S. troops had arrived in Kuwait that very day.

This, Warren said, is the capitalists' response to the economic and political crisis they face. Warren pointed to the failure of the summit of the Group of Seven — the world's richest industrial nations — as a sign of the increased competition that is being played out in trade wars.

With Warren's visit to Pittsburgh coming on the heels of the union victory in stopping the publishing of the *Pittsburgh Press*, the candidate offered his opinions about the

struggle to save jobs. "The most important impact working people can have is in the streets," Warren said. "The fight here is a little indication of what we're able to do. The Teamsters reached out for solidarity and changed the relationship of forces. We took to the streets at a critical point. This is where things get resolved in the most effective way, like in South Africa."

"It wasn't surprising that the *Press* tried to start publishing," he said. "The surprise was how fast they retreated when they saw what kind of support the union had. Real politics is in the streets. That's where questions get posed. It's only through this that working people can begin to pose possible political alternatives."

Also speaking at the event were Grant Roddenberry, a 22-year-old campaign supporter who works in a West Virginia industrial laundry. He answered the charge that young people are not concerned with what is going on in the world and do not participate in the political process. "It's not that young people aren't smart, it's that we're fed up," Roddenberry said.



James Warren, socialist candidate for president, campaigned among students at Allegheny County Community College during his tour of the Pittsburgh area.

Opening the discussion was Anthony Dutrow, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Congress from the Pittsburgh area. Dutrow noted that people had gathered to celebrate two victories "that will make us more fit to oppose capitalism and its wars and economic depression": the gathering of 4,200 signatures to put socialist congressional candidate Joanne Kuniansky on the

ballot, and the victory of the *Pittsburgh Press* drivers and their supporters.

During his visit to Pittsburgh, Warren also campaigned at Allegheny County Community College, and was interviewed by the *New Pittsburgh Courier*, a Black-oriented weekly; radio station KQV, an all-news station; and the North Hills *News-Record*, a suburban daily.

23,000 sign to place socialists on New York ballot

BY ELIZABETH SWENSON AND MELISSA HARRIS

NEW YORK — Socialist Workers campaigners have gone over the top in the petitioning drive to place James Warren for president, Estelle DeBates for vice-president, and Ed Warren for U.S. senator on the New York State ballot.

Supporters here have collected a total of 23,235 signatures. Some 3,800 people signed the socialists' petitions over the August 15-16 weekend. The state requires that 15,000 valid signatures be turned in to obtain ballot status.

Campaigners have been hard at work across New York City and around the state, talking to workers and youth about the war

in Yugoslavia, the abortion rights struggle, and the African National Congress' mass action campaign in South Africa.

Teams to Washington Heights have found residents particularly interested in discussing the fight against police brutality in wake of the protests following the killing by cops of two young Dominican workers there.

A young Puerto Rican in Queens decided to join the petitioning team after signing the socialists' petition and discussing the politics of the campaign. Another who signed at the Pathfinder Mural Bookstore volunteered to pass a petition board around her apartment building in Washington Heights.

Every campaign team takes a table with

Pathfinder literature prominently displayed. There has been keen interest in works by Malcolm X, Che Guevara, Karl Marx, and Frederick Engels. The best selling book off the campaign tables has been *The Communist Manifesto*, which is available in English, Spanish, and French.

"In the Park Slope section of Brooklyn a three-person campaign team sold 24 *Militants* during five hours of petitioning," said campaigner Marina Sitrin.

Donation cans to help fund the campaign are set up on every table. One young man waiting for a bus to go to work bought a copy of the *Militant* and gave \$50 to help support the effort.

Soapboxing on busy street corners in

New York City has helped draw attention to the politics of the socialist campaign and win additional signers.

"The socialist candidates are opposed to the United States going to war in Iraq and Yugoslavia and for defending abortion rights and affirmative action," shouted petition team member Elizabeth Kealy to those passing by the intersection of Sixth Avenue and Eighth Street. Several Yugoslav workers who had walked by, turned back around and signed the petitions.

In Greenwich Village one man who had just returned from Yugoslavia and Slovenia signed for the socialist candidates, bought a copy of the *Militant*, and asked for more information.

—Socialist Campaign in the News—

The Evening Sun

Baltimore, Wednesday, July 29, 1992

Socialist candidate goes against political tides

By Michael Hill
Staff Writer

You would think that James Warren would be the Maytag Repairman of politicians, the loneliest one in America.

After all, he is the presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, holding high the banner of proletarian revolution at a time when collective economies are crumbling worldwide and capitalism is idolized.

But Mr. Warren rejects that conventional wisdom. "This is the best time to be a socialist since the Russian revolution," he declares.

Mr. Warren, 40, a steel worker in Chicago, yesterday wound up a three-day trip to Maryland and campaigned outside the Bethlehem Steel Corp. plant at Sparrows Point.

Before that appearance, the Memphis native talked history and politics during a quick lunch at Mickey's Bar and Grill on North Point Boulevard.

The Socialist Workers Party of the United States was founded in 1938 by followers of Leon Trotsky, the Russian revolutionary and Marxist who later was assassinated in Mexico City on orders of Josef Stalin.

"The greatest damage to socialism in this century has not been done by the

capitalists, not by the enemies of socialism from without, it's been done by the enemies of socialism from within," Mr. Warren said.

According to his analysis, Stalinism in the Soviet Union and its client states did the damage. "That delivered a bigger blow to socialism than the capitalists ever could," Mr. Warren said.

"It's been the greatest obstacle for true socialism and communism to overcome, almost insurmountable. When Stalinism became the public face of socialism, the capitalists could point to it and say, 'If you want socialism, this is what you're going to get.'"

Mr. Warren said the downfall of the Soviet Union was a victory for true socialism.

"The only people who could defeat Stalinism were the workers and farmers in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. They defeated Stalinism. Not imperialism, not the market system, but the workers themselves."

He contended that none of the former communist countries will ever become capitalist. "They want the benefits of the market system without the problems of the market system, that's their contradiction."

"There are benefits to a market system — technological developments, abun-

dance of consumer goods — but there's also the problems: inherent unemployment, private ownership of the means of production, lack of any control over trade. All those problems workers do not want and will not accept without a fight."

Mr. Warren, who hopes to be on the ballot in more than 20 states and a write-in candidate in Maryland, claimed that his country will soon be wrestling with similar problems.

"All the implications of the Great Depression exist today, including trade conflicts between major powers leading to war for foreign markets. The war for Iraq was the opening shots of World War III. We have to prevent this disaster from befalling humanity."

Mr. Warren said that he is getting a better reception for his ideas these days than ever before. "People vote for president on one basis, who's going to do the least damage to me, who's going to take the least amount out of my pocketbook."

He has a simple solution for the economic troubles at Sparrows Point. "You could still have 20,000 people working here. You just reduce the workday, don't lay anybody off, with no reduction in pay."

"The owners would say that would cost



JAMES WARREN

them money, but we say what they do now costs the workers money. Let [the owners] pay the price, not us."

Arriving at the steel plant in three cars, Mr. Warren's entourage — no Secret Service, no police escort, no press bus — set up a table of literature and greeted workers with brochures. Some waved them away with a scoff, but more took them and a large number stopped and chatted with the candidate.

"You can't tell who's going to be interested," Mr. Warren said. "Might be black or white, young or old, male or female. You never know who it's going to be."

Socialist candidate condemns war drive, discusses opportunities for fall campaign

The following is a speech given by James Warren, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. president, at a meeting of campaign supporters August 9 at the conclusion of the 1992 International Socialist Conference held at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. Also speaking was Estelle DeBates, the SWP's candidate for vice-president.

Bill Clinton has taken the offensive against George Bush — especially given the fact that Clinton is leading in the polls; he's ahead in the "Presidential Sweepstakes." He's taken the offensive on what we think is the decisive question in world politics. That is, he's pushing George Bush to go to war. Clinton says that if he were president he would already be bombing the people of Yugoslavia.

In an article in the *New York Times* yesterday, Bush responded: "There's a lot of voices out there in the United States today that say, 'Use force.' But they don't have the responsibility for sending somebody else's son, or someone else's daughter, into harm's way, and I do." This is George Bush, responsible for the murder of thousands and thousands of our people — working people — in Iraq.

Clinton, speaking to reporters in La Crosse, Wisconsin, August 7, offered limited praise to the president for pressing the question of the use of military force now. He encouraged what he considers a shift in Bush's approach toward using force in what was Yugoslavia. "I think it's a step in the right direction," he said. "I think it's time they contemplated air support." Air support is Clinton's euphemism for bombing the people of Yugoslavia.

"I think they need to look at their military options," Clinton continued, as to "whether they can actually do that in Bosnia without taking a lot of civilian casualties, too. I think we ought to wait until we get some sense of what is possible, but I think that is where they ought to be thinking and going."

So they agree on that score. There is also no debate between the two candidates about the use of force against the people of Iraq. In the same article they mention the attempts of the United Nations committee in Iraq to find ways to bring about a confrontation with the Saddam Hussein regime and to parley those confrontations into a justification for bombing the people of Iraq once again. For instance, they want to know what kind of weapons Hussein has available; they say it's a big mystery to them.

Youth for Warren and DeBates is launched

Continued from front page

publicized meetings for socialist candidates, and handed out literature about the campaign.

"Clinton and Bush don't offer much of a future for young people," said DeBates. "More wars, more police brutality, more attacks on our rights — that's the future under the Democrats and Republicans. Our campaign represents a fighting, working-class perspective against those horrors of the capitalist system. Young people are fed up with that system and many of them are looking for the type of internationalist campaign that we are running."

For the next three months reaching out to these young people and getting them involved in the campaign through Youth for Warren and DeBates will significantly strengthen the campaign. Youth for Warren and DeBates will be organized in cities across the country.

One of the first activities of many of these young fighters was to hop in cars and buses from the conference and head to Houston to join the fight for abortion rights against Operation Rescue.

In addition to participating in clinic defense, members of Youth for Warren and DeBates will pass out campaign literature and introduce the many young fighters there to DeBates, who is taking her campaign to the clinic defense lines as the Republican Party convention opens.

This is despite what the government knows — as an article in the *Times* today explains: the Hussein regime purchased many of these weapons from or with the aid of Washington.

Washington wants a reliable regime

It's no big mystery. What is happening is an attempt by Washington to resolve what it did not accomplish during the brutal



Militant/Nancy Cole
Presidential candidate James Warren

bombing and invasion of Iraq: the installation of a protectorate in that country. The Bush administration, backed by Clinton, continues searching for something they think they can pass off as a justification for unleashing massive military force in another attempt to put in place a more reliable regime they hope will be able to better advance the interests of U.S. imperialism — both in Iraq and in the region as a whole.

There is no candidate of either of the bourgeois parties in this election claiming to stand against these war threats. The Democrats and Republicans don't even pretend to present themselves in that way to working people in this country or throughout the world.

From the very beginning we have placed this question, the question of imperialist war, at the center of every press conference, plant gate event, public speaking engagement, and house meeting we've done during our campaign — both in the United States and the many countries Estelle and I have visited. We've explained over and over again why the question of war is a central question facing humanity.

The socialist candidates and campaign supporters point out at every opportunity that rather than resolving any political questions, social uncertainties, or economic crises, the imperialist onslaught against Iraq simply accelerated all of these trends and conflicts. We said for those reasons that the war against the Iraqi people signalled the opening guns of World War III. It may have sounded funny to some people then. Now the fact that the war did not usher in a new world order, but instead heightened the growing world disorder of capitalism in crisis, is something that is written about in the major opinion columns of the big-business media nearly every day.

At the national press conference in Washington, D.C., launching the Socialist Workers campaign last March, Estelle and I said that it was a very real possibility that Washington would launch another war against some country in the world before this election campaign is over. That possibility looks a lot more real today to broader numbers of working people and youth. We should continue to discuss this with coworkers, unionists fighting employer assaults, and students and other youth so we are prepared for the "October Surprise" — the possibility they will begin bombing Iraq, enter a war against the people of Yugoslavia, or launch a military assault on some other country.

War drive is serious

They are serious about this. It is not simply a propaganda ploy, it's not an attempt to get a few more votes as it is painted by some

reporters.

We're serious too. We have a campaign with dozens of candidates and hundreds of active campaigners around the country. Since the day we announced this campaign we've been campaigning against the wars we know are coming. We've done so among the most important human beings functioning in politics in this society — among those who are fighters, those who are part of the battles that are developing in this country and around the world. And no matter what they're fighting for, no matter what they're fighting to advance, we raise this question as the central part of what we face in the struggles we are involved in.

In fact, we started this the day after the national press conference. Estelle and I jumped on a plane and flew off to Twin Cities, Minnesota. The first thing we did was walk a picket line with people who were organizing a protest against what were then the U.S. threats to bomb the people of Libya. On that picket line we met some young fighters who considered themselves anarchists. We meet people like them in many cities around the country today.

After the picket line we went to the meeting organized by Patrick Buchanan, who was in the state to advance his ultrarightist perspective, as he said, among "his kind of people" in "his kind of region" of the country. We went there to join with our supporters in raising a working-class voice in response to his reactionary political course. These same youth showed up at the Buchanan meeting as well. They walked into the meeting and up to the front of the room. They began chanting and disrupting Buchanan's meeting!

They confronted him. They confronted him and they chanted that he should get the hell out of town. And then the 200 or so Buchanan supporters there started chanting back. And the youth and our supporters continued to chant. Buchanan had cops and security people there. The young people then marched out of the meeting, surrounded by supporters of Buchanan. It took real guts to do what they did.

This is the way we started the campaign. And this is what we have been doing all along, right up through yesterday — going to, responding to, and looking for the fighters.

Ravenswood workers' victory

Yesterday, several carloads of us from the conference left here about 8:00 in the morning and went out to Ravenswood, West Virginia, to participate in a celebration of the victory of members of the United Steelworkers of America over the Ravenswood Aluminum Corp. Fighters there waged a

20-month struggle against attempts by RAC to break their union, to replace them with a scab work force. Twenty months of organization and mobilization, political discussion, fights, and reaching out to mobilize support and solidarity in that area, throughout the region, and throughout this country.

Seventeen hundred people fought, even as the company hired 1,300 scabs to replace them and began production. They continued to fight, continued to reach out, continued to inspire and re-inspire each other — drawing on the human resources available to them in their union and in their community. The fight there began with biweekly actions of several thousand. They fought, they transformed themselves, they changed themselves, and they won this victory. They all went back in to RAC 20 months later. By doing so they set an example for working people throughout the country.

The rally yesterday was a celebration of that victory. Campaign supporters and members of the Socialist Workers Party were involved in this fight, getting out there, being a part of the picket lines and a part of the political activities the fighters carried out.

They sold the *Militant* newspaper at plant gates, held discussions in striker's homes, got to know these fighters, and raised a perspective of how to advance the struggle against the employers' assault. They explained what socialists do to advance all struggles of the oppressed and exploited, fight alongside them, and join in efforts to win solidarity for them.

These supporters sent a letter to the leadership of the local, explaining that I would be there and saying they would like to set up a literature table with Pathfinder books and a table with information on the fight of jailed unionist Mark Curtis. They also requested that I be added to the speakers list, which would have meant that I would have been on the platform with the governor of the state, Jay Rockefeller, and quite a few others.

Fellow fighters

The important things we wanted to do at this action, they granted us. We were able to set up a literature table. We were invited and welcomed as fellow fighters to participate in the celebration. And on the question of speaking at the rally, nothing ventured, nothing gained. It is important that we have this approach to every important event in politics and in the class struggle. We should raise it, continue to raise it, act like we belong there, and act like the ranks will defend our right to be treated in a democratic way in relationship to these struggles and fights, especially given the contribution

Join Youth for Warren and DeBates

James Warren and Estelle DeBates are the Socialist Workers candidates for U.S. president and vice-president. The campaign is a socialist alternative to the twin parties of war, racism, and economic depression.

* * *

Youth for Warren and DeBates is made up of students, young workers, and other young people who want to join the struggles today and help raise

an internationalist and working-class voice in politics. On lines defending clinics and a woman's right to choose, in protests against police brutality, at strikes and union rallies, socialist campaigners are there building the struggle. They advance a perspective of building an international working-class movement against the drive to World War III and the ravages of the capitalist economic crisis. Become a part of this campaign today!

- ☐ Yes! I want to join Youth for Warren and DeBates!
- ☐ I want to help petition to put the socialist campaign on the ballot.
- ☐ I will help set up a meeting for the candidates at my school ___ union ___ community organization ___.
- ☐ I want to join other supporters at street corner campaigning and plant gate events.
- ☐ I want to help organize a meeting for Youth for Warren and DeBates members.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Age _____

Send to Socialist Workers 1992 Campaign, 191 7th Avenue, New York, NY 10011 (212) 675-6740.

we make on the ground to advancing these fights, contributions they recognize and appreciate.

We also requested that Peter Mokaba, president of the African National Congress Youth League in South Africa, who came to the event with us, be able to speak. That didn't happen, but he was recognized from the podium, and he got the biggest applause at the activity. He went around and talked to people afterward and had discussions with them about the revolution in South Africa today. I was able to do the same thing.

We talked with the strikers about the outcome of the fight and about where the fight is today. One of the things they pointed out is that far from this being over, the fight continues. They expressed their determination to fight against what the company is attempting to impose on them right now. One worker explained to me that the company is very, very concerned about union members talking to each other on the job. So the company has changed the work rules, almost trying to go back to the 18th century.

The workers cannot leave their machine to go on break, they cannot go into the lunch room and eat their lunch. The bosses say that a congregation of three or four people at work is almost a riot or something. They want to tie them to the machine, and they want to keep them from being able to talk to each other; they want to keep them from being able to have the discussions inside the plant.

The workers we spoke with are going to fight these attacks. They also told us about the speed-up, and the fact that there are some scabs still working. They said they want to fight against all of this, and expressed their determination to do so.

They have a lot to say. They are thinking. I wasn't able to be there very long, but there wasn't a person I was introduced to who did not have opinions about everything having to do with this fight, or who as not interested in politics in general. The socialist campaign supporters there have done a really fine job, because I've never been to Ravenswood before, but there were more people who knew me in Ravenswood than many cities I've been to.

Respect for campaign

"So, how are you doing?" "I've been reading about you." "Been seeing your picture. I recognize you. So how's it going?" "You're a Steelworker. That's good. We need one of us running for this, we need one of us raising our concerns and our needs in relationship to this election." These are just a few examples of how people greeted me.

It's mostly a reflection of the respect they have for the campaign supporters and party members who are there with them going through their fight, who are part of this fight, who are fellow workers with them in this battle. That's what it reflects. The respect they have for fighters campaigning for the socialist alternative in 1992.

I think this captures in the deepest way possible what our election campaign is all about, and the real heart of the 1992 socialist alternative.

It's here that the election campaign gets its life. The life of the election campaign comes out of what we are doing in cities around the country to promote these ideas, to raise this perspective among those who are fighting, and those we can reach through the openings we get through the campaign. It's out of this that Estelle and I can come into a situation created as a result of the work being carried out by the party branches and campaign supporters themselves. We help out a little bit and push the process forward. But the heart of it is what we do on the local level.

This is what also highlights one of the most important perspectives we're raising in this election campaign: the question of the fight for jobs. The fight for jobs is central to the struggles that are breaking out and will continue to break out among working people who face the employers' offensive.

The replacement work force hired by the Ravenswood Aluminum Corp. were, in their vast majority, young. It shows what is happening to a whole generation of young

workers in this country under the impact of the economic crisis. We raise the question of jobs from the point of view of uniting the working class, of fighting for solidarity among working people.

We present the question of shortening of the workweek as a social demand in defense of the class as a whole, as a way of uniting the class. This should become the perspective of the union movement in this country, as a way of reaching out to those who are without jobs; as a way of uniting the class, and a perspective that can be fought for and advanced in every single country in the world.

International demand

It's not an "American" demand. It's not for "U.S." workers or "Canadian" workers or "Mexican" workers. This is a demand for all working people — in every country in the world. Our demand for 30 hours work for 40 hours pay; of fighting for a massive public works program; of calling for the implementation of affirmative action, all flow out of the need to unite working people and to reach out on an international level for international working-class solidarity. This is the way we defend the unemployed. It is the only way the labor movement can prepare to wage a fight before going on strike or mounting broad social and political action in its own interests.

As long as this is not the case, the employers will always be able to come up with 30 or 40 people who will line up to take the job of a single striker when we go out to fight. Which is why the fight for jobs is so decisive.

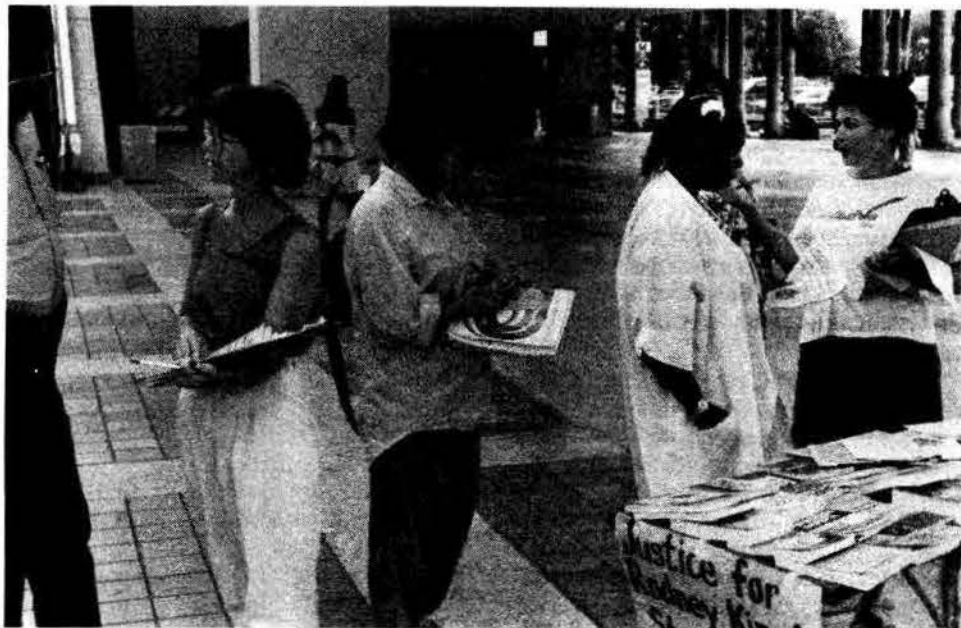
This same question is what was posed in relationship to the strike by members of the United Auto Workers union against Caterpillar. We've lived through it over and over again. All strikers must organize to try to prevent the bosses from bringing in unemployed workers to break the strike. That's very important.

But added to the fight to prevent them from starting up production is the perspective the unions in this country must advance: defending an entire class, whether we belong to unions right now or not. The labor movement can do this by presenting a social program that unites working people in this country and across all borders. That's the perspective, that's what we present as the socialist alternative in 92.

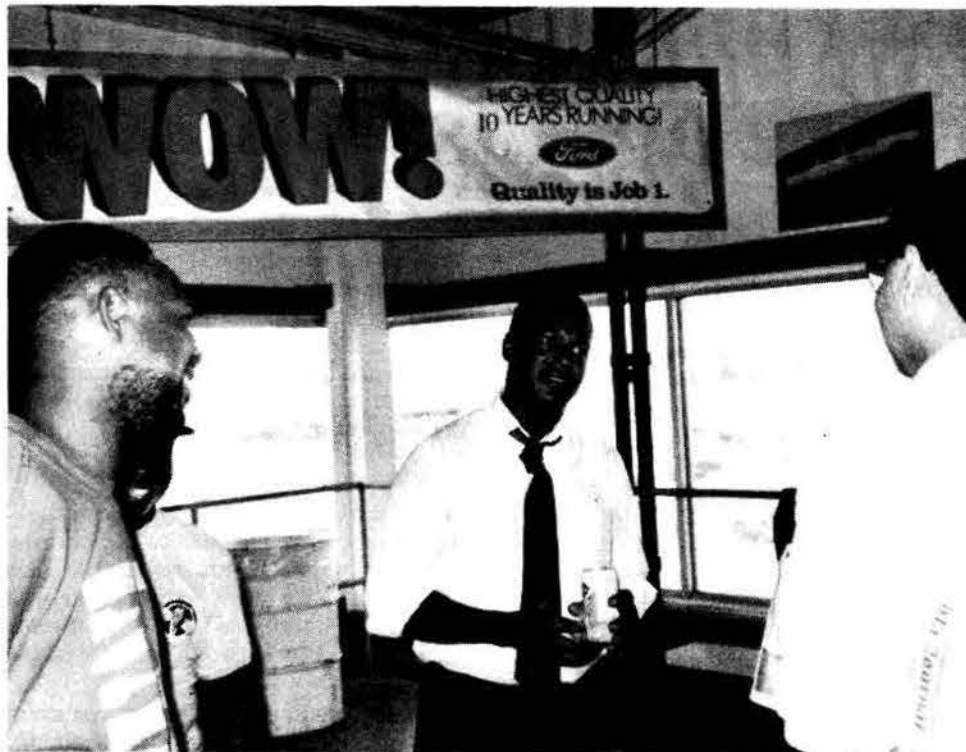
We also see other attempts to defend our rights and standard of living as a part of working-class political action. When people take action in defense of abortion clinics, for example, it's part of working-class political action — in addition to being the only way to begin to defend abortion rights. It's both. It should be approached that way by thinking workers reaching out to those who fight to defend the abortion clinics.

From Buffalo to Houston

We had some great experiences with this in the campaign to defeat Operation Rescue in Buffalo, New York. In Boston, I was able to walk a picket line and be at a clinic as well. Good timing in some cities. But we're



Campaigning to put socialists on the ballot in Miami, Florida. Youth for Warren and DeBates will step up campaign efforts in the fall.



James Warren campaigns among workers at Ford plant in Atlanta

Militant/Fred White

having this experience in cities around the country. Last Sunday I ended up in Houston, my last stop in the tour before coming here. I was able to go to part of one of the training sessions in Houston being held in preparation for the battle in Houston against Operation Rescue, which will be a big battle. Our candidates and supporters will get down there and be a part of this.

The training sessions reminded me quite a bit of exactly the same thing we did in the battle of Boston, in the 1970s when working people and youth mobilized against racist and rightist forces to defend desegregation of the schools. In fact, it reminded me a lot of what I used to be responsible for when we were preparing for activities in Boston, such as the training sessions you take some of the marshals through for some of the actions that will be occurring in the city. That's exactly what they do. They try to politically prepare the fighters for what's coming.

These battles are really important because they give us a chance to go through, to the degree it's possible in the class struggle in this country today, both the political discussions on the character of these actions for the right to choose, as well as the broader political questions the attack on abortion rights raises. This is part of general working-class politics. This is a little bit of combat training in the class struggle, in terms of defending some territory against the rightists and the lowlifes that will be part of much bigger attacks in the future.

Youth for Warren and DeBates

I think one of the most important boosts for the election campaign between now and November is the decision of young fighters here at the conference to become part of Youth for Warren and DeBates.

Youth for Warren and DeBates is an important addition to everything we're trying to do and it will strengthen everything that has unfolded in cities around the country I've toured. Young fighters have come forward to support this campaign. Youth for Warren and DeBates will help reach more such fighters. Young people attending this meeting have done a lot already: fought to get the campaign on the ballot, discussed

politics with tens of thousands of people, fought to win new supporters, and raised a working-class perspective that shows a way out of the wars, economic depression, and racism of the twin parties of big business, the Democrats and Republicans.

You have helped pump life into the election campaign in a real way. You have made a marked difference in what we are capable of accomplishing by taking advantage of the opportunities which do exist everywhere. I, for one, appreciate what these young fighters are accomplishing not only today, but because they are putting together the kind of movement that working people must build to prevent the imperialists from dragging humanity into a third, and devastating, world war.

One of our best supporters is Mark Curtis, a packinghouse worker from Iowa, a unionist and political activist, and a leader of the young socialist movement and the Socialist Workers Party. Mark has served four years of a 25-year prison term on frame-up charges of rape and burglary. He is one of the chairpeople of our campaign.

Campaigning in prison

When I visited him in prison last month he told me about his successes in being a campaigner for socialism among fellow workers and fighters inside the prison. You know how restricted it is in prison. My visit was a big sensation, everybody knew I was coming — even the guards. As we ended our meeting Mark had to stand and wait to be taken to another little room. All the guards were around because they had to search him and make sure we didn't slip him any dangerous material such as a campaign leaflet, some pictures of my trip to Cuba, or press coverage of our campaign events.

We were on our way out the door, and Mark turns around and he yells out, "Give 'em hell, James!" And there was one thing he couldn't say, but it was obvious: "Cause I'm sure as hell gonna give 'em hell inside here."

Like Mark, we can all go to the fighters with ideas and join in the actions that are occurring. We present this view of the world on all levels, from discussions with young fighters on campuses to the tremendous response to what we present among working people at plant gate campaign events.

I could go over all of the cases of those who have stopped and talked and wanted to discuss politics; how many generations it spans; how across the board it is; and how it involves workers from many countries. At plant gates, on campuses, in protests against police brutality, at abortion rights defense activities, and so on, we will continue to meet these fighters. We have the opportunity, the greatest possibility of presenting a communist perspective to fighters, revolutionaries, and thinking workers that we have had since the Russian revolution. We have that today.

This is what we fight for. Out of that will come workers and youth who will take their rightful place beside the fighters in South Africa — what the media refers to as "the comrades" — who are leading a mighty revolution and advancing a communist perspective in the world. That's what we look forward to between now and November and afterward. Join us.

Burlington Northern opens drive against rail workers

BY HARVEY McARTHUR
AND JOEY ROTHENBERG

SEATTLE — An important labor dispute is shaping up on the northern lines of the Burlington Northern Railroad (BN). It pits some 3,500 members of the United Transportation Union (UTU) — workers who operate trains and switch crews between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, and West Coast terminals at Portland, Oregon, and Seattle — against the wealthy owners of the railroad. The employers want to eliminate many of these jobs in a cost-cutting move to boost the dividends paid to stockholders.

Burlington Northern top executive Jerry Grinstein publicly announced an escalation of the company's antilabor drive in a July 20 statement posted at BN yards and offices throughout the country.

"We are in an urgent, competitive battle," Grinstein claimed. "The rate with which we have reduced operating costs... is not fast enough." Top executives had just held a two-day meeting and "agreed to take a number of actions immediately to stimulate significant, lasting operation cost reductions."

"Today, all of us perform some tasks that either can be done differently and more efficiently, or completely eliminated," he warned workers. The bosses imposed an immediate hiring freeze and are clearly looking to eliminate many more jobs. A central aim will be to cut the number of workers assigned to each train and switch crew on the northern lines. Sweeping cuts along these lines have already been made on the southern two-thirds of the BN system.

"Socialist Workers candidates urge UTU members at the BN to reject any demand or proposal that would eliminate jobs," declared Kathleen Wheeler, Socialist Workers

candidate for governor of Washington. Wheeler is a switchman at the BN in Seattle and member of UTU Local 1024. "The employers are organized and taking the offensive against us. We workers must act to discuss and meet and organize through our union to mount an aggressive response to defend workers' interests."

Employers' antilabor drive

Nationwide, rail bosses have been slashing jobs for more than a decade. For many years five workers were assigned to each train crew. Today, many trains operate with only an engineer and conductor. Switch crews have also been cut, often working with just three workers.

Similar cuts have been imposed on maintenance and clerical workers. In all, the owners of the 13 major freight railroads have eliminated more than 200,000 jobs since 1980.

According to the October 1991 issue of *Inside BN*, a company journal, the railroad made only a 10.9 percent profit on its capital investment in 1990 and wants to cut more jobs to boost earnings. The journal detailed plans by other railroads to eliminate thousands of jobs and implied that BN workers had better accept the cuts as well.

This reduction in employment does not stem from any lack of work. Rail remains the number one freight mover in the United States with 37.6 percent of the total market. This is well ahead of its competitors: trucking with 25.6 percent, pipelines with 20.4 percent, ships and barges with 16 percent and airfreight with 0.3 percent.

Besides throwing thousands out of work, the crew cuts pose a serious threat to workers' safety. The companies already force many rail workers to work seven days a week with as

little as eight hours rest between jobs. A train or switch crew has to work as a team, with each worker positioning themselves to play a role in switching, coupling, and uncoupling cars, often handling drags of 50 or more cars at a time over many miles of track. Smaller crews increase the pressure to take shortcuts and omit precautions that could prevent accidents.

The latest round of cuts came after the setback workers suffered in the one-day national rail strike last year. The government quickly demanded that the unions end the walkout and union officials immediately complied, refusing to organize a fight against the bosses' demands.

The terms of the agreement thus imposed on rail workers included the demand that the union either negotiate crew cuts or face binding arbitration on this issue.

The bosses then offered a bribe in an attempt to diffuse workers' anger at the job cuts: hefty buyout payments to workers who agree to quit and continued payment of 75 percent of their former wages to workers laid off temporarily due to the cutbacks.

Top union officials recommended time and again that workers on different railroads vote to accept the bosses' demands — including on the southern portion of the BN where crew cuts were implemented last fall.

Company offensive continues

UTU officials representing northern lines workers asserted that the 1991 settlement did not apply to them. The BN was built up through the merger of some 11 different railroads, each of whose workers were represented by separate UTU general committees. The union argued that each of these committees continued to have an independent existence after the mergers, and that the company had not properly notified and included the northern lines committees in the 1991 negotiations.

In January 1992, a federal court upheld the union position, forestalling the bosses' plans to impose crew cuts at that time.

Since then the company has continued its attack. In March, management served notice that they were demanding new negotiations on the northern lines. They demanded "the unrestricted right" to determine how many workers would be used on each train and switch crew, a 40 percent pay cut, cancellation of wage increases agreed to last year, and return of the \$2000 payment workers received when the contract was settled in 1991.

The alternative to these harsh measures, the company declared, would be for the union to agree to crew cuts similar to those imposed on other railroads.

The BN also pursued legal challenges to the independent status of the various UTU general committees, and in April won a favorable ruling from the National Mediation Board.

In June, the BN joined other railroad companies in a national lockout of rail workers to get a government-imposed contract settlement against rail machinists. Again, union officials did not organize workers to put up any resistance to the bosses, thus encouraging the employers to deepen their antilabor drive.

In early July, rail workers around the country received a modest lump sum payment, part of the wage package included in the 1991 national contract. The BN did not pay this to UTU-represented train and switch crews on the northern lines however, claiming they were not eligible for the payment since they had not accepted the crew cuts.



Militant/Joey Ryan

Burlington Northern plans to slash jobs and safety standards

Murder attempts by terrorist squads from South Africa exposed in Britain

BY SHELLIA KENNEDY

SHEFFIELD, England — Assassination attempts by top South African intelligence officers in Britain gained press coverage here in July.

Dirk Coetzee, a former South African security policeman living in exile in Britain since March 1991, has been the target of four murder attempts by South African intelligence forces, according to the London *Independent*, a prominent daily.

Coetzee worked for five years for the Civil Cooperation Bureau (CCB), a secret counter-insurgency agency organized through South African Military Intelligence. He exposed the CCB and others in the Harms Judicial Commission, a tribunal set up by Pretoria in 1990 to investigate political assassinations. Coetzee named several high-ranking individuals in the South African security forces responsible for murders.

Coetzee subsequently joined the African National Congress and recently said he intends to return to South Africa and expose the role of the police and army, and the complicity of President F.W. de Klerk, in the assassinations.

Capt. Pamela du Randt and Leon Flores, a former policeman with the South African military, set out in April this year to plan Coetzee's death. Du Randt is the secretary to the head of South African Military Intelligence, Gen. Christoffel van der Westhuizen. The two plotted the assassination attempt along with loyalists from Northern Ireland who were seen reconnoitering Coetzee's home. As they did so their movements were followed by British cops, who had been tipped off by another officer in the South African police. Du Randt and Flores were arrested and briefly held before being allowed to return to South Africa.

John Horak, who served for more than 30 years as a secret police colonel while working as a journalist in South Africa, explained in an interview with the *Independent* July 15, that there are some 150 South African agents operating in Britain. Many of these agents are British private detectives subcontracted to collect information on individuals and organizations, he said. Some set up companies to break sanctions while others

were employed to carry out activities in arms dealing and assassinations. Horak said that the undercover elements of the South African security forces in Britain continue to operate as they had in the past.

The *Independent* described how in 1987 representatives from three paramilitary organizations in Northern Ireland — the Ulster Defence Association, the Ulster Freedom Fighters, and Ulster Resistance — obtained weapons from South Africa and were trained in the use of rocket-propelled grenades by a South African diplomat based in France. The South African government offered them £1 million for the blueprints of Starstreak, an anti-aircraft missile made by Shorts, a Belfast company. They could obtain only a model and some parts which they then offered to the diplomat in Paris. The French police arrested the three loyalists and the South African diplomat.

In October 1991, the three Irish terrorists were given suspended sentences and fined a total of £10,000. The South African diplomat successfully claimed diplomatic immunity. The British government then expelled three South African diplomats, while Paris ordered South Africa to reduce its embassy staff.

The campaign of assassinations of ANC members living in Africa and Europe increased in the 1980s. The offices of the ANC and SWAPO (South West Africa Peoples' Organisation) in London were bombed and ANC supporters monitored. Four men were arrested in London in 1987 for attempting to kidnap senior members of the ANC. They were charged, but the Director of Public Prosecutions (attorney general) dropped the case.

In 1987 the ANC representative in Brussels narrowly escaped an assassination attempt. Dulcie September, the ANC representative in France, was less fortunate. She was murdered in front of her Paris offices. A former South African diplomat, Joseph Klue, was wanted by the French police in connection with September's murder, but he fled the country. In 1982, Klue had successfully claimed diplomatic immunity in Britain after being implicated in break-ins of ANC and SWAPO offices in London.

While the legal disputes have delayed implementation of the cuts here for a few months, nothing has been done to prepare or organize UTU members to fight to keep the jobs. Union officials have concentrated on courtroom maneuvers, keeping workers on the sidelines as passive and largely uninformed observers. As a result, the typical attitude among workers is that there is nothing that can be done to stop the cuts.

The bosses clearly anticipate success.

"Labor sources say the union is likely to agree to the national pattern, giving up the brakeman position on through freight trains in exchange for a wage increase," wrote the *Journal of Commerce* in its April 22 issue. "G. Thomas DuBose, UTU president, told the *Journal of Commerce* he is sending L.W. Swert, assistant international president, to the next round of talks in Fort Worth... By sending Mr. Swert to the talks, Mr. DuBose said he wants to get past the rancorous legal positions and reach an agreement."

Harvey McArthur is a switchman on the Burlington Northern in Seattle and member of United Transportation Union Local 845. Joey Rothenberg is a switchman on the BN in St. Paul and member of UTU Local 1000.

Socialists issue call: 'No to rail job cuts'

"We urge United Transportation Union members at the Burlington Northern to reject any demand that would eliminate jobs," said Socialist Workers candidates in a recent statement. "Workers everywhere should rally behind them, seizing the opportunity to put up a fight to reverse the terrible loss of jobs we have suffered in many industries."

"Employers everywhere fear the tremendous potential power rail workers have, power that comes from their numbers and central role in the economy. The challenge is to unite and use this power to advance the interests of all working people against the demands of the employers and their government."

For copies of the full statement, contact Socialist Workers campaign committees at: 1405 E. Madison, Seattle, WA 98122 Tel: (206) 323-1755 or at 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104 Tel: (612) 644-6325.

Curtis wins new support in Latin America

BY ARGIRIS MALAPANIS

ROSARIO, Argentina — "When I see what happens to a worker like Mark Curtis, I immediately identify with him," said Leonor Alonso during a bus ride from Buenos Aires to Rosario. Alonso was on her way, along with dozens of others, to an international seminar that took place here June 12-14 on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the birth of Ernesto Che Guevara.

Curtis, a former meat-packer and political activist, was framed up on charges of attempted rape and burglary by Des Moines, Iowa, cops in the middle of a fight to defend immigrant coworkers from El Salvador and Mexico who had been arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Curtis was found guilty and sentenced to 25 years in prison after an unfair trial in 1988. He is currently incarcerated in Ft. Madison, Iowa. In February Curtis won a suit he had filed against the Des Moines cops who beat him after his arrest, fracturing his cheek bone. The cops told Curtis he was "a Mexican lover, just like you love those coloreds," as they beat him.

Alonso, 65, from the Argentine province of La Rioja, is a leader of the Abuelas de la Plaza de Mayo (Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo). She has been a long-time member and activist of the Confederation of Workers in Education of the Republic of Argentina (CTERA). The Abuelas, along with the Madres (Mothers of Plaza de Mayo) have been organizing protests for the last 15 years demanding justice for more than 30,000 of their relatives "disappeared" during the first two years of the

Videla military dictatorship. The military ruled Argentina from 1976 to 1983. The Madres have become known worldwide for their protests every Thursday at Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires.

"Most of those who disappeared were women and active unionists" said Alonso, one of 15 participants at the Rosario conference who endorsed the Mark Curtis Defense Committee (MCDC). Alonso's daughter, Maria Leonor Abinet, also an activist in CTERA, "disappeared" in June 1976. Abinet's husband, a metal worker at one of the biggest steel manufacturing companies in Argentina at the time, Ten S.A., also "disappeared." "Workers at Ten S.A. were among the hardest hit by arrests and disappearances by the military," said Alonso.

"In September 1976, I was arrested in the middle of the night, blindfolded, and taken away to a concentration camp," she said. "the only reason I think the generals spared my life is because I was older." Alonso believes most of the "disappeared" are dead. "But the government will not admit whether they are dead or alive. They are listed as missing. We will press our fight until their whereabouts are confirmed and those responsible are brought to justice."

Martin Canevaro, a high school student from Buenos Aires, was another seminar participant who endorsed the Curtis case.

Police Brutality in Argentina

He recounted several stories of police brutality against youth in Argentina. In April 1991 a famous rock group attracted thou-



Militant/Aaron Ruby
Leonor Alonso of Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo endorsed Curtis' fight for freedom.

sands of young people to a concert in Buenos Aires. More than 500 people were unable to fit into the stadium. "The police fired shots to disperse the crowd," Canevaro said. Walter Bulacio, a 16-year-old student, was killed by the cops. Protests were organized demanding the cops responsible be jailed. "That is one of the most well-known cases, but there have been many more since," he explained.

Canevaro invited Aaron Ruby, a meat-packer and Socialist Workers Party candidate for Washington, D.C., city council, to attend a meeting against police brutality in Buenos Aires, following the Rosario seminar. Ruby, who participated in the seminar, gave a presentation on the Curtis

case at the Buenos Aires meeting. Another three endorsers were won to the Curtis case there.

Joachim Picalotto from Porto Alegre in southern Brazil was another of the Rosario seminar participants who signed up to support Curtis. A member of the Workers Party (PT) of Brazil, Picalotto is a leader of the Rural Movement of Landless Workers (MST). His group organizes takeovers of latifundia by landless peasants throughout rural Brazil.

"We face police violence and frame-ups constantly," said Picalotto. During a police attack against a demonstration for land rights in Porto Alegre, "Army troops shot a woman protester," he said. During the scuffle to save the woman's life a soldier was killed. The police then arrested four members of his organization "and with no evidence framed them up on murder charges." Two other MST members were arrested later and charged with complicity in the murder. "They've been in prison without a trial for 17 months," Picalotto noted at the time of the interview. The trial was held at the end of June and the six were found guilty and convicted. The MST is organizing a campaign to demand that the six, who are appealing their conviction, be freed. Later the MST endorsed Curtis' fight for justice.

During the Rosario seminar Ruby made a presentation on the Curtis case to the entire conference. Seminar organizers made copies of a brochure titled "Who is Mark Curtis?" and an article from the June issue of the magazine *Perspectiva Mundial* titled, "Why should Curtis be defended? An answer to the rightist campaign against the Iowa union activist" for all delegates and observers.

Those who endorsed the Curtis case at the conference include Mario Bianchi, general secretary of the Communist Youth Federation of Argentina; Eduardo Cáceres, general secretary of the Unified Mariateguista Party of Peru; Hugo Cores, parliamentary deputy of Uruguay's Broad Front; Omar Rubén Parrados of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights from Rosario; and Daniel Alberto Roa, a striking teacher from Buenos Aires.

A resolution adopted by the Rosario conference demanding the release of political prisoners throughout the Americas and respect for their democratic rights mentioned the Curtis case among others.

The resolution demanded from "the government of the United States, the freedom of worker Mark Curtis and Puerto Rican political prisoners in the United States."

UN aids moves to war against Yugoslavia

BY ARGIRIS MALAPANIS

The clouds of war loomed larger over the Balkans as the United Nations Security Council voted 12-0 August 13 to allow military intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The pretext for the move is ensuring the delivery of food and medicine to besieged citizens of Sarajevo and other cities of the former Yugoslav republic. The resolution was adopted with the strong backing of the U.S. government. China, India, and Zimbabwe abstained.

Reports of atrocities by forces loyal to Radovan Karadzic's Serbian Democratic Party in concentration camps in Bosnia have filled TV screens, magazines, and newspapers around the world in the last two weeks. Washington, Bonn, Paris, and other imperialist powers are using these crimes by Serbian rightists to justify their steps toward military intervention in the Yugoslav conflict.

In Brussels, NATO military staff released a report August 14 suggesting that a "heavy operation" involving 100,000 troops would be needed to guard relief convoys. Lieut. Gen. Barry McCaffrey, a Pentagon official, told the U.S. Senate August 11 that 60,000 to 120,000 ground troops would be needed to ensure the uninterrupted flow of supplies to Sarajevo. McCaffrey said a field army of 400,000 would be necessary to impose a cease-fire and occupy territory in the disputed areas, an option Washington seems to rule out at the moment.

The human toll as a result of the war continues to mount. More than 2.3 million people have been displaced from their homes, the majority of them from Bosnia-Herzegovina. The death toll in the four-month-old war in Bosnia alone has surpassed 10,000.

Most refugees are in camps in Croatia, Slovenia, and other former Yugoslav republics. Nearly half a million have fled to other European countries, primarily in Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Sweden. The British government, which has only admitted 1,300 refugees, has begun deporting some of them. London acknowledged August 12 it had expelled 36 people from former Yugoslavia who had applied for asylum.

Interimperialist conflicts

Sharper competition between imperialist powers is the driving force behind the threat of military intervention. On August 14 French president François Mitterrand rushed to offer to send an additional 1,100 soldiers to Bosnia. France has already de-

ployed 2,700 troops there as part of the UN forces. If additional French forces are sent Paris would prefer them to be under the authority of the Western European Union, a regional military organization comprising 9 of the 12 European Community members. Paris has promoted this body as a way to diminish the influence of the U.S.-dominated NATO in Europe.

Bonn has already established a foothold in Yugoslavia by aiding the Croatian regime of Franjo Tudjman. Germany has sold sophisticated Messerschmitt howitzers to Croatia. In Dubrovnik at the end of July this reporter saw German-made Leopard tanks being transported to the front lines by the Croatian army. Despite protests from the opposition Social Democrats, German chancellor Helmut Kohl has sent a destroyer and three surveillance aircraft to the Adriatic sea to help in the imposition of UN sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro.

German foreign minister Klaus Kinkel noted August 11 that committing German troops to the Balkans would be unconstitutional at the moment. But in the same breath he renewed calls for a speedy constitutional change that would legalize the deployment of German troops abroad. Kohl said he would immediately reopen talks on German military involvement in the event of the UN approving an all-out blockade of Serbia.

Fearing that its European competitors — especially Bonn — might be getting an edge in the conflict, Washington gave the green light for the UN resolution last week. U.S. president George Bush was prodded to take a clearer stand in favor of intervention by Democratic presidential candidate William Clinton and others, like former British prime minister and longtime ally Margaret Thatcher. "American leadership in this endeavor is indispensable as the EC's paralysis has shown," Thatcher wrote in a well-publicized opinion column.

Washington's hesitations

The U.S. administration has been hesitant to deploy a large number of ground troops fearing that intervention might lead to a quagmire like Lebanon or Vietnam. "It will require a very large force that would have to use violence to stop violence," Stephen Hadley, assistant secretary of defense for International Security Policy, told the U.S. Senate. "We would have, in essence, an occupation force continually at risk."

Such hesitations are shared by others in

U.S. ruling circles. An August 12 editorial in the *Wall Street Journal* is an example. "There is no such thing as a simple war," the *Journal* editors wrote, "a lesson learned in Vietnam and not forgotten by the President when he applied overwhelming force to subdue Saddam Hussein in Desert Storm." The editorial urged Bush to consider options such as bombing "military targets around Belgrade."

At the same time Washington has not yet proposed measures against governments that are not-so-secretly breaking the UN embargo against Serbia. The August 16 issue of the *Manchester Guardian* weekly reported that three to four ships per day transporting iron ore, steel, phosphate, coal, and vehicles, flying the red hammer and

Continued on Page 12

Literature available from the Mark Curtis Defense Committee

The Frame-up of Mark Curtis by Margaret Jayko. The story of Mark Curtis, a unionist and fighter for immigrant rights, who is serving a 25-year sentence in an Iowa prison on trumped-up rape charges. 71 pp., \$5. Order from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014. (Please include \$3 for postage and handling.)

Video: "On Trial" Television show with scenes from Curtis' trial. \$15.

State of Iowa v. Mark Stanton Curtis. Transcript of September 1988 jury trial proceedings that found Curtis guilty of rape and burglary. 446 pp. \$30.

The Stakes in the Worldwide Political Campaign to Defend Mark Curtis by John Gaige. Explains the political background to Curtis' case, the frame-up, and unfair trial. 25 pp. \$1.

Video: The Frame-up of Mark Curtis, produced by Hollywood director Nick Castle. This effective 49-minute documentary has clips from TV news broadcasts on Curtis' fight for justice; scenes from the trial; and interviews with Curtis, his wife Kate Kaku, and others. Available in English or Spanish on VHS, Beta, and PAL for the cost of reproduction and shipping. \$15.

Brief from Mark Curtis' successful lawsuit against Des Moines police. This document details the record of cop brutality in Des Moines over the past decade. 20 pp. \$1. The judge's ruling in this suit is also available upon request.

Justice for Mark Curtis: "An injury to one is an injury to all." Buttons \$1.

For these and other materials (except for pamphlet by Margaret Jayko, see above) write or call the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, P.O. Box 1048, Des Moines, IA 50311. Phone (515) 246-1695. Bulk quantities are available. Many of these are also available in Spanish. Payments should accompany orders; make out checks to Mark Curtis Defense Committee. Please allow 2 weeks for delivery.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

Iran and the Neighboring Republics of the USSR Speaker: Ma'mud Shirvani, recently visited Iran. Fri., Aug. 21, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave., 2nd floor. Donation: \$3. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI

St. Louis

U.S./UN Drive to War in Iraq and Yugoslavia: The New World Disorder. Speaker: Dick Mc-

Bride, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Congress, 3rd CD. Sat., Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m. 1622 S. Broadway. Donation: \$3. Tel: (314) 421-3808.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Defend Abortion Rights! We Beat Operation Rescue in Buffalo; Houston is Next! Speakers: Kathy Wheeler, Socialist Workers candidate for governor; David Warshawsky, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Congress, 7th CD. Both

just returned from Houston. Fri., Aug. 21, 7:30 p.m. 1405 E Madison. Donation: \$3. Tel: (206) 323-1755

AUSTRALIA

Sydney

The Communist Manifesto Today. Reportback from the 1992 International Socialist Conference. Speakers: Communist League representatives. Sat., Aug. 22, 6p.m. 66 Albion Street, Surry

Hills. Donation: \$3. Tel: 02-281 3297.

CANADA

Montreal

Yugoslavia. Which Way Forward for Working People? Imperialist Intervention or a Deepening of Mass Mobilizations? Speaker: Argiris Malapanis, *Militant* reporter, just back from Sarajevo, Zagreb, and Belgrade in Yugoslavia. Sun., Aug. 23, 1:30 p.m. 6566, boul. Saint-Laurent. Donation: \$4. Tel: (514) 273-2503.

Vancouver

The Defense of Abortion Clinics. "Operation Rescue: You Didn't Like Buffalo, You'll Hate Houston!" Speaker: Tom Leys, member of Communist League, just returned from clinic defense in Houston. Sat., Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m. 3967 Main St. (between 23rd and 24th Ave). Donation: \$4. Tel: (604) 872-8343.

BRITAIN

London

Yugoslavia — An Eyewitness Report. Speaker: Anne Howie, participant in *Militant* reporting team to Yugoslavia. Sat., Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m. 47 The Cut, SE1. Donation: £2. Tel: 71-928-7993.

Sheffield

Yugoslavia — An Eyewitness Report. Speaker: Anne Howie, participant in *Militant* reporting team to Yugoslavia. Sat., Aug. 22, 7 p.m. 1 Gower St., Spital Hill. Donation: £1. Tel: 0742-765070.

NEW ZEALAND

Christchurch

The Fight Against Aids. Sat., Aug. 22, 7 p.m. 593a Colombo St. (upstairs). Tel: (3) 656-055. **Union Resistance to the Employment Contracts Act.** Sat., Sept. 5, 7 p.m. 593a Colombo St. (upstairs). Tel: (3) 656-055.

Wellington

Solidarity with Striking NZFP Workers. Speaker: Colin Parker, NZFP employee and strike supporter. Sat., Aug. 22, 4 p.m. 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Donation \$3. Tel: (4) 384-4205.

The 1992 International Socialist Conference: Reportback by a Participant. Speaker: Brigid Rotherham, Communist League candidate for mayor of Auckland. Sat., Aug. 29, 7 p.m. 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Donation \$3. Tel: (4) 384-4205.

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UN aids war moves against Yugoslavia

Continued from Page 11

sickle of the former Soviet Union, can be seen sailing the Danube to Serbia. The ships, "almost certainly Russian," depart from the Ukrainian port of Izmail.

Numerous reports also exist of oil shipments to Belgrade from Athens, Greece. The Greek government has publicly opposed military intervention in Bosnia but has sent a destroyer in the Adriatic sea, ostensibly to enforce the UN embargo. The governments of Turkey and Iran have become strong advocates of military intervention. At the end of July Turkish planes dropped an unsolicited shipment of weapons into Gorazde, a 99 percent Muslim city south of Sarajevo which has been under siege by Karadzic's forces.

Heavy shelling of Sarajevo, Gorazde, and other Bosnian cities continues. Sarajevo city officials announced August 10 that less than two weeks' reserve of flour was left at the city's only functioning bakery.

Snipers opened fire at a convoy taking Prime Minister Milan Panic of Yugoslavia into Sarajevo August 13, killing an ABC reporter. He was one of 30 journalists who have been killed during the war. While Panic has condemned the bombing of Sarajevo and said he will order Karadzic to close the concentration camps, the Serbian government continues to supply food, medicine, and weapons to the Serbian Democratic Party forces in Bosnia.

Serbian rightist forces have tightened their noose around the northwestern corner

of Bosnia, cutting food deliveries and escape routes for the 300,000 area residents. In radio broadcasts Karadzic's commanders have told the people of Bihac, the largest city in the area, that shelling — as many as 500 shells per day — will stop when all the 70,000 overwhelmingly Muslim residents agree to leave.

Atrocities in camps

Danish photographer Jorgen Hildebrandt managed to slip into besieged Gorazde July 20. He photographed dozens of bodies of Muslim civilians floating down the Drina river, allegedly executed in a Serbian concentration camp in nearby Foca. Some of his pictures were published in the *Manchester Guardian*. "There are no anaesthetics, no painkillers, no antibiotics, no blood supplies," he wrote about the Gorazde hospital. "Even those who are slightly wounded die because of lack of supplies." On August 15 Karadzic's troops permitted a UN convoy carrying 46 tons of food and medicine to enter Gorazde.

Serbian Democratic Party forces have allowed limited inspections of some of their prison camps in Bosnia after an international outcry over alleged atrocities against Muslim inmates. A *Guardian* reporter who visited a camp at Omarska in northeastern Bosnia wrote that "internees are horribly thin, raw-boned; some are almost cadaverous."

Serbian guards at some of the camps have been forcibly recruited by Karadzic's army since there is an obligatory mobilization of all men and many women in the Serbian-held parts of Bosnia. At a prison camp in Trnopolje, near Omarska, Igor, a Serbian soldier and guard introduced the *Guardian* reporter to a friend on the other side of the fence. "I have my old schoolfriends and my teacher in there," said Igor. The Serbian government alleges there are similar camps run by Bosnian and Croatian forces in other parts of the republic.

Opposition to the war

Widespread opposition to the war continues. A Serbian officer was shown on Belgrade TV August 9 complaining that his men had deserted the war front in Trebinje, a town in southern Bosnia near the Croatian border. Serbian rightist forces have used

Trebinje as a base to continue bombardments of the Croatian port of Dubrovnik. The officer angrily warned that the soldiers who deserted would be captured and put on trial as traitors unless they returned.

Students at Belgrade University have announced they will resume demonstrations against the Milosevic regime this month and will continue a strike they began in June once the fall semester begins.

Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic is attempting to tighten his grip on power in the face of growing opposition. On July 27 Milosevic's Serbian Socialist Party, which dominates the Serbian parliament, introduced a public order bill, which it proposed must be passed "urgently." Under the law a Serbian citizen could be sentenced to 20 days in prison for arguing in public. Other provisions include a ban on rallies and the government's planned takeover of the newspaper *Politika*. Several prominent members of the Socialist Party joined opposition politicians in condemning the announced takeover of *Politika*. The newspaper had supported Milosevic in the past but it has grown more critical of his regime and the war recently. The politicians' opposition to Milosevic's move against the newspaper came after some 4,000 of the company's workers threatened to strike.

Meanwhile, Croatian army forces have captured more territory in southern Bosnia. On August 12 recently reelected Croatian president Franjo Tudjman, with Karadzic's support, challenged Bosnia-Herzegovina's right to exist as an independent state, calling for it to become a "United Nations protectorate." Such remarks reinforce the perception of many residents of Bosnia that the governments of Croatia and Serbia are working together to carve up Bosnia between themselves.

"We have a functioning government. We have everything. All we need now is a negotiated settlement," Karadzic told London's *Financial Times*. He has proposed a massive prisoner exchange program as a way to complete his policy of "ethnic cleansing" of the parts of Bosnia his army controls. "We now control 70 percent," Karadzic continued. "But we only claim 64 percent as ours."

CALENDAR

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

Socialist Workers Campaign Class Series. The Role of Cuba in Africa. Video on historic defeat of the South African invasion of Angola in 1988 by Cuban, Angolan, and SWAPO forces. Followed by a discussion with Gerardo Sanchez, SWP candidate for Minnesota State Senate. Sunday, August 23, 3:00 p.m.; **The Revolutionary Struggle for a Democratic, Nonracial, Nonsexist South Africa.** A discussion with Chris Nisan, SWP candidate for U.S. Congress (5th CD). Sun., August 30, 3:00 p.m. All classes held at Sabathani Community Center, Room D-1, 310 E. 38th Street. For more information: (612) 645-1674.

Cuban youth leader visits U.S.

Ibis Alvisa González, a researcher at the Center for Studies of Youth in Havana, Cuba, is currently visiting the United States to speak on many campuses about young people and Cuba today. She will visit nine cities.

A second Cuban youth leader, José Antonio Concepción Ráugel, will join González starting September 2. He is also a researcher at the Center for Studies of Youth.

For more information on their visit, contact the Faculty and Students Coordinating Committee for Campus Lectures of Cuban Youth, Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York, which is sponsoring the tour, at: P.O. Box 1597, New York, NY 10011 or call (212) 406-3980.

August 24-31	Los Angeles
September 1-6	San Francisco
September 7-12	Chicago
September 13-17	Pittsburgh
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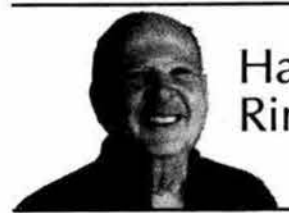
Christchurch: 593a Colombo St. (upstairs). Postal address: P.O. Box 22-530. Tel: (3) 656-055.

Wellington: 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Postal address: P.O. Box 9092. Tel: (4) 384-4205.

SWEDEN

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

Heavy Duty — "Given the choice, I would rather not have been born wealthy, but I never think of



Harry Ring

giving it up. It doesn't belong to me." — Duke of Westminster, reportedly Britain's richest man, who sees himself as merely the custodian of the family fortune.

A wunnerful system — In Los Angeles, Raymond Hewitt, 72, deaf and legally blind, walked into two cops making a bust. Because he didn't respond to orders, they punched him out, breaking six ribs and blinding him totally in one eye. The city offered a \$36,000 settlement, but is considering making it more. His lawyer says he'll take only a "minimum fee," plus \$15,000 "expenses." A doc who treated Hewitt wants \$5,000.

Take that — What happened to the two L.A. cops who beat Hewitt? One was reprimanded for not obtaining medical treatment for him. The other cop wasn't even charged.

Where there's a \$, there's a way — More multilingual ballots? "Too expensive." Spanish-speakers at public service offices? "Not practical." More multilingual education? "Un-American." Meanwhile, United Airlines, with expanded flights to Latin America, now has a toll-free Spanish-language reservation phone line that can be reached from the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and more.

That's capitalism — "Recent earthquakes jolt many frightened Southland residents into preparing for the Big One. Others see an opportunity to make a buck." — Los Angeles news headline.

See, what's to worry? — "A catastrophic urban earthquake may cause billions of dollars in damage and bankrupt some insurance companies, but it won't halt the whole industry or severely disrupt the U.S. economy, a government study says." — Business section, *Los Angeles Times*.

Business is business — The Dutch Parliament scrapped dead-letter statutes curbing brothels and sex clubs. This clears the way for bordellos to gain the advertising benefits of membership in the foreign tourism agency. "It's not up to the Amsterdam tourist office to make moral judgments," an official explained.

Who says U.S. medical system doesn't work — The American Medical Assn. reported that in 1990 doctors' income rose 5.5 percent to an average of \$164,300.

From sea to shining sea — More than 2,000 coastal beaches were closed last year because of raw sewage contamination. And that's only a partial indicator of the risk. The coastal states don't bother to regularly check for contamination.

You can't do without it — From Hammacher Schlemmer, the gadget folks, an automatic potato-chip maker. \$299.95.

Cops who beat King indicted on federal charges

BY HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES — The federal indictment of the four cops who beat Rodney King is a step forward in the fight to curb police violence.

Announcing the August 5 grand jury indictment, U.S. Attorney Lourdes Baird said the four cops are charged with "stomping, kicking, and beating Mr. King."

"It was," she declared "an unreasonable use of force."

The three cops who brutalized King — Laurence Powell, Theodore Briseno, and Timothy Wind — are charged with violating King's civil rights by doing so. The fourth defendant, Stacey Koon, the sergeant in charge, was indicted because he permitted the beating to occur, depriving King of his right to be free of harm while in custody.

Baird suggested a possibility that additional charges might be filed against the four and that some bystander cops might be indicted as well.

The four cops pleaded not guilty and each was released on \$5,000 unsecured bond. A

September 29 trial date was set but it is unlikely that it will begin then. Two of the defendants will be represented by new lawyers and it was indicated they will request extra time to review the case.

Baird emphasized that racism — the root issue in the beating — would not be an issue in the prosecution.

"The indictment does not allege any racial animus," she said. "Racial motivation is not an element of any of these charges."

She did not indicate if King would be called upon to testify about what was done to him. Nor did she say if the prosecution would call upon the dozen or more people

who witnessed the beating from nearby.

In the previous trial, King was not called on to testify. Nor were any of the civilian witnesses except George Holliday, who filmed the incident with his camcorder.

Held in predominantly white Simi Valley, with no Blacks on the jury, the verdict in that trial touched off a firestorm of outrage. Three of the cops were cleared completely, with the jury dividing on a single count against the fourth, Laurence Powell.

Powell was slated for retrial on the unresolved count, but presiding Judge Stanley Weisberg vacated the trial date and said that

with the federal indictment he may dismiss the charge.

The federal indictment was welcomed by Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley who said he thinks it will "help bring about a sense of confidence on the part of the people that this system is now working."

The indictment was bitterly assailed by Daryl Gates, who was forced to retire as chief of police because of the wave of protest against police brutality sparked by the King case.

Describing the federal indictment as "overkill," Gates admonished, "We shouldn't trash the system."

Willie Williams, who succeeded Gates as chief, declined to comment on the indictment.

Rodney King's lawyer, Steven Lerman, pointedly declared:

"I don't think there is any question that for the prosecution to be successful this time, they will have to call Rodney King as a witness. And he looks forward to it."

Since the Simi Valley whitewash, there has been a persistent demand for federal prosecution of the four cops. More and stronger pressure is now needed to win an effective prosecution that can put the cops where they belong — behind bars.

Los Angeles cops sued for attack on gay rights demonstration

BY HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES — A damage suit has been filed against the Los Angeles Police Department for its violent attack on a gay rights demonstration last October.

The suit was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of victims of the police attack. It seeks monetary damages and an injunction against future acts of brutality.

On Oct. 23, 1991, some 500 supporters of gay rights had assembled outside the Century Plaza Hotel to protest against California Gov. Peter Wilson who had earlier vetoed a legislative measure barring job discrimination against homosexuals.

Some 200 of the demonstrators had gathered on a median strip outside the hotel. Earlier, police officials had agreed on their right to do so.

But suddenly more than 100 cops in riot gear, led by 20 on horseback, charged the peaceful protesters, their clubs swinging.

As they tried to retreat, several of the demonstrators were knocked to the ground and clubbed as they lay there.

One man suffered a broken arm as he tried to shield a woman from being clubbed in the face.

Nine of the demonstrators were jailed on suspicion of felony cruelty to animals. They had allegedly struck back at the horses with their protest signs.

Among those arrested was the demonstrator whose arm was broken. He said a cop told him, "You people are sick and you should be put in mental hospitals."

Another participant said the cops were laughing as they attacked the demonstrators.

"They were calling us faggots," he said. "They were calling us sick people."

He described the police assault as "a mass gay-bashing."

The deputy police chief who directed the attack asserted, "We had information they were planning to charge the hotel."

Haitian unionist tells of workers' fight

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

One of the special guests attending the International Socialist Conference August 5-9 in Oberlin, Ohio, was Yves Antoine Richard, secretary-general of the General Federation of Workers (CGT) in Haiti.

"Workers have no borders," stated Richard in his greetings to the socialist conference. "In Haiti there is misery, repression, and hunger, but there are also fighters."

In an interview, Richard characterized Washington's policy of forcibly returning all Haitians fleeing the island by boat as "a racist policy."

"In Haiti there's tremendous unemployment and political repression," he stated, "so people have no choice but to leave the country today because it's not possible to live, to survive, to get an education, to get food." Richard condemned the U.S. government for violating treaties that it had signed protecting the rights of refugees.

Those opposed to continued military rule in Haiti face fierce repression. "Soldiers are thieves and torturers," stated Richard. "Every day there are bodies found in the streets." Recently soldiers killed 10 students involved in a demonstration against the regime. Richard explained that the soldiers "beat them and used machine guns to destroy all the equipment the students use in their studies."

Richard condemned the military rulers' appointment of Marc Bazin as prime minister in June, eight months after the overthrow of Haiti's elected president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide. "The Haitian people reject this government because they didn't put it in power. This government has no credibility at all."

Richard said the economic embargo against Haiti was seen by the people as a way to bring back President Aristide.

The embargo has not been effectively enforced, however. Individuals within the army and others profit from the embargo by buying goods cheaply and selling them at very high prices. Rising inflation has been combined with rising corruption in the government, Richard said. Prices of basic necessities like cooking oil, medicines, and gas for electricity are very high.

"People are living in a climate of repression and also misery in Haiti," said Richard, "but are willing to do anything to make possible Aristide's return."

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— 25 AND 50 YEARS AGO —

THE MILITANT
Published in the Interest of the Working People
August 21, 1967
Price 10¢

HAVANA — The first conference of the Organization of Latin American Solidarity was closed Aug. 10 with one of the most important speeches made by Fidel Castro since the beginning of the Cuban Revolution.

The main theme of the conference was reaffirmation of the program of socialist revolution as opposed to the line of "peaceful coexistence" with the so-called "progressive" sector of the national bourgeoisie, adaptation to its fraudulent electoral process and abandonment of armed struggle in countries where all peaceful roads have been blocked by the oligarchies and their imperialist backers.

Castro affirmed Cuba's loyalty to the Latin American revolution and the world revolution as a whole. Castro cited some of the outstanding instances where the Cuban government had placed these interests above the country's own national economic needs. [He] reaffirmed Cuba's condemnation of "socialist countries" that offered financial and technical assistance to the oligarchies of Latin America.

THE MILITANT
PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE
NEW YORK, N.Y. FIVE (5) CENTS

August 29, 1942

The language of the revolution is beginning to be heard more and more openly in the actions of the oppressed millions of this world now engulfed in the second imperialist slaughter. Significant news is penetrating

the double wall of fascist and "democratic" censorship relating to the developments in the occupied countries of Europe, especially Yugoslavia.

For some time now the capitalist press of the "democratic" imperialists has carried glowing reports of Yugoslav resistance, the leadership of which has been credited solely to General Mikhailovitch, Minister of War of the Yugoslav government. The program of this resistance has been reported as being purely the chauvinistic program of the Chetniks.

The truth is that another kind of struggle has been unfolding: insurgent workers and peasants of Yugoslavia are fighting not only against the German and Italian conquerors but also against their native exploiters. The peasants want to drive out the landlords and to divide the land; the workers are supporting this struggle of the peasantry and are advancing their own program of the proletarian revolution. These revolutionary detachments have created Soviets and are obviously growing in strength and influence.

The August issue of the *Fourth International* [reports]: "On July 18 a dispatch from Turkey announced that General Mikhailovitch had launched a campaign against Communist partisan bands accused of marauding Serbian and Bosnian villages in the territory controlled by the loyal Yugoslav armies. Shortly after, the Communist partisan bands were called 'bandits and looters.'"

"The real class character of the conflicting forces is clear. The 'Communist' partisan bands represent the poor elements of the villages, while the Chetniks are the elements in the villages approximating Kulaks."

"The class struggle between the two develops, wherever the German oppression is even slightly lifted by Serbian resistance."

"The Serbian movement shows us the revolutionary implications of the movements of resistance against the Nazis in the occupied territories."

No to intervention in Yugoslavia

After the United Nations Security Council resolution authorizing military intervention in the former Yugoslavia, the prospects for an onslaught against working people there loom much closer. Working people and youth around the world should have no confidence whatsoever that imperialist military intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina will help to resolve the problems faced by the people of the area.

Washington, Bonn, London, and Paris are planning to intervene not because of stories of atrocities in prison camps or the continued bombardment of Sarajevo, Gorazde, and other Bosnian cities. These powers simply use those stories to justify their actions.

Just as in Iraq, Washington is now seriously contemplating military intervention to assert itself and reestablish "stability." It will aim to boost those forces that can best do the U.S. rulers' bidding from among the rival bureaucratic gangs that are carving up the former Yugoslav republics. Washington also wants to ensure that its rivals in Europe, especially Bonn, will not be the ones to increasingly call the shots over which power will politically dominate the region.

In Iraq, Washington and the other imperialist governments did not use their troops to come to the aid of victimized people of different nationalities. This was dramatically seen when thousands of Shiite and Kurdish people died when their rebellions against the Saddam Hussein dictatorship were crushed by Baghdad following its defeat in the Gulf War.

Washington supported and actively aided the Hussein regime up to the moment of its land-grabbing invasion of Kuwait. That event was simply used as a pretext by the U.S. government for its war, in which it sought to establish a more subservient regime in Iraq and reassert its hegemony over its rivals, particularly Bonn and Tokyo.

It is the people of Iraq who have been and continue to be the victims of the policies of imperialism there, from the tens of thousands who were killed during the Gulf War to those who have suffered from the nutritional and medical shortages caused by the inhuman embargo against Iraq.

Meanwhile, the threats of renewed war against Iraq continue. A front-page article in the *New York Times*

August 16 points to U.S. plans to provoke another confrontation with the Hussein regime, possibly to be used as a pretext to bomb Baghdad as an accompaniment to the Republican convention in Houston. Whether this occurs now or later, the people of Iraq will pay with their lives for George Bush's war plans, brought forward to give a boost to his faltering re-election campaign. Working people around the world should loudly demand an end to the embargo against Iraq and the recent war moves by Washington.

In exactly the same way as in Iraq, the UN sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro hurt first and foremost working people in those republics. The overwhelming majority of people in Serbia and Montenegro are for that reason opposed to the sanctions, including the majority of forces organizing antiwar demonstrations against the Slobodan Milosevic regime in Belgrade.

The hypocrisy of imperialist governments in their professed concern over the onslaught against working people in the former Yugoslavia is most glaring in their stance towards the millions of refugees fleeing the war. London is expelling refugees seeking asylum, while Paris and Washington are only allowing a few hundred refugees to come in. Meanwhile Stockholm and Budapest have tightened immigration restrictions. The labor movement should demand that all borders be open to refugees from Yugoslavia.

Imperialist military intervention, likely to involve tens of thousands of ground troops, will result in many more lives being lost in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Instead of military intervention and economic embargoes, working people in the former Yugoslavia need freedom to resist the war and the other inhuman policies being advanced by the various regimes there. Many people are striving to do this, not just in Serbia but in Bosnia and in other republics as well.

It is only through such struggles that working people can themselves move in the direction of throwing off the yoke of the gangster-type regimes in the different republics, which are pitting them against each other.

No to intervention in Yugoslavia!

Stop war moves against Iraq!

Continued from front page

creasing world disorder of capitalism in crisis. Driven to greater conflicts with its imperialist competitors in Germany, Japan, and France, Washington will again and again attempt to use its military might to compensate for its declining economic power.

Working people — both in the United States and around the world — pay a terrible price in blood as the wealthy rulers of the United States defend their own interests at any cost.

Bush also hopes the planned attack — whether an August or October "surprise" — will help catapult his flagging presidential campaign out of its current doldrums and halt the growing disaffection with the Republican party ticket.

The step up in military threats is very real.

• The U.S. magazine *Aviation Week and Space Technology* reported that Washington had already prepared, then called off, two bombing raids on Iraq this year. The first was in March; the second was to have occurred on August 6. The magazine, quoting from a "senior Joint Chiefs of Staff official," said that F-117 stealth bombers, Tomahawk cruise missiles, and B-52 bombers armed with air-launched missiles were ready to attack Iraq.

• The latest bombing threats come on the heels of U.S. military exercises in Kuwait — code-named Operation Eager Mace, Native Fury, and Intrinsic Action. Close to 40 U.S. warships have been on maneuvers in the area for months.

• The military exercises were launched after the 21-day standoff last month between Washington and Baghdad over U.S. demands for UN officials to inspect the Agriculture Ministry for documents on Iraqi weapons production.

• For several weeks Washington has been beefing up Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Israel with deployments of Patriot missile batteries. The administration has also approved a target list for its bombing campaign.

• According to the August 17 *Washington Post*, "Air Force Lt. Gen. Michael A. Nelson, the air component commander of the U.S. Central Command, was sent to Riyadh, the Saudi capital, with 30 operations aides and has a 'battle staff' ready to manage renewed combat."

Nelson's mission is to secure Saudi approval in establishing a "no-fly zone" below the 32nd parallel in southern Iraq, a line that falls between Baghdad and Basra. This is part of a broader effort by the Bush administration to undermine the Hussein regime by taking further steps that would amount to the partitioning of Iraq.

Weaker 'coalition'

The most recent military threats have the backing of Britain, France, and Saudi Arabia. But this is a far cry from the dozens of countries that supported the Gulf War in 1990. In particular, Turkey has refused to go along with Bush's war plan, leaving the Pentagon without the use of the Incirlik Air Base there — where half the ground-based U.S. war planes in the region are located.

No dissenting voice has made itself heard from any wing of the Democratic or Republican parties. The Clinton-Gore presidential campaign has only given a boost to Bush's war aims. They have accused Bush of "coddling" Hussein in the weeks leading up to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and of not taking action against the Hussein regime's attacks on Iraqi Shiites and Kurds. Gore said in July that President Bush let Saddam Hussein "toy" with UN inspectors.

Washington's problem is not a military one. In fact, military power remains the U.S. rulers' single most dominant advantage over their imperialist rivals and other governments.

But sections of the U.S. rulers are concerned about the political consequences of again going to war against Iraq. Will it yield greater gains for Washington or will it unleash uncontrollable social forces and lead to more problems?

The U.S. rulers will have a harder time getting public support for their next military adventure. The war itself exacerbated the economic and political contradictions that drove the United States to war in the gulf in the first place. Opponents of a renewed Iraq war can expect a better hearing than the last time.

Today more working people see the Gulf War as a political fiasco. They were appalled as the truth about the "turkey shoot" on the road to Basra came to light. They have no interest in being cannon fodder in another of Washington's wars.

We call on all supporters of the Socialist Workers campaign, and those opposed to Washington's war threats against the people of Iraq, to step up their efforts to get out the truth about Washington's war drive.

We call on every candidate to issue statements and take every opportunity to speak out against the new war threats.

All campaign supporters should help build and join protests.

Antiwar fighters on the job and on campuses should also make special efforts to promote "The Opening Guns of World War III," *The Changing Face of U.S. Politics*, the *Militant*, and other antiwar literature.

No to the U.S. war moves!

U.S. hands off Iraq!

Mass mobilizations in S. Africa

The August 3-4 general strike in South Africa, which involved millions of workers and was capped off by a march of 70,000 on the seat of apartheid political power in Pretoria, shows the advance of a genuine social revolution in South Africa.

The strike and march, which Nelson Mandela termed among the greatest events in South African history, showed the growing strength and organization of the African National Congress as the leader of the democratic revolution.

Capitalist daily newspapers, in their coverage of these extraordinary events, downplayed what was actually happening. The *New York Times*, for example, sourly described the Pretoria rally as "not the largest gathering mustered by the foes of apartheid, nor the most eloquent speech Mr. Mandela has made before his former jailers." They belittled the general strike as "a cathartic ritual aimed at letting off steam in the townships."

Through mass mobilizations such as the strike the ANC

is building itself into an organization with a massive, disciplined membership throughout the cities and countryside; an organization that not only speaks in the interest of the toilers, but directly involves them as millions are drawn into political life.

The bourgeois press cannot conceal its disappointment at the peaceful and disciplined character of the actions and demonstrations occurring in South Africa. But as the ANC has repeatedly explained, the people deeply desire peaceful change in society, and responsibility for violence lies with the regime and those who would hold back the wheel of history.

Working people worldwide should solidarize with the demands being put forward by the ANC as it leads the masses of people in South Africa. Their call for the immediate formation of an interim government and the election of a constituent assembly is the way forward toward the goal of a democratic, nonracial, and nonsexist South Africa.

Youth for Warren and DeBates

Young people have little to choose between Democrats and Republicans in the upcoming elections.

As Bush weighs his war options in Yugoslavia and Iraq, Clinton plays the role of urging him on. Both candidates present the same proposals in response to the economic and social crisis: chipping away at wages and working conditions, attacks on union rights, more unemployment, more cops, and more cop brutality.

These are the candidates of war, racism, and economic depression. Their number one priority is enhancing profits at all costs. They both stand for sharpening competition among imperialist powers, and a road leading ultimately in only one direction: a new world war with unimaginable consequences.

James Warren and Estelle DeBates are the socialist alternative for U.S. president and vice-president. Their campaign starts from the framework of the interests of workers and farmers. They condemn war moves by Washington. They call for workers to come together worldwide to defend ourselves from the effects of cap-

italism in crisis.

Warren and DeBates ignore the borders that divide workers into different nations and call for a movement to erase them forever. They advocate organizing to build the only society that can improve the conditions of humanity: socialism.

Young people who have campaigned and helped with petitioning for the socialist alternative launched Youth for Warren and DeBates (YWD) at the International Socialist Conference in Ohio. YWD activists plan to link up with young people throughout the U.S. and internationally who want to fight effectively against the assault of the capitalist rulers. YWD supporters will join the defenders of abortion rights, opponents of U.S. war moves, those resisting employer attacks on working conditions, and fighters against cop violence.

All young people who hate the brutality and exploitation that Bush and Clinton represent should join YWD today by sending in the coupon on page 8. Be part of the fight for a just society!

Book exposes inequalities of education system

Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools by Jonathon Kozol. 262 pp. New York: HarperPerennial, 1992. \$10 paperback.

"America the beautiful.
Who are you beautiful for?"
— by a Bronx high school student.

BY MINDY BRUDNO

A mostly Black city with no garbage collection service; rats "as big as puppies;" chemical plants releasing toxins into the air, land, and water; and sewage running in the streets. Sound like Soweto, South Africa? Port-au-Prince, Haiti? No, this is a description of East St. Louis, Illinois.

"Martin Luther King Junior High School was evacuated

tions he gives of what he sees are shocking. In the course of the journey we hear tale after tale of crumbling, windowless buildings; overcrowded classes; overworked and bitter teachers; and a complete lack of adequate instructional materials and supplies.

School resegregation

A 1989 report prepared for the U.S. Department of Education by the Network of Regional Desegregation Assistance Centers points out that resegregation of Black students is occurring in many states. In New York, Michigan, and Illinois, more than 80 percent of Black students attend majority-Black schools. Latino students are even more segregated. And while 26 percent of public school students are Black or Latino, the teaching force remains almost 90 percent white.

Resegregation is closely related to the growing inequality in the way public monies are apportioned for education. In Illinois, the poorest district spent \$2,100 per child in the 1988-89 school year, while the wealthiest district spent more than \$10,000. Kozol points out that wealthy suburban communities often tax themselves at a lower rate but still have many more funds at their disposal due to the much higher value of property in the suburbs.

Savage Inequalities reads like a travelogue — part journalism, part reflection by the author on the events he is reporting. The best parts are the vivid descriptions and the quotes from the students and teachers themselves.

Kozol paid a visit to East Side High in Paterson, New Jersey, which became well-known when a former principal, Joe Clark, was honored by Reagan administration officials as a model inner-city school administrator. Clark patrolled the halls with a bat and expelled some 300 students for alleged involvement with drugs or gangs. A Hollywood movie, *Lean on Me*, portrayed Clark as a hero. A Paterson school official observed to Kozol, "In certain respects, this set a pattern for the national agenda. Find Black principals . . . who are prepared to whip Black children into line. Throw out the kids who give you trouble. It's an easy way to raise the average scores. Where do you put these kids once they're expelled? You build more prisons. Two-thirds of the kids

Clark threw out are in Passaic County Jail."

Kozol correctly points out that the problems in the city schools are not, first and foremost, educational problems, but social, political, and economic. Children who come to school hungry, with abscessed teeth, and their bodies poisoned by lead and other chemicals in the environment are going to find it difficult to learn in any environment.

Savage Inequalities is an honest portrayal of the grim realities of urban education. Kozol does not, however, address the root causes of the problems he so eloquently describes. He argues effectively that metropolitan, inter-district desegregation is necessary if the "ghetto school" syndrome is to be broken. He also exposes the formulas by which grossly unequal funding of schools is justified, not only between urban and suburban districts, but even within school districts themselves.

But Kozol, like other liberals, accepts the framework of capitalism in looking at this problem. He believes that it is unfair that some children will never have a chance to be scientists, writers, or astronauts. The educational system, which could be a "great equalizer," instead perpetuates the existing class and racial divisions. But the problems are not just racism and inequality, serious as they are, but the system itself. The working class as a whole is suffering record unemployment, shocking deterioration of health-care and other social services. Even middle-class layers are having their standard of living driven down.

The problems of racism and inequality in the schools will have to be addressed as part of the struggle to unify the working class so that we can more effectively resist the attacks against us. Teachers' unions, like the rest of the labor movement, need to champion struggles for school desegregation and affirmative action. The failure of the labor movement to take up the fight against racism in all its forms — segregation, police brutality, discrimination — has weakened and divided the working class and made it possible for the rulers to take away many hard-won gains from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. The recent events in Los Angeles showed the world the tremendous anger simmering beneath the surface in the cities. Only a fighting labor movement can harness that anger in an effective fight for change.

IN REVIEW

Friday afternoon after sewage flowed into the kitchen," the *Post Dispatch* reported in early spring of 1989. Three days later the paper wrote that "East St. Louis Senior High School was awash in sewage for the second time this year."

The science labs at East St. Louis High are without running water, microscopes or dissecting kits. The temperature in the physics lab approaches 100° F due to an antiquated heating system. The school has no VCR's or computers, and the audiovisual equipment is too old to be used. Many of the typewriters in the typing class are broken. In the boys' bathroom, four of six toilets don't work. There are no doors on the stalls, nor is there any soap, toilet paper, or paper towels.

Is East St. Louis an aberration? Are these conditions unique to that one town? To the contrary. Conditions such as this are not unusual in the increasingly segregated Black and Latino schools in every city in the United States.

In *Savage Inequalities*, Boston educator Jonathon Kozol takes us on a tour of a cross section of urban and suburban public schools in several U.S. cities, from New York to San Antonio, from Chicago to Washington, D.C. The descrip-

LETTERS

South Africa

For anyone who has "lost faith" in or never had confidence in the working class as a force for political change which can organize itself on a massive basis, I urge them to look deeply at the coming revolution in South Africa and the history of the African National Congress.

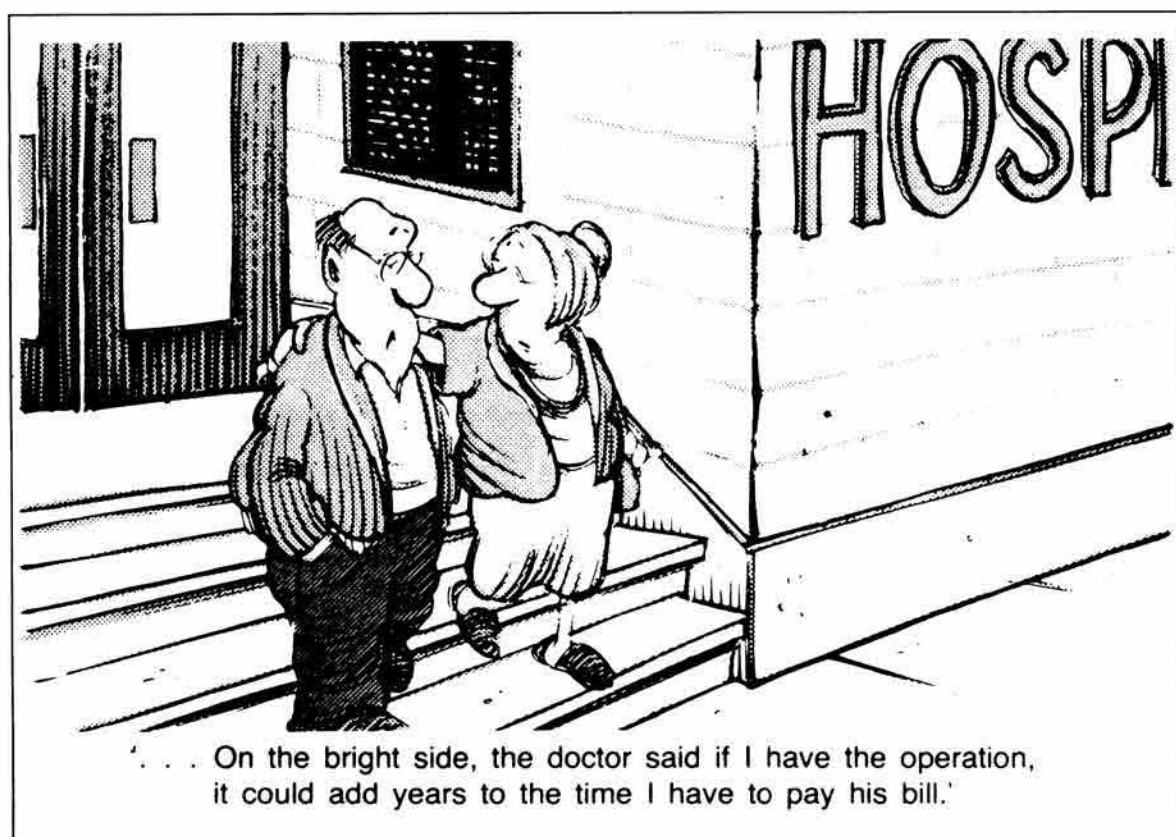
I recently had the honor of being able to hear a report from South Africa given by the President of the African national Congress Youth League. Not only was this talk inspirational, but it described how millions of workers have organized themselves into a political force the like of which hasn't been seen since the Bolshevik revolution of 1917.

I think that we as workers can look at revolutionary Cuba and the coming revolution in South Africa with great pride and renewed determination. The idea that workers cannot or will not organize themselves based on a belief of their incapability is quickly dispelled when looking at these accomplishments. The lack of confidence in ourselves and our class is a notion we are constantly bombarded with on a daily basis from the ruling class. It will take a conscious effort and more struggles like that in South Africa for our class as a whole to develop this confidence..

Laura Kamienski
Sunbury, Pennsylvania

Abortion ruling

I was disappointed in the article by Estelle DeBates entitled "Court upholds 'Roe v. Wade' decision, backs restrictions in Pennsylvania law." (See July 17, 1992, *Militant*.) The statement by the Socialist Workers Party campaign in the same issue was excellent in explaining how abortion rights will be defended and the limits placed on the Supreme Court by our fight in the streets to defend the clinics. It exposed the dead-end strategy of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and others who rely on electing friendly Democrats and Republicans as the way to de-



fend abortion rights.

Both articles, however, downplayed the significance of what the Supreme Court took in this decision. The 24-hour waiting period and the parental consent provision (which has been ruled on previously), seriously impact the growing number of women's access to abortion and undermine the right to privacy.

The DeBates article says that "the decision reaffirms the three pillars of the 1973 decision" and then quotes the court saying that one of those pillars is "a recognition of the right of the woman to choose to have an abortion before viability . . . without undue interference from the state." But this is precisely the pillar that has been chipped away and weakened over the years!

The 1989 *Webster v. Missouri* decision prohibited public hospitals and health-care workers from performing abortions. This, along with the current 24-hour waiting period and parental consent, con-

stitute an attack on the right to privacy embodied in *Roe* by changing the original stipulations on state regulation that the *Roe* decision made.

The *Militant* serves fighters well in arguing that only the mobilization in the streets can keep abortion legal and prevent further state restrictions. It points out the political nature of the latest decision, where the court openly recognized that because of our willingness to fight, they can't overturn *Roe*. This is a victory for women's rights and a confirmation of the strategy we advance. But the restrictions that the court did uphold constitute a blow.

Recognizing both sides of this decision is something only the *Militant* can do. The National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), NOW and others gave up on *Roe v. Wade* a long time ago. We will be more effective in exposing their dead-end strategy that has betrayed the fight for abortion rights if we recognize both sides of the recent

Supreme Court ruling.
Sandi Sherman
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Explain '30 for 40'

Firstly, I would like to say thank you for the great coverage on the "Rodney King case" from day one to the present.

Secondly, I have a question. you often mention "30 hours work for 40 hours pay." It sounds great!! — But how could it possibly work? How could employers fit it into their budget when they have so much difficulty in doing so today? Please explain!

Joe Blakeney
Chico, California

Petty thieves

I haven't seen a paper in a while due to the fact that I was held on death row illegally for a year even though I was not sentenced to the death penalty.

The entire Pennsylvania prison

system is corrupt. The administration condones thieves who openly admit stealing our shoes, radio, watches, wedding bands, cosmetics, etc. The courts know about the petty thieves but won't do anything.

They know guards will steal anything not nailed down. Yet they go along with them like they have a license to steal and all the other disgusting stuff they do.

A prisoner
Graterford, Pennsylvania

Informative articles

Thank you for sending me your newspaper over the last several months. It has really shown me who and what really runs this country and world.

Through your informative articles I have seen that the average person, be they male, female, white, black, old, young, rich, poor, etc. can make a big difference regarding the laws, health, welfare, justice and peace in this world.

We can put a stop to police brutality. We can get help for the needy worldwide. We can unite and be one people that could end injustice and idiotic outrage in the streets and penal system, as well as in the courts and local neighborhoods. We can end cruelty by cops, hunger, and homelessness. We must all come together! Anything short of this will not be fully effective.

A prisoner
Jackson, Michigan

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

The *Militant* special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. To help this important cause, send your contribution to Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 410 West St., New York, NY 10014.

Cops arrest hundreds in California drywall construction workers' strike

BY JUAN VILLAGÓMEZ
AND CARLOS BELTRÁN

LOS ANGELES — Thousands of drywall construction workers have been conducting work stoppages throughout southern California demanding higher wages and improved working conditions. The police have attacked several of these protests, arresting hundreds of workers.

On July 23, the police broke up a protest of drywall workers at a construction site in Los Angeles. In the ensuing scuffle, several workers were forced onto the Hollywood Freeway. The cops arrested 68 protesters, charging them with obstructing traffic.

More than 400 drywall workers and their supporters demonstrated in front of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) headquarters July 28 condemning the cop assault and demanding that all charges be dropped against the arrested workers.

Workers treated 'like criminals'

The demonstrators demanded that Police Chief Willie Williams explain why they were being treated "like criminals." While a representative for Williams promised an investigation into the matter, the workers chanted, "Union yes. Police no," "No more abuses," and "¡Sí se puede!" (Yes, it can be done!)

Among the unionists participating in the demonstration were 30 members of Janitors for Justice, who came to the demonstration before going to work.

Approximately 4,000 of the state's 7,000 mostly Latino drywall workers have participated in strikes since June 1. They are demanding that contractors negotiate union

contracts with them, better wages, an eight-hour day, and medical benefits.

Drywall workers set in place the heavy plaster boards used as walls in houses. Many of the workers are paid by the piece, earning as little as 5 cents a square foot for installing 100-pound boards — down from 9 cents in 1980. In the past 10 years, their wages have been cut from \$600 for a 40-hour week to \$300 for a 60-hour week.



Drywall workers march in Los Angeles. Cops have arrested more than 200 workers.

Jesús Gómez, one of the main organizers of the protests, explained that in 1987 there was an unsuccessful work stoppage in Orange County. "It was unsuccessful because of inadequate organization," Gómez noted. This time, drawing lessons from that experience, the organizers brought together a larger organizing committee and made it a priority to keep all the workers informed about developments in the fight.

In Orange County, 150-250 drywall workers come to the Carpenters Union hall at 4:30 a.m. every day to be dispatched to construction sites where they try to convince other drywall workers to join the walkout.

The strategy has been successful. "I was working at a construction site one day and a number of people were picketing," Mario García said in an interview. "I stopped to listen to what they were saying and also ordered the rest of the crew to stop. I listened to them and they convinced me and the others to walk out." García is now a leader of the strike in Los Angeles.

Cops turn workers over to INS

In two separate incidents, police have arrested more than 200 workers. The police have also turned workers over to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 80 of whom have been threatened with deportation.

Joining protests against these arrests have been a number of Latino community organizations, including the California Immigrant Workers Association, Hermandad Mexicana Nacional, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and others.

Contributions and solidarity messages for the drywall workers can be sent to: Carpenters Union Local 2361, 1916 W. Chapman Ave., Orange, CA 92668. Telephone: (714) 978-2361.

Dan Dickeson and Samad Yerevani contributed to this article.

Canadian groups condemn new immigration law

BY JOHN STEELE

TORONTO — Representatives of labor, refugee, legal, and church organizations spoke out against the federal government's proposed immigration legislation at a press conference here June 22.

Organizations represented at the press conference included the Canadian Labor Congress, Canadian Council for Refugees, Canadian Council of Churches, Inter-Church Committee for Refugees, Law Union of Ontario, Canadian Bar Association (Ontario), and the Criminal Lawyers' Association.

The coalition charged that Bill C-86, sponsored by the ruling Conservative Party and tabled in the House of Commons June 16, would give immigration cops the power to:

- deport refugee claimants the same day they enter without the right to a lawyer, a hearing, or an appeal;
- introduce guilt by association as grounds for refusing entry into Canada;
- retroactively deny admission to Canada to qualified potential immigrants;
- erode the appeal rights of people rejected by the Immigration and Refugee Board.

About 1 million people apply to immigrate to Canada each year, with 30,000 seeking refugee status. The federal government hopes to limit total numbers allowed in the country legally to 250,000 this year, and reduce the number of refugees by 40 percent.

Photos and fingerprints of refugees

To meet these goals more than 100 pages of changes to the Immigration Act are being proposed, including measures such as requiring all refugee claimants to be photographed and fingerprinted.

New Democratic Party member of Parliament Dan Heap charged that the government assumes most refugee claims are fakes. "Adding fingerprinting tends to make criminals out of all of them at least in the

public's understanding," he said.

Those arriving in Canada from a third country designated as "safe" by the cabinet will be returned to that country and forced to make their application from there. The changes bar people who have no criminal record but are deemed to have links with organized crime or organizations that the government claims have engaged in criminal acts.

Immigration officers will have enormous powers, including changing immigration quotas and rules retroactively. This could have a major impact on the 300,000 to 400,000 applications currently mired in the immigration and refugee backlog.

The new law would permit the deportation

of permanent residents. It would also bar entry to Canada of people who the government thinks will engage in spying or terrorism or are members of organizations the government has "reasonable grounds" to believe will become involved in such activities.

Ottawa defines terrorism as "activities directed towards or in support of the threat or use of acts of serious violence against persons or property for the purpose of achieving a political objective."

Those facing deportation under this vague clause would not have the right to know the information on which the deportation decision is based. Decisions of this kind would not be changeable on constitutional grounds.

Under the proposed changes, wealthy investors and highly skilled workers willing to move to designated areas will get priority for immigration. Immigration consultant and Black Action Defense Committee leader Dudley Laws, a well-known fighter against police violence in Canada, called these provisions "slavery all over again."

The government is proposing to bring "indentured laborers to this country, not immigrants," he said. "The changes will close the door in the faces of ordinary would-be Third World migrants."

John Steele is a member of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union Local 836 at the Coats Patons textile mill.

New Zealand strikers turn back scabs

BY COLIN PARKER

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Shouting "Scabs go home" 100 paperworkers and their supporters surrounded a bus attempting to force its way into the Te Papapa paper mill here August 7. Inside the bus were strikebreakers and supervisory personnel that New Zealand Forest Products (NZFP) had planned to use to restart production.

Te Papapa is the smallest and most profitable of four NZFP paper mills whose combined unions are in the fifth week of a strike. The unionists want to prevent management from splitting up the work force by replacing the existing companywide union contract with four separate plant agreements. Under the 1991 Employment Contracts Act it would then become illegal for workers in the four plants to take joint strike action. The company had been boasting of their intention to break the strike using nonunion labor.

Taking advantage of the difficulty the 60 strikers at Te Papapa had in maintaining an

effective, 24-hour picket of the site based on their own numbers alone, the company earlier had slipped scabs into the plant and made a "trial batch" of paper. In response, striking pulp and paper workers from the much larger Kinleith site, 200 kilometers south of Auckland, and supporters from other Auckland worksites mobilized to reinforce the picket line and confront the scabs.

As the busload of nonunion labor arrived at the mill driveway a large truck and trailer unit was coming out of the plant. Seeing the altercation the owner-driver stopped his truck, effectively blocking the entrance, took his keys, and went for a coffee, saying, "Don't scratch the truck boys," as he passed the pickets.

After a tense 15-minute stand-off, on the advice of the half-dozen police present, the bus reversed out and limped off down the road with one flat tire to the cheers and jeers of the pickets.

Since that time strikers and their support-

ers have maintained the reinforced picket line. So far, the company has not attempted to start the mill up again.

Their ability to keep company operations shut down has boosted the morale and confidence of the strikers. Also boosting strikers' confidence has been the growing support from a wide range of other workers and their unions.

Individual unionists have visited the picket line and sought to arrange speakers from the strike to address their worksites. Financial support has come from Auckland bus drivers and from across the county from other paperworkers, steelworkers, and seafarers.

The Council of Trade Unions has appealed for support from its member unions.

Colin Parker is a New Zealand Forest Products Laboratory worker forced by the company to take unpaid leave because of his refusal to do work normally done by the striking workers.