More Miami ‘justice’
Blacks prosecuted, club-happy cops reinstated — PAGE 5

Stop U.S. aid to S. Korea repression!

Heavily armed South Korean troops, spearheaded by helicopters and tanks, reoccupied the center of Kwangju on May 26 to put down a popular uprising against military rule.

The military’s move into Kwangju is intended to set the stage for fierce repression against the rebellious people of that city. Already, hundreds of young freedom fighters have been arrested by the dictatorship.

The Carter administration is mouthing phrases about favoring democracy in South Korea. The purpose of these platitudes is to evade responsibility for the stepped-up brutality that Gen. Chon Too Hwan, who runs the regime, plans to visit on the people of Kwangju.

Washington also fears that popular unrest, which swept over South Cholla Province, may spread further despite the reoccupation of Kwangju.

Carter’s actions belie his words. His administration stands with the oppressors of the Korean people.

When the Park Chung Hee dictatorship
Continued on next page
Korea
Continued from front page
faced demonstrations by students and workers late last year. Carter's secret plans to withdraw some of the 40,000 U.S. troops that occupy the country.

The same backing is being given to Park's government. When the people of Kwangju rose up, the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea was sent to South Korea.

According to Carter's moves should be to demand, "No arms shipments to the South Korean tyrants! Bring the U.S. troops home now!"

Behind ERA smear
Opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment are out to crush it, and they're using every dirty trick they can think of.

"The Illinois Law Enforcement Department and the FBI are now investigating charges by Republican state legislator Nord Swanstrom that a representative of the National Organization for Women offered him a $1,000 bribe for his "yes" vote on ERA. The bribe offer was supposedly written on the back of a NOW business card. A grand jury investigation may be called.

This slander has been put together to justify an indefinite postponement of the ERA vote by the Illinois legislature at the same time it attempts a hatchet job on the largest, most influential women's rights organization in the country. It is also a bow aimed at the labor movement, which has united to champion the ERA.

Now president Eleanor Smeal blasted these accusations as a fraud and an outrage.

"We believe," she charged at a Chicago press conference, "that these attacks are being made by opponents of the amendment and that the purpose of the attacks is to kill the amendment."

The majority support for ERA was shown again in Chicago May 10 by some 30,000 demonstrators demanding the Illinois state legislature stop blocking ERA passage.

Marching together were NOW members and women's groups from all over the country, trade unions, auto workers, and other trade unionists; member of civil rights, student, and religious groups.

Labor, women's, and civil rights organizations have united recently in other social struggles. May 10 came on the heels of the Chicago firefighters' strike that forged unity between the unions and Chicago's Black community. It came after the impressive April 26 labor conference for ERA that brought together officials from every major union in the country.

This fight to win equal rights for women does not fit into the employers' plans, but paying women fifty-nine cents to every dollar earned by men does.

Big business is on the prod against working people today. Thousands of workers are being thrown out of work as the employers slash jobs and paychecks, close down plants, and scrap health and safety regulations.

The stakes are high. A victory for ERA forced by the government by a powerful and unprecedented movement would inspire united struggles against unemployment, inflation, "right to work" laws, and racist justice.

This is what lies behind the smear campaign in Illinois.

Labor, civil rights, and women's rights supporters should strongly repudiate this attempt to sink ERA and discredit the women's movement.

Now is the time to redouble efforts to build the powerful, united movement needed to make equal rights for women the law of the land.

Our new prices
Beginning with this issue, the cover price of the Militant is going up to sixty cents. A one-year subscription will cost $24. An eight-week introductory subscription will be $2.50.

We've been forced to take this step because our costs for paper, postage, and every other thing else involved in producing the Militant--have continued to skyrocket since September 1977, when we last raised our prices.

Despite the financial squeeze, by carefully managing our resources we've been able to continue bringing our readers unsurpassed coverage of the basic developments in the class struggle. That includes eyewitness reports on the inspiring revolutionary developments in Iran, Nicaragua, Grenada, and Cuba.

Even with the new price increases, we'll still fall far short of bringing in enough funds through single-copy and subscription sales to cover the full cost of publishing the Militant.

Your generous donations can help fill that gap. If you'd like to help, send your contribution to: Militant Circulation Office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

Militant Highlights This Week
Who's to blame for the auto crisis?
In an effort to turn victims into criminals, auto companies run propaganda classes to blame workers for industry economic crisis. Page 18.

Ballot rights fight in Mich.
As socialists launch campaign to open up the ballot in Michigan, Frank Lovell reviews how SWP defended its democratic rights during 1956-1977. Pages 14-15.

Hostage daughter speaks out
Korean regime rocked by uprising

By Ernest Harsch

After years of the most brutal military dictatorship and American oppression, the people of South Korea have poured into the streets of cities and towns across the country. With breathtaking rapidity, hundreds of thousands of them—students, workers, unemployed youths, women—have gone into action to demand an end to martial law and the institution of democratic freedoms.

In the southwest, the urban populations of Kwangju, Mokpo, Hwasun, Pohang, and other areas have risen up and seized control of their cities, posing an immediate challenge to the survival of the military regime headed by Gen. Chon Too Hwan. Not since the end of the Korean War has the country witnessed such massive political ferment. Released an unspecified number of successful political fermenters, it covered overall American strategy toward South Korea.

Alarm bells in Washington

On May 22, the day after the citizens of Kwangju drove out the police and army and took over that city, a special meeting was held in the White House. Attended by Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, and other officials, it covered an American strategy toward South Korea.

"They paid particular attention to what the United States could do to help restore order in South Korea," New York Times correspondent Bernard Gwertzman reported from Washington.

As part of its recent diplomatic stance, Washington has tried to present itself as an advocate of democracy and an easing of military rule in South Korea. In face of the armed insurrections in the south, however, the Carter administration has left little doubt about its basic support to the military junta.

The Pentagon stressed on May 22 that the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea—numbering nearly 40,000—remained in a state of alert.

It also disclosed that Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., the head of the joint U.S.-South Korean military command, had released an unspecified number of South Korean combat troops from their regular duties to help put down the unrest.

The following day, White House officials revealed that the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea had been sent to South Korea and would remain off the coast until mid-June, when it is to be replaced by the Midway, a giant U.S. warship based in Japan.

As a political cover for these threatening moves, the American government has claimed that they are in response to the possibility of military attacks by the North Korean regime. The State Department, in fact, has been forced to admit that it has no evidence of any military build-up in North Korea or of any North Korean involvement in the unrest in the south. Washington's real target is the insurgent masses of South Korea.

Kwangju leads the way

The insurrection in Kwangju—South Korea's fourth largest city—was sparked by the military regime's own actions.

After weeks of mounting student protests and labor strikes in Seoul, Taeha, Schek, and other cities, the military authorities announced on the morning of May 18 that they were closing all universities, banning all political gatherings and labor strikes, imposing press censorship, and extending martial law to the entire country.

Hundreds of political activists, journalists, dissident priests, and student leaders were arrested and taken off to secret detention centers. One of the most prominent figures arrested was Kim Dae Jung, a leader of the bourgeois opposition New Democratic Party who comes from South Cholla Province, in which Kwangju lies.

This crackdown was accompanied by the dismissal of Prime Minister Shin Hyeon Hwack and his cabinet and the appointment of Park Choong Hoon, a military officer, as the new prime minister. Park, a retired general, is also chairman of the Korean Traders Association, which represents the largest trading companies in the country. Real power, however, remained in the hands of Generals Chon Too Hwan and Lee Hoon.

The resistance to this crackdown began in Kwangju on May 18, the same day as the announcement that martial law was being extended. About 10,000 students took to the streets there to protest the repression. The military imposed a 9 p.m. curfew.

50,000 demonstrate

The following day the students were joined by tens of thousands of other protesters. The students were estimated to have numbered about 50,000. Armed paratroopers and riot police attacked the demonstrators, killing several protesters and wounding dozens of others. Soldiers arrested all students on sight, forcing many to strip and lie face down on the street.

The mass protests continued on May 20, as about 30,000 students and workers marched in groups through the city. At dusk, about 100 taxi drivers, outraged by the brutality of the paratroopers, joined drivers of trucks and private cars in a cavalcade that moved from the municipal stadium to the downtown area. They were attacked by troops dragging occupants out of their vehicles and beat them.

In the first indication of a break-down in military discipline, some paratroopers refused to move against the protesters.

Some of the demonstrators surged toward television stations that had broadcast progovernment statements. They burned it to the ground. Others commandeered buses and taxis and tried to ram police barricades.

The authorities inflicted heavy casualties that night. According to witnesses, at around 11 p.m. troops began firing at random into crowds near Chonnam University.

Reports of the brutality of the Special Forces paratroopers circulated through the city. According to a May 21 dispatch from Kwangju by New York Times correspondent Shim Jae Hoon, citizens reported that the troops "had stripped students who were arrested, had hung some bodies of the dead in a city park upside down and in some cases had violated women, including the elderly. The reports could not be confirmed, but accounts given by various witnesses were generally identical. One man said that he had seen soldiers in an armored personnel carrier dragging a student along by a rope tied to his neck."

A popular insurrection

Unable to demonstrate peacefully for their democratic rights, the citizens of Kwangju were forced to defend themselves. On May 21, they took up arms.

As on previous days, students and workers poured into the streets to demonstrate. They formed themselves into units, and then reassembled several hours later, their ranks quickly doubling. According to estimates by government officials, as many as 200,000 persons surged through the streets. The bodies of some slain demonstrators were loaded on carts and taken around the city to dramatize the protesters' outrage.

The police fled as residents armed themselves with knives,远程控制，和 pitchforks. They seized guns from the police and turned them over to their betters.

Youth in Kwangju commandeered trucks in battle to bring down military dictatorship.

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THE MILITANT/JUNE 6, 1980

3
Government paratrooper bludgeons young demonstrator

How Washington divided Korea, imposed regime

By Fred Feldman

Why are U.S. troops in Korea today? Carter says they are there to bar aggression by North Korea. The Korean War is given as an example. But the facts tell a different tale.

Korea has been fighting for independence for a long time. Formally the country was swept by a series of popular committees. On May 22, the day after the insurrection, the residents of a city of 900,000 demonstrators occupied the city hall and also the administrative offices for South Cholla Province, which is one of South Korea's most impoverished regions. By May 22, the major port city of Mokpo, as well as the towns of Hwasun and Polkyo, were under rebel control. Crowds had stormed a police station in Naju, and uprisings were reported in at least a dozen other towns.

Many cases, the police had simply shed their uniforms and fled. Shim, as president of the city of Kwangju, said, "This is no longer the police force. It is the people's army!"

A countryside upsurge

The insurrections in South Cholla Province are not an isolated expression of mass discontent, but the culmination of a series of demonstrations and strikes that have been sweeping South Korea for months.

In October 1979, the industrial cities of Pusan and Masan exploded. In Pusan, the country's second largest city, thousands of students and youth demanded the ouster of dictator Park Chung Hee and clashed with police. Twenty-one police posts were destroyed or burned. In Masan, students were joined by factory workers, also storming police and government offices. The protests spread to Ulan, Kwangju, and Taegeu.

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Miami's racist double standard
Blacks prosecuted, cops reinstated

By Rose Ogden
MIAMI—Officials here are continuing to victimize Blacks and permitting cops to go free.

In the wake of the rebellion that gripped this city last month, police have arrested three young Black people, charging them with the death of several persons reported to have occurred during the uprising.

Meanwhile four cops who had been suspended from the force after they deliberately vandalized Black-owned cars were reinstated. Also reinstated was a Negro woman on the force.

It was this kind of racist double standard in enforcing the law that touched off the rebellion.

When Johnny Jones, a Black school superintendent, was charged with misappropriation of funds, he was swiftly tried and convicted by an all-white jury.

But when cops murdered Arthur McDuffie, a Black man, an all-white jury exonerated them.

At the height of the rebellion Officer's—local, state and federal—assured Black people would begin to get justice.

But now that the eruption in the Black community has subsided, the rulers apparently feel they can proceed with racist business-as-usual.

While officials turn a deaf ear to the Black demand for justice, they are extremely sensitive to the feelings of the unified thugs who police the city.

The cops who were fleetingly suspended—with pay—for vandalism had been assigned to guard a shopping plaza in the Black community during the rebellion. While there, they smashed windshields and slashed tires of parked cars and then spray-painted "looter" and "thief" on the sides.

They were returned to work when cops threatened to walk off the job in protest.

The vandals will be required to attend a "stress" class.

City Hall also held a rally where they protested any move to grant amnesty to the 1,257 victims of mass arrests during the rebellion.

In response to demands from the Black community, officials had initially indicated support for full amnesty. But now that's being forgotten.

Gov. Bob Graham, who has the authority to grant amnesty, now says, "My inclination is not to grant general amnesty. If I don't believe any of these cases has the right to take the law into his own hands."

That, however, doesn't apply to cops.

Meanwhile, city officials now explain they meant amnesty only for those deemed guilty of lesser offenses—and even then only on a case-by-case basis.

As to rebuilding the rebellion area, Governor Graham called for a one-cent sales tax increase, ostensibly to finance efforts in that direction. But the Florida legislature rejected this because, members said, it would raise too much money for "riot relief."

Meanwhile, members of the Cuban community have responded to the media campaign to portray Cuban immigration as responsible for the long-standing plight of the Black community.

"Someone is trying to put the blame on the Cubans," said Reba Williams-Dixon, chairman of the Biacayne Bank of Miami.

Misdialled organic food relief from the Cuban community to the Black community.

"We wish to publicly declare," Ms.-
vidal said, "that the leadership of the Black and Cuban communities resent and detect the attempts of certain elements in the community as well as some of the media to divide and create animosity among our people."

Victim's mother: 'I've got some things to say'

By Baxter Smith
MIAMI—A clutch of yellow plastic flowers hang on the front of the Dawson residence at 330 NW Eighty-four Terrace, a sign that Little Mount house-

project was in mourning.

Joanne Washington, a Little Mount resident, and other members of a "U.T.O."

system food store in the Little Mount area on May 18.

Little Mount resident Eugene Brown, thirty-four, was shot thirty minutes before by two whites firing from a blue sta-

tion wagon.

"He was a very nice man, a humble man," Bettye Anderson said.

Bettye Anderson explained; Little Mount Dawson sobbed during the interview.

"They killed my baby."

"They were nothing but undercover cops," Washington said, reflecting a commonly held belief about the vigilantes.

Moments before Andre was shot, Michael Anderson and other neighborhood youth had been playing on a street corner when they were routed by a "U.T.O." from the blue station wagon.

When he got here he saw blood on his shirt and realized he was shot," Bettye Anderson said.

The bullet had hit Michael's rib cage and deflected.

"We put a bandage on him, but we couldn't get an ambulance to pick him up," Anderson explained. Little Mount had begun to boil, and police were stopping all rescue vehicles from entering the neighborhood.

"My husband had to go out and stop a cab to get him to the hospital," Anderson said.

And young Andre, whose dream of becoming a professional football player was shattered by white vigilantes, had been killed in the street for more than an hour before an ambulance arrived.

New York protests back Miami Blacks

By Melvin Chappell
NEW YORK—"U.S. troops out of Liberty City!" and "Justice for McDuffie!" chanted 150 protesters at Arthur McDuffie was clubbed to death.

The protest was called by an organization of Black groups to give support to Miami Blacks.

When one speaker announced that the people of Iran were demonstrating in support of Blacks in this country, the crowd broke into cheers and applause.

Rev. Herbert Daughtry, chairperson of the Black United Front, had just returned from Miami. He told the protesters, "We have seen over and over again that any attempt to find justice in the American system is a losing one."

Members of Black and Latino organizations, trade unions, religious, and civil rights groups held a press conference in Harlem on May 22 to express solidarity with Miami Blacks and outrage over the acquittal of Arthur McDuffie's killers.

Speakers included Anthony Flores, national vice-president, National Association of Civil Rights for Puerto Ricans; Jim Haughton, Harlem Back; Jose Torres, League of United Latin American Citizens; Reba Williams-Dixon, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the 19th Congressional District in Harlem; Luis Sanchez, Hispanic Labor Commit-

tee, and others.

All of the speakers argued that the acquittal of Cubans had nothing to do with the Miami uprising. Joblessness and urban decay, conditions that exist in every Black and Latino community in America, were the root of the problem.

Reba Williams-Dixon carried the point home when she said, "The acquittal of the McDuffie killers proves once again that justice in capitalist America is a lie. Justice will be won only through organized campaigns by Blacks, Haitians, Latins, labor unions, and all supporters of the working class."

Two nights later she chaired a meeting of the Militant Forum where 200 people heard a firsthand report from Miami by Andrew Pelley, SWP presidential candidate.
What ‘McDuffie’ means to Black people

MIAMI—McDuffie

Here in the Black pockets of wealthy Dade County, and in all of Black Florida, the word “McDuffie” means many things.

It means: Stop the police brutality against Blacks that took the lives of Arthur McDuffie and Randy Heath and that threatened the life of Nathaniel LaFleur.

It means: End the forty percent jobless rate among Black youth.

It means: Halt the injustices against Blacks in housing and education.

Two thousand Black college students in Tallahassee, demonstrating May 22 in solidarity with Miami Blacks, cried, “We want McDuffie!”

There are about 200,000 Blacks in Dade County, making it about 15 percent black.

• While white unemployment was 5.9 percent in Dade County last year, Black unemployment was 3.9 percent.

• Joblessness among Blacks from sixteen to nineteen was 44.5 percent.

• While police officers, according to an April report by the Miami Association of Black Social Workers, encouraged brutality and physical harm against Blacks, cops often inflate charges against Blacks in order to guarantee they will spend time in jail.

Traffic courts, Black social workers found, are more harshly dealt with Black defendants than with white ones.

**This was Black home in wealthy Miami**

“Nearly twice as many blacks as whites from Dade County are in state prisons, although half that again as both blacks and whites are in the county jail.”--The Miami Herald, May 25

The racial balance among the Dade County contingent in state prisons is directly opposite to the all-over prison race ratio of 65 percent white, 35 percent black.

A recent report of the Dade County Grand Jury found that more than half of all persons arrested in Dade are Black—nearly twice as many blacks as whites from Dade County are in state prisons, although half that again as both blacks and whites are in the county jail.

**1980 Dade County contingent in state prisons is directly opposite to the all-over prison race ratio of 65 percent white, 35 percent black.**

“The actions of Blacks in the streets the past few days showed Carter and the Democratic party that they want jobs, not B.O.,” Pulley told about thirty Black students at the Dade County Community College. “We need to organize to find out what happened to a political expression to demand our rights.”

Pulley was joined here by Socialist Workers candidates from other states and counties of Florida who came to learn firsthand about the Black rebellion.

Pulley appeared on local TV and radio. A Black newspaper interviewed him. He cancelled a tour stop in Al­bany, New York, to spend more time here.

Blacks on the streets where the uprising occurred were appreciative.

“It’s good to see a Black man run­ning,” was one response.

“You’ve got my vote,” was another.

In discussions with Blacks on the streets, Pulley heard complaints about cop brutality before and during the rebellion. Some spoke about lack of equal opportunity in employment. Others talked about no opportunities for employment.

A few people on the street recognized Pulley. Most did not.

That’s because the media won’t cover my campaign the way they do Carter or Kennedy,” Pulley told Blacks in the Coconut Grove section of town.

In a visit to one of the Metropolitan Transit Authority’s bus barns, drivers paid attention when Pulley explained he was a laid-off steelworker.

Workers in the unions need to begin to think about forming a labor party that would put our interests first, unlike the Democratic and Republican parties,” Pulley said.

He got nods of approval and an occasional “Right, brother!” from Black students at Miami Dade.

“The only thing they were shocked about,” Pulley said of white city officials after the acquittal of cops who killed McDuffie, “was that the Black community didn’t take it lying down. They were not shocked at the verdict.

“If they are really sorry that this miscarriage of justice happened, let them drop the charges against the Blacks who were arrested,” Pulley added.

“Then let them prosecute to the fullest all these killer cops and white snipers who attacked the Black community.”

In his address to the forum, Pulley said, “This is a lesson for the newly arriving Cubans that this is not the land of liberty that they had been led to believe.”

It is, he said, “the land of injustice and oppression for all Black and working people.”

Rose Ogden, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Senate from Florida, also spoke at the forum.

“The decision of the jury, she said, “was consistent with the handling of the McDuffie case from the very beginning.”

When the verdict came down, Ogden said, the shock “turned into anger.”

During the rebellion “Black neighborhoods were placed under house arrest” by police.

“We intend to talk about this on the job, in my campaign, in the pages of the Militant, and wherever we go,” she said.

Pulley in campaign headquarters discussion

Miami socialists sell 667 copies of Militant

Armed with the issue headlined, “Why Miami exploded: We want to be treated like human beings,” socialists in Miami sold 667 copies of the Militant.

Newsstand copies may not be sold in various areas of the Black community where people snatched them up.

Some were sold in a mixed Black-­­­-white community.

They were sold at work sites and at a community college campus.

Socialist workers sold them on the job. Bus drivers sold them to their fellow workers.

Hunnicutt went to Miami as part of the Militant’s reporting team at the height of the rebellion. He stayed to help coordinate sales of the issue.

“I’ve been selling the Militant for about five years,” he said, “and I never had such an experience. The same was true for white party members. They may have sold a few less, but no significant amount.

“The pattern,” Hunnicutt said, “was that you could sell a paper to one of every two or three people you showed it to.”

Hunnicutt said that in a total of about five hours, he sold 100 papers.

“People like the headline,” he said.

“One woman said to me that it was different from the Miami Herald.

“The Herald,” she told Hunnicutt, “and we’re savees. This says what we’re demanding—justice.”

At Dade County Community College, which has many Black students and a good number of Iranian and people from the Caribbean, the paper sold particularly well.

Socialist Workers presidential nominee Andrew Pulley had spoken on campus twice the previous week.

In one sale there, sixty copies of the Militant were sold.

Hunnicutt was also excited about the sale at the Black longshore union hall.

“We hit it one morning when people were getting job assign­ments,” he said. “The response was very friendly. In maybe fifteen minutes we sold eighteen copies.”

In the course of street sales, seven introductory subscriptions were sold.

“And,” Hunnicutt added, “a lot of people who didn’t have the money for a subscription wanted to know where they could buy future issues.”

He said several people have come to the SWP campaign office each day as a result of the sale. Others have called up asking for more information.

Socialists in Miami feel that in getting out the truth about the rebellion, in getting out the Black community’s side of the story, they struck a blow in the fight for justice for Arthur McDuffie.

Pulley in campaign headquarters discussion
We face the same enemy

Iranians hail struggle of Blacks in Miami

By Janice Lynn

Miami Blacks received overwhelming support for their struggle against racism from hundreds of thousands of Iranian workers and peasants. In Tehran, thousands of participants at the May 23 Friday prayer meeting cheered speeches about the need to solidarize with the Black people of Miami. The meeting reverberated with chants of “Blacks of America: We Are All Your Supporters” and “Blacks of America Should Be Set Free.”

This same scene was repeated at similar meetings in Tabriz, Isfahan, and in other cities throughout Iran. Major portions of the speeches in solidarity with the Black struggle in the United States were later broadcast on radio and television throughout the country.

In a speech broadcast the night before, Ayatollah Rahshuddin Khomeini explained how Muslims in time of need and the oppressed in time of need must support one another.

“Now,” Khomeini declared, “Blacks in the United States need our support because they are oppressed and faced with the same enemy we are faced with.”

After the prayer meetings, thousands took to the streets in hastily organized marches and demonstrations in at least fifteen cities to show their solidarity with the Blacks of Miami.

In Tehran, more than 5,000 people marched in support of Blacks in the United States in the ex-U.S. embassy. “Blacks Brothers, We Congratulate You On Your Uprising” and “Iranian Muslims Will Fight Alongside You In Every Way” were some of the spirited chants.

A rally was held in front of the embassy. Speakers pointed out how the same U.S. government that was continuously threatening Iran was now faced inside its own borders “with our brothers who are standing up to their oppressors.”

A Palestinian spoke and tied together the oppression of Palestinians, the oppression of Blacks in the United States, and the oppression suffered by Iranians under the shah.

The crowd cheered, shouting, “Oppressed of the World, Unite!” and “Blacks of America, We Support You—United States and Iran, We Will Defend You.” Solidarity with the uprisings in South Korea was another dominant theme of the rally. A message was read from a Korean liberation organization about the struggles of the workers and students who are standing up against the dictatorship in South Korea.

The keynote speaker was from the Muslim Student Association. Following the Imam’s line. Addressing himself to Miami’s Blacks, he recalled how the Iranian people had defeated the shah, and how it had seemed such an impossible task. He explained that the day would come when Blacks will rise up and be able to overcome and defeat their oppressors.

“The question of racism and the situation of Blacks in the United States has captured the attention of millions of Iranians,” said one member of the Iranian Revolutionary Workers Party (HEK).

“Everybody is discussing it and everybody followed the news from Miami very closely. There is a real identification with oppressed Blacks in America,” she said.

“Blacks of America, We Support You,” she continued, “we would come up to me to tell me how they thought that perhaps Blacks in the United States were one of the peoples who may have suffered even more than we did. Women especially indicated to me how important it was for us to support their struggles.”

“Solidarity with the uprisings of Blacks in the United States and the struggle of the Iranian people is very high throughout Iran,” she said.

“The Iranian people have pledged their unconditional support and we will not hesitate to help in any way.”

From Intercontinental Press/Impeccor

Iran students to U.S. Blacks:

“All the oppressed of this earth are with you”

The following is excerpted from a statement by the Muslim Students’ Followers of the Imam’s Line, released in Tehran on May 23.

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate; the great people of Islam; the great nation of Iran, and the Islamic revolution of Iran has captured the attention of the world. The Islamic revolution of Iran is the spread of strikes by industrial criminals into the dustbin of history.

The Carter administration... has attacked South Africa’s racist regime is facing a crisis that began since the Soweto uprising of July 1976. According to the Carter administration... has attacked South Africa’s racist regime is facing a crisis that began since the Soweto uprising of July 1976. According to the

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The Islamic revolution of Iran is a good example for you and for all the oppressed. Our Imam has said that this great mobilization, this general Islamic mobilization will be a pattern for all the oppressed of the world.

You American Blacks, it is the policy of Carter’s criminal government that kills you. It is the judicial system that makes criminals out of innocent people and damn the oppressed. And it is this same government that launched a military attack against our nation.

We have taken the American spies as hostages until the treacherous [shah] Mohammed Reza, and the wealth that he has stolen from Iran, supported by the countries of the United States has returned to Iran. And when this is done, the hostages will be released.

But the uncultured government of Carter not only has rejected this rightful demand of ours so that he can save the lives of the hostages, but he militarily attacks our country—a country which has already given us many martyrs.

Once more, we unconditionally support you—the oppressed Blacks of the United States.

Strikes, marches, hit racist rule in S Africa

By Fred Feldman

South Africa’s racist regime is facing its biggest challenge since the Soweto uprising of June 1976. According to the May 27 New York Times, “Protests and strikes... are sweeping the country.”

A month-long student strike by blacks and colored students protesting segregated education is gaining steam, despite the arrest of hundreds.

“The three of the four black universities have been affected,” wrote John F. Burns in the May 26 New York Times. “With the largest, the University of Port Harcourt East London, being closed down for the first time since the 1976 upheaval.”

On May 24 about 3,000 colored students reportedly staged a sit in at a shopping center in central Cape Town. They were brutally attacked by riot police and several were injured.

In an effort to stop the spread of support for the strike, the regime arrested Rev. John Thorne, a minister of the Congregational Church in Johannesburg. Thorne was a supporter of the students’ demands for human rights.

The arrest of Thorne sparked a protest demonstration by church figures in Johannesburg on May 26, demanding his release.

Fifty-three were arrested and police, on their hillside clubs, waved into a crowd of spectators.

Among those arrested were Timothy Bavin, the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, and Desmond Tutu, a Black who is the assistant Anglican bishop of Johannesburg and head of the South African Council of Churches.

This was the first arrest of Tutu. He was deprived of his passport two months ago when he called on Western States to boycott South Africa.

Most ominous to the South African rulers is the spread of strikes by industrial workers. “In 1976 student attempts to promote nationwide work boycotts had limited success,” reported Burns, “but this year there have been a number of major strikes by black workers, including one that lasted a week in the textile plants in Durban where the last major wave of black strikes began in 1973.”

And in the sprawling Black town of Soweto, fighting spirit appears to be on the rise. “Opposition figures familiar with Soweto... have warned that tension among the township’s one million residents is mounting to the point it reached in 1976.”

THE MILITANT/JUNE 6, 1980
Trial reveals FBI complicity
Stoner found guilty in 1958 Ala. bombing

By Lee Smith

ST. PAUL—The three-day trial of notorious racist J.B. Stoner for the 1958 bombing of the Bethel Baptist Church ended here May 14 with the jury returning a verdict of guilty.

Stoner, freed on $20,000 bond shortly after the trial, was given a minimum sentence of ten years’ imprisonment suspended pending any appeal. He told the press that his conviction proved “this is a Jew-dominated country with no freedom for white Chris- 
tians.”

Racist statements are the stock-in-trade of former KKK leader, as saying, “I’ve been fighting Jews and niggers full time more or less since school.”

But the evidence in Stoner’s trial revealed something far more than his twisted mind. The testimony that con- victed Stoner lifted the corner of the shroud of official secrecy covering the government’s complicity in acts of terrorism against the civil rights movement.

The prosecution’s case raised more questions than it answered about the presence of local police in the Bethel Church bombing and similar incidents.

The centerpiece of the state’s case was the testimony of former under- cop Tom Cook. According to Cook, he and another undercover cop, along with Ku Klux Klan leader William Morris, met with Stoner June 21, 1958, eight days before the church bombing, and again on July 12. After these meetings, the four men discussed bomb the Bethel Baptist Church, then used by the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, a group civil rights action was already in the group here at the time.

Both meetings were observed by Police Commissioner Eugene “Bull” Connor, FBI special agent Clarence Kelley (from 1973 through 1978, FBI director), and other police officials.

The Lewises then the Stevens were arranged by Bull Connor, who enlisted Klansman Morrie’s aid, to try to get some evidence against Stoner for some earlier bombings. Cook admits that bombing Bethel Church was sug- gested.

According to the state, while Connor and Kelley were trying to decide what to do next, Stoner went ahead and bombed the church. Then he came back to the cops and Morris saying “This boy had done the job and wanted their money.”

Assuming for a moment that this is the truth, why didn’t the cops arrest Stoner right then and there? The Bir- 
mances of this case, said former FBI agent Kelley, who an- swered: “I just don’t remember why in a situation like that there was no prose- cuting.”

Stoner’s attorneys claimed in court that Cook and Morris offered Stoner $2,000 to blow up the church.

According to their version, Black leaders then went ahead and set off the bomb themselves “to get sympathy and money.” Taking advantage of this “happy coincidence,” their story went, Stoner then tried to “rip off” Morris and the undercover cops for the $2,000.

Stoner also told the Birmingham News that in 1958 a Klan leader had offered him $10,000 to kill Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, civil rights leader and pastor of the Bethel Church then.

“[I] knew what they were trying to do,” Stoner told the News. “They were trying to entrap me. They wanted to be rev. Shuttlesworth and they wanted to send me to the electric chair.”

For Stoner, this is a variation on a theme. Before he had been indicted for the church bombing, Stoner told au- thor Howard Raines that the same ends motivated an FBI underagent to offer him $25,000 to have Martin Luther King, Jr., killed.

“Setting aside the delay, the half- 
heated prosecution, and the light sent- ence meted out to this racist,” Mo- 
hammed Oliver, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Alabama, said, “the unanswered ques- 
tions about police and FBI complicity in this case, just as in the case of the 1963 Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing, where the Socialists and the Communist Party demanded a trial into the role of the FBI and local police in the death of four children.”

Despite the fact that Sandifer was found innocent April 30, the case is far from resolved. Sandifer and his family have been forced to leave their home because of death threats. He and his wife report being followed while driv- ing their children to school.

The judge in the case, Sidney Abramson, and Reverend Battle, who testified in Sandifer’s behalf, have also both received telephone threats.

Steve Thomas, the Socialist Workers Party congressional candidate from the Twin Cities, is demanding that the mayor and police chief immediately take a clear, public stand against these threats. Their policy has been to ignore the incidents or imply the problem is one of racial prejudice on both sides.

“The police,” Thomas said, “have not made one arrest in these racist and right-wing attacks and this inaction has openly encouraged the racists. It is a scandal that these racist thugs are preventing Charles Sandifer and his family from living safely in their own house. Mayor George Latimer must, clearly and publicly, proclaim that these racist actions and threats will never be tolerated.”


By Lynn Henderson

ST. PAUL—Racists here received a sharp setback recently when Chester Sandifer, a member of the Black Bull Telephone worker, was found innocent in the fatal shooting of a young white, Thomas Luger.

The shooting occurred on New Year’s Eve after a mob of 200 whites, leaving a local bar at closing time, here to kill a Black man, his pregnant wife, and his mother-in-law.

The four white men, the so-called Black Bull Telephone workers, were arrested and sentenced to prison for the shooting.

As Chester Sandifer stepped from his home to aid the mob’s victims, he was attacked and beaten unconscious.

Even though police arrived early on the scene, no whites were arrested.

Sometime at this point, according to witnesses, one of the men, Paul Olbrych, came out and killed Thomas Luger, who was part of the mob.

Days later, there was a promoted rep- ublication as a liberal and racially har- monious city, St. Paul is witnessing a growing number of racist and right- wing assaults.

Last October 21 St. Paul’s Golden Glee Club was sus- pended after white racists in the audience became so threatening that the Black Inner City Youth League with- drew its team of boxers for their protec- tion.

The growing number of racist inci- dents here have not been only of the spontaneous and unorganized variety. Last November 29, following a fight between a Black and white student, young white wearing Nazi arm bands showed up outside Wilson Junior High School in an effort to recruit white students. When asked by the principal what they wanted, they replied, “We’re here to kill niggers.”

This is far from the first open Nazi activity in St. Paul. In November 1978 Nazis painted swastikas in celebration of the infamous “crystal night” when Nazis in Hitler’s Germany smashed the Jews in Jewish homes and shops.


Finally, just this spring Rev. James Battle, minister of Mount Olivet Baptist Church and a prominent civil rights leader, was denied service at Rice Street pizza parlor. Battle and two fellow ministers had just seated them- selves when a white customer ap- proached the booth and asked, “What are you doing here? Don’t you like niggers to be on Rice Street.”

One minister told the man, “You talk like a [member of the Ku Klux Klun],” and the man replied, “I am.”

Reverend Battle commented on the incident, “I was called ‘nigger’ more than I had been in my hometown in Alabama—and in one night.”

In response to these growing attacks, members of the St. Paul’s Black com- munity formed the Summit University Steering Committee Against Racism. The committee played a vital role in getting out the true facts in the Sandifer case and rallying community support at Sandifer’s trial.

After the riot, Sandifer was taken to the hospital and eventually charged with the murder of Luger, even though none of the prosecution’s eyewitnesses could identify him at the police station or in the initial police lineup.

Dismayed by the failure of anyone to make a positive identification, three members of the white mob later voluntarily came forward with an agreed upon description of Sandifer as the assailant.

At the trial they pointed Sandifer out in the courtroom as the alleged killer and described the gunman on the night of the killing as having a beard and/or a moustache, wearing a dark overcoat, and also wearing a gold chain around his neck.

Sandifer’s defense attorney, Ralph Westby, exploded the whole thing up by producing snap photos taken at the Sandifer’s New Year’s Eve party that night. They showed Chester Sandifer clean-shaven and wearing a light blue turquiose sweater without jewelry.

Attorney Westby repeatedly exposed the racism of the prosecution wit- nesses. In one case, a white who identi- fied Sandifer as the killer later admitted under cross examination that to him all Blacks look alike. “Especially,” he added, “at night.”

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Daughter of hostage calls for peace with Iran
By Al Campbell

BOSTON—Luzette Graves, daughter of John Graves, one of the hostages in the former U.S. embassy in Tehran, toured the Boston area from May 16-18. She is seeking support for a peaceful settlement of the embassy crisis, and for an end to the Carter administration's hostility to Iran.

Her tour, which included a news conference and a rally for peace with Iran, received wide coverage in the media around Boston and some national coverage.

This is the first such tour by a hostage relative opposed to Washington's policy.

At the May 16 news conference Graves warned that, in her opinion, Carter was still looking toward a "military solution" of the embassy crisis in the wake of the failure of the April 24 raid against Iran.

She said that she and other hostage relatives were told by an official of the U.S. Information Agency, "There comes a time when the lives of the hostages are expendable.

"What happened in Iran is not something unique among countries of the third world," she added. "They all feel the same way. The so-called independent countries are not truly independent. They are being dominated and run by countries such as our own."

She said she had known nothing of Iran before the embassy takeover. "They really are people," she added, "and you don't need to be Iranian to know the meaning of the word, 'oppression,' and the word, 'torture,' and the word, 'murder.'"

Other speakers at the news conference included Harvery Kaplan from the National Lawyers Guild, who described what the NLG is doing to defend our revolution, and the hostage relative opposed to the Carter administration's characterization of the raid as a rescue attempt. It truly meant the end of the hostages. The Carter administration did not care about the hostages or about the soldiers who died."

The next day more than 300 people marched the half mile from Copley Square to the Boston Common, where a rally was held. Two favorite chants were "Iranian students are welcome here" and "Hell no, we won't go. We won't fight for Texas!"

Sponsors of the march and rally included not only the coalition, but also the American Friends Service Committee, Mobilization for Survival, and local antiaircraft and antinuclear groups.

One statement from the local chapter of the American Friends Service Committee was distributed denouncing Carter's attacks on Iran, and calling for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

The action aroused much interest and curiosity among the thousands who saw or heard it go by, but virtually no hostility.

Luzette Graves was the featured speaker. "We've got to sit down and talk it over and find a peaceful solution," she said.

She criticized the seizure of Iranian assets in U.S. banks.

Graves concluded, "If we go to war, it's not Black Manhattan or Exxon that are going to go over there and fight, it's you and I. And not only will many be dying, but those of us who survive will keep on paying for that war, for those war machines, while Chase and its friends just collect interest."

Graves also read a message from her mother, Bonnie Graves. "I regret that I will not be present at the peace rally. Both as wife of a hostage and, as a rule, a loyal concerned American, I applaud your efforts to promote a peaceful settlement of the crisis between our nation and Iran."

Alicia Kogho, relative of another hostage, was in the audience at the rally and had a friendly talk with Graves afterward.

At the end of that evening Graves met with Afro-American journalist William Worley and with Mel King, a leader of the Black Political Caucus.

Georgia Blacks protest assault on civil rights
By Anne Johnson

ATLANTA—Rev. Fred Taylor, field worker for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, has announced that SCLC is calling a national mobilization in Wrightsville, Georgia, on June 7.

"We will demonstrate here because there has been a complete breakdown of civil rights and law enforcement in Wrightsville. They were beating all night, all day, all the time."

After being held all night, without being charged, thirty-four of the Blacks were released the next day. The four who remained in jail included the Rev. E.J. Wilson and John Martin, leaders of the Wrightsville Black community.

Wilson was dragged from his car, beaten, and jailed as he was on his way to the courthouse to aid a Black woman arrested earlier in the day.

Meanwhile, deputies stormed the totally segregated Black section of the town. They knocked down the door of the Neely AME church, arrested those gathered, and continued to make arrests as they went door-to-door through the community.

Virginia Wilson, Rev. Wilson's wife, reported that Sheriff Roland Attaway, brandishing a shotgun and black helmet, burst into the home in which she was staying and arrested four women without explanation.

This police dragnet followed a fire earlier that evening in a lounge in the Black community, and the shooting of twenty-one-year-old Janice Woodward.

Blacks charge that whites are shooting at fire fighters and police in an attempt to discredit the Black community.

Arriving in Wrightsville the day after the arrest, the SCLC's Reverend Taylor was beaten by fifteen to twenty whites. Limping and showing his bruises Taylor contended, "I think, in my judgement, the sheriff and his deputies were running rampant like Miami in Georgia."

An Atlanta attorney representing the jailed activists was himself arrested when he accused Attaway of holding the thirty-eight illegally. No whites have been arrested in the past week.

The Johnson County Justice League, headed by Wilson and Martin, has organized protests over the past three months demanding an end to racist conditions in Wrightsville. They also are demanding the removal of Attaway, who has been sheriff for twenty years. The group demonstrated in April for equal employment rights, and May 1 for freedom, justice, and representation on the city council.

While Johnson County is one third Black, there are no Blacks in county government, the police force, post office, or white-collar jobs. One Black unemployed youth told the Militant that he knew a Black woman with a college degree who was denied a bank teller's job that was given to a white with a fifth grade education.

There are few paved streets or street lights in the Black section of Wrightsville, and this also has been a focus of the protests.

At a rally on April 8, Black protesters were attacked and beaten by Ku Klux Klansmen while sheriff's deputies looked the other way. Fifteen activists were injured.

Also in April, two white men were indicted on charges of firing a shotgun blast into a Black home injuring a nine-year-old girl.

Johnson County is a farming community with a few clothing mills providing the majority of jobs open to Black workers.

One Black resident explained, "Sometimes two families live in one house. They could have built some projects, but the Blacks can't go in it. Children have to play in the streets."

Georgia state troopers are again in Wrightsville and U.S. Justice Department hearings are being held to investigate the Black community's demands.
New members named to Nicaragua govt

By Lorraine Thieboud

MANAGUA—Two new members—Arturo Cruz Porras and Rafael Córdova Rivas—were added to Nicaragua’s Junta of National Reconstruction May 15 by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) National Directorate. Before his appointment, Arturo Cruz was president of Nicaragua’s Central Bank. Along with junta member Sergio Ramirez, Cruz was one of the “Group of Twelve,” that played an important role in broadening support for the FSLN during the right to overthrow Somoza. Upon his appointment to the junta, Cruz affirmed that he was accepting a mandate from “the vanguard of the revolution, the FSLN, to preserve the irreversible character of the revolution.” He also stated that “as a Christian” he identified completely with the process that is occurring here and that his presence in the government reaffirmed “the democratic nature of the junta.”

Rafael Córdova Rivas had been a member of the Supreme Court appointed by the revolutionary government. A longtime opponent of the Somoza regime, he was jailed by the dictatorship more than a dozen times. When FSLN leader Tomás Borge was imprisoned by Sandino’s National Guard in the early 1970s, Córdova Rivas served as his defense attorney. After the assassination of his political opposition leader Pedro Joaquín Chamorro Cardenal in January 1978, Córdova Rivas became president of Chamorro’s party, the Democratic Liberation Union (UDERL). In Córdova Rivas’s brief remarks accepting appointment to the junta, the following stood out: “This revolution must mean more substantial change of one political power for another. Rather it means changing the economic, social and political structures.”

Sandinista anniversary

The new appointments to the junta were announced on the eighty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Augusto César Sandino—“general of free men and father of the people’s anti-imperialist revolution.” Sandino led the struggle of the Nicaraguan people to expel the U.S. marines in the 1930s; his legacy was the inspiration for the formation of the FSLN.

Commemorative events were held throughout Nicaragua, sponsored by the mass organizations, such as the Sandinista Workers Federation and the Association of Nicaraguan Women. Sandino’s heritage of anti-imperialist struggle and international solidarity, as well as his defense of his own sovereignty, but also because of recent demands by members of the U.S. government, is spreading, achieving so broadened to include so-called moderates and, because of the openly anticomunist campaign unleashed against the FSLN in recent weeks by ex-junta member Alfonso Robelo and his Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN). Defense of Nicaragua’s national sovereignty in face of foreign aggression and “traitorous elements” inside the country was emphasized. This was highlighted not just because of the armed struggle carried out a year ago by the Nicaraguan workers and peasants in order to regain their sovereignty, but also because of recent demands by members of the U.S. government, to reproduce in Nicaragua a commun­nist dictatorship similar to Cuba and worsen the climate of confidence—already damaged—that the urgent reactivation of the country requires.

The big bourgeoisie thus openly rejects the measures carried out by the FSLN to benefit the workers and peasants, and conditions their investment participation in economic reactivation on the admission of the government’s guarantees that would simply mean the liquidation of the revolution in a short period of time. FSLN Commander and junta member Daniel Ortega has made the Sandinistas’ position on the FSLN’s demands quite clear: “We are not going to share power with those who only seek to weaken that power—neither in the government junta nor in the minis­teries.”

Puerto Rican nationalist sentenced to life term

NEW YORK—A federal judge imposed a life sentence on Puerto Rican militant Maria Haydee Torres May 23. Torres was convicted after a four-day trial of terrorist activities as a member of the FALN (Fuerzas Armadas de Liber­racion Nacional—Armed Forces of National Liberation). Ten other FALN members are to be tried in Chicago.

On the opening day of the Torres trial May 19, 150 supporters of Puerto Rican independence packed the federal courtroom where Torres was greeted by a standing ovation and prolonged chanting of pro-independence slogans when she entered the courtroom.

When the judge entered, the audience sat down and Torres began to speak.

Addressing the crowd, with her back to the judge, she explained that she views herself as a prisoner of war in a struggle for national liberation and that she refuses to recognize the jurisdiction of the American courts.

When Torres ignored the judge’s orders to sit down, federal marshals carried her from the courtroom.

Her supporters left the room for a spirited picket outside the building. Among the participants were former nationalist prisoners "Pitu" Lebrón and Oscar Collazo. Lebrón addressed the crowd at the conclusion of the picket line, calling Torres a hero. Torres has spent thirty years in American prisons, and was convicted in a ninety-year-long struggle against American domination.

A spokesperson for the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War announced that the committee is planning further protests at the United Nations.

Puerto Rico:
U.S. Colony in the Caribbean

Maria Haydee Torres

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From Intercontinental Press/Inprccor

Nicaraguan peasants at February demonstration. Sign reads, "To reactiva the economy, total independence. Long live the unity of the workers and campesinos!" Government has had to replace two capitalist figures who recently resigned, as workers and peasants make advances.

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From Intercontinental Press/Inprccor
Right-wingers threaten protest
Cuban emigre issue backfires on Carter

By Harry Ring

"It's not as if they're the people to go to Martel. Carter said three weeks ago, 'I open my arms to you.' Now he says, 'Go to hell,'" said Wilfredo Navarro, a right-wing Miami Cuban protesting Carter's decision to shut the door on those trying to emigrate here.

Navarro joined with Frank Sturgis in threatening mass protests against the Carter decision to blockade the Mariel-Florida sea-lift. Sturgis, one of those arrested in the Watergate burglary, has been a long-time anti-Castro CIA henchman.

He and Navarro reportedly went to Washington May 21 to get government consent to send twenty shrimp boats they said they had chartered to go to Mariel to pick up further emigrés.

The fact that such extreme-right-wing government protégés feel moved to go beyond is unprecedented in the extent to which Carter's manipulation of the emigration issue has backfired on him.

Carter's hypocrisy on this issue was stripped bare when the Cuban government opened the port of Mariel to all those who wish to emigrate here.

For a period, Carter adapted to the sentiment of Cubans in this country and did not make a decisive effort to stem the flow from Mariel. But now he apparently intends to withstand pressure and stop the self-help.

This will reduce even further the ability of Washington, and its hirelings within the community, to exploit the Cuban issue for political purposes, whipping up the hate-Castro drive.

When people like Sturgis and Navarro come out, it's obvious when Washington has problems. There are others in the Cuban community who have gone public with their interest in the United States to be kept open and who understand the need to oppose Washington's anti-Cuba campaign.

An encouraging expression of such a view was contained in a letter to the May 15 New York Times.

Signed by fifteen Cuban-American professors, the letter declares that because Washington encouraged Cubans to leave their country it now has "a moral obligation to accept them."

It points to the need for an end of the U.S. blockade of Cuba and notes that while a small percentage choose to leave Cuba, "the overwhelming majority of the Cuban people support the revolution and would defend it against attack."

In addition to urging an end to a failed policy of attempting to overthrow the Castro government, the letter calls upon Washington to curb the "right-wing groups responsible for multiple bombings and several assassination attempts in the recent past..."

A majority of the fifteen professors signing the letter are associated with the Committee of 70, a broad grouping within the U.S. Cuban community which last year initiated a dialogue with the Cuban government.

It was this dialogue that led to the release of counterrevolutionary prisoners in Cuba, establishment of travel arrangements permitting Cubans here to visit their homeland, as well as a family reunification program.

At the beginning of the Peruvian incident in Havana, the Carter administration threatened to freeze their cause. Just before the letter was published, Carter was asked if he considered it important "to give testimony to the continued expression of different points of view" within the Cuban community.

In the newly developing situation, persistent efforts will confirm that the particular point of view expressed in the Times letter is not only in the best interest of the Cuban community and working people generally. It can also become the majority point of view within the Cuban community.

Zionism makes a martyr out of a murderer

By Gus Horowitz

When Eli Hazeev died 3,000 people attended his funeral.

Among the mourners was the chief of staff of the Israeli army, Hazeev was a civilian but received a military funeral.

It was a tour of American Protestant but died an Israeli Jew, eulogized by the chief rabbi of the country. One of the religious leaders, Hazeev's father said later, considered holy, that without doubt his name will be remembered among the heroes of Zionism.

He was one of those building Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. He and five other Israeli settlers were killed on May 2 in the Arab city of Hebron.

That's why the funeral was so large. It was an expression of support for Begin's settlement policy.

What kind of person would choose to change his faith, count millions of martyred pregnant mothers in the cause!?

What kind of cause could deem this man a martyr and hold him in such high esteem?

An eyewitness, Dennis Shipbland and Philip Taubman drew a revealing portrait of Hazeev in the May 12 issue of the paper.

Haaretz describes Hazeev as "the wolf" in Hebrew—was born in Virginia thirty-two years ago as James Eli Mahon, Jr.

He used to tell friends that "we'll" was a name he had picked up in Vietnam, where he served two terms as a gung-ho, much-decorated para-trooper. Actually, he had been called "killer." One of his proudest feats was killing twenty-three Vietnamese in one battle.

Whatever the name, the psychological characteristics were apparent to those who met him.

"The guy is, was, a psycho, and he hung out with a bunch of psyches," said one of his Israeli friends.

"He gave people the impression of killing someone who had killed easily. I never got the feeling of any remorse about taking human life."

His Israeli wife even split from him because of his lack of charity.

He joined or associated with various extreme-right groups, but was basically a freelancer, being several times arrested for going further than the authorities wanted him to go.

He was disillusioned by the war in Vietnam because, as he used to say, "we were not allowed to win.

After returning home from Vietnam he volunteered his services as an informer for the FBI, working to undermine anti-Vietnam War groups.

The career of this FBI spy included arrests for 'unlawful entry; for assault and battery; and for the stealing of property.'

His Israeli wife even split from him because of his lack of charity.

He was let off on the serious criminal charges.

But he was, for the Zeitgeist, a seduced by its military resolve, his father recalled, of "only one,"

He served time for the Hebron rampage, and was freed when the White House gave off the vibes of a killer, of psychos," said one of his Israeli friends.

"But in one case—where he acted as a provocateur in assassinating Yitzhak Rabin—where he was seduced by the Palestinian National Guard for attempted assassination of President Shapira, was able to obtain immediate citizenship under the law of return.

It points to the need for an end of the Cuban community for a policy of friendship with Cuba. It was seen as an opportunity to reaffirm the rejection of the counter-revolutionary terrorists whose continued functioning here is based, not on support in the community, but on a green light from the government.

Initially, the counterrevolutionaries were caught off guard on the emigration issue. When people first entered the Peruvian embassy in Havana as a means of coming to the U.S., Anthony Varela, a prominent Cuban right-winger, urged them not to leave, asserting they should stay to fight the Castro regime.

But within twenty-four hours, the right-wingers realized this was a direct counter to sentiment in the Cuban community and they reversed course. Now they are at the point where they find themselves threatening demonstrations against their mentor in the Cuban community.

Meanwhile, members of the Committee of 75 and other proponents of friendship with Cuba have a renewed opportunity to win support for their point of view.

People in the Cuban community may have been initially confused as to who was responsible for the plight of those who now want to leave Cuba. But today it is apparent to all that responsibility rests with Washington, not Havana.

In a telephone interview, Prof. Mario Perez-Siabito, one of the signers of the New York Times letter, said one of the problems was that the Cuban people had never been considered as being because they considered it important "to give testimony to the continued expression of different points of view" within the Cuban community.

In the newly developing situation, persistent efforts will confirm that the particular point of view expressed in the Times letter is not only in the best interest of the Cuban community and working people generally. It can also become the majority point of view within the Cuban community.

NY Palestine action

Supporters of Palestine rights have scheduled a June 1 demonstration in New York City against U.S. aid to Israel and for Palestinian self-determination.

The demonstration is seen as a counteraction to the Salute to Peace being organized by the Zionists.

The Palestine Solidarity Committee, which is organizing the march, among other demands, strikers demanding an end to the collective punishment of Hebron, where the Israeli military government imposed a curfew on thousands of demolished buildings, including shops and homes; and deported the mayor, along with a Moslem journalist and the mayor of new homes.

The demonstration is supported by a broad range of organizations. It begins at noon at 59th Street and 6th Avenue in Manhattan. For further information, call the PSC at (212) 662-0700.
On May 17 some five million Cubans marched in cities across the island to protest U.S. threats and military maneuvers directed against Cuba and to celebrate revolutions in Central America and the Caribbean. The March of the Fighting People was a massive show of support to the Castro government and its revolutionary allies, in the face of Washington’s anti-Cuba propaganda barrage around the Peruvian Embassy provocation in mid-April.

José G. Pérez, editor of “Perspectiva Mundial,” Spanish-language sister publication of the “Militant,” was in Havana to report on the day’s mobilization. Born in Cuba, Perez was taken to the United States by his family shortly after the 1959 revolution. Following are some of his observations.

By José G. Pérez

HAVANA—Two o’clock in the afternoon, May 17. I’m standing on a balcony on the twenty-seventh floor of a building right across from the old university building that was named for him in the 1960s. The Maine was the U.S. warship whose mysterious explosion and sinking in 1988 provided Washington its pretext for intervening in Cuba’s war of independence against Spain and seize the island for Wall Street investment.

Nobody in the United States shouts “remember the Maine” anymore. But in Cuba they do not forget.

The imperial eagle stood the monument was toppled twenty years ago. The iron pliers that held it in place now stick out, bent and rusted.

Below me, hundreds of thousands of people stream toward the main square. All over Cuba, millions are marching. Their message: “We do not forget.” We will fight to the death to stop that imperial eagle from ever being put back on the monument.

Saturday night after the demonstration. A room 420 of the Ritz Hotel is the international press room. Half a dozen reporters are furiously typing away in the corner. The other, telephones and clatter with other stories. In between there’s a bank of TV monitors.

I look over the shoulder of one of the reporters writing his copy. It begins, “Havana, May 17—At least 60,000 people marched past the U.S. Interests Section here today in a display of organized anti-American hysteria.”

I know the reporter in question had visited the march only briefly, then returned to the hotel where I’m told he spent the rest of the morning and all of the afternoon lounging by the pool.

A few minutes later the reporter has finished the story and is watching TV, waiting for a call to his paper to go through. On one of the monitors is a documentary about Cuba’s struggle for independence from Spain during the late 1800s. The narrator explains that we would now see a reconstruction of mounted freedom fighters carrying a machete charge on horseback against Spanish troops.

“What’s that,” cracks the reporter.

Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders. One of the Cuban officials assigned to help the foreign press explains, without even hinting at the rage she must feel. Maybe she’s used to it by now.

Another reporter is on the phone to an inquiring copy editor, by the sound of it. “They wanted to get five to four million, but they couldn’t do it. Most of the population is here, and they got one, maybe one and a half million tons in Havana.”

The reporter fails silent. I imagine the copy editor breaking the news to him that the population of the Havana area is only roughly a fifth of Cuba’s total of ten million.

“Damn. We better change that.” He looks through his article. “Look, where it says, Cuban officials expected four to five million to march but the turnout...” and so forth, just switch it around to say “and the turnout could well have reached that figure...”

He stops for a moment, thinking. “Better yet, just kill that whole paragraph.”

The copy editor must have said something.

“Yeah, it was scary,” the reporter answers. “It was goddamn big and they sound like they really mean business.”

* * *

“For every one that leaves, hundreds stay,” says Tomás Menocal, a Black, bearded, six-foot dockworker carrying six-year-old Camilo on his shoulders. Menocal stopped to talk during the March of the Fighting People in Havana May 17.

“For every gusano, hundreds of cubanos. That’s the real message of this march,” Guasmo means worm, the Cuban term for those who are deserting the revolution.

On Camilo’s back there is a small poster made from one side of a cardboard box. On it are pictures of commanders Camilo Cienfuegos and Ernesto Che Guevara, martyred leaders of the Cuban revolution. Under the pictures, it says: “Camilo and Che present. Ever onward to victory.”

His father puts little Camilo down. I ask if he knows who Camilo and Che are.

“They were very great men. They were very good friends of Fidel. They died fighting so we could have schools and doctors.”

I ask Camilo what he wants to be when he grows up. “I want to be a revolutionary like Camilo and Che.”

* * *

In Cuba May 17 is El Día del Campe­­stino—the day of the small farmer. All over the island the simultaneous demonstrations held this May 17 are headed by peasants carrying banners about the agrarian reform law proclaimed on that date twenty-one years ago, some time after the Castro government came to power.

In Havana, campechinos on horse­­back dressed as mambises—Cuban freedom fighters during the war of independence against Spain—headed the march, carrying a sign that says: “On a day like today we expropriated 1,209,013 hectares in large estates [huge estates] from Yankee imperialism.”

I talk with an old man, face dark
I am an old man and I lived through what this was before. It is painful even to talk about it.

"My parents were farmers before me. We all grew up on a small farm. But then, when I was fourteen, they lost it to the bank, so I had to go make my own way in the world.

"Those were the difficult years of the thirties. I cut cane and during the dead time [the eight months of the year between harvests] I would find whatever work I could."

He became a sharecropper. "All we had was a bokito [peanut hut], one room, and whenever there was a big storm it would fall down or be blown away and we had to rebuild it. No water, no sanitary facilities. I lost three children to intestinal parasites. The others had no school. They worked mine, because they always charged an extra five cents for white people.

"At first, I paid no attention. There had been a lot of talk about this. We had been waiting for all our lives. It got worse after every one.

"I had later gotten growing on that land, and a few chickens I had.

"One very bad year, I went to the overseer. I pleaded with him, for us to keep a little more of what we had grown. My wife and children were starving.

"You were contracted to cultivate the land under a fixed contract. He shouted at me. Those words still burn in my ears."

"I had no choice, so I tried to steal from a little store. I was only taking to keep all the mouths fed."

"I couldn't stay away. And when my father saw me, he threw my things out."

"Finally, the revolution came, what we had been waiting for all our lives. At first, I paid no attention. There had been many revolutions. We had ended up worse after every one.

"But the revolution of Fidel was different. He had grown up in the countryside, and when he started the revolution, he planted his first seeds among us in the Sierra Maestra. And here I am, forever grateful."

"Immediately they gave us ownership of our land. I had later gotten another parcel and they gave it to me, mine forever, and for my children, something that cannot be taken away."

and weatherbeaten, hands rough from work. He is from the province of Havana.

"I'm an old man now, the years left are very few. But while I am still alive, I will march, I will join the militias. I will do anything that the revolution requires of me. Because I remember the way things were before, and we will never go back to that. Never!"

Along with the multimillion-strong March of the Fighting People, the most prominent item on many radio and TV news shows here is the rebellion in Miami's Black community.

Radio reports give ongoing coverage of a battle to take over a police station, apparently based on monitored reports from Miami radio stations.

In a packed restaurant the news comes over the radio that two cops had died in battles with the Black community.

The entire restaurant bursts into applause. Later it is learned the first report was not accurate. Several cops were wounded, but not killed.

Gramma, the Havana daily, also reports prominently on the Miami Black rebellion and what it says about racism in the U.S."

* * *

"People speak of revolution as if it's something that comes along, Angola, Nicaragua. He's for human rights. But I know what he wants is to go back to the way things were before, and we will never go back to that."

"Those words still burn in my ears."

"They came with a mule team and shouted at me."
Socialists launch fight to open Mich. ballot

By Tony Dutrow

DETROIT—The Socialist Workers Party is launching a national campaign to open up the ballot in Michigan. This fight aims to overturn the state’s restrictive election law adopted in 1976, which effectively bars all but Democrats and Republicans from the general election ballot.

The party plans to shine a national spotlight on Michigan’s undemocratic and antilabor election law. It aims to show that with these two capitalist parties on the rise, the rulers of this country are trying to block access to the ballot to those who offer a working-class alternative.

“If they can get away with denying the Socialist Workers Party and other smaller parties ballot status in Michigan, we can be sure they will soon try to bar entry to our party, for all those fed up with the two-party monopoly, and for all those who want workers’-party representation,” said Howard Winter, director of the Michigan Committee for a Fair Ballot.

The Michigan Committee for a Fair Ballot was recently launched to support the legal fight by the Socialist Workers Party against the state law which bars all but Democrats and Republicans from the general election ballot. It has a good precedent to draw upon.

The precedent is the work of the early 1950s of the Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law. This committee was a group of non-partisan civil libertarians, professors, union officials, and religious leaders in Detroit who joined together in 1952 to defend the ballot rights of the SWP and defeat the rampant witchhunt legislation of that time. It eventually included more than 200 people in Michigan and invited membership from other states. Black leaders and other supporters of civil rights were prominent in the icy-making councils and active in all its work.

In 1952 the Michigan legislature passed an “anti-communist” bill, introduced by an obscure rural Republican state representative, Kenneth Trucks. The fight against the Trucks Law was decided.

On April 23, six days after the Trucks Law was effective, Federal Judge Arthur Lederle issued a temporary injunction restraining Michigan authorities from disfranchising political candidates pending a hearing on the constitutionality of the new state law.

Defending party’s legality

This was only the beginning of the SWP fight to allow a wider Michigan ballot status in the 1952 general election. Such a fight was dictated by the general political situation in those years to outlaw all socialist thought. Our battle for ballot rights was the first step in our struggle for legality, against the hardship and pitfalls of underground activity.

Anticommunism then so strong that it was almost impossible for Dobbs to find an attorney in Detroit willing to represent him as the presidential candidate of our party. The Rosenberg case, however, changed the whole situation. It was a frightening reality. Attorneys were being jailed for contempt of court and the defense of Communist Party members. Many feared that if they understood to defend the SWP, their licenses would automatically rule against them in other trials and they would lose clients as a result.

After an intensive ten-day search, attorney Ben Prose took our case. He was an emotional and deeply active in the United Auto Workers union, and had been subjected to witch-hunt measures, having been born in Canada.

In mid-May Prose filed a suit in Wayne County circuit court to restrain the enforcement of the Michigan law, with the purpose of challenging the constitutionality of the Trucks Law.

On June 4 the Secretary of State wrote the SWP that because of the restraining order, the name of the Socialist Workers Party “will be permitted to be placed on the November ballot as a result of the suit you are hereby officially advised.”

The fight against the Trucks Law and the widespread attacks on civil liberties in Michigan was far from won at that point. And while legal challenges were needed to open the way and to clarify the meaning of the new law, the
ballot rights during 1950s witch-hunt

Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law was being formed to rally public defense of civil liberties.

On August 6 of a three-judge panel of federal judges upheld the Trucks Law in a 2 to 1 decision. But they also voted unanimously to continue the restraining order preventing its application until tested in the U.S. Supreme Court. The Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law, supporting the SWP fight, continued to gain new members.

The August 11 issue of the Militant reported that "a dozen more prominent union officials were added to the committee in Detroit this past week."

Union support

The union movement had been alerted to the Trucks Law danger. The Michigan CIO News, in the May 22 issue, denounced the Trucks Law as "a dangerous totalitarian measure..." The 14th Annual Convention of the Michigan State CIO in June unanimously endorsed a resolution against the Trucks "police-state" Law.

Local CIO union publications hailed the SWP's temporary victory in regaining ballot status. The Sheethead, published by UAW Chevrolet Local 659 in Flint, reminded its readers that the Trucks Law was ostensibly "directed against the Communist Party," but the first victim was the SWP, attorney for the Consumers Union, and Rev. Robert Brodsky of the Greater Korea Baptist Church; and secretary-treasurer Ernest Mazey, executive board member of Briggs Local 212, UAW. Mazey was then a prominent member of the SWP and his political affiliation was known to all other members of the committee. None of them expressed any political agreement with us, but they vigorously defended our ballot rights, because they understood that their rights and the liberty of all other citizens were in jeopardy.

Popular response to appeals of the Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law grew during all of 1953. It gained national attention. Labor's Daily, sponsored by the International Typographical Union and circulated nationally, endorsed the fight in Michigan. Leading figures in education, and in cultural and civic affairs outside Michigan lent their names to the work of the committee.

Committee activities

In May of that year supporters of the Trucks Law in the state legislature tried to amend and strengthen the law. I. Paul Taylor testified against these attempts and strongly urged "that this legislation be repealed and struck from the statute books of the State of Michigan." Such a confrontation discredited the witch-hunters and encouraged defense of civil liberties everywhere.

A hard-hitting circular against the Trucks Law, branding it a "totalitarian measure violating the principles of American freedom," was issued in August by the Citizens Committee.

In October the committee called a rally at the Central Methodist Church in downtown Detroit. More than 300 came. It was the largest meeting in Michigan to defend civil liberties since the start of the witch-hunt and the 1947 announcement of the government's "subversive list" under the Truman administration.

Speakers at the rally included UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey; Lieutenant Milo Radulovich, who had recently been discharged from the Air Force Reserve because it was claimed his father once read the Daily Worker; Radulovich's attorney Charles Lockwood; and other members of the Citizens Committee. The special problems of racial minority in relation to attacks on civil liberties were stressed by Reverend Robert Bradley.

State backs down

Early in 1964 the attorney general of Michigan came to the conclusion that he could not make an effective defense against the law brought by the SWP, and he petitioned the circuit court to dismiss the case. He may have been influenced by a decision of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in January 1954, which reversed the conviction of Steve Nelson, a former organizer of the Communist Party.

Nelson had been framed up in 1950 under the Pennsylvania Sedition Act. He had also been previously convicted by the federal government under the notorious Smith Act. The Pennsylvania court ruled that he had been punished twice for the same alleged offense. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court then decided the Pennsylvania Sedition Act superseded the Pennsylvania Disabled Officers Act. The decision questioned the usefulness and undermined the legal premise of all state witch-hunting laws such as the Trucks Law. The Pennsylvania decision in the Nelson case was an important victory for civil liberties at that time.

Some important admissions on the part of law enforcement officials in Michigan were necessary for them to get the SWP suit dismissed. The attorney general was forced to admit in open court that he did not have "sufficient proof to establish the fact, if it exists, that any of the [SWP] plaintiffs, individually or collectively, are communists, communist front organizations, or members thereof within the meaning of said law."

A second stipulation was that Section 7 of the Trucks Law, depriving "communists" of ballot rights "does not apply to the Socialist Workers Party."

This was a milestone victory.

Farrell Dobbs, chief plaintiff in the case, said the Michigan attorney general, "by admitting that he does not have proof in 1964 to support his 1952 charges of 'subversion' against the SWP, has exposed the frame-up nature of those charges and the U.S. Attorney General's 'subversive' list, on which the charges are based.

Dobbs noted that the only remaining legal action against the Trucks Law was the suit to test its constitutionality filed by the Communist Party in federal court. He pledged full support to that action, and urged all supporters of the SWP case to back the CP lawsuit.

Trucks Law wiped out

The Citizens Committee was jubilant over the outcome. In a statement re­leased Feb. 22, 1954 by Chairman Rev. I. Paul Taylor and Secretary-Treasurer Ernest Mazey, the committee hailed the victory, while also noting that "the law itself remains as a continuing threat to our civil liberties. We are determined to continue our efforts in opposition to the law, confident that it will be declared unconstitutional."

It was another two years before the Trucks Law was finally wiped off the statute books. The U.S. Supreme Court on April 2, 1956 upheld the Pennsyl­ vania court ruling in the Steve Nelson case. This invalidated the Michigan Trucks Law and the similar sedition laws in 41 states, Alaska and Hawaii.

In this way the four-year battle of the Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law was eventually won. The vigorous public defense in Michigan of the basic democratic principle that free expression of political ideas is a right that must be retained and protected under all circumstances helped convince the courts that it was politically expedient in 1956 to curb local excesses of the anticommunist witch-hunt.

The fight against the Trucks Law was conducted in defense of all its victims, the Socialist Workers Party in the first instance, and all others who were victimized. This included the Communist Party, some of its members, and individual auto workers with no political affiliation who were accused of "association" with the SWP or CP.

The example of the Citizens Committee also helped educate and convince many in the labor movement at the time that defense of civil liberties is necessary to the growth and survival of unions. In every respect the historic struggle against the Trucks Law is a model for battle strategy today to regain ballot rights in Michigan.
SWP ballot drive wins campaign supporters

By Nan Bailey

The Socialist Workers Party’s massive signature-gathering effort got its presidential slate of Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann on thirty state ballots moved forward this week. The following are summaries of the drives in progress.

South Dakota

Socialist Workers campaign supporters recently opened a drive to get the SWP presidential ticket on the ballot in South Dakota. Close to 700 of the required 2,600 signatures have been gathered so far.

Petitioners in the South Dakota drive find that many of the people they talk to are from farm families.

Workers, farmers, and Native Americans in South Dakota face the threat of new uranium mines in the Black Hills. As a result, socialist campaigners have found an openness to the SWP candidates’ stand of total opposition to the use of nuclear power.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania socialists have collected 22,400 of the 45,000 signatures required to put Pulley and Zimmermann on the ballot. Campaign supporters are petitioning across the state, including in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Erie, Lancaster, Bethlehem, Edinboro, and State College. A petition team in Harrisburg has collected more than 1,000 signatures so far.

“We’ve had a good response from Pennsylvania workers,” said Jay Johnson, state petitioning coordinator. “During a shift change at the Homestead Works of U.S. Steel in Pittsburgh, for example, more than eighty steelworkers signed our petition.”

On another morning, we collected about thirty signatures of transit workers at a Philadelphia bus terminal.

Johnson also explained that Pennsylvania socialists plan to distribute at least 65,000 campaign leaflets during the petition drive.

Aggressive campaigning has improved the signature collection, Johnson said.

“When people ask me what we stand for, I say we are campaigning for a labor party, and many sign,” said Anna Cushman, Pittsburgh SWP chairperson.

Newton Brown, a full-time petitioner in Philadelphia, commented, “People sign because they want socialism on the ballot—some have even thanked me after signing!”

Indiana

SWP campaign supporters in Indiana have gathered close to 6,000 signatures so far in their drive to go well over the 7,000 state requirement.

Among the employees at the Stewart-Warner Corporation in Indianapolis are Danny Boeker and Liz Sommers, SWP candidates for governor and lieutenant governor. Boeker and Sommers have gathered eighty signatures from co-workers after work, as well as at their United Steelworkers Local 2976 meeting.

So far in the statewide drive, six people who first made contact with the SWP when asked to sign a petition have become campaign supporters, volunteering to help circulate petitions.

Texas

As a result of the Texas Socialist Workers petition drive, more than sixty people have signed up as campaign endorsers in Houston alone.

Texas socialists are going into the final leg of the drive. Thirty-two thousand signatures have been collected so far. This already far exceeds the 24,000 signatures required by the state. Campaign supporters plan to continue the drive for one more week to further surpass that total.

Zimmermann tours New York, New Jersey

By Harold Lander

NEW YORK—Carter’s moves against Cuba and his attacks on American workers are two sides of the same antilabor campaign under way by the U.S. ruling class, the theme of Matilde Zimmermann’s mid-May campaign tour through New Jersey and New York.

“The Cuban revolution and its accomplishments are an inspiration to people all over Latin America,” said the Socialist Workers vice-presidential candidate. “And they should be an inspiration to the workers of the United States as well,” she told campaign rallies in Newark and New York City.

Supporters at these rallies contributed $10,000 to the socialist campaign.

“The truth is that working people in this country have much more in common with Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Iranians who are trying to rebuild their countries than we do with the U.S. government,” Zimmermann said.

“People want government that’s trying to draft us, that is letting the oil companies hold us up at the pump, that is threatening our lives with nuclear power plants.

“Carter is spending money that could provide jobs and a decent life on military weapons to better crush the aspirations of working people in other countries.”

Zimmermann told a group of auto workers from the General Motors assembly plant in Tarrytown, New York, “It’s completely irrational that some auto workers are working nine or ten hours a day while others don’t have jobs. The idle auto plants could be retooled to produce more buses and subway cars to improve mass transit, or introduce an adequate mass transit system in cities where one does not exist.

“The unemployed could be put to work immediately doing hundreds of things that would be of tremendous use to society, such as building schools and hospitals.”

The socialist candidate cited a recent New York Times article that spotlighted the grossly deficient conditions in New York City hospitals caused by cutbacks in federal and city funds.

“The report told of one patient forced to lie in his own excrement for hours because there was no one to clean him up,” Zimmermann said. “This is the product of a system based on boosting corporate profit rather than meeting human needs.”

Zimmermann talked to rail workers at the Sunnyside rail yard in Queens.

“Working people need our own party to fight for jobs and safe working conditions,” she told them. “A labor party would rely on the organized strength of working people and not on the empty promises of Democratic and Republican politicians.”

Zimmermann spoke to a group of thirty-five people at the home of a campaign supporter in New Jersey on “Women and the 1980 Elections.” Included in the group were shipbuilders, auto workers, and several members of the National Organization for Women.

Zimmermann said that the struggle of the young women of Nicaragua—revolutionaries who helped lead the overthrow of Somoza tyranny and who play leading roles in the reconstruction of Nicaraguan society today—is an example that American women’s rights supporters can learn from.

“Said Zimmermann, “We also have plenty of heroines right here in the United States. Women like the housewives at Love Canal, and Mrs. Timm, whose son is a hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.” She explained how Timm stood up to Carter and told the world that the Iranians’ hatred of U.S. foreign policy is justified.

News of the Socialist Workers campaign was reported in the Tarrytown Daily News, Newark Star-Ledger, Passaic Herald-News, Woodbridge News-Tribune, and Bergen County Record.

“The Tarrytown Daily News reported, ‘The explosion of black anger in Miami is ‘100 percent justifiable’ and an indication of the racism in this country, according to Matilde Zimmermann and Reba Dixon, a Tarrytown auto worker who is the Socialist Workers congressional candidate from New York’s Nineteenth District, the paper said, ‘The emphasis in their campaign... is to have voters break away from the two traditional parties to form a labor party which would put workers in control of national politics. Their campaign slogan is ‘Working people keep the country running, working people should run the country.’”
By Duncan Williams

Just two weeks remain before the June 15 deadline for the Socialist Workers campaign fund. Over the last week, the fund has made significant progress—with $40,000 pledged toward the $50,000 goal and $23,509 sent in so far.

Most of the money yet to be raised and collected is earmarked to cover expenses of the massive effort to put presidential and vice-presidential candidates Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann, and U.S. Senatorial candidate George Johnson on the California ballot.

In the biggest single state ballot effort this year by the Young Socialist Alliance and the Socialist Workers Party, California socialists aim to collect well over the 10,000 signatures required for both the presidential and the senate race.

Because the California petition drive begins on June 9, it is urgent that contributions to the campaign fund be sent in now.

Thousands of dollars will be required to bring at least fifty full-time campaign volunteers from around the country to help with the ballot drive. For example, the average cost of sending one volunteer to California will be roughly $200.

These supporters will arrive on the weekend of June 7 and 8 to participate in campaign rallies to kick off the ballot drive, which are scheduled to be held in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, and San Diego (see the box on this page).

Hundreds of campaign supporters will take part in the drive, which runs until July 3, at a cost of tens of thousands of dollars. What will be the return on this huge investment of time and money?

First, and most important, the petition drive will recruit new members to the Young Socialist Alliance. Just since December of last year, the YSA has gained 136 new members nationally, most of whom first became interested in the YSA through the SWP election campaign.

Petitioners will be signing up Young Socialists for Pulley and Zimmermann, and inviting them to rallies, forums, and educational talks to be held during the drive at petitioning headquarters (see list on this page).

In addition, many new supporters who have not yet joined the YSA or SWP will be volunteering to help. In the 1976 socialist ballot drive, for example, 10 to 15 percent of all petitioners were not members of the YSA or SWP. But for many young people interested in a working-class alternative in the elections, it is a small step from circulating nomination petitions to joining the YSA.

Second, the ballot drive will make hundreds of thousands of new people aware of the SWP candidates, its program, and its goals. Two hundred and fifty thousand copies of a campaign leaflet in English and Spanish will be distributed during the petitioning effort.

The drive should attract increased news coverage of the socialist campaign as Pulley, Zimmermann, and Johnson tour the state during the petitioning. One recent example of media interest in the campaign was a large feature-length article in the San Diego edition of the May 6 Los Angeles Times on Kathryn Crowder. Crowder is the SWP candidate for Congress in the 42nd district and a leader of the San Diego Young Socialist Alliance.

Another example came during the recent Miami rebellion against racism and cop terror. Several California radio stations contacted Andrew Pulley in Miami for his firsthand account of the events.

A third achievement of the drive will be getting the SWP on the ballot in the most populous state in the country. California is known nationally as the home state of slick capitalist politicians such as Jerry Brown and Ronald Reagan. But it is also the home of millions of workers in the steel, aerospace, oil, rail, and agricultural industries. With the SWP on the ballot, these workers will have a chance to vote for candidates who defend their interests.

In 1976, supporters of the SWP presidential ticket of Peter Camejo and Willie Mae Reid gathered 150,000 signatures and gained a line on the California ballot for the first time ever.

A favorable court decision won since then means that in 1980, in addition to having the names of the socialist candidates listed, the party's name will also appear on the ballot. The Socialist Workers Party is able to take on a project as ambitious as the California ballot drive because of the support of working people like yourself.

If you aren't able to go to California to participate in the drive, please contribute now as generously as you can.

Hear Socialist Workers candidates Andrew Pulley for president and George Johnson for U.S. Senate from California at the following rallies:

**Bay Area**
Saturday, June 7. Oakland Civic Auditorium, Gold Room. 10th Street (near Lake Merritt Bart). Oakland. Reception 6:30 p.m., Rally 8:00 p.m. $3.00 donation: $1.00 for high school students/unemployed.

**Los Angeles**
Sunday, June 8. 2209 N. Broadway. Champagne lunch 11:30 a.m., Rally 2:00 p.m. $5.00 donation; $2.00 for rally only.

**San Diego**
Sunday, June 8. San Diego State University, Council Chambers, Aztec Center. Reception 5:30 p.m., Rally 7:00 p.m. $3.00 donation.

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**Help petition!**
California petitioning centers;

**East Bay:** 2864 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Tel: (415) 763-3792.

**Los Angeles:** 2211 N. Broadway. Tel: (213) 225-3126.

**San Diego:** 1053 15th St., Tel: (714) 234-4690.

**San Francisco:** 3284 23rd St., Tel: (415) 824-1992.

**San Jose:** 201 N. 9th St., Tel: (408) 998-4007.

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**Socialist Workers $50,000 Campaign Fund**

Enclosed is my contribution of $__

Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
City _____________ State ____________
Zip ____________________ Phone ________

Union/School/Org. ____________________

Make checks payable to: Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.
Auto company propaganda blames workers

By Stu Singer

The crisis of the U.S. automobile industry is severe. It produced 1,711 million fewer cars by mid-May this year than in the same period in 1979. That is a cut of 30 percent.

The cost of production cut is loaded on workers. Over 220,000, one-third of the work force, are on indefinite layoff and tens of thousands go on and off temporary layoff every week.

Consider the fate of people hired at three plants in the New York-Northern New Jersey area in the last year. If you worked at Ford Metuchen or General Motors Tarrytown the week of May 18, 1980, you had to put in between 40 and 45 hours. If you had been hired at GM Linden, you would be on indefinite layoff.

Work one plant overtime, shut down the next one. That business practice makes sense in the world of the auto companies. It makes no sense for auto workers.

At Linden, your bad luck did not stop with being out of work. The government also excluded you from the Trade Readjustment Allowances supplement to unemployment pay.

Indefinite layoffs of Linden workers who make Castrols are declared not to be a result of competition from Mercedes. So, no TIA.

On April 15, Ford announced the permanent closing of the Mahwah, New Jersey, assembly plant.

By Glen Arnodo

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Kennedy at Mahwah, May 5: No help for 'endangered species'.

A rally was organized in the parking lot of the Mahwah plant May 5. Many auto workers thought the rally was to protest the plant closing.

But it was organized with company cooperation on company property. No speaker criticized Ford.

The United Auto Workers officials who spoke, led by veteran organizer Victor Reuther, said nothing except, "Vote for Kennedy" in the New Jersey primary because "Carter took a beating from Herbert Hoover."

A worker spoke, blaming Carter's economic policies for the Mahwah closing. And his solution? He did not mention what he would do, although he implied there should be more restrictions on imports.

The reactions of Mahwah workers to Kennedy varied. Most I talked to preferred Kennedy to Carter, but there was little enthusiasm. One worker said, "It may do some good to vote for him. He says he is for the workers."

Another said, "I'll believe it when I see them all talk when they want to get in."

'ZD' and 'QWL'

At Ford Metuchen and GM Tarrytown the companies use the Mahwah closing in propaganda for their own productivity drives.

At Metuchen, Ford uses a supervisor who used to work at Mahwah to help give talks to groups of fifteen to twenty workers who were relieved from the job. They are told Mahwah was closed because of bad quality work.

Supervisors offer to pitch in to help improve quality, but "there will be no change in line speed." To the company, the change is in management in quality, nothing of working conditions, that would come from slowing the inhuman pace of the line is not acceptable.

Ford gives out "ZD" buttons—"strive for zero defects."

"Don't worry about wearing them," the supervisors say. "The union supports the effort to improve quality. So do we. We want to improve quality." I heard an interesting story about this from an assembly line worker at Metuchen.

Someone down the line from her installs covers that require a fastener to hold them securely. The fasteners were not on the cars.

The worker complained to the foreman. The foreman said to continue without them.

The worker complained to the supervisor, knowing without the fasteners, the covers would fall off after a few weeks. But the cars would be returned under warranty, the defect traced back, and he would probably get blamed.

The supervisor said to keep working, that it would "get corrected down the line." The worker knew this would never happen and wanted a written statement. The company refused. So he composes the poor quality work.

At Tarrytown, GM has propaganda classes called Quality of Work Life (QWL). They take groups of about thirty off the line for three days for these sessions. A Tarrytown worker I spoke to said: "They tell us, 'If you maintain high quality on this car you'll keep your job.' It's a threat."

Tarrytown now makes the GM "x-body" cars like the Chevrolet Citation. They closed down a truck assembly line there in 1975 because of the recession. Now in the QWL class, that shutdown is blamed on poor quality work.

Is Toyota the enemy?

GM links the imports and quality issues. They bring in the "enemy," a Toyota, for the workers to study. "The enemy is perfectly made," GM says.

"So work harder and buy American."

The effect of these propaganda classes is not entirely what the companies intend. For one thing workers are beginning to see an enemy class. And even those who keep quiet are not all buying the ideas that their own work quality or imports are the cause of the economic problems of the auto industry.

These classes and the rest of the barrage of company lies do inspire discussions. And out of these discussions will come calls for action.

The discussions can start on any issue, but auto workers report they more and more extend to every topic from the economic crisis, to the unacceptable Carter-Reagan "choice," to Iran, Cuba, and the Black rebellion in Miami.

Not many auto workers seem to be taken in by the company "zero defects" or "quality of work" campaigns. But the challenge now is to discuss and organize actions to protect jobs and living and working conditions, prevent war and preserve the environment.

The economic crisis and world events make it possible for the Company propaganda drives are not succeeding in ending the discussion or settling any issues.

Proposals for UAW liftback


In a leaflet being distributed at local auto plants, the Socialists raise some proposals for dealing with the economic crisis in the auto industry:

- Full compensation for all times of layoffs and shutdowns for as long as they are out of work.
- A shorter work week with no cut in pay in order to spread around the work. No forced overtime.
- Local 651 is no stranger to the corporations. What are their real profits?
- Use the $150 billion military budget for a massive public works program.

- Nationalize the auto industry, operating for private profit produces layoffs, shutdowns, speed-up, and dangerous working conditions.

To win such demands, the socialists say, auto workers cannot rely on the Democrats and Republicans. The United Auto Workers should take the lead in organizing a labor party. It will take a party based on the unions to fight politically to defend auto workers from the economic crisis of the companies.

The socialists are against the company anti-union drives, which the UAW officials are backing. They believe it breaks down solidarity and strengthens the companies' anti-import drive. The UAW should support the struggles for union recognition, higher wages, better work rules and union representation. The UAW should organize auto workers in Japan, Mexico, Brazil, Spain, and elsewhere.

The socialists say that these proposals be discussed at the 1980 UAW Constitutional Convention.

Cleveland local strikes against takebacks

By Glen Arnodo and Jeff Powers

CLEVELAND—"This company works us like cattle. Well, they sure as hell got one!"

That sentiment, expressed by one member of United Auto Workers Local 451, reflected the feelings of the entire local following our first union meeting since the strike against the Baker Material Handling Corporation began on April 21.

The 300 members of our local listened intently as our international representative described the efforts of the company to destroy our seniority system and our right to hold job classification. We're UAW members," said, "and we walk with our hands held high. You are entitled to justice and dignity on the job." This brought a round of thunderous applause from the membership.

Next he addressed himself to a recent letter that the company had sent to each employee. The letter claimed that many employees had contacted the company about the status of negotiations.

"Who here has contacted the company?" he asked. Not one hand was raised.

A brother got up and made a motion that we file a grievance with the company about the contents of the letter. The motion was seconded as the motion passed unanimously.

The Baker lift truck plant is owned by the Linde Corporation of West Germany, the largest lift truck manufacturer in Europe. According to 1977 figures, Linde ranks 255 in corporations outside the United States. In 1977, sales exceeded one billion dollars with after tax profits of 40 million dollars. This represented a 23 percent return on stockholders investment.

Yet Linde management refuses to take on the company's anti-union drive. They raise some proposals for dealing with the economic crisis in the auto industry: Full compensation for all times of layoffs and shutdowns for as long as they are out of work.

A shorter work week with no cut in pay in order to spread around the work. No forced overtime.

Local 651 is no stranger to the corporations. What are their real profits?

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Behind charges of Soviet chemical warfare

By David Frankel

Within days of the Soviet army’s entry into Afghanistan last December, the U.S. government, already issuing reports that the Soviets were using poison gas, “Afghan Rebels Say the Russians Have Already Used Gas in Some Attacks,” said the December 29, 1979, New York Times. It later turned out that the pitched battles reported in the capital press in the capital were much more frequent than they ever took place. It seems a safe bet that if the battles didn’t occur, neither did the claims.

British television cameraperson Nick Donniew, who left Afghanistan in December after four months with the rebels in Kunar Province, pointed out in the April 4 New Statesman that he had seen no chemical weapons used. In a number of cases in which rightist forces claimed that gas had been used, Donniew was there and said it wasn’t true.

Furthermore, Donniew noted that the charges of gas use were credible on the face of it. He told the New Statesman: “When I was there . . . Russian pilots were flying over, obviously being used to the area. There were certainly no concerted policy to kill civilians, and I don’t think exactly what you would achieve with nerve gas . . . The first gas cases are thinly spread out over large areas—one group in the middle and the other miles away—that gas would be ineffective. Nevertheless, there has been no let-up in the claims for chemical warfare in the four months since the Soviet intervention. The only thing lacking is a shred of proof.

How lies became “facts”

An indication of the painstaking documentation behind these charges was a Wall Street Journal editorial, which declared: “Government officials privately confirm that Soviet chemists have used nerve gas known as Soman against Afghan civilians.” Exactly who were these unnamed “government officials”?

What was the basis for their information? What about the news report in The Journal that same day admitting that “U.S. analysts conceded that some of the rebel reports . . . aren’t believable”? Included in this unbelievable category were reports “asserting that Soviet forces are using chemical weapons.”

In fact, the claim that the Soviets were using Soman—a nerve gas developed by the Nazis during World War II—was reported byUPI on January 25. Anonymous U.S. intelligence sources in Washington and New York, themselves quoting Afghan refugees, said that Soman had been used against rightist positions near Fai- zabad and Jalalabad.

Although Afghan refugees fear that the Afghan refugees able to identify the nerve gas Soman? Sussex University Professor Perry Robinson told the New Statesman, “Even a trained chemist would have needed a well-equipped laboratory and a sample of the agent concerned to reach that conclusion.”

Undeterred by such minor points of fact, the Carter administration has decided to raise the ante in its propaganda war. Washington Post correspondent Michael Gotler explained, “The administration has decided to raise the ante in its propaganda war. Washington Post correspondent Michael Gotler explained, ‘The administration has decided to raise the ante in its propaganda war.

A team of U.S. chemical warfare experts will tour overseas capitals next month to gather support for creation of an international commission to investigate charges that the Soviet Union or its allies are using poison gas in Laos, Cambodia and Afghanistan.”

Testifying before members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee April 24, administration spokesmen Thomas Davies noted that “many countries, including some friendly to the Soviet Union, are using chemical warfare in Afghanistan and elsewhere are strengthening arguments that the United States should develop its own neg- lected chemical warfare capability as a deterrent.”

U.S. and chemical war

Carter’s concern about the Pentagon’s neglected chemical warfare capability is misplaced. According to jour- nalist Alexander Cockburn, “The stockpile in this country stands now at about three million artillery shells containing such noxious vapors as VX (or Sarin), originally developed by the German before World War Two, several thousand GB aerial bombs, and hundreds of thousands of two-gallon VX (or sarin) VX is another nerve gas.” (New York Village Voice, April 21)

This catalogue, of course, represents only what is publicly known.

Following an incident in 1968 in which a whiff of VX gas did away with some 7,000 sheep downwind of the army’s testing ground in Dugway, Utah, the chemical warfare department felt on hard times. Appropriations in the military budget were hidden under other headings, and the hardworking researchers weren’t given the respect and admiration they felt they deserved.

Apparently Carter hopes that this lack of enthusiasm for chemical warfare projects can be reversed by the old ploy of pointing to the supposed threat from Moscow. Thus, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown recently sent a letter to Congress urging stepped-up chemical warfare programs as a “de- terrent” against the Soviets.

Meanwhile, although the propaganda of the neutron bomb has been in regard to Afghanistan, in March the State Department raised a hue and cry over an outbreak of anthrax in the Soviet Union, claiming that this was due to Soviet germ war- fare research.

Professor Meeslon, in his testimony before the House committee April 30, cast doubt on the Pentagon’s claim that anthrax is a major health problem in the Soviet Union, and that about one million Soviet citizens are inoculated against it each year.

But even if Moscow is working on anthrax bacteria, there’s no cause for alarm. The Pentagon is on top of things, developing new ways to defend the American people. For example, the U.S. Army has come up with a botu- lion—cure, for which there is no known cure. One ounce could kill 60 million people. What could make you feel safer than that?

From Intercontinental Press/Inprintor

U.S. moves to beef up arsenal

By Jim Callahan

PORTLAND, Ore.—Oregon opponents of the draft have demonstrated their determination in a series of actions recently. The largest occurred on May 3 when 500 gathered on the State Capitol steps in protest Carter’s invasion of Iran, as well as his draft registration proposal.

At the same meeting on April 28, the Oregon Coalition Against the Draft had its first meeting in opposition to Carter’s war moves in 1979 as a serious threat to world peace.

The coalition is made up of more than twenty groups, including local chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union, American Civilian Disarmament Movement, National Organization for Women, Socialist Workers Party, and Religious Coalition of Oregon. A statement from the coalition was released at a well-attended news confer- ence May 1.

On May 6, forty people picketed a Portland news conference held by Senator Mark Hatfield, director of U.S. Selective Service System.

The protesters, many of them high school students, had taken the day off from school, chanted, “One, two, three, four, we don’t fight in Expo’s war.” And, “Hell no! I’m not a martyr. I won’t die for Jimmy Carter!”

The Portland High School Students Against the Draft, with about forty- five active members, is planning a high school rally on May 31 at Water- front Park.

With only four hours notice, more than 200 students turned out May 7 to picket a reception for President Carter’s son, Chip Carter, at the Carter-Mundale campaign head- quarters in Columbia, Maryland. Among the demonstrators were fifteen high school students and a busload of students from a nearby community college.

At one point, Chip Carter walked through the crowd shaking hands and waving. His father was not in favor of a peace-time draft.

The demonstrators had seen too many Carter war moves to be taken in by this and responded by holding up posters and chanting, “Bill Kastler—peanuts for the pease.”

Then on May 13, a lunch-time picket at the same site was held, joined by fifty people.

Above, Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic addressed May 6 rally at UCLA. Right, May 3 rally in Salem, Oregon, protest Carter’s invasion of Iran and draft proposal.

Oregon draft opponents hold series of protests

By Jim Callahan

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Above, Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic addressed May 6 rally at UCLA. Right, May 3 rally in Salem, Oregon, protest Carter’s invasion of Iran and draft proposal.

LOS ANGELES—Veteran Ron Kovic, confined to a wheelchair from injuries suffered in Vietnam, spoke here Tuesday, May 6, to about 500 students at the University of Califor- nia at Los Angeles (UCLA).

The action commemorated the tenth anniversary of the killings of four antiwar Kent State students in Ohio and two Jackson State students in Mississippi.

Kovic had just arrived from Kent, where he spoke at a memorial rally. “We should no longer mourn the four who died at Kent State,” he said, to prolonged applause, “but we must fight and organize so that what hap- pened to us and countless others will never, ever, even, happen again!”

The rally was cosponsored by the Campus Coalition for Peace and the Concerned Asian Pacific Students for Action.
June 7 antinuclear march set for Chicago

By Manuel Barrera

Opponents of nuclear power from throughout the Midwest are scheduled to demonstrate here June 7.

Chicago is the home of Commonwealth Edison, the nation's largest nuclear utility, with six operating nuclear power plants. It is the only utility to have ordered a new nuclear plant during the past three years. About 45 percent of Chicago's electricity is generated from nuclear plants.

The event, named the "Rally for a Nuclear-Free Midwest," was called by the Chicago-based Citizens Against Nuclear Power. The June 7 Coalition is made up of more than twenty-five organizations. They include antinuclear and environmental groups in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, South Dakota, and Nebraska.

Also endorsing are Local 1010 of the United Steelworkers in East Chicago, Ind.; the American Friends Service Conference, which oversees the Registration and the Draft; Socialist Workers Party; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Peace Action; Green Panthers; Women of All Red Nations in Minneapolis; and others.

Speakers at the rally are scheduled to be Rev. Jesse Jackson of Operation PUSH; Gerald Hawkins of the United Mine Workers; Mary Jo Wurtschick, chair of the health and safety committee of USWA Local 66; Russell Means of the American Indian Movement; and Dr. Michele Rako, one of the first nuclear physicists to inspect the Three Mile Island plant after the accident began there last year.

Leaflets on the demonstration have been distributed to recent national mobilizations, including the March 22 saildrift, April 26 antinuclear, and May 17 jobs actions in Washington, D.C., and the May 10 march for the Equal Rights Amendment in Chicago.

The June 7 demonstration will begin at noon in Grant Park at the Old Bandshell Area and will be followed by a march to Commonwealth Edison's building at Dearborn and Monroe.

For more information contact the June 7 Coalition at 407 South Dearborn, room 370, Chicago, Illinois 60604. (312) 622-2499, 796-9041, 427-2529, or 764-9011.

Cops attack Seabrook occupation

Some 1,300 protesters tried to occupy and blockade the nuclear construction site in Seabrook, New Hampshire, over the Memorial Day weekend. "The demonstrators were attacked by police, state troopers, and national guardsmen," reports Militant correspondent Gary Cohen. "They used clubs, pepper gas, mace, water hoses, and dogs. Numerous protesters were hospitalized with concussions, bruises, and broken bones. More than forty people were arrested."

The action, sponsored by the Coalition for Direct Action, was similar to the attempted occupation last October.

Nearly 500 protesters also marched on Saturday, May 24, to the main gate at Seabrook where picket lines were set up.

In Manchester, New Hampshire, twenty-seven people were arrested when they sat in at the offices of Public Service Corporation, main owner of the Seabrook plant.

3,000 demonstrate in Oregon

Nearly 3,000 people joined the May 17 Rally for a Non-Nuclear Future in Portland, Oregon, Speakers at the rally, which was called by the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance, included Bob Baugh of the International Woodworkers; radiation physicist Dr. Ernest Stenglass; and Russ Redner of the American Indian Movement.

Rally organizers urged a massive petition effort in Oregon to demand voter approval of nuclear plant licensing, a ban on future nuclear plant construction, and closing of the state's one existing nuclear plant.

Corroded door stalls TMI entry

Two engineers failed in their May 21 attempt to enter the Unit 2 containment building of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant. They were to have inspected the damaged reactor for fifteen minutes, but the entire operation fell flat when they couldn't get the corroded door open. An official of Metcalf & Eddy, owner of the plant near Harrisburg, said corrosion may also have damaged the ventilation system, which could lead to "uncontrolled releases" of radioactive krypton gas.

Born-again Silent Majority

It's no wonder that when a group of central Pennsylvania visitors visited Washington recently, Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner Joseph Hendrie welcomed them "with open arms," according to the Harrisburg Patriot. The group of twenty-five (count them, twenty-five) said they had come in support of the NRC and claimed to represent the "silent majority" of residents near Three Mile Island. They apologized for the "raucous conduct" of their neighbors who have publicly confronted the NRC, demanding an end to the lies and secrecy about the year-long nuclear accident.

"I'm sorry to add to my thanks that you may have to stand up again and again on down the line," sighed Commissioner Hendrie.

Compiled by Nancy Cole
Women in Revolt

Phyllis Schlafly, Mothers Day is ours

The May 10 march for the Equal Rights Amendment took Mothers Day back from Stop ERA zealots Phyllis Schlafly and put it in the camp where it really belongs.

Mothers Day was a theme of the march. Eleanor Sulllivan, president of the National Organization for Women, which called the action, urged ERA supporters to "make this a Mothers Day that no one will ever forget.

And it won't be forgotten, for it showed the power that the women's movement, along with its allies in the unions and Black community, can unleash in the fight for equality.

Addie Wyant, vice-president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, also stressed this theme. "On May 10 we will march in demonstration of our equality," she said at the Illinois Labor Conference for the ERA in Chicago on April 26, "not only for equality, but for justice for men as well as women."

Some marchers interviewed by the Militant also mentioned Mothers Day, and it was probably on the minds of many, echoed as it was by the rally speakers.

"I came in memory of my mother," said a Pennsylvania NOW member, a physical therapist and nurse. Her mother had raised three children alone and died at fifty-three.

"Women must be fighters," she said when asked about how women will win our rights. That's why she was marching.

How many of us have come to the same conclusion, not only because of our own frustrations, but because of the problems our mothers had? I thought about some of the mothers and men I know.

The mother who gave up a job when she married and spent her life raising children, doing the housework, giving emotional support, and desper-

ately trying to stretch out one paycheck.

How frightening when her husband lost his job, and car payments and a house mortgage had to be met.

One mother from a working-class family in New York's Lower East Side went back to school after raising four children. She graduated at thirty-six, and now, at the age of seventy-one, teaches English.

Many older women who never worked are practically starving, living off the meager funds of their husband's social security.

One mother raised six children alone as a migrant farm worker, living in abandoned houses or the sheds that are provided by the owners of the fields they harvest. This mother, unable to speak English, came from Mexico hoping for a better life here, but was a victim of racism and poverty.

Then there is the Black woman who left her family every night to join other Blacks, Latinas, and East European women who scrub the floors in the office buildings in Chicago because her husband's wages are too low.

There is the mother who worked as a secretary for twenty-five years. She's still doing the same job at about the same pay.

There was no women's movement for these women to identify with. Nothing to explain their misery, their anger, their poverty, their feelings of inferiority and injustice. There was no movement they could join to fight for the things they and their families needed.

Things have changed since our mothers were young. The number of married women in the work force is over five times as large in 1940. Of all women working, 53 percent are mothers and 24.6 percent are divorced, widowed, or separated.

But the problems have not been solved. That's why women are working for equal pay, equal opportunities, child care, abortion rights, affirmative action, pregnancy benefits, the right to join a union.

These are the rights our mothers never had. We are fighting for those today, so that our mothers, our daughters, and the mothers of the future will have a better life.

That's why thousands were marching May 10, mothers, daughters, fathers, sons, and husbands, all those who will benefit from equal rights and justice for women.

Phyllis Schlafly, Mothers Day doesn't belong to you.

As a young department store cashier told the Militant, "This is my Mother's Day present to my mother."

And she couldn't have gotten a better present.
Our Revolutionary Heritage

‘Now is time for labor party’

During the summer of 1940, with President Franklin Roosevelt preparing to lead the United States into World War II, the North American Organizing Committee (NAOC) launched a propaganda campaign in support of an independent labor party. The NAOC, founded in 1934, was a local affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and its organizers are voice for Teamsters Local 544 led the historic Teamsters strikes of 1934 in the United States.

The organizing campaign among working people in the United States into World War II, the capitalist parties, the July 18, 1940, battle of the two evenly divided groups of organized labor (AFL and CIO) that cannot work together.

Major excerpts from the North American Organizing Committee’s editorial response are printed below.

The series of four books on the organized labor movement by participant, Farrel Dobbs is available from Pathfinder Press, 410 West Street, New York, New York, 10014 (Teamster Rebellion $4.45, Teamster Power $4.95, Teamster Politics $4.95, Teamster Bureaucracy $4.95).

We believe that...now is the time to make the start. We believe that there will never be an “ideal” time to launch a labor party, and that the sooner labor realizes this, the sooner labor will buckle down to the task that must be accomplished—organizing a national movement to survive and prosper in America.

The industrial movement is to survive, and prosper in America.

Probably one of the most deeply-rooted illusions among workers is the illusion that they will be “left out in the cold” by the Republican and Democratic parties if they organize a labor party. If they do, they will win the national elections the first year in the 1940s, and again in 1944.

Actually, just as long as labor does not have its own party, just as long as it is in the poor relation at the tables of the Republic and Democratic parties, just so long will the old parties continue to kick labor around and treat its demands with contempt.

The truth of the matter is that a national labor party, based upon and controlled by the unions, a labor party that could at the start poll even five million votes in a national election, would win organized labor more respect and more concrete gains than fifty years of the “non-partisan” policy.

Our Organizer’s proposal—“as a starter”—the nomination of Daniel Webster, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, for president of the United States.

The editorial concluded with a call for readers to write in their ideas on the labor party proposal. The August 1 issue printed a first round of letters which judged the time “not yet ripe for such a move owing to the two evenly divided groups of organized labor (AFL and CIO) that cannot work together.”

Lies workers’ news

I have been reviewing your publishing volumes of the Militant, issues of April and May. I have become very, very interested in being placed on your free-to-prisoners’ subscription list so that I may continue to stay abreast of the hard-fought battles for equal rights the working people are rightly waging.

I shall be incarcerated herein for forty-two weeks and I am without funds. We don’t get paid for work here. They only allow us the privileges of additional phone calls or visits if we do choose to work.

A prisoner

Rail workers polled

The Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks recently conducted a political issues poll. The answers to the energy section, particularly support to nationalize the oil industry and rejection of nuclear power, I found smile-producing.

The majority of the respondents rejected labor as cause or victim of the economic crisis.

A respondent said that the workers were “dwindling oil reserves.” 54 percent said the time has come to replace our natural oil sources with nuclear power. Fifty-one percent favored nationalizing the energy industry to control energy costs.

On inflation, 88 percent thought it was not necessary to lower the country’s standard of living to reduce inflation. Fifty-seven percent disagreed with the notion that wages cause inflation. When asked if they thought workers should “settle for less” as an anti-inflation measure, fifty-four percent said no.

I noted the age of the respondents: sixty-four percent were fifty years or older.

Sara Smith
Salt Lake City, Utah

Thanks for the truth

Just a small note to let you know that your work is well appreciated and that your struggles are just. I thank you for providing me with truthful information about world politics. You’re doing a wonderful job.

Jeff Martin
Joensuie, Georgia

Convinced on Iran too

At a campaign table at the University of California at Berkeley, the Young Socialist Alliance met three young men from Reno, Nevada, who were staunchly opposed to the draft. They bought anti-draft buttons and signed up as Young Socialists for Pulley and Zimmermann. They agreed with everything we said.

After we had been agreeing for some time, one of the young men bragged to us that he had been there who organized the anti-Iran riot in Reno last year. Taken aback for a moment, we explained that the logic of Carter’s anti-Iran campaign was to make in the class struggle.

Candace Wagner
Berkeley, California

Food stamp crisis

Far from the AFL-CIO schism being an isolated event, some even betray the great cause of the working people?

It is time for the labor movement to launch a new party, based upon and powered by the working people’s movement.

Edward O’Neill
Atlanta, Georgia

Ballot rights fight

It was good to read of the food stamp crisis. Some reports estimate one out of ten people in this country, or about 21 million people, use food stamps. Coverage of this could help to educate on how and why millions of people in this country live in abject poverty.

While the threat of no food stamps is real, sluggos and cutbacks in eligibility and the amount of stamps are still being threatened. Enough money has been appropriated to cover the fiscal year.

Sandy O’Neill
Atlanta, Georgia
Learning About Socialism
Free trade versus. protectionism.

Should workers demand import restrictions to "save jobs" and "prevent the U.S. economy from sinking," and hundreds of thousands of workers are laid off, the call for protectionist measures is getting a lot of publicity. There is no denying that boosting the local economy is a worthy goal, union officials, especially in the steel, auto, textile, and electrical industries. But the slogan does not originate with them. This year's campaign, that free trade critics invoke, is the capitalist owners of corporations that face increasingly stiff competition on the world market.

The protectionist argument is that: "those to whom this workers depend on our employers for jobs and wages, therefore, we should support and strengthen our industries against foreign competition."

This discussion over trade policy has been going on for so long as there have been capitalists and workers.

In 1846, when the U.S. government delivered a special public statement to the British government, demanding the lifting of the Corn Laws, the United States gave free trade a new lease of life. It was widely distributed as a pamphlet in French, German, English (now available in Marx¬Engels Collected Works, V, page 8). To what extent were the arguments from those days, of course, but Marx's ideas still offer a useful perspective.

The rapid industrializing capitalist countries of nineteenth century Great Britain were shown free traders. They had fought for years to abolish the Corn Laws—protective tariffs on grain imports. The Corn Laws kept food prices high and protected the income of the landowners in Britain. (At that time capitalists and big landowners were still separate social classes with conflicting economic interests.)

The capitalists needed the support of the powerful British workers of movement of that, the Charities, in the anti—Corn laws fight. So they promised that free trade would answer to the workers' problems. They promised that abolition of the tariffs would mean "cheap food and high wages", they said, so far for free trade. "Jesus Christ is Free Trade, and Free Trade is Jesus Christ.

Marx pointed to the propaganda blitz mounted by the capitalists: "They send an army of missionaries to all corners of England to preach the gospel of Free Trade; they print and distribute gratis thousands of pamphlets to enlighten the workingman upon his own interests. They spend enormous sums to buy over the press to their side." But then, Marx concluded, workers however, were no less eager, than any other class, as their "worst enemies and the most shameless hypocrites," Marx said. They knew these capitalists were "the very people who will busily fighting against the workingman, which was to reduce the working day of the mill hands from twenty hours to ten." They were the same manufacturers who mercifully drove wages down every chance they got. As one British worker wrote in the free trade meeting: "If the landlords were to sell our bones, you manufacturers would be the first to buy them, and put through the mill that would be ruin for the workers who would lose an income."

The real intent of the capitalists in opposing the Corn Laws, Marx and the Charities pointed out, was to lower wages, not just cut into workers when one effect would be to shift income from the agricultural landowners to the capitalists.

"They didn't mean the Corn Laws should be supported. To the contrary, Marx agreed with the stand of the British workers for abolition of the protectionist tariffs—"for the purpose of destroying the last remnants of feudalism, that henceforth they may have only one enemy [the capitalists] to contend with."

What Marx directed his fire against was any notion that the way for the workers to advance was to help the profit demands of the capitalists. "The whole line of [the capitalists'] argument amounts to this: Free Trade increases productive forces. When manufacturers, therefore, when the workers, when a shoe factory, the demand for labor, the price of labor, and consequently the rate of profit increases." Marx's reply was: "The most favorable condition for the workingman is the growth of capital. This must be admitted: when capital remains stationary, commerce and manufactures stagnate and decline, and in this case the worker is the first victim. He goes to the wall before the capitalist. And in the case of the growth of capital, under the circumstances, which, as we have said, are the best for the workingman, what will be his lot? He will go to the wall just the same."

"The reasoning, Marx explained, is that the growth of capital means concentration of capital, speedup, replacement of workers by machines, breakdown of skilled jobs into unskilled. Competition among the workers "beats them" as the division of labor enables a single man to do the work of three. Machinery accomplishes the same result on a much larger scale."

The outcome is unemployment and lower wages.

Marc cited the example that in Manchester in 1829 there were 1,088 cotton spinners employed in thirty-six factories. "In 1841 there were but 448, and they tended 50,333 more spindles in 1,899 spindles in 1829."

"Bitter ironies of the capitalist system! The built-in dynamic of capitalism hasn't changed. In the transportation equipment industry in the United States—airplanes, locomotives—thousands of workers have been laid off, the manufac- turers increased 93 percent from 1903 to 1977. But jobs declined 16 percent. That meant 244,000 fewer jobs. They were wiped out not imports but by the productivity drive of the capitalists.

Today the U.S. auto and steel industries blame their problems on imports. But they have no intention of returning from world markets. They plan to become stronger competitors. How would using older plants, by drastically increasing productivity, by cracking down on the work force, by eliminating safety and pollution regulations, and by paying workers less. The inevitable result of these companies pose the real threat to American workers' jobs. What Marx underlined in 1848 is just as true today: Whether at any moment the capitalists favor free trade or protectionism, they are always looking out for their profit interests.

The workers' fight for jobs, just like the fight for higher wages, just like the fight against the capitalists. A shorter workweek, no reduction in pay, for example, could make higher productivity benefit workers instead of wiping out the gains made by the work force. Workers can safeguard jobs and wages by organizing independently and fighting for their own needs—as the British workers did in the Corn Laws campaign. Demonstration in cooperation with the economic smokes of the capitalists only weakens that fight.

—Andy Rose

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THE MILITANT/JUNE 6, 1980

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Chemical nightmare at Love Canal
Residents demand govt’ action to save their lives

By Suzanne Haig
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.—Children are born with birth defects, their growth stunted. Signs warning motorists to watch out for deaf children dot the street corners. They and their parents suffer from nervous disorders, kidney and liver failure, leukemia, and cancer.

People have died at Love Canal. This is the legacy of the Hooker Chemical and Plastics Company. In 1953, the company, now a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum, sold the canal property—into which it and the U.S. Army had dumped 21,800 tons of toxic waste—to the school board for one dollar.

The deed included a clause disclaiming liability for injuries or deaths that might occur at the site.

Modest homes and a school were then built on the land. From 1971 to the present, some eighty-two identified industrial chemicals, including dioxin and other toxic and radioactive materials, have bubbled to the surface, seeped into underground streams, contaminating the drainage ditches, and flowed into lakes, including dioxin and other toxic chemicals known to science.

Many people here cite government and industry complicity.

Tourist trade would suffer if we got
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Socialist: ‘Industry greed caused disaster’

By Suzanne Haig
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.—Pat Mayberry, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the Twenty-eighth District in Albany, New York, made a fact-finding trip to Love Canal over Memorial Day weekend.

Mayberry, a railroad worker and member of the Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks, told residents that “Albany has its own Love Canal.”

She explained that the NL company (formerly National Lead) has been discharging uranium into the atmosphere during the past year causing a serious epidemic of cancer in the area of Albany adjacent to the plant.

While talking with Tony Johnson, who lives at the LaSalle Housing Project, the dangers at Love Canal quickly sparked a broader discussion on the question of justice in capitalist America.

“The Love Canal is a direct consequence of industry putting profit before human lives and we can expect more of these tragedies to happen,” Mayberry said.

“All of government have dragged their feet—when they should have provided immediate reparations and evacuation years ago—because they are in league with the big corporations, not the working people who produce the wealth,” she went on.

“Look what happened in Miami. It took a massive Black rebellion just for the federal government to investigate the murder by white cops of Arthur McDuffie.

“Love Canal and the slaying of Arthur McDuffie, that’s American justice.”

Johnson interjected that job safety is also a critical issue. “They could have safe jobs and a safe place to live,” he said. “But in this country people are starving—with no jobs. There is so much poverty. Something must be done.”

Mayberry said that working people have the power to change things when we organize to use it. “Look at the situation here. The only time you’ve gotten any action from the government is when you’ve organized visible protests.”

The government has the money to clean up Love Canal but prefers to spend it on military hardware, she added.

Johnson agreed. “The people with money and power,” he said, “are playing with us and with the people around the world like we were puppets on a string with them looking down on us.

“They’re looking down at the mess they have made and gotten us into. And now they want to make us.”

In her discussion with residents, Mayberry pledged that through her campaign she would help get out the truth about Love Canal and urge the following measures:

• Immediate evacuation, total compensation, and full medical coverage for life for the Love Canal residents and their descendants.

• Indict and prosecute owners of the Hooker Chemical Company and all those involved in this crime against the people of Love Canal.

• Open the records of all chemical and waste disposal companies to public inspection.

• Nationalize the chemical industry to take its decision-making—without a hand of private profiteers.

Medical and environmental tests and clean-up operations should be supervised by and controlled by the residents of Love Canal, Mayberry says.

Mayberry believes the disaster at Love Canal shows that working people cannot rely on a government run by Democratic and Republican politicians, whose interests lie with those of the big corporations like Hooker Chemical.

“What we need is a party of working people, a labor party, which would put our health, safety, and well-being first.”