

## Reagan's budget cuts threaten family farmers

BY MOHAMMED OLIVER

The Reagan administration, supported by the Democrats, has launched a frontal assault on working farmers. Reagan's proposed budget includes plans to eliminate virtually all federal price-support and subsidy programs for small farmers.

The elimination of these already meager programs would further shift the economic burden of food production onto the backs of small working farmers. They would be forced to shoulder soaring debts and chronically low prices for their crops with no government aid.

Farmers already face increasing foreclosures on equipment and land, and a deep economic depression. Coupled with Reagan's proposed cuts, the picture is bleak enough that one bankrupt Minnesota farmer said, "they'll find a few farmers in the barn rafters before this is over." Suicide among farm communities is 30 to 40 percent above the nonfarm rate, and it's rising.

But despair isn't the only response welling up among family farmers. Farmers groups have announced plans for protests against the proposed cuts. A major rally has been projected by the National Farm Organization for February 27 in Ames, Iowa. And the American Agriculture Movement has called for a national march on Washington on March 4, to be followed by four days of lobbying.

Reagan and the media have coupled the call for devastating cuts with a fierce ideological campaign against family farmers. This campaign seeks to shift the blame

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Farmers' protest rally in Washington, D.C., in 1979. Farmers' groups plan another national demonstration in capital for March 4 to protest government attacks.

## Farm Workers head backs antiwar march

BY ANÍBAL YAÑEZ

SAN FRANCISCO — César Chávez, president of the United Farm Workers Union, joined Dave Meggyesy, president of the National Football League Players Association, and a broad array of other labor, church, and community leaders at a press conference in City Hall here on February 5. They announced their support for the Spring Mobilization for Peace, Jobs, and Justice.

More than 350 groups in the Bay Area are building the march and rally on April 20 around the themes of: opposition to U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean, end U.S. support for South African apartheid, freeze and reverse the nuclear arms race, and jobs and justice.

"I am extremely concerned about intervention in Central America," Chávez said, "about the fight for jobs, about apartheid in South Africa." Chávez added that as he

travelled around California for the farm workers he saw the need for a renewal of the social activism of the 1960s and the Spring Mobilization could be "a springboard for that resurrection."

Meggyesy echoed Chávez, noting that "people joining together and pulling together have changed history and changed this country" and that it can happen again.

Charlene Tschirhart, director of the San Francisco Nuclear Freeze and cochair of the Spring Mobilization coalition here, opened the City Hall press conference. She was joined by the other three cochairs of

the coalition: Berkeley Mayor Eugene "Gus" Newport; Sister Judy Cannon of the General Council of the Sisters of Mercy in Burlingame, California; and Al Lannon, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) Local 6.

The breadth of the press conference was indicated by the additional statements of support from the Rev. Cecil Williams of Glade Memorial Church; Charles Lamb, vice-president of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and president of the

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## Behind New Zealand-U.S. nuclear arms 'rift'

BY NEIL JARDEN

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — A naval training exercise between the ANZUS powers — Australia, New Zealand, and the United States — has been canceled following the withdrawal of the United States. The exercise, Sea Eagle '85, had been scheduled to take place off the southeast coast of Australia in March.

The Pentagon has also announced that it will conduct its next Pacific region tests of the MX missile without using bases in Australia. The move followed the announcement by Australia's Labor Party premier Robert Hawke that antinuclear sentiment in the party would force him to reverse prior agreement to allow use of the bases.

The U.S. government's withdrawal from the ANZUS naval training exercise followed the refusal of the Labor government in New Zealand to allow a port visit by a U.S. warship, the *USS Buchanan*. The Labor government, which is based on New Zealand's unions and was elected last July, has said it will no longer allow nuclear-armed vessels to visit New Zealand ports.

The government's stand has wide popular support among working people in New Zealand. There has been an ever deepening opposition to visits by U.S. nuclear-armed warships since they were renewed in the mid-1970s under the previous National Party government of Robert Muldoon. The National Party is New Zealand's main capitalist party.

Opposition to the entry of nuclear-armed vessels has been expressed in protests by waterfront unions and other workers against such visits, and by street demonstrations involving tens of thousands of people. The main union federation, many individual unions, and successive Labor Party conferences have adopted policies opposing the visits and calling for New Zealand's withdrawal from the ANZUS alliance.

In addition, throughout the Pacific the past decade has seen a growing movement among the indigenous people of the region for the Pacific to be nuclear-free. It is in this region that are found most of the world's victims of nuclear weapons —

## Massive revolt in Dominican Republic

BY MARCEL BLACK

Tens of thousands of Dominican workers joined in a one-day general strike on February 11 to protest new austerity measures imposed by the U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The general strike capped two weeks of protests following the January 23 announcement by Pres. Salvador Jorge Blanco that the price of gasoline would be hiked 34 percent.

The new measures came on top of last April's hikes of up to 100 percent in the price of food, cooking oil, and other essential items. Last year's price increases sparked a massive rebellion in which government troops killed at least 60 people, wounded some 200, and arrested more than 4,000.

The Dominican government owes \$2.7 billion to imperialist banks. This year it must pay \$1.4 billion to be current.

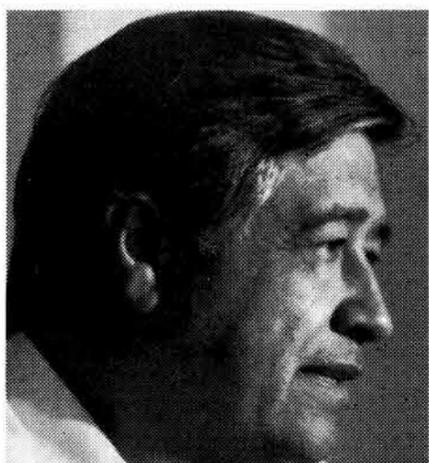
Jorge Blanco's regime adopted the austerity measures as part of an agreement with the IMF. The imperialist banking concern refused to loan the Dominican government any more money unless it imposed price hikes and other austerity measures.

The new U.S.-imposed price rises ignited widespread revolt. Unions, left-wing political organizations, community groups, and others joined in calling on the Dominican Republic's poor and working people to strike against the government's austerity decree. Businesses in Santo Domingo's working-class neighborhoods — such as Los Minas, Vietnam, and Katanga — were closed and workers stayed home from their jobs. Strikes swept the barrios of other cities as well, including San Francisco de Macoris, Mao, Tamboril, Barahona, and Santiago. Government food dispensaries were sacked in several locations.

The popular organizations that called the strikes saw the escalating actions as leading toward a general strike. The protests demand a break with the IMF, a cancellation of the Dominican Republic's debt repayment, and the lowering of prices.

The government immediately cracked down on the popular resistance. The capital became a militarized zone as infantry troops and cops occupied Santo Domingo.

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Militant/Larry Lukehart  
César Chávez, head of United Farm Workers, urged big turnout for April 20 march.

from those who had atomic bombs dropped on them at Hiroshima and Nagasaki; to the people of the various Pacific islands and the aboriginal people of Australia, who have suffered the effects of U.S., French, and British nuclear weapons testing.

The stand taken by the New Zealand Labor government reflects the pressure of this sentiment. For example, in 1983, when Labor was in opposition, party leader David Lange, now New Zealand's prime minister, attempted to have Labor's anti-nuclear policy overturned. This move was forcibly blocked by opposition from the party's ranks and by the unions.

Since labor came to office, peace organizations in New Zealand have mounted an extensive campaign to pressure the new government to maintain an antinuclear stand. While seeking to accommodate this pressure, Labor's officials have repeatedly stressed their continuing political and military commitment to the "Western alliance" and to the ANZUS pact.

ANZUS is a military alliance, signed in  
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BY BETSY SOARES

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — *Militant* sales teams in this area are looking forward to using our weekly presence at plant gates to build the April 20 antiwar march on Washington, D.C., while trying to involve the workers we are meeting in this important action against Washington's intervention in Central America.

Over the fall, we were successful in establishing our sales presence at four different plants in the Louisville area. During that time, we sold more than 50 copies of the *Militant*, and distributed hundreds of pieces of campaign material for the SWP national and local election campaigns.

In the final weeks of the 1984 presidential elections, we made a special effort to reach a broader

layer of Louisville's industrial workforce by sending out 15 *Militant* sales teams to different plants in the area. One of the plants we were able to sell at every week was the Vogt company, which is organized by the United Steelworkers union. Four members of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, who work at a nearby garment shop, would show up one morning a week at Vogt with the *Militant* and other socialist literature.

The first few weeks we were there, most workers would walk past without a word, a few would jeer, and some would look at the *Militant* headlines with interest — but no papers were sold. Then, after the third week, the response started to change as we began to be known by the workers. They ex-

pected us to show up and if we didn't, they would ask us what happened, and more would stop to talk.

The steelworkers union at Vogt went through local contract discussions last fall, and there was some talk about a possible strike. We found a number of workers were interested in the *Militant*'s coverage of the United Auto Workers and United Mine Workers contracts, as well as the reports on the British coal miners strike.

Others were interested in the U.S. war in Central America, and some would stop and ask what the *Militant* was all about. As a result, we found it was important and necessary for sales team members to talk to each other about the discussions we were having and different approaches we could take in

explaining the *Militant*. We also felt the need to become more familiar with what was going on in the union at Vogt, including the discussions on the contract.

In about eight weeks, as we began to know the Vogt workers, we got better at explaining our ideas and sold a total of 21 *Militants*.

Then the year-end holidays, bad weather, and car problems prevented us from returning to Vogt for almost five weeks.

When we did show up at the plant gate again one cold morning after the holidays, one worker joked, "Hey, didn't anyone tell you that you guys lost the election," referring to the presidential elections. He and other workers were surprised to see us back again. Four of them bought copies

of the *Militant*, and others just stopped to talk.

The same week a *Militant* sales team went for the first time to sell at a garment shop where several *Militant* supporters work. Five garment workers bought the *Militant*, expressing interest in articles about South Africa and the Union Carbide disaster in Bhopal, India.

We've also reestablished *Militant* plant-gate sales teams at the Ford truck assembly plant, the massive General Electric plant organized by the International Union of Electronic Workers, and the Armour Food meat packing plant.

While the number of papers we sell each week varies, we are learning the importance of regular weekly plant gate sales in carrying out antiwar work and discussing socialist ideas with our coworkers.

## Copper bosses demand major contract concessions

BY ED FRUIT

SALT LAKE CITY — During the third week in January, 140 members of the non-ferrous coordinated bargaining committee held a series of meetings with six copper companies in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The committee represents some 20 unions in the United States and Canada that have contracts with copper companies.

The six copper companies are all demanding major takeback concessions from the unions. They include Kennecott, Asarco, Inspiration Consolidated Copper, Pinto Valley, Magma Copper, and Phelps Dodge Copper.

Spearheading the takeback demands was Kennecott, the largest copper producer among the six companies. It is owned by the Standard Oil Company of Ohio (SOHIO).

Before presenting its takeback demands to the unions' committee, for example, Kennecott sent a letter to all its employees that contained excerpts from a recent speech by the president of SOHIO. The speech contained a warning that if SOHIO couldn't make profits from its metal and mining holdings, it would have to look for alternative investments. Kennecott signed a contract with the unions in 1983 that does not expire until June 30, 1986.

During the meetings, union negotiators reached a tentative agreement with two of the smaller companies, Asarco and Inspiration Consolidated. The concessions agreed to would have totaled \$2.50 an hour in combined pay and benefit cuts, adding up to \$10,000 per worker over the next two and a half years. On January 19, however, the unions rejected the tentative agreement with the two companies and broke off negotiations with all six companies when Kennecott refused to back off from its demands for much bigger concessions.

According to Wayne Holland, secretary of the Kennecott unions' bargaining committee and director of subdistrict 5, District 38, United Steelworkers union, the

union negotiators wanted the same agreement with all the copper companies.

Holland told the *Militant* that Kennecott even refused to sit at the same table with union negotiators and the other copper companies and stuck with their own original concessions demands totaling \$6 an hour, or about a 25 percent cutback in wages and benefits.

Kennecott's proposed eliminations and cutbacks from the present contract with 13 of the unions include:

- *Cutting \$6 an hour in wages and benefits, with \$3 of that in wages.* Kennecott is demanding cuts in hospital and medical plans, wages for new hires by \$5 an hour, death and disability benefits for retirees, benefits to those on layoff status from six to three months, recall rights for laid-off workers to two years, vacation from five weeks' maximum to four, holidays from nine to eight a year, and vision care benefits.

- *Eliminating the cost of living allowance (COLA), dental plan, double time for hours worked after 12 hours, prescription drug program, work-related preparation*

and travel time, and vacation bonuses.

Even if this cutback package were accepted by the unions, there are no guarantees of job security from Kennecott.

The Kennecott operations just outside Salt Lake City boast the largest open-pit copper mine in the world. It once employed more workers than any other private employer in Utah. Since 1981, however, layoffs by Kennecott have reduced its workforce in the state from 6,637 to the present 2,379. Nationally the Kennecott workforce has dropped from more than 12,000 to 4,450 during the same period.

Copper companies are blaming the cutbacks on the fall of copper — from \$1.28 a pound in 1980 to the current price of \$.57. Kennecott claims that it cost the company \$.90 per pound to produce copper last year, which it then sold for only \$.65.

Armed with these figures, the six copper companies, with Kennecott in the lead, are insisting that workers must pay for company losses just as Chrysler auto workers and workers in other industries have been forced to do.

Kennecott and Utah's capitalist media have campaigned to portray copper work-

ers as overpaid and, therefore, the guilty party if the copper works are shut down. They have compared the relatively high hourly wage and benefits of union copper workers with the generally lower pay scale for other workers in Utah, which is a "right to work" state. The employers argument is that rather than raise the wages of lower paid workers, the unionized copper workers should sacrifice and take pay cuts.

The capitalist news media has also blamed low-paid workers in semicolonial countries like Chile — a major copper importer to the United States — for the problem. If workers in this country made as little in wages as Chilean workers, these reporters argue, then the U.S. copper companies might be able to compete. This latest attack on copper workers in New Mexico and Utah includes Phelps Dodge. Phelps Dodge recently won a union decertification fight against the same unions in Arizona and Texas, after forcing them out on a bitter, 18-month strike. After this setback to the unions, Phelps Dodge quickly moved to close down one of its biggest operations in Morenci, Arizona, where the unions were the strongest.

## Ohio socialist, unionist wins free-speech case

TOLEDO, Ohio — An important victory for free speech and workers' rights has been won here. Judge Joseph Flores of the Toledo municipal court has dismissed the charges of "disorderly conduct" and "resisting arrest" against Mark Friedman, a member of United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 12 and the candidate of the Socialist Workers Party for State House of Representatives in last November's elections.

Friedman was arrested November 10 while distributing antiwar leaflets on a public sidewalk. He was handcuffed and roughed up by the police and then booked. He was jailed for an hour, and was released

through the personal intervention of Rev. Floyd Rose, then president of the Toledo NAACP.

Rose was the featured speaker at an antiwar meeting demanding that the U.S. government withdraw its troops from Grenada. It was for this meeting that Friedman was distributing leaflets.

Broad support for Friedman's rights was won. Organizations and individuals involved in the defense effort included the American Civil Liberties Union; National Organization for Women; Clan na Gael, an Irish freedom organization; the Toledo-area Committee on Central America;

Bowling Green Peace Coalition; NAACP president Rose; and Ron Rinna, president of Local 7-912 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers.

Friedman made presentations on his case to UAW CAP (Community Action Program) council, UAW Local 12, and the executive board of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 544.

Judge Flores threw the case out of court when the city refused to comply with his order to release the names of the superior officers who had authorized Friedman's arrest.

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# L.A. socialist candidate wins ballot spot

BY JANIE WARD

LOS ANGELES — James Harris, the candidate endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party in the so-called nonpartisan mayoral race here, officially qualified for ballot status January 24. Five hundred signatures of registered voters, a \$300 filing fee, and a confrontation with private cops and city officials were required to get his name printed on the ballot for the April 9 primary election.

Supporters of Harris's campaign began collecting signatures January 15. Most of these campaigners work eight hours or more a day in industrial jobs. This meant that a good deal of petitioning took place before work, after work, and on the job. Some petitioning was done at plant gates.

Campaigners found a good response to campaign platform demands for no U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean, an end to police brutality, and money for jobs not war.

The demand for full rights for the undocumented was the most controversial issue the socialist campaign raised. It stimulated a lot of discussion, especially among Black workers.

Supporters of Harris pointed out that a real fight against the rulers of this country cannot be mounted without a united working-class defense of full rights for undocumented workers. An essential part of Harris's mayoral campaign is to answer the big business news media's lies that undocumented workers are "job thieves" undermining employment opportunities for unemployed Black and white workers.

Campaign supporters targeted the Black community of Watts for a special petitioning drive. Almost 20 years ago, in August 1965, the people of Watts rebelled against oppression. Today, economic conditions have not improved. In fact, for young people, unemployment is even higher following the shutdown of a number of factories. Infant mortality remains twice that of white infants in Los Angeles County.

The campaign was well-received by Watts residents, but not by security guards at a big new local shopping center. On January 19 a petitioning team went to the Martin Luther King Jr. Shopping Center, a grocery and drug store complex that opened a few months ago with a great deal of fanfare. Democratic Mayor Thomas Bradley presided over the ceremony opening the center — the first to be built in the area since the 1965 Watts rebellion.

In spite of the fact that petitioning in shopping centers is guaranteed by a California Supreme Court decision, security guards told the campaigners to leave the property. They complied. Campaign attorney Robin Maisel went to try to talk to the management of the center but was unsuccessful.

Candidate Harris, Maisel, and several campaign supporters returned to the shopping center January 20 to document the refusal to allow petitioning. Before any petitioning could begin, Harris and his supporters were surrounded by security guards. Harris himself was handcuffed and charged with assault. A supporter with a camera was handcuffed and charged with assault. The other supporters were ordered off the property.

As they were leaving, guards stopped their car and pulled a Black campaign supporter, Glova Scott, out of the vehicle. The guards pushed Scott to the ground, handcuffed her, and pulled her to her feet. The other three supporters were allowed to leave. They drove across the street, where irate witnesses to the attack came forward to offer their names for future testimony. The private cops threatened the campaign

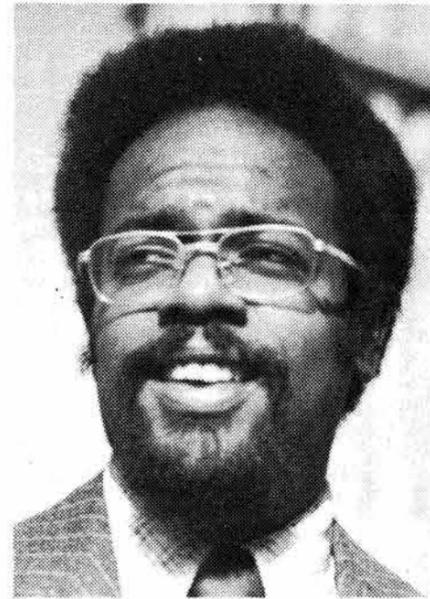
lawyer with arrest but then allowed him to leave.

Several campaign supporters went to a nearby police station, where they had been told the three in handcuffs would be taken. Campaign supporters citywide began calling the press. The police station and the shopping center received a number of calls from reporters.

After three hours Harris was released without charges. After being held four hours, the two supporters were charged with a "citizen's arrest" for assault, which was referred to the city attorney's office. The police did not book the two or write any citation against them. It is doubtful that the city attorney will file charges.

The campaign is still seeking to contact the management of the shopping center to secure the right to petition and campaign there.

After filling out all the affidavits necessary to file petitions, Harris and his supporters had to argue with city clerks to get their petitions accepted. After officials were forced to read and reread the law, the petitions were accepted. Two days later, January 24, Harris was declared on the ballot.



Supporters of James Harris, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Los Angeles, were attacked by cops while campaigning in Black community of Watts.

## Marroquín wins new support in L.A.

BY SETH GALINSKY

LOS ANGELES — Héctor Marroquín, a 31-year-old undocumented worker from Mexico, spoke at three recent meetings in the Los Angeles area to publicize his seven-year fight against deportation.

The meetings opened a three-week tour of California aimed at winning new support in the campaign to force the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to grant Marroquín permanent residency status.

The tour here began with a meeting of students sponsored by the United Latino Student Association at Los Angeles Community College. Marroquín explained the facts of his case, pointing out that he is eligible for a U.S. residency visa — or green card as it is more commonly known. He is married to a U.S. citizen and has a son who is a U.S. citizen.

"But the INS continues to try to deport me because they don't like my ideas," Marroquín said, "like my support for the April 20 antiwar demonstrations in Los

Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington." Marroquín is an outspoken opponent of U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean, a defender of the rights of immigrant workers, and a leader of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

On February 8 Marroquín was the featured speaker at an antideportation fund-raising event at Casa Nicaragua. In spite of the pouring rain (at times it was raining harder inside than out because of a leaking roof), 70 people attended and stayed for the program. The predominantly Latino audience included members of the United Electrical, International Ladies' Garment Workers', and International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's unions.

Marta Alicia Rivera, a member of the National Association of Educators of El Salvador, also spoke. She described her brutal torture at the hands of the Salvadoran National Guard. In spite of overwhelming evidence that her life would be in

danger if she returned to El Salvador, she too has been denied permission by the INS to remain in the United States. The meeting voted to send a telegram to the INS demanding residency for Marroquín and asylum for Rivera.

Marroquín wrapped up his tour in the area at a meeting of 50 people in San Bernardino sponsored by the Christian Base Communities of the Catholic church. The San Bernardino area is an agricultural region, and many of the Base Community members are agricultural laborers who are active in the farm workers' movement. While awaiting Marroquín's arrival, 40 people signed a petition in support of his case and contributed \$80 toward the cost of his legal defense.

Participants at the meeting asked what else they could do to help. Marroquín said, first, they could send letters of protest to the INS in Washington.

Second, they should support and attend the April 20 demonstration, which in Los Angeles has added as one of its demands the defense of the rights of immigrant workers.

Third, he said, they should demand the release of those arrested in the sanctuary movement for aiding political refugees.

Many of those present asked for more brochures on Marroquín's case. They also gave him an open invitation to return to meetings of their Base Communities.

Marroquín's tour was noted in *La Opinión*, the largest Spanish-language daily in California.

Letters and telegrams demanding the INS stop its stalling and give Marroquín a green card should be addressed to INS Commissioner Alan Nelson, Washington, D.C. 20536.

Copies, along with donations, can be sent to the Political Rights Defense Fund, P.O. Box 649, New York, N.Y. 10003.

## General strike rocks Dominican Republic

Continued from front page

Meanwhile, barricades were thrown up in Los Minas, Vietnam, and other areas to try to keep the armed forces out. Helicopters and light planes flew over the city to direct troops to barricades and other centers of revolt. Jorge Blanco placed specially trained counterinsurgency troops in charge of repressing the rebellion.

The government also clamped down a strict censorship over the news media, preventing them from covering the revolt and the government response to it. Several reporters were arrested for trying to break the news ban. In the United States there's been a virtual news blackout in the capitalist English-language media about the strikes and other protests. Some news, however, has been reported in the Spanish-language media.

Hundreds of working people have been arrested and at least one youth killed by government troops. "The situation is difficult in these communities," said one Dominican worker, referring to Los Minas and other barrios. The troops especially target youth, who, this worker said, "can't show their faces in the street because they're immediately arrested and, in many cases, beaten."

Among those arrested were Pedro Franco, the general coordinator of the Committees of Popular Struggle, which have played a prominent role in organizing the strikes. Also detained were Julio de Peña Valdez, general secretary of the General Workers Federation; José Cristóbal Durán, general secretary of the United Federation of Workers; and other trade union leaders.

The government also attacked the



Demonstration last year against U.S.-imposed austerity.

Dominican Left Front, jailing Narciso Isa Conde, general secretary of the Dominican Communist Party, and other leaders of the broad coalition of leftist organizations.

On February 7, after 10 days of escalating strikes, the "Councils of Popular Unity" called a general strike. Speaking for the coalition of some 52 popular organizations, José Pichardo said that the detention of Pedro Franco wouldn't stop the protest demonstrations.

Jorge Blanco's response was to order his troops to sweep through the barrios once again on February 10. They arrested hundreds of youth in hopes of blocking the strike.

Pichardo, however, proved correct. The February 11 strike was a success, and the Dominican government faces big problems in implementing the austerity program dictated by its accord with the IMF.

## González slams Dominican crackdown

The following telegram was sent by Andrea González, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York, to the president of the Dominican Republic, Salvador Jorge Blanco.

I protest the arrest of Pedro Franco, Julio Peña Valdez, José Cristóbal Durán, Narciso Isa Conde, and other leaders of the trade unions, popular, and left organizations.

Hundreds have been arrested, at least one youth has been killed and an unknown number have been injured in this violent attack by your government on the Dominican workers and farmers. These attacks are part of the austerity program ordered by the U.S.-government-dominated International Monetary Fund. This attack on the

Dominican toilers, along with the recent attacks in Jamaica, forms part of a pattern of IMF-imposed austerity and repression seen throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

As a candidate for mayor of New York City, where close to one million Dominicans live, I join with them in protesting this attack on their brothers and sisters.

Your response to the strikes and mobilizations against the austerity has been repression and constant violation of the democratic rights of the Dominican people. These attacks are an attempt to stop their struggle for a decent life.

End the repression!  
Release all prisoners!  
IMF out of the Dominican Republic!



# Toledo: UAW at Jeep okays new contract



Militant/John Studer

UAW members at Local 12 Jeep Unit in Toledo maintained voluntary overtime in new contract, making them one of only three major auto plants in country where overtime is not mandatory. Above, 1979 UAW demonstration against forced overtime.

BY MARK FRIEDMAN

TOLEDO, Ohio — By a vote of 3,527 to 1,226, members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 12 Jeep Unit here approved a new contract with the American Motors Company (AMC). The vote was held on February 11.

The contract includes concessions, but is viewed by AMC workers here as better than the General Motors and Ford contracts negotiated last fall.

High on workers' priority list leading up to the negotiations were the repayment of money that had been loaned to the company, no mandatory overtime, and maintaining health benefits.

The agreement maintains voluntary overtime. The AMC plants here, in Milwaukee, and Kenosha, Wisconsin, are the only major auto plants in the country where overtime is not mandatory.

A central demand of the union in the negotiations was that the company pay back with interest — as promised — the \$40 million that was taken out of workers'

pockets through an "Employee Investment Plan" (EIP). Under the EIP, negotiated in 1982, the company took wage increases, bonuses, COLA (cost-of-living allowance) increases, and holiday pay that should have gone to the workers. The employers used the money to retool and modernize production, including purchasing robots. This represents a substantial amount of money. Individual workers are owed thousands of dollars.

At the start of the negotiations, the company balked at repaying the money they owed. They pleaded poverty despite the fact that 1984 has been their most profitable year since 1978 — thanks to the fast-selling and highly profitable Cherokee X-J four-wheel-drive Jeep.

Under the new contract, EIP repayments will be made in full, beginning in May and continuing in quarterly repayments through 1988, as previously agreed.

The company also backed down on its demand that workers pay part of the cost of health insurance.

Local union officials explain that the contract follows the Ford and GM agreements in many respects. This includes a phony "job security" bank, which supposedly guarantees some laid-off workers either a job or an income. The "bank" has a \$16 million fund. As in the Ford and GM contracts, this fund would not be available to workers laid off because of "volume declines or sales of a facility."

A major concession is the deepening of a two-tier wage system. Previously, new hires started at \$.60 an hour less, narrowed the gap to \$.30 after a month, and reached wage parity after 60 days. Under the new contract, new hires will start at 85 percent of full wages and will reach full pay only after a year and a half.

The contract also includes an annual lump-sum payment of 3 percent of the year's gross wages, instead of the 3 percent "Annual Improvement Factor" — an across-the-board hourly wage increase traditionally won in UAW contracts.

The company had originally demanded a wage freeze.

The new agreement maintains COLA in full, with 13 cents diverted to cover the cost of benefits over the three-year life of the contract. Of the present \$2.90 COLA, \$2.85 will be rolled into the base wage rate.

Other terms of the contract include a \$200 bonus for approval of the contract, improved pension benefits, and a joint UAW-Jeep letter to discuss the feasibility of a day care facility.

Mark Friedman is a member of UAW Local 12 and works at Jeep.

## Behind New Zealand-U.S. arms 'rift'

Continued from front page

1951, that was sought with the United States by New Zealand's and Australia's imperialist rulers as a result of the replacement of Britain's world military predominance by that of the United States following World War II.

From the beginning ANZUS has been an imperialist pact, aimed primarily against the Soviet Union (plus China, Vietnam, and other emerging workers states), and against the national liberation struggles of colonized peoples in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

It is one of more than 100 military and intelligence treaties that link New Zealand, Australia, and the United States (as well as Britain and Canada), and reflects the common interests that unite the capitalist ruling classes of these countries economically, politically, and militarily.

New Zealand's special role under ANZUS is policing the colonial island nations of the South Pacific. In return, New Zealand imperialism receives a range of special privileges from Washington — from favoritism in trade to military equipment and assistance.

This is an arrangement that New Zealand's capitalist rulers do not want to give away lightly — especially as policing the South Pacific, for them, is not a burden, but something that enables them to secure their own economic domination over the region.

From the time of its preparation in the 1940s (under a previous Labor government) till today, ANZUS has received full support from both the National Party and the reformist leadership of the Labor Party.

### No fundamental change in policy

The Labor government's refusal to allow the *USS Buchanan* to visit New Zealand represents no fundamental change in this imperialist foreign policy. Prior to declining the proposed visit of the *USS Buchanan*, David Lange had requested the U.S. government to send an alternative vessel, a frigate, which Lange claimed had not yet been fitted with nuclear weapons. Such a visit, he said, would allow his government to demonstrate its "continuing and deeply felt commitment to the ANZUS alliance and their desire to work in the closest cooperation with their treaty partners."

Lange described the subsequent cancellation of the *Sea Eagle* naval maneuvers as "regrettable." New Zealand's warships have been conducting such training exercises in the Pacific and elsewhere for over 20 years with U.S. and other nuclear armed vessels.

In 1985 alone, New Zealand's armed

forces are scheduled to take part in 22 army, air, and naval training exercises with the Pentagon, many of them involving nuclear weapons.

It is this close military partnership, and the integrated character of the ANZUS forces in the Pacific region, that makes New Zealand itself a de facto nuclear power.

### 517 U.S. bases in Pacific

The past decade has seen a major increase in the U.S. military presence in the Pacific. This has been justified by propaganda claiming an "expanding Soviet presence" in the region. In actual fact, the Soviet Union has no military bases in the Pacific outside its own territory. In contrast, Washington is reported to have 517 military bases and installations of various kinds in the region outside its own mainland.

The imperialist military buildup in the Pacific has been fully supported by both the National and Labor governments in New Zealand. New Zealand itself has established a rapid deployment force in Pacific Island "trouble spots."

### Partner in colonial wars

In fact, the whole New Zealand military is structured, equipped, and trained to participate in Vietnam-style counterrevolutionary wars abroad, and it has been used

in this role in successive wars in Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

New Zealand's forces today serve with the U.S. multinational force currently stationed in the Sinai desert. The New Zealand government provides aid to the right-wing guerrillas attacking Kampuchea from Thailand. It is increasing its military ties with the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines. And it maintains its own 1,000-strong military base in Singapore.

The cancellation of *Sea Eagle '85* has focused much media attention on the New Zealand government and its foreign policy. David Lange's refusal of port entry to the *USS Buchanan* has been hailed by leaders of the peace movement in New Zealand and internationally as a "courageous blow for world peace."

An editorial published in the February 15 issue of the New Zealand newspaper *Socialist Action*, which reflects the views of the Socialist Action League, puts forward a different view. It says: "The only way working people can achieve peace is to fight against imperialist war policy, which means, first and foremost, the imperialist war policies of their own government."

For working people here, this means "demanding an end to New Zealand's participation in ANZUS and all other imperialist military alliances, including all secret military and intelligence treaties."

## N.Y. socialist candidate condemns Democrats

Continued from back page

cist and openly antilabor style of administration.

Bellamy and Farrell are both tied to Koch, his party and his political machine.

Bellamy ran for city council president on Koch's ticket in 1977 and 1981. She endorsed Koch during his unsuccessful campaign for governor of the state. She, like Koch, defends the police's racist violence. After the cops shot and killed Eleanor Bumpurs, an elderly Black woman, Bellamy told the press that, "The New York City Police Department, in my view, is a terrific department. . . . It's an extraordinary group of people but it's a big department. It needs some changes."

Farrell is a major figure in the New York Democratic Party. He is the only Black county chairperson of that party in New York.

The only candidate putting forward a working-class program in the elections is Andrea González, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor. González, the SWP's candidate for U.S. vice-president in 1984, is 33. She is a Puerto Rican woman who was born and raised in the city. González has been a member of the United Steelworkers union and the Amalgamated Transit Union. A single parent, González has a daughter who attends a New York City public school. González is an active opponent of the U.S. war in Central America.

Commenting on Bellamy's and Farrell's decision to run, González said, "There are

big problems facing Blacks, Puerto Ricans, and all working people in New York. Two of the biggest are the shooting of four Black youth by the racist vigilante Bernhard Goetz, and stepped-up police violence in our communities. Koch supports the racist Goetz and the cops. Bellamy and Farrell say they are anti-Koch, but where do they stand on these questions?"

"Bellamy, after the cops killed Eleanor Bumpurs, said that the cops were terrific. Terrific? I call for prosecuting these killer cops for the murder they committed."

As for Farrell, González explained, "in announcing his campaign he never mentioned Goetz or police violence. He talked about subway riders who wonder if they will get to work on time. With the racist vigilante Goetz on the loose, I wonder if I will get off the subway with my life. Farrell talked about how elderly people want to be able to walk the streets without fear. But for elderly Eleanor Bumpurs, he has not a word to say."

New York's ruling rich have seized on both Badillo's attack on Farrell's candidacy and the charges of anti-Hispanic sentiment against the Coalition for a Just New York to drive a wedge between the Black and Puerto Rican communities.

"Democrats in the Black and Puerto Rican communities talk about unity, but some make anti-Black attacks on Farrell, while others attack the Hispanic community," said González. "I condemn all these attacks. They only serve the interest of the

city's ruling rich."

Badillo, for his part, is trying to use for his personal political benefit the desire among the city's nearly one million Puerto Ricans to gain a degree of control over their lives. "But neither Farrell nor Badillo represent the interests of Blacks and Puerto Ricans," González said. "Neither can forge unity between these two oppressed nationalities. Their program is only to continue and escalate the attacks against us."

"Our unity has always been forged in our common struggle to defend our rights from the attacks by the Democratic Party-controlled city government and the rich it represents. Both Farrell and Badillo point away from this struggle and into that same Democratic Party that attacks us."

González explained that her campaign is for independent political action by labor, Blacks, and Puerto Ricans. "Our campaign points not to one capitalist politician or another but to ourselves, to working people unifying and fighting for our rights together."

"We favor independent Black and Puerto Rican candidates running on a program against the U.S. war in Central America, racism, and the attacks on the labor movement. That would be a step toward the forging of a labor party based on the unions that could genuinely unite this city's working people — Black, white, and Hispanic — in the struggle to take political power out of the hands of the capitalist class that currently rules."

### Labor news in the Militant

The Militant stays on top of the most important developments in the labor movement. It has correspondents who work in the mines, mills, and shops where the events are breaking. You won't miss any of it if you subscribe. See the ad on page 2 of this issue for subscription rates.

# Reagan budget threatens working farmers

Continued from front page

for farmers' troubles from the policies of the government, bankers, and food monopolies, onto the farmers themselves.

Reagan's budget director, David Stockman, for example, recently told a congressional committee that "For the life of me, I can't figure out why the taxpayers have the responsibility to go in and refinance bad debt willingly incurred by consenting adults who went out and bought farm land when prices were going up and thought they could get rich."

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block, himself a big capitalist farmer, also attacked small family farmers. Block claimed that two-thirds of the country's farms were making money without government aid and said that the remaining one-third would have to learn to do the same.

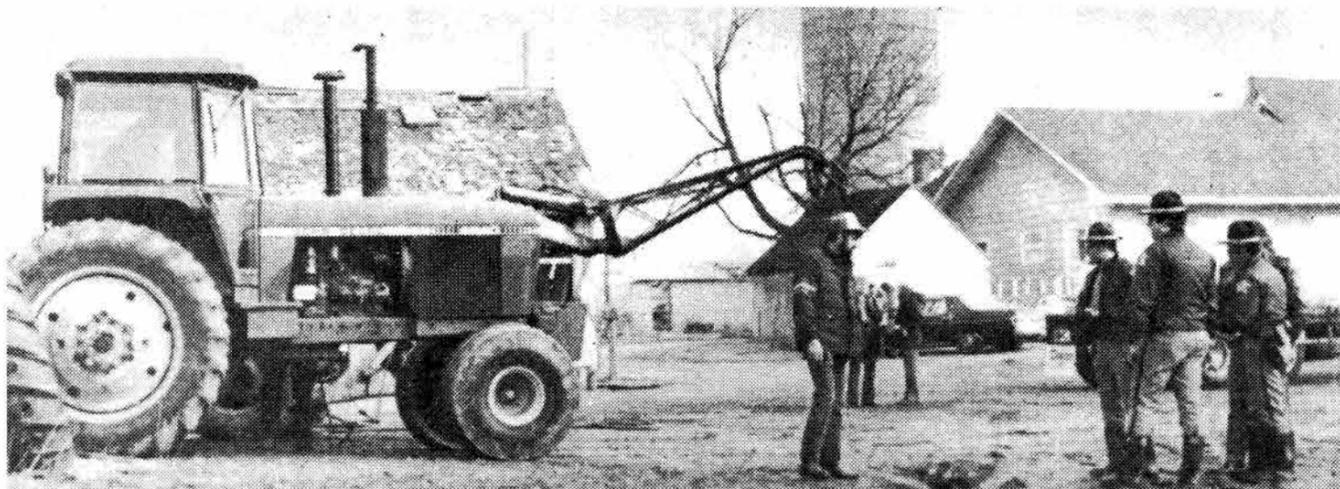
In addition to showing his arrogant disregard for small farmers, Block also showed he has his facts screwed up. There are only 25,000 farms with incomes greater than \$500,000 a year. These are the big capitalist farms that are "doing well." But there are 641,000 farms that take in between \$40,000 and \$500,000 and are in serious trouble. The remaining 1.7 million farms have incomes below \$40,000 and family members must take off-the-farm jobs to make ends meet.

In its lead editorial the day after Reagan's speech, the *New York Times* added its voice to the antifarmer campaign. "The only argument for price supports," wrote the *Times*, "is that they let struggling small farms stay in business. But why should the majority of Americans pay billions to support a minority's 19th-century vision of the pastoral life?"

Both the Reagan administration and the *Times* claim that family farmers are outmoded. The fact is that these farms play an indispensable part in the production of many basic foodstuffs, including 95 percent of all vegetables for processing and 80 percent of all seed crops. Under the present set up, the bankers and processors have been able to get the working farm family to take most of the risks. With the new proposed cuts, they will take all the risks.

The *Times* attack is reminiscent of the ruling-class racist attacks on "welfare cheats," the mythical beings who supposedly bilked U.S. working people for billions each year. The capitalists try to inculcate among urban workers the myth that small farmers are ignorant, lazy good-for-nothings, who subsist on government dole while they sit on the front stoop whittling.

The truth is that working farmers labor long, hard hours. Their plight has nothing to do with laziness nor poor management. They are the victims of conditions they do not control. They are the victims of class inequality. Monopoly pricing of farm equipment, fertilizer, seeds, and fuel;



Auctioning off farm equipment is part of foreclosure process. U. S. government's farm policies are forcing more and more family farmers to face this grim reality.

monopoly control over marketing; and exorbitant interest rates all enrich capitalist farmers and impoverish the rest.

To sugar-coat its assault, the Reagan administration also recently launched a temporary emergency credit assistance program. They claim this plan will help family farmers make it through the rough times.

The plan provides some financial guarantees to bankers who agree to reduce a farmer's interest charges by 10 percent, reduce the value of their loans by 10 percent, or reduce both enough to lower a farmer's debt payments by 10 percent.

This piddling amount won't save the thousands of farms faced with foreclosure in the next several months. A reprieve of 10 percent on their interest won't qualitatively alter the plight of these farmers, whose debt is nearly 10 times greater than their yearly income.

"If things stay this way," said Douglas McDermott, an Iowa banker, "35 to 40 percent of our farmers may not make it."

Agriculture Secretary Block acknowledged that government policies won't help

working farmers. He told a congressional committee that "We expect that we will see increasing proportions of farmers with financial problems, continued declines in farm asset values, increasing proportions of farm debt in trouble, and increasing problems of lender distress."

Thousands of farmers have been foreclosed and driven from their farms. Many thousands more are threatened with the same fate. Working farmers need not just a 10 percent reduction in their debts but a complete moratorium on their payments to the capitalist banks. The Reagan administration, of course, opposes this.

Working farmers need to receive prices for their produce that will cover their costs and provide them with a decent standard of living. But the U.S. ruling class and its government in Washington have no intention of doing this either.

The government is on a drive to squeeze more profits out of the labor of working farmers. Key to this drive is their campaign to divide working farmers from urban working people. Workers in the cities are told that high food prices at the groceries

result from working farmers demanding higher commodity prices. Inflation — not only of food prices, but those of all products — is blamed on public spending such as the aid to the farmers.

And farmers are told that their costs are high because of the wage demands of agricultural implement, railroad, and food-packaging workers.

The fact is that farmers and workers have the same enemies and the same interests. The bipartisan campaign against family farmers is being orchestrated by the same people who are simultaneously pushing for deeper attacks on the unions.

The labor movement should join with working farmers in demanding inexpensive credit and crop insurance, commodity prices that guarantee working farmers a decent standard of living, and a moratorium on foreclosures.

Such a fighting alliance of U.S. toilers — the working class and working farmers — can build the solidarity working people need to rid this country and the world of the class system responsible for exploitation and oppression: capitalism.

## AAM rally calls national farm protest

BY BOB MILLER

GREENVILLE, Ill. — At a meeting of 1,000 farmers at the Community College here on February 7, the American Agriculture Movement, Inc. (AAM) issued a call for a farmers protest march on Washington, D.C., for Monday, March 4, through Friday, March 8.

The press release distributed before the meeting said, "all farmers, ranchers, labor, consumers, main street businessmen, environmentalists, hunters, church groups, and all other interested people who believe

we should save the family farm system are urged to march with us."

"We must get parity in agriculture now!" the statement emphasized, and explained that "Monday, March 4, we'll begin with a rally on the steps of the Jefferson Memorial at 12 noon followed by a march to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Tuesday through Friday will be lobbying days."

Parity is a calculation used to describe the relationship between the prices farmers receive for their commodities and the costs they incur for production and living ex-

penses. The index used to determine this relationship is based on the years 1910 to 1914, when the relationship between costs and prices was supposedly favorable to farmers.

The press release on the march reported that "farmers will be coming by plane, train, automobiles, and who knows how else. Rumor has it that some may bring equipment, tractors, trucks, etc., that FmHA is foreclosing on. If so it will be left for Secretary [of Agriculture] Block to dispose of appropriately." FmHA stands for the federal Farmers Home Administration.

The two speakers at the meeting were AAM Missouri president Wayne Cryts and David Senter, AAM national director and Washington lobbyist, who is from Ft. Worth, Texas. Senter told the meeting that "in Ethiopia people are starving, and the U.S. government is trying to destroy the only people who can feed those who are starving."

"The government," said Senter, "is setting the course for a corporate takeover of family farmers. They want you to be a tenant farmer. They want you to make enough just to eat and be able to own nothing."

Senter also said that AAM is officially calling for the resignation of Secretary of Agriculture John Block. Senter said it was appropriate to make such an announcement in Illinois. In the southern Illinois region, more than twice as many bankruptcies were filed in 1984 as in 1983. The Illinois Crop Reporting Services estimates that between 1982 and 1984, Illinois lost approximately 8,000 farms.

Wayne Cryts explained that farm foreclosures also hurt industrial workers, many of whom produce farm machinery. He called on all to go to the parity march for a fair price on March 4. "We are the solution to the problem," he said, adding "justice depends on fighting for justice for others."

For further information on the farmers parity march, contact the AAM at (202) 544-5750.

## Kanak leader interviewed in 'IP'

Until the Dec. 1, 1984, announcement of a provisional government of Kanaky in New Caledonia, most people in the United States had never heard of that South Pacific island or the struggle of its Kanak people against French colonialism.

The Kanak struggle, however, has a long history. In the March 4 *Intercontinental Press*, a representative of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), the coalition of 10 organizations that is leading the struggle, explains this history.

Susanna Ounei was interviewed for *IP* in New Zealand in December. She explains the bloody repression of the Kanaks since French colonization began in 1853.

Ounei also describes how women have come forward in the liberation struggle to fight for their rights as women as well as for national liberation. Her own organization, the Group of Kanak and Exploited Women in Struggle, is one of the components of the liberation front.

"The present role of this organization," she says, "is to raise all the

problems that Kanak women encounter in New Caledonia. We protest against the problems of battered women, raped women, and the fact that young girls get pregnant and are forbidden contraceptive methods."

The February 18 issue of *IP* features articles on the African famine and recent revolutionary advances on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast.

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# Union's win at Yale spurs new victories



UAW Solidarity

On January 30, Columbia University agreed to recognize District 65 of United Auto Workers union. Above, workers cheering union victory in May 1983 election.

BY HELEN LOWENTHAL  
AND JOHN STUDER

The impact of the recent victory by clerical and technical workers over Yale University is continuing to be felt — both in the rest of New Haven and at Columbia University. On January 22, Yale was forced to sign a new contract with Local 34 of the Federation of University Employees, which represents 2,600 of the workers at the university. They had struck Yale for over two months last fall.

Six days after the Local 34 victory, its sister Local 35, representing Yale's 1,000 dining hall and maintenance workers voted 362 to 17 to ratify their own contract. Their new pact includes wage increases and partial cost-of-living protection, the same dental plan won by Local 34, and protection against job loss due to subcontracting out of work regularly done by Local 35 members. They also won affirmative-action clauses in the contract that call for preferential hiring of Black, Latino, and women workers.

Local 35 members had honored Local 34's picket lines for 10 weeks during the

fall strike.

During the week between the two settlements, rallies were held by the members of both unions and their supporters, one of which drew 1,000 people. Bruce Martin, a clerical worker and Local 34 steering committee member, said that after his local settled it was important that the support they received from Local 35 be reciprocated.

After all, he said, "Local 35 had voted dues increases to support our organizing drive, and they had given up 10 weeks pay."

After the twin victories at Yale, Martin said that the task at hand now was to monitor the contract and to show support for clerical and other workers involved in organizing drives at other institutions.

Beryl Normand, a library worker at Yale, said that the two victories were especially sweet because they came at a time when many unions are being forced to take concession contracts. "We were swimming upstream," she said.

Citing the example of Yale workers' victory, she pointed to Local 217 of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees, a group of waitresses in New Haven who had been picketing for 14 months. They settled their fight within a week of Yale's clerical workers, who had marched alongside the waitresses on their picket lines.

Another big step forward under the impact of the Yale victory was registered at Columbia University. District 65 of the United Auto Workers, representing 1,100 clerical and computer workers, wrung a major concession from the university in its years-long battle to win union recognition and a contract. Eighty percent of these workers are women.

Under threat of a February 4 strike deadline by the union, Columbia finally agreed to recognize the union on January 30. This agreement was sealed by the February 8 National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) certification of the union's victory in a May 1983 representation election.

Certification had been held up by challenges to the election filed by Columbia. The NLRB regional board ruled in favor of the union, but Columbia appealed to the national board.

Before the NLRB certification, Kitty Krupat, a spokesperson for District 65, told the *Militant* that Columbia had already begun to negotiate with the union.

"They've amended the grievance procedure to include a provision for union representation," she said. "They are beginning discussion on such issues as wages, health and safety, and benefits." With the NLRB certification, full-scale contract negotiations are scheduled to begin within the next month.

Yale workers had received support and solidarity from their sisters and brothers at Columbia.

At the membership meeting where Local 34 ratified its contract, the unionists heard a description of Columbia workers' plight. Shouts rang out, "When does the bus leave?"

## Atlanta NBIPP hears Salvador rebel

BY MACEO DIXON

ATLANTA — The featured speaker at a January 18 forum here was Sonia Bairez Rivas, a representative of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front—Revolutionary Democratic Front (FMLN-FDR) in El Salvador. The meeting was sponsored by the Atlanta chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) and entitled "South Africa to Central America: A Fight for Freedom."

More than 30 people, mostly Blacks, attended the gathering.

Bairez Rivas gave a moving account of the five years of civil war in her country and the struggle of the Salvadoran workers and peasants to rid their country of the U.S.-backed military dictatorship.

She explained that despite the repression and severe oppression, 30 percent of the country is controlled by the FMLN-FDR forces.

"The aims and goals of our struggles are the same as yours here: peace, jobs, justice, and self-determination."

Bairez Rivas warned that there is a strong possibility of direct U.S. military intervention to try to prop up the Salvadoran dictatorship. She called on the audience to fight against the deepening U.S. war by educating about Central America, demanding that the U.S. Congress end aid to the military dictatorship as well as U.S. funding of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, and by marching in the antiwar protest in Washington, D.C., on April 20.

Alice Lovelace kicked off the NBIPP forum by reading some of her poetry. Lovelace is a well-known Black poet in the Atlanta area. An activist in the civil rights struggle, she's currently fighting to free her imprisoned husband, Charles Riley. The government claims it jailed Riley for allegedly violating his probation, but many here feel it's really because of his activities in solidarity with the people of southern Africa.

Tandi Gcabashe of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) also spoke. She explained how the South African regime, U.S. government, and U.S. corporations are all partners in maintaining apartheid. Gcabashe blasted the Reagan administration for hypocritically claiming that change can come about for Blacks in South Africa through Washington's "constructive engagement" policy. She explained that apartheid can't be reformed, but must be destroyed.

Gcabashe concluded her remarks by stating that the U.S. corporations "have never been for oppressed or working people. So, it's a lie to think that the U.S. corporations are going to South Africa to liberate Blacks."

Art Cato of the Coalition Against Displacement also spoke. He talked about the move by Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and local developers to build high-priced condominiums in the vicinity of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Social Change, the civil rights leader's burial site. Cato's group is fighting against the construction project, which will make

thousands of Blacks homeless.

In discussing what's happening in South Africa and El Salvador, Cato said, "You can only be a sympathizer with the struggles around the world. You must deal with the situation right here. The poverty. Hunger. Homelessness. We can't bring a solution to the problem for others as long as we face oppression here."

Helen Rosser, who spoke for the Atlanta NBIPP, said, "Even though we have problems here we have to support struggles worldwide. We can't be free until all Blacks are free. The brothers and sisters in South Africa, Grenada, and El Salvador

are being displaced because they're like us — Black. This country won't take Black people as its own. That's why I joined NBIPP." She urged Blacks attending the meeting to join the party as well.

A good number of the forum participants signed the NBIPP mailing list. Also, several copies of the newsletter published by the Manhattan chapter of the NBIPP were sold.

As the forum concluded, Ardy Blandford of NBIPP exclaimed, "Capitalism is causing racism and imperialist wars. We recognize this and we want folks to join NBIPP to help fight it."

## SWP leader speaks on Black struggle

BY HALKET ALLEN

PHILADELPHIA — Mac Warren, National Organization Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, spoke at an educational weekend here sponsored by the Young Socialist Alliance and the SWP on where the fight for Black liberation stands today.

The first event was a well-attended forum where Warren traced the developments in the Black rights movement since the Aug. 27, 1983, march on Washington, D.C., for jobs, peace, and freedom. At that march, Warren recalled, Black leaders proclaimed the beginning of a new civil rights movement which would draw in Blacks, labor, women, and Latinos.

But what actually happened, Warren noted, was a big retreat under the pressure of the 1984 elections. Instead of launching any new demonstrations or action coalitions against the policies of the ruling rich and their two parties, the organizers of August 27th joined Jesse Jackson in promoting the Democratic Party as the road to win Black rights. This had a demobilizing effect on many Blacks and other workers who had been out marching on August 27, Warren explained.

In contrast to the depoliticizing effect of the Jackson campaign, Warren pointed to

the example of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP), and invited the audience to support it. NBIPP has an anticapitalist, anti-imperialist program that tells the truth about what is needed to win liberation for Blacks and all working people, Warren said. It seeks to involve them in political action, Warren added, urging a break from capitalist politics.

The next day Warren gave two classes on the history and lessons of the fight for Black rights from the Civil War to the present.

The first class dealt with the defeat of the slave owning class in the South and the period of "Radical Reconstruction" that followed it. This period, which lasted from 1865 until 1877, was characterized by big struggles of farmers and workers in the South, led by Black ex-slaves, for "40 acres and a mule."

This fight included efforts to take over the governments of the ex-slave states and use them as revolutionary instruments to aid the fight for land and political rights. In part because workers and farmers in the North were not capable of cementing an anticapitalist alliance with the ex-slaves and other toilers in the South, Warren explained, the radical reconstruction governments were overthrown. Through bloody battles, Jim Crow segregation was legalized and institutionalized, to stand for almost a century.

The second class traced the development of the modern day civil rights movement and the significance of its victory over Jim Crow. Warren reviewed the watershed battles of that movement from the Montgomery bus boycott to the Boston busing battle, as well as the contributions of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr.

He also described the development of the Freedom Now Party in Detroit and the Lowndes County Freedom Party in Alabama. These two short-lived experiences in forming independent Black political parties, Warren explained, were forerunners of the NBIPP today.

Warren closed the weekend by urging all those present who wanted to participate in advancing the fight for Black rights and independent working class political action to join the SWP and the YSA.



Militant/Halket Allen

SWP leader Mac Warren addressing Philadelphia socialist educational conference.

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5-year-old refugee from U.S.-backed terror in Guatemala.

# Seattle protests hit crackdown on refugees from Central America

BY KAETHEJEAN BLEICHER

SEATTLE — The first arrests of Salvadoran refugees in Seattle occurred January 14 as part of the nationwide crackdown on Central American refugees and their supporters.

Pilar Martínez (not her real name), her sister-in-law, and their five children were among the 79 who were detained across the country. Martínez was able to leave a note behind warning others of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) raid. The University Baptist Church was thus able to move out 23 other refugees for whom the church is providing sanctuary.

Both women refused to tell INS interrogators the names of those who had helped them come north. The day after the arrests, a vigil was held in front of the Fed-

eral Building. Other refugees from Guatemala and El Salvador risked arrest by being there with picket signs that read: "We are political refugees."

A Guatemalan woman with a bandana to hide her face spoke to the crowd of 150. "We came to this country to find peace. What happened? We don't have peace here. Immigration pursues us. The children come from Central America traumatized by the war, the massacres . . . and in this country they respect the rights of the child. But what happened yesterday? They put the children in the detention center."

After the vigil, about 50 people went to the local offices of U.S. senators Slade Gorton and Daniel Evans to ask for help in stopping the deportations.

According to the *Seattle Times*, David

Endicott, an aide to Senator Gorton, made the U.S. government's policy quite clear. "There is a popularly elected government now under [Salvadoran] President Duarte. . . . Duarte has made a good faith effort and progress in cutting down the extreme measures that have been taken by these death squads." To accept refugees "would be a direct slap in the face to that government we've been encouraging and hoped would be elected," he said.

On January 19, the Citizens Tribunal was held. The stated purpose of the tribunal was "to examine the legality of U.S. government activities, provide a forum for the presentation of relevant evidence and to awaken the public conscience of the people of the United States."

The tribunal was sponsored and en-

dorsed by many organizations and individuals from both the United States and Canada and was attended by 300 people.

A number of refugees from various countries spoke, including Pilar Martínez. She recounted a police raid on a Bible study group in her church in El Salvador. The police immediately murdered several people in the group and arrested the others, including Martínez. While at home after her release, another raid resulted in several hours of interrogation in which both she and her young daughter were repeatedly beaten. Martínez stated that in the interrogation by the INS in Seattle, she was forced to give her real name and that now she was afraid for those in her family who remain in El Salvador.

Ralph McGehee, a former CIA agent with extensive experience in Vietnam, said: "I went into Vietnam fighting for democracy and freedom and came out a totally different person."

He spoke at length about the "dirty tricks bag" the CIA used in its destabilization programs, including massive disinformation campaigns waged on the U.S. public. He outlined the phony facts and articles fed to the media and the phony incidents used as pretexts for invasions, such as the Gulf of Tonkin incident off Vietnam and the "save the students" pretext used in the Grenada invasion. He said the MIG jet fighter scare in Nicaragua was another such ploy.

Harold Belmont of the Suquamish tribe, a member of the Indian Treaties Council, reported his experiences talking to Miskito Indians in Nicaragua. He met Miskitos that had been kidnapped by the CIA-organized counterrevolutionaries and taken to camps in Honduras. Some escaped back to Nicaragua and now support the Nicaraguan revolution.

On January 21, 2,000 supporters of the sanctuary movement attended an ecumenical service at St. John's Catholic Church.

William Cate, president of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, said, "Our vision of compassion and justice are at odds with the narrow values and racist policies of our government." Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen sent a message of support calling on church members to offer refugees "humanitarian assistance, whether in the form of food, or sanctuary from the law."

The University Baptist Church is continuing its campaign to stop the deportation of the arrested refugees. Letters demanding an end to the deportations should be sent to Ronald Brooks, Director INS, 815 Airport Way S Seattle Wash. 98134. There is also a need for money to help provide housing, food, medical care, and transportation for the refugees. Checks may be made payable to University Baptist Church Sanctuary Program, 4554 12th Ave. NE Seattle, Wash. 98105.

## Free speech victory in Lawrence, Mass.

BY BOB HILL

LAWRENCE, Mass. — An important victory was scored here in defense of the democratic right to speak out in solidarity with the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean. On January 31, 200 people turned out at the Lawrence Public Library for a forum on Central America and Free Speech sponsored by the newly-formed Greater Lawrence Central America Solidarity Association.

On Dec. 17, 1984, a meeting had been scheduled at which Rev. James Keller, who had recently returned from observing the presidential elections in Nicaragua, was planning to show a film about that country's revolution. A phone call was received from a man identifying himself as a member of the right-wing Cuban-exile terrorist group, Omega 7, threatening to blow up the meeting hall. Police emptied the hall and cancelled the meeting.

### More threats

A church-run day care center where Keller maintained an office had to be evacuated after another Omega 7 bomb threat a few days later. Keller received more death threats in a further attempt to intimidate him and others from expressing solidarity with the people of Central America and from telling the truth about Nicaragua.

The January 31 meeting was held to protest these threats and to demonstrate that meetings protesting the U.S. war in Central America could be held here free from right-wing or government disruption.

Lawrence is home to a large Dominican and Puerto Rican community, which was the victim of racist attacks during the Olympics last summer that led to a rebellion.

The meeting, which had been advertised in both English and Spanish, was chaired by Prof. Charles Tontar from Merrimack College.

John Roberts, state director of the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, explained the importance of holding the meeting. "When people are silent we all lose, and the cornerstone of political rights vanishes," he said.

Roberts underscored the seriousness of the disruption threats, detailing the history of Omega 7 attacks in the Boston area. Several meetings and concerts considered pro-Cuban revolution have been broken up by Omega 7 goons over the past several years.

### Disruption attempt fails

Right-wing anti-Castro Cubans did attempt to disrupt the meeting. Two days before, meeting organizers were confronted by a demand from a group calling itself the

Committee to Tell the Truth about Central America, demanding that it be allowed to speak.

Hoping to defuse the right-wing threat to the meeting, organizers gave the "Truth" committee a speaker.

The right-wingers were only able to mobilize 25 supporters, in sharp contrast to the 175 backers of free speech and opponents of Washington's policy in Central America who mobilized to ensure that the meeting would come off successfully.

Union members and antiwar activists from both the Boston and Lawrence areas organized on short notice to form a marshaling squad to physically defend the meeting.

Maria Quintana, speaking for the right-wingers, addressed the meeting. Her comments consisted of a vitriolic attack on Cuba, including the fantastic claim that "blood was drained from the bodies of prisoners just before they were to be executed by Castro's firing squads."

The remaining speakers took up the right-wing slanders. Noel McGinn, professor of education at Harvard University, spoke of the important gains in education made in Nicaragua since the 1979 overthrow of the Somoza regime. He contrasted these gains to the decline of education in El Salvador under the U.S.-backed dictatorship. Hundreds of teachers have been killed by government forces and right-wing death squads in the past five years. Their "crimes," McGinn said, consisted of either being active in their union or teaching peasants how to read and write.

### Real causes of Salvadoran revolution

Additional speakers included Michael Brown of B'nai Brith, and Rev. Seamus

Finn, director of the Peace and Justice Program, Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

The final speaker was René Valle, a Salvadoran refugee speaking from Casa El Salvador-Farabundo Martí. Valle said that "the Salvadoran revolution is a product of the real conditions of poverty and repression there, and is not 'imported' from any other country." He described the brutal repression of the Salvadoran government, which is able to remain in power only because of the massive military aid it receives from the United States.

He also spoke about the importance of the fight to defend democratic rights in the United States against threats such as those directed at antiwar activists in Lawrence. Valle completed his talk to a standing ovation.

During the question and answer period, the right-wing Cubans again attempted to disrupt the meeting by taking it over. However, other audience participants got the floor and turned this attempt into a lively debate, challenging the right-wing slanders about Cuba, Nicaragua, and the struggle in El Salvador. They were able to prevent the anti-Castro speakers from breaking up the meeting.

At the end of the program, Tontar asked the audience if it thought that Rev. Keller — who was present — should go ahead and hold the meeting he originally planned in order to show his film on the Nicaraguan revolution. The vast majority of the audience replied with prolonged applause and shouts of "Yes!"

*Bob Hill is a sewer-operator at Malden Mills in Lawrence and a member of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Local 311.*

## Auto workers shut plant to protest racism

BY ANDREW PULLEY

DETROIT — Hundreds of workers, mostly Black, walked off the job the evening of January 14, sparking a shutdown of the Chrysler Dodge truck plant in Warren, Michigan. The workers who walked off were on the 3:30 to midnight shift, which includes more than 1,700 workers total.

The walkout protested management's racist harassment of numerous workers who had honored the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., the previous day by not coming to work.

According to Perry Johnson, regional director of the United Auto Workers (UAW), a plant official was "checking with each foreman as to who was Black and who was

white, of the people who were off. This was an attempt to identify Black workers who took the day off in order to take disciplinary action.

"That just ignited the whole thing," Johnson said. "People thought it was racist and decided, what the hell, we are not going to work." Johnson pointed out that it wasn't just Black workers who were angry.

David Sider, who works at the plant, said that a foreman had repeatedly made racist remarks about Blacks leading up to the protest, and that workers were angry at him anyway. The foreman has not been seen at the plant since the walkout.

Management has completely backed down from its plans to discipline Black

workers who took the day off in honor of King's birthday. The company now claims it was all a misunderstanding. A company spokesman said the reports that the company had planned to fire or discipline workers for taking the day off were "unsubstantiated rumors."

This was the second walkout at a Chrysler plant in the last three months. Last November, many on the second shift at Jefferson Assembly walked off their jobs to protest the firing of a Black worker, T. Curry. As a result of the direct action taken by union members, Curry won his job back.

*Andrew Pulley is a member of UAW Local 189.*

# Ex-'contra' leader returns to Nicaragua

## Given amnesty after quitting Costa Rica-based terrorist group

BY ELLEN KRATKA

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Alvaro Castillo, a leader of one of the mercenary groups attacking Nicaragua, has taken advantage of Nicaragua's amnesty law and returned home to reintegrate himself into society.

"It isn't easy for a man to recognize his errors and confront that truth," he said at a press conference here February 7. "I hope for a little understanding from everyone."

The 25-year-old Castillo was recruited in 1982 to a counterrevolutionary group led by Edén Pastora, who had defected from the Nicaraguan revolution claiming the Sandinista National Liberation Front was betraying the goals of that revolution. Pastora set up an armed coalition called the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE) and with CIA aid began carrying out terrorist attacks on Nicaragua. Recently, as divisions among ARDE leaders have sharpened, Pastora has acted primarily through his own counterrevolutionary group, the Sandino Revolutionary Front (FRS).

For two and a half years, Castillo was a member of Pastora's personal security force. He was responsible for the headquarters of Pastora's General Command. He had been in charge of centralizing logistics and communications for the various members of ARDE and had set up a command post in Costa Rica that coordinated the actions that lead to a big attack on the Nicaraguan town of San Juan del Norte in 1983.

Castillo told of how he witnessed an increasingly close relationship between the CIA and Pastora's FRS, as well as ARDE. Castillo named four CIA agents who worked within ARDE.

Castillo had also noted more and more open collaboration between ARDE and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), which is led by former officers of Somoza's National Guard, whom Pastora claims to oppose. One FDN man in particular, Gustavo Adolfo Peterson, worked with Pastora's forces, said Castillo. Peterson had boasted to Castillo of his participation in the massacre of the people of Estelí when they rose up in an anti-Somoza rebellion in 1978.

Castillo stated that the FDN had tried to kill Pastora for balking at an ARDE-FDN fusion. Pastora opposed the fusion for purely "tactical, publicity" reasons, according to Castillo. Basically there are no strategic differences between the various wings of the *contras* (counterrevolutionaries), he added.

Castillo also said "Miami Cubans" have sent ARDE money and supplies.

He revealed that ARDE mercenaries received training at Salvadoran air force bases. And he told of close collaboration between ARDE and various figures in the government of Costa Rica, where ARDE is based.

Carlos Monge, Costa Rican government director of intelligence and security, "facilitated the transport and introduction of logistical materials from the border zones, including food, arms, and ammunition" for ARDE, said Castillo. He also named several Costa Rican Civil Guard colonels who had been very supportive of ARDE. He explained that occasionally the Costa Rican authorities would make a show of searching the border area for *contras* — after having given prior warning to ARDE.

Castillo explained that he had also been uncomfortable for a long time with ARDE's treatment of Nicaraguan peasants, among whom ARDE "had no social base," he said. He explained how towns would be attacked by the *contras*, the peasant residents "rescued," and the press told they had been fleeing communism. "They fool many displaced peasants," Castillo continued, taking them to Costa Rica and then sending them back toward Nicaraguan territory telling them they have no other alternative but war."

Castillo ridiculed Pastora's and ARDE's claims to have a mass following. Referring to member groups of ARDE, he explained that the Christian Democratic Solidarity

Front was six individuals. The Christian Labor Solidarity, also a member of the alliance [ARDE], four.

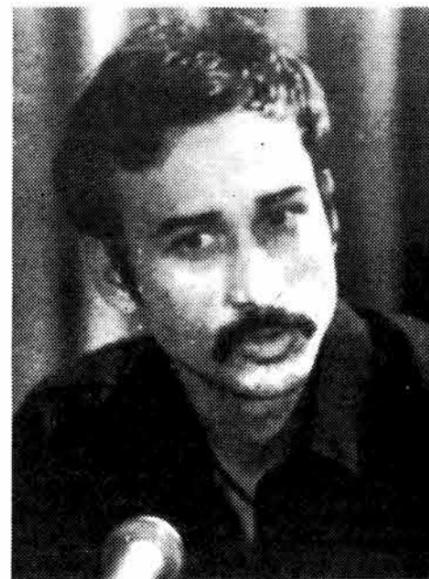
"All this reflected that we of the alliance had no social base. The only one who was a social reality was [Miskito leader] Brooklyn Rivera, with the movement of the MISURASATA." Rivera recently began cease-fire talks with the Nicaraguan government.

Castillo said Rivera's statement last fall that he did not consider MISURASATA's goal to be incompatible with the revolution coincided with Castillo's own thinking, as he was beginning to consider the possibility of returning to Nicaragua under terms of the amnesty.

Castillo's questions and his discomfort increased, he said, as he witnessed the holding of free elections in Nicaragua as well as the carrying out of agrarian reform. "I recognize," he stated, "the advances that, in the midst of difficulties, the revolution has achieved in education, health — all different from how the *contras* paint it with their propaganda."

Pastora — who claimed when he took up arms that he was fighting for free elections and land reform — had only "empty" answers when Castillo questioned him about these things. Pastora denigrated all the things that seemed like victories and advances to Castillo and refused to consider a negotiated settlement to the war.

Above all, Castillo considered completely unjustified the increasing U.S. intervention in Central America that he saw



Alvaro Castillo, at news conference in Managua, tells of close CIA collaboration with terrorist outfit ARDE.

taking place with ARDE's complicity. He feared, he said, that Nicaragua might become another Honduras or Grenada, totally occupied by U.S. troops.

Finally, in December 1984, he got in touch with the Nicaraguan consulate in San Jose, Costa Rica.

After his press conference he was released and reunited with his family, whom he had not seen in three years.

## German volunteers raped by 'contras'

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — In an example of what President Reagan calls "legitimate self-defense" by "freedom fighters," eight U.S.-paid terrorists gang raped two young German women working as volunteers in this country on February 2.

The group of counterrevolutionary mercenaries, *contras*, intercepted a pickup truck filled with about 25 persons near Pantasma in northern Nicaragua. They held the two German women, at first believing they were Cubans because of the Cuban airline tickets they were carrying.

The *contras*, including a "Commandante Rodríguez," who said he had received six months of military training in the United States, interrogated the two women about the place where they had been working. Their volunteer work brigade was building

new settlements for peasants displaced by the U.S.-directed war.

When they learned that the women were from the Federal Republic of Germany, the *contras* decided to let them go since, as they said, West Germany is "a country friendly to the United States."

On February 7 four fellow German *brigadistas* held a press conference to denounce these acts and "this dirty war." The statement they read said this attack is part of "the life of people in many parts of Nicaragua and in the Pantasma area. Vehicles are assaulted daily, whether they be private, state, or military; the passengers or drivers are killed, raped, or kidnapped; the peasants who live a little withdrawn in the mountains are murdered in their houses or during their work in the fields.

"We do not know," the statement continued, "whether this attack was directly aimed against our work or whether we are random victims like many persons here in the zone."

The statement, as well as a letter the German group sent to the U.S. Congress, holds the U.S. government responsible for these acts. The group also demands that their own government immediately unfreeze financial credits for Nicaragua, stop lying about the real situation in Central America, and stop supporting the U.S. war against this country.

They state, "We have full confidence in the Sandinista revolution and will continue as planned our peaceful work of building houses and harvesting coffee. After our return to the Federal Republic of Germany we will continue our struggle against imperialism, against those responsible for the crimes which we have witnessed here in Nicaragua. . . . United we will win."

According to Albert Luther, coordinator of the brigade, the West German minister of foreign relations said in response to the rapes that if the young people continue to work in dangerous places what happens to them will be their own fault.

— E.K.

## Miskito organization suspends leaders opposed to peace talks

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — An Agence France Presse wire service report printed in the Managua daily *El Nuevo Diario* February 9 reported that the Miskito group MISURASATA has suspended three of its members for falsely representing that organization and has reconfirmed Brooklyn Rivera as its top leader.

MISURASATA has carried out armed actions against Nicaragua as part of the CIA-directed counterrevolutionary war. Late last year, MISURASATA leader Rivera began cease-fire talks with the Nicaraguan government. (See story in February 8 *Militant*.)

Rivera came under attack from the other mercenary groups waging the U.S. war when he agreed to talks with the Sandinistas. In its new announcement, MISURASATA condemned the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE) and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the two main U.S.-backed groups, for "criminal plans to eliminate our leaders." MISURASATA stated that it was holding both *contra* organizations responsible for

whatever harm might come to Rivera and other MISURASATA cadre.

The three suspended leaders — Joaquín Suazo, Yermo Espinoza, and Rafael Zelaya — had announced the expulsion of Rivera from the group for having initiated cease-fire discussions with the Nicaraguan government. MISURASATA now calls the three "victims of the interests of ARDE and the FDN, in direct injury to the noble cause of our brothers, the indigenous people."

Another news item dated January 30 reported that Rivera, on a visit to Washington, D.C., had expressed his "firm opposition" to U.S. aid to the Somozaist counterrevolutionaries. He charged that the *contras* were trying to destroy MISURASATA and its leaders and urged the U.S. government to support peace negotiations already under way between his group and the Sandinista government.

Rivera also said he was hoping to fix a date to continue these talks in Bogotá, Colombia. He did not attend the last meeting, scheduled for January 19.

— E.K.



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# 700 students picket South African embassy

BY MAX SPEAR

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Hundreds of protesters continue to picket the South African embassy here every weekday. In addition, protests have been organized in some 20 other cities. Cops have arrested 1,350 people in the nationally coordinated actions.

In a January 28 news conference one block from the apartheid embassy, Free South Africa Movement leader Randall Robinson said, "The large majority of the American people are solidly on the side of our course."

"We want all the prisoners — political and labor — released," said Robinson, repeating the demands of the protest movement. "We want to see negotiated a constitutional convention of all of South Africa's people. We plan to be here into the

spring, throughout the summer, back into winter, every day."

Hundreds of students swelled the picket line on February 1. Some 700 marched under a steady downpour of freezing rain. The date was picked as "Student Day" to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Black student sit-ins at racially segregated lunch counters in Greensboro, North Carolina. The 1960 action galvanized public support for the Black civil rights movement nationally.

Student leaders, speaking at a February 1 news conference before getting arrested with 133 others at the embassy door, said the action was a warm-up for national campus anti-apartheid protests called for April 4. The national protest will center on the call for all U.S. corporations, educational

institutions, and government bodies to divest from South Africa.

Buses and carloads of students came to the February 1 action from American University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Howard University, and the University of the District of Columbia. Also present were the executive council of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and a number of organizations from this city's growing Caribbean community.

Recently a delegation from the NAACP marched on the picket line. NAACP executive director Benjamin Hooks spoke at that day's news conference. He pledged the NAACP "will be more involved" in the national protests. Hooks announced that February 12 will be "NAACP Day" at the anti-apartheid picket.

From the beginning, local religious congregations, seminaries, and national religious denominations have provided regular troops for the daily protests.

The anti-apartheid actions have been the target of attacks in a spate of columns and letters in the *Washington Post*, which have labelled the protests as "rituals" and "chic."

Reagan administration officials who are Black have been trotted out to say that Black leaders and activists should devote their energies to the problems of Blacks in the United States rather than "far-away South Africa."

Meanwhile, Pretoria's considerable propaganda network has begun to organize the packaging of South Africa's "side of the story." South African government officials, including Pres. Pieter Botha and Foreign Minister Roelof Botha, have made public statements in response to mounting anti-apartheid protests throughout the world.

President Botha promised more phony

reforms along the lines of last year's "new constitution," which sparked a general strike of Black workers and other mass protests. The bloody repression against that upsurge spurred the anti-apartheid protests in this country.

South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha responded directly to demands for divestment raised in anti-apartheid protests, saying this would hurt Black workers and hinder "reforms."

This position was echoed by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, chief minister of South Africa's KwaZulu Bantustan, following his February 4 visit with President Reagan at the White House. Buthelezi, who heads one of the 10 racially-segregated and impoverished African reservations, claimed that "My people would actually suffer more if [economic sanctions] were to apply than the people who are oppressing us." Blacks are forcibly made "citizens" of the Bantustans, which strips them of their South African citizenship and restricts their political rights and freedom of movement.

Robinson, who is also the executive director of TransAfrica, called Buthelezi a "messenger" of the South African government. "We must be mindful that he is on their payroll," explained Robinson. "We must be mindful that he represents apology for the system that exists in that country."

Buthelezi has often spoken out against divestment, and his goons have attacked anti-apartheid activists in South Africa, killing several.

Part of the apartheid regime's attempt to prettify its image has been its response to the growing domestic and international pressure to release African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela from prison. South African officials have tried to appear willing to arrange Mandela's release.

But on January 30, President Botha rejected Mandela's demands that the ANC be legalized and negotiations begun to dismantle the apartheid state. Mandela was recently interviewed by a British member of the European Parliament. It was the first press interview with Mandela allowed since the middle 1960s. The interview was published in the January 27 *London Mail*.

Mandela explained the development of the ANC's armed struggle against the apartheid regime. He again rejected the latest government "feelers" to offer him house arrest in the Transkei Bantustan. "I have served 22 years in prison for fighting against the policy of Bantustans. There is no way that I could then go and live in a Bantustan. I would also reject an offer to go abroad. My place is in South Africa and my home is in Johannesburg."



Militant

## Anti-apartheid actions set for spring

BY RUTH NEBBIA

NEW YORK — Anti-apartheid activists from several East Coast cities met here on January 26 to discuss a spring calendar of actions against the racist regime in South Africa. The actions will target the U.S. government and corporations that back the regime.

The more than 50 participants, a majority of whom were Black, came together at an East Coast strategy meeting called by the American Committee on Africa. Among those attending were college students from Albany, Boston, New York City, Newark, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. Representatives from the New York Public Information and Research Group, Young Socialist Alliance, Democratic Socialists of America, and the National Black Independent Political Party also participated.

Also present were representatives of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), South West Africa People's Organization, and the Pan-Africanist Congress. The meeting heard a report from David Ndaba of the ANC on recent developments in the struggle in South Africa and the importance of building an anti-apartheid movement in the United States.

The principal purpose of the meeting was to discuss and set actions for the spring. Plans call for local activities on campuses and elsewhere to commemorate the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa, which took place March 21, 1960. Events will culminate in the April 20 national antiwar march on Washington, D.C., for peace, jobs, and justice.

Students present at the meeting exchanged information on efforts to force universities that have major investments in South Africa to divest them. The discussion included ideas on how to respond to a major propaganda offensive launched by Mobil Oil, IBM, and other corporations that have extensive investments in South Africa. They seek to counter the divestment effort under way.

Participants pointed out that the anti-divestment efforts by these corporations also will have an impact on divestment work in the universities. Many of the boards of governors on these campuses include representatives from these corporations.

The growing link between the fight against the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean and the deepening opposition to U.S. support for Pretoria was reflected in a number of activities planned this spring. Anti-apartheid groups in many areas project joint events with Central America solidarity organizations on March 24, the anniversary of the assassination of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero.

The two national target dates for the spring will be April 4, the anniversary of the assassination civil rights leader Martin

Luther King, Jr., and the antiwar demonstrations slated for Washington on April 20. April 4 is being called the "National Divestment Protest Day" and nationally coordinated pickets, teach-ins, and educational activities are planned for local areas and campuses.

A follow-up meeting for East Coast anti-apartheid activists is planned for April 21 in Washington. For more information contact the American Committee on Africa, 198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038. Telephone (212) 962-1210.

## 'Dump Kruggerand' demand Pittsburgh pickets

BY CHAKO BENDELLA

PITTSBURGH — For several weeks the Pittsburgh Gold & Silver Exchange has been the site of weekly picket lines. They have been organized by a coalition called Pittsburghers Against Apartheid (PAA). They have been picketing the downtown business to stop the sale of the Kruggerand, a South African gold coin.

With chants of "We say no, we say the Kruggerand has got to go," the group has pledged that it will continue these picket lines until the Gold & Silver Exchange stops selling the coin. Members of the NAACP have also picketed another seller of the Kruggerand.

The PAA has been successful in getting major retail stores, such as Kaufman's and Gimbels, to stop selling the coin. Kaufman's agreed to stop only after they sold out their supply. They said they were not making plans to order more.

In another victory, the PAA was able to get charges dropped for 26 activists who were arrested December 14 when the cops attacked the picket line at the exchange.

Pending in the city council for action are resolutions that call on the city not to do business with companies that invest in South Africa.

They are being presented by the only Black city council member, William Robinson. The PAA and others have denounced these resolutions because they contain a clause that also calls for an end to any dealing the city may have with a "communist block country or any country gov-

erned by military dictatorship which supports or condones policies which result in human rights violations."

Jake Milliones, chairman of the PAA, blasted Robinson for including this clause, saying it will effectively kill any real anti-apartheid legislation. "We're talking about South Africa specifically," said Milliones.

Al Duncan, the Socialist Workers Party's 1984 candidate for Congress in the 14th C.D., said, "The issue here is the role

that the U.S. government plays in supporting the oppression of the 22 million Blacks in South Africa. It is the huge profits that the imperialists get from their exploitation that drives them to continue business with the racist regime."

Duncan continued, "We must oppose all economic, political, cultural, and military ties the U.S. government has with South Africa. We should not allow Robinson and others to divert us from that task."

## Rutgers students say 'Divest 100%'

BY DON MACKLE

NEWARK, N.J. — "Free South Africa, the Struggle Continues" was the title of a spirited January 29 rally against apartheid held at Rutgers University's Newark campus. The meeting demanded an end to apartheid and expressed its full support to the struggle to get Rutgers to divest its funds from companies doing business in South Africa. This struggle, being led by the Black Organization of Students (BOS) and the Rutgers Coalition for Divestment, has won wide support on campus.

Attended by more than 80 people, the meeting was sponsored by a number of Newark-area Black and community groups, including the People's Organization for Progress, New Democratic Association, BOS, Irvington NAACP, Greater Newark Jobs with Peace, Rainbow '84, and others.

Lafayette Little Avant, president of BOS and a leader of the Rutgers divestment fight, explained the students' demand for 100 percent divestment and rejection of any compromise proposal which would allow continued university investments in companies that invest in South Africa while claiming to oppose apartheid. The divestment campaign has included rallies, petitions, and other forms of protest.

Statements of solidarity with the students were read from Randall Robinson, executive director of TransAfrica; New Jersey SANE; Essex County Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Black Association of Student Engineers from the New Jersey Institute of Technology; Black Workers Education Center; Newark Young Socialist Alliance; and others.

# CIA 'mystery man' in Latin America is new UN ambassador

BY STEVE MARSHALL

"The mystery man of American diplomacy." That's how newspaper articles describe Gen. Vernon Walters, President Reagan's choice to succeed Jeane Kirkpatrick as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

But it's no mystery that Walters' nomination signals Washington's resolve to further escalate its brutal war against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean.

Even among the imperialist warriors of the Pentagon, the State Department, and the CIA, whose hands are stained with the blood of thousands of workers and peasants in the Americas, Walters stands out as a man who has good reason to cloak his past in mystery. He's had a particularly close, hands-on involvement in Washington's savage assaults on workers and peasants south of the Rio Grande.

## Devotion to ruling class never wavered

It's been a long road from New York in the 1930s, where Walters was an insurance "investigator" cheating immigrant workers out of compensation for on-the-job injuries, to New York in the 1980s, where he'll represent U.S. imperialism at the UN. But Walters has never wavered in his devotion to the ruling class.

After joining U.S. Army intelligence during World War II, Walters accompanied U.S. diplomatic delegations on their empire-building trips around the world. When then vice-president Richard Nixon confronted anti-imperialist demonstrators in Caracas, Venezuela, in 1958, it was a snarling Walters who translated Nixon's curses and insults into Spanish and shouted them back at Venezuelan working people.

He was, reports the *Boston Globe* in a delicate phrase, "close to events" during the CIA's overthrow of the Iranian government in 1953, the 1960 U-2 spy flights over the Soviet Union, and the U.S.-sponsored war against Cuba.

He was "close to events" in Brazil, too, as a military attaché. In 1964 he helped Gen. Humberto Castello Branco, whom he had trained at Ft. Leavenworth, organize a military coup, install a military dictatorship, and unleash a reign of terror against the workers and peasants of Brazil.

Successful U.S. foreign policy officials, explains Walters, are those who "have increased the number of their country's friends and decreased the number of its enemies." He got a chance to implement his theory on a bigger scale in the early 1970s, when President Nixon named him a deputy director of the CIA.

## 'Decreasing' Washington's enemies

Walters directed CIA relations with "friendly" foreign intelligence agencies. He made sure that Washington's friends were trained, organized, and armed to the teeth. In Chile in 1973, and in Argentina in 1976, imperialism and its friends — right-wing military officers, cops, and death-squad killers — overthrew the governments of those countries. They decreased the number of Washington's enemies — trade unionists and political activists — by about 30,000, in bloodbaths of murder and torture.

It's not surprising that Walters' 1974 visit to right-wing Portuguese general António de Spínola sparked fears of a military coup in Portugal. The fears were well-founded — soon afterward General Spínola tried to organize a takeover. Walters' best efforts failed, as massive revolutionary mobilizations of the Portuguese working class beat back the coup attempt.

In 1976 Walters' close friend, Chilean secret police chief Manuel Contreras, dispatched two agents to the United States, via Paraguay. Paraguayan officials assured U.S. diplomats there that Deputy Director Walters was waiting on the Chilean agents in Washington, and plans for their phony passports and visas were discussed with Walters. The Chilean agents subsequently murdered Orlando Letelier, a former Chilean government minister, on the streets of

Washington.

Walters took a short break from his foreign policy work in 1972 to cover up the Watergate break-in. After a conference with Nixon, he ordered the FBI to lay off its investigation when the burglary first came to light.

## Ripping off Guatemala

He took a longer break in 1976, leaving the CIA to line his pockets. First, with his friends in the Guatemalan high command, he helped an oil company secure the rights to steal Guatemalan oil. Then he cleared \$300,000 selling tanks to the Moroccan military for use against the Polisario rebels in Western Sahara.

In 1981 Reagan named Walters an "ambassador at large." He carried Washington's bellicose threats first-hand to Angola and Cuba, demanding that Cuban internationalist troops leave Angola undefended against attacks by the South African apartheid regime.

In 1983, when workers and farmers rose up in the former French colony of Chad, Walters delivered Reagan's encouragement to French Pres. François Mitterrand, who three days later sent French troops to invade Chad.

Walters' specialty has always been the non-stop U.S. war against the peoples of Latin America. When Washington consid-



New U.S. ambassador to United Nations, Gen. Vernon Walters (left), shown in 1969 with Richard Nixon, who named him deputy director of CIA. In lifelong service of U.S. imperialism, Walters specialized in carrying out U.S. imperialist aggression in Latin America.

ered reinstating open military aid to the Guatemalan dictatorship in 1981, Walters went there to work out the details. He congratulated the Guatemalan army and police for defending "peace and liberty;" in fact, they had killed 25,000 people in the last decade.

When the U.S. State Department concocted its 1981 "white paper" of lies about Cuban and Nicaraguan arms shipments to the Salvadoran rebels, it was Walters who took it to Latin American capitals, trying to line up support for Washington's war against the revolutionary government of Nicaragua.

During the Malvinas War, Walters had to break the news to Buenos Aires that

Washington's imperialist, racist solidarity with Britain outweighed its sponsorship of the Argentine military dictatorship.

When death-squad killers in El Salvador threatened to blow away U.S. embassy officials, Reagan sent Walters down to rein in the pack.

"He is an example," says a U.S. admiral, "of the importance this administration puts on getting along with military dictatorships."

Walters dismisses complaints about human rights with a philosophical shrug. "There will be human rights problems in the year 3,000," he predicts, "with the governments of Mars and the Moon. There are some problems that are never resolved."

# Cerro Maravilla perjury trial begins

BY ANDREA GONZÁLEZ

Jury selection began February 5 in the perjury trial of 10 former cops in federal court in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The charges stem from the police killings of two independence fighters at Cerro Maravilla on July 25, 1978.

Public pressure in Puerto Rico had forced a series of investigations into these killings. During one televised Senate hearing on the case, two cops admitted that Carlos Soto Arriví, 18, and Arnaldo Darío Rosado, 24, had been executed in cold blood by the cops.

This trial represents a small victory in the six-year struggle by the Puerto Rican people for justice in the case. But the U.S. government, whose own previous investigations formed part of the cover-up of the murders, has no intention of opening up the trial to the people of Puerto Rico.

Even before the trial began, Federal District Judge Carmen C. Vargas de Cerezo slapped a strict gag order on the proceedings. The order prohibits the press from talking to any juror, prospective juror, witnesses, or court personnel. It forbids any photos of the courtroom even when the trial is not in session.



Jaime Quiles, one of 10 cops charged with killings of independence fighters at Cerro Maravilla, Puerto Rico, in 1978.

Attorneys for the defense and prosecution are prohibited from talking to the press on any aspect of the case. Only a limited number of people will be admitted into the courtroom and the surrounding areas during the trial.

Although the trial takes place in Spanish-speaking Puerto Rico, it will be conducted in English. All people who don't speak English — which means most workers and farmers — have been immediately eliminated from the pool of prospective jurors.

An attempt is being made to screen out supporters of Puerto Rican independence from the jury. In the course of the jury selection, the judge has questioned prospective jurors on their political views, including asking which party they voted for in the last elections.

The 10 cops have also been indicted on murder charges in the local Puerto Rican courts. The date for this trial has still not been set.

# Juan Antonio Corretjer, 1908-1985: Puerto Rican independence fighter

BY ROBERT KOPEC

On January 15, a leader of the fight for Puerto Rico's independence, socialist Juan Antonio Corretjer, died after a serious heart ailment. At the time of his death he was Secretary General of the Puerto Rican Socialist League which he founded.

In Corretjer "there was united, in one life, the fighter and the artist, the poet and the soldier," said Juan Mari Brás, also a leader of the struggle for the island's independence.

In addition to being a staunch independence fighter, Corretjer distinguished himself through his poetry, becoming known as the "National Poet of Puerto Rico."

Born in Ciales on March 3, 1908, Corretjer became an active fighter for the independence of his country from U.S. imperialist domination when he was 16 years old. He joined the Nationalist Youth. In the late 1920s, he traveled to New York, where he joined the Anti-imperialist League of the Americas. He took part in protests against U.S. intervention in Central America and Haiti, and particularly in solidarity with Augusto César Sandino's war of liberation against the U.S. invasion of Nicaragua.

In 1930 he returned to Puerto Rico and met Puerto Rican nationalist leader, Pedro Albizu Campos. Corretjer immediately started working with him in the Nationalist Party.

In 1935 Corretjer went to Cuba to seek support for Puerto Rico's independence struggle. A general strike broke out while he was there. Corretjer joined in the fight and was arrested and sent to prison.

In 1936 Corretjer, who was then secretary general of the Nationalist Party, was

jailed by U.S. authorities in Puerto Rico for refusing to hand party records over to them.

While he was serving his sentence, Corretjer was accused, along with Albizu Campos and other nationalists, of "conspiring to overthrow the government of the United States in Puerto Rico." A jury made up of Puerto Ricans found them innocent.

Obviously dissatisfied, Washington, violating its own laws, convened a second jury and ensured a majority were non-Puerto Ricans. This time they were found guilty. Corretjer, Albizu, and other Nationalist Party leaders were sent to an Atlanta prison from 1937 to 1942. Corretjer would be sent to prison with Albizu Campos once more after the nationalist revolt in 1950.

In 1968 and 1969, with his companion Consuelo Lee Tapia and other members of the Socialist League, Corretjer was accused of conspiracy by Washington and was jailed in 1971.

Corretjer was a fighter for Puerto Rican independence until his death. He actively opposed the U.S. militarization of the island.

Thousands of people paid homage to this fighter and poet in Ciales, the city of his birth, where he was buried. Leaders and members of independence organizations — the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, the Puerto Rican Independence Party, and others — together with individuals and organizations that are not proindependence, honored the memory of Corretjer.

Messages were also sent from the Nicaraguan government and Casa de las Américas of Cuba.

CALIFORNIA

San Diego

**Behind Ruling Class' "Anticrime" Campaign — the Socialist View.** Speaker: Tom Baton, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 1053 15th St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (619) 234-4630.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

**Malcolm X Speaks.** A film and discussion. Sun., Feb. 24, 7 p.m. 504 Flat Shoals Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

**The Revolutionary Legacy of Malcolm X.** A panel discussion on the ideas of Malcolm X on the 20th anniversary of his assassination. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 3455 S Michigan Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (312) 326-5853.

**South Africa: The Struggle Against Apartheid Today.** A panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 3455 S Michigan Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (312) 326-5853.

KENTUCKY

Louisville

**Nicaragua Wants Peace — U.S. Wages War.** Speaker: Kevin Dwire, Young Socialist Alliance. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 809 Broadway (near Shelby). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

**Malcolm X: His Meaning for Today.** A panel discussion. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 809 Broadway (near Shelby). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

**The War in Central America: What's at Stake for Working People.** Speakers: Thabo Ntweng, Socialist Workers Party National Committee member. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Feb. 16, 7 p.m. Casa de Unidad, 1906 25 St. (corner of Vernor). Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (313) 862-7755.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

**Hunger in Ethiopia — Who is Responsible?** Speaker: Michael Maggi, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers union. Sun., Feb. 17, 4 p.m. 508 N Snelling. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

**Toward Independent Black Political Action — Malcolm X's Contribution.** Speakers: August Nimitz, Socialist Workers Party; Janice Payne-Dorlaie, National Black Independent Political Party. Sun., Feb. 24, 4 p.m. 508 N Snelling. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

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**Fighting Racism in World War II — The Story of A Soldier's Story.** A panel discussion. Sun., Feb. 17, 7 p.m. 3109 S Grand, #22. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 772-4410.

**Malcolm X: The Man and His Ideas.** Speaker: Ed Warren, Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Feb. 24, 7 p.m. 3109 S Grand, #22. Donation: \$2.

Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 772-4410.

NEW JERSEY

Newark

**South Africa Belongs to Us!** Film featuring Winnie Mandela and six other Black South African women on the struggle against apartheid. Fri., Feb. 22, pre-forum dinner, 6:30 p.m.; forum, 7:30 p.m. 141 Halsey (corner Raymond, 1 block from Broad). Donation: forum, \$2; dinner, \$3. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

**Malcolm X and the Freedom Struggle in South Africa.** David Ndaba, African National Congress of South Africa; Representative of National Black Independent Political Party. Film showing of *Malcolm X — the Struggle for Freedom*. Wed., Feb. 20, 6:30 p.m. Adam Clayton Powell State Office Bldg., 125th St at Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. Ausp: Manhattan NBIPP. For more information call (212) 862-8979.

**El-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz.** A film by Gil Noble. Mohammed Oliver, National Committee member of the Socialist Workers Party will lead a discussion on the relevance of Malcolm X's ideas for today. Translation to Spanish. Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. 79 Leonard St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (212) 226-8445.

**Give Peace a Dance.** A benefit for medical aid for Central America. Dancing, live music with Johnny Colon Band and the Human Condition. Fri., Feb. 22, 9 p.m. Marc Ballroom, 30 E 16th St. Donation: \$10. Ausp: African-American Solidarity Network, Nicaragua Medical and Material Aid Campaign, New York Central American Health Rights Committee. For more information call (212) 889-5188.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro

**The Revolutionary Legacy of Malcolm X.** Showing of film *El-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz* and discussion. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 301 S Elm, Suite 522. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (919) 272-5996.

OHIO

Cincinnati

**A Tribute to Malcolm X.** Speakers: James Meridith, civil rights activist and professor at University of Cincinnati; Denise Crews, Trans-Africa; Michael Washington, history professor, Northern Kentucky University; Kibwe Diarra, Socialist Workers Party. Charles Graves, National Black Independent Political Party, will moderate panel. Sun., Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

**The U.S. Political Situation Today.** Speaker: John Studer, member of National Committee, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., March 2, 7:30 p.m. 4945 Paddock Rd. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (513) 242-7161.

Cleveland

**The Legacy of Malcolm X.** Showing of film, *Malcolm X, the Struggle for Freedom*, an interview with Malcolm X. Speaker: Samuel Farley, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers Local 1229. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 15105 St. Clair Ave. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (216) 451-6150.

**Maurice.** Cuban film on Maurice Bishop and the Grenada revolution, 1979-83. Sat., March 9, 7:30 p.m. 15105 St. Clair Ave. Donation: \$3. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more in-

formation call (216) 451-6150.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

**End Apartheid in South Africa.** Panel discussion with Godfrey Sithole, representative of African National Congress of South Africa and other speakers. Fri., Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. 2744 Germantown Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 225-0213.

**Malcolm X.** Hear excerpts from Malcolm X's speeches. Presentation by Tyrone Williams, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. 2744 Germantown Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (215) 225-0213.

Pittsburgh

**In Defense of Democratic Rights.** Against Police, Court, and Vigilante Attacks on Union Activists, Immigrant Workers, Political Refugees, Blacks, and Political Activists. A panel discussion. Speakers: Ron Weisen, president, United Steelworkers Local 1397; Representative of Interfaith Sanctuary Movement; Neil Price, National Lawyers Guild; Clare Fraenzl, Socialist Workers Party, member United Mine Workers Local 1197. Sun., Feb. 17, 7 p.m. 141 S Highland. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

**Tribute to Malcolm X.** Speaker: Al Duncan, Socialist Workers Party, member United Mine Workers Local 2350. Sat., Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. 141 S Highland. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (412) 362-6767.

TEXAS

Dallas

**South Africa: the Struggle Against Apartheid Today.** A panel discussion. Speakers: Marvin Krenshaw, Citizens Against Apartheid; others. Translation to Spanish. Sat., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. 132 N Beckley. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (214) 943-5195.

UTAH

PRICE

**Celebrate Black History Month.** Family Concepts from the Black Perspective. Speaker: Darnell Haney, Black student advisor, Weber State College. Tues., Feb. 19, 11 a.m. College of Eastern Utah Little Theatre.

History of Utah's Black Community. Speaker: Ron Coleman, professor, University of Utah. Fri., Feb. 22, 11 a.m. College of Eastern Utah Little Theatre.

Ausp: Black Student Union, College of Eastern Utah. For more information call (801) 637-2120, ext. 265.

**Maurice Bishop Speaks.** Videotape of the slain Grenadian prime minister. Sat., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. 23 S Carbon Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (801) 637-6294.

Salt Lake City

**Vigilantes and "Law and Order": A Socialist Perspective.** Speaker: representative of Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. 767 S State, 3rd floor. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

**Malcolm X: the Man and His Ideas.** Film showing of *El-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz*. Discussion to follow. Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. 767 S State, 3rd floor. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (801) 355-1124.

VIRGINIA

Newport News

**Celebration of Black History Month.** Showing of film, *Malcolm X, the Struggle for Freedom*. Sat., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. 5412 Jefferson Ave. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (804) 380-0133.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

**South Africa: White Rule, Black Revolt. Why the U.S. Government Supports Apartheid.** Speaker: Mike Shur, Socialist Workers Party, member International Association of Machinists Local 1103. Sat., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. 5517 Rainier Ave. S. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (206) 723-5330.

WEST VIRGINIA

Morgantown

**The Union Carbide Disaster — Profits Before Safety.** Speakers: Warne Ferguson, Concerned Citizens Committee of Institute; Dave Ferguson, Socialist Workers Party, member United Mine Workers Local 2095. Sat., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. 221 Pleasant St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (304) 296-0055.

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**Holding the lid on prices** — Embarrassed by the disclosure that it had paid \$640 apiece for aircraft toilet covers, the Pentagon talked



Harry Ring

to the supplier, Lockheed-California. To smooth things out, Lockheed agreed to reduce the price to \$100 per lid. Explaining that the lids were not cheapos, a Lockheed

spokesperson said, "This is not an off-the-shelf item. They are designed to military specifications."

**P.S.** — Asked why they had to stock so many of those \$640 lids, a Navy spokesperson explained, "They crack."

**Environmentalists** — The Navy permitted Fund for Animals workers to fly over California's San Clemente Island in helicopters to pluck wild goats off the island. The remaining goats will be the target of Navy sharpshooters. Navy officials say the goats eat foliage necessary to support endangered species on the island, which is used for bombing prac-

tice.

**Putty and wax will do it** — McDonnell Douglas agreed to recall 148 Navy Hornet jet fighters. The planes, the initial ones in a \$39.9 billion order, developed cracks at the spot where the tail joins the fuselage. In an apparent fit of generosity, the company agreed to foot the \$25 million repair bill.

**Breach of state security** — Princess Diana's ex-hairdresser was bitterly assailed in the British Parliament for disclosing in a magazine article that she dyes her hair and is partial to U.S. soap operas. One MP declared the hair-

dresser "a rat" and called for a customer boycott.

**To spot the ones with red hair?** — According to author James Bamford, the government used photo-reconnaissance satellites to take pictures of antiwar demonstrators in the 1960s and '70s.

**Sensitive, civilized** — "A criminologist's answer to the rising crime rate... old-fashioned corporal punishment... a compelling case for making pain the penalty for crime — carefully administered electric shock or public flogging. For most crimes and criminals, corporal punishment is

more effective (and fair and humane) than years spent in dangerous, overcrowded, expensive prisons." — Blurb for new book on the subject.

**Too much even for a judge** — A federal judge ordered a department store in West New York, N.J., to reinstate Enrique Cuevas to his job with back pay. Cuevas had been fired for taking a half-roll of toilet paper, worth 11 cents, to clean his car windows.

**Thought for the week** — "I'm tired of hearing about inmates' rights." Monmouth County, N.J., Sheriff William Lanzaro, responding to accusation of prison brutality.

## Hormel workers and farmers: similar problems

BY JOHN ENESTVEDT

I have just finished reading the report in the January 25 *Militant* about the class-struggle dispute between Local P-9 of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union and George A. Hormel & Co. of Austin, Minnesota. To me, this story by Jim Altenberg and Maggie McCraw was also of interest to working farmers.

The income of Local P-9 members, I've been told, has

### AS I SEE IT

actually been cut nearly in half, along with that of working farmers, whose farm commodities have been at near half price for more than three years in a row, based on farm commodity prices in the monthly reports issued by the Department of Agriculture.

At the recently-held convention of the American Agriculture Movement-Minnesota, a farm woman talked about the wage-cutting policy of this very profitable meat processor. "Some two years ago Hormel workers were making a little over \$600 per week. After three wage cuts, these workers are now making only a little over \$300 per week. With wages cut in half, farm com-

modities cut to half price, and meat prices high — where is the money going?" she asked.

Her statement graphically illustrates the double-exploitation of both workers and farmers, which is an ongoing practice by all meat packers. They are pleading — of all things — "a low margin of profits."

This farm woman also explained about the proposal of Local P-9 to picket all locations of the First Bank System with picket lines of both workers and farmers. First Bank System is one of the giant banking trusts that is actively dispossessing the homes of Hormel workers employed at half a wage, as well as dispossessing farmers whose commodities are being sold at half price.

As a kid in grade school, I first learned about this double exploitation of both workers and farmers during World War I. It is no different now even though nearly 70 years have passed by. The exploitation is now more pronounced, of course, because there has been a greater concentration of the wealth of the United States into fewer and fewer hands.

And, as pointed out in the *Militant* story, Dewalt Ankeny, president of the First Bank System, actually is a member of the board of directors of Hormel. In this way he acts to short the income of us both so as to dispossess us from our homes and farms.

In the past, workers and farmers have learned to work together when the chips are down. We did just that in the 1930s and 1940s, to offset the defeats we suffered in the teens and 1920s. We did it through the joint efforts of the sit-down strikes going on all over the United States and through the militant actions by the Farmers Holiday Association.

It is good to see that united efforts of both workers and farmers are again under way. Once again we have to turn the defeats of noncooperation with each other into the victories that come from joint actions. We must know by now that we will never right the wrongs committed against us in any other way.

The farmers' Groundswell rally at the Minnesota State Capitol on January 21, as well as the tractorcades by the American Agricultural Movement and many other militant "fightback" efforts of the past few years — by civil rights activists, Blacks, Latinos, youths, senior citizens, and those in favor of abortion rights — have been conducted by those who need to redress their grievances.

All of us need to flex the united muscle we have. So — all out for the antiwar protest in Washington, D.C., on April 20.

John Enestvedt is a long-time farm activist and a member of the American Agriculture Movement-Minnesota.

## San Jose NOW sponsors abortion rights picket line

BY TERRY APPLIGATE

SAN JOSE — The San Jose/South Bay Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) sponsored a lively "Abortion Rights Celebration" here on January 22. Approximately 80 people picketed the Federal Building during rush hour to commemorate the 12th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

Abortion rights activities have occurred every year on January 22 throughout the United States, but this year they had a special urgency. The picket line was called to protest the violent attacks on and bombings of abortion clinics. A leaflet handed out at the picket line read, "We shall not be intimidated by bombings and threats. We are in the majority and we are joined by millions of women and men who support a

woman's right to choose abortion."

The leaflet also explained, "The torrent of anti-abortion propaganda and violence is part of a fight to reverse the gains women have made in past decades. Abortion rights are not optional luxuries. They are life and death questions for millions of women."

"My body, my choice!" and "Not the Church, not the state, women will decide their fate!" were chanted by the marchers. They carried candles and signs reading, "Stop sexist violence!" and "Keep your laws off my body!"

The picket line was endorsed by the

California Abortion Rights Action League; First Unitarian Church of San Jose; National Lawyers Guild; Planned Parenthood of Santa Clara; Socialist Workers Party; Women's Community Clinic, Inc.; Young Socialist Alliance; and several other groups.

### La. forum discusses clinic bombings

BY JIM ROGERS

NEW ORLEANS — "When you pick up the paper and read about the bombings of women's clinics around the country, you see there is a war going on. We didn't start the war but we're damn sure not going to give up!"

This was the message Linda Taggart, director of the Ladies Clinic of Pensacola, Florida, brought to supporters of abortion rights at a speakout here sponsored by the National Organization for Women (NOW) on January 20.

The Ladies Clinic is one of three abortion clinics in Pensacola bombed by anti-abortion terrorists on December 25.

Taggart, whose mother almost died in a back-alley abortion before abortion was legal, is determined to continue the fight to maintain safe, legal abortion. The clinic reopened on January 19.

Taggart also announced that she and several of the doctors at the Ladies Clinic would soon be filing a civil suit against the bombers.

## Rail workers will lose in Conrail sale

Continued from back page

unions' contracts expired last year. The railroads are demanding further wage concessions, speed-up and productivity savings, and job eliminations in order to boost profits. Among the employers' demands are a one-year cap on seniority protection for workers in the operating crafts who are laid off, and new hire rates 50 percent below current wage levels.

The Norfolk Southern purchase offer includes a provision to return Conrail workers' wage rates to those of the rest of the industry, retroactive to July 1, 1984. But with the national contract battle on, and in the face of Norfolk's announced job cuts, this offers slim satisfaction.

Position of rail labor officials

Prior to the DOT announcement favoring Norfolk, rail labor officials had been locked in behind-closed-doors debates about what position to take on the impending sale. Their starting point was to try to determine which of the profit-hungry bidders might force smaller concessions on Conrail workers.

For instance, Fred Hardin, president of the United Transportation Union — which represents the 8,600 remaining Conrail operating department workers — had backed the Norfolk Southern bid. In a letter sent to union members last December, his argument was that while jobs would be lost regardless of which offer won out, the least damage appeared to come from the Norfolk Southern bid.

On January 29, after private meetings

with representatives of the three companies, the Railway Labor Executive Association announced it had reached a unanimous decision to back the Allegheny offer.

This approach of looking for the "lesser evil" bidder is a substitute for the RLEA organizing and leading a fight against the further cutbacks and attacks planned by all the contenders. It ties Conrail labor's hands behind its back.

The Norfolk-DOT agreement faces a political fight in Congress before it is finalized. Conrail's current management,

legislators from states that will suffer service cutbacks, and representatives of competing railroads have made it clear they will try to block the sale.

Some RLEA members have also pledged to join efforts to block the Norfolk Southern buy out. But while the sale process goes on, the current Conrail management continues to chip away at workers, softening them up for whoever wins the battle of "reprivatization." In January alone, more than 4,100 track and signal maintenance workers were furloughed, hundreds of them permanently.

### Mayor Koch backs killer cop, Goetz

Continued from back page

feet away. The third guy was further away and the fourth, being Cabey, [Daryl Cabey, who is currently in a coma as a result of the shooting] was much further away."

The state prosecutors built their case not on Goetz's actions but on that section of the penal code that permits the use of deadly weapons if an individual "reasonably believes" they will be robbed or attacked in any way. All the witnesses indicated there was no reason to believe there was any danger. The state therefore built its case solely on what Goetz says he believed. Goetz himself was never called to the stand to answer questions.

"Bernhard Goetz shot those four youths for one and only one reason: they were

Black," declared González.

"The State of New York," González said, "found a section of the penal code to legitimize such racist vigilante action. It orchestrated its case to guarantee Goetz would get off scot-free. The case was based on whether Goetz, a known racist, 'believed' that four Black youths were going to rob him. The grand jury decision gives a green light to other racists to gun down Black and Hispanic youth and then plead that they thought they were in danger."

"I fully support the efforts of the Black youths' families to win justice for their sons. I join wholeheartedly with all those in the Black community who are calling for Goetz to be put behind bars where he belongs."

## Central America 'white paper'

The White House has begun circulating advance copies of a new "white paper" purporting to explain the noble aims behind U.S. policy in Central America. The document is scheduled for larger distribution on the eve of Congressional debate on how many millions to give Central American dictators and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries this year. But its main points have already been widely reported in the news media:

1. The United States government, it claims, seeks only peace and prosperity in Central America. But the Soviet Union, using Cuba, is trying to turn the region into an "East-bloc satellite."

2. This process has already reached an advanced stage in "Marxist-leaning" Nicaragua, which, the White House claims, is a military threat to its Latin American neighbors and to the United States.

What U.S. bankers, capitalist politicians, and generals are really worried about in Central America, however, is reserving the highly profitable status quo and crushing the revolutionary struggles of the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran workers and peasants.

When U.S. banks, mining firms, and transportation companies began investing in Central America more than 100 years ago, the attraction was high profits. The profits came from plundering the area's natural resources, paying low wages, and maintaining vicious dictators that crushed efforts at building unions. The grinding poverty and brutal repression spawned inevitable protest, organization, and, in many cases, armed struggle by the exploited poor. And whenever landless farmers and hungry workers seemed to be on the verge of getting the upper hand, the U.S. government responded with military force to try to drown such rebellions in blood.

The first U.S. Marines were sent to Central America in the 1890s, two decades before the Russian revolution

took place. Nicaragua, under Augusto César Sandino, began its war to throw out the U.S. Marines in 1927, when Fidel Castro was in diapers and the Cuban revolution still 32 years off in the future.

Before there was "Cuban expansionism" to blame for uprisings in Central America, "Bolsheviks" were held responsible. And before there were "Bolsheviks," rebel leaders were called "bandits." The name changed but the real enemy remained the same — poor and working people fighting for a better life for themselves and their children.

Nicaragua sacrificed the lives of 50,000 martyrs to make a revolution because they couldn't stand to live under the U.S.-backed Somoza dictatorship any longer.

Now that they are five years into the process of building the hospitals, schools, day-care centers, and housing they were denied so long under Somoza, Washington has placed a new obstacle in their path — a full-scale war, carried out by some 15,000 CIA-trained counterrevolutionaries.

The white paper makes a big point of the weapons that have arrived in Nicaragua in the last year, listing the quantities of tanks, rockets, howitzers, and artillery pieces provided by the Soviet Union.

The Nicaraguan workers and farmers, however, have the sovereign right to ask for and receive weapons from any country they want, weapons necessary to defend their country from the U.S.-organized war.

This war in the last three years has claimed 9,000 Nicaraguan lives — a figure that in proportion to the population of the United States would amount to a total of more than half a million war dead.

It's the expansionist U.S. imperialists who are the source of bloodshed in the region. The white paper is designed to cover up that fundamental fact.

## INS's 'guest worker' program

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is clearing the way for basic changes in the "guest worker" program. Under current rules, up to 20,000 workers a year are brought in, under government license, to harvest fruit and vegetable crops.

Guest workers, like the undocumented, are distinguished from all other U.S. workers by the fact that they have virtually no civil or political rights. They receive harsh treatment at the hands of labor contractors and growers.

Under one of the proposed changes, their situation would be made even more difficult. Growers would not be required, as they are now, to provide at least 60 days of work. The minimum would be reduced to 40 days and, where needed, waived altogether.

The purpose of all this, of course, is to provide the growers with an even bigger and more vulnerable pool of low-paid labor.

And it is one more device aimed at dividing farm workers, and pitting them against one another.

One important objective of an expanded guest-worker program is to help thwart unionization in the fields. The growers and government calculate that workers brought in for brief periods during harvest time are more difficult to organize.

The AFL-CIO officialdom has assessed such use of workers from other countries as union-busting. But these union officials' "solution" to the problem of guest workers is the same as their solution to the problem of the undocumented: keep them out.

The union movement should reject this reactionary stance. Only a sustained fight for equal rights for these fellow workers can make it more difficult for the employers to use them against the unions.

For a bond of solidarity to be established, organized labor will have to take its stand as the resolute champion of the rights of guest workers.

The first and most elementary right the unions need to fight for is guest workers' right to remain in this country as long as they want, not simply for whatever time the growers and government deem profitable.

Within that framework, there is the fight to assure these workers their full range of rights. That means a living, union wage; reasonable hours and conditions of work; decent housing; medical care; unemployment compensation when a job runs out; the right to be politically active; and every other right that is supposed to be available to all working people in this country.

Unity and solidarity have been the key to every advance ever won by working people. And it's exactly what's needed in responding to this challenge.

## Hatch Act: threat to unions

On February 12, a little-known government agency announced that it has decided to fire three federal employees — the presidents of the largest federal workers' unions.

The Office of Special Counsel, enforcement arm of the Merit Systems Protection Board, said it had already ruled against Moe Biller, president of the American Postal Workers Union; Vincent Sombrotto, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers; and Kenneth Blaylock, president of the American Federation of Government Employees. These three unions have a combined membership of 800,000. Biller, Sombrotto, and Blaylock are all on leave from their jobs while serving in union office.

The agency told the three officials they have until February 26 to resign or retire from their government jobs, or they will face dismissal.

All three are charged with violating the Hatch Act — an undemocratic federal law that forbids public service workers from campaigning, raising funds, distributing literature, or running for public office.

The government agency charges that the three violated the act when in "1983 and 1984 you engaged in campaign activity in support of the presidential candidacy of Walter Mondale and against the reelection of Republican Ronald Reagan."

There has been an increase in government use of the Hatch Act to go after workers in the last couple of years. In that time, four workers were prosecuted for running

for office and one for working on a campaign staff.

The Hatch Act has also been used in the past to threaten and victimize unionists who challenge the Democrats and Republicans. Federal, state, and local government employees, and workers for private companies that receive federal funds, can be targeted. In 1982, for instance, VIA, the private metropolitan transit system in San Antonio, Texas, attempted to use the Hatch Act to fire Steve Warshell, a bus driver, when he announced he was running for governor as the candidate of the Socialist Workers Party.

This government move is an attack on the rights of all workers. It constitutes government interference in the affairs of the unions. Its aim is to further weaken the unions, circumscribe their freedom of action, and their right to engage in political activity. The goal is to set a precedent for future victimizations.

It comes on the heels of setbacks and restrictions imposed on postal and other government workers. In 1984 an arbitration board imposed a two-tier wage structure on postal workers, cutting wages for new hires 25 percent.

Most government workers are saddled with legislation that denies them the right to strike.

The three union officials have announced that they will fight to keep their federal jobs.

The Hatch Act violates the right of unionists and their organizations to be active in politics. It should be abolished. And the entire labor movement should join in demanding the charges be dropped.

## Sandino: patriot from the 'bosom of the oppressed'

On February 21, Nicaragua will be commemorating the 51st anniversary of the death of Augusto César Sandino, the country's national hero. In 1927 Sandino organized an army to drive out the U.S. Marines who had occupied the country in connivance with the local big landowners and wealthy elite. In 1934 Sandino was assassinated on orders of Anastasio Somoza García, founder of the Somoza dynasty and father of the tyrant ousted by the 1979 revolution.

The following excerpts are from Sandino's "Political Manifesto" of July 1, 1927, in which he explained his decision to take up arms against the U.S. occupiers and their allies. This translation originally appeared in the July-August 1984 *Tricontinental*, a magazine published in Havana, Cuba.

A man who does not ask his homeland for even a handful of earth for his grave deserves to be heard, and not only heard, but believed.

I am Nicaraguan and I am proud that in my veins flows, more than any other, the blood of the American Indian, whose regeneration contains the secret of being a loyal and sincere patriot. The bonds of nationality give

## OUR REVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE

me the right to assume responsibility for my actions on matters of Nicaragua and, therefore, of Central America and the entire Continent that speaks our language, without concerning myself over what the pessimistic and cowardly eunuchs may call me.

I am a city worker, an artisan as they say in my country, but my ideals are broadly internationalistic in nature and entail the right to be free and demand justice, although to achieve this state of perfection it may be necessary to shed my own blood and that of others.

Oligarchs, who act like geese in a quagmire, will say I am plebeian. It doesn't matter. My greatest honor is to have emerged from the bosom of the oppressed, who are the soul and nerves of the race, who have lived put off and at the mercy of the shameless assassins who helped incubate the crime of high treason: the Nicaraguan conservatives who wounded the free heart of the Homeland and who pursued us ferociously as though we were not children of the same nation.

The big men will say that I am very little to have undertaken such a task; but my insignificance is surmounted by the loftiness of my patriotic heart, and so I pledge before my country and history that my sword will defend the national honor and will be the redemption of the oppressed.

I accept the invitation to the struggle and I myself will provoke it, and to the challenge of the cowardly invader and the traitors to my country I answer with my battle cry. My chest and that of my soldiers will form walls that the legions of Nicaragua's enemies will crash upon. The last of my soldiers, who are soldiers for Nicaragua's freedom, might die, but first, more than a battalion of you, blond invader, will have bitten the dust of my rustic mountains.

I will not be Magdalena, begging on bent knee for the pardon of my enemies — who are the enemies of Nicaragua — because I believe that nobody on earth has the right to be a demigod. I want to convince the coldhearted Nicaraguans, the indifferent Central Americans, and the Indo-Hispanic race, that in the spur of the Andean mountains there is a group of patriots who know how to fight and how to fight and die like men.

Come, you gang of morphine addicts; come murder us in our own land, I am awaiting you, standing upright before my patriotic soldiers, not caring how many you may be. But bear in mind that when this occurs, the destruction of your grandeur will shake the Capitol in Washington, reddening with your blood the white sphere that crowns your famous White House, the den where you concoct your crimes.

I want to advise the governments of Central America, especially that of Honduras, that you need not fear that, because I have more than enough troops, I will militarily invade your territory in an attempt to overthrow it. No. I am not a mercenary, but a patriot who will not permit an offense against our sovereignty. . . .

Brothers and sisters of my people: having expressed my most ardent desires for the defense of our homeland, I welcome you in my ranks regardless of political affiliation, as long as you come with good intentions, remembering that you can fool all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all the time.

# Baltimore Black party builds S. Africa protests

The following is a guest column by Ken Morgan, a member of the Baltimore chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party:

"No arms, no aid, no support, no trade for South Africa." More than 140 voices rang out down the street from the South African embassy in Washington, D.C., on the wintry afternoon of January 24. These folks had braved the below-freezing temperatures and traveled



## BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

Mohammed Oliver

from Baltimore with the Baltimore Anti-apartheid Coalition (BAC) to make their views known to the U.S. government and the apartheid regime of South Africa.

The message was clear. The three busloads that carried the contingent from Baltimore included steelworkers, hospital workers, clergy, and community activists. While the 140 people marched, 23 people were arrested after attempting to see the South African ambassador. They participated in the organized civil disobedience efforts of the Washington-based Free South Africa Movement.

A month prior to this January 24 protest, BAC was able to organize about 100 people to take the trip to Washington and demonstrate at the picket line. Both demonstration days were declared "Baltimore Day at the South African Embassy."

Less than a week before the January 24 trip, BAC sponsored an educational forum that included African National Congress (ANC) spokesperson Dumisani Matabane. Close to 70 people came to hear Matabane's address. His presentation on the ANC's efforts and strategies for liberating the Black masses and their allies was warmly received by the gathering. Greetings and messages of solidarity were given by Rev. Mamie Williams, pastor of Centennial United Methodist Church; Rodney

Orange, representing the United Steelworkers of America and the NAACP; and Mary Bennis, Cochair of the Baltimore chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) and chairperson of BAC.

The Baltimore NBIPP called the initial meeting to organize people in Baltimore to participate in the Washington picket lines. The coalition was born out of these efforts. The coalition is composed of individuals and organizations, including representatives from USWA District 8, at least two USWA locals, the NAACP, TransAfrica, the African National Reparations Organization, the Black Interdenominational Alliance, the Catholic Archdiocese, and the Central American Solidarity Committee (CASC).

The coalition is still deciding on what form of local actions it will take up. Local demonstrations, boycotts, more educational meetings, and support for local divestment initiatives are being discussed.

The principles of unity forged in the coalition are: support for all liberation groups that are fighting to bring down the South African regime; self-determination for the oppressed Black South African nation; an end to all U.S. corporate, military, political, and financial support to the Pretoria regime; support for the total isolation of South Africa; the freeing of all political prisoners and South African trade union activists; and support for the South West Africa People's Organization and its goal of liberating Namibia. The coalition also notes that the system and injustices of apartheid are linked with racism in the United States.

NBIPP members continue to play an active role in the coalition, putting forth a view that is reflective of the goals and objectives, principles of unity, and platform of NBIPP. We openly and democratically explain our views as BAC discusses the coalition's course of action.

For instance, as we discuss our local actions — which might include demonstrating against a company that does business in South Africa, or boycotting a company, or supporting divestment initiatives — we explain that our main purpose should be political and not just economic. That is, to organize Blacks and other working people against the U.S. government and both of its political parties — the Democrats and Republicans — for complicity with the apartheid regime.

U.S. big businesses greatly aid the South African government. These corporations employ just 1 percent of the Black workforce, but they dominate some key sectors of the South African economy, including petroleum, computers, motor vehicles, and nuclear technology. These tools are used by the Pretoria regime to maintain the apartheid system, for example, in the computerization of the passbook system.

This private support is bolstered by the military and political support that the U.S. government gives to the South African government. Ronald Reagan's "constructive engagement" policy toward Pretoria has the same effect as Jimmy Carter's illusionary "get tough" policy on the racist regime. Carter never imposed economic sanctions — or even remotely suggested that American companies should pull out.

This support that the U.S. government gives not only allows South Africa to maintain its heinous system, but also helps it aid U.S. imperialism in the southern African region. Namibia continues to suffer under illegal South African military occupation. Mozambique and Angola have been the victims of countless South African invasions, as well as being subject to economic blackmail. U.S. foreign policy supports Pretoria's attempts to subvert liberation movements and destabilize its neighbors.

This is the view that Baltimore NBIPP participants bring to BAC's discussions around actions. They are not intended to discourage coalition actions, but to aim our energies more accurately; to identify capitalism and imperialism, as well as racism, as the roots of the apartheid system. We explain that it is this same capitalism system that is the source of the oppression faced by the Black nation in the United States.

Capitalism is responsible for the catastrophic unemployment, plant closings, increasing poverty rate, company wage and benefit takebacks, escalating attacks on our civil rights, and the snatching away of Black youths to be used as cannon fodder in the U.S. rulers' wars.

We Baltimore NBIPP activists are learning there is no place like the struggle to put NBIPP's charter into practice — to learn and to grow as an organization as we are trying to provide a real alternative to the misleadership that currently saddles the Black community.

## LETTERS

### Manuel Archuleta

I was greatly saddened to read about the death of Manuel Archuleta. Manuel was well-known in Espanola and Las Vegas, New Mexico, and he was a leader of the Chicano movement in the Southwest.

I knew Manuel in Albuquerque, where I was a new member of the Young Socialist Alliance. The first time I heard him speak was at a Socialist Workers Party campaign rally. He was a candidate for the La Raza Unida Party and explained why Chicanos and workers must start their own parties, and not support Democrats and Republicans.

Manuel joined the SWP in 1978 and was an inspiration to me and others in the party and YSA. He taught us a great deal about politics, the Chicano movement, and his experiences being a union organizer and a soldier in Vietnam.

Manuel was not in the YSA, but was always interested in recruiting and educating youth and building the organization. His knowledge and experience earned him a lot of respect and his sense of humor and deep love for the cause of justice earned him many friends.

Until today, I always expected to see Manuel again leading the working class he loved so much. I would like to thank him for his contribution. Harry Ring said it very well — he was an authentic revolutionary.

Mark Curtis  
Birmingham, Alabama

### Not too short

A 4' 10" Wisconsin woman recently sued an automaker that fired her because she was too short. Both the state board and county court supported the worker, and she won her case.

This is an important precedent. It will help fight against at least one of the many phony excuses that are used to deny women access to or fire them from certain

jobs.

A few years ago I applied for a job as a brakeman for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. This was a full day of testing. Around 50 men and me showed up to apply. I was the only woman. One guy leaned over to me and said if affirmative action meant anything, I should get hired.

So the testing began. One test I was aware of was lifting a 70-pound train knuckle. I was worried about that one and wore my flattest shoes for support. After the paper testing we were brought into this room, and there was the knuckle. Some guy told me to lift it and I did. I then had to connect and disconnect some hoses that would be used to couple and uncouple a train. That all went well. Then I was asked to push a button on the wall that was above my 5 feet and 2 inches. I reached for it, but I did have to stand on my toes. At the end of the day personnel informed me that I didn't get the job because I was too short.

Since then I haven't been too short to work in an auto-body plant, be a machinist apprentice, or run a Harris printing press. It's just that companies who use the excuse of "shortness" to deny women jobs are tall on prejudice.

Mary Selvas  
Jersey City, New Jersey

### 'A soldier's story'

I would like to differ from the views expressed by John Votava in the January 25 *Militant*. *A Soldier's Story* is a racist film buttressed by antiracist credentials.

If you have seen Sidney Poitier in *The Heat of the Night* or *They Call Me Mr. Tibbs*, you won't be surprised to see a suave, well-educated Black hero from the North coming down to make mincemeat of the hapless Southern crackers. He is even armed with a mandate from Washington! Only he can save the poor southern Blacks, who obviously can't fend for

themselves. (Though they can play a hell of a baseball game!)

John Votava points to the portrayal of the white officers as racists. But this is just the sucker bait. How else can Hollywood get away with it? The real villain of the movie is Sgt. Waters, a Black man. A twisted ogre, an alcoholic, he tortures the troops. The white officers are never portrayed as mistreating Blacks. They just have negative attitudes, but nothing ever comes of it. For Hollywood, racism is above all a question of style.

And what about Peterson, the one who kills Waters? His militancy culminates in murder, just as naturally and inevitably as the Pentagon's investigation culminates in justice being served. Talk about turning the victim into the criminal! Peterson even looks like Malcolm X.

In the end the hero rides off into the sunset, having solved the problem that was bothering the troops. The problem was the murderous militant in their midst, not racism in the army. Now they can triumphantly march off to the white man's war.

Jim Miller  
Portland, Oregon

### No health insurance

Eugene Barnes, an unemployed Black worker living in Richmond, California, died on January 31.

At 5:11 p.m. on Monday, January 28, Barnes was found unconscious on Stab wounds on Filbert Street in Richmond. He was brought by ambulance to Brookside hospital in nearby San Pablo, where it was decided that he needed a neurosurgeon.

When no neurosurgeon was available at Brookside, three other hospitals were called.

Contra Costa County Hospital said they could not take him. A neurosurgeon there explained that he didn't "feel good about starting another case of this sort."



Bill Mauldin

"I sheltered some Salvadoran refugees. What was your crime?"

A spokesman for Herrick Hospital in nearby Berkeley told the press that they refused to take Barnes because Herrick "does not take patients without health insurance."

Highland Hospital, the large Alameda County facility, also refused to take Barnes, claiming that he was "too unstable to move."

Finally, San Francisco General Hospital across the bay — a good-sized trip — agreed to take him. He arrived at San Francisco General at 10:00 p.m., almost five hours after he had originally been admitted to Brookside. He underwent extensive surgery, but lapsed into a coma, and was pronounced dead at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday.

A physician at San Francisco General who reviewed the case said, "This guy might have been

alive and walking and talking if he had received attention immediately . . . in this type of case the ability to survive is proportional to the time it takes to pursue treatment."

Why was this terrible thing allowed to happen?

Because Eugene Barnes was an unemployed Black man "without health insurance."

Paul Montauk  
Oakland, California

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

## N.Y. socialist candidate condemns Democrats' call for more cops

BY MARITZA LEBRON

NEW YORK — Carol Bellamy, the current New York city council president, announced on February 9 that she is running for mayor against Edward Koch in the Democratic Party primary. Within hours of Bellamy's announcement, the Coalition for a Just New York, a group of Democrats led by Black elected officials and ministers, announced that they had endorsed Herman Farrell as their candidate for mayor. Farrell is a Black assemblyman from Manhattan.

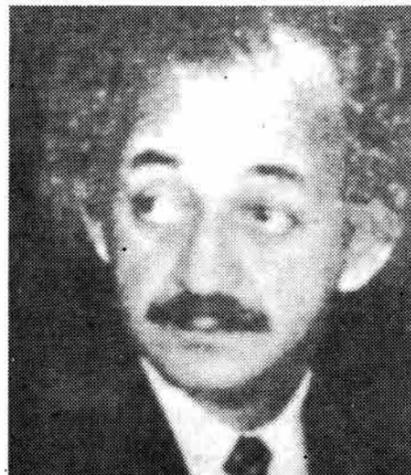
With the announcement by these two candidates, the attempt by Black, Hispanic, and labor officials to pick a single Democratic Party candidate to oppose Koch came to an end. The "anti-Koch" forces included leading Democrats who are Black, such as Percy Sutton, Al Vann, and Clayton Jones; Black activists such as Rev. Herbert Daughtry of the National Black United Front; Democrats who are Puerto Rican, such as Herman Badillo and Angelo Del Toro; and officials from the city's unions such as Victor Gotbaum, president of District Council 37 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

The "dump Koch" campaign was a by-product of the "dump Reagan" perspective of these same forces in the presidential elections. They blamed Koch for the problems facing Blacks, Hispanics, and all working people in the city. They claim the solution to these problems is to vote Koch



Militant/Yvonne Hayes

Candidates for New York mayor. Andrea González (left), Socialist Workers Party. Herman (Denny) Farrell and Carol Bellamy are two of the three Democrats in the race.



out and elect a different liberal Democrat.

During the 1984 presidential elections these forces pulled together what they thought was a viable coalition to elect Walter Mondale, who carried New York City. This "victory," along with the big vote for Jesse Jackson in the city's Black districts during the Democratic Party presidential primary, gave these forces hope that they would be able to get rid of Koch.

As the time to pick an "anti-Koch" candidate drew near, however, unity of these forces exploded. The Coalition for a Just New York publicly acknowledged that

Bellamy had little hope of winning their endorsement. She then declared she would run with or without their support.

Herman Badillo, the ex-deputy mayor who was the front-runner for the Coalition for a Just New York's endorsement, immediately attacked Farrell's endorsement. Badillo charged that Farrell is not qualified to be mayor because he doesn't have a college degree. He is organizing against Farrell, including organizing heckling of Farrell during his campaign events.

Others have charged that during the coalition meeting that endorsed Farrell Black

Democrats made anti-Hispanic remarks comparable to remarks that would be made by "members of the Ku Klux Klan against Blacks."

Bellamy and Farrell are liberal Democrats just like Koch. They try to portray themselves as more liberal than Koch; picking up the banner of liberalism they claim Koch has dropped. Bellamy and Farrell don't disagree with the substance of Koch's big-business, antilabor, anti-Black programs. They merely hope to capitalize on the sentiment against Koch's openly ra-

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## Mayor Koch backs killer cop and vigilante

BY MARITZA LEBRON

NEW YORK — Several thousand predominantly white cops demonstrated February 7 in front of the Bronx Supreme Court Building. The action was organized by the Patrolman's Benevolent Association (PBA) to protest the grand jury indictment of cop Stephen Sullivan for manslaughter in the shooting death of Eleanor Bumpurs.

Bumpurs, a 66-year-old Black woman,

was killed when cops fired a shotgun at her while evicting her from her apartment in the Bronx. Virtually all of the 227 cops in the elite Emergency Services Unit, of which Sullivan is a member, have requested to transfer to other departments to protest the indictment.

The cops carried signs that said, "If Goetz is a hero, Sullivan is a saint," referring to the racist vigilante who recently

shot four Black youths on a subway. PBA President Philip Caruso told the crowd that "if Officer Steve Sullivan is indicted, then we all stand indicted." Caruso also attacked the majority Black and Hispanic composition of the grand jury as the reason for its verdict.

Mayor Edward Koch solidarized with the cops. He told reporters that the grand jury was "wrong" to indict Sullivan in the

Bumpurs case. Koch praised Sullivan's record and said that he hopes Sullivan will be acquitted at his trial.

Socialist Workers Party candidate for New York City mayor, Andrea González, condemned the cop demonstration.

"This cop action was utterly reactionary. It was a demonstration for racist violence by vigilantes with and without uniforms," she said. "It was an attack on Blacks, Hispanics, and all working people. Caruso is right when he says that Sullivan's indictment affects all cops. Although the indictment should have been for murder, it sets an important precedent to win indictments against other killer cops."

At the same press conference where Koch defended Sullivan, the mayor also praised the Manhattan grand jury's decision not to charge racist vigilante Bernhard Goetz with attempted murder. He called the decision "right" and "Solomonic." He expressed his sympathy with the would-be killer, calling Goetz a "victim" who acted in "self-defense."

The facts, however, prove that Goetz was not a victim at all. The February 11 *Daily News* reports that witnesses who testified before the grand jury said the four Black youths posed no danger to passengers on the train. One source told the *News* the youths "were moving around the car, laughing, speaking loudly to various people . . . They were asking things like 'Do you have a match?' 'Do you have a cigarette?' and 'How are you?'"

"It all passed for nothing," another source said. "When the passengers didn't give them anything and said no, nobody did anything."

No witness corroborated Goetz's claim the youths were about to rob him.

Witnesses painted a totally different picture from Goetz's version that the youths "cornered" him in the subway car. According to one source quoted by the *News*, the "two guys closest to Goetz were . . . 2 or 3

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## Conrail sale: rail workers will lose

BY JOHN STUDER

The Department of Transportation (DOT) announced on February 8 that it has selected the Norfolk Southern Corp., a huge railroad holding company, to purchase Conrail, the now highly profitable government-controlled railroad. This sale, which would create the largest railroad in the country, still faces approval by Congress.

Norfolk Southern officials announced on February 11 that their acquisition of Conrail would cause the loss of 2,530 jobs on the two lines. They also announced that 2,000 additional miles of trackage would be abandoned or sold.

In his State of the Union message two days earlier, Reagan anticipated this decision, announcing that "we will soon send up legislation to return Conrail to the private sector, where it belongs."

### Good deal for Norfolk Southern

Conrail currently has \$800 million in the bank — which Norfolk Southern will get to keep, almost cancelling out its agreed-upon purchase cost of \$1.2 billion. And Conrail is expected to report a 1984 profit of \$500 million.

This "reprivatization" plan is part of the combined drive of the government and the rail carriers to deepen their attacks on the

jobs, wages, and working conditions of rail labor. Its aim is to transfer Conrail's growing profits to the rail barons and other big business interests that the government represents.

The DOT had narrowed its options from the original 13 bidders to three last September. These were Norfolk Southern; an investment group led by J. Willard Marriott, Jr., the hotel magnate; and the Allegheny Corp.

Conrail was created in 1976 by the federal government following the bankruptcy of the Penn Central. While controlled by the government, and funded by workers' and farmers' taxes, Conrail continued to pay millions of dollars to the bankers and corporations who retained title to the stocks and bonds of the Penn Central and the other, smaller, bankrupt lines that the government welded together.

The Penn Central had been milked dry by a combination of management artificially hiking dividends rather than maintaining track and equipment, and some shady behind-the-scenes profit-taking.

It was later disclosed by Congress that in the two months before the bankruptcy was declared, nine financial institutions quietly dumped 1,861,000 shares of inflated Penn Central stock. One of those was the Allegheny Corporation, which now, 15 years

later, tried to regain the revitalized property.

### Slashed jobs, service

In the intervening years, the government poured over \$7 billion into reconditioning the railroad's track and fleet.

At the same time it used the bankruptcy to slash jobs and service. Over 3,700 miles of track has been abandoned, eliminating service to thousands of farmers and many communities. Over two-thirds of the Conrail work force is permanently laid off. In 1981, those who remained were forced to accept wages 12 percent below the rest of the industry.

All of these cuts were carried out in the name of returning Conrail to profitability. The wage concessions alone yielded \$120 million a year in increased earnings for the railroad.

The overall effect of these steps was to make Conrail profitable and desirable property for private control again. And the government is making it available at bargain-basement prices.

The fight over the sale is taking place in the context of industry-wide negotiations between the Railway Labor Executive Association (RLEA), a coalition of the 19 rail unions' officials, and the carriers. The

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