

THE MILITANT

INSIDE

N.Y. event celebrates, builds on success of Marxist summer schools
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1000s at U.S. immigrant rights actions: ‘Legalization now!’



Militant/Sylvia Hansen

Some 5,000 march for immigrant rights September 2 in Los Angeles. Other actions drew 8,000 in San Jose, California; 3,000 in San Francisco; and 2,000 in Chicago.

BY NAOMI CRAINE

LOS ANGELES—Nearly 5,000 people marched to City Hall here September 2 to demand legalization of undocumented immigrants and an end to deportations. The protesters called for an immediate amnesty and condemned the “immigration reform” bills before

the House and Senate, both of which would beef up the immigration police and deepen attacks on immigrants.

Similar actions took place in several cities across the country on the Labor Day weekend. Some 8,000 marched in San Jose, 3,000 in San Francisco,

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Hazleton, Pennsylvania, officials put off enforcing anti-immigrant law

BY JOHN STUDER

HAZLETON, Pennsylvania, September 3—More than 300 supporters of immigrants’ rights rallied in this eastern Pennsylvania town today to protest the “Illegal Immigration Relief Act” passed by the city council. The law makes English the city’s official language and enacts harsh fines for businesses and landlords that hire or rent to undocumented workers.

On September 1, under pressure of a lawsuit filed against the ordinance by city residents represented by the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund (PRLDEF) and American Civil Liberties Union, the city agreed to postpone implementation of the act. In exchange, the plaintiffs said they would not seek an immediate court injunction to stop it from taking effect but vowed to press their suit to declare the law unconstitutional.

Mayor Louis Barletta said his administration will rewrite the ordinance. “We have assembled one of the best legal teams in the country,” Barletta told the press. “We will enforce the finalized ordinance.”

“Hazleton has no business in regulating immigration,” said Cesar Perales, president and general counsel of PRLDEF. “The ordinance has only succeeded in creating a divisive atmosphere in the community.”

The rally and prayer vigil drew people from Hazleton, Allentown, and the surrounding area. Four busloads came from Philadelphia, filled

with activists from a number of labor and Latino organizations, including the Pennsylvania Statewide Latino Coalition and the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ.



Socialist Workers Party Pennsylvania
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Help expand and keep up ‘Militant’ subscription base Letter from the editor

Dear Reader,

We urge you to join supporters of the *Militant* around the world to expand the paper’s subscription base. That includes selling at least a couple thousand introductory subscriptions and convincing hundreds of readers whose subs have expired to renew.

The *Militant*’s fall subscription drive starts September 9. It will last for eight weeks, ending November 7.

You can be part of making it a success!

A central task of the circulation campaign is to expand and maintain the *Militant*’s subscription base within the working class and labor movement. This includes talking to co-workers about renewing their subscriptions or convincing others on the job to sign up for the first time; reaching out to meat packers,

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U.S. rulers: ‘Iran must pay’ for defying UN Security Council

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

On August 31, the deadline set by the United Nations Security Council for Iran to halt all uranium enrichment activities, U.S. president George Bush gave a speech to the American Legion’s national convention in Salt Lake City reiterating Washington’s perspective of fighting a “long war” against “terrorism.”

“It’s time for Iran to make a choice,” Bush said, responding to Tehran’s refusal to submit to the UN Security Council demand. “We’ve made our choice. We will continue to work closely with our allies to find a diplomatic solution, but there must be consequences for Iran’s defiance, and we must not allow Iran to develop a nuclear weapon.”

In his talk, billed as one in a series Bush will present in coming weeks to get support for the U.S.-led wars in the Middle East and Central Asia, the president declared, “This summer’s crisis in Lebanon has made it clearer than ever that the world now faces a grave threat

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Pentagon succeeds in test of ‘missile shield’ Targets China, N. Korea

BY RÓGER CALERO

The U.S. military carried out a successful anti-ballistic missile test September 1. It was another step by Washington toward building a weapons system that could shoot down incoming long-range missiles, and give U.S. imperialism nuclear first-strike capacity.

The test came a few days after a visit to Alaska by Russian defense minister Sergei Ivanov, who met with U.S. defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld at Fort Greeley. The bulk of the ground-based interceptors for the system are located there.

Following the meeting, Ivanov told reporters at an August 27 news conference that he and Rumsfeld discussed “missile defense cooperation,” among other issues.

Washington has drawn a number of governments—more and more including Moscow—into collaboration in establishing the missile shield, offering them inclusion in a U.S. nuclear

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1,000 Italian troops land in Lebanon

BY PAUL PEDERSON

Some 1,000 Italian marines along with armored vehicles landed in southern Lebanon September 3. It was the first large contingent of imperialist troops that has arrived there so far since a United Nations–brokered cease-fire was reached August 11 between the Israeli military and the Lebanese group Hezbollah. About 250 French troops, mostly construction engineers, arrived

before the Italian soldiers.

The “peacekeeping” force, which is supposed to grow to 15,000 and be joined by similar numbers of Lebanese government forces, will patrol south Lebanon, where Hezbollah had previously established a well-entrenched military infrastructure.

Within Israel protests continue against the government’s handling of the war. Unlike the peace protests during Israel’s last full-scale assault on Lebanon in the 1980s, these are pro-war mobilizations, often led by reservists, demanding a reorganization of the military to fight such wars more effectively.

“We are in need of a strategic revolution,” Ze’ev Schiff, a columnist for the Israeli daily *Haaretz* wrote September 1. “We have to determine that the first and primary front is the battle to prevent the existential threat.” This, he

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‘Militant’ launches \$90,000 fund drive

BY MARTÍN KOPPEL

Supporters of the *Militant* have launched an eight-week campaign to raise \$90,000 to help finance the socialist newsweekly.

In cities around the United States and other countries, they are beginning to systematically contact other *Militant* readers to find out what they think of the paper, urge them to renew their subscription, and in the process ask them to make a contribution.

The fund drive goes hand in hand with the circulation campaign (see adjacent article). Between September 9 and November 7 partisans of the *Militant* will be reaching out broadly to workers, farmers, young people, and others for financial support.

As a workers’ newspaper, the *Militant* does not depend on, nor does it want to depend on, wealthy financiers for support. It relies solely on contributions from workers and others who appreciate a socialist newsweekly published in the inter-

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Australian gov't expands its military

BY RON POULSEN

SYDNEY, Australia—During August, the federal government here announced plans a boost the size of the army by two battle groups, expand the Australian Federal Police, and send more troops to Afghanistan. These are further steps in the Australian rulers’ drive to transform their military along lines similar to Washington’s in preparation for current and future imperialist wars and interventions.

On August 24, Prime Minister John Howard revealed plans for an A\$10 billion [A\$1 = US 77 cents] expansion of the army from six to eight battalions. This 20 percent buildup over the next decade will take the army to 30,000 personnel, the size reached during the Australian government’s involvement in the Vietnam War.

Two weeks earlier, Howard confirmed an increase from 240 to 400 troops, plus extra light armored vehicles, for a new Australian contingent in southern Afghanistan to fight alongside Dutch NATO forces. Speaking August 9, he warned of the “possibility of casualties.”

Australian forces already there, including 200 commandos plus backup troops and helicopters, are fighting alongside U.S. troops against Taliban forces in the mountainous region bordering Pakistan. Defense Minister Brendan Nelson told the *Sydney Morning Herald* the troops were engaged in the most intense, sustained fighting by Australian forces since the Vietnam War.

Following the August 11 United Nations resolution for a “peacekeeping force” in southern Lebanon after the Israeli assault on the country, Australia’s foreign minister, Alexander Downer, agreed to consider a “niche” troop

contribution. Labor opposition leader Kim Beazley welcomed the decision but said any commitment needed to be modest because the Australian military was “overstretched.” A dozen Australian troops are currently part of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon.

Last year, 1,500 extra troops were approved as part of a long-term plan to reequip and reorganize the Australian army. A multi-billion-dollar equipment upgrade will provide new helicopters, tanks, trucks, combat gear, and communications systems.

The day after the army expansion was announced, Howard unveiled a A\$500 million plan to double the international force of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to more than 1,000, the largest expansion since the AFP was founded in 1979. This will include training with the army, formation of a 150-strong rapid response group, and a paramilitary “riot squad” for “stabilization” operations in the Pacific region.

Earlier in May, Nelson announced an elite High Readiness Reserve—2,800 for the army and 1,400 for the air force—drawn from existing reserves for short-notice deployment. He affirmed purchase of four large C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft for airlifting heavy armor to distant war theatres. Nelson said the goal was “a more combat focused, better equipped, more mobile and operationally ready” military.

Arguing for the military expansion, Howard cited recent unrest in the Solomon Islands, past coups in Fiji, instability in Vanuatu, an “inherently unstable situation in Papua New Guinea,” and “coalition operations in other parts of the world.” He said Australia was “the biggest, wealthiest country in our immediate region. The rest of

the world will look to us to carry most of the burden. We can’t do it without a larger army.”

Papua New Guinea’s prime minister, Michael Somare, objected to Howard’s comments about local instability. He said the real reason for Australian military expansion was increased commitments in U.S.-led wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Australian-led intervention in East Timor.

By November, well over 3,000 Australian troops will be stationed overseas, with 1,400 in Iraq and the Arab-Persian Gulf, more than 1,000 in Timor Leste, and 650 in Afghanistan. More than 430 Australian federal and state police are also overseas in regional “trouble spots.”



SAS special forces in Afghanistan in February are part of some 200 Australian troops already there. The Australian government is sending another 400 soldiers to fight alongside Dutch NATO forces in southern Afghanistan.

Gov’t of north Korea denounces U.S./south Korean military exercises

BY ARRIN HAWKINS

Some 17,000 U.S. and south Korean troops carried out joint military exercises in south Korea August 21–September 1 dubbed “Ulji Focus Lens.” The maneuvers were based on a scenario in which forces from both armies invade north Korea.

The government in Pyongyang, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), said the exercises amounted to a “a de facto declaration of war” and an end to the 1953 cease-fire that ended the three-year U.S.-led Korean war. The north Korean army “reserves the right to undertake a pre-emptive action for self-defense,” reported the Korean Central News Agency August 22.

Currently, some 29,500 U.S. troops are stationed in south Korea. U.S. troops have been based in the south since 1953 with the aim of overturning the socialized property relations established in the DPRK. At that time, a United Nations–sanctioned partition divided the Korean Peninsula along the 38th parallel, with a workers state in the north and capitalist social relations in the south.

“Ulji Focus Lens” was initiated in the mid-1970s as one of four joint military drills between the United States and south Korean armed forces. A press release of the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said that in 1994 the line of attack of the war games went beyond the

38th parallel for the first time. In 1998 they carried out a simulated all-out invasion of the north, and in 2002 they conducted mock preemptive attacks on the DPRK’s nuclear facilities.

In July, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution condemning north Korea for testing several ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan earlier that month. The resolution called for the suspension of “all activities related to its ballistic missile program” and restoring “a moratorium on missile launching.” It demanded that UN member states “prevent the procurement of missile or missile-related items, materials, goods, or technology being transferred to DPRK’s missile program.” It also called for preventing “the transfer of any financial resources” related to DPRK’s nuclear program.

“The U.S. military threat to the DPRK is not a fiction but a reality at hand,” said the August 21 KCNA press release.

“The tense situation on the Korean Peninsula has not yet led to an all-out war because the DPRK has kept the balance of strength by building a powerful war deterrent to cope with the U.S. threat,” it said, referring to the development of long-range missiles in north Korea. “It was quite right for the army and people of the DPRK to have bolstered the war deterrent for self-defense in every way.”

THE MILITANT

Behind Israel’s bloody war on Lebanon

The ‘Militant’ is bringing you the news and unparalleled analysis on what is behind the murderous Israeli war on Lebanon. It describes how Tel Aviv’s assault is one more by-product of the increasing disorder of the world capitalist system; another front in the ‘long war’ by Washington and its allies.

Don’t miss a single issue!



Militant/Georges Mehrabian
People remove debris August 28 from residential area in southern Beirut, Lebanon, destroyed by Israeli bombing.

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Competing bourgeois forces vie for power in much of Iraq

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON—In a speech to the national convention of the American Legion on August 31 U.S. president George Bush said U.S. and allied troops had recently launched a “major new campaign to end the security crisis in Baghdad.”

Two days later, the Associated Press and other news agencies reported that the Pentagon recently submitted a report to the U.S. Congress, titled, “Measuring Security and Stability in Iraq.” The report provides facts showing the increased toll among Iraqis recently.

Tit-for-tat suicide bombings and killings that escalated with the bombing of a Shiite mosque in February have intensified in the last three months. They have been carried out by militias loyal to one or the other of contending capitalist parties vying for the upper hand in the Iraqi government. The bulk of the victims are ordinary working people—Sunni and Shiite.

“The security situation is currently at its most complex state since the initiation of Operation Iraqi Freedom,” the report said, using the Pentagon’s name for the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

The Pentagon document covered the period since the government of Iraqi prime minister Nouri al-Maliki was seated May 20. From that date through August 11, AP said, the average number of attacks against U.S. personnel and Iraqis was 792, about 25 percent higher than the 641 attacks reported on average between February 11 and May 19—the previous record for any counting period since the war began. Iraqi casualties, including civilians and military and police personnel, have reached nearly 120 per day, up from 80 the previous reporting period.

“Conditions that could lead to civil war exist in Iraq, specifically in and around Baghdad, and concern about civil war within the Iraqi civilian population has increased in recent months,” the Pentagon report said.

In response, “U.S. commanders have increased U.S. troop levels by about 13,000 over the past five weeks, to 140,000, mainly due to increased violence in the Baghdad area,” AP reported.

Rift between premier, Washington

In a rift between Washington and its client regime in Baghdad, the new prime minister condemned the U.S.-led assault in early August in Sadr City against a militia loyal to Muqtada al-Sadr, who aims to establish an Islamic Republic in Iraq and says his movement is the Iraqi branch of the Palestinian Hamas and the

Lebanese Hezbollah. Al-Maliki was also at odds with Washington when he issued a statement in July condemning the Israeli assault on Lebanon as “criminal.”

The two-hour battle in Sadr City broke out when U.S. and Iraqi troops attempted to arrest a member of al-Sadr’s militia charged with involvement in “punishment and torture cell activities,” reported al-Jazeera.

Al-Maliki said he was “very angered and pained,” adding that the U.S.-led attack undermined “national reconciliation.” He apologized and promised “this won’t happen again.” The Iraqi premier then reportedly sent an envoy to Sadr City to offer cash payments to families of the dead and wounded.

Aides to al-Sadr said the attack on their group was punishment for a large rally in Sadr City they organized to back Hezbollah and oppose the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Tens of thousands of Al-Sadr’s supporters participated in that rally, according to press reports.

Bourgeois forces vie for power

Wealthy Sunnis have charged that death squads targeting prominent Sunnis operate out of the Shiite-dominated interior ministry. After taking office al-Maliki transferred the former interior minister, a senior figure in the governing Shiite bloc, to the ministry of finances, but has not appeased Sunni opponents.

Some who oppose the U.S.-led war in Iraq have portrayed such groups organizing attacks on U.S. occupation forces as “progressive.” Since the U.S.-led overthrow of the Baath Party regime of Saddam Hussein, which was based among the country’s Sunni minority, wealthy Sunnis have sponsored various groups that have organized suicide bombings, kidnappings, and beheading of hostages. They have targeted not only U.S. troops and Iraqi officials but many civilians.



Reuters/Khaaled al-Mousily

U.S. troops carry out military operations in northern Iraqi city of Mosul July 30

Their actions have increasingly taken place in Shiite neighborhoods, markets, and mosques in an effort to gain leverage and posts in the government.

Among those captured in the defeat of Baathist forces in Fallujah two years ago was Moayed Ahmed, a leader of the Army of Mohammed and a former member of Saddam Hussein’s Republican Guard. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and Abdullah al-Janabi were among those who escaped the brutal U.S.-led assault on that city.

Al-Janabi is from a wealthy family of landowners who had close ties to Saddam Hussein. Many of the Baathist regime’s weapons factories and military testing and research facilities were located on his family’s lands.

Al-Zarqawi’s group, al-Qaeda in Iraq, has increasingly focused its attacks on Shiites. In response to the rout of Baathist forces from Tall Afar last year, for example, Zarqawi said al-Qaeda would launch a “comprehensive war on the Shiites all over Iraq.” Zarqawi was killed by the U.S. military this year.

Shiite militias: same class character

Shiite militias involved in the fighting have a similar class composition and use bourgeois methods like those of their Sunni opponents.

‘U.S. troops out of Iraq now!’ is a ‘too inflexible’ demand says Communist Party USA, calling for a ‘phased exit’

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON—The Communist Party USA has taken to task those who argue for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and other “coalition” troops from Iraq.

“Some in the U.S. peace movement and the left,” says the party’s chairman, Sam Webb, in an article published in the August 19–25 issue of the *People’s Weekly World*, “are against any kind of exit strategy that isn’t ‘immediate.’ While this position may be correct

in the abstract it is too inflexible as a political approach.... In fact, the most advanced demands of the progressive and center forces—not the demands of the left—are the basis for building the broadest possible mass unity and a congressional majority to end the occupation.”

The article, headlined “Ending the occupation, the 2006 elections and tactics,” is based on remarks by Webb at the June meeting of CPUSA’s National Committee.

“Of course, we don’t support an open-ended occupation, no matter which party proposes it,” Webb says. “And needless to say, we don’t support a long-term U.S. military presence in Iraq.”

But the main choice, the CP leader says, “is between a concrete phased exit strategy [backed by many Democrats] and permanent occupation [the Bush administration’s goal].”

Webb points to two resolutions sponsored by Democrats in the Senate in July. One by Massachusetts senator John Kerry, he says, “envision[s] a short exit strategy and a role for the international community.” The other by Wisconsin senator Carl Levin calls for troop withdrawal beginning this winter, but leaves the process open-ended, Webb

says. Both of these proposals were defeated with large bipartisan majorities.

The lead article, “Bipartisan support grows for Iraq war,” and editorial “U.S. troops out of Iraq now!” in the July 10 *Militant* described the falsity of arguments that these Democratic proposals represented either a split in the ruling class on its Iraq strategy or anything that’s in the interests of working people.

Citing the Kerry and Levin proposals as part of the evidence of growing congressional support for pulling U.S. troops out of Iraq, Webb argues that “political realism and tactical flexibility should dictate that the left and progressive-minded people should rally support for the best of the alternative exit strategies.”

And then comes the Stalinist party’s time-worn clincher: “defeat Bush,” that is, vote Democrat. “Of the ways to influence this debate,” says Webb, “none is more important than the November elections.”

The stakes in the outcome of these elections are so high, he claims, “that the best way for the American people to register their opposition to Bush’s Iraq policy is to deliver a stinging blow to Republican hopes of retaining control of the Congress in November.”

—MILITANT LABOR FORUMS—

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—CALENDAR—

Free the Cuban 5

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September 12

Gather at Times Square 4:00 p.m. March to Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza (E. 47th St. and 1st Ave.) For more information contact (718) 601-4751, or email freethecubanfive@hotmail.com

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Gather at U.S. Justice Department at 11:00 a.m. and march to White House. For more information, contact National Committee to Free the Cuban 5 at: (415) 821-6545. Email: freethefive@freethefive.org

visit www.freethefive.org

Legalization now!

Continued from front page

2,500 in Oakland, 2,000 in Chicago, 1,000 in Houston, and 1,000 in St. Paul, Minnesota. Hundreds rallied in Fresno and Sacramento, California; Phoenix; Dubuque, Iowa; Newark, New Jersey; and Dallas.

In a few cities the ultrarightist Minutemen held small counterprotests.

The March 25 Coalition, which organized the September 2 march and the large spring mobilizations in Los Angeles, dedicated the action to Elvira Arellano, a worker in Chicago who is fighting the U.S. government's attempt to deport her.

Marchers included contingents from immigrant rights groups such as Hermandad Mexicana and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles. A couple dozen workers from a day laborers center in nearby Pomona marched as a contingent. While the majority of the marchers were Latin American, there were groups of Korean, Filipino, and other Asian workers.



BY ARLENE RUBINSTEIN

WILMINGTON, California—Teamsters, longshore workers, port truckers, janitors, steelworkers, teachers, and other unionists gathered here 5,000-strong for the Labor Day march and rally. Explaining that immigrant rights is a labor issue, Hermandad Mexicana and other groups formed a lively contingent that chanted, "*Amnistía ahora*" (Amnesty now!)

A group of 15 Minutemen, with signs that declared, "Unions embracing illegals are selling out their members," organized a counterprotest on a hill near the stage. Miguel López, chief marshal of the Labor Day event and port division representative for the Teamsters in Southern California, organized a squad of union marshals that surrounded the rightists and began pushing them further up the hill. From that position, the union members and their supporters, chanting "*¡Sí se puede*," escorted them out of the park.

Mario Escobar, a young worker who was part of the escort, said he had been "walking across the grass and someone shouted 'wetback' at me. I turned around and there were all these white people with American flags. I am proud of how we turned them back. Immigrant or not, this is a workers' struggle."



BY ERNEST MAILHOT

CHICAGO—Chanting "*¡Sí se puede*" (Yes we can), a group of hundreds of tired but exuberant campaigners for the legalization of undocumented immigrants completed the last leg of their "Walk for Justice for Immigrant Workers" on Labor

Day, September 4. They marched into downtown Batavia, a Chicago suburb, to protest in front of the offices of U.S. House of Representatives speaker Dennis Hastert, a staunch opponent of legalization. Feeder marches from Aurora, Elgin, and Joliet swelled the crowd to 2,000.

About 200 people began the four-day walk, organized by the March 10 Movement, in Chicago's Chinatown. Many Asian groups were part of the kickoff event, including Korean-Americans, Chinese, Cambodians, Filipinos, Vietnamese, and Indians.

Kat Choi, from the Korean American Resource and Culture Center, said, "There is a backlog to become a legal resident. Some wait for 12 years. We can't be separated from our families for that long.... And a lot of Koreans and others without documents are not paid overtime and can't get workmen's compensation."

Those at the Labor Day rally included members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), UNITE HERE, United Electrical Workers, Laborers, Teamsters, and United Food and Commercial Workers.

The Chicago and Midwest Joint Board of UNITE HERE handed out a statement saying in part, "We cannot accept any proposal which divides U.S.-born workers from immigrant workers or which divides immigrant families. Labor has to stand for full and complete rights for all workers, regardless of where they were born or how long they have been in the United States."

Many speakers at the final rally spoke in support of Elvira Arellano, who has taken sanctuary in a local Chicago church rather than report for deportation (see box on this page).



BY JOEL BRITTON

SAN JOSE, California—Some 8,000 people marched here to demand "Legalization for all!" on Labor Day. "We are AMERICA" proclaimed T-shirts worn by some of those who marched in East San Jose to City Hall. One section of the march, which stretched 10 blocks, held aloft a cloth banner with many individualized slogans and signatures of entire families.

Minutes before the marchers arrived at City Hall, San Jose motorcycle cops told organizers that the final rally would have to take place in an unpaved parking lot rather than filling the wide street as planned. But the cops didn't get their way as José Sandoval of Voluntarios de la Comunidad (Community Volunteers) and other protest organizers went ahead as provided by

ahead of schedule every week of the campaign.

The *Militant* needs these funds now; it does not have a cash cushion to allow for a lag in the flow of weekly contributions. The expansion of the paper's readership over the past year and its increased role in the work of union militants provides a solid basis for carrying out a vigorous, weekly fund-raising drive.

To send a contribution, write a check or money order to the *Militant*, earmarked Militant Fund, and send it to the paper at 306 W. 37th St., 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

Elvira Arellano, worker in Chicago defying deportation order, stands up to rightists



Militant/Zena McFadden

Elvira Arellano speaks to press at August 30 news conference at Chicago's Adalberto United Methodist Church, where she has taken sanctuary to prevent deportation.

CHICAGO—Four weeks since she first took sanctuary in a church here and refused to turn herself in to immigration cops for deportation, Elvira Arellano continues to stand firm and win support.

Arellano, whose seven-year-old son Saul is a U.S. citizen, was arrested in December 2002 while working as an airplane cleaner at O'Hare airport. She won three one-year stays of deportation before being ordered deported.

On August 30, three members of the ultrarightist Mothers against Illegal Aliens protested in front of the Adalberto United Methodist Church, where Arellano is staying. They claimed she abuses her son physically and mentally by keeping him in the church. Michelle Dallacrose, founder of the rightist group, said, "Illegal alien women are producing and utilizing children as hostages until demands for citizenship are met."

The next day, representatives of the Service Employees International Union, Laborers, Casa Aztlán, and other organizations held a press conference at the church. They called for support to Arellano's fight against deportation.

—ROLLANDE GIRARD

their city-issued permit. Traffic was diverted as the rally proceeded for a couple hours.

In San Francisco, the 3,000 protesters who marched from the Embarcadero to City Hall included lively contingents of

unionists from UNITE HERE Local 2 and SEIU Local 790. Local 2 members remain engaged in a fight for a new contract with major hotels. Hundreds marched on August 28 to publicize their demands.

Help expand 'Militant' sub base

Continued from front page

garment workers, coal miners, and other working people by their workplaces; going door-to-door or approaching people at street corners in working-class neighborhoods, including Black communities; promoting the *Militant* at political events, including at meetings such as the September 9 forum in San Francisco hosted by the Chinese Historical Society of America on the book *Our History Is Still Being Written: The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban Generals in the Cuban Revolution* (see description of event in article on page 6); and widely circulating the paper at social protest actions like the ongoing rallies for immigrant rights.

We are off to a good start.

"*Militant* supporters took part in a march and rally of 200 for immigrant rights here on Labor Day," said Sara Lobman, a garment worker in Newark, New Jersey. "Altogether we sold 14 *Militant* subscriptions, 61 copies, and 13 books on revolutionary, working-class politics. Two of the new subscribers are people we work with in the New Jersey Immigrant Rights coalition. Another is one of my co-workers at a UNITE-organized shop."

We've begun to receive similar notes from other cities. Please send such reports to the *Militant* by every Monday night.

Over the last week, before the start of the circulation campaign, nearly 130 people signed up for introductory subscriptions and more than 30 renewed.

The work this fall can build on the expansion of the paper's circulation, which doubled over the last year, a sign of the *Militant*'s increased political weight.

Where battles between labor and capital have been joined in recent years—from the western coalfields to Kentucky and from meatpacking plants in the Midwest to copper mines in Arizona—significant layers of workers know about the *Militant*. They recognize it not only as a paper that tells the truth about their struggles but makes it possible for them to learn about fights by other working people in North America and around the world, and thus be armed to help advance all these workers' efforts to resist the bosses' antilabor offensive. Some help supporters of the paper to get the *Militant* and other socialist material into the hands of other working people.

To take advantage of this reality, *Militant* supporters this fall will be offering at special prices along with any subscription—new or renewal—the following books and pamphlets: *Cuba and the Coming American Revolution* for \$5 and *The Working Class and the Transformation of Learning: The Myth of Education Reform Under Capitalism* for \$1, both by Socialist Workers Party national secretary Jack Barnes; and the last two issues of the Marxist magazine *New International* at \$25 for both.

Helps us get the paper around. If you don't already get a bundle you can order one at 70 cents per copy by contacting the *Militant* directly (see information on page 2). Or you can be part of sales teams other distributors near you organize (see directory on page 8).

Join the effort!

Sincerely,
Argiris Malapanis, Editor

\$90,000 'Militant' fund campaign

Continued from front page

ests of working people in order to meet its week-to-week operating expenses.

The \$90,000 is what is needed over the next six months above sales income to cover printing, shipping, equipment maintenance, rent, and utilities, as well as to respond to working-class struggles and other developments in world politics with reporting teams and special circulation efforts.

Partisans of the socialist paper are organizing not only to make the goal within two months, but to get a head start and then stay on target or

New Jersey: nurses strike hospital over health care

NEW BRUNSWICK, New Jersey—More than 1,300 nurses at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital here walked out August 24 over a drive by the hospital to force them to pay more for health-care coverage. The central issue in dispute is the demand by hospital authorities that nurses and other hospital employees getting non-emergency medical services at other hospitals must pay \$800 to \$1,000 in penalties, in addition to health insurance deductibles.

“They want to bust the union,” stated Andrea Levito, a nurse at the hospital complex for eight years. Prior to expiration of their contract at the end of June, nurses were being forced to train their replacements. In addition, right before the strike started hospital authorities sent all workers a letter asking them to resign from the union, noted Levito. However, Levito said, “99 percent of the nurses are out here. The hospital expected many more to cross.”

The workers are represented by United Steelworkers Local 4-200, a union that first won in May 2005 a charter at the hospital complex, one of the largest in the state. The first day of the walkout some 500 nurses were on the picket lines. “All the patients we had said they support us,” said striker Andrew Teller. “This is not a wage issue, this is about health care.”

—Brian Williams

Federation of Southern Co-ops holds conference

BY MAURICE WILLIAMS

EPES, Alabama—Some 100 farmers who are Black and others met here August 18–19 for the 39th annual conference of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund. The meeting featured guests from other countries, including a farmer and union leader from Brazil, a leader of a peasant organization in Guatemala, a working farmer from Kenya, and the mayor of Cauca, a small town in Colombia.

“When we learn about the struggles of Black people against racism in the United States it gives us more confidence to fight for our rights in Brazil,” said Elisangela Araújo, general coordinator of the Federation of Agriculture Workers and Family Farmers (FETRAF-Brazil/CUT). FETRAF was formed a few years ago out of the labor movement and has a membership of 750,000 family farmers, 500 smaller unions, and farm workers. Araújo was selected to attend the Alabama meeting by the Brazilian affiliate of the South African-based ActionAid International, located in more than 40 countries, including the United States.

A number of farmers involved in a class-action lawsuit filed against the U.S. Department of Agriculture for racist discrimination attended the conference. Warren James, a 42-year-old farmer from Montezuma, Georgia, owns a vegetable farm of 1,000 acres there. He said he had received \$50,000 in debt relief based on his claim in the lawsuit. Like many farmers across the country his farm has been hit hard by drought conditions. “Because of the dry weather I will take a loss this year,” James said.

San Francisco: janitors picket over workload speedup

Janitors and supporters picketed in downtown San Francisco August 8 next to a giant rat representing American Building Maintenance and other property managers who are intensifying the workload of workers who clean office buildings. The workers, who are members of Local 87 of the Service Employees International Union, are demanding that the union have the right, guaranteed in the contract, to verify vacancies in office buildings. Claims of vacancies is being used by the companies to lay off workers and to increase the workload.

—Betsey Stone

Chile: copper miners vote to end 25-day strike

More than 2,000 copper miners on strike in Chile since August 7 voted August 31 to accept a new 40-month contract with a 5 percent wage raise and a \$17,000 bonus. The unionists had shut down production at BHP Billiton’s Escondida mine, the world’s biggest copper mine, which accounts for 8.5 percent of copper mined worldwide. Members of Escondida Workers Union No. 1, which represents 94 percent of the mine’s employees, were demanding a 10 percent pay raise. They currently make about \$565 a month.

—Brian Williams



Militant/Glova Scott

Protest held in Richmond, Virginia, August 30, in support of the United Food and Commercial Workers organizing effort at Smithfield plant in Tar Heel, North Carolina.

N. Carolina Smithfield workers rally for union in Virginia

RICHMOND, Virginia—Nearly 400 supporters of the United Food and Commercial Workers union-organizing campaign at the giant Smithfield pork processing plant in Tar Heel, North Carolina, marched and rallied here August 30 outside the company’s annual shareholders meeting. Unionists from the surrounding region as well as religious and civil rights leaders and supporters of immigrant rights joined the Tar Heel workers in support of their fight.

“Some dignity, respect, safety issues, and better pay” were some of the reasons why a union was needed, former Smithfield worker Edward Morrison told the crowd. Morrison, like many workers at the Tar Heel plant, was fired after being injured on the job. The National Labor Relations Board and U.S. Court of Appeals found that the company illegally assaulted, intimidated, fired, harassed, and pitted Black and Latino workers against each other as they tried to form a union in the 1990s.

—Janice Lynn

‘Morning after’ pill approved for over-the-counter sales

BY MAGGIE TROWE

After years of delay, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved at the end of August over-the-counter sales of Plan B, an emergency “morning after” contraceptive, to women 18 and older. The approval came in a memo issued by acting FDA commissioner Andrew von Eschenbach.

The morning after pill can be taken for up to 72 hours after sexual intercourse to prevent pregnancy. It is sometimes confused with RU-486, or the “abortion pill,” which terminates pregnancy in the first seven weeks after conception.

Plan B has been available by prescription since 1999, but government officials refused for years to okay over-the-counter sales.

In March 2002 the Women’s Capital

Corp. applied to the FDA to sell the pill without prescription. Barr Pharmaceuticals acquired Plan B in October 2003 and continued the effort. In December of that year an FDA advisory panel voted 24–3 to recommend approval of over-the-counter sales. The *New England Journal of Medicine* wrote an editorial condemning the FDA for allowing “political considerations” to delay decision. In August 2005 agency commissioner Lester Crawford, in another move to stall the decision, called for public discussion to help the agency decide whether the same drug can exist as both a prescription and over-the-counter product.

In reaction to Crawford’s move, FDA assistant commissioner for women’s health Susan Wood resigned, charging

the decision “was not based on the science and clinical evidence.” Crawford resigned a few weeks later himself, and was replaced by Eschenbach.

Earlier in August, shortly before confirmation hearings on his appointment recommenced, Eschenbach announced that the FDA is “committed to working diligently through” the impasse, but insisted the “appropriate age” for over-the-counter sales is 18.

At an August 21 press conference, President George Bush backed Eschenbach’s statement, saying he believes Plan B “ought to require a prescription for minors.”

The Family Research Council and other conservative groups have opposed Eschenbach’s nomination because he allowed selling Plan B over the counter.

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



September 18, 1981

PHILADELPHIA—Hearings are scheduled to begin in Philadelphia on the Abortion Control Act (H.B. 1725-1727) on September 9.

This bill opens the door to criminalizing abortion in Pennsylvania. It legislates that human life begins at conception.

Its provisions include the following: Forcing doctors to explain in detail, to the woman, the effect of abortion on the fetus, using color photos of a fetus before and after an abortion. A mandatory waiting period of up to seventy-two hours before the abortion can be performed. No public employee would be covered for the costs of an abortion under their health plan. Payments for abortion costs in existing collective bargaining agreements would be discontinued. The father must be notified before the abortion.



September 17, 1956

Sept. 11—As the white-supremacist violence against the opening of desegregated schools appears to have died down, two facts stand out. (1) The racist mobs succeeded in Mansfield and Texarkana, Texas, and in Sturgis, Kentucky, in preventing integration. (2) The amount of desegregation undertaken by the authorities on this, the third, school opening since the Supreme Court decision, is less, not more than in the previous years.

Only one large community—Louisville, Kentucky—is integrating its schools this year. All the other integration attempts involved mere handfuls of Negro school children. This may be seen from the fact that in the five communities where violence flared a total of only 37 Negro students were involved.



September 19, 1931

For the first time since the famous Nore mutiny of British seamen, some 12,000 sailors of the Atlantic fleet of the largest navy in the world have been drawn into a mutinous action only little less sensational than the uprising of the Chilean navy men a few days ago. From one of the strongest traditional arms of British imperialism, the navy, has unexpectedly come one of the sharpest rebukes to the new “National Government” and a rejection of its reactionary “economy plan.”

Right on the eve of the regular Atlantic maneuvers of the British fleet, the sailors not only refused to weigh anchor, but threatened the officers that if the latter raised one anchor, the men would drop the other. The offices of the fleet found themselves helpless before this outspoken and courageous insubordination which was cheered by the thousands of sailors...

260 at New York meeting celebrate, build on success of Marxist summer schools

BY MARTÍN KOPPEL

NEW YORK—A public meeting held here September 2 celebrated the graduation of young socialists and others from a Marxist summer school conducted in New York, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Twin Cities, Minnesota, as well as London.

The event, titled “Celebrate, Debate, Prepare!” and sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialists, drew some 260 people. It coincided with a two-day class that culminated a summerlong program to study basic works of Marxism and the history of the party. The class focused on the book *Speeches to the Party* by James P. Cannon, a founding leader of the SWP.

The weekend program also included meetings of the Young Socialists and of supporters of the communist movement who organize the production of books on revolutionary politics published by Pathfinder Press.

The *Militant*’s Washington correspondent, Sam Manuel, chaired the public meeting. He noted that the event was taking place one year after a similar gathering in New York, held at a time when a massive social catastrophe had begun to unfold in the Gulf Coast region after Hurricane Katrina. Some 1,500 people died in New Orleans and the region, and millions were left to fend for themselves by government officials at all levels. “What was revealed to working people was the stark reality of what we face under capitalist rule,” he noted.

Manuel, who headed a *Militant* reporting team that spent a week and a half in the Gulf region when the disaster first unfolded, recalled how the socialist newsweekly “gave a very different story from what the capitalist media reported. We talked with working people who described how they worked together to

minimize the loss of life and organized collectively to secure food, water, and medical treatment.” Today, he added, the *Militant* continues to report the truth about developments in New Orleans, and socialist workers collaborate with working-class fighters they have met there.

Promoting, using ‘Our History’

Mary-Alice Waters, a member of the Socialist Workers Party National Committee and editor of a 17-volume series of books by Pathfinder Press on the Cuban Revolution in world politics, remarked on the continuing “non-news” on Cuba in the capitalist press. She cited an August 31 *Miami Herald* article reporting that one month after Cuban president Fidel Castro delegated powers to Raúl Castro and other leaders, “There has been no visible indication of political change” there, which has “left some Cuba watchers wondering what is really going on.”

The problem of these “Cuba watchers,” Waters said, “is a class problem.” They cannot see or understand the capacities of workers and farmers in Cuba who continue to carry out their work and defend the revolution. The answers to the questions about Cuba these reporters cannot understand are contained in *Our History Is Still Being Written: The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban Generals in the Cuban Revolution*, she said.

Since it was published eight months ago, this book “has enjoyed a reception unlike almost any other Pathfinder book on the Cuban Revolution,” Waters noted. She pointed to favorable reviews in several publications and what is shaping up to be an important meeting on September 9 to promote the book, sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of America in San Francisco.

The four regional meetings held in March and April to launch *Our History*

‘Capitalism’s Long Hot Winter Has Begun’ now in Swedish: a new political weapon

The following are excerpts of a message to the September 2 New York meeting sent from participants in a simultaneous event in Stockholm, sponsored by the Communist League and the Young Socialists in Sweden, to celebrate publication of *Ny International* no. 4, the Swedish-language translation of the Marxist magazine *New International* no. 12. A message from the New York gathering to the Stockholm celebration, signed by *New International* editor Mary-Alice Waters, read in part, “Your capacity to mobilize our movement as a whole—party, youth, and supporters—to produce an arsenal of communist literature in Swedish of this quality is a confirmation of your ability to act as proletarian revolutionists. We look forward to our common efforts to expand its circulation worldwide.”



We join with you in celebrating the graduation of the students from the summer schools around the U.S. this summer.... Filip [a graduate of the school in Los Angeles] is one of the speakers as we celebrate the pub-

lication of *Ny International* no. 4, the Swedish translation of “Capitalism’s Long Hot Winter Has Begun,” which is now off the presses. It is a great achievement of the communist movement and we are proud to have earned this celebration....

Rarely has a magazine been more timely. It is the political backbone of the Communist League election campaign for national and local parliaments going on right now.... We will take it to co-workers, plant gates, soapboxing in working-class districts and political events.... It will bring us into debates about Swedish imperialism, about Sweden’s participation in the UN deployment to Lebanon and why it must be opposed. We are also campaigning with our election platform calling for Swedish troops out of Afghanistan.

And every book we can place in the hands of a worker, a farmer, a student will help prepare them for the times we are already living in of imperialist wars and crisis, for the resistance it breeds and for the communist leadership that must be built.



Militant/ Diana Newberry

SWP national secretary Jack Barnes (at podium) introduces graduates of 2006 Marxist summer school (standing on stage) at September 2 public meeting in New York.

Is Still Being Written, Waters said, were just preparations for the opportunities now beginning to open up for organizing a new round of broadly sponsored events, as the September 9 meeting in San Francisco indicates. One important opportunity to sell and promote the book will be the second National Asian American Student Conference, to take place November 3–5 at Northwestern University in Chicago. The interest in the new title “is not a fluke,” Waters said. “It’s a sign of the political ground under our feet shifting a little.”

Success of Marxist summer school

Jack Barnes, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, explained the achievement registered with the graduation of the 35 students from the Marxist summer school, which he said was the first such systematic program by the communist movement in four decades. The Young Socialists and others who took part in the classes over three months studied books such as *The History of American Trotskyism* and *The Struggle for a Proletarian Party* by Cannon, *In Defense of Marxism* by Leon Trotsky, sections of *Capital* by Karl Marx, *Imperialism* by V.I. Lenin, *The Changing Face of U.S. Politics* by Barnes, and *The Structure and Organizational Principles of the Socialist Workers Party* by Farrell Dobbs.

The students, concentrated in four cities for the summer, prepared the questions for discussion and presented the material themselves. They successfully organized to set aside sufficient time to read and study. They held special weekend regional conferences on topics such as the fight for women’s liberation, the Black struggle, and Lenin’s explanation of imperialism. The Communist League and the Young Socialists in the United Kingdom organized a similar effort in London.

“They integrated into their study the one thing no academic institution would do: the history of the party as the concentrated history” of the line of march of the working class, he said.

Barnes discussed aspects of the class struggle in the world today, including the Israeli assault on Lebanon and the imperialist drive against Iran. He noted that many in the audience had read the feature articles published in the previous two issues of the *Militant* on the crisis in the Mideast and the breakup of the world imperialist order, titled “We are for whatever strengthens the confidence and capacity of the toilers” and “For a democratic, secular Palestine” (see September 4 and 11 issues).

To respond to these and other political developments at home and abroad, Barnes said, the communist movement needs to build on the success of the Marxist summer school in order to advance what it set out to do following the June

national convention of the SWP. One such decision was to expand and maintain the subscription base of the *Militant* among working people, as a form of carrying out effective political work in the unions together with fellow militant workers. The ability to gain subscribers at a given plant or mine is a criterion to determine where socialist workers should be working, he said.

Other decisions along these lines included regularizing *Militant* sales at plant gates; shifting the balance of *Militant* sales a little more toward Black communities; acting on the opportunities to sell and promote *Our History Is Still Being Written* as outlined by Waters; broadening the party’s involvement in the proletarian movement for the legalization of immigrant workers; and instituting regular Marxist education in the branches of the Socialist Workers Party.

‘Learned to study and think’

Barnes introduced the 27 graduates of the summer school who were sitting on the platform. He also mentioned four other graduates in the United States and four in the United Kingdom could not attend. During the discussion period after his talk, prompted by a question from the audience, several got up and spoke about their experiences in that study program.

“The most challenging thing was fitting in the time to read—learning to balance political activity and study,” said Maura DeLuca, a garment worker and organizer of the Young Socialists in New York who took part in the summer school here. There was a lot of reading to do, and it took work to absorb, she said.

“Learning how to think dialectically and putting what we do today in a historical perspective” was perhaps the biggest gain, said Becca Williamson, a meat packer in the Twin Cities and a Young Socialist.

“We conquered some of the communist movement’s program,” said David Argüello, a Young Socialist in San Diego and a guitar factory worker there who was part of the Los Angeles summer school. “It made the Young Socialists more homogeneous as a revolutionary youth organization that looks politically to the SWP.”

The following day the Young Socialists held a meeting. They voted to establish a three-person national steering committee, and decided that, whether there is a local chapter or just one member in the area, an organizer will be designated in each of the 13 U.S. cities where YS members are now active.

At the September 2 meeting, a party-building appeal brought in \$11,500 in contributions or pledges. Many of those present stayed for a couple of hours after the program for a delicious dinner, informal discussion, and dancing.

Philadelphia daily reports on victory by socialists in ending use of Pennsylvania loyalty oath

The article below appeared in the August 27 edition of the Philadelphia Inquirer, the main daily in Philadelphia, under the headline, “Pa. will no longer enforce its loyalty oath.” It has since been published in full or in part by many newspapers across the United States. It is reprinted by permission.

BY THOMAS FITZGERALD

Inquirer Staff Writer

Since 1951, the price of admission to the ballot in Pennsylvania has been a loyalty oath, a declaration that you are “not a subversive person.”

But that relic of the McCarthy era now may be on the way out—thanks to the Socialist Workers Party nominee for the State House in Philadelphia’s 198th District, in Northwest Philadelphia.

John Staggs, a meatpacker, refused to sign the oath when he turned in his nominating petitions earlier this year, and also threatened to sue the state. In turn, Attorney General Tom Corbett told election officials to stop enforcing the requirement because it is unconstitutional.

“I believe their definition of ‘subversive’ can really apply to anyone,” Staggs, 59, said. “They want to be able to pick and choose, so they can use it versus people who are challenging the status quo.”

Getting rid of the loyalty oath, was, in fact, the major reason that he filed to run for the State House, Staggs said, along with a desire to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Staggs does not predict he’ll defeat incumbent Rep. Rosita Youngblood (D., Phila.) in November. He thinks, rather, that it’s important to make a stand against what he sees as government suppression of freedom because of the fear of terrorism.

“Look at all the rigmarole going on with the detention of prisoners in Guantanamo” and the government’s wiretapping program, Staggs said. “You can see why it’s important to get rid of a ‘loyalty’ oath.”

The 1951 state law’s broad definition of subversive is contained in a single confusing sentence of 100 words and 19 separate clauses. A subversive is anyone who advocates or participates in “any act intended to overthrow, destroy [or] alter” the government. At another point, the definition says that “advocacy” of “violence or force” is a prerequisite to being a subversive.

State loyalty oaths were declared unconstitutional in 1974, in the landmark Supreme Court case of *Indiana Communist Party v. Whitcomb*. The court found that Indiana’s oath violated free-speech rights by equating an abstract belief in radical change with inciting “imminent” violence.

Through inertia, the loyalty oath continued to be administered in most elections in Pennsylvania. But in 1975, then–Attorney General Robert P. Kane issued an opinion that it was unconstitutional to require state employees to take the oath. Kane did not address the provision that applied to political candidates.

On July 25, Corbett referred to Kane’s 31-year-old opinion and applied the reasoning to candidates, directing officials to “discontinue the oath unless and until the Whitcomb decision is overturned.”

The loyalty oath will remain on the books, the statutory equivalent of the human appendix. It would take an act of the legislature to formally repeal it.

“We are not going to be enforcing it, and going forward, we’re going to change the candidacy forms,” said Leslie Amoros, spokeswoman for the Department of State.

Several states still have laws requiring loyalty oaths similar to Pennsylvania’s, including California, Kansas, Illinois, and Arkansas.

“Nobody really pays any attention to them,” said Richard Winger, editor and publisher of *Ballot Access News*, which tracks election law nationwide.

Pennsylvania’s loyalty oath began to crumble with two challenges in Western Pennsylvania last year.

The Socialist Worker candidate for mayor of Pittsburgh, Jay M. Ressler, refused to sign the oath, and

the Allegheny County elections board granted him a waiver. Then a University of Pittsburgh philosophy professor balked after he was elected as a write-in to the Stoneboro Council in Mercer County.

Professor Gerald J. Massey, who was an officer in the U.S. Marines, said he would swear to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and Pennsylvania, but refused to swear he was not subversive. Mercer County election officials said he couldn’t take office.

Massey stood his ground, and eventually the county solicitor issued an opinion declaring the subversive oath unconstitutional. He took office, and found that his mostly conservative Republican colleagues and neighbors supported his stand.

“I was asked to declare I’m not a ‘subversive,’ whatever that means,” said Massey, who described himself as a liberal Democrat. “I’m 72 years old and I remember the McCarthy times, what damage that kind of super-patriotism does to the country,” he said. “I would have gone to court if I had to...”

It took Staggs and the socialists to strike the blow that will free candidates for state offices from the loyalty oath.

Staggs said he plans to campaign hard—usually after he gets home from work packing ground beef at Moyers in Souderton. He will argue for stronger unions, workers’ rights and an end to “immigrant-bashing.”

Socialist Workers activists recently were among the protesters in Riverside, N.J., which had enacted a ban on illegal immigrants.

“I definitely think our party challenges the status quo, but I wouldn’t call it subversive,” Staggs said. “We want working people to have power.”

Contact staff writer Thomas Fitzgerald at 215-854-2718 or tfitzgerald@phillynews.com.

Rally in Hazleton

Continued from front page

nia candidates Osborne Hart, running for governor, and John Staggs, running for the state House in district 198, have campaigned extensively in Hazleton and in Riverside, New Jersey, where struggles are unfolding over the rights of immigrant workers and for the unity of the working class.

“These demonstrations, and the massive working-class mobilizations this spring, point the road to unity for the working class,” Hart said, as he joined a contingent from Riverside to participate in a September 4 demonstration for immigrants’ rights in Newark, New Jersey. “Labor must not only demand the legalization of all immigrants, but above all throw the power and resources of the union movement into this fight.”

Staggs said SWP campaign supporters have joined other working people in the Hazleton area to defeat that city’s anti-immigrant ordinance.

On August 27 The *Philadelphia Inquirer* ran an article by political reporter Thomas Fitzgerald on the front page of the Sunday local section reporting on the victory won by the Socialist Workers campaign forcing the state of Pennsylvania to discontinue use of its “loyalty” oath (see above).

The article was picked up and run by many papers and other media here and across the country.

On September 4, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* followed up with an editorial, headlined, “The End of the Loyalty Oath: Taking a stand,á forcing a change.”

“Staggs, 59, is a meatpacker from northwest Philadelphia who is running for a state House seat on the Socialist Workers Party ticket,” the editorial said. “But even before the first vote is cast, Staggs already has had an impact on Pennsylvania.... What’s the problem? Well, it’s an ancient truth that one man’s ‘subversive’ is another man’s ‘courageous reformer,’” it said. “Thanks to him,” it concluded, “candidates for public office in Pennsylvania no longer must pledge to conform to a faded test born of fear.”



Militant/John Studer

John Staggs (left), Socialist Workers candidate for Pennsylvania House of Representatives District 198, files petitions for ballot status July 31 in Harrisburg with “loyalty oath” crossed out. Next to him is Osborne Hart, SWP candidate for state governor.

Socialist Workers Party candidates in 2006	
Alabama	Clay Dennison, Governor Karl Butts, Commis. of Agriculture
California	Lea Sherman, U.S. Senate James Harris, Governor Chauncey Robinson, Sec’y of State Gerardo Sánchez, U.S. Cong., 8th CD Naomi Craine, U.S. Cong., 34th CD Michael Ortega, U.S. Cong., 35th CD David Arguello, U.S. Cong., 51st CD Joel Britton, San Francisco Bd. of Educ.*
Florida	Bernie Senter, U.S. Senate Omari Musa, Governor Margaret Trowe, U.S. Cong., 18th CD Eric Simpson, U.S. Cong., 17th CD Ruth Robinett, Fl. State Rep. Dist. 109
Georgia	William Arth, Governor Lisa Potash, Lt. Governor Eleanor García, U.S. Cong., 5th CD
Illinois	Dennis Richter, Governor Christian Castro, Lt. Governor Alex Alvarado, U.S. Cong., 4th CD Laura Anderson, U.S. Cong., 7th CD
Iowa	Diana Newberry, Governor* Kevin Dwire, Lt. Governor* Frank Forrestal, Sec’y of Agriculture Helen Meyers, U.S. Cong., 3rd CD*
Massachusetts	John Hawkins, Governor Laura Garza, U.S. Cong., 8th CD*
Minnesota	Rebecca Williamson, U.S. Senate Brian Taylor, Governor Nelson Gonzalez, Lt. Governor Tom Fiske, U.S. Cong., 4th CD Julian Santana, U.S. Cong., 5th CD
New Jersey	Angela Lariscy, U.S. Senate* Brian Williams, U.S. Cong., 13th CD*
New York	Róger Calero, U.S. Senate* Maura DeLuca, Governor* Ben O’Shaughnessy, Lt. Governor* Martín Koppel, State Att’y General* Willie Cotton, State Comptroller* Nancy Boyasko, U.S. Cong., 11th CD
Pennsylvania	Ved Dookhun, U.S. Senate Osborne Hart, Governor Tony Lane, Lt. Governor Cindy Jaquith, U.S. Cong., 14th CD John Staggs, Pa. State Rep. Dist. 198*
Texas	Amanda Ulman, U.S. Senate Steve Warshell, Governor Anthony Dutrow, U.S. Cong., 18th CD
Washington	David Rosenfeld, U.S. Senate Connie Allen, U.S. Cong., 7th CD
Wash., D.C.	Sam Manuel, Mayor María Sánchez, City Council Chair Seth Dellinger, City Council At-Large Janice Lynn, House Delegate

*Confirmed on ballot

Israel created as an ally of imperialism in Mideast

Below is an excerpt from Israel: A Colonial-Settler State? one of Pathfinder's Books of the Month in September. The book documents the origins of Zionism resulting in the formation of a Jewish state in Palestine. Following the proclamation of the state of Israel in 1948 based on a United Nations-imposed partition of Palestine, Israeli troops terrorized Palestinians into fleeing their land and homes and defeated surrounding Arab governments that sought to block the sei-

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

zure of these territories. Over the years the Israeli capitalist state has defended and sought to advance imperialist interests in the region. The Palestine War described below refers to the 1948 events that brought the Israeli state into existence. Copyright © 1973 by Pathfinder Press. Reprinted by permission.

BY MAXIME RODINSON

Thus the Palestine War was not seen by anyone in the Arab lands as a war of liberation led by anti-British, and hence anti-colonialist, Jewish revolutionaries against pleasure-seeking feudal lords who pushed stupefied and mule-like peasants



Barbed wire covers a Jerusalem street on May 19, 1948, to separate Jews and Arabs. British colonial rule of Palestine ended May 15, the day the state of Israel was proclaimed.

in front of them to safeguard their own class interests—as the version widely accepted by the European left would have it.... The war could not even be seen as a struggle between two formerly colonial states, as could, for example, the struggle between Pakistan and India over Kashmir. In the latter case, each of the two parties is more or less supported, with greater or fewer ulterior motives, by one or another group of powers whose support fluctuates in keeping with changes in the international and local situation.... Seen with Arab eyes—and I believe I have shown this is not without objective justification—the Palestine War was a struggle against a new imperialist encroachment on the territory of a colonial people.

That is, at least, how it appeared in the eyes of the Arab masses. No one can honestly deny the real indignation felt by the Arab people, especially in Arab Asia, which was most directly concerned. The fact that the Egyptian peasants who were mobilized displayed little interest or understanding of the struggle did not mean that they had any sympathy for the Jews. For every element of the population how-

ever slightly politicized, whether through circumstances or education, felt that they were face to face with an invader. It is true that Arab armies enjoyed some British support on various levels. But this support, which was clandestine and non-official, was also limited. During the tragic period between the UN partition decision and the British withdrawal, it amounted principally to the presence of English soldiers who were left without clear instructions, or received contradictory ones, and who had become accustomed during the preceding long phase of Jewish terrorism to regard the Jews as enemies.

Great Britain's policy was inspired by considerations that went far beyond aid to the Arabs, in particular by the cold war situation at the time and British relations with the United States, as well as by the serious economic crisis that was shaking Britain. During the same period, the English withdrew from Greece, Burma, and India. As usual, the various British ministries held divergent points of view on the matter, but they went along with the political orientation of the cabinet—to get out of the Palestinian quagmire. It

September

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seems that it was only later, with the unforeseen evolution of events on a local level, that certain British circles got the idea that things would end up with Great Britain being asked to play the role of arbiter in conditions it would find much easier than those prevailing near the end of the mandate.

The official Zionist leaders did, in fact, hesitate to abandon completely all recourse to international backing, from the United States and even at times from Great Britain, hoping that in one way or another the UN would insure a painless transition to a Jewish state—or, if absolutely necessary, a binational state with a large Jewish majority; they were also prepared again, if necessary, to settle for the territory allotted by the UN partition plan, at least for a while. In the beginning, they wanted above all to demonstrate that they were capable of defending the Jewish zones and consequently that a Jewish state was viable.

The advancement and then success of the Zionist movement thus definitely occurred within the framework of European expansion into the countries belonging to what later came to be called the Third World. Given the initial aims of the movement, it could not have been otherwise. Once the premises were laid down, the inexorable logic of history determined the consequences. Wanting to create a purely Jewish, or predominantly Jewish state in an Arab Palestine in the twentieth century could not help but lead to a colonial-type situation and to the development (completely normal, sociologically speaking) of a racist state of mind, and in the final analysis to a military confrontation between the two ethnic groups. One can understand why the Zionist leaders repeatedly spurned peaceful compromises with the Arabs, fearing that these compromises would not guarantee that they would be the rulers of the future Palestine.

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Imperialist hands off Iran!

U.S. hands off Iran! Oppose the attempts by Washington and its allies to impose economic and other sanctions on Tehran! Say no to the U.S.-led drive to prevent Iran and other nations oppressed by imperialism from acquiring the energy sources they need, including nuclear power, for economic and social advances.

These are demands that serve the interests of working people in face of Washington’s latest threat to “make Iran pay” for defying the United Nations Security Council’s ultimatum to stop uranium enrichment.

The U.S.-led campaign against Iran is a by-product of the increasing disorder of world capitalism. The sharpest consequences of this crisis for the imperialist powers are in the Middle East and Central Asia. In response, the U.S. rulers have launched what they call the “long war.” Since 2001 they have toppled governments in Afghanistan and Iraq and are now stepping up threats and pressures against Iran and Syria, as they did during and after the murderous Israeli assault on Lebanon.

Washington’s claims that it is promoting “democracy” and “freedom” in this part of the world are sheer hypocrisy. “Governments accountable to the voters focus

on building roads and schools, not weapons of mass destruction,” said U.S. president George Bush in his recent speech to the American Legion. What about the U.S. nuclear and chemical and biological weapons arsenal built and expanded under Democratic and Republican administrations alike?

The U.S. rulers’ goal is to attempt to shift the relationship of forces in the Middle East and Central Asia in favor of imperialism and, in so doing, gain firmer control over resources such as oil. They are trying to do so by taking steps toward toppling the Iranian regime and establishing a government that would be more subservient to Washington, as the shah of Iran was for decades until he was overthrown through a popular revolution in 1979. In the process the U.S. capitalists also aim to deal blows to some of their imperialist allies, who are also their competitors and maintain trade and investments in Iran.

Let’s speak out against the profit-driven war aims of Washington and its allies and defend unconditionally the sovereignty of the affected nations. We should demand: U.S. and all occupation troops out of Iraq and Afghanistan now! No to the threats against Iran and Syria!

Pentagon ‘missile shield’ test succeeds

Continued from front page

umbrella the system is designed to establish.

Rumsfeld made no attempt to disguise which states are among the prime targets of this effort.

“We’ve seen very recently in the press a good deal of activity in North Korea with respect to ballistic missiles...and in Iran, with their public desire to have a nuclear program and their reasonably advanced missile capabilities,” Rumsfeld told the media August 27. “We’ve also seen, I’m told, something in the neighborhood of 4,000 missiles launched by Hezbollah into northern Israel.... So it’s clear that the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missile technologies and weapons of mass destruction technologies is a real one.”

In the press conference with his Russian counterpart, Rumsfeld also said Washington was exploring the possibility of improving its own ballistic missile arsenal by creating an intercontinental missile with a conventional warhead instead of a nuclear one. He said it doesn’t matter that those facing such an attack might assume it was facing a nuclear assault since “there are only a few countries that would have the ability to do anything about it.”

The target missile in the test was launched from Alaska and reportedly followed a trajectory similar to the path a missile fired from north Korea might follow in an attack on West Coast cities. It was shot down by an interceptor missile launched from Vandenberg Air

Force Base in California, reported the September 2 *Washington Post*.

The test is “about as close as we can come to an end-to-end test of our long-range missile defense system,” said U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry Obering.

Washington has received the strongest support for the missile weapons system from the Japanese rulers. In late June, Tokyo and Washington signed an agreement to jointly produce antiballistic missiles, and to deploy Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missiles on U.S. bases in Japan. The U.S. military has also positioned Aegis-class ships off the Korean coast equipped with radar to detect missile launches.

The Indian government has offered its strong backing for the missile shield as well. “Many forget that Mr. Bush spent his first nine months in office thinking up ways to contain China, which he branded a ‘strategic competitor,’” said the August 31 *Financial Times*. “One such method was to boost funding for Star Wars II, an antiballistic missile system that—if it ever worked—would partly be aimed at blunting China’s nuclear reach. India was one of the first countries to welcome the system,” noted the *Financial Times*.

The next test, which will include “real-world” conditions, such as using decoys and other countermeasures to try to confuse the “kill vehicle,” is scheduled for December, according to Lieutenant General Obering.

1,000 Italian Marines land in Lebanon

Continued from front page

says, comes primarily from the government of Iran. “The Palestinian front and everything related to it must be the second front.”

At the same time, there are indications that in spite of its missteps Tel Aviv accomplished some of its goals in the war against Hezbollah.

The 35-day assault destroyed much of Hezbollah’s fortified infrastructure in southern Lebanon and Beirut and killed hundreds of its fighters, along with hundreds of other casualties and much damage to the country’s infrastructure.

In an August 28 speech Olmert pointed to the deployment in southern Lebanon of Lebanese government troops and “a strong international force, comprised of armies from European countries” as one of the war’s most important accomplishments, presenting a major

obstacle to Hezbollah’s re-entrenchment in the area.

There are also indications that Hezbollah’s primary focus for now is not rearming for war with Israel, but seeking to shore up its popularity and deflect criticism within Lebanon.

Facing some pressure from those who lost loved ones and property in the war, Hezbollah has reportedly begun giving out an average \$12,000 to each of the approximately 35,000 households in the south and in Beirut’s southern suburbs, which were hit the hardest by the Israeli assault.

On August 27, in an interview on NTV, a television news channel in Lebanon, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said, “We did not think, even 1 percent, that the capture [of the Israeli soldiers] would lead to a war at this time and of this magnitude. You ask me if I had known on July 11...that the operation would lead to such a war, would I do it? I say no, absolutely not.”

Tel Aviv’s bombing did start following the kidnapping of the Israeli soldiers by Hezbollah militiamen. But it was not until Hezbollah missiles start hitting Haifa in northern Israel that Tel Aviv unleashed a full-scale assault, including a ground invasion.

Meanwhile, the Israeli armed forces have conducted some 70 military operations inside Lebanon since the cease-fire was signed, the *New York Times* reported September 1. Tel Aviv has also refused UN demands to end its air and naval blockade of Lebanon.

‘Iran must pay’

Continued from front page

from the radical regime in Iran.” The Iranian government provides “arms, funds, and advises Hezbollah, which has killed more Americans than any terrorist network except al Qaeda,” he said, referring to the Lebanese group that recently fought Israeli troops invading that country.

“The Iranian regime interferes in Iraq by sponsoring terrorists and insurgents, empowering unlawful militias, and supplying components for improvised explosive devices,” Bush added.

Referring to a series of attacks on U.S. officials and military personnel from the 1970s through the 1990s under the Carter, Reagan, Bush Sr., and Clinton administrations, the president said that Washington’s “primary goal in the Middle East was stability.” But the U.S. rulers recently “realized that years of pursuing stability to promote peace have left us with neither,” he said. “[S]o we’re pursuing a new strategy.”

The new approach includes ending “the days of treating terrorism as a law enforcement matter” and taking the offensive to “fight terrorists overseas so we do not have to face them here at home,” Bush said. It also includes making “it clear to all nations, if you harbor terrorists, you’re as guilty as the terrorists, you’re an enemy of the United States and you will be held into account,” he said.

A month earlier, Washington succeeded in winning backing from its imperialist allies in Europe—London, Paris, and Berlin—along with support from the governments of Russia and China to pass a UN Security Council resolution warning Tehran that if uranium enrichment activities for the country’s nuclear energy industry were not suspended by the end of August it could face “economic and diplomatic sanctions.”

Enriched uranium is an essential component of fuel for atomic energy. If processed at a higher grade, it can also be used in the production of nuclear weapons. The right to produce nuclear fuel for atomic energy is codified in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), of which Iran is a signer. The imperialist powers, however, are pushing to make Iran dependent on imported nuclear fuel while the country has substantial uranium ore deposits. Tehran insists it needs to develop atomic power for peaceful purposes to meet the country’s growing energy needs.

“Iranians will not surrender to forceful talk, aggression, and deprivation of their rights,” said Iran’s president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in a September 2 speech carried live on Iranian state television, according to the Iranian Student News Agency. “Our nation is a supporter of peace but it will not retreat an iota from its right to nuclear technology.”

A report the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) submitted to the UN Security Council August 31 noted that Tehran is “complying with basic, mandatory inspections that allow the agency to monitor all of its work with uranium,” reported the *Washington Post*. It also said that Iran had “not suspended its enrichment related activities.”

“Since April, when Iran began enriching uranium in a string of centrifuges, it has produced about six kilograms of uranium to levels consistent with an energy program. The material cannot be used for a weapon,” the *Post* noted.

In response to the IAEA report, Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Hamid Resa Asefi told *IranMania News* that his government “has acted within the framework of the international safeguards and Non-Proliferation Treaty and is ready to answer the remaining issues through talks with the IAEA.” Over the past three years Tehran has permitted the IAEA to conduct “more than 2,000 inspector-days of scrutiny” of its nuclear sites, Javad Zarif, Iran’s UN representative, told the UN Security Council July 31.

According to an article in the August 31 *New York Times*, however, IAEA inspectors also said in their report that day that they found new traces of highly enriched uranium “of unknown origins” at one of the country’s nuclear facilities, “deepening suspicions” of Tehran’s intentions, as the *Times* put it.

U.S. ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton urged the Security Council on August 31 to move ahead and impose sanctions on Iran. He told the media that the IAEA report is “ample evidence of Iran’s defiance.” Foreign ministers of European Union member states agreed September 2 to take two more weeks before announcing their response.

Correction

The article “Cape Verde honors Cuba’s internationalism” in last week’s issue indicated that Amilcar Cabral’s parents were Cape Verdeans. His mother, however, was from Guinea-Bissau. Also, Víctor Dreke remained a part of the fight against counterrevolutionary bands in Cuba until January 1965, not until 1964 as the article said.