Vote Socialist Workers
U.S. hands off Korea! Lift sanctions!
Troops out of Iraq, Afghanistan now!
Unionize all workers! Legalize immigrants!

Vote Socialist Workers Party! Vote for the SWP candidates where they are on the ballot and write their names in where they’ve been excluded. That’s what we urge our readers to do November 7.
The Socialist Workers Party is fielding 53 candidates in 13 U.S. states and the District of Columbia this fall. These candidates offer a working-class alternative to the twin parties of U.S. imperialism—the Democrats and Republicans—and other capitalist parties.

The socialists are presenting a revolutionary working-class program in the U.S. to reach out to our sisters and brothers around the world in order to strengthen the struggle against our common enemies—the imperialist aggressors and capitalist exploiters the world over.
The socialists have been calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and other “coalition” troops from Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans, Colombia, and Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. They have been saying: “U.S. hands off Korea! Lift the sanctions! All U.S. troops and weapons out of the Korean peninsula! Reunification of Korea!” They have

Goodyear strikers confront scabs and win solidarity

With pickets up around the clock, strikers are keeping warm by burning wood and staying inside tents. “We’ve gotten fantastic solidarity from the community,” said Ron Voboril, a shop steward. “We’re seeing all kinds of food, wood, hankering from supporters, as well as union people joining the pickets.” Voboril and

Best week yet in ‘Militant’ sub drive

BY ARGIS MALAPANIS
More than 260 people subscribed to the Militant last week, the best week yet of the circulation drive. Building on this momentum, supporters of the paper are organizing an all-out effort the next two weeks to meet the international goal of 2,600 readers by November 7. Here are a few notes from supporters of the paper.

“Over the last week, we campaigned with the Militant, responding to the U.S.-
Continued on page 4

7-city tour in Cuba promotes book by three Chinese-Cuban generals
Hundreds attend events across island

BY MARTIN KOPPEL AND DAVID ARGUELLO
SANTIAGO DE CUBA, October 21—Some 250 people filled the main hall of the historic municipal government building here October 20 to hear a panel of speakers, including Gen. Moisés Sío Wong, present Our History Is Still Being Written: The Story of Three Cuban-Chinese Generals in the Cuban Revolution.

BY CHRIS REMPLE
LOS ANGELES—A panel discussion on the book Our History Is Still Being Written: The Story of Three Cuban-Chinese Generals in the Cuban Revolution will be held November 8 at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) campus here. It is sponsored by the Asians in the Americas Working Group, Americas Journal, published by UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center Press; the UCLA Department of Asian American Studies; the Asian American Studies Center; and Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research.

The book tells the story of three generals of Cuba’s Revolutionary Armed Forces, who, in the 1950s, as young rebels of Chinese ancestry, threw themselves into the revolutionary war that brought down a U.S.-backed dictatorship and opened the way to the first communist state in the Americas. The three generals explain the historic place of Chinese immigration to Cuba, as well as more than five decades of revolutionary struggle and internationalism from Cuba to Angola, Nicaragua, and Venezuela today.

Claire Chu, a professor at UCLA’s Department of Information Studies and a member of the Department of Asian American Studies, and Mary-Alice Waters, the book’s editor, will be among the

Continued on page 7

Washington leads drive to enforce harsh sanctions against north Korea

BY OLYMPIA NEWTON
October 24—U.S. secretary of state Condoleezza Rice toured China, Japan, Russia, and South Korea last week to solidify Washington’s “coalition of the willing” to threaten militarily and squeeze economically the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK).

Rice tried to win compliance from these governments with an October 14 United Nations Security Council resolution calling for cargo “inspections” and instituting other harsh sanctions against North Korea. Washington introduced the resolution after the DPRK announced October 8 it had conducted a nuclear arms test.

After winning a unanimous vote for the resolution, U.S. assistant secretary of state Christopher Hill said, “The issue… is how to make sure countries interpret it

Continued on page 2

Also Inside:
Washington maps plans to press war in Iraq
UCLA students rally for affirmative action
Immigrants working in coal mines strengthen union
U.S. drought ravages working farmers nationwide

How working people in Korea defeated U.S. forces in 1950s war
—PAGE 8

Continued on page 3

Continued on page 4
Washington maps plans to press war in Iraq

BY SAM MANUEL
WASHINGTON, October 22—U.S. president George Bush mapped plans to press the war in Iraq at a White House conference with top administration and military officials there.

Just two days earlier a top U.S. general said that a two-month operation by 15,000 U.S. troops had failed to stem a spike in killings resulting from factional fighting among bourgeois forces vying for a bigger share of power.

Nearly 2,000 U.S. troops have been killed in the war since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion, according to the Pentagon, as well as some 120 British soldiers. Total "coalition" deaths exceed 3,000. The estimated death toll among Iraqis, civilian and military, is much higher, exceeding 14,000 this year alone, according to press reports, with nearly half occurring in August and September.

In another development, the Iraqi parliament approved a controversial "federalism" law on October 11 that will allow provinces to join together and form autonomous regions. The law is not to be implemented for 18 months.

The measure was approved by a slim margin, with 145 of the 275 members of parliament voting for it. Members of parliament loyal to Shite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, and Fadilah, a split-off from al-Sadr’s movement, joined wealthy Sunnis in boycotting the vote. A bloc of Shite and Kurdish parties hold a majority in Iraq’s coalition government.

Al-Sadr’s supporters fought fierce battles with U.S. troops in southern Iraq in 2004. His movement is now part of the ruling Shite bloc, known as the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA), and heads several ministries in the U.S.-backed regime.

A regional government in southern Iraq would be dominated by al-Sadr’s Shite rivals, the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) and al-Dawlah, the two largest parties in the UIA.

The rivalry between al-Sadr and SCIRI burst into open fighting October 19-20, when 200-300 of Sadr’s Mahdi militia attacked two police stations in Amara, southern Iraq. The police there are said to be aligned with the Badr Brigade, a SCIRI militia.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker, the Army chief of staff, said October 11 the Army plans to maintain current U.S. troop levels in Iraq, now at 138,000, "to have enough ammo in the magazine that I can continue to shoot as long as they want us to shoot.”

The day after his remarks, Australian premier John Howard said soldiers, with 900 troops in Iraq, would stand with Washington and not "cut and run.”

U.S. events to promote book by Chinese-Cuban generals

Continued from front page

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Washington maps plans to press war in Iraq

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U.S. events to promote book by Chinese-Cuban generals

Don’t miss a single issue!

Continued from front page

The panelists also on the panel will be Eugene Moy, vice president of programs of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California. Nobuko Miyamoto, founder and artistic director of the group Great Leap will sing and perform. Russell Selig, editor of Amerasia Journal, will chair the program.

The panel discussion will begin at 7:00 p.m. (see ad on p. 3). It will be preceded by a reception, starting at 6:30 p.m., sponsored by the Amerasia Journal. The Asians in the Americas Working Group, which works “to develop a new way of understanding Asian migration to Canada, the United States, and Latin America,” will hold an organizing meeting just prior to the event at 5:30 p.m.

The panel discussion is being publicized at UCLA and other area campuses, as well as in the Chinese and other Asian-American communities, and throughout the city.

BY ERNEST MAIHLOTH
CHICAGO—The Second National Asian American Student Conference (NAASC) will be held November 3–5 at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. Organizers said the conference will build on a previous event, the Asian Pacific American Student Conference, held in Los Angeles in 2004. “By hosting the conference in the Midwest, a thriving region for APAs [Asian Pacific Americans], NAASC in 2006 seeks to revitalize and mobilize Asian America,” the organizers say.

The opening day will feature keynote speaker Vijay Prashad, an author and professor of South Asian history and director of International Studies at Trinity College in Connecticut.

Workshops will be held November 4.

The Militant

Vol. 70/No. 42

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Washington correspondent: Sam Manuel

Editorial volunteers: David Argüello, Róger Calero, Martin Koppel, Olympia Newton, Paul Pederson, and Brian Williams.

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Continued from front page

other strikers said firefighters, Teamsters, gas workers, and others have joined the pickets since the strike began. “Earlier this week two strikers from the plant in Topeka visited the lines,” said Voboril. Only one worker has crossed the line. Workers here are digging in for a long strike, and they have taken this line since the strike began. Picket reports that the company has brought in strikebreakers from their nonunion hydraulic hose plant in Norfolk, Nebraska, to keep some production going.

This year the tire giant moved their production to Mexico. Now the main product made at this plant is rubber belts. Goodyear is planning to close the plant in 2003, the union agreed to cuts by as much as 40 percent, and do away with retiree medical coverage. The union calls these proposals “cut and gut.”

When Goodyear threatened bankruptcy in 2003, the union agreed to cuts in wages, pensions, and health care. The company's sales rebounded to a record-high, but the bosses are demanding two-tier wages.

“Goodyear says we make $103,000 a year—average pay!” said Rick Shields, a millwright. “Sometimes we’ve been forced to work six or seven days a week, even then we average about $45,000 a year. They never mention the $32 million the bosses got in bonuses.”

“The average life expectancy is only five years after retirement for us here, and there are signs around the plant warning us of all the cancer-causing conditions,” said Baylen Sessions, who has worked here nine years. “But they don’t do anything about it! For us this fight is serious because we’re fighting for our union here.”

Tom Baumann from Minneapolis and Paul Malhot from Birmingham, Alabama, reported that similar solidarity activities took place at the picket line at the Goodyear plants in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and Gadsden, Alabama.

Garment workers in Scotland strike for wage increase

BY XERARDO ARIAS

The event was organized by the Admissions Coalition, which is made up of differing student groups. The coalition’s aim is to reverse the low numbers of students of oppressed nationalities admitted at this campus.

Continued from front page

Goodyear strikers confront scabs, win solidarity

By SETH DELLINGER

October 21—The picket line of over a dozen members of USW Local 959 here swelled to nearly 100 today as several hundred strikebreakers began their exit from the Goodyear tire plant. Goodyear is attempting to run the plant, which produces replacement tires, with about 300 salaried personnel and about 120 hourly workers who have crossed the picket line.

The strikers lined both sides of the street and greeted the departure of the strikebreakers, escorted by the police, with chants of “One day longer.” “No justice, no peace,” and “Scab!”

North Carolina is a state with an anti-union “right to work” law. According to USW members, about 90 percent of the 1,900 hourly workers in the plant are union members.

Strikers said the union held a rally at the union hall October 19 and then a mass picket as the strikebreakers left the plant. Nearly 1,000 strikers lined both sides of the street that day to greet those who had crossed the picket line, workers said.

BY JOHN STEELE AND MICHEL PRAIRIE

COLLINGWOOD, Ontario—There were cheers on the Goodyear picket line here yesterday. More than 100 salaried personnel and about 120 hourly workers here have joined the Goodyear strikers, our support,” said Local 9403 chief steward Bonnie Meadie. “They deserve it for standing up to the company.”

Members of USW Local 252G from the Pilkington Glass plant here joined the picket line.

The same fighting spirit was present on the Goodyear line when an autono-

mous belt plant in Owen Sound that day. Strikers there reported that about 400 Goodyear workers at a plant in Medi-

cine Hat, Alberta, just voted 95 percent to give their bargaining committee a strike mandate and may join the walk-

out. There are 400 Goodyear strikers in Canada at four plants.

Strikers here said the company is trying to maintain production of hoses for cars with management and office personnel.

“We won’t work for $12 an hour, so we’re going to keep fighting,” said Jennifer McLachlan, a member of USW Local 8340 here.

The average hourly pay is now $9.81. Strikers said the bosses are demanding two-tier wages.

BY BILL ARTH

FAYETTEVILLE, North Carolina, October 21—The picket line of over a dozen members of USW Local 959 here swelled to nearly 100 today as several hundred strikebreakers began their exit from the Goodyear tire plant. Goodyear is attempting to run the plant, which produces replacement tires, with about 300 salaried personnel and about 120 hourly workers who have crossed the picket line.

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BY SETH DELLING

DANVILLE, Virginia, October 21—“There’s 2,200 of us on strike. Only one has crossed,” said James Coles, captain of the USW area office that covers the Goodyear tire plant here today.

Protecting retirees’ medical coverage is a main reason for the strike, Coles said. “One day longer” means "no justice, no peace, and "Scab!”

“Goodyear says we make $103,000 a year—average pay!” said Rick Shields, a millwright. “Sometimes we’ve been forced to work six or seven days a week, even then we average about $45,000 a year. They never mention the $32 million the bosses got in bonuses.”

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Garment workers in Scotland strike for wage increase

BY XERARDO ARIAS

COATBRIDGE, Scotland, October 18—“It wasn’t until we went on strike that I got to know picketers in other departments,” said John Clark, a knitting machine operator on strike against Mackoninn Mill here. “This action has been very useful to me.

Today was the sixth day of picketing at this mill near Glasgow. Workers are striking for a 2.5 percent pay increase. The bosses have refused to offer any raise.

The 110 members of the Community trade union began their protests September 28. They are now striking two days a week, and are into the fourth week of actions. At the union’s branch (local) meeting last week, workers voted to give notice of strike dates for another two months.

Alison McCaughie, a member of the strike committee, said the bosses have taken out an interim interdict (a court order limiting picketing) against the strikers. The company claims that picketing outside the mill’s front gate, which is also the entrance to its retail outlet, is illegal. Picketing there has generated support from other workers and customers, strikers said.

Management has sent all workers a letter stating that they will only use a side entrance for coming to and from work, furthering their claim that the workers are not picketing the plant.

McCaughie said the bosses have also begun disciplinary proceedings against four strikers. The union is protesting these proceedings, she said.

Our History Is Still Being Written

The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban

Generals in the Cuban Revolution

Panel discussion and reception

On the corner of Royce Dr. and Charles E. Young Dr. North
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Immigrants in coal mines strengthen union

BY ALYSON KENNEDY

An article in the September 15 Charleston
Mail, headlined “Illegal immigrants dig coal mines spark disagreement,” said, “Officials with the United Mine Workers of America say the problem of illegal immigrants working in West Virginia’s coal mines is becoming more prevalent.”

It reported that an “illegal immigrant,” who was charged with hitting a child with a tire while driving drunk, “has brought to the issue the forefront of talks about safety in the state’s mines.” The worker, originally from Mexico, works at a mining repair machine shop.

“Officials with the United Mine Workers of America say the problem of illegal immigration is becoming more prevalent unless we address it.”

“Immigrants in coal mines strengthen union talk will be intimidated from standing up for themselves shed prejudices about U.S.-

[...] of whether miners are born in the United States, Mexico, who went on strike for 10 months to win UMWA representation in order to change and win livable wages and job safety. These workers inspired solidarity throughout the country and beyond and at a certain point posed the political condition of winning coal miners, many of them Mexican immigrants, to win UMWA representation.

Along a thin seam of rare “blue gem” coal, used for making silicon. Joe Seay, operating a roof-boiler in a blue-gem mine, was the 99th miner to be killed on the job this year, when a five-foot-long slab of rock fell on him. Extracting this coal is dangerous, with miners working in tunnels sometimes less than 19 inches high.

With the price of coal remaining high, the bosses continue to speed up work to keep costs down, as long as they can, and force miners to work in unsafe conditions. Most coal mines are nonunion. These conditions, similar in other industries and countries, pose the need to build a labor movement capable of fighting effectively against the bosses’ assaults. This can only be done by seeing immigrant workers as our brothers and sisters, champing their demand to learn the skills and fighting every effort to draw them into unionizing the mines and other workplaces.

Alyson Kennedy was a coal miner at the Co-Op mine in Huntington, W.Va. She was part of the 10-month strike and two-year-long battle to organize the UMWA at that mine.

“...a reputation for bypassing...”

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with similar efforts, selling the re-

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[...] on the entire working class. These developments confirmed that the historic influx of immigrant labor in recent decades has irreversibly strengthened the U.S. working class. Workers and farmers are driven to immigrate by growing anti-labor laws and conditions in countries dominated by imperialism. But immigrants are not suffering victims.

They are fellow workers who bring their own native resources, help broaden the horizons of their co-workers, and themselves shed prejudices about U.S.-born workers in the process.

“...a reputation for bypassing...”

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U.S. drought rages working farmers
Gov't aid goes to wealthiest capitalist growers, ranchers

BY KARL BUTTS
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama—Working farmers in many U.S. states this year are facing the devastating combination of drought conditions and increasing costs of production. While capitalist politicians have campaigned around offers of “drought assistance” and other aid, most of these funds end up in the coffers of the wealthiest capitalist farmers and landlords.

“This is the most expensive crop I’ve grown, and it looks like it’s going to be another worst crop I’ve ever harvested,” Alabama cotton farmer Bob Luker told local media, referring to the doubling of his costs for diesel fuel, electricity, and fertilizer. In the last year, the price of a ton of fertilizer leap from $150 to more than $320. The Alabama Farmers Association predicted that up to 75 percent of corn and 50 percent of cotton crops would be lost to the high temperatures and low rainfall. Alabama’s largest row crop, cotton, is considered a failure, according to farmers and the Autauga Quality Cotton Association. Farmers and ranchers in more than 60 percent of the country faced abnormally dry or drought conditions this year, from California in the south and from Montana to Wisconsin in the north. Ranked as the third worst drought on record, it was the continuation of an ongoing weather cycle that began in 1999.

In north-central South Dakota, where the temperature reached 120 degrees this summer, an estimated 90 percent of the natural watering holes dried up. Parts of Texas experienced a 16-month dry spell with 29 days of temperatures over 100 degrees. Officials estimated $4 billion in damages due to the 1998 drought, according to an August 14 National Public Radio report. Many farmers in affected areas are salvaging their drought-stunted crops to feed livestock struggling on scorching pastures. Ranchers are being forced to sell off parts of all their herds due to lack of water, hay, or other affordable feed sources. Gov’t aid goes to richest farmers

The government’s response is in effect to go to the aid of the rich capitalist farmers at the expense of working farmers. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Michael Johanns announced recently that Washington would provide $780 million for drought assistance in South Dakota, including $700 million in subsidies for farmers producing corn and other grains and $50 million for livestock producers.

All these programs, however, tie compensation to the size or production levels of a particular operation. As a result, nearly half of the $23 billion in 2005 farm subsidies went to the wealthiest 5 percent of farmers and landlords.

The Federal Livestock Assistance Program (LAP) benefits are to be spread out over five years. It includes up to $2,000 per household, according to Al Guston, a farm news radio announcer and rancher in Bismarck, North Dakota. Guston told National Public Radio that in contrast local ranchers’ feed bills alone will run $20,000 to $40,000.

Also LAP would only reimburse farmers whose line of credit allowed purchases of supplemental feed, water- ing operations, and livestock transport to greener pastures. Those lacking the financial resources are forced to sell off their herds.

Australian gold mine company ignored warnings prior to rock fall that killed one miner, injured two

BY RON POUlsen
SYDNEY, Australia—On January 30, three months before a deadly mine disas-
ster in northern Tasmania, Beaconsfield Gold, which owns the deep underground mine, received an oral report that sections of the mine were unstable, along with recommendations of measures the company could take to stabilize them.

But according to miners, these recommenda-
tions were not implemented in the section of the mine where three months later, on April 22, a massive rock fall killed Larry Knight and nearly took the lives of two other miners, Todd Russell and Brent Webb, who were entrapped one kilometer underground for two days. The marathon rescue effort by fellow miners, who had been trained the day before the disaster, finally freed the two trapped miners.

A confidential report from January was revealed in the October 7 Australian, a national daily, in a front-page article headlined “Mine had ample cave-in warning.” The investigation was com-
mmissioned by mine bosses after a rock fall last October near the subsequent fatal roof collapse. Work was suspended in the area for a time.

The report by AMC Consultants geo-technical engineer Glenn Sharrock, said the damage to those sections of the mine “extends to the support capac-
ity” and warned of “the potential, for further large and damaging seismic events” caused by mining activities and “unfavorable mine geometry.” Sharrock recommended the mine shut down, with supports, such as six-meter cable bolts. The report also urged a new safer method of “checker-boarding,” leaving larger unmined “pillars” to “reduce the chances” of “fault slip…in the future.”

A company spokesman denied that Beaconsfield’s management ignored the report’s recommendations, saying larger cone bolts were not specifically “recommended” for level 925 where the fatal fall occurred. Some miners told the Australian that the size of floor separations had been reduced as the gold seam became richer. As a result, the vertical floor-to-floor dis-
tance was cut from 25 meters at higher levels of the mine to only 10 meters at the 925-meter level.

Mick Borrill, a drill operator who worked in that section, said mine man-
agers ignored pleas by miners to leave unmined pillars in place, saying “there’s too much gold there.”

Mine owners refused to comment on the release of the report, claiming the matter was still being inquired about and the coroner. Alistair Macdonald contributed to this article.

THE MILITANT
î
25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO

November 6, 1981
The Federal Labor Relations Au-
thority ruled October 22 that the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization should be decertified for its support of “armed attack on Egypt. British and French forces were concentrated on the nearby island of Cyprus which Britain holds only by a rein of terror. Israel began a total military mobiliza-
tion. When everything was ready the Israeli government made plans toward Suez... The brutal aggression against Egypt...

November 5, 1956
All the recent capitalist propaganda about Western imperialism and co-
operation is a thing of the past, a phenomenon of the 19th Century, has gone down the drain with the invasion of Egypt. There is nothing in the last century's long list of colonial wars and imperialist land-grabbing that is any cruder than the current British-French-Israeli war against Egypt.

The facts are plain: British and French imperialism in conflict with the Israeli government made plans for an armed attack on Egypt. British and French forces were concentrated on the nearby island of Cyprus which Britain holds only by a rein of terror. Israel began a total military mobiliza-
tion. When everything was ready the Israeli army invaded Egypt, heading toward Suez... The brutal aggression against Egypt...

November 7, 1931
The dramatic and gigantic convulsions of world capitalism are at present unfold-
ing over a far vaster scene than that of Germany. All attention is converging on England. However, from the point of view of the revolution, the German field must not be lost sight of for a single moment. For the economic reserves of British imperialism are incomparably greater than those of Germany, which have been dilapidated and wiped out by the war... Nevertheless, the internal situation in Germany is not devoid in important events these last few weeks. Above all, there is the reappearance of the Na-
tional Socialists on the political arena, as expressed on the one hand, by their return to parliament and, on the other, by extra-parliamentary actions. Thus, on the Jewish New Year the National Social-
ists organized a veritable little pogrom, similar to their attack on the shop fronts last year. The measures taken against them have not been enough, the ring leaders were not even summoned to court. We see therefore, that in view of threatening the weather, the bourgeoisie is once more rising up...
Cuban media cover widely 7-city book tour

The Cuban press is giving wide coverage to the cross-island speaking tour to discuss and promote: Our History Is Still Being Written—The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban Generals in the Cuban Revolution (in Spanish, Nuestra historia aún se está escribiendo). The book was presented in Ciego de Ávila, Holguín, Santiago de Cuba, and Villa Clara.

From October 19 broadcast by Radio Reloj. "Nuestra historia aún se está escribiendo"—an interview with three Cuban-Chinese generals, was presented last night in Holguín's Cuban community by the New York publisher Pathfinder Press and the Cuban-Chinese community. The book was presented in Ciego de Ávila, Holguín, Santiago de Cuba, and Villa Clara.

Our History Is Still Being Written...

For his part, Brigadier General Moisés Sío Wong, president of the Cuban-Chinese Friendship Association, stated his opinion that the appearance of this book is very necessary and will contribute to brotherhood between the two countries.

"[T]he presentation [was] held in the José Inda Hernández House of Culture..."

By Mary-Alice Waters, publisher of the book in the early days of 2007 is being prepared, and General Moisés Sío Wong. He stated that the book has become one of the Pathfinder titles that has had the greatest impact in the United States, primarily in the Chinese community of more than two million persons..."

Editora Política is preparing a Cuban edition, and the newspaper reported that work has begun on translating the book into Chinese...

Study, Share, Promote... Our History is still being written

THE STORY OF THREE CHINESE-CUBAN GENERALS IN THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

ARMANDO CHÓY • GUSTAVO CHÚ • MOİSES SİO WONG

The story of three young rebels of Chinese-Cuban ancestry who threw themselves into the great proletarian battle that defined their generation. They became combatants in the clandestine struggle and 1956–58 revolutionary war that brought down a U.S.-backed dictatorship and opened the door to the socialist revolution in the Americas. Each became a general in Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces. Also available in Spanish. $20

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250 at Santiago event

Continued from front page

e venue government building here that Fidel Castro, on Jan. 2, 1959, addressed the ju-

biles of the Cuban people after the Batista dictatorship’s forces had surrendered the
city to the Rebel Army, sealing the final victory of the revolutionary war.

In addition to Sío Wong, speakers at the presentation included Iraida Aguir-

rechu of Editora Política, the publishing house of the Cuban Communist Party’s

Central Committee, and Mary-Alice Waters, editor of the book and president of

Pathfinder Press.

Earlier in the week Sío Wong, Aguirre-

chu, and Waters had spoken at meetings in the cities of Ciego de Ávila, Holguín,

and Bayamo. Gen. Armando Choy will

speak at two similar events in Quemado de Guámes and Corralillo, both in Villa Clara province. And all three authors—

Choy, Sío Wong, and Gen. Gustavo Chui—will speak along with Aguirrechu and

Waters at a meeting in Havana.

The initiative for the presentations

came from the Association of Com-

batants of the Cuban Revolution. The

seven-city tour was hosted in each area by the municipal government and the Cuban

Communist Party in the province. In addition to Santiago, in Holguín and

Bayamo as well the first secretaries of

the party, Miguel Díaz Canel and Lázaro

Expósito, were introduced along with

the presidents of the municipal assem-

blies and other government and party

officials.

The Ciego de Ávila presentation was

highlighted by the participation of more

than 60 members of Min Chih Tang, the

local Chinese-Cuban association. They

opened the program with a performance

of the Lion Dance and demonstrations of
tai chi and martial arts. After the meet-

ing, leaders of Min Chih Tang invited the

speakers and other guests to their hall for

a Chinese banquet they had prepared.

The Holguín meeting also took place in

the local Chinese cultural center, and

Chinese-Cuban residents participated in

the book presentations in every city.

In Bayamo, in the eastern province of

Granma, the meeting was held in the

terrace of the Carlos Manuel de Céspedes

Museum—the house where the leader of

the 1868 independence war against

Spain, known in Cuba as “the father of the

country,” was born. Afterward the

speakers and other guests joined hun-

dreds of city residents as honored guests

at an outdoor cultural gala held as part of

the nationwide celebration of Cuban

Culture Day.

More than 200 copies of Our History

Is Still Being Written, along with other

Pathfinder titles, have been snapped up

by those attending the meetings, which

have been widely covered by the Cuban

media, both local and national, including

television and radio.

Cuban media cover tour on ‘Our History Is Still Being Written’

Continued from page 6

tended by Miguel Díaz, member of the

Political Bureau of the Communist

Party of Cuba and First Secretary of the

Party—General Sío Wong stressed the

participation in Cuba’s wars of indepen-

dence of Lieutenant Colonel José Bu and

Captain José Tolón, who fought in the

three wars.

From October 20 La Demajagua, local

newspaper in Bayamo.

BY RAYNOR AMAURY RIVERA LICEA

“The principal measure taken to

eliminate discrimination against Chinese

in Cuba was the Revolution,” stated

Brigadier General Monés Sío Wong in

presenting the book Nuestra historia

ain se está escribiendo en the museum

at the birthplace of the Father of the

Country Carlos Manuel de Céspedes in

Bayamo, capital of the eastern province of

Granma...

Mary-Alice Waters, editor of the book

and member of the National Committee

of the Socialist Workers Party of the

northern nation, stressed its importance

as “a weapon in defense of the truth about

Cuba and its Revolution.”

Attending the meeting were Lázaro

Expósito Canto, member of the Central

Committee and first secretary of the

Party in Granma. Juan González, vice

president of the Government in the

province; Iraida Aguirrechu, editorial

director of Editora Política; and other

personalities.

From October 21 broadcast by Radio

CMKC, Santiago de Cuba.

BY ELYVIRA OROZCO VITAL

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Oct. 21, 2006—The presence of Chinese in Cuba

before, during, and after the triumph of

the Cuban Revolution is a topic told by

three protagonists of Oriental features

in the book Nuestra historia ain se está

escritiendo, presented in the City Exhibi-

tion Hall of the Municipal Assembly of

People’s Power in Santiago de Cuba.

As part of the activities celebrating Cu-

bague Culture Day, the Heroic City became

one of the sites chosen to launch this

publication of Editora Política. As stated

by Iraida Aguirrechu, representative of the

Communist Party of Cuba’s publish-

ishing house, Santiago de Cuba was chosen

not just because of the history amassed

in each of the city’s streets, houses, in-

stitutions, and parks. Rather, because

here there are many families of Chinese

descend who also have given their support
to the revolutionary process on the island in
different periods...

Speaking to intellectuals, artists, lead-
ers of political and mass organizations and

of enterprises and cultural and work-

ers institutions, Sío Wong stressed that

the virtue of Nuestra historia ain se está

escritiendo resides in having penetrated

into the belly of the beast—the United

States—breaking through the distortions

and the silence they try to impose on the

truth about Cuba...

Attending the presentation were Mi-

sael Enamorado Dáger, member of the

Political Bureau and first secretary of

the Provincial Committee of the Party; and
deputy Rolando Yero, president of the

Provincial Assembly of People’s Power here.
How working people in Washington pushed back Washington in 1950s war

OLYMPIA NEWTON

“The American intervention in Korea is a brutal imperialism invasion,” wrote James P. Cannon, then-national secretary of the Communist Party, in a letter to U.S. president Harry Truman in July 1950. Weeks earlier, Truman had sent the first of what would be 5.7 million U.S. troops to war in the newly divided and divided and occupied by Japan the United Nations to invade Korea. The struggle of the Korean people “is part of the mighty uprising of the hundreds of millions of colonial peoples throughout Asia against Western imperialism,” wrote Cannon. “The colonial slaves don’t want to be slaves any longer.”

The partition of Korea imposed by U.S. imperialism half a century ago remains the most explosive unresolved national division in the world today.

In 1910, the rising imperialist Japan forced Korea, a land of 22 million people, to sign “the 22 Pacts.” Japan took away Korea’s sovereignty and forced the toil of the colonized people. “My people’s committee,” unifying forces from the anti-colonial struggle and other popular movements, sprung up and began to assume control of both cities and rural areas. On Sept. 6, 1945, a new government with close links to the people’s committees was formed in Seoul. It declared the country’s independence from Japanese colonialism. It also announced plans for a sweeping land reform, nationalization of major industry, universal suffrage for men and women, an eight-hour workday, minimum wage, and democratic rights.

Two days later, the U.S. government landed troops commanded by Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Korea with the aim of preventing the anti-imperialist people’s committees from coming to power. They terrorized workers and peasants’ organizations there. The U.S. forces imposed a military puppet government, which enforced all laws established by the Japanese colonialists. Among other measures, MacArthur declared English as the official language. At the same time, workers and peasants in China were engaged in a revolutionary struggle against the dictatorial, capitalist regime of Chiang Kai-shek. With the invasion of Korea, Washington hoped not only to destroy the Korean liberation movement but also to prevent the Chinese workers and peasants from removing the yoke of imperialist domination and militarism.

In carving up Korea, the U.S. government had the complicity of the bureaucratic regime in the Soviet Union, at that
time headed by Joseph Stalin. Through a bloody reign of terror that overturned many of the gains of the October 1917 revolution led by the Bolsheviks, Stalin and a bureaucratic caste around him had usurped political power and driven worker in Russia out of politics. The Stalinist regime subverted revolutionary ideas among the workers and peasants, and organized them to fight to defend its privileges and give itself more leverage to negotiate with capitalist powers as part of its policy of “peaceful coexistence” with imperialism. But hundreds of thousands of Korean workers and peasants refused to go along with the deal. Between 1945 and 1950, nearly 100,000 Koreans who participated in strikes, peasants’ protests, and armed resistance in the south were killed by U.S. and South Korean troops and government-sanctioned right-wing thugs. In the north, capitalist property relations were overthrown, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea was founded in September 1948. In 1950 the Democratic Party administration of President Harry Truman launched the Korean War. Even though the war unfolded during the anti-communism witch hunt, it was unpopular among working people in the United States.

“This is more than a fight for unifica- tion of an oppressed nation against an imperialist war,” wrote Cannon in his letter to Truman. “On the one side are the Korean workers, peasants and student youth. On the other side are the Korean landlords, usurers, capitalists and their police and political agents. The impoverished and exploited working masses have risen to throw off the native parasites as well as their foreign prosecutors.”

In 1950, Truman said Washington, which had dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan five years earlier, could consider “every weapon we have.” Three years later, Republican president Dwight D. Eisenhower threatened to “remove all restraints in our use of weapons.”

Napalm scraps

While stepping short of using nuclear weapons, the U.S. military acknowledged dropping 250,000 pounds of napalm per day during the Korean War. The Korean estimates of U.S. napalm use are about three times higher. In addition, U.S.-led forces unleashed 428,000 “conventional” bombs on Pyongyang, which had a popula- tion only about 16 percent of the capital.

In a 1997 interview, former U.S. senator John Glenn, who was a Marine pilot in the war, described flying jets with “hundred gallon napalm tanks with the white phosphorous grenade cap on there, so that when it hit the ground...it would burst into flame and ignite the napalm.” Such “napalm scraps” and other aerial bombs took out giant sections of the population, leaving those who survived permanently scarred with painful second-degree burns. Thousands of injured and thousands of South Korea refugees, were strafed during the bombing raids.

There was hardly a house left standing,” recalled Van Von Sik, a soldier in the Korean People’s Army, in a CNN documentary. By the end of the war, the U.S. bombing command said it had no

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Washington tightens squeeze on north Korea

Continued from front page

in a way that it used to have teeth to it, and I think we are on the right track.”

Just prior to Rice’s arrival in Beijing, officials at four Chinese commercial banks announced they had stopped transactions with north Korea. China, now Korea’s largest trading partner, provides 70 percent of the DPRK’s food and fuel. Beijing began inspecting north Korean cargo at its border October 16.

In south Korea the results were more mixed. “You can’t exactly say that [Rice] got south Korea’s commit- ment on the Security Council resolution in the way she would have sought it,” said Kim Sung-han of the south Korean Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security. Seoul did not agree to give up joint economic ventures with Pyongyang despite its pressures. Businessmen from north and south met in the northern border town of Gaesong October 20 to discuss moving ahead with a joint industrial park there.

U.S. and south Korean military officials also held a “Security Consultative Meeting” last weekend to discuss the position of the 30,000 U.S. troops in south Korea and the command of troops at the “De-Militarized Zone” dividing Korea. The joint communiqué from the meet- ing assured the “continuation of the extended deterrence” offered by the U.S. nuclear umbrella.” Under “extended deterrence” U.S. forces can use nuclear weapons to divide “Pyongyang to pursue a nuclear program. Making no mention of the U.S. nuclear-armed warships in the waters surrounding Korea, an editorial in the October 20 People’s Weekly World, which reflects the views of the CPUSA, said Pyongyang’s test “inexcusably disre- gards the urgent need to banish nukes from the earth.”

Revolutionary working-class organizations have taken a different stance. On October 22, Anna Vermunt sent a message on behalf of the Young Socialists and Communist League in New Zealand to the Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League, the youth organization of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Vermunt outlined Wellington’s role in the U.S.-led campaign against the DPRK, adding: “We stand with you in your struggle for sovereignty… Your stance for a non-nuclear and reunified Korea is in the interests of all working people around the globe. We demand all New Zealand, U.S., and other governments withdraw troops and weapons from the Korean peninsula.”

BY GERARDO SANCHEZ

SAN FRANCISCO, October 18—Some 300 stu- dents at Lowell High School on north San Francisco signal in contrast to the pamphlet

The United States, Democratic Party politicians have been criticizing the DPRK’s plan to conduct a nuclear weapons test and administration from the right on north Korea, and much of the middle-class left is following suit. The Communist Party-USA, for example, has joined the Democrats in condemning the DPRK and blaming the “failed policies” for “fanning” Pyongyang to pursue a nuclear program. Making no mention of the U.S. nuclear-armed warships in the waters surrounding Korea, an editorial in the October 20 People’s Weekly World, which reflects the views of the CPUSA, said Pyongyang’s test “inexcusably disre- gards the urgent need to banish nukes from the earth.”

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Some 4,500 people in Seoul protested Rice’s arrival, calling for the lifting of the sanctions against North Korea. Two days later, 10,000 protested US.-south Korean trade talks in Sogwipo, south Korea.

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Continued from front page