

'Interns' file suit against unpaid labor

BY SETH GALINSKY

NEW YORK—Deciding they had enough of working for free as interns, four workers have filed lawsuits against three companies for violating U.S. and state minimum wage laws.

"Employers' failure to compensate interns for their work, and the prevalence of the practice nationwide, curtails opportunities for employment, fosters class divisions between those who can afford to work for no wage and those who cannot, and indirectly contributes to rising unemployment," says a class-action lawsuit filed Feb. 1 in federal court by Diana Wang against the Hearst Corporation.

Wang worked 55-hour weeks shipping hats from New York City to London, overseeing eight other unpaid interns and running around Manhattan picking up items from fashion houses and showrooms for *Harper's Bazaar* magazine, published by Hearst.

"It was disgusting," Wang, 28, told *Time* magazine. "I decided that some-

Continued on page 2

'Company will lose—we are not giving in'

Teamsters strike Coca-Cola in Connecticut



Strikers picket Coca-Cola plant in East Hartford, Conn., May 20, four days after members of Teamsters Local 1035 walked off job over bosses' push to raise health care costs and cut jobs.

BY EMMA JOHNSON

EAST HARTFORD, Conn., May 20—Striking drivers, warehouse and bottling workers, members of Teamsters Local 1035 at the Coca-Cola bottling plant here, have been walking the picket line since May 16. The 335 unionists struck over health care payments and plans to cut jobs.

The company wants employees to start paying for their health insurance. In 2005, the company presented a choice between a \$2.65 per hour raise and new health care costs or no

raise and the same health plan. The union chose to forgo the wage raise. Workers say they want to either maintain current health coverage with no premiums or get the \$2.65 wage raise back.

The other main issue is elimination

Continued on page 2

Greek crisis lays bare illusions of EU project

BY LOUIS MARTIN

The deepening crisis shaking Greece has put into sharp focus the unfolding and intractable crisis of the European Union—a political and trade alliance of 27 countries dominated by German imperialism—and of the eurozone, the monetary pact of the 17 among them who share the euro currency.

The financial meltdown is rooted in a deep contraction of world capitalist production and trade.

Thus far the capitalist rulers of Europe and beyond have pumped massive loans to postpone the impending bankruptcy of the Greek government and the consequences this would have for the European Union, as well as world capitalist finance.

But the underlying problem of slowing production and trade remains unaffected, barring any way out of further financial and economic crises.

Under these conditions, increasingly divergent interests within the EU are brought to the fore. The disintegration of this utopian union among competing bourgeois nations becomes increasingly

Continued on page 9

Spring 'Militant' subscription campaign
April 14 - June 10 (week 5)

Country	quota	sold	%	2,400
UNITED STATES				
Lincoln*	40	33	83%	
Los Angeles*	170	130	76%	
Philadelphia	90	67	74%	
New York	260	191	73%	
Twin Cities*	155	106	68%	
Chicago*	170	108	64%	
Seattle*	190	120	63%	
Boston	60	37	62%	
Houston	90	53	59%	
Atlanta**	200	115	58%	1,521 should be
Washington*	75	43	57%	
Denver †	7	4	57%	
Des Moines*	140	79	56%	
Pittsburgh†	6	3	50%	
San Francisco	175	87	50%	
Miami	100	43	43%	
Total US	1928	1219	63%	
UNITED KINGDOM				
London	130	93	72%	
Manchester*	60	42	70%	
UK Total	190	135	71%	
CANADA				
	95	61	64%	
NEW ZEALAND				
	80	55	69%	
AUSTRALIA*				
	75	51	68%	
Total	2368	1521	63%	
Should be	2400	1512	63%	

* Raised goal ** Raised twice † New to scoreboard

3 weeks to go in subscription drive—knock it out of the park!

BY LOUIS MARTIN

With just three weeks to go in the international campaign to expand the readership of the *Militant* among working people, 1,521 people have signed up, putting the drive right on target with no room for slowing down.

Local quotas are still 32 shy of the overall goal of 2,400. Are there any areas with the élan and confidence to close the gap?

"I know the *Militant*!" This is how Ross Williams, a stevedore, or wharfie as they are called in Australia, greeted a Communist League member going door to door May 20 in Greystanes, a working-class suburb in western Sydney.

Williams has worked for several years at Patrick Port Botany, a ship

Continued on page 3

Chicago police seize on anti-war, NATO protest to press frame-up

BY ALYSON KENNEDY

CHICAGO—Thousands of students and working people marched to protest the U.S. war in Afghanistan May 20. The actions coincided with the opening of a two-day NATO summit here. Cops seized on the demonstration to frame

up five youth on "terrorist" conspiracy charges and vilify the protest.

Thousands demonstrated near McCormick Place, the site of the NATO meeting. A focus of the discussion among representatives of the major imperialist powers was how to scale down their troops in Afghanistan.

"I don't support the war in Afghanistan," Richard Freund, a retired member of the Machinists union from Fond Du Lac, Wis., told the *Militant*. "I thought things would change when Obama got in."

Various contingents were prominent

Continued on page 9

Prisoners in Va. conduct hunger strike against abuses, solitary

BY JOHN STUDER

Dozens of inmates housed in the segregation units at Virginia's super-max Red Onion State Prison began a

SOLIDARITY WITH ALL WORKERS BEHIND BARS
—editorial, p. 9

hunger strike May 22 to protest conditions, the use of solitary confinement and abuses by prison staff.

"The men participating in the strike believe this is their only recourse to

Continued on page 4

Also Inside:

- Houston cop acquitted in beating of Black teenager 4
- 4th NY construction worker killed on job in 2012 5
- Bill aims to 'fix' Bill of Rights by curbing free speech 6
- Striking meat packers rally in New Zealand 6

Unpaid interns file suit

Continued from front page

one had to put a stop to this practice which was going to go on forever and get worse before it got better.” Wang is demanding back wages and that Hearst end the practice of unpaid internships.

Eric Glatt, 42, and Alexander Footman, 24, filed a class action suit against Fox Searchlight Pictures on Sept. 28 last year. The two worked as unpaid interns on the film *Black Swan*. According to their suit, more than 100 interns have worked at the company without pay since September 2005.

The third suit was filed March 14 in the State Supreme Court in New York by Lucy Bickerton, a 25-year-old film student, against Charlie Rose Inc., which produces Public Broadcasting Service’s “Charlie Rose Show.” Bickerton’s lawsuit points out that under new federal and state law “an unpaid internship is only lawful in the context of an educational training program, when the interns do not perform productive work and the employer derives no benefit.”

“It doesn’t matter how old a worker is or how much experience they have, if they are performing productive work by law that employee must be paid the minimum wage,” Elizabeth Wagoner, a lawyer at the Outten and Golden law firm, which filed all three suits, told the *Militant* in a phone interview.

None of the three companies replied to requests for comment.

While some estimates on the number of interns in the U.S. range from 1 million to 2 million, “no one really knows how many there are, because no one keeps track,” Robert Shindell, director of content and resource development at Intern Bridge Inc., told

the *Militant* in a phone interview from Austin, Texas.

The position of Intern Bridge, which promotes internships at universities across the country, is that in most cases interns should be paid at least minimum wage, said Shindell. But he thinks the lawsuits should be “laughed out of court” because “these were adults. ... They knew what they were getting into.”

Nearly half of student internships are unpaid, according to an Intern Bridge study based on interviews with 27,000 students at more than 200 universities at the end of 2011, Shindell said.

When asked about how many times the Labor Department has acted to enforce the law against unpaid labor of interns, an agency spokesperson wrote that their “database does not allow us to track enforcement statistics specific to internships.” The agency does not keep track of the number of unpaid interns and “rarely receives complaints,” said the spokesperson, who asked to remain anonymous.

The number of interns has skyrocketed since unemployment and job competition rose dramatically beginning in 2008. The rise of the “intern” category of labor and its uncompensated form has grown in step with declining wages, benefits and speedup by bosses looking to shore up their declining profits amid the deepening crisis of capitalism.

According to a survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, companies are planning an 8.5 percent increase in summer internships this year.

But signs of initial resistance to the assault on labor in the form of rising



“The word ‘slave’ is so degrading. Why don’t we call you ‘intern.’”

© David Sipress/The New Yorker Collection/www.cartoonbank.com

“internships” is starting to show.

“I got feedback from students at one of the career fairs we sponsor saying that a lot of companies were offering unpaid internships and they thought

it was inappropriate,” Lance Choy, director of the Career Development Center at Stanford University, told the *Militant*. “Students seem more aware of the issue than in the past.”

Teamsters strike Coca-Cola

Continued from front page

of drivers’ jobs. The company is planning a new distribution system where Coca-Cola drivers would be replaced by workers from Coca-Cola’s customers, who would make their own deliveries and stock supermarket shelves. The union wants guarantees against job losses.

“We’ve been working under the old contract since Dec. 3,” Chris Roos, the local’s secretary-treasurer, told the *Militant*. “We held talks with the company for months, but there was no give and take. It’s been either their way or no way.”

Coca-Cola has not responded to requests for comments from the *Militant*.

Cars passing by the picket line honk in support. Pickets try to persuade drivers in Coca-Cola delivery trucks not to cross the line.

Roos says limited production is being done by management.

“They will lose. We’re not giving in,”

Jessica Welton, who works stocking shelves in grocery stores, told the *Militant*. “Everybody has a breaking point. They are making big profits and yet they come after our health care, a basic human need.”

When Local 1035 members take off for a union meeting the line is staffed by members of the Teamster Horsemen, Chapter 10, a motorcycle association within the union.

“We’ve come from East Haven to hold the line,” Mike DeCarlo, chapter vice president, told the *Militant*. “We raise strike funds and contribute to children’s charities. When we were asked to come here we readily rolled in.”

Roos said the union now has roving pickets: “Four or five guys get into a car and follow the delivery trucks. Then they picket their destinations. This is a way to spread the knowledge of our strike. We reach out all around Connecticut and Massachusetts.”

THE MILITANT

Back workers’ struggles worldwide

The ‘Militant’ covers working-class resistance in the U.S. and worldwide to the bosses attacks on wages, benefits and work conditions—from Machinists at Lockheed on strike in Texas to garment workers standing up for their rights in Pakistan and Bangladesh.



Machinists picket Lockheed Martin plant in Fort Worth, Texas, April 29.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

NEW READERS

☐ \$5 for 12 issues

RENEWAL

☐ \$10 for 12 weeks

☐ \$20 for 6 months

☐ \$35 for 1 year

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

E-MAIL

UNION/SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION

CLIP AND MAIL TO THE MILITANT,
306 W. 37TH ST., 10TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018.

The Militant

Vol. 76/No. 22

Closing news date: May 23, 2012

Editor: Steve Clark

Managing editor: Doug Nelson

Business manager: Lea Sherman

Editorial volunteers: Róger Calero, Naomi Craine, Maura DeLuca, Seth Galinsky, Emma Johnson, Louis Martin, Jacob Perasso, John Studer, Brian Williams, Rebecca Williamson.

Published weekly except for one week in January, two weeks in June, and two weeks in August.

The Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

Telephone: (212) 244-4899

Fax: (212) 244-4947

E-mail: themilitant@mac.com

Website: www.themilitant.com

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to the Militant, 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Militant, 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: United States: For

one year send \$35 to above address.

Latin America, Caribbean: For one year send \$85 drawn on a U.S. bank to above address.

Africa, Asia, and the Middle East: For one year send \$85 drawn on a U.S. bank to above address.

Canada: For one year send Canadian \$45 to the Militant, 7107 St. Denis #204, Montreal, Quebec H2S 2S5.

United Kingdom: Send £26 for one year by check or international money order made out to CL London, First Floor, 120 Bethnal Green Road (Entrance in Brick Lane), London, E2 6DG, England.

Republic of Ireland and Continental Europe: Send £85 for one year by check or international money order made out to CL London at above address.

France: Send 76 euros for one year to Diffusion du Militant, P.O. Box 175, 23 rue Lecourbe, 75015 Paris.

New Zealand: Send NZ\$50 for one year to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland 1140, New Zealand.

Australia: Send A\$50 for one year to P.O. Box 164 Campsie, NSW 2194, Australia.

Pacific Islands: Send NZ\$50 for one year to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland 1140, New Zealand.

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

Subscription campaign

Continued from front page
and container facility where he has from time to time bought single copies of the paper. This time he decided to subscribe.

Halfway around the globe, Rita Agyari, a Ghanaian-born nurse, engaged in a discussion with Communist League members going door to door in the Moss Side working-class neighborhood of Manchester, England, about how agency [temporary] workers are treated at the hospital where she works.

“At the NHS [National Health Service] agency I work for, if you come to work, you’re guaranteed a day’s pay,” she said. “That’s how it should be everywhere, but it isn’t. With other agencies, they can just send you home.”

Agyari bought a subscription to the paper along with a copy of *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power*, one of two books by Jack Barnes offered at reduced prices during the campaign. The other is *The Working Class and the Transformation of Learning: The Fraud of Education Reform Under Capitalism*. (See ad on this page.)

That same day another new reader, Vu Lam, a factory welder in Lincoln, Neb., commented upon seeing the article “Profit System Drives Growing Joblessness, Boss Offensive” on the front page of last week’s issue. “Yes, today it’s all about more work and less pay for workers.”

Lam was introduced to the paper by socialist workers Maura DeLuca and Joe Swanson who were selling door to

door in his neighborhood. He bought a subscription to the paper and a copy of *The Working Class and the Transformation of Learning*.

The day before, DeLuca and Swanson attended a celebration of the birthday of revolutionary leader Malcolm X at the Malcolm X Memorial Foundation in Omaha, Neb., where they set up a table with revolutionary literature.

Ten participants bought *Militant* subscriptions, seven with a copy of *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power*. A new reader who had subscribed the week before also bought the book as part of the special offer.

“The paper is pro-truth and explains the superficial divisions among workers,” said Robert Penn, a heavy equipment construction worker as he was buying his subscription.

Events in Harlem celebrate Malcolm X birthday

BY JOHN STUDER

NEW YORK—Hundreds took part in celebrations here May 18-19 on the occasion of what would have been the 87th birthday of revolutionary leader Malcolm X. The events were organized by the Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center.

About 100 attended an outdoor program Friday evening in Harlem’s Marcus Garvey Park to listen to hip-hop performances, poetry and speakers. Among those celebrating Malcolm’s life and political legacy



Laura Anderson, left, SWP’s candidate for U.S. Congress, 3rd District, campaigns in Bellwood, west of Chicago. Bessie Finley signed up for subscription to the *Militant*.

were Londell McMillan, publisher of *Source* magazine; professor James Small and Dr. Leonard Jeffries, formerly with the City University of New York’s Black Studies Department; Dr. James Turner, founder of the Cornell University Africana Studies and Research Center; Les Payne, former associate editor of the New York daily *Newsday*; Steve Clark, editor of the Pathfinder Press book *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power* and other writings by Malcolm; and two of Malcolm’s daughters, Ilyasah and

Malaak Shabazz. The next day the center sponsored a street fair at 165th St. and Broadway, followed by a program at the center. Close to 300 people attended, including a number from Baltimore and Philadelphia. Baba Zak Kondo, author of *Unraveling the Assassination of Malcolm X* and participant in the documentary *Brother Minister: The Assassination of Malcolm X*, was the featured speaker.

Members of the Socialist Workers Party participated in the events and introduced people to Pathfinder literature and the *Militant* newspaper. Eleven subscriptions to the *Militant* and 11 copies of *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power* were picked up, along with other books on revolutionary working-class politics.

‘Militant’ depends on contributions from workers

BY LEA SHERMAN

“The *Militant* is an important paper for workers to read,” Rafael Soto, a janitor and member of SEIU Local 615, told a meeting organized to support the Militant Fighting Fund in Boston May 19. He first subscribed at a labor rally organized by the local. “We need to learn about what is going on with other workers and educate ourselves.”

Also on the platform was Louis

Martin, an editorial volunteer for the *Militant*. He spoke on “Our Politics Start With the World.”

Soto brought two subscriptions he had sold to coworkers. The week before the fund event he attended a class on the recently released Pathfinder Press book *Women in Cuba: The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution*. After the class he joined a discussion with other participants on the effort to

win new subscribers.

He decided to take several subscription forms and copies of the *Militant* to show to his coworkers. “I also want to show it to some people who ride the bus with me,” he said when he turned in the subscriptions he had sold.

Internationally \$69,012 has been sent in so far, 58 percent of the goal.

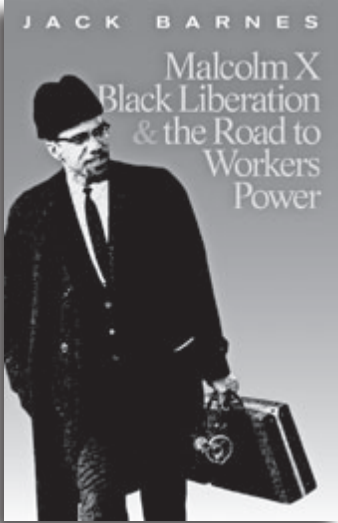
We have total pledges of \$119,770, only \$230 short of the \$120,000 goal and call on our readers to make up the difference.

To contribute, contact distributors listed on page 8, or send a check made out to the *Militant* to: The Militant, 306 W. 37th St., 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

Special offer

Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power

by Jack Barnes

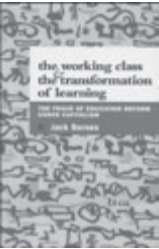


“Don’t start with Blacks as an oppressed nationality. Start with the vanguard place and weight of workers who are Black in broad proletarian-led social and political struggles in the United States. From the Civil War to today, the record is mind-boggling. It’s the strength and resilience, not the oppression, that bowls you over.”

—Jack Barnes

Only \$10 with subscription to the *Militant* or \$15 without. Usually: \$20.

The Working Class and the Transformation of Learning by Jack Barnes
\$2 with a subscription;
\$3 without.



www.pathfinderpress.com or see distributors on page 8

—MILITANT LABOR FORUMS—

WASHINGTON

Seattle
The 2012 Elections and What Way Forward for Working People. Speaker: Mary Martin, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Washington. Sat., June 2, 7.30 p.m. Donation: \$5. 5418 Rainier Ave. S. Tel.: (206) 323-1755.

UNITED KINGDOM

Manchester
Capitalist Justice and Police Brutality. The War on the Working Class and Workers’ Resistance Today. Speaker: Catharina Tirsén, Communist League. Sat., June 2, 6 p.m. Donation: £2.50. Room 301, Hilton House, 26-28 Hilton St., M1 2EH. Tel.: (0161) 478-2496.

‘Militant’ Fighting Fund

April 14–June 4 (week 4)

Country	Quota	Paid	%
UNITED STATES			
Des Moines	\$2,200	\$1,828	83%
Seattle	\$8,800	\$6,771	77%
Twin Cities*	\$7,200	\$5,164	72%
Atlanta	\$8,600	\$6,093	71%
San Francisco	\$15,000	\$8,652	58%
Miami	\$3,200	\$1,834	57%
Boston*	\$4,000	\$2,231	56%
New York	\$21,000	\$11,095	53%
Washington.	\$7,600	\$4,015	53%
Philadelphia*	\$4,400	\$2,172	49%
Houston	\$4,000	\$1,860	47%
Lincoln	\$375	\$173	46%
Chicago	\$10,000	\$4,570	46%
Los Angeles	\$9,000	\$3,955	44%
Total US	\$105,375	\$60,413	57%
CANADA	\$7,000	\$5,688	81%
NEW ZEALAND	\$4,500	\$1,670	37%
AUSTRALIA	\$1,500	\$496	33%
UNITED KINGDOM			
London	\$700	\$320	46%
Manchester	\$375	\$180	48%
Total UK	\$1,075	\$500	47%
FRANCE	\$320	\$245	77%
Total	\$119,770	\$69,012	58%
Should be	\$120,000	\$68,400	57%
* Raised goal			

Houston cop acquitted in beating of Black teenager

BY CINDY JAQUITH

HOUSTON—Opponents of police brutality here are outraged that Andrew Blomberg, the first of four cops tried in the beating of Black teenager Chad Holley, was acquitted May 16.

“It’s clear as day on the video,” said Frank Hernandez, who joined a protest at the Harris County District Courthouse May 17. “Houston police officers attacked a 15-year-old boy who was on the ground—not one of them but five. I used to work as a wrecker, and I saw the cops doing this to young people on the highway all the time.”

At least five police officers were kicking and punching Holley on March 24, 2010, as he lay on the ground with his hands behind his head. The cops said he fled a robbery. Holley, who was beaten unconscious, was eventually convicted of burglary and placed on probation.

The assault was caught on a surveillance camera at a nearby storage facility. An employee of the facility presented the film to city authorities but they refused to release it to the public or allow Holley to use it at his trial. A year later supporters of Holley succeeded in getting the video broadcast by the news media. Today it’s available on YouTube.

Officer Blomberg faced charges of “official oppression,” a misdemeanor, for his role in the attack on Holley. Seven cops were fired in the incident and three more will go on trial.

Only two African-Americans were selected as part of a jury pool of 60, according to the *Houston Chronicle*. Blomberg’s lawyers then struck both

from the pool. Blacks comprise nearly 20 percent of the city’s population.

Democratic Mayor Annise Parker, who also said she favored a “guilty” verdict, lectured demonstrators to behave “in a civil and sensible manner. ... We will go on from this.”

“This is not the time to ‘go on,’” Jacquie Henderson, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Texas, told Channel 13 TV News at the protest. “We need to stay in the streets.”

Cyndi Payton, the storage facility worker who brought the beating video to light, joined the protest. “I lost my job, eventually my home, my friends,” Payton, who is Caucasian, told Channel 2 TV news. “I’d do it all over again.”



Militant/Jacquie Henderson

Protesters outside Harris County District Courthouse in Houston May 17 condemn acquittal of cop Andrew Blomberg who was involved in beating 15-year-old Chad Holley.

Palestinian political prisoners end hunger strike

BY SETH GALINSKY

Palestinian political prisoners held in two dozen Israeli jails ended their hunger strike May 14 after the government agreed to end solitary confinement and improve conditions. Between 2,000 and 2,500 prisoners refused food at the high point of the strike, which began April 17.

Demonstrations celebrating the victory took place in the Gaza Strip, the Israeli-occupied West Bank and inside Israel itself.

More than 4,600 Palestinians, mostly from the West Bank as well as 340 Arab citizens of Israel, are held as “security prisoners” in Israeli jails. More than 300 of them are under administrative detention without charg-

es or the right to a trial.

“Under administrative detention there are no indictments, no evidence,” Amjad Al-najar, a leader of the Prisoner’s Club, said in a phone interview from Hebron in the West Bank. “The military commanders just say ‘this man is dangerous’ and they arrest him.” Administrative detentions can be extended every six months indefinitely.

Under the agreement, 19 prisoners who had been held in solitary confinement were released to the general prison population. For the first time since 2007, family members of 450 prisoners from Gaza will be allowed to visit.

The Israeli government also stated it would discuss other improvements, including in health care, enrollment in

university correspondence courses and access to lawyers.

As part of the deal, the Palestinian prisoners agreed that their leaders would not organize from within the prisons in support of armed actions against the Israeli government. Many of the prisoners are supporters of Fatah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad or the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

“Most of the prisoners from the West Bank were tried in Israeli military courts,” Sahar Francis told the *Militant* by phone as she was waiting to go through the Israeli checkpoint between her office in Ramallah in the West Bank and her home in Jerusalem. Francis is director of Addameer, the Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association.

The prisoners “don’t trust that the Israeli judges, civilian or military, will treat them in a fair way,” said Francis. “They figure they will end up with a higher sentence if they go to trial, so most of the cases end in plea bargains.

“Not more than 400 or 500 of the 4,600 prisoners are accused of activities that caused injury or death,” continued Francis. “The majority are in prison because of their political and even humanitarian activities. It’s enough to work in a health clinic run by Hamas to be accused of terrorism, or for a child to throw a stone during a demonstration.”

US gov’t demands secrecy in Guantánamo trial

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

The Barack Obama administration is seeking to keep testimony secret in the trial before a military tribunal of Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, 47, who is accused by Washington of helping to organize the attack by al-Qaeda on the U.S. destroyer Cole in 2000 that killed 17 U.S. sailors.

Al-Nashiri was arrested in 2002 in Dubai. Over the next four years he was tortured in CIA secret prisons in Thailand, Afghanistan and Poland. Since 2006 he has been incarcerated at the U.S. naval base in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

According to a 2004 CIA report, of which a censored version was made public five years later, al-Nashiri was subjected to the suffocation technique known as waterboarding, and forced into painful stress positions, including being lifted off the floor by his arms as they were shackled behind his back.

He was hooded, shackled and stripped naked during interrogation sessions. Interrogators threatened him with execution. They put a gun to his head, revved up a power drill, and faked the execution of another prisoner.

A number of newspapers and other media are requesting Judge Col. James Pohl allow them to cover the military tribunal, scheduled to begin Nov. 9. They include the *New York Times*, Fox News, *Miami Herald*, National Public Radio, the *New Yorker*, Reuters, the Tribune Company and *Washington Post*.

Upon being inaugurated in January 2009, Obama issued an executive order

pledging to close the Guantánamo prison in a year. Yet three and a half years later it’s still in operation.

“There are 169 individuals still being held there,” Andy Worthington, a freelance investigative journalist in London who has written extensively about the Guantánamo prisoners, told the *Militant* in a phone interview. “Of these, 46 are in indefinite detention with no intention of putting them on trial.”

Eighty-seven have been “cleared

for release” since at least 2009, said Worthington, but remain behind bars because the White House will neither release them to their home country nor let them come to the U.S.

The U.S. military prison at Guantánamo has been in existence since 2002. Out of the total of 779 persons who have been incarcerated there only seven have been convicted of any crime—five of these through plea-bargaining deals, Worthington pointed out.

Prisoners in Virginia conduct hunger strike

Continued from front page

get Red Onion warden Randy Mathena to officially recognize their grievances and make immediate changes to food, sanitation and basic living conditions at the prison,” John Tuzcu, from Solidarity with Virginia Prison Hunger Strikers, told the *Militant*.

“They’ve been saying they would do a better job,” Mac Gaskins, a former Red Onion inmate, told the *Washington Post*. “They’ve been saying that for years, and they never did.”

The representatives of the striking inmates released a public statement and list of 10 demands. “We’re tired of being treated like animals,” the statement said. “There are only two classes at this prison: the oppressor and the oppressed. We, the oppressed, despite divisions of sexual preference, gang affiliation, race and religion, are coming together.”

Their demands range from the right

to have fully cooked meals, to have materials to clean their cells, to be notified why and how long they are detained in segregation, and how they can petition for release.

Inmates in the segregation units, which house some 500 prisoners, are confined to their all-steel cell 23 hours a day and allowed to shower three times a week. When they go to shower, or for the five one-hour recreation periods each week, their hands and feet are shackled as two guards march them out, one holding an electronic stun gun against the inmate’s body.

“We’re not really sure how many prisoners have joined the hunger strike,” Tuzcu said. “Twenty-five in two segregation pods said they would start this morning, but we believe the number has grown.”

“In letters we have received, prisoners told us they have followed the hunger strike of thousands of inmates in

the Segregated Housing Units in California last year,” he added. “Some also said they were following the recent actions of Palestinian inmates in Israel as well.”

The all-men facility holds some 800 inmates. Shortly after opening in 1999, it was the focus of a Human Rights Watch report that said conditions were “unnecessarily harsh and degrading” and that “staff use force unnecessarily, excessively, and dangerously.”

The Virginia Department of Corrections “is continually looking at ways to improve its operations and to enhance management of offenders by applying science as it evolves in the field of corrections,” department spokesman Larry Traylor told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. The department did not return calls from the *Militant* for comment.

For more information visit the solidarity committee’s website at virginiaiprisonstrike.blogspot.com.

ON THE PICKET LINE

Georgia Teamsters rally for union contract

LITHONIA, Ga.—Some 35 members and supporters of Teamsters Local 527-S picketed and rallied here for several hours May 14 in front of the Greif Brothers packaging plant.

Seventy-five workers have been without a contract for almost two years. They have not had a wage increase in more than two years, according to a union flyer handed out at the rally.

“Greif must start negotiating in good faith or face the consequences,” said the flyer.

“They’ve also been cutting our time. We’ve been working three and a half or four days a week and have to use our vacation time just to make ends meet,” Adrian Russell, 33, a machine operator at the plant for six years, told the *Militant*. Another worker added that they are expected to produce the same amount as they did in five days. The workers manufacture large fibre drums for industrial packaging.

“We all need to stick together,” said Local 527-S President Ralph Meers. “If this company gets away with this, others will do the same.”

The company also wants to charge higher deductibles and co-pays for health care and wants to be able to change the insurance plan and raise costs giving only 30 days notice, the union flyer said. Workers also oppose the company’s attendance policy, which has been used to fire union activists.

The company has not returned phone calls from the *Militant* requesting comment.

After several hours, the plant manager came out of the plant. Workers repeatedly shouted, “Come to the table. Come to the table.” The Teamsters just happened to have a table and chairs inside their semitruck parked across the street. They brought them out and the plant manager sat down as the workers’ laid out their grievances. No agreement has yet been reached.

—Janice Lynn

NY: Chemical workers reject concessions, strike TRW plant

AUBURN, N.Y.—“Either we fight back or run away,” Cristine Harmon, a member of International Chemical Workers Union Local 192-C, told the *Militant* on a Mother’s Day picket line in front of the TRW plant here. “They want temps in here to drive the wages down and they want to reduce overtime.”

The union walked out when their contract expired May 8. On May 10 workers rejected the company’s con-

cession demands a second time, by a vote of 128 to 11.

Greg Large, the union local president, explained that the rejected contract proposed that 20 percent of the workforce be temporary workers. It would also change the work schedule from five eight-hour days with Saturday overtime to two 10-hour shifts Monday through Thursday and two 12-hour shifts Friday through Sunday, which would eliminate most overtime.

Striker Laura Agley explained that three years ago the company said they were in financial trouble and the union took deep concessions, giving up 93 cents an hour, three vacation days, and holiday and shift differential. “We’ve seen how the company benefited from our cuts. We got angry,” she said. “They’ve kicked this dog enough and now it will bite back.”

TRW employs 60,000 people in about 185 major facilities around the world. The plant here produces electronic tire pressure monitors and keyless car entry devices. In 2011 the company reported record sales of \$16.2 billion.

Dennis Walowsky used to be a TRW employee and his wife Amy still is. She has 40 years in. “The community backs the strike,” Dennis told the *Militant*. “The proposed new work shifts



Militant/Janice Lynn

Members of Teamsters Local 527-S picket Greif Brothers plant in Lithonia, Ga., May 14.

don’t allow a life. What my wife brings home today is less than 10 years ago. All we see is cuts, cuts, and cuts.”

Some of the strikers told of scheduled negotiating sessions where company representatives just do not show up, or come, stay for a few minutes and then leave without even informing the union if they will return.

Company spokesperson John Wilkerson told the *Militant* May 21 that he would not comment on the negotia-

tions except to say they would resume the following day.

“They’re not going to threaten me any more,” Harmon said. “If we lose our jobs, maybe they’ll lose theirs too!” Agley agreed. She said a supervisor had told her they could move this plant to TRW’s facility in Marshall, Mich., a nonunion plant where workers are paid \$17 an hour. She responded, “Go ahead! That doesn’t scare me!”

—Dan Fein and Ruth Robinett

4th NY construction worker killed on job in 2012

BY EMMA JOHNSON

NEW YORK—The construction bosses’ disregard for safety in the drive for profits has taken the life of yet another worker here. Adrien Zamora, 28, was killed May 17 when he fell from a scaffold.

It was Zamora’s first day on the job. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital after falling 40 feet while doing facade restoration work on an 11-story building in the SoHo district of Manhattan. He was not wearing a safety harness.

Zamora immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico seven years ago and lived in Brooklyn with his wife and two young daughters.

Zamora “was not working in a pro-

tected area with guardrails and therefore should have been wearing a safety harness and secured it to an anchorage point,” Ryan FitzGibbon, press secretary for the city’s Department of Buildings, told the *Militant* by email. She added that he wasn’t given a mandatory 30-hour training course on routine safety measures, which is required before starting to work.

The DOB has issued a full Stop Work Order to the site.

Zamora was employed by Basral Construction Corp. In March the company received a permit from the DOB for repairs to the building’s roof, windows and facade.

“He started today, he was working and unfortunately accidents happen,”

Basral employee Karla Rodriguez told the *New York Daily News*.

The company did not respond to requests for comment from the *Militant*.

In January, scaffolding contractor Steel Industries was issued a violation at the same site for failure to protect the public and property after a wrench fell eight stories and injured a pedestrian, according to city records.

In 2011 five workers were killed and 152 injured at construction sites in New York. Zamora is the fourth construction worker killed on the job here this year.

The day Zamora was killed, Arris Tunnicliffe, 34, died after falling 45 feet out of a crane at a construction site in Secaucus, N.J. The crane was working in a sloped area and fell over.

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



June 5, 1987

As the Australian government makes extravagant preparations to celebrate 200 years of white settlement next year, leaders of the Aboriginal people—the continent’s original inhabitants—are focusing public attention on some of the realities of life in Australia today, in particular the growing number of Aborigines dying in the country’s jails.

Since September 1983, some 21 young Aboriginal men have suffered violent deaths in police custody, including 12 in the past year alone. This is the equivalent of 100 white Australians per month dying in such circumstances.

In most cases, those who have died have been the victims of brutal beatings at the hands of police and jailers. In all cases, however, these deaths have been officially declared the result of “suicide,” “natural causes,” or “misadventure”—often against a massive weight of evidence to the contrary.



June 4, 1962

AFL-CIO president George Meany’s statement May 25 that the labor federation’s executive board would discuss a “national campaign” to cut the standard work week from 40 to 35 hours with no reduction in pay—as a measure against unemployment—is a symptom of the mounting pressure which union tops are feeling from the ranks.

The problem facing the AFL-CIO tops is that they are committed to support of [President] Kennedy, but the administration cannot solve the unemployment problem on its terms short of war. As the problem is more acutely felt by the rank and file of labor, the AFL-CIO leaders meet this contradiction by raising the shorter-work-week demand in words—to satisfy the ranks—but retreat when it comes to actual bargaining with the corporations—to satisfy Kennedy.



May 1, 1937

Vincent R. Dunne, State Organizer of the Socialist Party of Minnesota, and prominent in the Minneapolis labor movement as a leader of the Truck Drivers’ Union, Local 544, filed for Mayor of Minneapolis. Dunne declared that the main issue of the campaign is the fullest extension of working class democracy.

Campaigning as a Socialist, Dunne pledged that he will continue to aid the workers in every possible way for the attainment of a workers’ state. The candidacy of Dunne is expected to receive the support of all class-conscious workers who understand the necessity of the revolutionary workers independent political action for the attainment of their program.

The Socialists will wage an intensive campaign giving the workers of Minneapolis the full message of Socialism, their only hope for extrication from the morass in which capitalism binds them.

Teamster Rebellion

by Farrell Dobbs

The 1934 strikes that built the industrial union movement in Minneapolis, recounted by a central leader of that battle. First of four volumes on the class-struggle leadership that transformed the Teamsters union and pointed the road toward independent labor political action.



PATHFINDERPRESS.COM

Bill aims to ‘fix’ Bill of Rights by curbing freedom of speech

BY EMMA JOHNSON

A so-called People’s Rights Amendment to the Constitution, championed mainly by congressional Democrats, would curb free speech rights by voiding them for “corporate entities.” The campaign for this bill is part of a growing push, among liberal politicians especially, to “fix” the Bill of Rights and the protections it affords working people from the capitalists’ government by giving their government more powers to do good things for “the people.”

The amendment, backed by Democratic Minority House Leader Nancy Pelosi, was introduced in Congress April 18 by Rep. Jim McGovern, (D-Mass.) and Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC). It states that constitutional protections on free speech apply only to “natural persons,” while “corporations, limited liability companies or other corporate entities” are “subject to such regulation as the people, through their elected state and federal representatives deem reasonable.”

The final section of the proposed amendment promises that it would not “be construed to limit the people’s rights of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, free exercise of religion, and such other rights of the people.”

In other words, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution would apply only to people acting as individuals, but would be subject to government regulation when individuals act in combination with others through “corporate entities,” which could include businesses, unions, “nonprofits,” political parties, media, corporations, etc.

The “People’s Rights” push in Congress is a response to a Supreme Court

decision in 2010 that struck down part of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, which purports to curb the influence of “big money” on federal elections. In a 5-4 vote, the court declared unconstitutional the act’s prohibition on corporations and unions using their general treasury funds for “any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication” that “refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office.”

The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Citizens United, a conservative advocacy group, which sought protection for possible criminal and civil penalties for airing a video in 2008 that was critical of then-Sen. Hillary Clinton, who was at the time a candidate for the Democratic Party presidential nomination.

‘Political speech must prevail’

“Political speech must prevail against laws that would suppress it,” the court ruled. “Premised on mistrust of governmental power, the First Amendment stands against attempts to disfavor certain subjects or viewpoints.”

Liberals were “in shock,” according to National Public Radio. President Barack Obama in his 2010 State of the Union speech criticized the Supreme Court ruling. “I’d urge Democrats and Republicans to pass a bill that helps to correct some of these problems,” he said, claiming the decision would lead to a “stampede of special interest money in our politics.”

The Supreme Court pointed out that campaign donors already “find ways around campaign finance laws.”

“Today the Court has enthroned corporations ... moving to grant them the same political rights as the people,” asserted FreeSpeechforPeople.org, a website set up to garner support and donations for the People’s Rights Amendment. “This is a moment of high danger for democracy, so we must act quickly to spell out in the Constitution what the people have always understood: that corporations do not enjoy the political and free speech rights that belong to the people.”

But the idea that individuals retain their constitutional rights when they act in association with others has always been part of U.S. law, as has the concept of “corporate personhood,” which legally treats corporations as persons.

Striking meat workers rally in New Zealand



Militant/Felicity Coggan

TE PUKE, New Zealand—Meat Workers Union members on strike against the AFFCO meat export company led a march of 400 people in this Bay of Plenty town May 19. Strikers from AFFCO’s nearby Rangiora works and from a number of other plants across the North Island joined the action with other union supporters. The march made its way to a local park for a solidarity picnic organized by the union and local Maori community.

Helen Kelly, president of the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions, addressed the march, urging solidarity with the 1,300 workers who have been on strike since May 2 to oppose a company contract proposal giving the company a free hand to speed up production and scrap seniority protections for workers being rehired after seasonal layoffs. The workers struck after the bosses imposed a selective lockout in which they closed the gates to hundreds of union members at six plants in late February and early March.

“If we sign their contract we’re going to throw out everything our union fought for,” striker Les Governor, who works in Wairoa, told the *Militant* at the picnic.

Days after the event representatives of the company and union reached a tentative agreement, which will be brought before the union membership.

—PATRICK BROWN

Refugee in Ontario fights deportation

BY JOHN STEELE

OTTAWA, Ontario—Mohammad Mahjoub, fighting threat of deportation to Egypt under a “national security certificate,” spoke at a May 12 rally here kicking off a seven-city speaking tour in Ontario and Quebec. The security certificate system allows the government to detain noncitizens indefinitely without charge or trial pending deportation.

Accepted as a refugee in 1995, Mahjoub was arrested by the Canadian Border Service Agency in 2000 and has since been in jail or under house arrest. He is forced to wear a GPS bracelet and is under constant surveillance.

“For years I was kept in a specially built prison for Muslims jailed under security certificates,” he explained.

“The principle of the presumption of innocence and workers’ rights are under attack in Canada,” Denis Lemelin, national president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, told participants. A statement of support was read from the Canadian Labour Congress.

The tour will wind up with a June 26 rally in Toronto. For more information, email: justiceformahjoub@gmail.com.

Minority Leader Pelosi presents the move to amend the Constitution as part of a three-pronged strategy, along with increased taxpayer funding for political campaigns of the rulers’ two parties, and passage of the Disclose Act, which would further increase requirements for organizations that run political ads to disclose the names of their contributors.

In the same 2010 ruling the Supreme Court simultaneously struck a blow against the rights of working people to participate in politics without fear of government reprisals. The court upheld by a margin of 8-1 stipulations of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act that require Citizens United to publicly disclose the names of its contributors. The decision was consistent with widespread bipartisan support for so-called disclosure laws among the propertied rulers and their politicians in the name of “transparency.”

Only Justice Clarence Thomas, most loathed by the liberals, dissented on the disclosure requirement. “I cannot endorse a view of the First Amendment that subjects citizens of this Nation to death threats, ruined careers, damaged or defaced property, or pre-emptive and threatening warning letters as the price for engaging in ‘core political speech,’ the ‘primary object of First Amendment protection,’” he wrote.

The Socialist Workers Party is among the organizations that have long fought against disclosure laws, and won exemption for its candidates from having to provide the government with names of their supporters.

In 2009 the Federal Elections Commission voted to extend the party’s exemption for four more years, two years less than the extensions granted over the previous two decades. The SWP submitted evidence of 77 documented cases of “physical attacks on SWP campaign supporters and offices, threatening mail and telephone calls, job firings and discrimination, and harassment of SWP supporters and campaign efforts by federal and local law enforcement as well as private individuals” from 2002 to 2008.

The FEC decided to “reassess” the SWP’s disclosure exemption sooner based on a supposed decline in the severity of harassment incidents—a ruling that flew in the face of extensive evidence presented to the commission, including a 2004 firebombing of the party’s campaign hall in Hazleton, Pa. During the FEC hearing, commission member Ellen Weintraub said, “Perhaps next time [disclosure exemption] will not be necessary.”



“By the time the Constitution was drafted, the men of property desired a strong central government that could quell local disturbances such as Shay’s Rebellion. ... The proposed document did not outline basic civil liberties and would not protect the individual from such measures as the odious writs of assistance.”

Tells the story of the battles that frame the history of the social classes that contend for power in the United States.

www.pathfinderpress.com

‘Cuban Revolution is example for today’

New Zealand meeting discusses publication of ‘Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution’ and ‘Cuban 5’

BY GEORGE FYSON

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—“The Cuban Revolution provides an example of what is needed in the world today” and “these books help make known the history of that revolution,” said Mary-Alice Waters at a meeting here May 6. The event presented two books recently published by Pathfinder Press—*Women in Cuba: The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution* by Vilma Espín, Asela de los Santos and Yolanda Ferrer; and *The Cuban Five: Who They Are, Why They Were Framed, Why They Should Be Free*, a compilation of articles from the *Militant* newspaper. Waters, who edited both titles, is president of Pathfinder Press and a leader of the Socialist Workers Party in the United States.

The meeting, attended by some 40 people, was sponsored by the Cuba Friendship Society and Pathfinder Books in Auckland. It was chaired by Robert Reid, general secretary of the FIRST Union (Finance, Industrial, Retail, Stores and Transport).

Cuba’s ambassador to New Zealand, Maria del Carmen Herrera, was the first of four speakers. “It is not just a book about Cuban women,” she said. It is “the story of the Cuban Revolution—masterfully, simply, and directly told by three women.”

“Contrary to the lies that are told about Cuba in the capitalist media,” Herrera noted, the Cuban Revolution has from the beginning been a struggle for “equality and justice” in which women “have been involved shoulder to shoulder with men.”

Speaking of the importance of *The Cuban Five*, Herrera underscored the fact that since the revolution’s victory in 1959, Cuba has faced ongoing attacks by counterrevolutionary groups that have caused more than 3,000 deaths and injured thousands more. The Cuban Five—framed up and jailed for nearly 14 years in the United States for working to foil such attacks—are “some of the best sons of Cuba,” she said. “They were sent, not to spy on the U.S. government, but to gather information about the groups attacking Cuba. ... It is a duty to keep fighting for their release.”

Kathryn Lehman and Walescka Pino-Ojeda from the Centre for Latin American Studies at the University of Auckland each spoke briefly. Lehman pointed to the influence of the Cuban Revolution throughout Latin America and urged all present to read *The Cuban Five*. It is a “really good book,” she said.

Pino-Ojeda commented that after reading *The Making of a Revolution*

Within the Revolution “now I’m able to understand why in Cuba women have been able to achieve so much.”

The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution is an introduction to the Cuban Revolution, said Mary-Alice Waters, from the underground struggle in the cities to the Rebel Army fronts and deepening social revolution in the Sierra Maestra mountains, to the socialist transformation led by Cuban workers and farmers following the victory in 1959. She quoted from the statement by Yolanda Ferrer, today the general secretary of the Federation of Cuban Women, that “from the first day of the revolution what it meant to be female began to change.”

Waters noted that from 1952 on, when the battle against the Batista dictatorship began, more women were involved in the central leadership of the struggle in Cuba than in any previous revolution in history. This reflected vast social changes gestating since World War II as more women were drawn into the workforce, she said. But the clarity of the revolution’s leadership on the importance of the fight for women’s participation was decisive. “It was Fidel Castro’s leadership above all, but not only Fidel,” said Waters, referring to other leaders in the struggles of the 1950s. She pointed to the precedent set by the creation of the all-women’s Mariana Grajales platoon during the revolutionary war and its outstanding combat record.

Birth of the FMC

Waters noted that the Federation of Cuban Women, formed after the revolution’s victory, was set up “with no preconceived structure or agenda.” Rather, “it resulted from women demanding to be organized to participate in the urgent work of the revolution,” she said. The FMC’s work began with the simplest things—training women as emergency medical workers; organizing sewing classes since many women couldn’t afford ready-made clothes for their families; organizing child care centers, which also meant first organizing women and men to build the centers.

The FMC also organized schools for the domestic workers left without jobs when most of their employers fled the



Militant photos/Baskaran Appu

Mary-Alice Waters (at podium), president of Pathfinder Press and leader of Socialist Workers Party in U.S., speaking at May 6 book launch in Auckland, New Zealand, on *Women in Cuba: The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution* and *The Cuban Five*. Seated from left, professors Kathryn Lehman and Walescka Pino-Ojeda from the University of Auckland, chair Robert Reid, and Maria del Carmen Herrera, Cuba’s ambassador to New Zealand. Inset, Herrera and Waters sign participants’ books following meeting.



island after the revolution’s triumph.

Waters noted that these first steps were in the spirit of the trajectory explained by Frederick Engels in 1885 and cited in the book: “True equality between men and women can become a reality only when the exploitation of both by capital has been abolished, and private work in the home has been transformed into a public industry.”

The fight to free the Cuban Five

“This is the kind of revolution that produced the Cuban Five,” Waters said, “some of Cuba’s best sons, as the ambassador has described them.” Imperialism uses every means at its disposal in its war against the Cuban Revolution, Waters noted, and the incarceration of the five is an attempt to punish the Cuban people for their refusal to submit to Washington’s dictates. Their lengthy imprisonment is an “attempt to teach a lesson to all those who are fighting around the world,” she said.

The Cuban Five “take their place on the front lines of the class struggle,” said Waters, “not as victims, but as fighters.” She described how each of the five told the U.S. court that condemned them that they were “proud of what they had done, and would do it again without question.”

The conviction of the Cuban Five, despite all the evidence presented in court refuting the charges of conspiracy to commit espionage and conspiracy to commit murder, should be seen in the same light as the class “justice” working people in the United States face from the cops and courts, Waters said, noting that the United States has a higher proportion of its population in prison than any other country in the world—2.3 million incarcerated, as well as nearly 5 million more under some form of court supervision.

“Especially among African-Americans, there is hardly a working-class family that is not affected,” she said. “That’s why, as working people learn

about the Cuban Five, they can identify with them.”

Freedom of the five will not be won by the good will of President Obama or others in the U.S. government, Waters said. It will be decided by “a jury of millions,” as Gerardo Hernández, one of the five, has put it.

Waters pointed to the devastating consequences the capitalist economic crisis has already had for working people in the United States with the employers so far largely successful drive to slash their labor costs. For the first time in decades, she said, “we are seeing a new kind of resistance to the bosses contract demands and lockouts. And that is where Gerardo’s jury will come from.”

Many of those present planned to participate a week later in the inauguration of a showing of political cartoons drawn by Hernández while in prison.

While a good number of those present had already purchased both new books, eight more copies of *The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution* and six copies of *The Cuban Five* were bought by participants following the presentations, as they enjoyed the refreshments, studied the exhibits and stayed to talk.

Write to Cuban revolutionaries framed-up and jailed in the U.S.

Fernando González

Reg. #58733-004, FCI Terre Haute
P.O. Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808

➤ Address envelope to “Rubén Campa”

Antonio Guerrero

Reg. #58741-004, FCI Marianna P.O. Box
7007, Marianna, FL 32447-7007

Gerardo Hernández

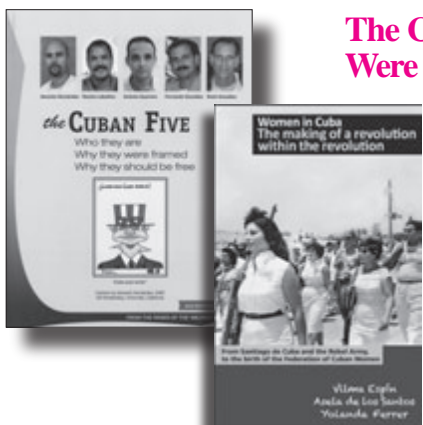
Reg. #58739-004, U.S.P. Victorville
P.O. Box 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301

Ramón Labañino

Reg. #58734-004, FCI Jesup
2680 301 South, Jesup, GA 31599

➤ Address envelope to “Luis Medina”

* **René González**, one of the Cuban Five, was released Oct. 7, but is being forced to serve a three-year parole in the U.S.



The Cuban Five: Who They Are, Why They Were Framed, Why They Should Be Free \$5

Women in Cuba: The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution
by Vilma Espín, Asela de los Santos, Yolanda Ferrer - \$15 (normally \$20)

From Pathfinder Press
visit www.pathfinderpress.com to order
and for a full online catalogue.

Available from distributors listed on page 8

Greek drama reflected rise of patriarchal society

Below is an excerpt from *Woman's Evolution* by Evelyn Reed, one of *Pathfinder's Books of the Month* for May. Reed was a leading member of the Socialist Workers Party. The excerpt describes how the rise of class-divided patriarchal society and its accompanying oppression of women is reflected in Greek mythology and plays. Copyright © 1975 by Pathfinder Press. Reprinted by permission.

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

BY EVELYN REED

The conflict and turbulence that accompanied the transition from matriarchy to patriarchy left an indelible imprint in Greek mythology. The fifth-century Greek dramatists created their tragedies on the basis of these myth-histories. The most memorable are *Orestes* by Aeschylus, *Oedipus* by Sophocles, and *Medea* by Euripides.

The story of Oedipus, the best known, is believed to be a tragedy of the crime and punishment of incest—an impression introduced by Freud. In the course of his psychoanalytical studies, Freud uncovered a widespread unconscious incestuous desire of boys for their mothers. He seized upon the story of Oedipus, the man who killed his father and married his mother, to buttress his theory that boys from time immemorial had had the secret urge to kill their fathers



Ancient Greek illustration of Oedipus being told by Sphinx that he would kill his father and marry his mother. Classic Greek drama symbolizes turmoil and suffering that went with transition to patriarchal class-divided society, explains Evelyn Reed in *Woman's Evolution*.

and marry their mothers.

By extension, other incestuous feelings—between brother and sister, father and daughter—were posited. But the mother-son “Oedipus complex” remained central. Anthropologists picked up the theme, and since Freud’s time there have been innumerable references to the “Oedipal” factor at work in the unconscious minds of savages as well as civilized peoples.

Freud unquestionably performed a service in bringing to light a sexual neurosis that afflicts members of the modern family. He went wrong, however, in interpreting this as an everlasting affliction and naming it after an ancient Greek legend. Other psychological theorists have since given more realistic explanations for the phenomenon; they pinpoint its source in the ingrown character of the modern “nuclear” family. An appropriate term for the neurosis would be the “nuclear family complex” because this restricts its application to more recent times.

The term “nuclear family” is of recent coinage and expresses the last stage in the evolution of the father-family. It signifies a family reduced to a molecule consisting of a father, a mother, and their children. The nuclear family differs from the “extended” family, that is, the large

farm family characteristic of the pre-industrial era. The extended farm family, which included grandparents and even uncles, aunts, and cousins, was a productive unit; all its members worked to sustain the whole group.

But with the industrial revolution, under the impact of factory work and city life, the family unit narrowed down. The nuclear family no longer had a significant role in production. It was composed of a small group of consumers dependent on the father or mother for their support. This closed-in economic dependence fostered emotional dependence. Added to this was the Judeo-Christian idea of the sinfulness of sex outside marriage. This puritanism meant the suppression of sexual intercourse until it became economically possible for a pair to marry. All this invited the “fixation” of a boy on his mother, with whom he was in intimate association for many years while deprived of other sexual outlets. The inhibitions thus acquired often afflicted a man even long after he became a husband.

The story of Oedipus does not at all fit into the basic premise of the nuclear family sex neurosis. Incest fixation depends upon a boy remaining in prolonged intimate association with his mother. Only in that way would he develop his secret sexual desires for the forbidden woman

and conceive the notion that his father was the obstacle standing in the way of mother-son intercourse.

However, Oedipus never knew his father and mother; he was cast out at birth. In earlier times and under other conditions, Oedipus would have been the sacrificial firstborn son. Instead, under the slightly more humane conditions of a higher culture, he was “exposed”; he was lucky enough to be saved by shepherds and finally to be adopted by the childless king and queen of Corinth.

How, under these circumstances, could Oedipus’s acts be said to spring from “incestuous” desires for his mother—or an impulse to kill his father in order to have access to her? He grew up believing his foster parents were his real parents. It is true that he killed a man whom he later discovered to be his real father and married a woman who turned out to be his real mother. But at the time these events occurred they were complete strangers to him.

Thus Oedipus was one man who could not possibly have had an “Oedipus complex”; the essentials were absent. Freud’s use of the term gives the grossly misleading impression that unconscious incestuous desires occur in the male psyche from time immemorial when in fact they are quite recent.

If the story of Oedipus is not about incest—even though he did marry his mother—what is its message? Here it is instructive to place it in the same context as the stories of Medea and Orestes. These three plays and the myth-histories on which they are based tell us about the family tragedy on a vast scale that attended the crucial change from matriarchy to patriarchy. ...

Evolutionary anthropologists have long recognized that the story of Orestes is a story of the transition from matriarchy to patriarchy. ... In fact all three of these great Greek plays symbolize the turmoil and suffering that accompanied this colossal upheaval. But while the other two lines of fathers and sons are annihilated, Orestes sails through the stormy seas of social change, bringing himself and his house to safe moorings on the patriarchal shores. He represents the victory of the father-family and the triumph of the new social order.

May

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

PATHFINDER READERS CLUB SPECIALS

25% DISCOUNT

Woman's Evolution
by Evelyn Reed
Reveals women's leading contribution to the development of civilization through prehistory from cannibalism to culture.
\$32. **Special price: \$24**

Coal Miners on Strike
Articles from the *Militant* on miners' strikes in the 1970s and '80s. \$7. **Special price: \$5.25**

Cuba and the Coming American Revolution
by Jack Barnes
The Cuban Revolution of 1959 had a worldwide political impact, including on workers and youth in the imperialist heartland.
\$10. **Special price: \$7.50**

Leon Trotsky Speaks
by Leon Trotsky
\$26. **Special price: \$19.50**

¡EE. UU. fuera del Oriente Medio!
(U.S. Hands Off the Mideast!)
\$15. **Special price: \$11.25**

Letters From Prison
by James P. Cannon
\$25. **Special price: \$18.75**

Join Pathfinder Readers Club for \$10 and receive discounts all year long

ORDER ONLINE AT
WWW.PATHFINDERPRESS.COM
OFFER GOOD UNTIL MAY 31

IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP

Where to find distributors of the *Militant*, *New International*, and a full display of Pathfinder books.

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA: Los Angeles: 4025 S. Western Ave. Zip: 90062. Tel: (323) 295-2600. E-mail: laswp@sbcglobal.net
San Francisco: 5482 Mission St. Zip: 94112-1015. Tel: (415) 584-2135. E-mail: swpsf@sbcglobal.net

FLORIDA: Miami: 719 NE 79th St. Zip: 33138. Tel: (305) 757-8869. E-mail: swpmiami@att.net

GEORGIA: Atlanta: 476 1/2 Edgewood Ave. Zip: 30312. Tel: (404) 525-5200. E-mail: swpatlanta@bellsouth.net

ILLINOIS: Chicago: 806 W. Washington Blvd. Suite 202. Zip: 60607. Tel: (312) 455-0111. E-mail: Chicagoswp@att.net

IOWA: Des Moines: 3707 Douglas Ave. Zip: 50310. Tel: (515) 255-1707. E-mail: swpdesmoines@qwestoffice.net

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston: 13 Bennington St., 2nd Floor, East Boston. Zip: 02128. Tel: (617) 569-9169.

E-mail: swpboston@verizon.net

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis: 1311 1/2 E. Lake St. Zip: 55407. Tel: (612) 729-1205. E-mail: tcswp@qwestoffice.net

NEBRASKA, Lincoln: P.O. Box 57222. Zip: 68505. Tel: (402) 217-4906. E-mail: swplincoln@windstream.net

NEW YORK: Manhattan: 306 W. 37th St., 10th Floor. Zip: 10018. Tel: (212) 629-6649. E-mail: newyorkswp@mac.com

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: 3701 Pulaski Ave. Zip: 19140. Tel: (215) 225-1270. E-mail: philaswp@verizon.net

TEXAS: Houston: 4800 W. 34th St., Suite C-50L. Zip: 77092. Tel: (713) 688-4919. E-mail: swp.houston@att.net

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 143 Kennedy St. NW, Suite 15. Zip: 20011. Tel: (202) 536-5080. E-mail: swp.washingtondc@verizon.net

WASHINGTON: Seattle: 5418 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118-2439. Tel: (206) 323-1755. E-mail: seattleswp@qwestoffice.net

AUSTRALIA

Sydney: 1st Flr, 3/281-287 Beamish

St., Campsie, NSW 2194. Mailing address: P.O. Box 164, Campsie, NSW 2194. Tel: (02) 9718 9698. E-mail: cl_australia@optusnet.com.au

CANADA

QUEBEC: Montreal: 7107 St. Denis #204 H2S 2S5. Tel: (514) 272-5840. E-mail: clc_can@bellnet.ca

FRANCE

Paris: P.O. 175, 23 rue Lecourbe. Postal code: 75015. Tel: (01) 40-10-28-37. E-mail: milpath.paris@laposte.net

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland: 4/125 Grafton Rd., Grafton. Postal address: P.O. Box 3025, Auckland 1140. Tel: (09) 369-1223. E-mail: clauack@xtra.co.nz

UNITED KINGDOM

ENGLAND: London: First Floor, 120 Bethnal Green Road (Entrance in Brick Lane). Postal code: E2 6DG. Tel: (020) 7613-2466. E-mail: clondon@fastmail.fm
Manchester: Room 301, 3rd floor, Hilton House, 26-28 Hilton St. Postal code: M1 2EH. Tel: (016) 1478-2496. E-mail: clmanchr@gmail.com

Solidarity with prisoners' struggles!

The *Militant* urges solidarity with prisoners on hunger strike against barbaric conditions at Virginia's super-max Red Onion State Prison.

These workers behind bars fighting against solitary confinement and abusive treatment were inspired by similar struggles from California to Israel, and their battle will inspire others.

The United States leads the world in incarceration rates and the use of solitary—a form of psychological torture. There are more inmates in solitary confinement in California alone than in any other country on the face of the earth.

The conditions—isolation, tiny cells, restrictions on showers and exercise, limitations on mail, visits, books and other contact with the outside world—are methods used to dehumanize, degrade and demoralize, as is the entire organization of prisons under capitalism. The increasing brutality workers behind bars confront on a daily basis is but a reflection in microcosm of class relations under capitalism as a whole.

The explosion of incarcerations over the last couple of decades, with vastly disproportionate numbers from the Black nationality, is part and parcel of the propertied rulers' stepped-up assaults on our wages, working conditions, safety and rights.

In the eyes of the rulers the working class is a criminal class. They make special targets of those of us who face national oppression, anti-immigrant scapegoating or who stand up and fight the bosses or their oppressive system in some way.

Among them are Gerardo Hernández, Antonio Guerrero, Ramón Labañino, René González and Fernando González, five exemplary Cuban working-class fighters framed up and imprisoned by the U.S. government, and Puerto Rican independence fighter Oscar López Rivera, one of the longest-held political prisoners in the world.

Militant workers should embrace the fight for dignity by prisoners today as part of the growing resistance to the capitalists' deepening assault on our class.

Recent prison fights have set an example in breaking down racial and ethnic divisions among the working class that are fostered by the propertied rulers—which they orchestrate in the most corrupt and degrading manner behind bars.

When the toiling majority finally conquers political power in the United States, we will follow the example of the great revolutions on whose shoulders we'll stand and batter down the doors to all their prisons and set our brothers and sisters free.

Chicago cops seize on anti-war protest

Continued from front page

at the action, including some 100 Filipino youth representing several organizations around the country; 25 Pakistanis from the Chicago branch of Tehreek-e-Insaf, a Pakistani political party; supporters of the Muslim Solidarity Committee; and about 60 demanding freedom for Puerto Rican political prisoner Oscar López Rivera.

"We came to bring awareness about the longest held political prisoner in the U.S.," said 22-year-old Jay Rivera, referring to López.

Some 40 veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars took the stage and threw their war medals toward McCormick Place.

In addition, a contingent of some 100 anarchists dressed in black with scarves covering their faces participated. At one point they charged through the crowd trying to get to the front of the march.

Cop frame-up and smear

Four days before the demonstration, cops and FBI agents raided an apartment building in the Bridgeport neighborhood. Breaking down doors with guns drawn, they arrested nine involved in protests leading up to the summit. After 48 hours, six were released without charges.

Jared Chase, 27, Brent Beterly, 24, and Brian Church, 22, were charged with conspiracy to commit terrorism, providing material support for terrorism, and possession of an explosive incendiary device, reported Reuters. They were indicted under an Illinois anti-terrorism law never used before. It was passed following the bombing of the World Trade Center in 2001. Their bond was set at \$1.5 million each.

Prosecutors allege the three were planning to attack the campaign headquarters of President Barack Obama, the house of Mayor Rahm Emanuel, police stations and financial institutions in downtown Chicago.

"The individuals we charged are not peaceful protesters, they are domestic terrorists," Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez asserted at a news conference a day before the anti-war demonstration.

Chicago National Lawyers Guild attorneys representing the three said that they were entrapped by informants or undercover police. "From what we've learned, we believe it is a setup," Michael Deutsch, Guild attorney, told the *Chicago Tribune*.

On the eve of the protest, prosecutors announced charges against two others—Mark Neiweem, 28, and Sebastian Senakiewicz, 24.

Neiweem was charged for allegedly trying to obtain explosives based on a discussion he had with an "associate" about making a pipe bomb and writing a list of material necessary to do so, reported the *New York*

Times. Senakiewicz was charged with "falsely making a terrorist threat," the *Times* reported, for allegedly claiming he had homemade explosives. Nothing was turned up in a search of his home.

News of the arrests was splashed across area media, smearing the planned anti-war march and intimidating people from attending.

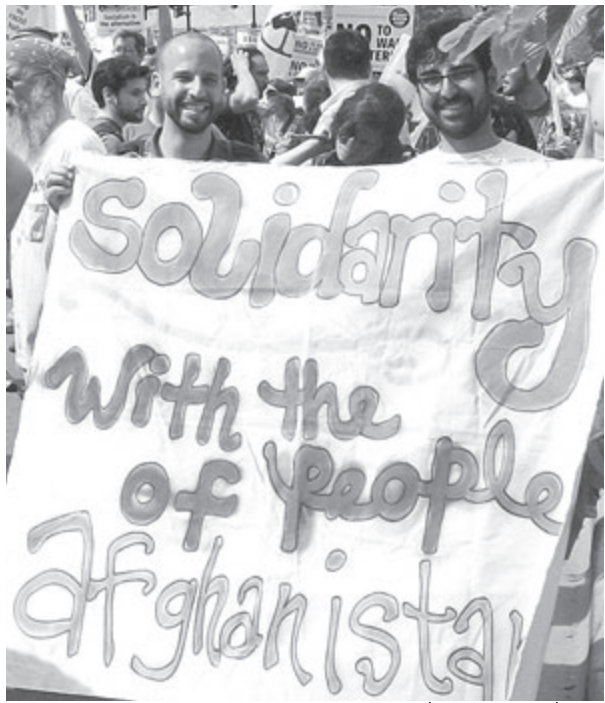
"I tried to bring some friends with me but they were scared with all the news about violence," David Velez, who came to the May 20 march, told the *Militant*.

When plans for protests at the summits were announced, Mayor Emanuel pressed for new restrictions on civil liberties. The City Council complied, passing new ordinances providing for increased use of surveillance cameras, new restrictions and higher fees for parades and demonstrations, and empowering the police superintendent to "deputize" out-of-state police officers.

At the protest thousands of Chicago cops, FBI and Secret Service agents lined the march route and monitored protesters' activities. After the march ended, police dressed in riot gear severely beat several protesters with batons.

Jimmy, a neighbor of the three men arrested in Bridgeport, was originally not planning to attend the rally but "decided to come because if this could happen to me and my neighbors it can happen to anyone," he said. Asking that his full name not be used, he said about 50 cops entered the building and went through apartments, including his own.

Laura Anderson contributed to this article.



Militant/Laura Anderson

May 20 anti-war protest outside NATO summit in Chicago.

Unraveling of EU

Continued from front page

inevitable. The forms and time frame remain unpredictable. But what will be left is what was there before and during the EU's existence: separate and sovereign capitalist governments.

The EU was put together in the 1990s by Berlin, with the support of Paris, as a counterweight to the common market between the U.S., Canada and Mexico established in 1994 by Washington. What worked well at first only built up contradictions of a union between countries with sharply different levels of productivity and development.

These differentials appeared to be mitigated as the less developed economies such as Ireland, Portugal, Greece and Spain benefited from massive low-interest loans—promoted by Berlin and Paris in order to expand markets for their goods and capital.

A decade later the former are massively indebted, their economies contracting and left without the option of devaluing their currency. The latter are holding bad debt and facing shrinking markets.

Bourgeois politicians in Europe, the U.S. and other imperialist countries are debating ways of slowing down Greece from leaving the euro, in fear that a disorderly "grexit" could trigger bank runs, financial panics, political instability and social unrest.

This is the overall meaning behind so-called growth proposals promoted by newly elected French President François Hollande, Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti and others, with the support of President Barack Obama.

The "growth" track is ostensibly counterposed to "austerity"—the slashing of social services and government jobs, along with tax raises. This approach has accelerated the economic contraction of several countries, while sparking social unrest among working people and others.

But the actual content of so-called growth policies amounts to no more than what the *Financial Times* calls "some magical mix of stimulus and austerity that restores both budgetary balance and growth." This translates to more loans, some currency devaluation (inflation), tax breaks to businesses and other "stimulus" measures, while continuing to try to crank up labor "productivity," press down wages and slash government expenses.

What Greek workers face

Meanwhile, in Greece the economic and financial crisis has precipitated a political crisis.

In the recent May 6 elections, New Democracy and the Socialist Party (PASOK), the two incumbents, were soundly defeated. With none of the main parties having enough votes to form a majority or coalition government, new elections have been set for June 17.

New Democracy and PASOK are campaigning on warnings of devastating consequences if the country leaves the eurozone—which they say is unavoidable without further austerity.

According to recent polls, the Coalition of the Radical Left, or Syriza, is projected to get more than 20 percent of the vote, bringing it neck and neck with New Democracy. While supporting Greece's EU membership, Syriza campaigns for a three-year suspension of loan payments; nationalizations of banks; and the reversal of wage cuts, public workers' layoffs and the voiding of collective bargaining agreements.

The Communist Party of Greece (KKE) is campaigning for abstract slogans and reforms within the framework of capitalist rule. It demands Greece's withdrawal from the EU, the cancellation of its debt, "socialization of the wealth" and "workers' and people's control from the bottom up." The KKE got 8.5 percent of the vote in the May 6 election.

In the midst of a crisis that devastates the lives of millions of workers and middle class layers, the fascist-minded Golden Dawn got 7 percent of the vote in the May election with its anti-foreign bank demagoguery and anti-immigrant thuggish violence. But contrary to what some liberal pundits say, fascism is not at the gate.

Fascism is a mass movement of desperate middle-class layers, demoralized workers and lumpen elements, mobilized in the streets to smash working-class organizations. Before this could happen, workers will have their own opportunity to take power.

What Golden Dawn is doing is exploiting the crisis to garner cadres for such a reactionary movement.