

# Capitalists fear slowing of Chinese economy

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

Wishful commentary in the capitalist media that an expanding Chinese economy would carry the world out of the deepening crisis of capitalism is giving way to reality. The reportage has shifted from hope to anxiety about the contraction in production and trade in the world's second largest economy, along with signs of political instability.

Similar hopes are being dashed in other large, developing economies of the so-called BRIC—Brazil, Russia, India and China.

Manufacturing in China has declined for the past seven months. Factory output growth was lower in April than at any time since the onset of the 2008 worldwide financial crisis. An HSBC Corp. survey of Chinese manufacturers points to a further weakening in May.

In April, exports grew by 4.9 percent,  
Continued on page 3

# Workers battle Lockheed over concession demands Machinists: 'Strike is making us stronger'



Picket against Lockheed Martin outside Patuxent River Naval Air Base in southern Maryland, May 23. Nearly 4,000 Machinists are on strike at Lockheed plant in Texas and two testing facilities in Maryland and California. "When we go back to work, we can have unity," said striker William Myers. "But if we let them take away pensions for new hires, that unity goes away."

BY PAUL PEDERSON

BETHESDA, Md.—Nearly 200 Machinists and supporters held a lively picket line May 24 outside the gates of the headquarters of Lockheed Martin Corp., demanding the world's largest military contractor withdraw its concession demands and settle with nearly 4,000 workers on strike at three warplane facilities in Texas, Maryland and California.

Members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers District Lodge 776 build and test bombers and fighter jets for the U.S. Air Force and Navy. The strike is now in its fifth week. The center of the fight is at Lockheed's Fort Worth,

Texas, plant, which employs 3,600 of the striking workers. Another 350 work at Lockheed's test facilities at the Patuxent River Naval Air Base in Maryland and Edwards Air Force  
Continued on page 4

# Canadian rail strike paralyzes shipping

BY JOHN STEELE

MONTREAL—A strike by 4,800 Canadian Pacific Railway engineers, conductors, yardmen and rail traffic controllers, which began just after midnight May 23, is paralyzing freight deliveries across Canada, stranding shipments of grain, fertilizer, coal, metal ore, automobiles and other commodities.

Under an agreement with the union, vital commuter passenger services in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto that use CP rail lines are continuing to operate.

The workers, members of the Teamsters union, are fighting efforts by the Canadian Pacific bosses to slash pensions and increase their workload to strengthen what the bosses call the "competitiveness" of the company. Their five-year contract expired Dec. 31, 2011.

At the CP Lachine intermodal yard near Montreal, a picket line of about 20 strikers held up container trucks  
Continued on page 8

Spring 'Militant' subscription campaign					
April 14 - June 17 (week 6)					
Country	quota	sold	%	2,400	
UNITED STATES					
Denver†	7	6	86%	1,691 should be	
Los Angeles*	170	142	84%		
Lincoln**	45	35	78%		
Philadelphia	90	69	77%		
New York	260	198	76%		
Atlanta**	200	148	74%		
Twin Cities*	155	112	72%		
Seattle*	190	133	70%		
Chicago*	170	117	69%		
Boston	60	41	68%		
Pittsburgh†	6	4	67%		
Houston	90	57	63%		
Des Moines*	140	88	63%		
Washington*	75	43	57%		
San Francisco	175	100	57%		
Miami	100	54	54%		
Total U.S.	1933	1347	70%		
UNITED KINGDOM					
London	130	106	82%		
Manchester*	60	47	78%		
UK Total	190	153	81%		
CANADA*	97	73	75%		
NEW ZEALAND	80	64	80%		
AUSTRALIA*	75	54	72%		
Total	2375	1691	70%		
Should be	2400	1608	67%		
* Raised goal **Raised twice † New to scoreboard					

# Subscription drive extended, socialist campaigners aim to go over the top

BY LOUIS MARTIN

The international drive to win 2,400 subscribers to the *Militant* has been extended to June 17 to take advantage of opportunities use the paper and Socialist Workers Party election campaigns to reach broad layers of working people around the country.

Socialist campaigners are organizing to exceed the subscription goal leading into a June 21-23 international socialist education and active workers conference in Oberlin, Ohio.

The SWP, which sponsors the conference, is inviting fighting workers and others interested in learning more about the communist movement.

The gathering will feature talks  
Continued on page 3

# Workers in Myanmar fight for wage raises and electrification



"Light up Yangon and all of Myanmar," shouted demonstrators in Yangon, Myanmar, May 22.

BY EMMA JOHNSON

Working people in Myanmar are fighting for wage increases and electricity.

The recent loosening of absolute military rule in that country has given impetus to a new stage of struggle by toilers—which is partly an unintended consequence of Washington's effort to woo the rulers of Myanmar away from Beijing.

Some 400 steelworkers at Crown Steel Factory in Yangon, the largest city in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, went on strike May 20. Their  
Continued on page 6

## Also Inside:

- Malcolm X on link between anticolonial, Black struggles 5
- New Zealand meat packers' strike defeats union busting 6
- North Chicago police cover-up unravels 8
- Freedom of worship vs. 'freedom' to attack workers' rights 9

# United Farm Workers holds 50th anniversary convention

BY NORTON SANDLER

BAKERSFIELD, Calif.—The 50th anniversary convention of the United Farm Workers took place May 18-20 in this city at the southern end of California’s central agricultural valley.

The gathering of about 600 brought together several generations who have been involved in the struggles to organize and defend farm workers. Among the participants were veterans of the grape pickers strike that began in Delano in 1965.

“I had courage and I was hungry,” Marcos Munoz, one of the original Delano strikers, told participants. “I knew we were being abused and they were stealing from us. The union changed my life.”

UFW President Arturo Rodriguez said the union recently won new contracts with the largest strawberry grower in the country, the biggest U.S. winery, and one of the largest vegetable growers. The delegates set a priority of organizing tomato pickers in the Stockton area and melon pickers near Fresno.

Anger over the bosses’ refusal to pay overtime was raised by a number of the 250 convention delegates.

“We only get overtime pay after 10 hours, or 60 hours in a week,” Hugo Ibarra, a mushroom picker from Gilroy, told the *Militant*.

“We don’t have time for anything,” said Tesfom, 32, an Eritrean-born dairy farm worker in Oregon. “We work 12 hours a day, six days.”

In 2007 the UFW won a long battle to secure a contract at D’Arrigo Brothers vegetables in the Salinas Valley. The

company responded soon after by trying to get the union decertified, and a ruling is pending, reported a union organizer.

On May 12, a judge in Ventura County ruled that strawberry grower Montalvo Farms had to reinstate Constantino Rodriguez, a worker who was fired by the company for attempting to organize indigenous Mixteco workers from Oaxaca, Mexico.

In March of this year, according to the lawsuit, 80 to 100 workers supported by the UFW went on a one-day strike. Anti-union thugs later physically assaulted UFW supporters.



Delegates attending United Farm Workers convention May 18-20 in Bakersfield, Calif. Raúl Gámez

## Quebec students protest curb on right to demonstrate

BY JOHN STEELE

MONTREAL—Some 100,000 to 250,000 students, unionists and others took to the streets here May 22 to protest Law 78, adopted May 18 by the Quebec National Assembly.

The massive action marked the 100th day of a movement of school boycotts and daily demonstrations by tens of thousands of university and cegep (junior college) students against the Quebec government’s decision to raise tuition threefold over the next seven years.

Solidarity actions were held the same day in Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, New York and Paris.

Law 78, passed by a 68-48 vote, is in effect through July 1, 2013. It aims to end the student protests and school boycotts. Nearly a third of Quebec’s post-secondary school students have been taking part in the student strike.

The legislation suspends the school year at institutions affected by the strike. Organizers of demonstrations of more than 50 people must seek approval from police at least eight hours in advance. No one can contribute to delaying classes or denying access to them, and student associations must ensure their members carry out this policy.

The law imposes fines for violating its conditions—up to \$5,000 for individuals, \$7,000 for leaders and \$125,000 for unions or student federations.

“The government is trying to create fear, take away freedom of expression and prevent any opposition,” student Louis-Sdem Pérot told the *Militant* before a May 18 protest march began in

Quebec City, the day the law was adopted. Pérot attends Collège de Lévis, a private college near Quebec City, which is not on strike.

Presidents of Quebec’s three union federations held a joint press conference with student representatives that day to condemn the legislation. The Ontario Federation of Labour and other unions outside Quebec have condemned the repressive law and donated money to the main Quebec student federations.

More than 2,500 people have been arrested since the protests began, with a sharp increase since the adoption of Law 78. Daily protests involving thousands of students and supporters have been held here every evening.



March by students and workers in Montreal May 22 against new law in Quebec aimed at limiting right to demonstrate and boycott class in protest against government tuition increases.

# THE MILITANT

*‘Provides info media refuses to show us’*

*“Until I started reading the ‘Militant,’ I could not believe how much the capitalist media hides from us. The ‘Militant’ provides information that the media refuses to print or show us.”*

—Sam Allen, 17, high school student Lincoln, Neb.

Militant subscribers Sam Allen (left) and Conner Gee, high school students at Lincoln Arts and Humanities in Nebraska.

## 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.

12 weeks of the *Militant* outside the U.S.: Australia and the Pacific, A\$8 • United Kingdom, £3 • Canada, Can\$6 • Caribbean and Latin America, US\$10 • Continental Europe, £10 • France, 12 euros • New Zealand, NZ\$7 • All other areas, US\$16 (Send payment to addresses listed in business information box)

## The Militant

Vol. 76/No. 23

Closing news date: May 30, 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](mailto:themilitant@mac.com)

Website: [www.themilitant.com](http://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.

# ‘Militant’ drive extended

**Continued from front page**  
and classes by party leaders on the growing working-class resistance to the deepening crisis of capitalism, world political developments and the building of a revolutionary communist movement.

The 2012 Socialist Workers presidential campaign will be launched. Experiences of communist workers expanding the *Militant’s* readership among working people will mark the conference.

At the end of the sixth week of the drive, the campaign now stands at 1,691.

“The *Militant* is the kind of paper that working people need because it is not beholden to big business,” said James Rollins, a public worker, as he bought a subscription from socialist workers from Seattle going door to door in his neighborhood in Longview, Wash.

Rollins also bought a copy of *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power* by Jack Barnes. This book and *The Working Class and the Transformation of Learning: The Fraud of Education Reform Under Capitalism*, also by Barnes, are offered at a reduced price during the subscription campaign.

John Naubert also reports that members of the Socialist Workers Party in

Seattle sold four subscriptions to Teamster-organized workers on strike against David Wire Company in Kent, Wash. (See next week’s issue for coverage on the strike.)

SWP members in Lincoln, Neb., raised their quota from 40 to 45, responding to our call last week to close the gap of local quotas still shy of our overall goal. This was their second raise during the drive.

Members of the Communist League in Montreal also raised their goal.

## Socialist Education and Active Workers Conference

Oberlin, Ohio, June 21-23

For more information,  
contact distributors on page 5



Dennis Richter, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Congress in Illinois’ 7th District, being interviewed by Swedish TV station at Chicago protest against war in Afghanistan, May 20.

# Workers contribute to ‘Militant,’ a newspaper published for them

BY LEA SHERMAN

Unlike the bosses’ press, which rakes in revenue from capitalist advertising, the *Militant* depends on contributions from working people, in whose interests it is published. As working class resistance to the bosses’ assaults has grown, increasing numbers of workers see the *Militant* as their own and are helping to maintain it by contributing to the Militant Fighting Fund.

A retired high school teacher in Lin-

coln, Neb., recently contributed \$20 to the fund after giving a presentation at a local bookstore based on an article published in the April 30 issue of the *Militant* titled “‘Recovery’=Work Harder, Longer for Less Pay,” reported Joe Swanson, who organizes the fighting fund there.

Swanson said supporters of the paper are calling every subscriber. “We received contributions from students and workers ranging from \$1 to \$50.”

All contributions received by June 11 count towards the goal.

To contribute, contact distributors listed on page 5 or send a check, made out to the *Militant*, to: The Militant, 306 W. 37th St., 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

## —MILITANT LABOR FORUMS—

### MINNESOTA

#### Minneapolis

**The Politics of the 99% vs. the Class Struggle Road Forward.** Speaker: Leah Morrison, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress, 4th C.D. Fri., June 8, 7:30 p.m. 1311 1/2 E. Lake St. Tel.: (612) 729-1205.

### TEXAS

#### Houston

**European Economic Crisis and Workers’ Resistance to ‘Austerity’: What Road Forward for the Working Class?** Speaker: Steve Warshell, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress, 18th C.D. Fri., June 8, 7:30 p.m. 4800 W. 34th St. Suite C-50L. Tel.: (713) 699-4919.

### 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 9, 6 p.m. Donation: £2.50. Room 301, Hilton House, 26-28 Hilton St., M1 2EH. Tel.: (0161) 478-2496.

# Slowdown of production and trade in China

to relatively low-cost Chinese labor, building up a massive industrial capacity and capturing the largest share of the world’s merchandise export market. Far from being excepted from the economic contraction taking place in many of the most developed imperialist nations, the main engine of China’s economy finds itself low on gas.

While data indicates China’s economy was 8.1 percent larger in the first quarter of this year than a year earlier, “virtually all of that growth took place last year,” reports the *New York Times*. “The economy barely grew in the first quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 2011.” This growth rate was the lowest in nearly three years.

China is also the world’s largest importer of many commodities, including iron ore and copper, and second-largest consumer of oil. Imports to China rose just 0.3 percent in April from the previous month, hitting export markets from Indonesian raw materials to European factory equipment and luxury goods.

China’s massive real estate bubble is also bursting. Government indexes show prices falling in more than half of the country’s top 70 urban markets, reported the *Times*. Residential land sales in China’s 20 largest cities fell 92 per-

cent in the first week in May.

The resulting drop in profit-based housing construction has led to declining jobs in that industry. Developers are “abandoning the longstanding practice of floodlighting construction sites and working around the clock,” a *Salt Lake Tribune* article said. “They have cut back to one daytime shift.”

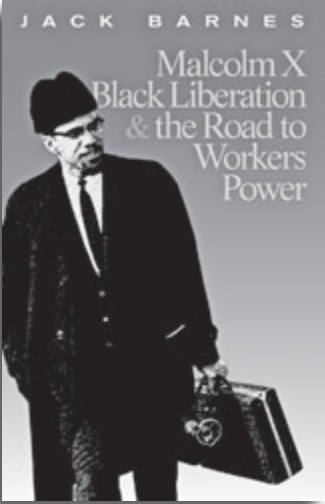
The capitalists are nervously watching developments in the country. The *New York Times* wrote a number of prominent and detailed articles expressing trepidation over factional fissures within the Chinese Communist Party bureaucracy brought into focus with the ouster of Bo Xilai, party chief in Chongqing province. Two of these appeared in the May 20 issue of the paper: “In China, Fear at the Top” and “Leader’s Fall in China Put Allies in Peril.”

A May 23 article in the *Washington Post* titled “China’s Economic Crisis” opens with “speculation about power struggles in China in the wake of the ouster of Bo Xilai.” The paper ran a May 18 piece by David Ignatius titled “China’s Wobbly Transition” in which he characterized the situation as the “greatest internal crisis since the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989.”

# 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.



<i>‘Militant’ Fighting Fund</i>			
April 14–June 4 (week 5)			
Country	Quota	Paid	%
UNITED STATES			
Seattle	\$8,800	\$7,731	88%
Des Moines	\$2,200	\$1,925	88%
Atlanta	\$8,600	\$7,117	83%
Lincoln	\$375	\$298	79%
Boston*	\$4,000	\$3,146	79%
Washington	\$7,600	\$5,735	75%
Twin Cities*	\$7,200	\$5,164	72%
Miami	\$3,200	\$2,083	65%
New York	\$21,000	\$13,614	65%
San Francisco	\$15,000	\$9,287	62%
Chicago	\$10,000	\$5,926	59%
Los Angeles	\$9,000	\$4,985	55%
Houston	\$4,000	\$2,077	52%
Philadelphia*	\$4,400	\$2,172	49%
Total U.S.	\$105,375	\$71,260	68%
CANADA	\$7,000	\$5,988	86%
NEW ZEALAND	\$4,500	\$2,700	60%
AUSTRALIA	\$1,500	\$1,190	79%
UNITED KINGDOM			
London	\$700	\$320	46%
Manchester	\$375	\$281	75%
Total UK	\$1,075	\$601	56%
FRANCE	\$320	\$245	77%
Total	\$119,770	\$81,984	68%
Should be	\$120,000	\$85,200	71%
* Raised goal			

www.pathfinderpress.com or see distributors on page 5

## ‘We are sticking strong,’ say Caterpillar strikers

JOLIET, Ill.—Members of International Association of Machinists Local 851 maintain around-the-clock picket lines in front of the Caterpillar plant here. The 780 workers walked off the job May 1 after rejecting a contract proposal by 94 percent.

Caterpillar wants to impose a six-year wage freeze, expand the use of “supplemental” workers to 20 percent of the workforce, double health care costs, and gut seniority rights, cost of living increases and pensions. The plant here produces hydraulic components for the company’s bulldozers, excavators and other earthmoving machinery.

“Caterpillar has to stay flexible, efficient and focused to compete and succeed,” said a May 15 letter by Carlos Revilla, Caterpillar’s operations manager, addressed to company’s employees.

On May 24 Caterpillar presented a modified proposal to the IAM during a meeting with a federal mediator. Members of Local 851 will discuss and vote on it May 30.

“We are sticking strong,” union steward Allen Aimone told the *Militant* on the picket line of about 30.

“Six months before the strike began Caterpillar brought in management from other plants and had us train them,” said Aimone. “The company didn’t think we’d strike. But 94 percent voted against the contract. Maybe 10 have crossed over the course of a month. Union electricians, carpenters, iron workers who do work in the plant are not crossing the line.”

“The only way we get raises is if we get COLA [cost of living adjustment],” said Jack Darin, who began working at the plant in 1972. “Now they want to take that away. We never get hourly raises. We get bonuses, but they don’t last.”

He said there were strikes in 1967-68 and 1986. “This is all for the young guys. If we don’t make a stand now nobody is going to have a living wage.”

Letters of solidarity and contributions can be sent to: IAM Local Lodge 851, 23157 S. Thomas Dillon Dr., Ste. B, Channahon, IL 60410.

—Alyson Kennedy

## School workers protest layoffs and privatization

PHILADELPHIA—School bus drivers, custodians and maintenance workers rallied on the steps of the school district headquarters May 23 to protest proposed layoffs and privatization.

Members of Service Employees International Union 32BJ and other union-

ists mobilized more than 1,800 for the noontime action. Every school worker in SEIU 32BJ Local 1201—2,700 members—has received an advanced notice for a possible Dec. 31 layoff.

Teamsters, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Laborers International Union and UNITE HERE workers joined SEIU 32BJ members. Several busloads of supporters came from New York City. The demonstration was part of coordinated actions by the union in several cities around Pennsylvania.

—Osborne Hart

## Actions at Athens airport protest massive pay cuts

ATHENS, Greece—Workers at 35 airlines at Athens international airport conducted two 24-hour strikes on May 23 and 25 against contract demands by the Federation of Foreign Airline Companies. These include a 42 percent cut in wages and benefits. The strikes were called by the Federation of Air Transportation Employees (OPAM).

On May 23, 200 participated in a protest rally at the main terminal chanting, “We want a contract.” Afterward, they blocked check-in counters operated by



Militant/Natasha Terlexis

Workers rally at Athens international airport May 25 as part of two one-day strike actions against demands by bosses for massive wage cuts as part of EU-imposed “austerity” policies.

subcontractors, delaying flights.

On May 25 police warned workers they would be arrested if they tried to delay flights. Strikers marched for about six hours in the main terminal.

At European Air Transport, which handles DHL cargo planes, strikers surrounded a plane, preventing management from getting Olympic Airlines employees to unload it.

The 42 percent cut demand is part

of implementing measures passed last February by the Greek government as a condition for receiving loans to stave off government bankruptcy.

The deal allows bosses to abolish labor contracts if new ones are not signed three months before their expiration. The OPAM contract ends June 12.

—Bobbis Misailides and Natasha Terlexis, OPAM members on strike.

# Machinists strike Lockheed in three states

Continued from front page

Base in California.

Two other unions representing some 500 workers at the Fort Worth plant—the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Office and Professional Employees International Union—voted May 18-19 to accept a concession contract similar to one the Machinists rejected April 22 by a margin of 94 percent.

The proposed contract would eliminate the defined benefit pension plan for new hires. It also included a health plan that workers say would require them to pay substantially more out of their own pocket.

The health care plan that the company wants to impose “has some additional cost-sharing provisions,” company representative Joe Stout told the *Militant* in a phone interview.

“For me a cost increase would be devastating,” said Gilbert Torres, chief shop steward at the Patuxent River Naval Air Base facility in Maryland. Torres has had back surgery with another scheduled later this year. He says his operation was completely covered, but under the proposed plan he would have to pay a \$2,000 deductible plus 13 percent of the cost.

Stout says the shift from a defined pension plan “addresses realities our industry is facing, with cuts to defense spending and an economic downturn.”

Stout claims that the company is operating at “normal or near-normal” production levels in spite of the strike.

But workers on the picket line at the Patuxent River facility said that the company is running about eight test flights of the F-35 warplane per week, down from four to five a day.

“Lockheed is trying to convince the public and the government that they are not having any problems due to the strike,” Joe Alviar, a business representative from the District 776, told the *Militant*. “If that’s the case, why are they trying to hire 400 replacement workers in Fort Worth next week? Why are they trying to move production to their facility in Marietta, Ga.?”

“When it’s hard times you see whose got your back. This strike is making us stronger. When we go back to work we can have unity,” said William Myers, a worker at the Patuxent River Naval Air Base facility who has worked for Lockheed Martin since 2008. “But if we let them take away the pensions from the new hires, that unity goes away.”

Send strike donations and support letters to District Lodge 776, 7711 Clifford St., Ft. Worth, TX 76108.

## 25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



June 12, 1987

As more U.S. warships head for the Persian Gulf war zone, hundreds more U.S. sailors are being deliberately placed in harm’s way. Their lives, like those of the 37 sailors who died when Iraqi missiles struck the USS *Stark* in the gulf May 17, are regarded as expendable in Washington’s deadly serious drive toward launching a military attack on Iran.

Millions of U.S. working people, who have no stake in war with Iran or any other country in the Middle East, are opposed to Washington’s provocative buildup in the region. But the billionaire families that rule this country, and the Republican and Democratic politicians who represent them in the White House and Congress, are agreed at this time that the stakes in the Persian Gulf are worth the risk of war.



June 11, 1962

A relatively small strike—involving 360 non-professional workers at the Beth-El Hospital in Brooklyn on the simple issue of union recognition for Local 1199 of the Drug and Hospital Workers Union—has developed into a bitter and significant struggle. It is throwing light on hypocrisy in high places and setting important precedents in the struggle to win better conditions for the city’s Negro and Puerto Rican workers.

Faced with a union-busting campaign by the hospital’s board of trustees—composed of wealthy businessmen and prominent liberal politicians—the local has appealed to other unions and to youth active in civil rights and student movements, to help man its picket lines.

The workers involved are maids, orderlies, porters, nurses’ aides, dietary and laundry workers who have no seniority or other job rights.



May 1, 1937

NEW YORK—A union agreement covering some 20,000 employees of the Viscose Co., largest producer of rayon yarn in the country, has been won by the Textile Workers Organizing Committee of the Committee for Industrial Organization in the biggest inroad yet made in this previously non-union industry.

The agreement provides for a general 10 percent increase in wages, adding more than \$3,000 a year to the pay envelopes of the employees. Further increases in the lower pay brackets may be recommended by a joint committee which is to investigate and report on the subject.

A week’s paid vacation for all workers after one year’s service and a 40-hour, five-day week are also included in the pact. The contract is to run for one year, with a renewal clause and provision for 60 days’ notice for proposed changes.



# Malcolm X on link between anticolonial, Black struggles

*Below is an excerpt from Malcolm X: The Last Speeches, one of Pathfinder's Books of the Month for June. The excerpt is from Malcolm's speech given in Rochester, N.Y., on Feb. 16, 1965, five days before his assassination. It focuses on how the rising Afro-American struggle against Jim Crow segregation was part of the broader world fight against colonial oppression and imperialist domination shaking the world. Copyright © 1989. Reprinted by permission of Pathfinder Press.*

## BOOKS OF THE MONTH

### BY MALCOLM X

My reason for being here is to discuss the Black revolution that is going on, that's taking place on this earth, the manner in which it's taking place on the African continent, and the impact that it's having in Black communities, not only here in America but in England and in France and in other of the former colonial powers today.

Many of you probably read last week I made an effort to go to Paris and was turned away. And Paris doesn't turn anybody away. You know anybody is supposed to be able to go to France, it's supposed to be a very liberal place. But France is having problems today that haven't been highly publicized. And England is also having problems that haven't been highly publicized, be-



Malcolm X speaking at Corn Hill Methodist Church in Rochester, N.Y., Feb. 16, 1965, five days before his assassination. He placed the fight for Black rights in the U.S. as part of worldwide rise of rebellion against imperialist oppression, a struggle of vast majority of humanity.

cause America's problems have been so highly publicized. But all of these three partners, or allies, have troubles in common today that the Black American, or Afro-American, isn't well enough up on.

And in order for you and me to know the nature of the struggle that you and I are involved in, we have to know not only the various ingredients involved at the local level and national level, but also the ingredients that are involved at the international level. And the problems of the Black man here in this country today have ceased to be a problem of just the American Negro or an American problem. It has become a problem that is so complex, and has so many implications in it, that you have to study it in its entire world, in the world context or in its international context, to really see it as it actually is. Otherwise you can't even follow the local issue, unless you know what part it plays in the entire international context. And when you look at it in that context, you see it in a different light, but you see it with more clarity. ...

Until 1959 the image of the African continent was created by the enemies of Africa. Africa was a land dominated by outside powers. A land dominated by Europeans. And as these Europe-

ans dominated the continent of Africa, it was they who created the image of Africa that was projected abroad. And they projected Africa and the people of Africa in a negative image, a hateful image. They made us think that Africa was a land of jungles, a land of animals, a land of cannibals and savages. It was a hateful image.

And because they were so successful in projecting this negative image of Africa, those of us here in the West of African ancestry, the Afro-American, we looked upon Africa as a hateful place. We looked upon the African as a hateful person. And if you referred to us as an African it was like putting us as a servant, or playing house, or talking about us in the way we didn't want to be talked.

Why? Because those who oppress know that you can't make a person hate the root without making them hate the tree. You can't hate your own and not end up hating yourself. And since we all originated in Africa, you can't make us hate Africa without making us hate ourselves. And they did this very skillfully.

And what was the result? They ended up with 22 million Black people here in America who hated everything about us that was African. We hated the Af-

rican characteristics, the African characteristics. We hated our hair. We hated our nose, the shape of our nose, and the shape of our lips, the color of our skin. Yes we did. And it was you who taught us to hate ourselves simply by shrewdly maneuvering us into hating the land of our forefathers and the people on that continent. ...

From '55 to '60 the flames of nationalism, independence on the African continent, became so bright and so furious, they were able to burn and sting anything that got in its path. And that same spirit didn't stay on the African continent. It somehow or other—it slipped into the Western Hemisphere and got into the heart and the mind and the soul of the Black man in the Western Hemisphere who supposedly had been separate from the African continent for almost 400 years.

But the same desire for freedom that moved the Black man on the African continent began to burn in the heart and the mind and the soul of the Black man here, in South America, Central America, and North America, showing us we were not separated. Though there was an ocean between us, we were still moved by the same heartbeat.

The spirit of nationalism on the African continent—It began to collapse; the powers, the colonial powers, they couldn't stay there. The British got in trouble in Kenya, Nigeria, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, and other areas of the continent. The French got in trouble in the entire French Equatorial North Africa, including Algeria. Became a trouble spot for France. The Congo wouldn't any longer permit the Belgians to stay there. The entire African continent became explosive from '54-'55 on up to 1959. By 1959 they couldn't stay there any longer.

It wasn't that they wanted to go. It wasn't that all of a sudden they had become benevolent. It wasn't that all of a sudden they had ceased wanting to exploit the Black man of his natural resources. But it was the spirit of independence that was burning in the heart and mind of the Black man. He no longer would allow himself to be colonized, oppressed, and exploited. He was willing to lay down his life and take the lives of those who tried to take his, which was a new spirit.

June

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

PATHFINDER READERS CLUB SPECIALS

25% DISCOUNT

**Malcolm X: The Last Speeches**  
*by Malcolm X*  
Speeches and interviews from the last two years of his life.  
\$17. **Special price: \$12.75**

**W.E.B. DuBois Speaks (1890-1919)**  
\$23. **Special price: \$17.25.**  
**2-volume set** (includes 1920-1963): **\$33**

**Fascism and Big Business**  
*by Daniel Guerin*  
Examines the development of fascism in Germany and Italy and its relationship with the ruling capitalist families there.  
\$24. **Special price: \$18**

**Cuba for Beginners**  
*by Rius (Eduardo del Rio)*  
\$14. **Special price: \$10.50**

**Cuba et la révolution américaine à venir**  
(Cuba and the Coming American Revolution)  
*by Jack Barnes*  
The Cuban Revolution of 1959 had a worldwide impact, including on workers and youth in the imperialist heartland.  
\$10. **Special price: \$7.50**

**America's Road to Socialism**  
*by James P. Cannon*  
\$15. **Special price: \$11.25**

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

ORDER ONLINE AT

WWW.PATHFINDERPRESS.COM

OFFER GOOD UNTIL JUNE 30

## 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: swplincn@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

# New Zealand meat workers' strike defeats union-busting Maori farmers' boycott threats aided struggle

BY PATRICK BROWN

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—"The most important thing was to get a collective contract and to get back in with the union intact," said Don Arnold, president of the Meat Workers Union at the AFFCO beef plant in Horotiu, in a May 28 phone interview. On May 24 union members at the plant voted 137 to 9 to accept a settlement of the hard-fought three-month contract fight against the company.

In meetings over the week ending May 28, strikers at all eight of AFFCO's North Island meat works voted for the contract by margins of more than 90 percent, Arnold said. The union organizes some 1,150 workers in the plants, which kill and process beef and sheep meat and by-products for local and export markets.

After standing strong on the picket line throughout the dispute, "workers are more committed to the union—that is a victory in itself," said Arnold, who works as a freezer hand in the plant.

The AFFCO workers went on strike in early May. Two months earlier, the company had imposed a selective lockout of hundreds of workers after the union refused to give the company a free hand to increase kill quotas and cut the workforce.

AFFCO also wanted to abolish seniority protections for workers being rehired after seasonal layoffs. "We kept seniority" in the agreement, said Arnold, although "the company got stuff too, like more flexibility around tallies" and a probation period for new hires. The two-year contract proposal includes a roughly 2 percent annual wage increase.

"They wanted to wipe out the union," Arnold said.

By the time of the strike vote, the picket line at Horotiu had become a 24-hour operation. "Most of the union members—about 80 percent—hung tough, but we did lose some," said Arnold.

At the time of the settlement, he said, union and nonunion workers each numbered about 200 in the plant. As workers returned following

the strike, the company announced it would place the afternoon shift on seasonal layoff.

AFFCO strikers won solidarity from other workers, including Maritime Union members in Auckland. They had struck the Auckland port Feb. 24 for five weeks to stave off the port company's contract demands, which included "flexible" new work schedules for shifts lasting anywhere from three to 12 hours.

As the AFFCO workers continued to fight, a number of representatives of Maori *iwi* (tribal) authorities voiced concern about the hardships facing strikers who were Maori. Urging a settlement, some threatened to stop supplying AFFCO works with livestock from Maori-owned farms.

Maori comprise some 78 percent



Militant/Pat Starkey

Meat Workers Union members employed by AFFCO in Horotiu, New Zealand, sing pro-union song at April 15 solidarity picnic. Workers struck company in May in contract fight.

of AFFCO's workforce, according to Tukoroirangi Morgan, an *iwi* negotiator. Arnold said the *iwis*' intervention was decisive.

"We have both sought to learn from this dispute and ensure that moving forward we build on the opportunity

for a new type of relationship between the company, the union and its members," said Andrew Talley, whose family owns AFFCO, in a joint media statement from company and union.

"We will see what comes of that," Arnold told the *Militant*.

## Myanmar workers fight for wages, electrification



Factory workers rally May 9 in Yangon, Myanmar, for wage raises.

Continued from front page

current monthly income ranges from \$5.35 to \$12. The workers demand an increase to \$48.

The steelworkers joined 7,000 other workers on strike at nine factories in Yangon's Hlaing Tharyar special economic zone, workers' legal representative U Htay told *Irrawaddy*, a Myanmar

exile paper published in Thailand. Among them are hundreds from three garment shops and some 2,000 from a wig factory.

Htay told the paper May 29 that workers at seven of the factories resumed work during the previous weekend "because they cannot survive any longer." But *Irrawaddy* reports that strikes have spread to other factories.

There have been more than 20 strikes this year and more are expected, Ye Nang Win, from the Committee for Establishing Independent Labour Unions, told Agence France-Presse in Yangon May 20.

Recent demonstrations have also taken place against electricity blackouts. They started May 20 in Mandalay, Myanmar's second largest city, and then spread around the country. People head out after dark holding candles.

According to the World Bank, less than 20 percent of the households in Myanmar have electricity. And where it is provided, it's only for three to four hours a day.

Six people were arrested when protesters demanding electricity clashed with riot police in the central city of Prome May 24. Police attempted to file charges, but they were rejected by a judge as baseless.

"If they want us to stop protesting, they will have to give 24-hour electricity and more human rights," K Lwin, a 20-year-old student, told Reuters May 25.

The government announced May 23 on state television "emergency measures" to boost electricity supplies.

Washington's decades-long inimical relations with the Myanmar government have thawed considerably in recent years as U.S. imperialism has sought and responded to opportunities to counter China's rising power in the region, as well as to isolate North Korea.

Hillary Clinton's visit to Myanmar in December was the first by a U.S. secretary of state since 1955. After meeting with President Thein Sein, she announced that improved relations with the U.S. were conditional on the government severing "illicit ties" with North Korea.

Following Clinton's visit, the Myanmar government freed political prisoners, signed truces with opposition groups and organized by-elections for 45 seats in parliament.

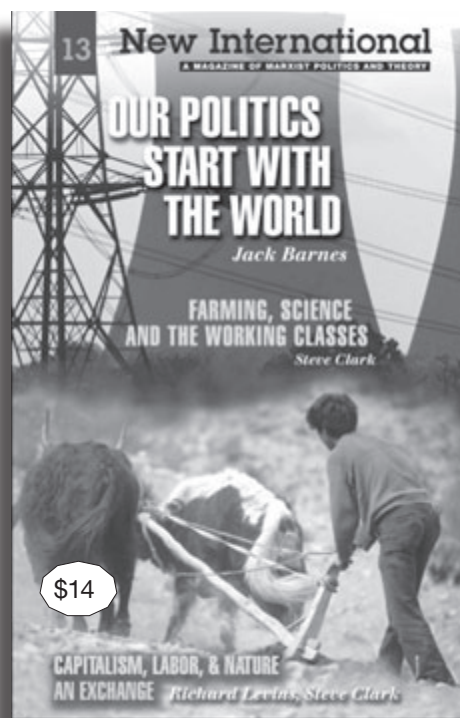
Washington's favored opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, was released after 15 years of house arrest last year. Her party, the National League for Democracy, won 43 of the 45 contested seats April 1.

Three days later the Barack Obama administration announced Washington would take significant steps to open relations with Myanmar and ease the sanctions that had been in place since 1988. On May 17 Washington named Derek Mitchell as its first ambassador to the country since 1990.

The European Union decided April 23 to suspend most of its sanctions as a reward for the "recent wave of political reforms."

During a visit by South Korean President Lee Myung-bak in May, Sein pledged that Myanmar will no longer buy weapons from North Korea.

During the years of sanctions, China was Myanmar's main trade partner. Beijing's influence in the country remains very strong, but U.S. imperialism is gaining a sturdy foothold.



www.pathfinderpress.com

### New International

A MAGAZINE OF MARXIST POLITICS AND THEORY  
Issue 13 includes:

**Our Politics Start with the World**  
by Jack Barnes

Vanguard workers in imperialist countries support extension of electrification to billions around the world forced to live and toil without it.

Dangers of nuclear power is not an argument against its potential benefits in advancing electrification of the world, but an argument for organizing the toilers to take power from the hands of capitalist exploiters.

**Farming, Science, and the Working Classes**  
by Steve Clark

**Capitalism, Labor, and the Transformation of Nature: An Exchange**  
by Richard Levins and Steve Clark

# Leaders of Indonesian women's center speak in New Zealand

'In 'Woman's Evolution' we found theoretical foundation to explain history of women's exploitation worldwide'

BY FELICITY COGGAN

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—"We found in *Woman's Evolution* a theoretical foundation to explain the history of women's exploitation around the world," said Hegel Terome, of Kalyanamitra, a women's rights center in Indonesia, addressing a seminar at the University of Auckland May 3.

*Woman's Evolution: From Matriarchal Clan to Patriarchal Family* by Evelyn Reed was published in Indonesian last year by Kalyanamitra, in a boxed set together with an edition of the Marxist classic *The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State* by Frederick Engels, that contains an introduction by Evelyn Reed. Terome edited the Indonesian editions of both.

Terome, the organizational deputy of Kalyanamitra, and Executive Director Rena Herdiyani were invited to New Zealand by the Indonesia Human Rights Committee and Pathfinder Books. Touring with them was Mary-Alice Waters, president of Pathfinder Press and a leader of the Socialist Workers Party in the United States. Waters, who has written and edited many books on the fight for women's equality, wrote the preface for Kalyanamitra's edition of *Woman's Evolution*.

The three had just concluded a number of speaking engagements in Sydney, Australia (see issue 20 of the *Militant*).

The visitors began their tour May 2 with a *powhiri* (traditional welcome) by some 40 members of the Maori Students' Association at their University of Auckland *marae* (meeting place), followed by a rousing performance of *kapa haka* (song and dance).

The university seminar was held the next day. Sponsored by the New Zealand Asia Institute, it was titled "Changes Facing Women Today in Indonesia and Iran: why previously banned books are now being published." Associate professor Natasha Hamilton-Hart, director of the university's Southeast Asia Studies Centre, chaired the meeting, which drew some 45 people.

When Kalyanamitra was established in 1985, under the Suharto dictatorship, Herdiyani said, "there was no freedom of association; Kalyanamitra operated underground. Women were controlled by state policies, stereotyped in domestic roles, and subject to government-enforced family planning measures to limit population growth."

Suharto had come to power in 1965

in a bloody imperialist-backed coup in which hundreds of thousands of workers, Communist Party supporters and others were slaughtered. Kalyanamitra was involved in the movement that eventually forced him to resign in 1998.

Among Kalyanamitra's most important campaigns has been the representation and defense of Chinese women raped during riots that took place in the final months of the dictatorship.

Kalyanamitra has led the campaign denouncing violence against women for many years. On International Women's Day this year, Herdiyani said, it helped organize a protest against Jakarta Governor Fauzi Bowo, who last year blamed women wearing miniskirts for a rash of rapes that occurred in public transport vans.

Mary-Alice Waters said that since it was first published nearly 40 years ago, *Woman's Evolution* has been published in 10 languages and many countries, including Iran.

In 2004 a law on domestic violence was passed. "They make some beautiful laws on paper," Terome said. "Implementation, however, is a different matter." He noted that 50 percent of women in Indonesia are "economically active." All but 30 percent work in agriculture.

Women played a leading part in the 1979 revolution that brought down the imperialist-backed Shah of Iran, Waters said. Before the revolution, many Iranian women living in exile in the United States and active in the fight against the dictatorship had been part of the rise of the women's liberation movement there. They began publishing in Farsi works on the fight for women's rights, such as Evelyn Reed's *Problems of Women's Liberation*, and continued this work on their return to Iran after 1979.

## 'These books are needed today'

"These books are being published in countries like Indonesia and Iran today because they are needed," Waters said. "The problems women face as a sex with second-class status are shared by all of us and that brings us together." She noted that the scientific explanation



Militant/Baskaran Appu; Inset, Patrick Brown

**Above,** Rena Herdiyani, right, executive director of Indonesian women's rights center Kalyanamitra, speaking at seminar at Auckland University of Technology Manukau campus in New Zealand May 4. Standing beside her is meeting chair Sari Andajani. **Inset,** Herdiyani and Hegel Terome from Kalyanamitra (standing in front, first and second from right) with locked-out meat workers at picket line in Horotiu, south of Auckland, that same day. Third from left in front row is Mary-Alice Waters, a leader of Socialist Workers Party in U.S.



provided in *Woman's Evolution* of the origins of women's oppression means "if this oppression had a beginning, it can also be ended. That's what the book is about."

Associate professor Sharyn Graham Davies, from the School of Social Sciences at Auckland University of Technology, described the rich history of publishing in Indonesia over many centuries. Under Suharto, however, any writing critical of the regime was banned, she said. Today, space has opened for publication of books, including on controversial subjects such as homosexuality.

In the discussion, Hamilton-Hart noted the recent emergence of many books dealing with the 1965-66 period. So far "few deal with the annihilation of the left, but more are coming," she said.

The next day, the visitors spoke to more than 40 people at a seminar hosted by Sari Andajani, a professor of public health at Auckland University of Technology's Manukau campus, titled "Women's Rights: How far have we come?" Herdiyani, Terome and Waters were joined on the panel by Denise Wilson of AUT's Taupua Waiora Centre for Maori Health Research, who spoke about domestic violence in New Zealand.

"There is still a lot of discrimination and violence against women" in Indonesia, said Herdiyani, but, "the openings are much better now for women to speak up." She outlined some of the campaigns Kalyanamitra takes up, including fighting to improve wages and working conditions for domestic workers; opposing Indonesia's marriage laws, which allow child marriage and polygamy; and access to safe abortion.

In the lively discussion, Herdiyani said that contraception is only available for married couples, abortion is legal only in cases of rape or medical emergency, and sex education is not taught in schools. Divorce is available, she noted.

After discussing the rise of the women's liberation movement in the United States in the 1960s and early '70s, Waters explained that "today women comprise a greater percentage of the workforce than ever before." As battles against the

effects of the deepening crisis of capitalism accelerate, she said, "women will play a more weighty leadership role in those struggles than ever before in history."

## Joins meat workers picket line

On May 4, the visitors joined members of the Meat Workers Union on their picket line outside the Horotiu plant south of Auckland. They are fighting a

**Continued on page 8**

## Woman's Evolution

From Matriarchal Clan to Patriarchal Family  
by Evelyn Reed



An examination of prehistory from cannibalism to culture that uncovers the world of the ancient matriarchy. Reed reveals women's leading and still largely unknown contributions to the development of civilization, and offers fresh insights on the struggle against women's oppression and for the liberation of humanity. \$32

## Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State

by Frederick Engels

How the emergence of class-divided society gave rise to repressive state bodies and family structures that protect the property of the ruling layers and enable them to pass along wealth and privilege. Engels discusses the consequences for working people of these class institutions—from their original forms to their modern versions. \$18



**Available in Indonesian** (see below): Boxed set of *Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State* (left) and *Woman's Evolution*. \$35



**In Farsi:** Three volumes of *Woman's Evolution*—"The Matriarchy" and "The Fraternity" \$16 each. "The Patriarchy" \$15

**Pathfinderpress.com**



Women protest in Jakarta, Indonesia, September 2011 against comments by Governor Fauzi Bowo blaming victims for a spate of rapes in public vans because they wore miniskirts.

# Canadian Pacific strike paralyzes shipping

**Continued from front page**  
for 20 minutes at a time. “We have unity on the line,” Eric Paquette, chair of Teamsters Division 268, told the *Militant*. “The Rail Traffic Controllers are out and with us. And the CP workers who are being laid off are also with us because they know they will be next. We are not going to accept cuts to our pensions or worse job conditions.”

Canadian Pacific has a total workforce of 8,200. On the first day of the Teamsters’ walkout the company laid off 2,000 other workers and has threatened to cut 1,400 more. CP also has 18,000 retirees on its pension rolls.

A leaflet distributed by the strikers to explain the walkout says that “CP wants to reduce future pension income for active employees; the amounts vary by income, but are significant and are up to 40%.” The leaflet also says bosses want to reduce retirement health care benefits and eliminate them altogether at age 65—“a reduction of over \$20,000 per member.”

Work safety is an issue in the contract fight. CP



Strikers picket Canadian Pacific Lachine intermodal yard near Montreal May 24. Militant/John Steele

is demanding work rule concessions that include introducing 12-hour shifts without rest.

A few hours before the workers put up picket lines, Federal Labor Minister Lisa Raitt threatened to bring in strikebreaking legislation on the grounds that the Canadian economy would lose \$540 million a week if the strike was allowed to continue. Last fall Ottawa used strikebreaking laws to order striking postal and Air Canada workers back to work.

## N. Chicago police cover-up unravels

**BY JOHN HAWKINS**

**NORTH CHICAGO, Ill.**—For six months Gloria Carr and her supporters have fought to bring to trial the six North Chicago cops who beat and repeatedly used Tasers on her son Darrin Hanna, 45, last November, resulting in his death a week later.

According to the cop version of what took place Nov. 6, they were responding to a report of a domestic dispute when they arrived at the building where Hanna rented an apartment. Cops claim Hanna’s girlfriend, Dionne Wilcox, ran from the building naked and wet, crying that Hanna had tried to drown her. When they entered the apartment, cops say, Hanna lunged at them fists clenched yelling, “Shoot me, shoot me.”

Hanna’s relatives blew holes in the cops’ story when they played a police audio recording at the April 9 North Chicago City Council meeting, indicating Hanna was not resisting but pleading for his life.

“Put me down, please. I’m about to die,” Hanna is heard on the tape. “I was down. They’re killing me!”

“The young woman who was Darrin Hanna’s girlfriend, and who gave birth to his daughter on Jan. 31, said Hanna did not try to drown her,” the *Lake County News-Sun* reported May 2, in another blow to the cop frame-up.

In the interview Wilcox, 21, of Waukegan said she and Hanna did have an argument that night.

“Wilcox said she took a bath to calm down and that she and Hanna were sitting on the end of the bed in the dark when police broke through the apartment door with their guns drawn,” reported the *News-Sun*.

“Hanna did not yell ‘Shoot me, shoot me,’ as officers reported, Wilcox said, but stood up and walked toward the door.” Wilcox ran from the apartment, she

told the paper, out of fear of being shot. “I heard the guns click—I didn’t want my baby to get shot”

As the cops’ story unravels, residents of North Chicago and surrounding communities, led by Carr and Hanna’s cousin Ralph Peterson, continue to speak out at City Council meetings demanding prosecution of the cops responsible, exposing in the process other instances of cop brutality.

Since 2005 a number of excessive force complaints have been filed against the North Chicago cops, including 10 resulting in federal lawsuits, 12 pending cases and four related deaths.

Lake County State’s Attorney Mike Waller decided the police used “reasonable force” in arresting Hanna. But an internal investigation commissioned by the city resulted in the firing of cop Brandon Yost, who had already applied for a disability pension, and a 30-day suspension of another, Arthur Strong.

The Hanna family, their supporters and Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of Rainbow/Push Coalition, attended the May 7 City Council meeting, demanding further action against the cops. Following a heated exchange, the council voted to call upon Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and the Justice Department to carry out their own criminal investigations into Hanna’s killing.

“Firing Yost and giving Strong 30 days is not enough,” Peterson told the *Militant*. “Strong lied throughout the entire investigation. This is far from over.”

On April 20 the U.S. Department of Justice told the *Chicago Tribune* that it has begun a preliminary inquiry into the case. Hanna’s family filed a civil wrongful death suit in federal court Dec. 13.

## Kalyanamitra leaders speak in New Zealand

**Continued from page 7**

selective lockout by the company, which is demanding a free hand to set work speed and staffing levels.

Following a hearty lunch, served by the locked-out workers to all those walking the picket lines, Waters and Herdiyani expressed their solidarity with the workers. “In Indonesia, we are facing the same problems—workers are being attacked by the bosses,” Herdiyani said. “We hope you continue to fight until victory.”

Waters told the meat workers their resistance was not for themselves alone. She said the struggle is being closely followed by workers reading the *Militant* in the United States who are engaged in similar battles against lockouts and it gives them great encouragement.

Herdiyani and Terome also met with representatives of Shakti, which assists migrant women facing

domestic violence and other problems; visited the Auckland Women’s Centre; attended a government-organized seminar on race relations; and were hosted at a lunchtime discussion by members of the Indonesia Human Rights Committee.

Herdiyani was interviewed on the TV3 breakfast news program *Firstline*, and both speakers were interviewed by Radio BFM at Auckland University.

The tour drew students, academics, Indonesian migrants, solidarity activists and others. Raukura, a Maori woman student at Auckland University, who participated in the opening *powhiri* for the visitors, attended the seminar the next day. “I wanted to come and learn,” she said. “While there are things to be fought for in other countries, we should all be aware of them.”

For more information on Kalyanamitra, visit [www.kalyanamitra.or.id](http://www.kalyanamitra.or.id).

## Catholic institutions sue to impose religious criteria on workers’ health care coverage

**BY JOHN STUDER**

Forty-three Roman Catholic dioceses, schools, hospitals and other institutions filed lawsuits May 21 in 12 federal courts challenging the Barack Obama administration’s decision in January that Church-owned businesses cannot exclude contraception from workers’ health insurance. At issue is whether bosses’ ideology should trump the basic civil rights and medical needs of workers.

Among those joining the lawsuits are Notre Dame University, Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and the Archdioceses of New York, Washington, and St. Louis, which own and run local parochial school systems and hospitals.

Numerous prominent dioceses and other Catholic businesses did not sign on, including the Boston and Baltimore archdioceses.

Fifty-eight percent of Catholics believe that religiously affiliated hospitals and schools should have to provide contraception, 82 percent support birth control, and 98 percent of sexually active Catholic women have used birth control, according to a recent poll by the Public Religion Research Institute.

The administration’s guidelines exempt churches and other religious institutions if “their purpose is to spread their religious beliefs” and if they “primarily employ and serve people with the same religious values,” Reuters reported. Businesses run by religious institutions, however, such as hospitals and schools, are not exempt. This is the focus of the suits.

“The lawsuit is about an unprecedented attack by the federal government on one of America’s most cherished freedoms: the freedom to practice one’s religion without government interference,” Bishop Thomas Paprocki from Springfield, Ill., said in a statement by the diocese there, which is among those joining the lawsuits.

“The lawsuits make it seem like taking a job is the same as joining a church,” Jennifer Dalven, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney, told Reuters. “But organizations that participate in the public sphere are supposed to abide by public rules.”

The public character of parochial schools is accentuated by the fact that more than 95 percent of teachers in these schools today are lay teachers.

The communist movement from its inception has championed the inviolable right of individuals to worship as they choose free from any interference from the government. The question is key to forging working-class unity across religions against a common exploiter. Those who argue the Catholic Church hierarchy should be able to impose its beliefs on its employees in the name of “freedom of religion” turn the entire question on its head.

Freedom of worship was won as a result of revolutionary struggles against feudal absolutism. It’s bedrock was and remains the separation of religious institutions from the government. Workers’ health care, including contraception, should not be up to the ideological whims of a boss, whether it is Ford Motor Co. or Notre Dame University.

### **America’s Revolutionary Heritage** by George Novack



A historical materialist analysis of key chapters in U.S. history, from the genocide against Native Americans to the American Revolution, the Civil War, the rise of industrial capitalism, and the first wave of the fight for women’s rights.

[www.pathfinderpress.com](http://www.pathfinderpress.com)

# Communists defend freedom of worship, not 'freedom' of hierarchy and their businesses to attack workers and our rights

## Yesterday . . .

### 1949 strikebreaking by N.Y. archbishop

In January 1949, 240 workers at Calvary Cemetery in New York City went on strike. In place of a six-day week, they demanded a 40-hour workweek and Saturday overtime pay—roughly the norm for industrial workers in New York at that time.

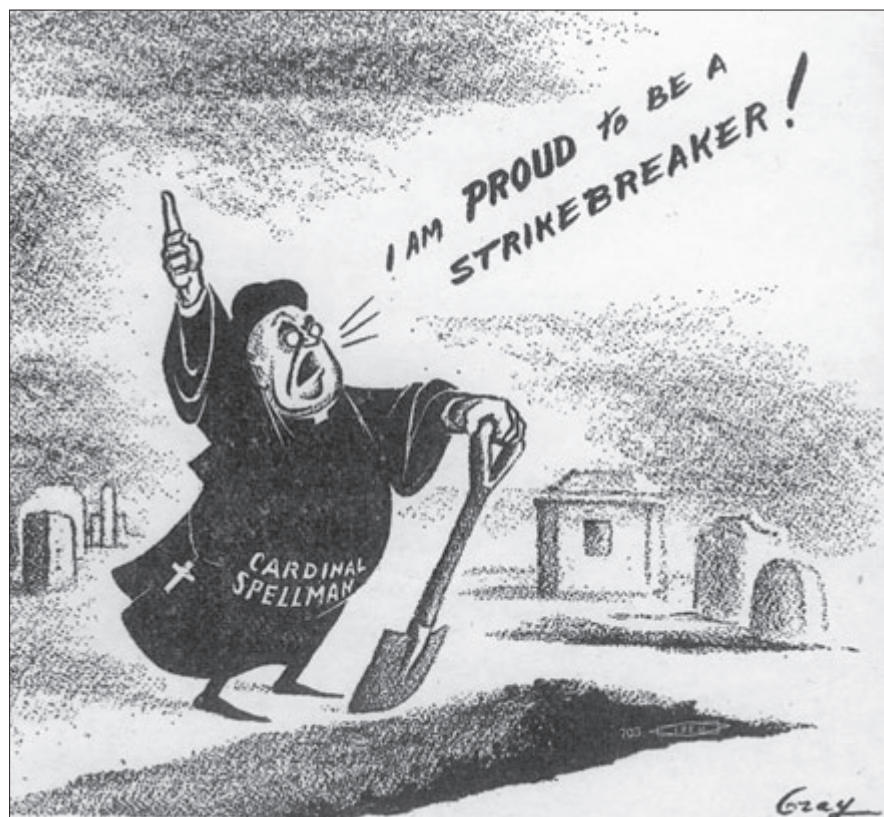
New York's Cardinal Spellman said the workers, nearly all of them Catholic, should see their job "as a religious service, not just an industry." He told them to "mend their evil ways."

When such "moral" appeals failed, Spellman turned to old-fashioned strikebreaking. He personally



supervised "volunteers" from St. Joseph's Seminary—eventually involving all 200 students—to dig graves. "I am proud and happy to be a strikebreaker," he declared. After eight weeks, the strikers were compelled to return to work with only a small wage increase.

The *Militant* championed the cemetery workers' fight. "Since the Roman Catholic Church is the richest tax-exempt institution in the country, it cannot plead 'poverty,'" the paper pointed out. "The traffic in burials is one of its most lucrative enterprises."



## . . . and today

### THE MILITANT

March 12, 2012

BY NAOMI CRAINE

The big-business press has covered the controversy over whether Catholic-run institutions can deny employees health insurance coverage for birth control. The question has largely been presented in the framework of bourgeois politics and the debate among

#### COMMENTARY

two capitalist parties, the Democrats and Republicans. But the working class has a stake in several issues posed. On Jan. 20 the Department of Health and Human Services announced that churches will be exempt from providing insurance for contraceptives to affiliated businesses, such as Catholic hospitals and universities, must provide coverage beginning in August 2013.

The Affordable Health Care for America Act of 2010 lays the ground

who are not insured through their insurance companies. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops denounced the new requirement that religiously affiliated businesses cover birth control in their health care plans as an attack on "religious freedom," because the church preaches against contraception.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops denounced the new requirement that religiously affiliated businesses cover birth control in their health care plans as an attack on "religious freedom," because the church preaches against contraception. All

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops denounced the new requirement that religiously affiliated businesses cover birth control in their health care plans as an attack on "religious freedom," because the church preaches against contraception. All

Obama announcing that

The Conference of Bishops called Obama's compromise "unacceptable," and is pressing for legislation to exempt any employer from covering any

The working class should always defend freedom of worship—the right of every individual to practice religion or nonreligion free from government interference, hindrance, or "support."

That's different than citing "freedom of religion" to justify imposing the positions of the church hierarchy on millions of people. As of 2003 there were more than 600 hospitals affiliated with the Catholic Church in the U.S., 12 percent of the total. In some rural areas they are the only health care provider. These facilities represent huge social wealth, the product of labor of working people. The services they provide should not be limited to those that meet clerical approval.

#### About this page

Reproduced here is one of more than a dozen displays presented during a public meeting in New York March 10 titled "After Labor Resistance and Solidarity: What's the Revolutionary Political Road Forward for the Working Class?" Because these displays generated a lot of interest, the *Militant* has decided to reproduce a few in the paper. In the May 12 issue the *Militant* printed part of a display titled "The Politics of the 99% vs. the Class Struggle Road Forward."