



PHILADELPHIA: POLICE HOLOCAUST!

By Monica Moorehead

MAY 15—The smoke has now cleared within the devastated Black community of West Philadelphia, terrorized by the police for the past two days. But the shock and anger remain.

Ten charred bodies, including at least two children, have been discovered so far in the carnage and destruction reminiscent of a war zone.

Clarence Mosley, the city's Black Assistant Managing Director, remarked while investigating the area

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'This is no different than South Africa'

By Berta Joubert

PHILADELPHIA, May 14—They're calling it the "West Philadelphia Holocaust."

At dawn yesterday morning police and fire trucks began arriving. By 7:30 a.m. the police had already fired 7,000-10,000 rounds of ammunition, together with tear gas. Helicopters began circling the MOVE house. Snorkel guns shot 1,000 gallons of water at the building for most of the day. Then the cops dropped the bomb which burned down the neighborhood.

The target of this massive police assault, MOVE, is a "back-to-nature" organization made up of Black people.

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Sam Marcy on: An international setback for Reaganism —p. 9

Boston's Asian community fights police brutality

By Phebe Eckfeldt
BOSTON, May 10—A recent incident of police brutality has brought Boston's Asian community out fighting.

On May 1, Long Kuang Huang, a 56-year-old man recently arrived from China, was attacked by a police detective in the Asian community who punched Huang several times in the nose and face. Huang has been hospitalized for almost a week with pain and dizziness.

Police claim that Huang was soliciting a prostitute but the woman, calling the detective by name, yelled to him that "he was the wrong guy." Huang does not speak English and at least ten witnesses have stated the attack was unprovoked and Huang never resisted arrest as police claim.

Three-hundred people from the Asian community met last night to

plan their response. Mel King, a Black community activist and former mayoral candidate, spoke at the meeting. The community's demands include that the cop be suspended without pay pending investigation, that a police review board be set up, that charges be dropped against Huang, that the city compensate him for damages suffered and loss of pay, and that the police hire a bilingual staff.

"We're not going to pack our bags and go back to the old country. We've been here 150 years and we've contributed to the development of this country. We're going to stay and we're going to fight for justice for Mr. Huang. We're going to fight for justice for our community," said Peter Kiang of Asians for Justice, which sponsored last night's meeting.

Homicide statistics reveal startling racism

By Monica Moorehead
MAY 13—You may have run across a seemingly obscure article focusing on a recent study done by the Bureau of Justice statistics on homicide rates in the U.S. The article is only obscure, however, until you look closely at the findings.

A study based on an analysis of reports submitted by coroners and medical examiners to the National Center for Crime Statistics in 1982 disclosed that Americans generally have one out of 133 chances of being a homicide victim in the U.S. over their lifetime. Broken down further, Black women have one in 104 chances, white women one in 369 chances and white men, one in 131 chances.

However, the most astounding statistic of all is that Black men have one in 21 chances of being murdered!

Now to the Bureau of Justice statistics, this finding may be merely an isolated statistic. But it is a startling reflection of life for oppressed people in a racist, capitalist society. It raises the question of who are the real criminals and who are the victims.

It is precisely the capitalist system itself, a system based on exploitation, greed and bigotry that is the real criminal. This exploitation and repres-

sion is expressed in the form of the capitalist state which includes the police, the prisons and the courts that mete out their daily doses of "law and order" to millions of poor and oppressed people.

When you consider that Black youth, especially males, suffer an incredible 60% unemployment rate along with forms of racist oppression, then this statistic should be easier to understand. Why didn't this arm of the Justice Department make the same connection? The study went on to say that 6 million people, roughly 3% of those over 12 years, would become the victims of robbery, rape or some other assault.

So what is the solution to these horrifying homicidal rates in the U.S. as well as deteriorating living conditions especially for Black and other oppressed people? Does the answer lie in building more prisons or more police repression, more devastating unemployment or more cutbacks in education? No, the answer lies in eradicating the present system that perpetuates and relies on violence, repression and suffering and replacing it with a system based on equality, cooperation and the equal sharing of the wealth produced by society.



Asian people in the U.S. have been victims of racism and police brutality.

Community rallies behind gay foster parents

By Marshall Yates
BOSTON, May 8—In a blatant example of anti-gay bigotry, the Department of Social Services (DSS) took away two foster children of a gay couple here, despite the fact that it had already approved the couple as foster parents.

On Friday, the two men, Donald Babets and David Jean, filed a challenge to the DSS's abrupt decision to remove the children, two boys aged 22 months and three-and-a-half years old. The DSS had placed the two boys in the care of the gay couple about two weeks ago.

On Wednesday, the Boston Globe reported on so-called neighborhood "concern" over the placement, and the children were immediately removed to another foster home.

In response, a protest meeting took place that night at the Church of the United Community. Rev. Graylan Ellis-Hagler, a supporter of the couple, chaired the meeting, which drew about 50 people from the Highland Park community. City Counselor David Scondras, Royal Bollings, Jr., and other activists also attended.

It was disclosed at the meeting that the whole incident was the handiwork of one Ben Haith, a self-proclaimed community leader. It was Haith who leaked the story to the Boston Globe and other media along with the address and phone number of the couple. Then, in a case of extreme irresponsibility and bigotry, the big business media proceeded to use the incident to whip up anti-gay bigotry, blowing this event out of proportion.

The bigots conveniently forgot to

mention that the couple had submitted to a rigorous, detailed year-long review by the DSS before being named foster parents. Throughout that process the sexual preference of the gay men was known by both DSS social workers and their superiors. Also, the natural mother of the boys had "expressly approved" the placement with the openly gay couple.

When reached by the Boston Globe on Friday, Babets and Jean issued this statement: "We take exception to any suggestion by the Department that there was any evidence of harm to the boys as a result of the media attention or that there was community opposition to the placement of the children with us."

In the community, friends and neighbors in fact expressed support for the couple.

John W. Roberts, director of the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, threw the weight of his organization behind the couple: "The ability to be responsible, caring parents has no relationship to sexual preference. It is outrageous that DSS, after making the right decision to screen the gay men as they would anyone else, caved in to the homophobic reaction after the placement was made public."

Other supporters include Rev. Dr. Eugene Pickett, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in North America, Lesbian and Gay Political Task Force, the Lesbian and Gay Focus of the All-Peoples Congress, Rev. Betty Hagler and many others, both gay and straight.

In This Issue...

MARYLAND BANKS

The lines of working people trying to get their money back from Old Court Savings and Loan in Baltimore after the bank went belly up belie government propaganda about the health of the economy. (Page 3.)

'KIKO' MARTINEZ

His law office the rear seat of a dilapidated car, "Kiko" Martinez traversed the Southwest representing Chicanos, Indians and migrant farmers until the young lawyer himself became the object of criminal prosecution. But last week the government's case against Martinez fell apart for the third time. (Page 11.)

MURDERED UNIONIST

U.S. trade union leaders have denounced the killing of Andries Raditsela of the Chemical Workers Union by racist South African police, saying that "it fits a pattern

that has become all too familiar." Thirty thousand Africans attended Raditsela's funeral. (Page 5.)

FIGHT BACK

Building an independent mass movement to organize future strategy for intensifying and broadening the struggle against Reaganism will bring organizers and activists from all across the country together in Baltimore's Civic Center on June 8 and 9. (Page 12.)

AFGHAN WOMEN

"Before the revolution, women were without rights, even in their own homes with their brothers and fathers. A table was more respected than a woman," says Masouda, a young Afghani medical student in Havana. She explains how she became a revolutionary in this Workers World interview. (Page 6.)

WEST GERMAN ELECTIONS

The setback for Reagan-clone

Helmut Kohl in the May 13 elections was a massive and significant repudiation by West German workers of the chancellor's rabid anti-Soviet policies and the attempt by U.S. and German monopoly capital to refurbish ultra-rightist and neofascist ideology. It also deflates imperialist propaganda which attempts to obscure the existence of class antagonisms in the FRG. (Analysis by Sam Marcy, p. 9.)

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Vol. 27, No. 21/May 23, 1985
Closing news date: May 15, 1985

Editor: Deirdre Griswold; Technical Editor: Lallan Stein; Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, Joyce Chediak, Robert Dobrow, Sharon Shelton, Gary Wilson; Contributing Editors: Bill Del Vecchio, Gin T. Loy, Monica Moorehead, Carmen Roundtree, Andy Stapp, Jaime Veve; Prison Page: Diane Feinberg; Technical Staff: Sharon Ayling, Janet Betries, Mark Doran, Neville Edwards, Ken Franson, Marsha Goldberg, Pam Kirkland, Dee Knight, Lyn Neeley, Rafael Ramos, Steve Schultz; Darkroom Staff: G. Dunkel, Mark Ellis, Fabian, Susan Rotgard; Cartoonists: Bill Haislip, Tom Shannon.

Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) published by World View Publishers, 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Editorial office (212) 206-8222. Business office: (212) 255-0352. Published weekly except first week in Sept.

Subscriptions: One year: \$10.00; 6 months: \$6.00. Address requests for bundles to World View Pub.

Second Class Postage Paid at N.Y., N.Y.

Demand government insure Maryland depositors

In wake of savings and loan collapse

By Jerry Rosen

BALTIMORE, May 13—Today the Old Court Savings and Loan Bank collapsed. Its failure explodes the myth of the economic recovery in this, the so-called "renaissance" city.

Since last Thursday, depositors lined up for hours and even slept outside the bank trying to withdraw their money. The run on Old Court was triggered by the removal of Jeffrey Levitt, a notorious slum landlord, as managing officer.

Today the state of Maryland ordered the Maryland Savings Share Insurance Corporation (MSSIC) to operate as conservator over Old Court. The MSSIC immediately ordered a \$1,000 limit per month on withdrawals per account.

Despite this action, the lines continue at Old Court. The reaction of the working people who bank there to the state's action was one of disgust.

Reggie Flowers, a painting contractor, told Workers World, "What do we do if there is an emergency? We still can't get our money out." Patricia Pillson of Baltimore described how her husband, a worker at UPI, had gone to school to become a tractor-trailer driver. They have \$20,000 in certificates which are due next month which they were planning to use to buy a rig. Old Court's collapse means their dreams and years of saving go up in smoke.

The failure of Old Court jeopardizes the MSSIC, the insurer for many of Maryland's savings and loans. Its fund now stands at below \$200 million. Lines are beginning at other savings and loans in the Baltimore area.

Some 10% to 15% of Old Court's \$850 million in assets are tied up in real estate investments. It is the failure of these investments that led to Old Court's downfall. This demonstrates that building condominiums, shopping malls, and high rises while at the same time shutting factories, shipyards, and literally gutting the industrial base of Baltimore is not a formula for revitalization, but rather for economic collapse.

The All-Peoples Congress, which is actively building for the National People's Fight Back Conference at the Baltimore Civic Center (see article, page 12), issued a statement and leaflet on the Old Court collapse.

It demands that the federal government step in to guarantee the workers' savings. It reads in part:

"The Reagan administration has been silent in the face of the Old Court failure. This contrasts sharply with how the federal government dealt with

the collapse of the huge Continental Illinois bank one year ago. In that case the investors were all big corporate financial investors, multi-millionaires. The government rushed in with billions of dollars to bail them out.

"In Old Court the depositors are mostly working people. They are being told to bear the brunt of the economic crisis brought on by a clique of rich bankers, corrupt politicians, and slum landlords.

"The federal government must be forced to guarantee the work-

ers' savings. They have the power to step in, open the savings and loan, and return the people's hard-earned money.

"The fall of Old Court typifies the financial crisis nationwide. All banks and financial institutions are riddled with instability as a result of writing overdrafts, as shown by the E.F. Hutton scandal.

"At the National People's Fight Back Conference, the All-Peoples Congress will be mapping a strategy to defend the workers' savings in the face of the banking crisis, as well as the

basic rights of all poor and working people against the government and big business economic assault."

BULLETIN: As we go to press it has been announced that the Merritt Commercial Savings and Loan has sought conservatorship of the state of Maryland for financial difficulties. The governor announced that 350 federal bank examiners are headed to Maryland to attempt to "stabilize the state's troubled thrift industry."



Depositors line up at Old Court Savings and Loan to withdraw their money.

WW PHOTO: MEHRDAD

Social Security robbed to pay the Pentagon

By Bill Del Vecchio

MAY 14—During the election campaign and even immediately after it, Ronald Reagan stressed to anxious senior voters that Social Security benefits would not be victimized by deficit-closing budget cuts. Democrats and Republicans in Congress chimed right in with similar pledges.

Well, the election is finished and so are Reagan's and Congress's promises.

The Senate has voted to deny Social Security recipients their 1986 cost-of-living raise. Reagan likes the idea and the plan has a strong chance of getting through the House.

Just like the earlier bipartisan "re-

form" of Social Security, the current plan makes bad short-term cuts and terrible cuts over the long term.

Seniors, millions of whom depend on Social Security as their primary source of income, will get cheated out of \$6 billion in 1986 if the Senate plan stays in the budget.

By lowering the base upon which the cost-of-living raises are calculated, the \$6 billion cut in 1986 will snowball into a \$37 billion hatchet-job by 1989. That's when the sharp benefit reductions from the "bipartisan reform" begin to take effect so don't get old unless you're independently wealthy.

Why are Reagan and Congress try-

ing to steal the money that's taken out of our paychecks each week to save for our retirement?

The real reason is that the federal government has gone into hock to pay for the Pentagon's wild war buildup.

In the past four years they have squandered \$1,007,900,000,000 and they're not done yet. The money went for \$7,000 toilet seats for the Navy, \$90 pairs of pliers, executive hair cuts, season hockey tickets, untold millions in totally phony charges, and billions in ridiculously inflated charges, all to make the military contractors rich.

Social Security is supposed to be a separate program, and the money

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—Eyewitness

Continued from page 1

They have been seeking the freedom of nine of their members who have been in jail since 1978, and they have been using loudspeakers posted on top of their house to make their demands known.

A week ago, Mayor Wilson Goode told neighborhood residents that there were no legal grounds for arresting or evicting the MOVE members. A team of negotiators from the city was sent and MOVE made it clear that they would negotiate only if their members were freed.

Last Saturday, a Common Pleas Court Judge issued a search warrant for the cops to go into the house after illegal weapons.

On Sunday morning, police began patrolling the Black neighborhood, ordering residents to evacuate their homes. At 11:00 p.m., they went from house to house, threatening to arrest anyone who refused to leave.

It was believed that inside the

MOVE house were five adults and 12 children, but nobody is sure. At least five are now dead, including two children, burned up by the cops. [Later reports confirmed more deaths—ed.]

By dawn Monday the whole area was plagued with police, SWAT cops wearing helmets and bullet-proof vests, mounted cops on the corners, and cops in helicopters flying around in circles. Nobody was allowed within two blocks of the house.

Before they dropped their bomb, the police turned back two community members from a committee formed earlier to find a peaceful solution. The two had wanted to enter the house and talk with MOVE members.

"This is inhuman"

This reporter spent most of Monday, the day the police bombed the house, at the scene of the disaster. At 5:30 when the police helicopter flew over and dropped a fire device, an explosion was heard and soon the house was ablaze. There was no attempt to extinguish the fire.

Ramona Africa and a nine-year-old child suffering from burns were able to

get out. They were taken into police custody. Ramona Africa is now being held on \$3 million bail.

Before the explosion, one of the neighbors stood defiantly in front of three police officers shouting, "If you kill somebody in that house, you are going to deal with me next." The crowd applauded.

Others were saying, "This is inhuman, the children have a right and they will die. The mayor should relieve the pressure."

A younger neighbor stated that "This is no different than what's happening in South Africa."

Early radio broadcasts began by saying, "This is not El Salvador, but a middle-class neighborhood in Philadelphia."

The fire spread quickly after the helicopter bombing, spreading out of control, destroying 60 houses in two blocks. Two hundred and fifty people have been left homeless.

It is hard to describe the outrage. Neighbors began going around the area with loudspeakers calling for the mayor and asking people to show their support and stop the mass murder.

When police took them away in patrol wagons, voices in the crowd shouted, "This is worse than apartheid."

Chants of "murderers," "assassins" and "arsonists" grew louder and people from the neighborhood began to throw things at the cops, who countered by charging with riot clubs to disperse them.

The sentiment of the community is uniform. Although many did not agree with MOVE's lifestyle, they blame the police for the confrontation that led to this brutal tragedy.

MOVE started in 1972, and after numerous arrests, usually on minor charges, began to accuse the police of brutality and harassment. Three hundred cops were involved in a 1978 eviction of MOVE members, and a cop died in the confrontation. Some of the cops were indicted for beating and kicking arrested MOVE people at the time, but were later acquitted. Nine MOVE defendants were convicted of third-degree murder and were sentenced to 30-100 years in prison, which they are still serving. Their freedom was the demand of the MOVE members attacked yesterday.

Autoworkers furious at AMC concession demands

By David Sole
member of Local 15 UAW
 DETROIT, May 12—The demand for union concessions reached a new level last week in the auto industry.

On May 3, American Motors Corp. (AMC) gave the United Auto Workers (UAW) just 21 days to agree to a list of 15 contract givebacks. In a letter signed by AMC Vice President Richard Calmes, the company states, "If we do not have these commitments by May 24, 1985, we will be forced to proceed with the terminations of operations" of all passenger car production in the United States.

This threat covers over 5,800 jobs in Wisconsin AMC plants and another 2,300 jobs in the AMC Michigan headquarters.

But AMC's ultimatum contained something else not seen before in any of the past years of "concessions con-

tracts" in the auto industry. Along with demands for wage cuts, shorter vacations and fewer holidays, AMC has called for the elimination of 200 union stewards from the company payroll!

One of the earliest and most important gains won by unions was the right to have union representation on the shop floor. These shop committees are a recognition by management—after the most bitter struggles—that they are not the sole and supreme power anymore.

Elected committee persons or stewards oversee contract compliance either full-time or part of the work day. And they get paid by the company while doing this union work. This is only fair, since it is made necessary by constant management violations of the contract agreement in the first place.

Eliminating 200 stewards would take away a strong force for protection of union rights and further embolden AMC for even more drastic contract violations.

No 'unconditional surrender'

UAW leaders in Wisconsin reacted angrily to AMC's demands. Rudy Kuzel, President of Local 72 in Kenosha, stated, "We're not going to meet their deadline." He added that AMC was demanding "unconditional surrender."

The leadership of this local, however, has expressed its willingness to enter into early bargaining with AMC for some concessions and has scheduled a membership vote this week on AMC's demands. The national UAW leadership has not reacted seriously to this new threat. From the very start of concessions at Chrysler, they have failed to deal with concessions on a national, coordinated level. This allows one company to play off against another, and even for a single corporation to pit one plant off against another.

In another development, management at GM's Fleetwood Plant in Detroit has gotten the leadership of UAW Local 15 to agree to reopen their local

contract for more concessions.

On Saturday, May 11 anger swept throughout the plant as workers learned this news for the first time from the Detroit Free Press headlines. Local union leaders had made this decision without consulting the membership and having canceled the regular membership meeting "because of Mother's Day."

Using the threat of a 1989 closing of the plant, Fleetwood management is demanding a "modernized" local contract. "This sounds like union-busting," said one paint shop worker when she heard this news.

Management at first put forward a list of demands for givebacks with no guarantee that the plant would stay open. The union got the company to agree that any concessions granted would go into effect only if the plant is renovated.

Local 15 leaders and membership have voted overwhelmingly against all concessions in past local and national contract votes. Unfortunately in this case again the International UAW leadership seems to be pressing a reluctant local leadership to go along with the company. It remains to be seen if the anger on the shop floor can defeat this new assault on the union.



Women workers earn 60% of what men do. The fight for comparable worth is aimed at ending this sexism.

Unions, women win comparable pay in LA

By Lallan Stein
 MAY 13—Members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union (AFSCME)—city workers in the country's second largest city, Los Angeles—won a significant battle in the struggle for comparable pay last week.

Following six months of contract negotiations, along with a complaint filed by the union with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 1981, the Los Angeles city administration finally agreed to a contract with 3,900 clerks and librarians, mostly women workers, which would make their pay equivalent with maintenance workers, gardeners and other city workers in male-dominated classifications. Union members gained pay equity increases of 11% to 15% over a three-year period on top of a 9% across-the-board raise.

The most important aspect of the agreement was that the city management was forced to accept the demand of equal pay for different jobs of comparable worth.

This occurred only one month after the right-wing dominated U.S. Civil Rights Commission under Reagan adopted the terms of a report which rejected the concept of comparable worth.

AFSCME union officials have called the Los Angeles city workers' contract "a real victory" in the "age-old problem of wage and sex discrimination." Pres-

ident Gerald W. McEntee said the agreement, following similar settlements elsewhere, shows that "the momentum in eliminating sex bias from public sector wage scales is irreversible."

This is one of a series of victories in recent years on this issue and is especially important at this time when labor unions are under attack by the Reagan administration, which champions the side of the most racist and sexist bosses.

Those who have the most to gain and who have fought the hardest against pay inequities—women working full time earn less than 60% of what men do—are Black, Latin, Native and Asian women. They are the ones who have traditionally been forced into the most grueling and lowest-paid jobs.

On April 11, Reagan's Civil Rights Commission stated that, "Comparable worth is not synonymous with 'equal pay for equal work'" as legislated in the Equal Pay Act of 1963. But it took a struggle to win this act and the Los Angeles ruling shows that the Reaganites will not have the final word on comparable worth.

There have been a growing number of victories starting as far back as 1977 in Ann Arbor, Mich. Earlier this year the issue gained tremendous impetus after Yale University workers won a four-month strike which provided up to 80% wage increases for some of the lowest-paid workers.



Jersey pay equity. On the same day that city workers in Los Angeles reached an agreement on equal pay for jobs of comparable worth, a state panel in New Jersey officially recommended that some 7,800 state workers—90% of them women—receive pay raises based on equity. The recommendation came after a six-month review of job titles and pay scales by a special Task Force on Equitable Compensation. The 7,800 workers whose pay should be raised, according to the panel, are the state government's lowest paid employees. Currently they make only \$7,500 to \$11,000 a year. The task force recommendation is not binding; it goes now to Reaganite Governor Thomas Kean. So Jersey state workers may yet have to mount a struggle to demand equity raises for underpaid women workers.

Minnesota pay equity. Meanwhile, in Minnesota, implementation of a comprehensive state-wide pay equity program is nearly complete, with 8,000 of the 9,000 targeted state workers now having received pay raises. The state mandated local municipalities as well as the state government to pay women wages equal to male employees working in comparable jobs. Previously, women workers in Minnesota's government jobs were paid an average of 25% less than men, and the average woman employee with 20 years of seniority made less than the average newly hired male worker. About 1,400 city workers are covered by the pay-equity plan. In tiny Princeton, Minn., for example, the three wo-

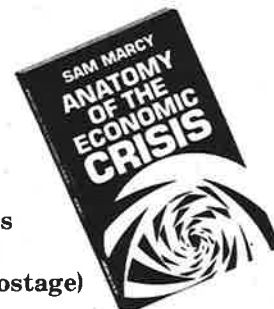
men workers received raises of about \$2 an hour, so that the bookkeeper now makes the same as the street sweeper. According to the Wall Street Journal, Minnesota big business is very nervous that the equal pay notion may soon affect their operations. Mr. Francis Fitzgerald of the Minnesota Association of Commerce and Industry warned that "Even a study of comparable worth in the private sector will bring on every resource we have against it."

OSHA ethics. Revelations about Reagan's administrator of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Robert A. Rowland, and his personal financial stake in blocking health and safety protections for workers have created an embarrassing situation for Reagan and his new Labor Secretary, William Brock, with even some Republicans calling for Rowland's ouster. The latest problem comes with the disclosure that the OSHA director owns a sizeable block of stock in Tenneco, Inc. Tenneco, in turn, owns more than a million acres of farmland for agribusiness operations in California and Arizona. And California and Arizona farmworkers, including Tenneco employees, are the workers who don't need toilets or drinking water, according to the recent OSHA ruling. In addition to the farmworker sanitation regulation, other OSHA decisions have affected chemical, pharmaceutical, and other companies in which Rowland owns more than \$1 million worth of stock.

—Shelley Ettinger

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Apartheid murder 'fits all too familiar pattern'

By Monica Moorehead

MAY 14—In response to the brutal murder of Andries Raditsela, a 29-year-old senior shop steward of the Chemical Workers Union, 30,000 people braved a heavy army and police presence to attend his funeral today in the South African township of Tsakane. It was yet another confirmation of the fact that the revolutionary determination sweeping the oppressed Black masses of this apartheid state continues to mount, making even the most brutal repression by the regime ineffectual.

Mr. Raditsela, an executive member of the Federation of South Africa Trade Unions (FOSATU), which supports divestment of firms and banks that invest in apartheid South Africa, died May 7 hours after being released from police custody. A pathologist hired by his family said death was caused by a brain hemorrhage consistent with blows to the head or a fall. Raditsela had been charged with violating the Internal Security Act.

His death has produced anger among trade unionists worldwide, and was condemned in a statement sent to Prime Minister P. W. Botha by the AFL-CIO declaring that the tragedy "fits a pattern that has become all too familiar—the death under mysterious circumstances of Black South African leaders held under your Preventive Detention laws."

Now two more deaths of Black activists held by the police have been reported.

On May 8, Sipho Mutsi, a 20-year-old Black student activist, also died of a brain hemorrhage following his detention under the "Criminal Procedure Act." And Mohamed-Allie Razak, a 28-year-old Indian man, was shot in the head on May 9 and died two days later. The police story is that Mr. Razak snatched a gun off the table with the objective of committing suicide while he was being questioned.

These murders coincided with continued struggle against the racist, apartheid regime in several Black townships located in the restive Eastern Cape and near Johannesburg in the Orange Free State. Several more people have died in clashes, bringing the total number of lives lost since the rebellions erupted last September to close to 400.

On May 8 in Tsakane, the township 30 miles east of Johannesburg where Raditsela was buried today, 11 other Black workers were killed in what the regime describes as wage disputes between migrant workers and residents of the township. The police attacked the crowds with rubber bullets and tear-gas. However, the unity displayed in today's funeral march shows that the real conflict is not among Black people but is between the Black masses and the Nazi-like apartheid state.

It is reported that several hundred migrant workers have been relocated to a Transkei "independent homeland," which is a codeword for the barren, unproductive strips of land known as bantustans.



"We won't rest till you divest!"

WW PHOTO: JOHN MANIS

Syracuse students join anti-apartheid ranks

By John Manis

SYRACUSE, N.Y., May 12—Syracuse University students have joined other campuses across the nation in anti-apartheid demonstrations.

Students have formed the Coalition to End Apartheid and Racism to force SU to divest its holdings in South Africa.

Last week, students filled the lawn in front of the administration building in a week-long encampment. Hundreds of white blood-stained crosses were put up to commemorate the slaughter of Blacks in South Africa. Students demanded that the university divest its \$14 million holdings; that the students speak at the next trustees' meeting; and that a scholarship fund be set up for South African students.

The university threatened to arrest all the protesters, but a court injunction against the university was ob-

tained to prevent arrests. The coalition drew over 1,200 protesters who surrounded the building, now named "Biko Hall," chanting "We won't rest till you divest!"

The Student Afro Society joined the coalition urging a ban on South African educators and sports figures. They spoke at the rally calling for an end to racism at SU. Other speakers discussed U.S. corporate involvement in Latin America and the war drive in Beirut and Nicaragua.

The university was forced to negotiate and the students won a scholarship fund and ten minutes time at the next trustees' meeting. A panel of students and faculty was formed to "study" the human rights issues. It was the hope of the university to pacify the students. However, the students saw this as only a concession.

The anti-racists quickly gained sup-

port from the United Steelworkers and AFSCME, local Black churches, the Urban League, the NAACP and the Syracuse Rainbow Coalition. Yesterday, a rally of over 200 people was held in downtown Syracuse. Victor Mashaballa from the African National Congress spoke about the connections between U.S. corporations and South Africa. Sahu Barron from the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of the People's Anti-War Mobilization spoke about racism at home and abroad. Today on campus, commencement was disrupted by chanters and students holding banners. A large percentage of students wore green armbands to show their solidarity with Black South Africa.

Although the university hopes the students will lose their forces over the summer, the students are continually gaining more community support.

and how did such an atrocity happen?

What possible reason could there have been for the bombing of a residential neighborhood? What justification is there for this brazen exposition of force and violence by the police?

No concern for community

The racist bourgeois media play up that there were complaints in the neighborhood about the unsanitary lifestyles of the members of MOVE, the group occupying the house. If that was the problem, why weren't health officials called in to deal with it instead of an army of police? Why couldn't the house be quarantined instead of fire-bombed off the map?

When Union Carbide, a U.S.-owned multi-million-dollar chemical corporation, caused the deaths of 2,000 innocent people in Bhopal, India, last year due to a toxic gas leak, it was quarantined and the area sealed off. Why wasn't the same consideration given to the people of West Philadelphia, if MOVE members posed a health hazard to the community?

Is the neighborhood better off now that it has been burnt to the ground?

The All-Peoples Congress was one of the first organizations to condemn the police assault. National coordinator Larry Holmes asked in a statement to the press:

"When is the last time the army or police dropped a bomb on any one of the hundreds of multi-million-dollar chemical, waste disposal and weapons manufacturing corporations that pollute rivers, lakes and the air above, creating a deadly health hazard for millions and profits for the bosses? The truth is that the police had no concern for the health of the residents of that community or any other Black or poor

community.

"No excuse can conceal the racism behind the police violence in West Philadelphia. The police had a racist vendetta against MOVE ever since their last assault on the group's home in 1978."

Philadelphia is a police city

Philadelphia is the fifth largest city in the U.S. with close to 2 million people, including a very large Black and Latin population. The unemployment rate is 13.5% generally, and twice that for Black and other oppressed people. Four out of 10 adults are functionally illiterate.

Philadelphia is becoming more and more a city of homeless people, who number approximately 15,000 and are increasing every day. Hunger, poverty and gentrification are becoming more acute for the poor and working-class communities.

There is another side to Philadelphia. Since the days of ex-mayor Frank Rizzo, Philadelphia has been and remains a police city. Wilson Goode may be the mayor now, but Rizzo's racist, repressive police force has not changed in character. In fact, it was Police Commissioner Gregore J. Sambor, who is white, and not Mayor Goode, who is Black, who made the decision to drop the explosive bomb in the Black community, although Goode has defended the decision.

It was a former army general, Leo Brooks, now the city's managing director, who took responsibility for the dropping of the bomb, that did an estimated \$5 million damage to property.

The police are the controlling element in any city and are given the green light by the ruling class. In

Philadelphia, this is wealthy families like the Biddles, the Pews, the Dicksons, Drexels and Dorrances, who live in the exclusive suburbs on the Main Line outside the metropolitan area.

This is where the real power lies in Philadelphia. The police are answerable to the wealthy ruling class, the bankers, the real estate interests, not to the mayor or any other elected city official, and they will act independently of the city government, especially when it comes to repression against the Black community and suppressing rebellions against intolerable living conditions, like those of the 1960s.

This attack may seem to have been aimed against a small group of people, but it should be remembered that just a few months ago, thousands of youth in Philadelphia, who suffer 60% unemployment, fought police in the streets. With the cutbacks in social services, and racism and unemployment on the rise, the police have been developing all kinds of new tactics to keep down social unrest, and they've been itching to try them out.

The bombing of West Philadelphia exposes the vicious nature of the repressive capitalist state and the inability of the representatives of this profit system to solve the crisis of unemployment, homelessness, hunger and other social diseases except with extreme violence and terror.

The only answer is for the millions of poor, oppressed and working people to organize themselves into a powerful, militant fightback movement. The survivors of West Philadelphia not only deserve new homes and monetary compensation for the horror and suffering brought upon them, but they and millions of others need jobs, justice and basic human rights—not police terror!

—Police holocaust

Continued from page 1

in the aftermath of the siege, "I've been to Korea and Viet Nam and I've never seen anything like this. It's devastating. There's nothing left."

More than 60 homes were leveled, leaving more than 250 people homeless with no place to go. The people of Philadelphia, around the country, indeed around the world are asking: Why

North American visitors to Cuba defy Reagan's travel ban

By Carmen Roundtree

MAY 14—Approximately 150 North Americans recently returned from Cuba, where they participated in the Venceremos Brigade, showing solidarity with the Cuban Revolution and learning about Cuban society.

The Venceremos Brigade began 16 years ago when several hundred North Americans traveled to Cuba in concrete solidarity with the Cuban people and their revolution. This was several years after the U.S. government imposed a blockade on Cuba.

The 16th Brigade, named "Sandy Pollack" after a North American activist killed in a plane crash in Cuba five months ago, was the first brigade to travel to Cuba since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the travel and currency ban imposed on Cuba by the Reagan administration.

Brigadistas traveled from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Washington D.C., Baltimore, New York, Boston and other parts of Massachusetts and Ohio. They were young and old, Black, Latin, Asian, and white, women and men, lesbians and gay men. They were workers and students, all learning and showing concrete solidarity with revolutionary Cuba.

The two-week stay was packed with memorable events. There were meetings with the mass organizations, the Committee in Defense of the Revolution (CDR), the Women's Federation of Cuba (FMC), trade unions, farm co-operatives, and with many of the lib-

eration struggles that have representatives in Cuba, such as the African National Congress (ANC), SWAPO, the FSLN, along with revolutionaries from El Salvador, Guatemala and Viet Nam.

There was also a trip to the Central hospital of Havana, along with the Lenin school, as well as a tour of historic sights in old Havana. There were also meetings at Radio Havana, the TV stations, and at the radio stations.

Yet this was only one part of the educational tour in Cuba. The first week was spent not only meeting with the many organizations and liberation struggle, but actually working in the potato fields and doing construction on a housing complex to aid socialist construction.

In the evening after all of the work and meetings were done there was usually a cultural event so all of the brigadistas could relax from the day's events.

The warmth and friendliness with which the brigade was met by the Cuban people was like none we've known before. Spending any amount of time in Cuba is truly an education that could allow each and every brigadista to walk away vowing to struggle and fight for true democracy and a better world for everyone.

The author went to Cuba last month as a member of the 16th Venceremos Brigade.

Latin America according to Reagan

By Andy Stapp

MAY 13—At his press conference in Lisbon last week, Reagan made a number of really bizarre statements. He said of the Sandinista revolution that "the leaders of the contras were the leaders of that revolution." Typical Reagan.

He also said that "The only two totalitarian powers in our hemisphere are Nicaragua and Cuba."

Reagan singles out these two nations for abuse because they have dared to tear themselves free from U.S. domination and stubbornly refuse to "cry uncle" at his instructions.

There are, however, some really despotic, repressive and tyrannical regimes in this hemisphere.

Here are a few U.S. client states which do the bidding of Washington as loyal satellites:

Guatemala. Since the CIA overthrew the last democratically elected president in 1954, a series of U.S.-trained military leaders have run the country with the help of death squads. These landlord goons, who operate under names like the White Hand and Eye for an Eye, specialize in the daylight public assassinations which have claimed 20,000 lives. Only 2.2% of the population own 70% of the land. There are no political prisoners. They have all been killed.

Chile. In the last 12 years the country's military regime, working with the big U.S. copper companies and the wealthy elite, has killed 30,000 people, arrested 100,000 political dissidents and driven one-tenth of the population into exile.

El Salvador. The country is ruled by 14 rich families, death squads which have murdered 50,000 people and U.S. military "trainers" who direct the army. The CIA funds national elections, in which voting is mandatory.

Haiti. President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier is the latest of a series of right-wing autocrats who have ruled since the U.S. Marines occupied Haiti from 1915 to 1934. He has made life safe for rich investors by turning 15,000 secret police loose against his critics, eliminating all opposition political parties and troublesome journalists.

Paraguay. Since 1954 the country has been oppressed by Alfredo Stroessner, the dean of Latin America's fascist dictators. The national motto is "By reason or by force." One-fifth of the population has fled the country. Stroessner has made the Virgin Mary an honorary field marshal in the Paraguayan army. Prison guards are trained by escaped Nazis and the CIA. One family, the Casados, own 5 million acres of land, about the size of Belgium. Eighty percent of the people don't even have a safe water supply.

The above list is not all inclusive and leaves out the countries which remain absolute colonies, the "British" West Indies, "French" Guiana, the "Netherlands" Antilles and Puerto Rico.

It also leaves out two of the worst dictatorships, that of Batista in Cuba and Somoza in Nicaragua. To Reagan's great regret they no longer exist.

'Before the revolution women

Afghan woman in Cuba describes what rev

By Cheryl LaBash
executive board member,
AFSCME Local 457

HAVANA, Cuba, May 5—The International Trade Union Delegation invited to celebrate May Day with the Confederation of Cuban Workers (CTC) gathered on May 2 at the CTC offices to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the "Victory over Fascism." As delegates from every continent spoke about their struggle against U.S. military aggression and their desire for peace, across the conference tables I read the national identification "Afghanistan." Behind that place marker sat a young woman, Jamila.

Instantly, I recalled a New York Times picture from 1979 of a young Afghan woman crumpled on the ground. She was killed by U.S.-armed terrorists because she was teaching women to read and write.

Through Jamila, I met Masouda and Adela who are students in Cuba. The following interview is with Masouda, a 23-year-old medical student and representative of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan (DWOA).

What has your revolution meant for the women of your country?

Before the revolution, the population of Afghanistan was 90-99% illiterate; the majority were women. We can say that during the whole history of Afghanistan, women were the very first victims, without social, political or moral rights. Women didn't even have rights in their own homes with their brothers and fathers. Women could not leave the home. They could not study or work. They had to stay at home taking care of the children, fathers-in-law, and cooking. In spite of this contribution, we were treated like a thing. We can say that before the revolution a table was more respected than a woman. Women were used like animals.

All these factors affected the organization of women. When the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) was created in 1965, the main concern of our leaders was beginning a women's organization. The PDPA helped women members develop, but

we felt the influence of feudalism. We could separate ourselves from the old life, but society severely criticized us.

In addition to social pressure, the CIA encouraged terror against the women's movement in Afghanistan. One group sprayed acid on the hands and faces of women and girls who had put away their veils.

Until the revolution in 1978, we were able to organize 5,000 women. This may seem like a small number, but it was a large task.

In 1978, the revolutionary government announced the right of women to full equality with men: economic, political, social and cultural equality. The DWOA now has 40,000 members. Many other women participate in the trade union and workplace organizations.

The main task of the PDPA is to eliminate illiteracy in Afghanistan. A big part of the literacy campaign deals with the education of women. At present we have carried out 24,000 special courses to teach women to read and write. The literacy campaign is also carried out among men. It is a big job. We have 20 million inhabitants in Afghanistan. Only 2 million live in the capital, Kabul. But, if we didn't have enemies attacking our borders, the literacy campaign would be completed much faster.

For example, in Kabul and the provinces, our government wants to open schools for girls and general literacy. More than 500 schools have been burned down by the counter-revolutionaries. These terrorists come from U.S. bases in Pakistan.

To advance the literacy campaign, the DWOA holds women's conferences and discussions to overcome the fear of counter-revolution and the influence of men. When women said they can't be active because they must cook and care for the children, the DWOA began a campaign to help housewives to study by helping to care for the children.

To facilitate the women's lives, many day care centers have been opened in Kabul. Although we have many outstanding women in the provinces, we don't have enough influence yet to extend day care into these areas.

LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

Hundreds of university students accompanied by trade union leaders marched last Wednesday, May 8, to the U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo, the Dominican capital, to denounce Reagan's trade embargo against Nicaragua. The protest march was organized by the Dominican Students Federation (FED), the National Association of Journalists, the Association of University Workers, and the Dominican Association of Friends of Nicaragua.

Chanting "Nicaragua is not alone!" the students arrived at the U.S. Embassy and presented a letter to an embassy functionary. The letter, delivered by Manuel Salazar, Secretary General of the FED, warned that the world situation facing Nicaragua today is not like 1960 when the U.S. was able to maneuver the Organization of American States to break diplomatic and trade relations with the revolutionary government of Cuba. The letter further added that if Reagan landed

the Marines in Nicaragua "the U.S. would also have to send Marines to Santo Domingo, because the resistance struggle against the U.S. invaders would take place from the Patagonia (Argentina) to Greenland."

• • •

ARGENTINA. Labor unrest and discontent against the economic policies of the 17-month-old Alfonsín government continues to grow in Argentina. The country's high inflation, industrial paralysis, and increasing levels of unemployment—all a direct result of the \$48 billion foreign debt and the inability to meet the interest payment to the Western banks—continue to create havoc in the nation and are provoking labor protest against IMF-type austerity measures.

The General Workers Confederation of Argentina announced recently a series of mobilizations and strikes that will culminate in a national general

Women had no rights' Revolution means to her

The literacy campaign will be the key to improving the lives of women in the provinces. We have many nomadic people in Afghanistan. Members of the DWOA go to the places where the nomads camp as they move from place to place to bring the literacy campaign to these women, too.

The government of Afghanistan helps the economic status of women as well as their social status. Women who have no home are given free houses. If women can and want to work, they are given jobs. Women who have lost their husbands through counter-revolutionary attacks or military actions are given their husband's pay because generally those women wish to stay with their children.

Women in Afghanistan are very skilled in weaving. The government has opened new working places where women can develop their skills. The government gives women the thread and material to make tablecloths, bed spreads, blouses and so on. Where before the revolution women would make detailed oriental rugs and the men would sell them in the street, now the government buys them for export. Women who devote themselves to agricultural work receive free tools, tractors, seeds and other necessities.

What did your family think when you joined the revolutionary movement?

My family is not revolutionary, but they are not counter-revolutionary, either. Before the revolution, I didn't tell my family that I was a member of the organization.

How old were you when you joined?

I became an activist and collaborator in the organization when I was 14 years old. But when I was 16, I was already a revolutionary. I think though from the very first moment of working with the organization I was a revolutionary, I just didn't know it.

In 1981, the DWOA received five full scholarships from Cuba to send outstanding members to study here. I was chosen as one of the five. We were the



An Afghan 'freedom fighter' shooting a woman high school teacher who tried to bring education to the town of Fara. Women had no rights before the revolution, but today are in the forefront of building a new socialist society.

first ones to come to Cuba. We were called Christopher Columbus!

Why did you, a 14-year-old girl, join the revolution?

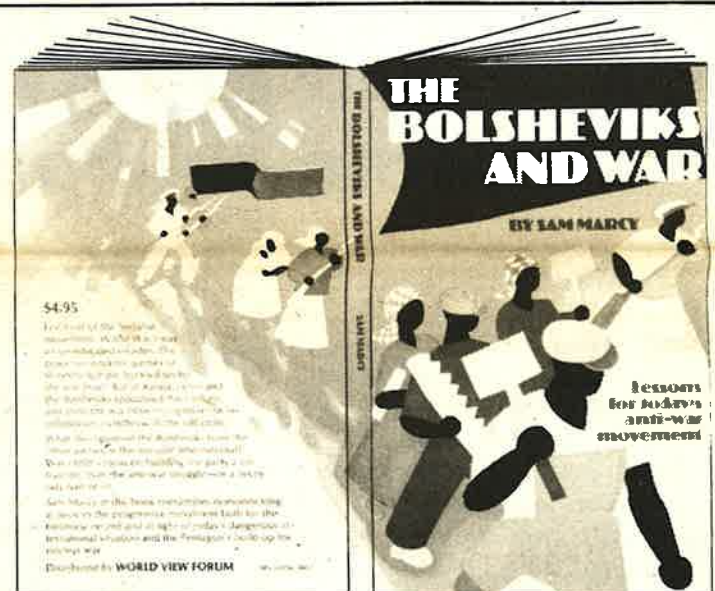
I was bull headed. As I told you before, Afghanistan women were a kind of animal before the revolution. They had no freedom. They had no rights and men were the only ones that counted in the country. So, I saw this situation and I did not agree with it, that is why I became a revolutionary. And this is a feeling that forces someone to join an organization, to find a way to get out of the situation in some way. Some of my relatives and their friends were members of the revolutionary organization but they didn't dare say anything to me. But at last, they asked me if I wished to join an organization that defended women's rights and women's freedom. And I accepted it. Are you convinced of my reasons?

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BEAN BRIEFS

strike on May 23 in protest against government economic policies. Labor protests have already taken place in the provinces of Cordova and Rosario.

• • •

MEXICO. Mexican legislators meeting in the city of Queretaro for the XXV Inter-Parliamentary Conference called upon their U.S. counterparts to support a "no U.S. intervention in Central America" position. The Mexican legislators, mostly members of the official Mexican ruling party, also strongly condemned Reagan's trade embargo against Nicaragua.

• • •

ST. KITTS. Even pro-U.S. Caribbean governments have joined their voices to the chorus of nations which have denounced Reagan's trade embargo against Nicaragua. According to a Reuters dispatch, Caricom, the 13-



Dominican students march on U.S. Embassy on May 8 to denounce Reagan's trade embargo on Nicaragua.

nation Caribbean community which includes Jamaica among some of its member nations, believes that there should be "an immediate termination of sanctions" against Nicaragua.

—Estela Vilchez

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EDITORIAL

State-supported terrorism

LAST MARCH 8, a 2,000-pound bomb exploded in Beirut's densely populated southern neighborhood of Bir al Abed, killing 80 people and maiming over 200. The Pentagon responded by hurriedly dispatching the giant nuclear aircraft carrier Eisenhower from its base in Spain to the Lebanese coast.

Lebanon had lapsed into anarchy, said a State Department spokesman. UN ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick charged that the "terrorists" were threatening American lives in that country.

It was all a lie. The Beirut bombing was the work of Washington, carried out by a group set up by the CIA with President Reagan's personal approval.

Ranking members of Congress and the administration now admit that the atrocity was carried out by a so-called "counter-terrorist" group set up by the CIA. An Associated Press dispatch reported on May 13 that the CIA "knew it was being planned." The CIA, naturally, disavows all knowledge of the

mission. In a weak attempt at "damage control," unidentified White House sources say that, "The operation was cancelled soon after the bombing." Mission accomplished. The Lebanese "contras" have done their monstrous dirty work and the operation can now be "cancelled" until they are needed again.

There has been no apology by the Reaganites to the people of Lebanon. Only a statement by Secretary of State George Shultz that U.S. "actions speak a lot louder than words."

The "actions" show one thing clearly enough. Washington does not consider Lebanon a sovereign state, and has consequently arrogated to itself the right to bomb that country's capital city and murder its citizens including children, if such actions are perceived to advance imperialist interests.

Remember that next time Mr. Shultz delivers one of his pompous diatribes against "state-supported terrorism."



Government by veto

THE REAGAN administration and its ultra-rightist allies in the Congress are mounting a serious attempt to pass legislation which would permit the president to veto specific items in appropriations bills. This is what is known as the line-item veto and was first introduced into this country as one of the laws of the Confederacy.

According to those Washington specialists who are paid so much to predict what Congress will do, the line-item veto should pass the Senate later this month, while it is unclear if it will pass in the House. Even if it doesn't pass the first time around, it is expected that the line-item veto will be brought up for a vote every year for many years to come, much like the never ending votes that keep the MX missile alive.

What is the purpose of the line-item veto and why are the White House and the right-wing extremists like Rep. Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) as well as conservative Democrats like Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) launching a big fight for this veto?

This is another in a series of moves in the last years to consolidate more and more power in the hands of the president and thereby bypass the legislative arm of the

government. It is a move to strengthen the hand of the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex.

The line-item veto would allow the president to pick and choose from bills passed by Congress. He could cut funding for low income housing, slash all funds for public transportation while giving the Pentagon every cent it wants and cancelling any prohibitions on aid to the contras in Nicaragua—all with the stroke of a pen. The few remaining federal programs that have been passed by Congress because of the struggles of millions across this country could be cancelled by executive fiat—just as a king in feudal times might do it.

With the Congress becoming ever-more willing to turn over its Constitutional powers to the president and the Pentagon, it is increasingly clear that the interests of the majority in this country—that is, the interests of the workers and oppressed peoples—can only be protected by independent action. Neither the Democrats nor Republicans can offer this. Now more than ever, we must organize separately from these pro-big business parties. And one place to do this will be at the important National People's Fight Back Conference in Baltimore on June 8 and 9.

LETTERS

War state

IN LIGHT of the current war buildup increasing the potential for armed struggle and as an enlisted member of our Army Reserve, the question of our role as Marxists in the war state seems to be very important.

Please mail me a copy of Sam's new book ("The Bolsheviks and War").

G.K.
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Likes Ireland coverage

ENCLOSED IS A check for a \$10 subscription renewal. The subjects covered are all important and on target. Also, the columns by O'Malley on the oppression and colonial rule in northern Ireland are excellent, a voice of truth amidst all the British and American propaganda.

Hope your circulation grows and carry the struggle for justice for all peoples.

C.M.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Wants to get involved

I AM A 16-year-old high school student very concerned with world issues (the arms race, U.S. involvement in Central America, apartheid, as well as the blindness and injustice in our own country). I picked up copies of Workers World at a demonstration at the South African Consulate and at the April 20th march in Washington, D.C.

I would like very much to actually get involved in something rather than simply being "concerned." Please send me information on WWP and what it means to become a member.

A.W.

Rosenberg memorial

THE NATIONAL Committee to Re-open the Rosenberg Case is sponsoring a Rosenberg Memorial Tribute on Wednesday, June 19 in New York City. The event will be held at the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, 30 W. 60 St., from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Space is limited, so reserve today. Send \$5 for a reserved ticket to NCRRC, 853 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003. For more information, call (212) 228-4500.

Stella Marks,
Staff, NCRRC

Come to Fight Back meet

I HAVE recently become a victim of Reagan's axe (my unemployment insurance benefits ran out, no extension!). I am very interested in coming to the Peoples Fight Back Conference in Baltimore. By hook or by crook I guess I'll get there. Please let me know what kind of arrangements I need to make for housing Friday and Saturday nights. The cost of the airline ticket is prohibitive so the least costly arrangements are a necessity if I am to come.

Carrie

Bitburg Sunday

Today "our" President paid his respects to his closest political allies, the Schutzstaffel & Waffen SS troops. . . Unable to resurrect their corpses he resurrects their style in Central America. Earlier "our" President paid his respects to the gas-chamber & ovens at Bergen-Belsen while new age storm-troopers kept surviving Jewish protesters out of camp and cemetery. Thus not wishing embarrassment "our" President rendered parts of Germany "Judenrein" again free of Jews, Mein Fuhrer. . . meanwhile Nancy found excitement with the Pope.

Bob Grove
Vacaville, Calif.

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An international setback for Reaganism

By Sam Marcy

MAY 14—One sometimes gets a deeper appreciation of the acuteness of the social contradictions of capitalism by examining some of its external manifestations. It is indeed true that some events at home are seen in clearer perspective by relating them to events abroad.

Take the ruthless bombing in Philadelphia by the police which caused so much destruction of lives and property. This can best be understood in the perspective of the equally ruthless and wanton car bombing by the CIA, which took so many lives in Beirut and destroyed so much property.

Murder of oppressed people

These two events are inextricably connected. They are carried out by the same repressive apparatus of the capitalist state. What's involved is merely different arms of the state, using sometimes different means, to accomplish the same ends: to visit death and destruction on oppressed people.

The CIA may deny once again, as it always does, that it carried out the project which killed almost 100, wounded several hundred others, and destroyed a part of the center of the city. The CIA said it was seeking out terrorist leaders who it hopes to exterminate.

But has the U.S. public forgotten that the CIA had precisely the same plan in different form during the Viet Nam war? At that time its so-called anti-terrorism project was called Operation Phoenix. Its aim was to root out and destroy what it called terrorist leaders, meaning thereby the Vietnamese cadres in the struggle for liberation.

In Beirut, it has taken on a different form, but it is essentially the same fundamental struggle. Only here the CIA faces an embarrassment because its mercenaries in Beirut, like its mercenaries in Honduras fighting the Nicaraguan revolutionaries, presumably missed their target and, as always, ended up with a massacre.

While the loss of life and property is tremendous, one cannot but estimate the overall results as really a setback for the imperialist colossus.

There are, however, heart-warming developments in Europe which should be of considerable encouragement here at home, as what is happening there is also closely linked to what is going on here.

Witness, for instance, the tremendous, truly magnificent demonstration of the Spanish working class against Reagan during his trip to Europe. Count up, too, the many other smaller but truly significant demonstrations in Portugal and other West European countries. Notice how support for the Sandinistas dogged Reagan wherever he went, culminating with protests against his embargo of Nicaragua. And of course there is worldwide protest against the Reaganite-Kohl collaboration and support for the Botha regime.

Everywhere in South Africa the struggle goes on every day and operates as a continuing repudiation and denunciation of Reaganite support for the hated apartheid regime.

But our attention should also be drawn to events in the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), which is hardly at the periphery of U.S. finance capital. On the contrary, it is central to U.S. world imperialist policy. Scarcely anything could take priority in the calculations of the Pentagon over the West German-U.S. military axis.

This axis has now been badly damaged and clearly exposed, to the mutual embarrassment of both the right-wing, conservative West German

Christian Democratic Party, headed by Chancellor Kohl, and the Reagan administration.

German vote repudiates Kohl-Reagan

The landslide victory of the Social Democratic Party in the May 12 elections in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, more than any other recent event, has battered the myth of U.S.-German "solidarity," created by the monopoly capitalist interests of both countries, the press, the media, their publicists and their apologists.

It should be taken into account that the North Rhine-Westphalia state represents one-third of the national electorate and is the most industrial, working class and populous state in West Germany. The vote went 52% for the Social Democratic Party as against only 36% for the Christian Democrats headed by Chancellor Kohl.

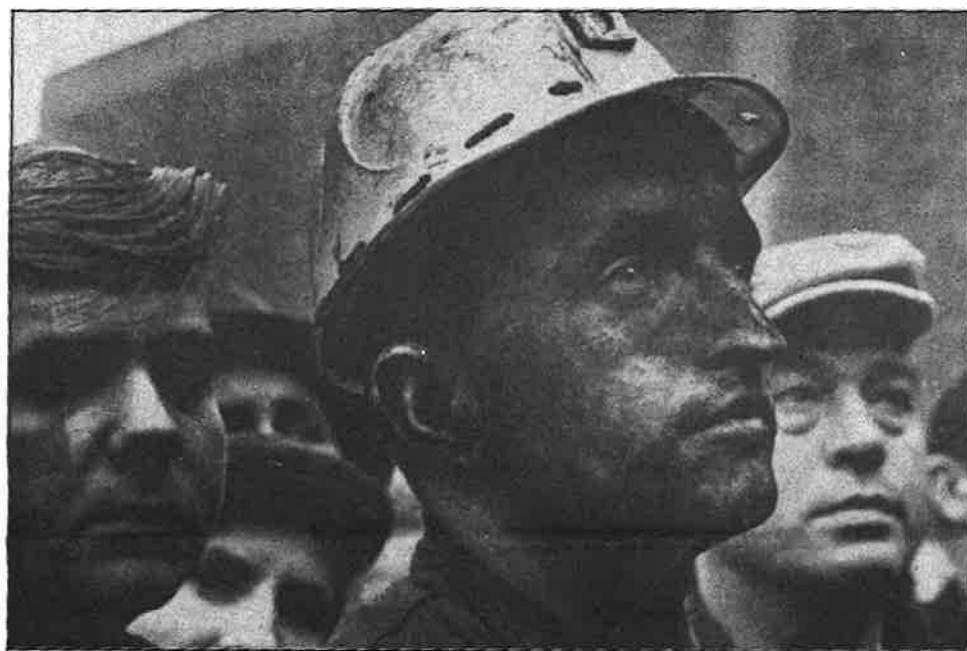
It's true that the Social Democrats have held this state for many years,

leys, and Metzenbaums, who play a considerable role in the Democratic Party.

The SPD, as we said, is a bourgeois labor party and has held together as such against the conservative right-wing. The latter, under the leadership of Kohl, have virtually the same policies as the Reagan administration in domestic affairs and have faithfully followed the rabid anti-Soviet policy of the Reaganites, having fully endorsed, to all intents and purposes, Reagan's Star Wars project and undeviatingly supported him in almost all other aspects of foreign policy.

Big miscalculation on Bitburg

This election, although it was only a regional one, was invested with unusual significance because the Kohl regime had claimed, especially during the last days of the pre-election period, that Reagan's visit to the Nazi cemetery in Bitburg, which it boasted of as



West German miner from the Ruhr, where Kohl just suffered a major electoral defeat. The German workers have no material basis for supporting the 'reconciliation' promoted by Reagan and Kohl.

but the landslide by which they won the May 12 election is of extraordinary importance.

Let's first understand that the West German Social Democratic Party is not just a bourgeois opposition party like, let us say, the Democratic Party in the U.S. It's a bourgeois labor party, and that makes a difference.

This party once played a truly revolutionary socialist role in the German and the international working class movement. But that was long ago, in the very early part of this century.

Today it is a different party, in many respects like the British Labor Party. But what is not often called attention to in the U.S. press is that it has not fractured politically in the way the British Labor Party did in the recent period as a result of the reactionary onslaught by the British ruling class, especially under the regime of Thatcherism.

The Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) differs from the Democratic Party in the U.S. only in this one fundamental aspect: it has no history of a reactionary right-wing like the Dixiecrat opposition within the Democratic Party, seen more recently under the Reaganite regime as the "boll weevils"—right-wing Southerners who, with the support of a substantial number of Democrats from the North, united with the Reaganites to put through the biggest tax cuts for the ruling class and the highest military expenditures ever—"\$1,007,900,000,000, that is, one trillion, seven billion, nine hundred million dollars" since Reagan took office (New York Times, May 14).

The SPD also lacks such star-studded multi-millionaire liberals from the ruling class as the Kennedys, Brad-

the "Bitburg factor," was a tremendous plus for its electoral prospects.

The election was viewed as a national referendum on both domestic and foreign policy issues by Kohl himself. In the end, Kohl had to admit that "this election is without doubt a defeat for the entire party. Our policies have meant sacrifices and many people did not understand this."

That's not what the workers in the Ruhr area say! This industrial basin of North Rhine-Westphalia, just like Pittsburgh and areas of the Midwest here, is now referred to as the "rust belt." Unemployment there is now about 11%, 2% higher than the national figure for West Germany. These workers understand only too well what Kohl's policies mean for them!

The most important point to emerge from the elections is not the victory of the Social Democratic Party, which as we said is no more than a bourgeois labor party at best; it is the repudiation by a massive and significant number of the working class of any efforts by the right-wing to whip up chauvinism, to strengthen the U.S.-West German core of the NATO alliance and, above all, to refurbish some of the old, vicious ultra-rightist and neo-fascist ideology.

The ruling class in the U.S. and in West Germany wasn't ready for this defeat. Bernhard Worms, spokesman for the Christian Democrats and Kohl's protegee for leader of the party, had predicted: "The North Rhine-Westphalia election has thus turned into a new referendum over which political forces should represent the new and better Germany. I am convinced it will be those forces that are in favor of reconciliation, in favor of the Western alliance and against pro-Soviet neutral-

ism that will win on the evening of May 12."

Can't reconcile antagonistic classes

What do they mean by the term reconciliation? Who wants to reconcile with whom, and for what? In a society divided by class antagonisms, this term could be the source of the greatest political and ideological confusion.

The ruling class in the U.S. would like nothing better than to be able to say that it has the adherence of the German people as a whole to its militarist policy, especially as it is directed against the USSR and other socialist countries. The objective of U.S. foreign policy was first to get the German ruling class, whatever was really left of it, to reconcile itself to being tied to the chariot wheel of U.S. financial capital and militarism.

That reconciliation has been accomplished only too well. But it is a different story insofar as the mass of the people, the working class especially, are concerned. They are not pro-Nazi, pro-fascist, or even sold on the capitalist system, particularly as a satellite of U.S. finance capital. That would be a slander against them.

Ever since the end of World War II, the capitalist media here have tried to obscure not only the existence of classes and class antagonisms in the FRG, but even the existence of normal bourgeois political divisions. So great has been the effort of the U.S. ruling class in its pursuit of "reconciliation," which means above everything else the maintenance of NATO militarism!

That is why this mid-term election is such a welcome reminder to public opinion in this country. It deflates the imperialist propaganda regarding the German working class and the mass of the population generally. And it equally gives the lie to the reactionary, right-wing bourgeois sycophants of the West German ruling class.

It gives the lie also to both Worms and Kohl, who tried to put across the idea that there is an identity of interest between the German working class and the predatory interests of U.S. and West German finance capitalism.

But the German workers, like the workers of all Europe, the U.S. and the oppressed everywhere, have no reason, no material basis for the reconciliation which is promoted by the Reagan-Kohl axis.

It should be noted that the U.S. again and again, most strikingly during the Reagan administration, has tried to cover up the deep resentment, fear, as well as popular anti-imperialist sentiment which is growing in Europe. Examples of this sprout everywhere in Europe, but one is of particular interest: the recent demonstrations against the Pope in Holland.

Class content of anti-Pope demonstrations

They are passed off here as merely anti-papal demonstrations where exclusively religious and social issues are involved. Overlooked, however, is that the Pope is also regarded by broad elements of Dutch society as an agent of U.S. capitalist interests.

For instance, the Netherlands trade union federation, which after the merger of the Catholic and Social Democratic unions is now the largest in the country, attacked the Pontiff on social and political issues. It did this, moreover, in a sharp open letter which was particularly timed to coincide with the Pope's visit.

"You are warning the poor masses," the letter read, "time and again about the dangers of 'foreign ideologies,' by which you specifically mean Marxism, while you barely speak, and then often in veiled terms, of the degrading

Continued on page 10

Resistance leader explains Lebanon struggle

By Joyce Chediak

NEW YORK, May 6—"Despite attempts by the European and American media to present the struggle in Lebanon as a sectarian one, the struggle is one for peace in Lebanon and in the area," explained Mustafa Saad, a leader of the Lebanese resistance, to a group of progressives here today. "Our aim," he said, "is to unify all into a national effort."

It was for this very aim and this very effort that Mr. Saad became the victim of a car bomb attributed to Israel. This Lebanese progressive lost his sight and required 900 stitches in his face from injuries received. He is in the U.S. for medical treatment.

The explosion occurred on Jan. 21, a day after Israeli troops were forced to unilaterally withdraw from Sidon in

southern Lebanon. The bomb went off while a meeting was going on in Mr. Saad's house between Moslem, Christian and Druze leaders on how to work together. The explosion collapsed a five-story building killing and injuring more than 50 people. Among the dead was Mr. Saad's 12-year-old daughter.

Mr. Saad, who spoke with strength, dignity and determination, called the situation in Lebanon "very grave at this moment." He described Israel as a "criminal state" for "occupying Lebanese territory, killing and dispersing Lebanese people, trying to occupy all of Lebanon and ignoring all UN resolutions."

In marked contrast, "All international law and principles of human rights permit us to fight for our freedom," he said. "The National Resis-

tance Front includes all the forces concerned with the unity of Lebanon—Christian, Druze and Moslem. We are against sectarianism because it only serves imperialist and Zionist aims in Lebanon and does not help the cause of world peace."

Mr. Saad explained that the Lebanese national forces were fighting for peace not just in Lebanon, but in the entire Arab world, and on behalf of the Palestinian people to establish their own state in their own homeland. "Our struggle, militarily and politically, is for world peace," he added. Mr. Saad ended by making an appeal for political solidarity from progressives here not only for the Lebanese people, but for all national liberation struggles in the Arab world.

'Gaza Ghetto' an honest and moving portrait of Palestinian family

By Joyce Chediak

FOR THE FIRST time in this country a movie that presents the Palestinian point of view is being shown at a commercial theatre. "Gaza Ghetto, Portrait of a Palestinian Family," can be seen at the Film Forum, at 57 Watts Street, New York, N.Y., from May 29 to June 11. The film was shot by American and Swedish filmmakers in the Gaza Strip from 1982-84.

Little is known here about the Gaza Strip, a tiny parcel of land that is the home for 500,000 Palestinian refugees. It is one of the most densely populated areas of the world where families live sometimes 14 to a one-room cinder-block home in camps that were never meant to be permanent. There is nowhere to go in Gaza, nowhere to hide. There are no jobs, little sanitation, and Israeli troops are everywhere.

This film is a moving portrait of one family that has lived in Jabalia, the largest of the camps, ever since the Israelis forced them out of Palestine in 1948. One gets to know the family members—mother and father, sons and daughters, grandparents—and to hear their stories from their own mouths. Each situation elicits outrage and empathy. Each story is enough by itself to justify mass struggle against Israeli occupation.

Along with the births, deaths, and other markings of family life the viewer sees the Israeli soldiers always with in view, one gets the feel of the constant curfews, of the threat from Israeli settlers in Gaza armed with automatic



A scene from "Gaza Ghetto."

weapons.

The viewer becomes part of a huge traffic jam in Jabalia's main street at 4:30 a.m., as the men begin the long ride to Tel Aviv to their jobs. One rides along with an old man who every day must pass his native village in Palestine, where he can never return, as he rides to Tel Aviv to earn a living as a shape-up worker in what the Palestinians call the "slave market."

One hears a woman in her ninth month of pregnancy relive how her mother bled to death during childbirth because the Israeli authorities declared a curfew and would not permit an ambulance to take her to the hospital.

These stories are not unique. Every

family, every Palestinian, faces the same oppression. When 7-year-old Suhail, playing near a demonstration, is killed by Israeli soldiers who fired indiscriminately, his mother explains, "Suhail is my brother, he is my father."

"Gaza Ghetto" is well worth seeing. It is an especially good introduction for those who are new to the Palestinian struggle. But there is one thing that everyone should keep in mind while viewing the film. The 37 years of cruelties, indignities and atrocities inflicted by the Israeli government upon the Palestinians would never be possible without the billions of dollars in aid and weapons that the U.S. gives annually to Tel Aviv.

Meeting tells plight of Israel's Arab prisoners

By Veronica Golos

NEW YORK, May 11—An Evening of Solidarity with Lebanese and Palestinian Prisoners was held here tonight to focus attention on the more than 3,500 men, women and children currently held in Israeli prisons.

The main speakers, Jeanne Butterfield, staffperson of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, and Judith Chomsky, activist in the National Lawyers Guild, have both returned from fact-finding missions to Israel, the West Bank, Gaza and southern Lebanon.

According to Butterfield, since the 1967 Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, 300,000 Palestinians have been jailed for violating some of the over 1,000 Israeli military orders. This amounts to jailing a quarter of the Palestinian population of the West

Bank and Gaza!

She said that a new law, providing a sentence of 20 years for stone throwing, has been added to the unpublished list of these military orders. She also pointed out that "any Israeli soldier can arrest a Palestinian without warrant, which amounts to making every Palestinian in the West Bank and Gaza a criminal to the authorities."

Chomsky described the forced "gentrification" of the Arab people, citing one example at the village of Kfar Kmaneh in Galilee, where in 1976 the Israeli military cordoned off the land, seized all homes built after 1957, including schools and clinics, and gave the land to 15 Israeli families to settle.

The speakers also pointed to the recent removal of more than 1,100 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners from the infamous Ansar prison in

South Lebanon to Israel, in direct violation of the Geneva accords.

Adrien Wing, from the National Conference of Black Lawyers who chaired the meeting, told that she had received death threats and threats at her job as a result of going to the recent Palestine National Council meeting in Amman. She said that this was due to "an attempt to destroy the credibility of any Black person . . . who dares to speak out on behalf of the internationally recognized rights of the Palestinian people."

The meeting also featured Al Watan, a Palestinian dance group, poetry read by the Palestine Youth Committee, and a slide show. The meeting was sponsored by over a dozen Palestinian, Lebanese, Jewish and U.S. human rights and activist organizations.

Join us in the struggle

Workers World Party (WWP) fights on all issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society. All work together in this organization—Black and white, Latin, Asian and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian and gay, disabled, working, unemployed and students.

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—Setback

Continued from page 9

consequences of the capitalist market economy and the ideology of national security."

This remarkable statement, which should be so widely publicized in this country, was published in the last paragraph of an article on the inside pages of the Washington Post (May 13).

The election results in the FRG are a parliamentary reflection of a significant setback for Reaganism, for in West Germany Kohl represents what one might be tempted to call Reagan's clone. Both scorn the working class, both cut social services vital to the mass of the population, both try to enrich the huge corporations, the multinationals, at the expense of growing unemployment (notwithstanding the ephemeral recovery in the U.S.).

Both support the most adventurous, most truly dangerous aspects of the Pentagon, the Star Wars project, which is anathema to the working classes everywhere and which even scares the hell out of the ruling classes of most of Western Europe.

Working class internationalism, the only true internationalism, is now more vital than ever. The election is a reminder of it and should be an opportunity to fortify and strengthen the progressives, the working class and the anti-war movement of the United States.

Charges dropped against 'Kiko' Martinez

Chicano activist lawyer wins battle against 'vindictive' government

By Andy Stapp

MAY 8—The latest of the unending series of federal indictments leveled against Francisco "Kiko" Martinez was dropped today by an Arizona judge who accused the government of "an appearance of vindictiveness" in its campaign to imprison the Chicano activist lawyer.

Martinez has been the object of a government witchhunt stretching back to March 17, 1973, when the Denver cops shot and killed a 20-year-old choreographer of the Crusade for Justice's Ballet Chicano dance group during a 2:30 a.m. raid on a party. Three other people were also shot and 36 arrested by the police who, in their racist frenzy, attacked with both gunfire and rifle-launched grenades!

Martinez represented many of those who had been arrested, not only in court but in street demonstrations and rallies. The young lawyer had already developed a reputation as a fighter on behalf of Colorado prison inmates, in the anti-Viet Nam war movement and for Native people, among whom he had been arrested in Scottsbluff, Neb., the previous January.

The Denver cops, who had provoked seven major anti-police rebellions over the past four years, decided to get rid of Martinez by charging in 1973 that he was involved in sending letter bombs through the mail.

Facing 60 years behind bars and a prevailing atmosphere of anti-Chicano hysteria, Martinez fled to Mexico as police radios transmitted a "shoot on sight" order against him.

Returning from Mexico in the summer of 1980, Martinez was ar-

rested at the Arizona border. Bail was set at \$1,000,000 as Denver TV stations announced that "Colorado's number one fugitive has been captured."

Three trials

He was tried three times. The first in 1981 ended in a mistrial after revelations that the judge had held secret meetings with the cops to railroad him. Hundreds of people demonstrated in defense of Martinez during the trial.

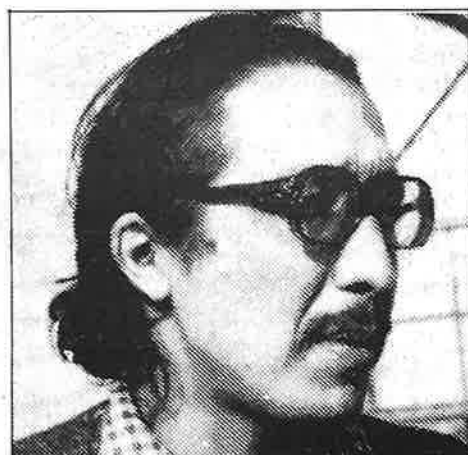
At the second proceeding he was acquitted after five weeks of testimony.

The jury took only four hours to laugh the case out of court.

Then on Jan. 23 Martinez was arrested at home by a paramilitary raiding force of 40 FBI agents. The charge this time was that four-and-a-half years ago he had returned from Mexico using an assumed name!

That's the case Martinez won yesterday, the first time in U.S. history that government charges have been dismissed on grounds of prosecutorial "vindictiveness."

Vengeful and full of spite to the end, the prosecutor has vowed to appeal for yet a new trial.



Francisco "Kiko" Martinez

Free Lindsey Scott, victim of racist use of the rape charge!

By Neville Edwards

MAY 14—On April 20, 1983, the wife of an officer in the Criminal Investigation Division of the military police at Quantico Marine Base, was allegedly raped. Six months later Marine corporal Lindsey Scott was convicted and sentenced to 30 years of hard labor for a crime he did not commit. Scott's only crime is the fact that he is a Black man.

According to the alleged victim, her assailant was a heavy-set Black man with an Afro hair style who lured her into his car. Scott bears no resemblance to her original description of the alleged attacker. Scott has a very conspicuous gold tooth in the front of his mouth, which she failed to mention. His hair was always cut close enough so you could see his skin and his glasses were non-military, as opposed to her description.

Even though the alleged victim and Scott were neighbors and had spoken only a few days before the attack, she failed to identify Scott out of a lineup for several weeks after the attack.

All tests attempting to link Scott to the crime turned out negative; there is no physical evidence at all against Scott. Scott has a positive alibi stating that at the time of the crime he was some 200 miles away. Despite all this, Scott was the only suspect investigated for the crime. Even the TV program 60 Minutes, in a broadcast on the case on Dec. 2, 1984, had to conclude, "They got the wrong man."

Several months before the rape incident, two of Scott's co-workers in the Criminal Investigation Division, both white, were themselves the subject of an inquiry. Both were fined more than \$1,000 and one was relieved of duty for more than two months. Later, this man returned to duty and served as the chief inves-

tigator of the rape charge against Scott.

Scott has knowledge of incriminating evidence that did not come out during the investigation of the two men, and believes there is a connection between this and their readiness to make him a scapegoat on the rape charge.

Col. Richard T. Harry, a 22-year Marine Corp veteran, was the original military magistrate to review the case. Realizing that evidence against Scott was non-existent, he dismissed the charges. Scott was released from the racist confines of the white military court system. But then Colonel Harry was summarily fired the next day, and Scott was thrown back in the Quantico stockade. Although the Military Review Board ordered General David Toomey, the commanding general at Quantico, to retry or free Scott, the general refuses to reschedule a new trial or allow the case to be tried in a civilian court.

Scott grew up in Louisville, Ky., where he is remembered as an outstanding athlete. "I observed him as a rather quiet, serious young man who took his study seriously and applied himself well," said Richard M. Cooper, his English teacher. Scott received a B.S. degree in Law Enforcement Corrections from Eastern Kentucky State University and then enlisted in the Marine Corps.

Racism at base

Quantico Marine Base has been a hotbed of racial tension. A few years ago a cross was burned on the base. When KKK was written all over the barracks, Lt. Col. P.R. Hemming, the battalion commander, dismissed it as "a joke."

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference has raised the base's racist hiring practices and called for a Congressional investigation. Of the 1,142 officers 92.8%

are white and 5% are Black; 63.3% of the enlisted personnel are white while 31% are Black.

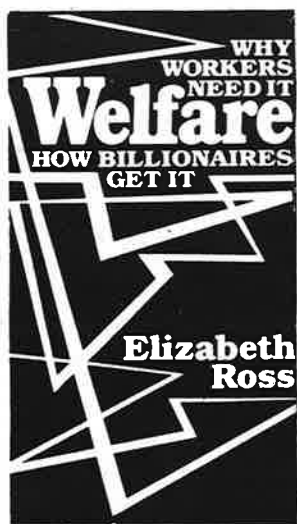
Whites comprise 55% of the civilian work force. Almost all the professional jobs—scientists, engineers, accountants, nurses, and administrators—are held by whites. Black workers make up 40% and are all concentrated in jobs such as painters, service workers, and machine operators.

Women for Equal Justice, a Virginia-based organization, has charged that when Colonel Hemming took office there were 50 Black military policemen in his unit. Since October 1982, 23 of those Black police have been discharged under force by the colonel. The promotion of Blacks has decreased drastically and at least twelve cases of racial discrimination have been brought to the organization's attention. All of the charges stem from the same unit Scott is assigned to, and each complaint names Lt. Col. Hemming as the person responsible for the racist activities.

Historically, the charge that a Black has raped a white woman has been the pretext for lynching and other forms of violence in the South; a way to terrorize entire Black communities and keep Black and white workers divided.

But the determination of Scott, his family and all his supporters is so strong that the Quantico military court system will have to act soon. This is such a blatant case of racist oppression that more and more attention is being drawn to the trial. Following Scott's conviction his family, friends and supporters began organizing a campaign to free him.

Contributions for Scott's defense should be sent to St. Charles Defense Fund, 2704 W. Chestnut, Louisville, Ky. 40211, attention Fr. Patrick Delahanty.



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—Social Security

Continued from page 3

taken out of workers' paychecks by law has to be set aside for the Social Security program. It was never even considered a part of the federal budget until the Johnson administration which included the massive program in its budget figures to hide how large a portion of the budget was going to the war in Viet Nam.

This became known as the "unified budget" and was kept as a permanent bookkeeping gimmick to deceive the people about how much of their tax money was going to war.

Although they can't spend Social Security taxes on war, they can and do loan the money to the Treasury to help it feed the Pentagon's insatiable appetite. And so \$6 billion, \$37 billion or whatever they can squeeze out of seniors will find its way into financing more death machines.

But there's no reason why the people have to go along with Congress and Reagan. It has been protests and mass opposition that kept the politicians from completely slicing up this essential program, and it's time to fight again!



This book examines the special relationship with the state that has allowed the Klan to exist for over a century, despite its criminal history of lynchings, murders and intimidation. How can the Klan be fought? The author reviews the lessons of several significant anti-Klan demonstrations. He shows how the Klan's resurgence in recent years is related to the deepening economic crisis—a crisis which is also generating a consciousness and militancy among Blacks and whites that can stop the Klan in its tracks.

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Nat'l conference to unite anti-Reagan activists



Baltimore volunteers cover city with fightback call

Special to Workers World

BALTIMORE, May 13—Organizers of the National People's Fight Back Conference have been combing the area, building for the coming conference to be held at the Baltimore Civic Center on June 8 and 9.

Organizers report they have held many street meetings and cruised the streets with sound cars in virtually all areas of the city. From college campuses to shopping centers to low-income housing projects, the response has been terrific, according to APC volunteers.

Last week, tables were set up at the University of Maryland College Park and Baltimore County campuses. Many students signed interest slips. Student activists who had attended the April 20 mobilization expressed enthusiasm that there was follow-up activity.

On Saturday, a downtown table registered people for the conference and two other crews worked in the projects, meeting organizers and registering people there as well.

Community organizers have been getting actively involved and books of registration tickets have been distributed throughout the city. Posters about the conference have been put up everywhere.

Darnell Miller, a local organizer, said the "great response" shows how badly people want a Fight Back Conference. She said, "Whether it is due to poor housing or no housing, unemployment, hunger, police brutality or whatever, people are ready to get out and fight back and Baltimore really needs a Fight Back Conference."

Over 100 people turned out for a successful "Motown" fund raiser party which raised over \$225 for the conference.

By Gary Wilson

MAY 14—Had enough? Ready to fight back against Reaganism?

Now you can find out what other people are doing around the country and help to map out plans for building a powerful fightback movement. On Saturday and Sunday, June 8 and 9, a National People's Fight Back Conference will be held in Baltimore, Md. The conference was initiated by the All-Peoples Congress and the People's Anti-War Mobilization.

The conference, which has been in preparation for many months, has already drawn an impressive list of supporters from welfare rights activists in Chicago, to tenants organizers in Boston, to homeless rights activists in Philadelphia, and dozens upon dozens of other organizers and activists.

And that's what this weekend in Baltimore will be—a meeting of organizers and activists. In a letter to over 20,000 around the country, Monica Moorehead of the All-Peoples Congress and Fred Goldstein of the People's Anti-War Mobilization, said, "Chances are that you have participated in some activity in the fight against Reaganism. Whatever your area of activity or interest, at the conference you will meet people from all over the country who share your interests and in the workshops you will be able to exchange experiences which will aid you in your activity."

The letter is part of a mailing to interested participants in the many progressive struggles that have spread across the U.S. from the fight for jobs and human needs and against racism to the anti-war actions and the protests to free South Africa and in opposition to Reagan's war against Nicaragua.

"Beyond that, there will be an exciting Saturday evening rally in solidarity with the struggling people of the world with representatives of the liberation movements from South Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia," the letter continues.

"A glance at the agenda will show that the theme of the opening plenary session is how to build an independent mass movement. And, in fact, this is the main aim of the conference. There

have been hundreds of demonstrations recently on the campuses and in the streets . . .

"We all know that the fight against war, poverty and injustice is a long, hard fight. Many questions of political strategy must be answered so that we can build a truly independent movement that clearly and militantly expresses the interests of the people and that does not fall in line behind politicians who are always ready to compromise and sell out those interests," the letter concludes.

A preliminary agenda has been released by the organizers of the conference. Registration is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 7, at the office of the All-Peoples Congress, 426 East 31 Street, in Baltimore.

On Saturday, June 8, the day will open with a 9:30 a.m. session on "How to build an independent mass movement." It will be followed in the afternoon by workshops on issues such as:

- No U.S. intervention around the world—South Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, Asia; the anti-nuclear struggle.

- Fighting racism and police brutality; fighting the Moral Majority and the ultra-right.

- Students and youth.

- Community issues and the economic attacks on the people—budget cuts, unemployment and the fight for jobs, housing and the homeless struggle.

On Saturday afternoon there will also be a meeting for union activists.

A rally in solidarity with the struggling people of the world is to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday evening and will feature speakers from the liberation movements of South Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia as well as cultural presentations from around the world.

On Sunday morning, the conference will hold regional workshops and a final session on building a Fight Back Network.

For more information contact the All-Peoples Congress and the People's Anti-War Mobilization national office: 19 West 21 Street, Room 703b, New York, N.Y. 10010. In New York, call (212) 741-0633. In Baltimore, call (301) 235-7040.



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