



Reagan escalates Beirut crisis — threatens military action

Weinberger declares 'war' on Middle East



WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

**A victory
for Boston
bus drivers**

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**Namibian
people
reject
puppet
rule**

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By Gary Wilson

JUNE 26—The White House is calling the situation in the Middle East "a war" and is threatening military action by the weekend "if there is no breakthrough."

Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger described the U.S. buildup in the region as "military movements in wartime" and said that this is "the beginning of a war."

Reagan spokesman Larry Speakes said that the White House is committed to taking some action by the weekend and specifically listed several military options including a blockade of Beirut. Speakes, in response to a reporter's question, agreed that such an action is viewed as an act of war under international law.

Although some media reports describe these military threats as posturing on the part of the Reagan administration, the New York Times (June 26) hints that the announcement may have been meant to "buy more time before putting the nondiplomatic options into effect."

There can be no doubt that the U.S. has established a formidable military presence in the Mediterranean. Those forces include: the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Nimitz, the nuclear-propelled guided-missile cruiser South Carolina, the destroyer Kidd as well as five other Naval ships. Also present are a U.S. Marine invasion force as well as the clandestine U.S. Army Delta Force, which carried out the aborted raid into Iran in 1980.

While Weinberger claims that these ships are all in international waters (which doesn't lessen their threatening significance), the Voice of Lebanon radio reports that the Nimitz is within five miles of the Lebanese coast. Although U.S. television has shown pictures of this armada that were shot from the Lebanese shoreline, the media has dutifully repeated Weinberger's story that the flotilla is some 40 miles off shore and therefore supposedly out of firing range.

It is important to remember that ever since the U.S. invasion of Grenada, the Pentagon has openly become the censor of all news involving any possible U.S. military move. This means that whatever news is being reported about Lebanon has been dictated by the Pentagon and all the big business-controlled news media have agreed to go along. There is no way to know the full story of what the Reagan

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Philadelphia?**

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Selma trial attacks Black voting rights

By Phil Wilayto
JUNE 24—A court proceeding that has serious implications for Black communities throughout the South opened today in Selma, Alabama, as three long-time civil rights activists were put on trial on phony charges of voter fraud.

Albert and Evelyn Turner and Spencer Hogue, Jr., have all been active in the civil rights struggle since before the historic 1965 march in Selma that led to the passage of the landmark Voting Rights Act. The three are now charged with altering ballots in the state Democratic primary last September and face up to 115 years in prison and \$40,000 in fines.

Workers World spoke today with Wendell Paris, a member of the Perry County Board of Education and co-chair of the Alabama Black Belt Defense Committee, which has been building support for the Turners and Mr. Hogue.

Mr. Paris explained that the indictments had to be viewed in the context of the whole political and economic situation in western Alabama.

"In addition to Albert and Evelyn Turner and Spencer Hogue, Jr., in Perry County," said Mr. Paris, "five more people have been indicted on similar charges in Greene County, including Spiver Gordan, who has been a national board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for many years. Other FBI and Justice Department investigations are going on in Wilcox, Sumter, and Lowndes counties.

"These counties, which all have Black majorities, are the only counties that have a majority of Black officials, and all of the people being investigated are Black elected officials or voting rights activists. There are ten other counties here that are majority Black, but Blacks hold very few offices there. And there are no investigations of voter fraud in those counties, even though it's very suspicious when a minority of the voters, who are white, keep electing a majority of the office holders."

Mr. Paris went on to explain the relationship of the political structure to the economics of western Alabama.

"In the five Black Belt counties under investigation," he said, "23 out of 25 seats on the boards of education are held by Blacks and those boards are the second-largest employer in the area. That's a lot of jobs. Nineteen out of the 23 county commissioners are Black, and that means that Black people hold the political control.

"And this is an area that is very rich in natural resources, an area that could be developed, but it is now under the control of giant timber companies such as Weyerhaeuser, American Can, McMillan Bloedel and International Paper. So the growth of Black voting power threatens these interests, because Black people are increasingly in a position to influence the future development of this area.

"For example, any new development plans would have to have the approval of Henry Sanders, who was just elected State Senator. Mr. Sanders is the first Black State Senator ever elected from this part of Alabama, and his campaign manager was Albert Turner, who is now on trial.

"So you can see that these indict-

ments are in reality an attack on the right of Black people to exercise political and economic power in areas where they form a majority of the population."

Support growing from civil rights groups

As the true dimensions of these investigations and indictments by the Reagan Justice Department become known, support for the Black leaders under attack is growing. Rallies in Selma and in Birmingham have been addressed by representatives of various civil rights organizations such as the SCLC and by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who carried this part of Alabama in last year's Democratic primary. The case was also raised at the National Peoples Fight Back Conference held in Baltimore June 8-9, and the All-Peoples Congress is urging that telegrams or letters of protest be sent to the Justice Department in Washington, D.C.

For more information, contact the Alabama Black Belt Defense Committee at P.O. Box 5, Gainesville, Alabama 35464.

Anger over police killing surfaces at Perry funeral

By Neville Edwards
NEW YORK, June 21—Demanding that a special prosecutor be appointed by the city to investigate the death of Edmund Perry and that Lee Van Houten, the white cop who shot the 17-year-old honor student, be immediately prosecuted, 1,500 people expressed their anger tonight at a rally at Memorial Baptist Church.

Chanting "Stop killing us" and "Justice for Edmund Perry," the multinational crowd then marched to the headquarters of the 26th Precinct at West 126th Street in Harlem. At the community rally, speaker after speaker referred to the way in which Chief

Medical Examiner Dr. Elliot Gross mutilated Perry's body.

Dr. Weinberg, the former Chief Medical Examiner for Suffolk County, had been hired by the Perry family to oversee the autopsy because of the way Gross previously mishandled the bodies of Michael Stewart, Eleanor Bumpurs and other people who have died due to police brutality. Dr. Weinberg said that if the police had immediately taken Perry to the hospital, located only 100 feet away from the scene of the incident, he could have lived. In fact, the police murdered Edmund Perry twice, once by shooting

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WW PHOTO: JOHNNIE STEVENS

Angry mourners demand justice for Edmund Perry, a 17-year-old honor student shot dead by a racist NYC cop.

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WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

Boston bus drivers celebrate major union victory.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

Bus drivers in Boston won an impressive victory against the local School Committee's attempt to take away seniority rights. Unity between Black and white workers was the key. (Page 5.)

RESPONSE TO AIDS

The struggle against AIDS is a major theme of this year's Lesbian and Gay Pride marches across the country. By "fighting for our lives," the gay community has wrested important concessions from a callous and indifferent government and health care establishment. (Page 12.)

PHILADELPHIA RACISM

Two weeks after the police fire-bombed a Black neighborhood in Philadelphia, the cops rounded up 125 Puerto Rican people after a white cop was killed. None of the Puerto Rican people were charged with any crime. (Page 4.)

SELMA TRIALS

Three veteran civil rights activists are on trial today in Selma, Alabama on concocted charges of voting fraud. "These indictments are an attack on the right of Black people to exercise political power in areas where they form a majority of the population," according to a leader in the Alabama defense committee. (Page 2.)

SALVADOR CRISIS

Reagan's getting bent out of shape over the killing of mercenary Marines in El Salvador is in marked contrast to the official silence over the rape and murder of four American nuns by the U.S.-backed death squads. (Page 7.)

NAMIBIA

South Africa has installed an openly puppet government in neighboring Namibia. While the new government was condemned as a farce around the world, SWAPO vowed never to "succumb to coercion or any threat from the enemy." (Page 6.)

LEBANON CRISIS

Washington continues to rant and rave against Mideastern "terrorists." But the history of U.S. imperialism in the region reveals decades of violence and terror against the oppressed Arab people. (Page 9.)

GENERAL STRIKES

From the Iberian Peninsula to the Caribbean and South America, workers have staged impressive general strikes against capitalist austerity. (Page 4.)

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Phila. cops invade Puerto Rican community

By Rafael Ramos

JUNE 24—Just two weeks after their murderous fire bombing of a Black neighborhood, which left 11 people burned to death, 60 homes destroyed and 250 people homeless, the racist police of Philadelphia rounded up 125 Puerto Rican people from the Spring Garden community.

Emboldened by the acceptance of their earlier atrocity by the media, courts and politicians, the police evidently felt they had the green light to go into any oppressed community.

These arrests in the Puerto Rican community were conducted in an eight-day period after a white police officer was killed. The invasion of the community was initiated by Police Commissioner Gregore J. Sambor, who also masterminded the murder of the MOVE members.

None of the Puerto Rican people were charged with any crimes.

Outrage in the Spring Garden community against police terrorism is long standing. According to Raul Serrano, a leader of Spring Garden United Neighbors, "Everybody is scared of the police department."

Roundups, arrests, and murders have taken place against the Black and Latin community for years. In fact, Philadelphia police became notorious when then Police Commissioner Frank Rizzo led his armed police into the homes and offices of the Black Panther Party and the Young Lords (a Puerto Rican independence organization) during the early 1970s.

Commissioner Sambor's response to the community outrage was to charge that the critics of the police action were motivated by "vested interests." Yes, an interest to keep the people from

being bombed and murdered by the police!

United Neighbors win suit against police

The Spring Garden United Neighbors sued the city and the police in Federal District Court charging that the arrests of solely Puerto Rican residents were illegal and that a police investigation of the killing of the police officer was racist because it was aimed at Puerto Ricans.

According to the New York Times of June 21, Judge Clarence C. Newcomer,

who heard the suit, found "a repeated, persistent pattern of unconstitutional stops, detentions, seizures and frisks" in the police sweep. He called the police behavior "disgraceful" and ordered the department to stop its "unlawful activities."

This only reflects the continued protests by the community and the completely outrageous behavior by the police.

The people of Spring Garden, under the leadership of Spring Garden United Neighbors, have been strug-

gling against the city for the past year. In that time, city gentrification plans have evicted 100 people from one street alone, leaving people without hope of finding decent low-income housing.

What the Puerto Rican and Black people, and all of the oppressed need, is to build an independent movement, free of the courts, city government, or city-imposed "leaders." We must struggle to free ourselves and our communities of police occupation, to take control of our destiny and our communities. Police out of our communities!

Who rules Philadelphia?

By Andy Stapp

JUNE 24—The homeless and many progressives will be marching in Philadelphia this weekend to protest the policies that have led to 1) massive poverty in that great industrial city and 2) the tyrannical nature of police repression there, most recently exemplified by the wild police assault on MOVE that brought mayhem and destruction to an entire Black neighborhood.

But who really makes these policies—the politicians, or others, who operate discreetly behind the scenes?

They have a saying in Philadelphia that "Union Leaguers run the city, whichever party is in power."

The Union League is not to be confused with a trade union. Members of the Union League, an elite Philadelphia club, all sit on the management side of the table. They are the bosses of the Greater Philadelphia First Corporation, Philadelphia Electric, the CoreStates Financial Group, Bell Atlantic, the Philadelphia Port Corporation, Sun Oil, Butcher Capital Markets, the Limpro Company, SmithKline Beckman Corporation and Fidelity Bank.

They are the real masters of the country's fifth largest city.

They run the city, but don't necessarily live in it

When George Butler, the chairman of First Pennsylvania Bank, says, "There's a new cooperative spirit between business and city hall," he is showing uncharacteristic modesty. In Philadelphia, there is nothing "new" about city hall's "cooperative spirit" toward the inherit-the-money and clip-the-coupons crowd that Mr. Butler speaks for, the 200-family business-aristocracy whose life blood depends on inherited trust funds in coal, utilities and railroads.

These people have run the city ever since the Civil War. The names of some of the most prominent are enshrined in the so-called Philadelphia Rosary: "Morris, Norris, Rush and Chew, Drinker, Dallas, Coxe and Pugh."

Many of the 200 do not even live in the city, but in the Main Line suburbs which stretch out due west of Philadelphia along Lancaster Pike, shielded from the sight of the snaggle-toothed, run-down, slum real estate which is the basis of a large number of these suburban fortunes.

The pink-coated gentlemen who ride to hounds at the Radnor Hunt Club, who play the country squire at the Devon Horse Show and close their business deals at the Merion Country Club, tend to view the city itself, with its 4.5 million people in the greater metropolitan area, as a huge, sprawling, dirty Industrial Fact, scary but lucrative. With all their chilly snobbery, the 200 still never forget that their tenure of power is based on exploiting this city's workforce.



Philadelphia bluebloods are organized into their own special military unit. Above, an officer of the First City Troop in his natural habitat.

The Cadwalader family may trace their ancestors back through 95 generations to Adda ap Duw (that is, Adam, Son of God) but they know that their money-insulated world of tennis courts and sunken gardens, great houses, private schools, fashionable churches, and yachts is paid for by the labor of tens of thousands who toil in the mills of Northeast Philly and by the hundreds of thousands of low-wage Black workers who live in the city's second congressional district.

Philadelphia's self-styled "nice people," who are so fond of making speeches at their Charity Ball, know full well that grandfather got rich off the sweatshops and child labor which festered right beneath their family's drawing room windows on Rittenhouse Square.

The representatives of the 200 who meet up on the 25th floor of the Philadelphia National Bank have absorbed in their bones all the subtle connections between law, coal, cricket and politics. They know that while they may live in Swarthmore, the money is rolling in from the mines up in Scranton and Hazleton and from the coal, grain, iron ore and cocoa beans, Australian meat and Chilean fruits brought by thousands of ships every year into the Philadelphia port.

Genteel war profiteers

And ever since the Kent family "did well" in 1917 selling fuse-setters, panoramic gunsights and cline-meters for the military, the 200 have come to see how war can be a blessing. They have reaped a fabulous profit off that \$4 billion Pentagon contract awarded the Philadelphia shipyard to overhaul the aircraft carriers Forrestal and Kitty Hawk, off the contracts for Kelsey-Hayes jet engine parts, Sperry information systems and helicopters manufactured by Boeing Vertol.

While these new armament outlays have provided a profit bonanza for assorted Biddles, Drexels, Pews, Widners, Ridgeways and others among the 200, nothing much has improved for the city's working class.

Last week, 66,000 people lined up in front of the unemployment offices.

The 200 really believe that this will go on forever, that belonging to The Assembly, eating at the Fish House and getting elected Master of the Pickering Hunt is what it's all about and that "nobody socially important lives in North or South Philadelphia."

All the more rude will be their awakening to reality, then, when the people of Philadelphia's great working class districts band together to go out there and pay the Main Line a long-overdue social call.

— Perry

Continued from page 2

him and again by leaving him to die.

Why did the police take the cop who shot Perry to the hospital when nothing was wrong with him, while they left the Black youth to drown in his own blood? "In my 40 years as a mortician I have never seen a body as badly mutilated and butchered as this," stated Mr. Trumbo, who handled the funeral. Perry's tongue had been cut out and his body cut open from his ankle to his head.

C. Vernon Mason, the lawyer representing Perry's family, Jim Butler, president of Local 420, and other speakers compared Dr. Gross to Hitler. Mayor Koch was attacked for his support of ongoing police murders and brutality against the Black youths. Other speakers included Veronica Perry, Edmund's mother, and Brooklyn Assemblyman Roger Green. Columbia University students sent a large delegation.



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General strikes fight austerity plans

By John Catalinotto

JUNE 26—In the past week, workers in four countries from the Iberian peninsula to Latin America walked out in general strikes to protest their government's austerity programs, most often imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on behalf of the major imperialist banks.

Fighting layoffs, cutbacks in pensions and general attacks on the standard of living of the working class, unions stopped work in Jamaica, Spain, Colombia and the Dominican Republic.

Jamaica

A three-day general strike began June 24 in Jamaica, with six unions representing over 250,000 workers calling the walkout to "demonstrate to the government the will of the workers to say no to further layoffs and to the high cost of living," as a labor official told a rally of thousands of delegates Sunday night.

Jamaica's 2.2 million people have been subject to a government austerity program imposed by the IMF. In the past year over 17,000 have lost their jobs, and unemployment is at 26%.

So far in the strike, Water Commission workers have left the northern coast resort of Montego Bay without water, commercial flights have been delayed by striking air traffic controllers, all school teachers, nurses, doctors, sanitation workers and many industrial workers are also on strike.

As if to emphasize the growing resistance to the pro-U.S. Seaga government, even the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, affiliated with Seaga's own party, joined the strike call.

Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, three of the six major union confederations called a 24-hour general strike to demand a reduction in food prices and the approval of a new law allowing a general increase in wages. The strike was preceded by a series of neighborhood stoppages called by the Popular Struggle Committees.

Street fighting took place throughout the country especially in the northern zone of Santo Domingo and in the cities of San Francisco de Macoris and Moca, in the northeast and the north. Troops with automatic weapons and



Jamaica general strike comes at time of political turmoil. Here, an angry crowd disrupts a council meeting on June 13.

police used repressive force against the people of the capital, who fought back by throwing stones and garbage and burning tires to make street barricades.

At least nine people received bullet wounds and hundreds were arrested by the repressive forces.

Colombia

On June 21 in Colombia the 11 independent union federations and the guerrilla organizations supported a call for a day-long general strike by the CSTC union confederation. The strike was especially successful in stopping transport, commerce and various state factories and offices, to protest the social and economic policy of the government.

Spain

Three million workers walked off the job on June 21 to protest a bill introduced by the Socialist Party government that would sharply increase eligibility requirements for national pensions. It was the first general strike since an elected parliamentary government replaced the Franco fascist regime in 1977.

The day-long action was called by the Workers Commissions, with the backing of most other union organizations except for the UGT, which is led by the Socialists. Marcelino Camacho, secretary general of the Workers Commissions, said that 75% of industrial workers and 65% of service and transportation workers went out.

Backed by regional unions, the strike shut down all of the heavily industrialized Basque country and

most of Barcelona. Spain's third largest city, Valencia, was also closed down.

Socialist Premier Felipe Gonzalez has responded to the world-wide capitalist economic crisis by imposing an austerity program on the Spanish working class, much as his fellow-Socialist Mitterrand has in neighboring France. There is 20% unemployment in Spain, one of the highest rates in Western Europe.

In an attempt to intimidate the strikers, the Gonzalez government had strike leaders, mostly communists, arrested in Barcelona, Zaragoza, Palma de Mallorca and Tarragona. Other arrests were made in Malaga, Burgos and Vigo. The 128 trade unionists arrested were released shortly thereafter.

(Information for this article was supplied by Neville Edwards and Chris Anthony.)

Nerve gas funds okayed for terrorists in Pentagon

By Sharon Shelton

JUNE 24—While piously branding liberation fighters across the world as "terrorists," the politicians in the House have voted to hand over \$124.5 million to the terrorists in the Pentagon to start up production of one of the deadliest horror weapons ever known—nerve gas.

Outlawed internationally by the Geneva Protocol of 1925, which banned the use of all chemical weapons, nerve gas attacks the central nervous system, causing a hideous death by paralyzing the lungs. In lesser dosages, it causes brain and psychiatric disorders.

The House vote involved a rejection of a bill to delete from the 1986 military appropriation money earmarked by the Armed Services Committee to build a new generation of chemical weapons, using a binary nerve gas system.

In a feeble attempt to portray themselves as opponents of nerve gas production even as they voted for it, House



members added a provision that the U.S.'s European imperialist allies must agree to store and deploy the weapons before funds can be released. Representatives quoted in the June 20

New York Times, however, admit that it was a "foregone conclusion" that this provision would be dropped during an upcoming Senate-House conference on the bill.

The Pentagon warlords have tried for the last 16 years to get Congress to okay production of nerve gas; Reagan has included a request for chemical agents in every single military budget he has submitted since taking office.

And even without official Congressional approval, the U.S. government has for years maintained huge stockpiles of chemical weapons, including the nerve gas known as Sarin.

These stockpiles and now renewed production of nerve gas show that U.S. imperialism was never really serious when it belatedly signed the Geneva Protocol in 1975, becoming the ninth country to do so and 50 years after the fact.

U.S. germ warfare against Korean people
So it should be no surprise that the

U.S. has the shameful record of using germ warfare against Korea in the 1950-53 war and of using chemicals such as Agent Orange and white phosphorus against the civilian population in Viet Nam. Today the Vietnamese people are still suffering epidemic rates of cancer and birth defects from the 63,000 tons of lethal Agent Orange dropped on their country during the Viet Nam war.

Nerve gas is not only a hideous, genocidal terror weapon. Its production and storage pose a threat to the health and safety of those working in and living near chemical weapons plants and depots.

Working and oppressed people of this country don't need to have their tax money spent on weapons to be used against workers in other lands on behalf of the profit-hungry imperialist corporations. People need jobs, food and the essentials of life, not ever more gruesome weapons that can only bring destruction and death.

Boston school bus drivers win major victory

Broad labor, community backing helps union

By Stevan Kirschbaum
Shop Steward, Local 8751

BOSTON, June 22—On June 20, bowing to months of militantly organized pressure by the 600 school bus drivers (members of U.S.W.A. Local 8751), as well as broad labor and community support, the Boston School Committee majority reversed an earlier decision by voting 7 to 6 to require any new bus company to hire the union drivers with full seniority rights.

The resolution further states, "Thereafter, those drivers shall maintain first priority for school bus driving employment for the School Committee regardless of the contractor. . . ."

Multi-national unity key

While over 200 drivers and supporters picketed outside, 150 drivers, Black, Latin, Native and white, women and men, young and old, who had packed the committee's chambers wildly cheered and jubilantly hugged each other, displaying to the large battery of TV cameras and reporters their unity in victory. It was the same unity they had shown in struggle, with three mass demonstrations and countless press conferences these past three months.

The victory against union busting came as the School Committee is deciding which bus company will manage transportation for 30,000 Boston school children. In the past, every two to three years the city has used this procedure as an opportunity to try to bust the drivers' union.

This victory came after months of bitter struggle with the School Department, reactionary forces on the School Committee, and an alliance of conservative and liberal union busters. They pulled out all stops in their campaign. Both major newspapers ran slanderous stories, editorials and even cartoons based on the School Department's claim that over 50% of the drivers were convicted criminals—drunks, drug addicts and child molesters—a thoroughly scurrilous and racist lie.

Fifteen of the drivers were illegally and unjustifiably fired, witch-hunt style, by School Superintendent Robert Spillane, a known union buster. But in spite of all these attacks, the drivers' union remained firm.

Drivers vote strike

On May 14, the School Committee in a 7 to 5 vote denied the drivers job guarantees and seniority rights. On May 15, nearly 400 drivers overwhelmingly voted to strike if their demands weren't met. This city has seen four successful wildcat strikes by the drivers' union in the last eight years, where the workers have defied court back-to-work injunctions, jail, cops and company-hired goons. In the face of this militant history, the city had no choice but to take the strike threat as deadly serious.

Community-labor support

The drives have worked hard over the last decade to build strong ties with the community and to broaden the political definition of the struggle on the basis of safety for the children and defending the smooth implementation of desegregation. The local's stand against racism is well known throughout the city, from its participation in demonstrations against the KKK to its support of affirmative action and of Mel King, Boston's Black mayoral candidate in 1984.

Thirty-thousand bilingual leaflets were sent home with the children on the buses. Thousands of parents responded, with over 500 volunteering to help in the campaign. The president of the Boston Student Advisory Council organized student support, including

petitions in the schools. The All-Peoples Congress, the Boston Indian Council, Disabled Peoples Liberation Front, United Labor Action and others lent their support. The Boston Teachers' Union, the Greater Boston Labor Council, Local 26 Hotel and Restaurant Workers, IUE, and SEIU were among unions who stood shoulder to shoulder in statements and on picket lines.

Tom Evers, President of the Massa-

chusetts Building Trades and Executive Vice President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, personally told each member of the School Committee just prior to the vote that the 90,000 trades workers and their families wanted a vote for the school bus drivers.

Rehire fired drivers!

The union is still fighting to win the reinstatement of the 15 fired drivers. The job security victory has streng-

thened their resolve to fight and their confidence that they will win.

The lead editorial in today's right-wing Murdoch-owned Boston Herald bemoaned the fact that "the drivers' union had this victory under its belt." To them, the future negotiations with the drivers looks bleak. In light of this victory, they ask, "Why should they (the drivers' union) give up anything at all?"

Why, indeed?



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Hotel strike in fourth week. New York City's luxury hotels remain crippled as 16,000 hotel workers of every nationality continue their militant strike. Their latest tactic is night marches through the midtown area, and the thousands of workers, their families and supporters taking to the streets has shaken up the international hotel chain owners. This pressure will hopefully force the hotels to stop their stalling tactics and negotiate a just settlement.

On The Picketline

Campbell boycott on. Despite the best efforts of the Campbell Soup Company, the New York Times and the Associated Press to sabotage it, the boycott of Campbell Soup products is still on. On June 18, Campbell's violated an understanding with the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), which represents striking farm workers in the Ohio tomato fields, by leaking false information to the press. The Times obligingly ran a story claiming that an agreement with FLOC had been reached, AP picked up the story, and within hours FLOC supporters around the country had read the lie. But FLOC President Baldemar Velasquez issued a statement in Toledo, Ohio, that "a final agreement does not exist. . . . The boycott of Campbell Soup products will continue until we have a signed collective bargaining agreement which calls for sweeping changes in the workers' living and working conditions." In fact, the boycott gained strength just the day before the phony settlement story was leaked; the Catholic bishops of Ohio announced their endorsement of the boycott and urged all Catholic churches and schools to boycott Campbell's products.

Cemetery strike. More than 540 cemetery workers in the New York City area are in the second month of a strike against 12 non-sectarian cemeteries which refused to sign the master contract negotiated with all the other local

cemeteries. The strikers, members of the Cemetery Workers and Green Attendants Union, Local 365 SEIU, expect "a long hard struggle," according to union president Sam Cimaglia, because the cemeteries are clearly out to bust the union. The bosses are represented by the union-busting law firm of Clifton, Budd, Burke, & DeMaria, authors of the book "A Union-Free Environment." The strike has been marked by deep militance and strong picket lines, and Cimaglia has announced plans for a union solidarity strike demonstration to be held at the Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. Area trade unionists are expected to turn out for that event and show the bosses that they will not be allowed to bury the union.

Coors boycott expands. The boycott of Coors beer, an ongoing struggle in the Western states where the brand is sold, has expanded to the Northeast. The student Board of Governors at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst voted in April not to sell Coors at the campus pub. The decision followed hours of presentations by Coors corporate executives and by trade unionists, gay activists, anti-racist activists, and progressive students. The latter coalition addressed the history of racism and union-busting of the Coors operation. A representative of AFSCME Local 1776, which represents service and main-

tenance workers at U Mass, informed the Board that his union had voted to refuse to haul Coors beer if it appeared on the loading docks. A member of GALA (Gay and Lesbian Activists) described how the lesbian and gay community on the West Coast has built a successful boycott of Coors, and urged that the same happen in Massachusetts. The decision to boot Coors also helped result in the creation of a Coors Boycott Coalition in Western Massachusetts.

Unsafe air traffic. Nearly four years after Reagan busted the PATCO strike and fired all the professional air traffic controllers, Congressional hearings now being held are confirming that the skies are more hazardous than ever. The hearings were prompted by the recent revelation that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has sharply underestimated the number of near-misses through all the four years since the PATCO strike, in a huge cover-up of the sorry shape of the air traffic control system. That system remains understaffed, still not even approaching the number of controllers pre-PATCO—even those numbers were unsafe—and literally thousands of near-misses were never reported. Controllers now working, most of whom were hired to replace the strikers, complain of the same conditions of stress and overwork that prompted the 1981 strike, and union petitions are circulating. —By Shelley Ettinger

Namibians protest new puppet rule

By Monica Moorehead

JUNE 24—The racist, apartheid regime of South Africa last week openly installed a puppet government in the former German colony of Namibia. This latest concoction has been exposed and condemned worldwide as a preposterous attempt to mask the oppressive apartheid rule of South Africa's domination over the one million Namibian people and their super-abundant, mineral-rich territory.

Pretoria hopes that installing this phony regime will help to diminish the tremendous support that the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO), the vanguard national liberation movement, enjoys among the Namibian people. However, 500 demonstrators immediately protested this move in a Black township within Windhoek. The police used tear gas

and batons against the demonstrators, injuring at least six people.

What exactly will the "powers" of this new government be? Will it help bring about true independence and self-determination for the Namibian people, who have suffered and heroically fought against brutal colonialism and genocide for decades?

New form of minority rule

First of all, this eight-member cabinet, 62-seat legislature will not be authorized "to make any law altering the international status of the territory," according to the proclamation signed by South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha. In other words, the faces may change but apartheid rule remains intact.

The cabinet will offer only one seat to the Ovambo nation, who comprise

53% of the population or half a million people. Whites, whose population is about 70,000, will have two seats in the cabinet.

This "independent" administration will not control defense and foreign affairs. Apartheid South Africa will retain that critical role. The new administration will have its office in Windhoek, the provisional capital, where evidence of German colonialism is preserved. (The main thoroughfare is named after the imperialist Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany.)

U.S. plays a tricky game

The United States government, the main ally and supporter of South Africa, was publicly, at least, opposed to the establishment of such a government. Washington claimed it wanted to see a cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa, "free elections" and the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia—under the condition that Cuban troops would leave Angola.

But Angola needs Cuban support against the powerful South African army and its puppet group, UNITA. When South African troops were caught red-handed last month trying to sabotage the rich oil fields of Cabinda in Angola, Reagan never condemned the apartheid regime. So Washington's insistence on "linking" a Cuban withdrawal from Angola to independence for Namibia is nothing but a ploy to cover its failure to recognize the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people.

While South Africa is propping up its puppets in Windhoek, according to a press release issued by the Permanent Observer Mission to the UN of SWAPO on June 13, "the illegal regime is currently amassing and re-deploying its occupation forces in various parts of the country, obviously to further intimidate our people and carry out acts of aggression and military attacks against independent African states, particularly the People's Republic of Angola."

The release goes on to say, "The Namibian people, led by SWAPO, will never succumb to racist South Africa's tyranny and maneuvers. We will continue to intensify the struggle on all fronts in order to frustrate all the machinations of the Boers and create conditions for the total liberation of the motherland."

"Now is the time for all the Namibian patriots from all spheres of our



Namibian people rally against the illegal settler rule

society to join hands, as they have done before, in opposing the bogus schemes engineered by racist occupiers of our country. It is the responsibility of every Namibian man, woman and child to take a solemn oath, in the name of the fallen martyrs and heroes of our Resistance, to defend the integrity of the heroic struggle, to reject the

U.C. Regents won't divest; student campaign goes on

By Gloria LaRiva

SAN FRANCISCO, June 21—After a two-day meeting at the University of California (UC) Extension here, the UC regents have refused to remove the university system's \$2.4 billion in investments from 33 U.S. corporations that do business with South Africa. They voted 16-10 for a completely phony plan to set up a committee that will "review corporate behavior" of the companies investing in the apartheid regime.

In doing so, they rejected a rather weak divestment proposal which called for divestment in two years and had been further compromised with a provision that the divestment would have to meet judicial approval.

Even this proposal was too drastic for the regents, many of whom represent the biggest corporate and banking firms in California. Of the 28 regents, almost half have their own direct investments in the very same companies they are being asked to vote on.

This decision, however, in no way reflects the level of anti-apartheid struggle, which continues to intensify.

During the two days of meetings, over 80 people were arrested as they disrupted the regents or demonstrated outside. At a mass rally of 1,000 people that followed a march from UC Extension to downtown Union Square, the

overwhelming attitude was for continued fight back in the fall.

Ken Simons, head of the Berkeley-campus Faculty for Full Divestment, promised the ongoing involvement of thousands of faculty members in the nine-campus system. He said, "At Berkeley we now number 1,000 and have committed ourselves to grow two-fold . . . We are counting on our colleagues to join us in this righteous battle."

Students from the other UC campuses gave updates on their actions this year in support of the struggle in South Africa. Chris Dodson, president of UC-Riverside's student body, said that despite that campus' conservative reputation, 25% of the students signed the petition demanding full divestment, and in a recent rally, 400 of the 4,000 students turned out.

A student from UC-Los Angeles spoke of that administration's surprise when 4,000 students turned their April 23 demonstration into a three-day occupation of Murphy Hall, and then set up "Mandela tent city" for two-and-a-half months.

Walter Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the San Francisco County Labor Council, announced a unanimous decision of the general body calling on all member unions to immediately divest their pension funds.



WW PHOTO: JANE CUTTER

San Francisco protesters blast University of California regents' refusal to divest its holdings in corporations doing business with South African apartheid.

Racist So. Afr picketed in R

By Don Zeigler

ROCHESTER, June 24—A local theatre here has responded to repeated community picketlines and agreed to schedule the showing of a film sympathetic to the struggle of the people of South Africa against the apartheid regime.

Since June 19, the All-Peoples Congress has been picketing the Little Theatre to protest the showing of "The Gods Must Be Crazy," a film which violates the United Nations-sponsored cultural boycott of the racist South African regime. "The Gods . . ." was produced in South Africa by white South Africans and has been widely distributed in the U.S.

In addition to violating the cultural boycott, the film is racist, per-

Which 'innocent victims' in El Salvador?

By John Catalinotto

JUNE 25—In a week filled with sanctimonious propaganda in the big-business media directed at people fighting for liberation on three continents, the award for pious hypocrisy should go to Ronald Reagan himself for his talk on the four U.S. marines killed by a detachment of liberation fighters in El Salvador.

To anyone familiar with the history of El Salvador over the past five or six years, Reagan's attempt to characterize the marines, these symbols and substance of U.S. military might, as "innocent victims of vicious evil" must sound like a message from the twilight zone. If the marines are victims at all, it is of Reagan's Central America policy.

After all, U.S. policy in El Salvador has meant government by death squads, with the murder of over 40,000 Salvadoran men, women and children, from the local peasant leaders and trade unionists to the Catholic archbishop. It has meant keeping the oligarchs and the imperialist firms in the driver's seat.

For the past two years, it has meant the heaviest bombing and most ferocious aerial war ever seen in the Americas, killing thousands of innocent civilians and creating a million refugees.

Should there be any surprise then that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), said of the marine incident, "Did Ronald Reagan think that he would come to make war in El Salvador and that his soldiers were not going to die?"

Contrast to the four murdered nuns

Lest anyone think that Reagan is simply a zealous defender of all U.S. citizens, it is useful to recall his reaction to an earlier killing, the murder of four American churchwomen, three nuns and a lay sister.



After years of grisly scenes like this in El Salvador, is it any wonder that the "death squad" regime and its U.S. backers are targets of guerrilla attack?

On December 2, 1980, as they drove away from the San Salvador airport, the four—Ita Ford, Maura Clarke, Jean Donovan and Dorothy Kazel—were stopped, raped, shot and left in a shallow grave near Zacatecoluca, 26 miles southeast of the capital.

For the marines, Reagan vows he and the Salvadoran puppet government will "move any mountain, ford any river" to bring those responsible "to justice." For the nuns, then Secretary of State Gen. Alexander Haig made the excuse that they had "run a road block," implying they deserved their fate. President-elect Reagan said little, nor did he become any more concerned once his new administration was sworn in.

You see, the four churchwomen had been raped and killed by the U.S.-trained and supplied Salvadoran National Guard, the scum of society that U.S. imperialism usually finds among its puppet troops. It wasn't until May

1984 that anyone was sentenced for this crime, and then only to clear the way for a Congressional vote for \$62 million in military aid for the El Salvador armed forces.

On June 22 Reagan also vowed to punish not only those who carried out the shooting of the marines, but those "who gave the orders." In the case of the four women, only five low-ranking soldiers were punished. Any officers were covered up for, and among those who were "aware of and for a time acquiesced in the coverup," according to a report issued by retired Federal Judge Harold Taylor in May 1984, was El Salvador's Minister of Defense Vides Casanova.

To the Reaganite strategists, drumming up sympathy with the marines is part of whipping up a militarist fever. A look back at the case of the four women exposes this feigned concern with "victims" as another tool of imperialist war propaganda.

U.S. machinations blamed for arson at Nicaragua Embassy

By Andy Stapp

JUNE 20—The arson attacks yesterday against the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, which caused \$50,000 in damages, were incited, according to an embassy spokesman, "by the hostile rhetoric against our government" pouring out of the Pentagon, the White House and Capitol Hill.

Many progressive groups and individuals were quick to show their solidarity with the Republic of Nicaragua by condemning this latest act of counter-revolutionary terror, among them the People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM).

In a support message to the embassy staff, which denounced the arson as "an act of aggression against the Nicaraguan people," the PAM statement noted that the incident "cannot be isolated from the ongoing illegal war be-

ing carried out by the Reagan administration," nor should it be forgotten that it came only "days after the U.S. Congressional vote which awarded \$37 million more to the CIA-financed Somocista thugs known as contras."

In light of the assault, PAM pledged "to continue to step up the important work of mobilizing anti-war opinion in the U.S. so that the people of Nicaragua, and of all Central America, can be free to determine their own destiny."

Meanwhile, in Nicaragua itself, the population remains on an invasion alert as U.S. battle fleets prowl off the coasts.

Explaining defense strategy, Hugo Torres, the head of the political section of Nicaragua's army, said last week, "This is our territory and we're going to fight in the capital, in the streets, in the cities, on the highways and in the

mountains."

The interventionist troops, he said, will be "far from the comforts of home and their families, living among a population that is hostile, constantly confronting death. That woman who serves a soldier a glass of water or a plate of food can poison him. That man with a .22 can kill a U.S. soldier. That man, skilled in the use of a machete, can annihilate a U.S. soldier."

"From our perspective, it will be organized anarchy directed against the invading force. And we have made calculations based on all the Central American territory, because a North American intervention against Nicaragua is an intervention against Central America. We believe that at the hour of a North American intervention, the borders will be erased."



ter regime.

puppets and traitors and to ensure the victory of our sacred cause by joining in ever greater number SWAPO and its military wing, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN).

"We must not succumb to coercion, intimidation or any threat for the enemy to impose on us 'Muzorewas' and Quislings."

African film Rochester

petuating racial stereotypes under the guise of "comedy," ignoring the horrors of the apartheid regime and its treatment of non-whites, and mocking the struggle of people there for their liberation.

Although the Little Theatre has continued showing the film, many people have decided not to cross the picketline. An additional number have been discouraged as a result of media reports of the protest. Now, as a result of the picketing and negotiations with the APC, the theatre management has agreed to schedule the film "Generations of Resistance," which deals with the struggle against apartheid from a progressive point of view.

Informational picketing of "The Gods . . ." continues nightly.



Can the U.S. President really be considered "Commander-in-Chief" over the military any more? What is the role of the Pentagon? How were 170 retired admirals and generals able to dictate a significant change of course in U.S. foreign policy? . . . \$2.00

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GENERALS OVER THE WHITE HOUSE

EDITORIAL

The real issue

TERRORISM. Webster's defines it as the systematic use of violence. The newspapers and TV have been throwing the word into our faces every day for weeks now—terrorists are made to lurk around every corner and the threats seem to mount with each passing day.

Terrorist has become the code word to define everyone who is fighting Washington around the world. Terrorism is the top of the news every night and CBS's elder anchorman, Walter Cronkite, was even brought out of virtual retirement for a CBS-TV special on terrorism to give respectability to the latest "noble battle" being waged by the Reagan administration to defend "the American way."

Terrorism, however, is not the real issue. Terrorism is the word that is used in a sophisticated propaganda war meant to spread fear and confusion among the people of this country. The issue is not terrorism but war.

The campaign being whipped up by the Reagan administration, Congress and the big business-controlled media against terrorism is a mask to cover U.S. engagement in a global, undeclared war. And every report of terrorism is really a report from the battlefields of this war.

Consider where the reports of "terrorism" come from—Lebanon

and the rest of the Mideast, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba and other parts of Central and South America as well as southern Africa.

In each of these areas, as we've reported week after week in these pages, the U.S. government has engaged in the most violent, ruthless, militaristic acts, some bordering on barbarism, in wars against national liberation struggles in these areas. The U.S. Navy's battleship New Jersey dropped some of the biggest non-nuclear bombs ever made on civilian Shiite neighborhoods in Beirut, Lebanon; the CIA mercenary army attacking Nicaragua regularly maims, kills and rapes any and all Nicaraguans it encounters in its pirate raids across the Honduras border; and the list goes on and on.

This sort of "systematic use of violence" is not what the President, Congress or the media are calling terrorism. But that is the real terrorism that is causing fear and misery for millions around the world.

For those of us in this country who are fighting for a better world, this is the terrorism we are committed to bringing to an end. Just as we will continue to oppose the "peaceful" capitalist system of racism, unemployment and hunger that spawns the Pentagon's war buildup.

Pentagon pickpockets

SURE, THERE'S BEEN scandals, millions in fraudulent charges, thousands of dollars just for a single toilet seat, \$90 just for a \$6 wrench.

But can the entire military industry be labeled corrupt? Are they all just ripping off taxpayers under the guise of "defense"?

The answer appears to be yes, according to a news release from Representative John Dingell (D-Mich). He made public a list this week from the Pentagon Inspector-General showing that every one of the top ten military contractors is facing federal criminal investigations for mischarging, overcharging, false claims, bribery and bid-rigging.

Besides General Dynamics, whose ripoffs have been highly publicized, Rockwell International and McDonnell-Douglas head the list of corporate con artists.

Since the relationship between Pentagon officials and executives of these military corporations can

only be described as incestuous, with retired generals by the truckload filling high-paying corporate jobs and former corporate executives placed in key civilian Pentagon positions, how can anyone with his head screwed on straight expect the Pentagon to honestly investigate these ripoffs and bring the criminals to justice?

The entire trillion-dollar war buildup by the Reagan administration is showing itself more and more each day to have been a criminal conspiracy. Its intent was not just to rip off the taxpayers, but to use U.S. military might to bully the peoples of the world to accept the dictates of U.S. corporations.

"Defense" of the U.S. has had nothing to do with the trillion dollars spent. It's time there was a real investigation, a people's investigation into what our trillion dollars was spent on and why. It's time to bust up this criminal conspiracy and bring the perpetrators to justice.



Xuan Thuy: Vietnamese negotiator who never blinked

By Bruce Bradshaw

JUNE 21—Xuan Thuy, the revolutionary Vietnamese diplomat who steadfastly negotiated the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from his country at the Paris peace talks, died yesterday of heart failure at the age of 73.

Xuan Thuy will always be remembered for his rock-hard, unblinking resistance to the more than four years of insults, threats and bullying from the U.S. government side in Paris from 1969 to 1973.

The most difficult moments were the secret sessions when, along with Le Duc Tho, he stood up to Henry Kissinger's repeated warnings that Nixon was prepared to use nuclear weapons. Neither of the Vietnamese negotiators was prepared to give back to Kissinger at the bargaining table what the Pentagon had lost to the Vietnamese on the battlefields as well as to the anti-war public here in the U.S.

Xuan Thuy began taking part in the communist and national liberation movement early in life, joining, at the age of 14, the Revolutionary Youth League founded by Ho Chi Minh.

Arrested at 16 and then again two years later by the French colonialists,



he was imprisoned at the notorious Poulo Condore "Devils' Island" camp in the South China Sea. Shortly after his release Xuan Thuy joined the Indochina Communist Party. He was caught and jailed for another six years, during which he edited Suoi Reo, an illegal newspaper put out right under the noses of the prison authorities.

Freed from confinement by the August 1945 rising against Japanese imperialism, Xuan Thuy was soon elec-

Continued on page 9

Abortion rights defended in D.C. demonstration

By Sue Davis

JUNE 22—A woman's right to safe, legal, accessible abortion was defended in two separate but related actions in Washington, D.C., this morning.

The National Organization for Women (NOW) organized a picket line outside the misnamed National "Right-to-Life" (RTL) convention while Cardinal O'Connor was addressing the anti-abortion, anti-woman assemblage. Chanting "Right to life remains a lie, you don't care if women die," 150 demonstrators marched outside the Hyatt Regency, easily shouting down a handful of counter-pickets.

Earlier this morning NOW members gathered crosstown at the Pre-term Center for Reproductive Health to face down anti-abortionists organized by the Pro-Life Action Network. When Network members attempted to block the entrance to the clinic, 29 of them were arrested. Although women seeking the clinic's services were forced to walk a gauntlet of anti-abortion harassment and intimidation, Terry Beresford, Pre-term's associate direc-

tor, told the Washington Post that "We expected this to happen and we took steps to secure the building. We were able to provide services to everyone who came this morning."

The Network's attempted sit-in is part of its "Year of Pain and Fear" campaign, which simultaneously exposes its anti-woman intent and the usual sanctimonious defense of the fetus. It plans a variety of anti-abortion actions, one each month, with a national prayer vigil, for instance, scheduled for July 20, a sit-in in St. Louis on August 10, and a so-called "national day of rescue" on September 14.

While this reactionary trend is given a green light by Reagan with one hand, he is hypocritically slashing with the other all the economic and social programs needed to help women provide for children. That Reagan is actually creating the very conditions that force some women to have abortions or become sterilized, with the harshest suffering inflicted on the poorest and most oppressed, must be thoroughly exposed and fought against.

Correction

IN LAST WEEK'S issue (June 27), the second paragraph of the article "Racist mayor gets boot in Jersey City" should have read:

"He lost to Anthony Cucci, the mayoral candidate who beat a typically corrupt New Jersey machine basing his campaign on the movement for low-income housing and rent control against McCann's openly racist, anti-poor program."



By Bob McCubbin

The birth of the gay liberation movement brought the fight against gay oppression into the streets. This pamphlet explains gay oppression in a way which is relevant to all working and oppressed people. It traces the history of lesbians and gay men from ancient society to the present day.

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The roots of resistance in Beirut

By Joyce Chediak

JUNE 25—This week, Ronald Reagan called the hijackers of TWA flight 847 "uncivilized barbarians" who were attacking "all Western civilization." It's easy to call a people names who are 6,000 miles away. Neither Reagan nor the daily media, however, are discussing what the U.S. and Israel have done to Lebanon. Let's stop for a minute and look at who should be called names.

- In 1958, President Dwight Eisenhower sent 14,000 Marines to Lebanon to put down a rebellion of poor people and Arab nationalists that was about to kick out a corrupt, pro-West regime.

- By 1969, 400 U.S. banks and corporations were operating out of Beirut. While U.S. businesses and a handful of corporations grew rich, the Lebanese workers and peasants were steadily impoverished by these companies, who paid no taxes. When the Palestinians and Lebanese held huge strikes, Washington began to arm the Phalange and other fascists, sending the weapons via Israel. In the civil war that followed, Israeli gunships would provide back-up for the fascists from time to time. Fifty thousand people died.

- Tel Aviv, with money and weapons provided by the Pentagon, bombarded southern Lebanon regularly from the early 1970s to 1982. According to a United Nations committee on refugees, between 1978 and 1981 alone as a result of these attacks 3,000 Palestinian and Lebanese families lost bread winners, 8,000 people were disabled, 11,000 orphaned, 5,000 wounded and 300,000 made refugees.

- In 1982, with the green light from then-Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and the very latest in the Pentagon's sophisticated weapons, the Israeli government staged a mammoth invasion of Lebanon. In three months about 50,000 Palestinians and Lebanese were killed, 80% of them civilians. Among the Lebanese the Shiites, the poorest of all the groups, were hardest hit.

Civilians were targeted. Tel Aviv used cluster and phosphorus bombs, anti-personnel weapons outlawed internationally. The U.S. government paid \$2 billion for this genocide and afterwards cynically declared that the invasion presented "a new opportunity for peace" in the Middle East.

- After the invasion, Washington installed a fascist, Amin Gemayel, as president against the will of the Lebanese people and began financing and training a Lebanese army which represented only the fascists and business elite in the Christian communities, while the overwhelming majority were Moslem.

- In September 1982 Reagan sent 2,000 Marines to Lebanon. While they were supposedly sent to "keep the peace," soon they were bombarding mountain villages and the poor suburbs south of Beirut. Here, 800,000 people, mostly Shiites, had become permanent refugees from the south. They were clustered in bullet-riddled shantytowns, sometimes 12 and 14 to a home, in an area with little sanitation or electricity.

- By late 1983 there were 40 U.S. ships poised off the coast of Lebanon with 30,000 troops aboard. This included three aircraft carriers with 300 fighter planes. From September 1983 to February 1984 U.S. ships were shelling and Marines and planes were firing on this tiny nation of only 3 million people. In just one day in the fall of 1983, 28 U.S. fighter planes flew over mountain villages and dropped cluster bombs, an anti-personnel weapon. Bombs designed specifically to kill or maim people are against international law, and the use of them is a war crime.

- On Feb. 8, 1984, the battleship New Jersey fired more than 250 16-inch shells and 300 5-inch shells on Lebanese suburbs and villages. The 16-inch shells are packed with explosives until they weigh as much as a Volkswagen. Each shell leaves a crater 50 feet across and 20 feet deep!

- As the Israeli occupation army was being forced out of southern Lebanon by freedom fighters in the spring of 1985, Tel Aviv implemented an "iron fist" policy. Large troop forces surrounded villages and held them under siege. Over 100 people were killed, many shot on the spot. Homes were blown up and bulldozed; food stored by the villagers for the winter was spoiled. Mosques were desecrated and copies of the Koran, the Moslem bible, torn to shreds. The Jabel Amel hospital was stormed, doctors detained, and hundreds of blood donors harassed and beaten. On March 3, a mosque was blown up with people inside. A few days later Washington vetoed a UN resolution condemning Israel for these actions, claiming the resolution was "one-sided."

At this time, men and women between the ages of 14 and 60 were indiscriminately rounded up and detained for questioning. Amid international outcry, some were carted off to Israel in violation of the 1949 Geneva Accords. Most of the 766 Lebanese and Palestinians whose release the hijackers are demanding were arrested in this way. Last week, the American hostages called for the release of the Israeli-held prisoners at a Beirut news conference. Said Peter Hill, 57, from Hoffman Estates, Ill., "They're hostages, we're hostages."

- On March 8, 1985, a huge car bomb exploded in the Beirut suburb of al-Abed, killing 80 innocent people and wounding more than 200. The bomb was planted by a fascist group hired by the CIA in an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate a Shiite religious leader. The explosion demolished a 6-story apartment building and several vehicles and caused major fires. Victims, many of them sitting in their own homes, were either buried alive under the debris, burned in their cars or hit by flying metal and rocks. According to some press reports, the American hostages were taken to the site of this car-bombing to see what the U.S. government has done to Lebanon.

Who are the real "barbarians" with regard to this tiny, tortured country? Who is disrupting civilization? A review of the facts makes the answer all too clear.

Geneva. For his stubborn and artful defense of the Laotian and Vietnamese peoples, Xuan Thuy earned the enmity of Harriman, and later Kissinger—a "small price to pay for freedom," he would later say with a modest laugh.

Xuan Thuy went into all these negotiations with one tremendous advantage over those sitting on the opposite side of the table. He had the sure and certain knowledge that his comrades were fighting a people's war and that, given their determination to see it through, victory was always certain.



Why Lebanese are angry: Rescue workers pull victims from rubble on March 8 after Beirut bombing by CIA-hired terrorists. Note banner on building reads: "Made in USA."

Kurdish concert turns into political event

By Michael Bar-Am

NEW YORK, June 21—Over 200 enthusiastic supporters of the Kurdish people's heroic struggle for self-determination attended an electrifying concert this evening given by Shivan Perwer and Gulistan. Both are Kurdish political exiles and live in Sweden.

The Kurdish nation of 18 million people is one of the largest ethnic groups in the Middle East. Their homeland, Kurdistan, is politically divided between Iran, Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

Turkey is ruled by a U.S.-backed fascist military junta, has U.S. military bases and is a member of NATO. There are nine million Kurds who live in Turkey. It is illegal for them to speak Kurdish publicly or to give their children Kurdish names. This is one part of what the Kurdish struggle is about.

Shivan was born in Turkey and has been in exile since 1976. While he is little known in the U.S., his popularity among Kurds and progressive Arabs,

Iranians and Turks is immense.

This writer spoke to a progressive Turkish student who travelled over 400 miles for the concert and was going back the next morning. Shivan's last concert in the Middle East was held in Beirut in 1978 and thousands of Kurds attended. Today his tapes are banned in Iran, Iraq and Turkey.

Shivan is a revolutionary who does not sing for money. He describes himself as a teacher. His U.S. tour has been sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee in Solidarity with the People of Kurdistan.

At tonight's event, solidarity messages were given by the Solidarity Committee with the People of Turkey, Workers World Party, the People's Anti-War Mobilization, and the Iranian Students Association/Supporters of the Iranian Peoples Fedayeen Guerrillas. The program was introduced by the well-known Kurdish poet Mahmoud Bakshi.

— Reagan escalates

Continued from page 1

administration is doing in the region based on reports in the censored U.S. media.

In fact, Washington is increasingly dominated by the White House and the Pentagon. What the current situation shows most clearly is that the government is moving more and more away from any of the democratic institutions that are supposed to represent the people. Power is more than ever in the hands of the President and the military.

That Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger and Reagan spokesman Larry Speakes can define the current situation in terms of the U.S. carrying out "acts of war" shows this most clearly. Declarations of war are not the responsibility of the President or the Pentagon. The Constitution clearly states that **only Congress can declare war!**

But as the U.S. has stepped up its war buildup over the last few years and as it has increased its unofficial wars of imperialism in the Middle East, Central America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, the executive branch of the government has taken over more and more of the powers that constitutionally belong to Congress.

This is because the people of this

country have been and continue to be against war. Congress is more subject to popular pressure than the small clique that runs the White House and the military-industrial complex. Every survey published over the last week and a half says that the majority in this country are opposed to any U.S. invasion of Lebanon, and such an action could only be launched **against the will of the people of this country.**

The crisis in Lebanon is a crisis created by the ruling powers in the U.S. The hostages from TWA Flight 847 are really hostages of the U.S. imperialist drive for total world domination. Any careful examination of all the facts shows this to be true.

For the anti-war movement in this country, the topmost issue is the U.S. military threat. That is what must be targeted and must be the focus of any and all actions in this period, for it is too easy to get caught up in secondary issues that are not critical at this time of grave war danger.

There are many possible peaceful solutions that could guarantee the safety of the hostages. But all such solutions begin with the U.S. withdrawing its military threat in the region. That is the first necessary step. And that is what must be fought for.

— Xuan Thuy

Continued from page 8

ted to the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and edited the guerrilla newspaper Cuu Quoc as the battle resumed against the returning French Army.

In the period between the first and second Indochina wars, Xuan Thuy confronted U.S. big-business magnate and imperialist diplomat W. Averill Harriman across the bargaining table at the 1961-62 conference on Laos at

Chinese community calls NY bank 'murderer'

By Robert Dobrow
NEW YORK, June 25—Residents in the Chinese community here are outraged by how federal and local officials have handled last Friday's collapse of the Golden Pacific National Bank, a small New York bank that plays a major role in this community.

The bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which is supposed to guarantee accounts of up to \$100,000. But because of banking fraud and government inaction, hundreds of people who had money at the bank could lose as much as \$70 million altogether.

"Murderer of our community!"

chanted over 100 depositors who marched on the bank's offices yesterday afternoon. "FDIC, get out of our community," they yelled at bank officers inside. "Federal bias against Chinese-Americans," read their signs.

Mayor Ed Koch, who is nowhere to be seen in this community when it comes to speaking out against rat-infested tenements, sweatshops, high rents, or run-down schools, made a hasty appearance at the demonstration to try to "calm the crowd." But people didn't want to hear a lot of words, they wanted to know when they would get their money. Koch had nothing to say.

Meanwhile, inside the bank, federal auditors were reportedly "distressed" by the demonstration outside and told the press that they thought "the crowds might be storming the bank."

What is happening at Golden Pacific is part of a pattern of bank closings around the country. However, there is a big difference. When banks that serve multi-millionaires, giant corporations and other so-called institutional investors collapse, then the federal government rushes in with billions of dollars to bail out the needy rich. This is what happened over a year ago with the collapse of the \$40-billion Continental Illinois Bank in Chicago. The

\$100,000 limit on insured accounts was bypassed by the FDIC and not one wealthy depositor had to wait in line or lose a dime.

But when it comes to a small savings bank where working-class people and small businesses have accounts, the Reagan administration has a different scenario. At savings banks throughout the state of Ohio, more recently at Maryland's Old State Savings & Loan, and now at the Golden Pacific, depositors are told to "wait," "have patience," "don't panic," while their money is held up in endless government red tape and bureaucracy. The workers are left holding the bag, expropriated of their hard-earned savings.

In the Chinese community, many of those who had deposits at the bank are undocumented workers who feared that if they used their real names on their bank accounts, they could be deported. Others were defrauded by bank officials into putting their money into phony accounts.

FDIC officials assert that it is "extremely difficult" for them to sort out the bank records because "most of it is in Chinese." Community residents, on the other hand, are charging the government with racism and discrimination.

Thai army occupies Lao land

By Paddy Colligan
NEW YORK, June 19—Thailand continues to occupy a strip of territory in western Laos more than a year after first taking it over, Laotian UN ambassador Kithay Vongsay charged today. The Lao Peoples Democratic Republic is determined to defend every inch of its land and to maintain its sover-

eignty in the face of aggression from its bigger, more powerful neighbor.

A year ago Thai soldiers attacked and held three villages in Paklay district west of the Mekong River. Local defense forces and the Laotian military resisted but were overcome. The villages fell under a harsh Thai administration, according to Laotian offi-

cials speaking at this time last year.

Laos then mounted a partially successful diplomatic campaign to put pressure on Thailand to withdraw. In October Thai forces pulled out of the villages themselves, but have remained some 300-500 yards inside Laos along the border near the villages. There have been additional attacks on Laotian civilians in other areas near the Thai-Lao border.

These violations of Laotian sovereignty must be seen in the context of powerful interests that continue to deny peace to the people of Southeast Asia. Thailand continues to serve the needs of the U.S. military and has enabled the ousted Kampuchean forces to keep up a war on Kampuchea. Laos, the smallest of the three Indochinese countries which beat back the U.S. a decade ago, has only three and a half million people. Thailand, with over 50 million people, a well-armed, U.S.-supplied military, and control over much of land-locked Laos' foreign trade, is in a position of strength for the moment.

Thailand defends its seizure of Laotian land by referring to U.S.-made maps favoring its claims. It is also putting considerable pressure on Laos through manipulating the 30,000-40,000 Laotian refugees in an overcrowded detention center at Na Pho. Would-be refugees are encouraged to demonstrate their opposition to the Laotian government in order to qualify for political refugee status, the only way those without family outside Laos will be accepted into Thailand.



WW PHOTO: STEVE GILLIS

'We're not punching bags!' Marchers demand an end to police brutality and that charges be dropped against Long Guang Huang, who was arrested after being viciously beaten by a Boston cop.

'Justice for Mr. Huang!'

By Phebe Eckfeldt
BOSTON, June 18—"Justice for Mr. Huang!" and "Drop the charges now!" yelled 300 angry people, Asian, Black, Latin, white and lesbian, gay and straight as they marched through the Asian community today.

Leading the march, Asian community people chanted in Chinese and carried signs against police brutality. Organized by the Committee to Support Long Guang Huang, the demonstration was called to protest the police beating of Mr. Huang and his continued harassment by the courts.

The march route passed by the site where on May 1 Huang was brutally beaten by undercover police detective Francis G. Kelly, Jr. More than a dozen witnesses have testified the assault was unprovoked and unjustified.

Mr. Huang is a recent immigrant from China and speaks no English, but he is charged with solicitation. He is also charged with assault on a police officer, although he is 56 years old, 5 foot 4 inches and weighs 125 pounds, while Kelly is 6 feet tall and weighs 200 pounds.

Huang spent considerable time in the hospital and is unable to work for six months due to his injuries. Kelly, meanwhile, draws full pay and faces no criminal charges.

One of the chants at today's march was "Drop the charges on Mr. Huang, put them on Kelly where they belong!"

A petition circulated by the committee at the demonstration demands the following: 1. Drop all charges now against Mr. Huang. 2. Suspend Kelly during the investigation without pay. 3. Draw up an immediate plan to eliminate the "Combat Zone." (The city has located the "Combat Zone," Boston's pornographic district, in the heart of Chinatown Village where 300 Asian families make their home.) 4. Establish a civilian review board to oversee police activities in Chinatown. 5. Hire a bilingual staff at the police station. 6. Compensate Mr. Huang for the unjustified attack.

After proceeding through the downtown shopping area and drawing much attention from passersby, the march wound up with a rally at City Hall Plaza. Asian community leaders demanded justice for Mr. Huang and were supported in their call by Mel King, former Black State Representative and David Scondras, a gay city councilor.

Jimmy Huang, the nephew of Long Guang Huang, told the crowd, "We've got to keep on fighting—Blacks, whites, Hispanics. We're not punching bags. We're not going to take this anymore!"

On Sunday, June 30, the Committee to Support Long Guang Huang will hold a fundraiser from noon to 3 p.m. at 27 Beach St., third floor, Chinatown. Tickets are \$5.

— Gay parents

Continued from page 12

press conference on the sidewalk in front of the statehouse.

The governor had exposed his bigotry and racism. He remained opposed to retracting the DSS policy. People were angry and ready to fight on.

Jean McGuire, a Black School Committee member, was visibly outraged by Dukakis' upholding of the traditional family as the only role model for foster children. She pointed out that it was these traditional families of white rich slaveowners that had raped Black women and torn apart their families. Love, not bigotry, she said, is what kids need.

At the end of the day it became clear to the lesbian and gay community and their supporters that this decision was the basis for an attack on all poor and working people, and that all must unite to fight back!

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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Hunger for profit

By Elizabeth Ross

NEVER BEFORE IN world history has there been such an advance in agricultural techniques, never before have such vast expanses been under cultivation. And never before has there been such man-made hunger on every continent.

Multinational agribusinesses rule the economy, the governments and even the military in most Third World countries: the Philippines, the Sahel and Kenya in Africa, Central America, the Caribbean islands (except for Cuba), Brazil, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica—the list goes on and on. And of course hunger is growing right here in the U.S.

Five million African children starving

It is known that five million children will starve this year in Africa. It is known that 75% of the children in the Philippines are malnourished and 75% of all the people in the Dominican Republic are constantly hungry.

Mass migration from the countryside to the already overcrowded cities is the largest in history, resulting in the most hideous squalor in the areas surrounding every Third World city. This comes on the heels of what was called the "Green Revolution," which, by providing better seeds, more concentrated fertilizers and more deadly pesticides, was supposed to solve the problem of hunger in the world. It has been a dismal failure.

Poor farmers can't afford to buy the seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. In Brazil a farmer must toil five days to buy a sack of manure, if he has been "lucky" enough to find work in one of the soybean plantations owned by American agribusiness, where he earns \$3 a day.

Also in Brazil, 23 million acres have been planted to soy beans, which make up 25% of all food produced in that country and bring in \$4 billion a year—not to Brazilians, but to the profit-mad American and European in-

vestors.

Dole, whose main product for export is pineapples, has moved many of its operations from Hawaii to Kenya, where wages are lower. One of Dole's spokesmen, when questioned about his desertion of thousands of Hawaiian employees, said, "We're in business to make money. We are not a charity organization." No, indeed, they are not!

It has been said that Gulf and Western is the real government of the Dominican Republic. It controls not only 85% of the economy of that unhappy country but its military, too. Besides that, all its profits are duty and tax free.

Deforestation brings hunger to Central America

In Central America two-thirds of the rain forests have been cleared to make way for cattle-raising, but the beef from those cattle is all exported, so that the average Central American eats less beef than a pet does in North America.

On top of that, clearing the forests subjects the land to enormous erosion. The fields that formerly provided vegetables and grain for the populations are slowly washed away, forming silt in the streams and making them unfit for fish to live in—and fish had formerly been one of the protein staples of Central American farmers.

Much of the information cited above was aired June 20 on PBS (Channel 13 in New York City) in an hour-and-a-half documentary called *Hunger for Profit*. Workers World asked Barbara Chasin and Dick Franke, authors of the book *Seeds of Famine* and authorities on the Sahel, for their evaluations of the program.

PBS airs "Hunger for Profit"

"Hunger for Profit was highly unusual for U.S. television," said Chasin. "It allowed the poor, pushed off their land and facing malnutrition and even starvation, to tell in their own words

what multinational corporations in collaboration with their own elite have done to them.

"It made it clear that where profit for the few is the goal, hunger for the many is the outcome. The program even presented the voices of progressive researchers such as Susan George.

"It failed, however," she added, "to show meaningful alternatives, presenting only a case of a corporation that was alleged to have worked out a more equitable arrangement with Kenyan

farmers. That case, however, has been criticized by Susan George.

"The success of the socialist countries in dealing with exploitation and malnutrition was not mentioned. And it is to these we must look for real solutions."

Chasin and Franke spent many months in Africa in the region below the Sahara. They wrote in great detail and with great clarity of the rape of those countries by French imperialism.

The French forced the farmers to abandon their centuries-old collaboration with the nomads of that region and to plant their fields to peanuts, which went to the peanut oil distributors of Europe. After a few decades peanut oil was overshadowed by soy bean oil from the U.S., the whole system collapsed, and the result was starvation for at least 100,000 Sahelians.

The PBS program showed that similar processes in all the countries oppressed by imperialism have vastly multiplied this hunger holocaust. What it dared not show, however, is that the only hope lies in the revolutionary movements that are increasingly challenging capitalist private property and demanding a social reorganization to meet the people's needs.

* * *

Some books pertinent to the subject of hunger and agribusiness: "How the Other Half Dies" by Susan George. "Food for Beginners" by Susan George. "Feeding the Few" by Nigel Paige and Susan George. "Corporate Control of Food" by Nigel Paige and Susan George. "Farming for Profit in a Hungry World" by Michael Perelman. "Seeds of Famine" by Barbara Chasin and Dick Franke. "Food First" by Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins. "Food and Farming in Nicaragua" by Joseph Collins. "Food in Cuba—What Difference Does a Revolution Make?" by Joseph Collins.

NYC gay rights bill introduced

NEW YORK, June 25—Lesbian and gay rights activists yesterday presented a legislative bill for New York City which prohibits discrimination against lesbians or gay men in the areas of housing, employment, and access to public accommodations.

The bill, which is endorsed by a broad spectrum of organizations and individuals, replaces an earlier version which the New York City Council has rejected for 14 consecutive years due to pressure from right-wing forces.

According to Andy Humm, a representative of the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, the new bill differs very little from the previous version. "There is no way we would compromise on the strength of the legislation," he said. "We think this makes it stronger because it makes it more explicit. It also serves the function of educating the public more about what the bill says and does not say."

The bill is expected to come before the City Council sometime in the next few months.

— AIDS focus

Continued from page 12

port and service to people with AIDS. And people with AIDS themselves have taken the lead in demanding money for this urgent health care emergency.

AIDS is not a "gay disease," despite the right wing's attempts to portray it as such. But it is the gay community that has led the fight against AIDS.

AIDS gaining attention

Now, some three years after AIDS was first recognized as a health crisis, the media and mainstream medical establishment are finally devoting major attention to it. A recent feature article in the New York Times Sunday magazine sympathetically portrayed the struggle of a gay man with AIDS. AIDS is the cover story of the current Life magazine.

With about 11,000 diagnosed cases of AIDS and estimates of as-yet undiagnosed cases ranging up into the hundreds of thousands, people outside the lesbian and gay community are becoming alarmed. AIDS is spreading, and with it awareness of the seriousness of the crisis. Now, as the scope of the crisis is recognized, the years of education and outreach by lesbians and gay men, and the years of struggle by the gay community to win acknowledgment of the importance of the AIDS crisis, are resulting in growing consciousness about AIDS. AIDS is starting to be seen as not a gay problem, but as everyone's problem.

The potential now exists for a unified

fight by gay and straight people together, to demand money for AIDS and all health care needs instead of for the Pentagon war machine.

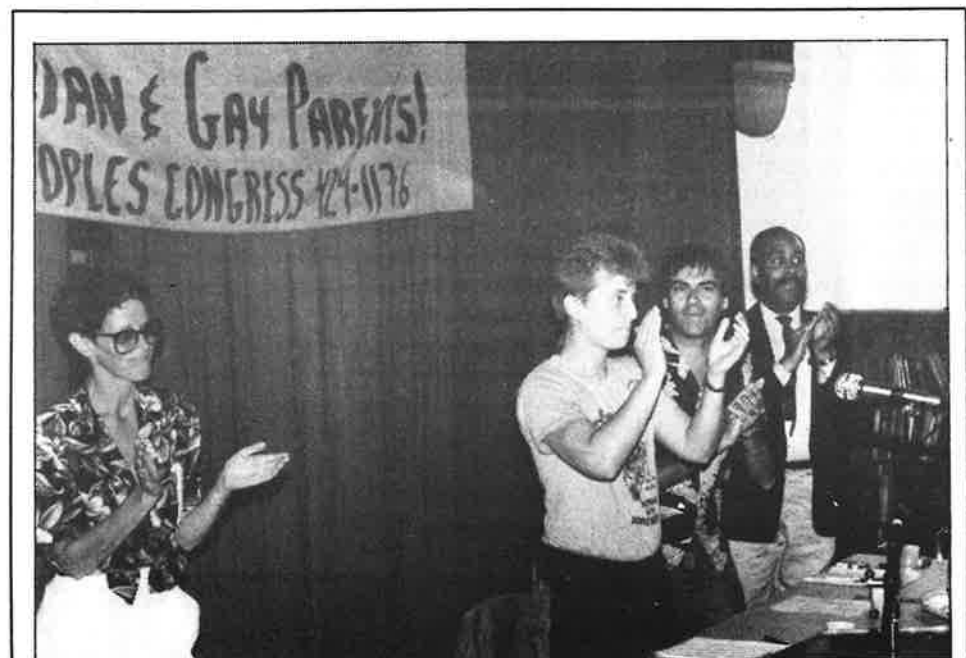
Even the American Medical Association, the conservative body of physicians, addressed AIDS in the current issue of its Journal. The editor, Dr. George Lundberg, grudgingly acknowledges the educational efforts of gay AIDS activists. But within the context of a timely call to recognize the urgency of the AIDS crisis, Lundberg uses anti-gay language that the National Gay Task Force condemned as "rhetoric designed to blame the victim."

The growing attention toward AIDS demonstrates the continuing need for a political struggle by the lesbian and gay community against all manifestations of anti-gay bigotry, oppression, and repression, and for the right of all people to quality health care.

Lesbian and gay pride

This week in New York, several AIDS activities are featured. These include a demonstration at the Federal Building to demand funding for AIDS, and a symposium and conference with some of the doctors who have stood up for the gay community and devoted themselves to work on AIDS.

In San Francisco, which has been extremely hard hit by AIDS, the rainbow-colored Gay Day flags are flying again this year, representing the multi-national lesbian and gay community, and there is once again a feeling of joy and electricity in the streets as



WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

Boston fight back meeting. Issues of importance to gays and lesbians were addressed by the All-Peoples Congress June 22. Speakers Diane Feinberg, Jerry Scoppettuolo, and Marshall Yates (above at podium) took up the AIDS crisis, the Coors beer boycott and the governor's ruling against gay foster parents. Feinberg, author of a soon-to-be-published book on AIDS and the social crisis surrounding it, attacked U.S. reactionary policies as responsible for limiting funding for AIDS research and treatment.

Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day approaches. The result of the AIDS struggle there has been even greater unity and even deeper pride in the courage and strength of lesbians and gay men.

The San Francisco parade this year is dedicated to Bobbi Campbell, who died last year after devoting himself to leading the gay community's AIDS organizing. The dedication calls up the spirit of Stonewall, which the annual parade commemorates, where lesbi-

ans, gay men, transsexuals and transvestites battled cops in the streets for the right to live and love as they chose. The dedication reads:

"We can honor Bobbi by honoring ourselves, by being out, by speaking out, by continuing to work together as sisters and brothers in confronting and defying threats to our survival and our identities, whether those threats are in the form of a virus or in the form of bigotry and intolerance."

Lesbian/Gay Pride Week focuses on AIDS crisis

By Shelley Ettinger

NEW YORK, June 25—Sixteen years after the Stonewall Rebellion touched off the modern lesbian and gay movement, the profound struggle against AIDS is infusing Lesbian and Gay Pride Week 1985 with a deep spirit of unity and militance.

In cities across the country, the community's response to the AIDS crisis is the focus of the week's events. On Sunday, June 30, both the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco and the Lesbian and Gay Pride Day March in New York will be led by contingents of people with AIDS.

Lesbians, gays organize vs. AIDS

AIDS, the devastating disease that attacks the body's immune system, has become the top priority around which lesbian and gay people have mobilized in the last two to three years. With roughly three-quarters of diagnosed AIDS cases in this country hitting gay and bisexual men, this health crisis has galvanized the community into action even as it is shaken with grief.

Mourning has given way to organizing.

With the AIDS epidemic, the gay community was confronted with a government and health care establishment that branded this a "gay disease" and therefore not worth getting too worked up over. Only small sums were allocated for research, and less yet for care and treatment of people with AIDS.

So the lesbian and gay community itself took up the struggle. After many years of marching and fighting for civil rights and sexual freedom, gay people applied the same spirit to this latest battleground. The AIDS community calls it "fighting for our lives."

The AIDS crisis has been met with a remarkable development of organizations and activities, emerging from the grass roots of the community. Far from being paralyzed by the ravages of AIDS and the deeply-felt loss of so many people, the lesbian and gay community is fighting.

An array of community-based survival organizations has sprung up to provide every kind of necessary support.

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WW PHOTO: PAULA RESSLER

'Love, not bigotry, is what kids need.' Boston progressives protest state's decision to wrench children from lesbian and gay foster parents.

600 march in Boston to back gay foster parents

By Chris Snow

BOSTON, June 21—Chanting "We won't go back, send Dukakis back," 600 spirited demonstrators marched to the governor's home on Fathers' Day, June 16. This mobilization was one of what will be many to respond to the recent policy of the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the governor's office barring "non-traditional" families from receiving foster children.

As more and more people gathered at the starting site, a park several blocks from the governor's home, the diversity of the crowd became apparent. Welfare activists, lesbians and gays, students, people of color, seniors, disabled, union activists—all were angry and ready to fight back against this racist, homophobic attack on poor and working people.

As the rally began, co-chair Marshall Yates of the All-Peoples Congress announced that on this Fathers' Day the marchers would serve Governor Dukakis with a Form 51A, the State's complaint form for neglect, mistreatment and child abuse, since he has abused people's families and lives.

A letter was read to the rally written by a lesbian who cares for two foster children, both severely disabled. In it she asked the governor if "he and his

two-parent family will care for my two disabled foster children." Statistics show that almost 90% of all families today are "non-traditional." One of the speakers, a social worker, asked, "Where, Dukakis, will we put these kids?"

Linda Tate, a single mother and welfare activist also from the All-Peoples Congress who received extended cheers and applause from the crowd, emphatically pointed out that "Dukakis doesn't care about foster children... or the homeless, or women and children trying to survive on AFDC, or Black, Latin, Asian, Native families—those hardest hit by state and federal cutbacks."

As the march proceeded through this affluent section of the city, residents could be seen peeking through their shades. At the governor's house, the demonstrators were met with both a heavy police presence and the press. Here, amidst chants, short speeches, and cheers, an aide to the governor appeared to receive the complaint forms. But no, the people wanted the governor and planned to demonstrate at the statehouse the following Wednesday.

Meeting with governor confirms bigotry

On Wednesday, after a day of rallies both inside and outside the statehouse, the governor refused to meet with the community. That night fifteen people prepared to take arrests if necessary and vowed to stay inside the statehouse until a meeting with the governor was arranged. Finally, the next day, under pressure from the community, Dukakis agreed to a meeting on Friday.

As representatives of lesbians and gays, Blacks, labor, students and single parents met with Dukakis, a rally was held in the hall of the statehouse, outside the executive office and another outside on the street. After a meeting lasting longer than an hour, the community representatives held a

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Persistence pays off as lesbians win suit

By Debbie Bender

SAN FRANCISCO, June 13—After six years, some redress has been won for a brutal attack on lesbian women.

On the evening of March 31, 1979, a group of drunken, off-duty San Francisco policemen invaded Peg's Place, a lesbian bar here, announcing that they were out to "get the dykes." Their assault was so severe that three women were hospitalized—bar owner Erlinda Symaco for 21 days with back injuries and bruises, doorperson Alene Levine for five days with a concussion, and bar patron Kathryn Miller for a severe bite wound.

Uniformed police, who had been summoned immediately as the men tried to enter the bar, refused to arrest the attackers or even to take statements or witnesses' names. Later that evening at the local police station the officer on duty would not tape witnesses' statements, identify the suspects or give them sobriety tests.

Public outcry forced an internal police department review of the case over the next several months, resulting in some minor wrist-slaps for some of the assaulting officers.

Because of continuing medical problems over the years, the three women

filed suit against the city of San Francisco, seeking a total of \$700,000 in damages.

Today, according to their attorney Tom Steel, just two days after the trial began, they reached an out-of-court settlement for a "substantial" but undisclosed amount.

The women had stated that their suit was an effort to get the city to acknowledge it is responsible for the actions of its police department. In fact, investigation into this case showed that between 1974 and 1982 there were over 1,000 similar complaints of excessive force and brutality by San Francisco police officers, yet no one was ever fired for those reasons.

Recently a rash of highly-publicized incidents here have spotlighted police brutality, harassment and a serious lack of internal discipline, so that even the most conservative of local media and politicians are calling for reform. The Peg's Place assault and today's settlement by the city help to place the blame where it really belongs—not just on an individual cop or an isolated incident, but on the city, the state and the whole system which uses the police as one weapon in its war against the oppressed.

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