



Reagan ordered terror bombing of El Salvador

Secret mission terminated only at last minute

By Sharon Shelton

JULY 8—A U.S. bombing attack against the Salvadoran countryside was only narrowly averted last week, when Ronald Reagan was persuaded by advisers at the last minute to cancel a plan to bomb areas held by the liberation fighters of the FMLN.

According to the July 15 issue of Newsweek magazine, Reagan had called for the air strikes

Salvador guerrilla leader blasts U.S. intervention

—p. 7



DTC strike shakes Wall Street. See page 5.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

in retaliation for the recent killings of four U.S. Marines who were in El Salvador as part of the U.S.'s undeclared war against the Salvadoran popular struggle.

Reagan is also anxious, however, to present a get-tough posture in the wake of the Mideast hijacking crisis. Just as his unprovoked, bully-boy invasion of Grenada in 1983 was timed to recoup the dismal failure of the

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JULY 18 IS MANDELA DAY!

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Casualties mount in Philadelphia cop bombing

By Andy Stapp

PHILADELPHIA, July 7—Eight weeks after the event, no one in this city is sure exactly how many people were killed by the bomb police dropped on a Black West Philadelphia neighborhood.

According to the Philadelphia Inquirer (July 7), "The dead do not add up." All along they have been saying that 11 perished, seven of them adults and four children. But now medical examiner Robert Segal is not so sure. Large gaps and inconsistencies in the forensic evidence simply cannot be reconciled to the official version.

There is a "possibility" that "more than 11 people died in the fire, and were perhaps incinerated in the great heat," the Inquirer reports in a front-page story. The inferno ignited by the bombing was far hotter than the usual residential fire. It melted asphalt all up and down Asage Street.

The medical examiner now says that he has the bones of a girl about six or seven years old found in the MOVE house. Thirteen-year-old Birdie Africa, who was caught by the cops fleeing from the house toward Pine Street, named four children plus himself in the building, but he doesn't remember a six-year-old. His memory might well be faulty, coming in the after-shock of the cop assault.

Burned over 30% of his body, Birdie Africa was first interrogated in the hospital while under guard by six policemen and two dogs.

The Inquirer states that over at Segal's office are the remains of three unidentified children and two unidentified adults. Early reports on May 13, the day of the genocide, indicated that there may have been as many as 12 adults and 15 children in the MOVE home. One adult and Birdie Africa are known to have escaped alive.

City Manager Leo Brooks, a former general who had accepted appoint-



The full death toll from the police bombing of this Philadelphia Black community is still not known.

ment to this post at a press conference dressed in full military uniform, resigned on May 22 after his role in directing the war-like operations against MOVE had been widely and bitterly criticized. The racist Police Commissioner, Gregore Sambor, who ordered the people out of the house by shouting into a bullhorn, "Attention MOVE! This is America!" remains on the job.

After igniting the worst fire in Philadelphia history, Sambor received a telegram of congratulations from U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese saying that his actions had been "very rational and reasonable."

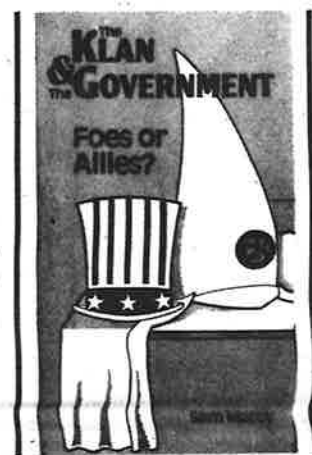
The attack against the MOVE home was the second time a U.S. city has suffered air bombardment. The first was in 1921, when the Oklahoma Air National Guard bombed a Black neighborhood there in the culmination of days of racist violence aimed at driving Black people off property under which it was rumored lay rich oil deposits.

New price aimed at newsstand distribution

WITH this issue, the newsstand price of Workers World is being raised to 50 cents. This is still substantially lower than the cost of comparable publications, but it means that newsstands will have more incentive to carry the paper, and hopefully therefore more people will be able to read it. This change will not affect the subscription price of Workers World.

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Discrepancies in the police story uncovered by the Perry family lawyer and by a Village Voice reporter contradict police attempts to cover up the killing of the Harlem youth by framing Edmund Perry and now his brother Jonah with a "mugging" charge. (Page 3.)

VOTING RIGHTS

A Selma, Ala., jury found three Black civil rights activists not guilty on frame-up charges of voting fraud brought on them by the Reagan Justice Department. Five others face charges in another Alabama case attempting to turn back the clock on Black voting rights. (Page 3.)

JOBLESS

Labor Department figures show persistent joblessness, a loss of union jobs and severe cuts in pay and health benefits for those who lost union work and had to consider themselves lucky to find any employment. Worst hit were Black, women and older workers. (Page 5.)



FLMN commander Joaquin Villalobos. See page 7.

EL SALVADOR

Reagan's orders to bomb El Salvador were only changed at the last minute, reports Newsweek. Revolutionary leaders announced their new plans for protracted, small-unit war against the U.S.-backed Duarte regime. A voice for the guerrillas can be found in an English-language magazine published in California (Pages 1, 7.)

TAXES

The Reagan tax plan exposes the anti-working class character of the so-called reform in its attack on the graduated tax, its pressure against workers' benefits and its attack on social services. (Page 4.)

MANDELA DAY

A campaign to distribute thousands of ribbons calling for the freedom of ANC President Nelson Mandela from South Africa's dungeons is gaining momentum in the U.S., spreading now to over 30 cities. (Page 12.)



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Black voting rights activists freed in Alabama

Selma verdict a blow to Reaganite racism

By Robert Dobrow

JULY 7—A jury in Selma, Ala., has found three Black civil rights activists not guilty of charges of voting fraud brought by the Reagan Justice Department.

As the seven Black and five white jurors read their verdict acquitting Albert Turner, Evelyne Turner and Spencer Hogue, Jr., all long-time activists in the Southern freedom struggle since the early 1960s, applause broke out in the courtroom.

This case and others which the federal government is still pursuing across the South have been part of the Reagan administration's efforts to undermine the voting rights of Black people and set back the gains won from decades of civil rights struggles. The verdict, however, deals a powerful blow to the Reagan-Meese assault.

The three defendants were charged with altering ballots in the state Democratic primary last September. Mr. Turner, who helped lead the historic 1965 Selma to Montgomery march, and the two others had collected hundreds of absentee ballots from Black voters in rural areas in the Democratic primary. They faced up to 115 years in prison and \$40,000 in fines.

As respected leaders of the civil rights movement in Alabama in the mid-1960s, which produced the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, their indictments were widely regarded as a frameup, the product of a fanatical government witchhunt into local election procedures.

Five more indicted

According to Wendell Paris, a member of the Perry County Board of Education and co-chair of the Alabama Black Belt Defense Committee, which built support for the Turners and Mr. Hogue, "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."

Paris told Workers World that these counties are all ones with Black majorities and the only counties in Alabama with a majority of Black officials. All those being investigated are Black elected officials or voting rights activists.

Anyone of course familiar with Southern politics knows that the entrenched white racist power structure in the South has maintained its privi-

leged position for decades because of the most vicious electoral fraud, defiance of local and federal laws and outright violence, murder and lynching against Black people. But the Reagan-Meese administration is not concerned about this. Especially since the burst of Black electoral activity before, during and after the electrifying Jesse Jackson campaign for President, the Justice Department has targeted alleged Black voter fraud.

But what can one expect from a government that is gutting affirmative action and busing, whose "Civil Rights

Commission" is intent on dismantling civil rights, which applauds the bombing of a Black community in Philadelphia and which cozies up to the rulers of South Africa?

The Selma verdict is a significant victory for the progressive movement in Alabama and throughout the South, which rallied behind the three and built impressive nationwide support. The next step will be to free the remaining voting rights activists and let Reagan, Meese, & Co., know that the rights won from decades of struggle will not be turned back!

Top U.S. bicyclist dropped for refusing to tour South Africa

By Jelayne Miles

JULY 7—Last year Greg Liggins, a 17-year-old Black youth, was one of the most popular amateur cyclists in the sport of bicycle motocross (BMX) in the country.

His ability to participate in this sport came to an abrupt halt when he refused to go to South Africa with his team.

Liggins' ex-sponsor is a bigot named Rich Hutch. Hutch is a dirt bike manufacturer who does business under the name of Hutch BMX HI-Performance of Baltimore. He sells bikes to a number of countries including South Africa where dirt biking is big business.

Prior to Greg Liggins' refusal to go to South Africa, he participated in about 5-6 meets per month. Since his refusal, he has only been allowed to participate in two meets for the whole year!

Hutch's story as to why Liggins was dropped from the team goes like this: "He was dropped from the team because of poor performance; he just wasn't winning." This declaration really flies in the face of reality—not to mention the trophy-lined shelves of Liggins' home. Numerous articles in leading sports magazines which cover

BMX competitions applauded Liggins' great success and anticipated a brilliant future.

"BMX PLUS!" magazine even called Liggins "one of Hutch's biggest stars" as recently as last November.

So why would a successful entrepreneur like Rich Hutch drop one of his biggest stars just because he refused to go on one tour to South Africa? Liggins' star quality and status would have meant money in the bank for Hutch for many years.

An article in the San Francisco Examiner recently revealed that a man called Binky Watts repeatedly phoned Greg Liggins' father, Jim Liggins (a union man), and tried to convince Mr. Liggins that South Africa would be a wonderful place for his son to visit. Jim Liggins' reply, when asked how he responded to the calls, was, "Finally hung up the phone in his face." Throughout this ordeal, Mr. Liggins has been 100% behind his son's decision not to go to South Africa.

The interesting thing about Binky Watts is that he is a promoter for the South African BMX Association. What's even more interesting is that he has a very cozy relationship with

Rich Hutch. And what is the most interesting is that Watts told the San Francisco Examiner that it was his and Hutch's dream that the BMX trip to South Africa would persuade the American Bicycle Association to invite a South African team to the U.S. to compete. Well, that certainly sheds a lot of light on the situation.

One thing all this shows is that Greg Liggins was tossed out when his action presented a threat to Hutch's profits. Notwithstanding his special and superior abilities as a dirt biker, he was viewed by Hutch as nothing more than a commodity from which to garner profits.

Despite personal loss, many athletes, entertainers and others have demonstrated their solidarity with the Black masses in South Africa and like Greg Liggins have refused to go.

In explaining why all of this could happen, Liggins said that it was a result of the long arm of South African racism reaching out and touching his life; to which we add, and the long arm of the racist rulers of the U.S. who are holding South Africa's hand and guiding it.

Edmund Perry's brother victim of police cover-up

By Neville Edwards

NEW YORK, July 8—Trying to cover up the brutal murder of Edmund Perry, a Black high school honor graduate, by a white cop, the police arrested Edmund's brother last week. Jonah Perry, a sophomore at Cornell University, was charged by a Manhattan grand jury with one count of assault and 2 counts of attempted robbery.

According to the police report, Jonah participated in the alleged attack on officer Lee Van Houten. On June 12 Jonah's brother Edmund was shot to death by police officer Lee Van Houten who later claimed that he was being robbed by the Perry brothers. However, the real issue is justice for Edmund Perry and all victims of police violence.

The Village Voice reported that a witness interviewed by Newsday stated that Edmund had briefly spoken with the police, maybe exchanging a cigarette for a light, and then walked away. During a scuffle with some other men the cop fired a shot, Edmund turned around and was struck by a second shot. This is in direct contradiction to the police report of being badly beaten by Edmund and someone else.

Vernon Mason, the lawyer representing the Perry family, pointed out that a source at St. Luke's hospital claims that Van Houten, like other po-

lice, worked part time at St. Luke's as a guard and that Van Houten was moonlighting at the hospital on the night of the murder. The police had reported that Van Houten was on duty that night trying to catch people stealing cars.

The police also indicated that officer Van Houten was on the ground when he shot Edmund but Vernon Mason has a source who said that the cop was standing and Edmund was not within reach of Van Houten when he fired. Dr. Sidney Weinberg, the family medical examiner and retired Suffolk county medical examiner, found no powder burns on Edmund's clothes, or proof of close contact between the gun and the wound. This is clear evidence that Edmund was some distance away from the cop when he was shot.

Handcuffed and bleeding, Edmund was left on the ground while the cop was taken to the hospital first, a fact the police do not deny. Police reported that Van Houten was treated at St. Luke's for cuts and bruises and kept overnight for tests. Yet a witness stated that around 1 a.m. Van Houten walked out of St. Luke's with no visible facial or physical injuries.

These are some aspects of the case that Edmund's mother, Mrs. Veronica Perry, a Community School Board 3 member and assistant teacher, is fight-

ing to bring to light. Though the police tried to legitimize their case by arresting and charging Jonah Perry, sooner or later there will have to be justice for the grieving Harlem community and all the other oppressed communities around the country. Indict the racist killer cop! Stop the racist attacks against the Black community!



Jonah Perry with his mother Veronica. Inset, Edmund Perry, victim of police murder.

Reagan's tax plan—a deeper look inside

By Fred Goldstein

(The following is a report on the Reagan administration's new tax plan. The report is based on a talk given June 21 at a Workers World Forum in New York City. The talk was titled: "The Reagan tax plan and class conflict.")

THE REAGAN TAX plan is being promoted on the grounds of "fairness" and "simplicity." The only people whom it is fair to are the rich and the only thing simple about it is the way in which it hands them billions in tax cuts.

Like his budget cuts and vast escalation of military spending, like his anti-labor offensive and the dismantling of civil rights laws, Reagan's tax plan can only be viewed in the light of his general program to roll back all social gains made by the workers and oppressed in the last 50 years and to give U.S. big business and the Pentagon absolute world domination.

Destroy the graduated tax

The central feature, which is also the most obvious, is the enormous tax cut which reduces the top tax on individuals to 35% and on corporations to 33%.

From the beginning of his political career, one of the things that attracted the rich to Reagan as a politician was that he was a sworn enemy of the graduated (or progressive) income tax—something that all workers and progressive people have always fought for.

When the income tax was first imposed on working people during World War II, the only way it could be put across was to have a steeply graduated tax in which the highest income brackets paid 91%. This was reduced to 77% in 1969 and when Reagan got into office it was 70%.

Reagan immediately reduced the tax on the rich to 50% and now wants to bring it down to 35%. Of course, this means that if you are single and earn \$20,000, you pay 25% while if you make \$200,000 or \$2 million you pay 35%. In other words, you can have ten or a hundred times the ability to pay and still pay at a rate less than 1.5 times what a worker pays!

Under the Reagan plan if you make \$200,000 a year you will save \$200 a week, or \$10,000 a year, in taxes. If you make \$15,000 or under you will save \$3 a week. (And that \$3 will be wiped out ten times over by the loss in social services from the budget crisis.)

Workers' benefits targeted

The vicious, anti-working class nature of the plan is obvious in many ways. On the one hand Reagan would leave \$213 billion to corporations in depreciation tax giveaways in the next five years; \$39 billion in special favors to the oil and gas industry; tax shelters for real estate speculators; capital gains favors for Wall Street gamblers.

On the other hand unemployment insurance is to become fully taxable as is workers' compensation for those injured on the job. Three hundred dollars of health benefits are to be taxed for every worker's family. The exemption for the blind and the elderly is abolished. The child care credit is to be reduced, as are deductions for workers' expenses on the job. The deduction for married couples when both work is to be abolished, and so on.

Attack on social services

Another reactionary attack on the standard of living of the masses of people is the elimination of the deduction for state and local taxes. This deduction has been in the tax code since it began in 1913.

The deduction is based on the simple

ground that you should not be taxed by the federal government on money you never got because you had to pay it to the state or the city.

Reagan wants to raise \$33 billion next year from this provision. It is the single biggest revenue raiser in the plan—almost all of it will come from the workers and the middle class.

Twenty-five million working class and lower middle class families and individuals saved over \$12 billion in 1985 through this deduction. They will now have to pay increases of at least this amount.

Furthermore, the social consequences are extremely dangerous. The pressure on states and cities to reduce taxes and social services will be enormous—the situation is a set-up for the "Proposition 13" syndrome and right-wing political demagogues.

The states that would suffer most are New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Massachusetts, Maryland, and California. These are all states with relatively high levels of social services. They are also states where historically the labor movement and the civil rights movement have been strong and won some concessions.

The capitalist government, and especially the Pentagon, has been trying to undermine these areas in recent years. From 1975 to 1979 the Northeast and the Midwest paid to Washington \$165 billion more than they received. In the same period 32 states in the anti-labor, racist areas of the South and West received a surplus of \$112 billion.

Much of this shift was accomplished by federal budget cuts and increased military spending. The Reagan tax plan would strengthen this trend considerably.

Capitalist state as exploiter

These revenue features of the Reagan tax plan highlight the role of the capitalist state as an exploiter of the masses, as an extractor of surplus value, that is, unpaid labor.

Taxes are nothing but surplus value, whether taken directly from the workers or indirectly from the bosses' profits which were created by the workers in the first place. But there are other features of the tax plan which are equally important because they are calculated to affect the class struggle as a whole as well as to encourage the trend towards militarism.

Business Week of June 17, in an overall analysis of the impact of the Reagan tax plan states that "the tax code has long been biased toward cap-

ital intensive industry. It has served as a comprehensive industrial policy for old-line steel, auto, rubber, textile and other basic industry.

"Reagan's tax plan would deliberately strike at these industries . . . and the code would favor the fast growth, high tech entrepreneurial sector of the economy . . . (Reagan's) plan falls short of an ideal reform by retaining the tax code as an instrument of social engineering. Reagan is a believer in Adam Smith . . . but Reagan's Adam Smith is, in fact, a computer freak."

Business Week then goes on to quote Harvard professor Robert Reich saying that "taken together with Reagan's infusion of \$26 billion for the Star Wars program this tax change could foster a fairly convulsive shift in the nation's industrial makeup. It could accelerate deindustrialization for the basic industries and speed the moving toward a service and high tech based economy."

Smokestack vs. high tech

While there is much exaggeration and distortion in these statements, there is a core truth that Business Week and Reich are reacting to.

The investment tax credit, which gives corporations a deduction from their taxes for 10% of the cost of new equipment, has been in existence since the Kennedy administration and is very favorable to the smokestack industries (\$170 billion over 5 years).

Under the plan this credit would be removed. On the other hand, the research and development credit, which is relatively new, grants corporations a reduction in taxes equal to 25% of the amount spent on R&D over and above the previous year.

This credit was scheduled to expire. Reagan wants to continue it and to strengthen its language to cover wider areas of technology.

These two provisions, together with dividend pay-out deductions, capital gains tax reductions, the giveaway to the rich with the 35% ceiling on taxes all tend to move money away from the smokestack industry toward the high-tech, high-profit areas of the economy (particularly military firms) according to the Reagan plan.

Tax breaks and economic contraction

During the first four years of the Reagan regime, he gave the smokestack industry an estimated \$700 billion in tax breaks. This, according to supply-side economics, was supposed to stimulate investment, encourage modernization and revive U.S. capitalism and

make it more competitive with its imperialist rivals.

Of course, these billions were given away during a period of cyclical recession and general economic contraction. With no prospect of growing markets, the corporations simply engaged in an obscene orgy of mergers, layoffs and actual cutbacks in investment which resulted in the permanent loss of millions of jobs and left the U.S. even further behind its ruling class rivals in Japan and West Germany.

For four years, the Reagan giveaway served merely to prop up profits during a recession. Now the tax plan is calculated to shift the course somewhat.

Anti-worker message

Reagan is prodding the industrialists to open up a further struggle with the workers to boost their corporate profits instead of relying wholly on huge tax breaks. Reagan has created the proper climate with the breaking up of PATCO, the stacking of the NLRB with labor haters, the stepped-up use of the courts against the workers, as well as economic measures.

Of course, one of the most potent weapons in the bosses' arsenal against the workers is high tech itself. Corporate giants like IBM, Honeywell Corporation, Digital Electronics, Alan Bradley and others are already in a race to get to factory floor with systems designed to lay off workers, "de-skill" workers and to intensify exploitation. The R&D credit and other features of the tax plan are designed specifically to promote this process.

The hidden hand—the Pentagon

But the hidden and most powerful promoter of the Reagan plan is the Pentagon.

The tax plan fully harmonizes with the military's intoxication with high tech and with the Pentagon's racist, anti-labor bias against the Northeast and the Midwest.

With 37,000 prime contractors and over 100,000 sub-contractors, to whom the big brass will dispense over \$1 trillion (!) in the next four years, the Pentagon is in the prime position to shape economic trends. Reagan is their man in the White House and the stamp of the generals and admirals is written on the tax plan.

It is no coincidence that the single biggest growth item in the entire federal budget this year is the military R&D budget. The entire R&D budget is \$59 billion and, if you count the military spending of NASA and the Energy Department, military research is \$47 billion—up 22%.

From Star Wars to the Rapid Deployment Force to the infantry, it is the Pentagon that is the real "computer freak" and the military hopes that the trends accentuated by this plan will help in its struggle for world domination.

Whether or not this reactionary plan actually goes through, and if so in what form it will finally emerge, depends upon many factors. The various ruling class factions are already lining up to change it to protect their clique interests.

But the best thing that the plan could do would be to set off a genuine working class counter-offensive to abolish it as a decree of the bosses. The labor movement and all workers—Black, Latin, Asian, Native and white, employed and unemployed, organized and unorganized—could launch a struggle to unmask the Reagan administration and the Pentagon and wage a political struggle for a tax bill that would provide housing, jobs, food, medical care, education and to fulfill all the crying needs of the masses who suffer under capitalism.

Millions left out of Reagan's jobless count

By Bill Del Vecchio

JULY 8—If you listen to the White House, you'll hear that the economy is still recovering.

But if you take a good look at the hard cold facts, you'll discover a very different story.

For example, what ever became of the 14 million workers who lost their jobs during the big plant shutdowns of 1979 and 1980?

Are they now leading happy lives working in front of computer terminals instead of assembly lines? Did they all move away from the depressed smoke-stack cities like Pittsburgh and Detroit and find paradise in Dallas/Fort Worth?

Little is said of the fate of these 14 million people, who together with their families could constitute a medium-sized nation of their own. The White House pretends that these people don't exist, because to admit what really happened to them is to admit that the recovery is a lie.

The Labor Department and the Census Bureau have just released a report which gives the most detailed look to date at what became of these 14 million. The study only focused on a por-

tion of the group, five million workers, and kept its scope limited, but still the findings reveal an unemployment crisis far deeper than Reagan's 7.3%.

Some of the startling findings of the report were:

- Of the 5.1 million workers studied, 2 million never found work again once they lost their jobs in 1980.

- At least half of those who did find another job took pay cuts, and the workers who lost union jobs were the most likely to take the biggest cuts. For example, the median weekly wage of the 225,000 auto workers who lost their jobs during the 1980s was \$399, while the median wage for these workers when they found new jobs was a full 20% lower at \$319.

- One third of the displaced workers lost their medical insurance, and finding a new job didn't guarantee getting medical coverage back. By 1984, 59% of the workers still unemployed and 23% of those who found jobs didn't have medical coverage. Among the Black workers in the study, an incredible 75% were without medical coverage.

- Finding a new job was the hardest for Black workers, women workers and

older workers, showing that the layoffs helped turn back many of the gains against discrimination. By the end of the study, roughly twice as many Blacks remained jobless as whites, and three times more women remained jobless as men.

- Twice as many workers were permanently unemployed in the Northeast and Midwest as in the South and West. And although pushed by the Reagan administration, relocation was attempted by only 600,000 of the 5.1 million workers studied. Rising unemployment in places such as Texas, the entire Southeast and California diminished the lure of the Sun Belt for the millions displaced by the closed plants of the older Northern industrial cities.

This study zeroed in on only 5.1 million out of the 13.9 million who lost their jobs between January 1979 and January 1980. This smaller group was chosen because they had worked steadily for three years prior to losing their jobs, while the larger group had not.

What about the other 8.8 million?

Could the other 8.8 million workers have escaped the increased poverty

and long-term joblessness that afflicts the group in the study? Hardly. If anything they probably are suffering more. And what ever became of the millions of workers who were thrown out of their jobs during the plant closings of the mid to late 1970s?

Since 1974 employment in manufacturing has declined dramatically in the U.S., while generally lower-paying jobs in the service industries have slowly increased. The increased number of service jobs have never been enough to provide work for all the laid-off industrial workers, leaving millions permanently jobless and whole communities and regions that depended on manufacturing plants struggling for economic survival.

This dangerous trend has accelerated in recent years. According to the Labor Department, 220,000 jobs in manufacturing were permanently eliminated since last January, and 45,000 factory jobs were lost just last month!

Does this sound like an economic recovery? The economy is certainly on track, but the track is leading working people towards an unemployment disaster.

Look what's happening on Wall Street

By Shelley Ettinger

NEW YORK, July 9—Two weeks old today, the strike by Local 153, Office and Professional Workers International Union (OPEIU) at the Depository Trust Company (DTC) got a big boost this afternoon as New York City trade unionists held a solidarity rally in the heart of the Wall Street financial district.

Supporters, including members of UAW District 65, AFSCME District Council 37, IBEW Local 3, and representatives of the recently victorious hotel workers' strike, gathered for the rally as the strikers marched past the stock exchange, chanting and blowing

whistles. The marching strikers echoed the volume and spirit of the hotel strikers' street marches that electrified this city last month.

The 1,400 DTC strikers are mostly Black and Latin. They work amid the profit frenzy of the securities marketeers. A typical DTC worker takes home \$180 a week for doing all the work—typing, counting, wrapping, and delivering—on the securities and bonds that their big-shot bosses make millions off of. They work under conditions of high stress and constant monitoring, including camera surveillance. Some workers spend full eight-hour shifts in basement vaults, never seeing the light of day.

They had been working without a contract since November. In late June, DTC forced the strike by demanding that the union accept a four-year rather than three-year contract and wage increases of only 2-3%. "Take it or leave it," the bosses said.

Local 153 walked, and strikers at today's rally said they are determined to stay out until their demands are met. These include a 10% wage increase, holidays including Martin Luther King Day, a dental plan, and a 35-hour work week with paid lunch hours.

Most important, though, is the impact of a struggle by oppressed clerical and technical workers that strikes at the nerve center of finance capital. The media are utterly ignoring the walkout, in an obvious attempt to isolate the workers and prevent any adverse effects on the stock market. And the company is floundering; on the first day of the strike, DTC management lost—that's misplaced—\$17 million for Merrill Lynch when they tried to do the work themselves.

The potential and power of workers, even on Wall Street where the profit system is headquartered, is highlighted by the DTC strike. The bankers and brokers and traders can see it, and so can other workers in the district.

In fact, John Kelly, president of Local 153, said at today's rally that the strikers are fighting for all Wall Street workers. "You can feel very proud," he told the strikers. "They said you wouldn't walk and you couldn't walk, and you've shown them that you can."

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Women miners meet. The eighth annual national conference of women miners was held June 21-23 in Price, Utah, and mineworkers from 20 states attended. Discussions centered on women workers' struggle against sexual harassment, sex discrimination and for parental leave, as well as issues of mine safety, fighting racism, and solidarity with mineworkers in South Africa. Resolutions of support for the mine strikers at A.T. Massey, Phelps Dodge, and England, Scotland, and Wales were passed. This was the first Coal Employment Project conference to take place in the West, and the multinational character of the miners' union was emphasized, with Navajo, Apache and Cherokee miners playing a leading role, along with Chicano, Black and white workers.

—Shelley Ettinger



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Striking Depository Trust workers and their supporters rally on Wall Street.

On The Picketline

Shipbuilders' strike strong. The strike begun July 1 by 4,500 shipbuilders at the Bath Iron Works (BIW) in Maine is going strong, while the company's media campaign to try to turn public opinion against the strikers—including a full-page ad in the July 8 Maine Sunday Telegram—is falling on its face. In fact, strike coordinator Milt Dudley of Local 6 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (IUMS-WA) told Workers World community support for the shipbuilders' struggle is growing. Small businesses are donating food, a local hospital is providing health care, and area union locals are picketing and donating to the strike fund.

BIW forced the strike with a package of giveback demands, including a two-tiered wage system, which the company claims it must win in order to fulfill a Navy construction contract; supposedly BIW's bid for that contract assumed lowered wages even though the bid came before contract negotiations even began! Now, says BIW president William Haggett, "We need to make some sacrifices. Otherwise, we're going to be out of business." The "we" he refers to is the workers, of course, and doesn't include him. But the workers aren't falling for the scare talk

about the company shutting down.

Strike coordinator Dudley told Workers World that "the real story behind the story" is Congoleum, BIW's parent company, which bought out the shipbuilding firm in 1979 and may now be trying to lower wage and benefit costs in order to make it an attractive purchase for the highest corporate suitor. Dudley said that, contrary to the media coverage of the woes of BIW, "this strike has less to do with the economics of the shipbuilding industry than with corporate greed at the highest levels." Congoleum's greed is also reflected in two other current strikes, in its flooring and rubber divisions, according to Dudley. At Bath, he said, "the feeling on the line is really solid," and the strikers are united.

• • •

Flight attendants united. The 10,000 flight attendants at United Airlines who honored striking pilots' picket lines in May and June have won an agreement from United on return-to-work issues. The airline had refused to guarantee jobs to all the flight attendants who honored the strike, and had instituted punitive working conditions, including arbitrary transfers. The terms of the new agreement man-

date that all the flight attendants will be back at work by Sept. 1, and that those who were transferred will return to their home cities by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the pilots-in-training United hired before the strike to form a scab force, but who actually refused to work during the strike, have yet to win a guarantee of their jobs.

Lesbian/gay work brigade returns from Nicaragua

By Shane Summer

SAN FRANCISCO, June 24—A lesbian and gay work brigade, recently returned from Nicaragua, held a press conference here to report back on their trip. Their stated goals were: "Stop U.S. intervention in the Americas, defend the right of self-determination, and build support for Nicaragua."

The brigade left on May 9. It consisted of 10 women and three men—Black, Latin, Native and white.

These volunteer workers donated their construction tools as well as cash for the purchase of materials. With these they helped build a community center for the barrio in Managua where they stayed. The barrio was called Selim Shible.

The brigade was in Nicaragua for about four weeks and each member stayed with different families in Selim Shible.

At the press conference, the brigadistas gave an account of the tremen-

dous social and material gains made in the short five years that the Sandinista government has been in power. They mentioned that immediately after taking power the government instituted equal wages for comparable work for women.

They also made medical care free and accessible to all, dramatically reducing the infant mortality rate from 121 deaths per 1,000 births to 73 deaths. Illiteracy was reduced from 52% to 13%. The number of libraries increased from eight to 34 and there was a similar increase in housing and transportation.

Anti-gay violence outlawed

The Sandinistas have abolished the death penalty. Torture of prisoners, common under the U.S.-installed Somoza dictatorship, has been ended. The brigadistas pointed out that under Somoza the U.S.-trained National Guard had engaged in officially sanc-

tioned "gay bashing." However, in the Sandinistas' Nicaragua anti-gay violence is not permitted and violators are strictly punished.

Also, in contrast to the U.S. where laws outlawing homosexual relationships are in effect in 32 states, no repressive anti-gay laws exist in Nicaragua.

The brigadistas noted that the Sandinista Revolution has made these gains under the most adverse conditions. When they took power in 1979 the country was in debt \$1.6 billion; dictator Somoza had fled the country taking \$800 million of the people's money with him.

Since then Nicaragua has been under siege by a CIA mercenary army,

commonly called contras, which is commanded mostly by the killers and rapists who led Somoza's National Guard. They reported that 7,500 people have been murdered by the contras (60% of them civilians) and that teachers have been a primary target—300 have been killed. Also, the contras have caused an estimated \$500 million in damages to the Nicaraguan economy.

The brigadistas emphasized that despite the terrible hardships that the Nicaraguan people now face—they stand firm in their determination to defend their Revolution. Everywhere they went in Nicaragua they saw graffiti on the walls: "We will not surrender!"

—Reagan ordered terror bombing

Continued from page 1

U.S. intervention in Lebanon of that year, Reagan's order for a sudden bombing strike against the Salvadoran people was calculated to deflect criticism over his handling of the hijacking.

Moreover, such a strike would have served as a reminder to peoples all around the world of the terror and force on which U.S. imperialism relies in its efforts to stifle popular aspirations.

Reagan, Newsweek revealed, only changed his orders at a July 2 meeting of the National Security Planning Group after advisers warned the bombing scheme might backfire and fuel world anger over deaths of innocent civilians and that the attack could embarrass U.S. puppet Napoleon Duarte by suggesting his hated regime is weak.

The very fact that a bombing-strike order was in place is a cause for alarm, but this is just one of several ominous signs showing that U.S. imperialism is escalating its aggression in Central America.

U.S. helicopter in combat zone

On July 2, the State Department and the Pentagon brazenly admitted that

last month a U.S. Army helicopter had flown into a combat area in northeastern El Salvador to rescue a Salvadoran military helicopter shot down by liberation forces.

American military personnel are supposed to be barred by congressional edict from entering Salvadoran combat zones where being "caught in crossfire" can be used as a pretext for direct Pentagon intervention in the fighting.

The U.S. military offered the feeble excuse that in this case it was exempt from the law, since its helicopter team was being "protected" from crossfire by its puppets in the Salvadoran Army. This, of course, the brass can claim any time they enter a battle area. Moreover, the fact that the Reagan administration openly announced U.S. troops had entered the area lays the basis for future open incursions.

New contingency plans for regional war

In another portentous development, Salvadoran Chief of Staff Gen. Adolfo Blandon has announced his army will enter any conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras, which has served as the staging ground for attacks on the Sandinistas by CIA-trained contras (Newark Star Ledger, July 7). The puppet general further pointed out that new contingency plans have been drawn up for a regional war against revolutionary Nicaragua.

Blandon also revealed that the Reagan administration has sent three more C47 transport planes to be used in the growing air war against the FMLN. Earlier this year, the U.S. sent two AC47 bomber planes to the Salvadoran Air Force, prompting an outcry from human rights activists, who explained they pose a threat to the civilian population living in the countryside.

Mercenaries implicate Costa Rica, U.S. in contra war

Meanwhile, two imperialist mercenaries being held in Costa Rica have spilled the beans about the involvement of Costa Rica and the U.S. in the contra attacks against Nicaragua.

The two, Steven Carr of Kingston, N.Y., and Peter Frederick Glibbery from England, disclosed that uniformed members of the Costa Rican Rural and Civil Guard were regular visitors at a contra camp inside Nicaraguan boundaries.

"They were telling us which bases to attack and where everything was," noted Glibbery about the Costa Rican Guard. "They gave us all our information."

The two mercenaries, who are being held on weapons charges in Costa Rica, said that Americans had recruited them to fight in Central America. In Glibbery's case, it was the so-called Civilian Military Assistance, an Ala-

July actions in New York City to support Nicaraguan people

By Paddy Colligan

NEW YORK, July 9—On July 19 Nicaragua will mark the sixth anniversary of their triumph over the U.S.-backed Somoza dictatorship with celebrations in Managua.

There will also be celebrations in the U.S. sponsored by supporters of the Nicaraguan people. In New York City there will be several meetings and other actions:

- Casa Nicaragua will hold a birthday party with Johnny Colon and his orchestra and a big birthday cake on Saturday, July 13 at Taller Latinoamericano, 19 W. 21st St., 2nd Floor, at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$7.

- New York-based Nicaraguan solidarity groups have initiated a march on Friday, July 19, to celebrate six years of progress in Nicaragua and to protest the U.S. government's attacks.

The march will gather at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza near the UN at 4:30, step off at 5:30, and proceed down 2nd Avenue, crossing over to Tompkins Square Park at 8th Street and Avenue A. A musical tribute and rally will be held in the park beginning about 7 p.m. Marchers are urged to wear red and black, the colors of the Sandinistas.

- On Saturday, July 20, beginning at 1 p.m. and going to 5 p.m., Casa Nicaragua has organized Nicaraguan films and videos followed by international music and dance from 6 to 10 p.m. The day-long event will be held at P.S. 41, 116 W. 11th Street; admission \$5.

For more information on these events and others planned call Casa Nicaragua (212) 696-4792, the Nicaragua Support Project (212) 475-7159 or the People's Anti-War Mobilization (212) 741-0633.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Argentina: Workers occupy Ford. For two weeks, over 1,000 auto workers have been sitting-in at Ford Motor Company's plant in General Pacheco, north of Buenos Aires. Last May, the U.S. auto giant, with extensive operations in Argentina, had agreed not to lay off any workers for the next few months, but they went back on their word and fired 33 unionists on June 26. The workers immediately took over the plant, halting all production. At the same time the wives of 20 strikers began a hunger strike and are camping out in front of the presidential palace.

The government's labor minister denounced the strike as illegal and ordered the workers to leave the plant. But the workers are standing firm. "We are not going to leave until they rehire the 33," said one of the unionists at the occupied plant. "If we don't they will fire 100, then 1,000 and it won't stop."

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Brazil: 200,000 layoffs. The U.S.-controlled International Monetary Fund has forced a drastic austerity plan upon the Brazilian government that will result in the loss of 200,000 jobs and major cutbacks in investments in hydroelectric and nuclear

energy, mining and steel. The IMF is also demanding the right to "monitor" the Brazilian economy for the duration of Brazil's debts to the banks, i.e., as long as 10-20 years. "Monitor" is the bankers' euphemism for the right to veto budgets and dictate economic policy.

Brazil, a haven for Western multinationals that was once heralded as Latin America's economic "miracle," is in the throes of an acute economic crisis. The country's total debt to the Western banks is \$103 billion, the largest in the Third World. Inflation is raging at 230%.

What remains to be seen is how this anti-labor assault will be answered by Brazil's powerful working-class movement, which played a key role in the struggle against the previous military regime.

• • •

Bolivia: Election crisis. The presidential election scheduled for July 14 might have to be postponed a second time in the face of a nationwide social crisis marked by massive strikes. Bolivia has averaged more than a coup a year since independence and is now in the grips of a debt crisis with the IMF

and Western banks. Voting in Bolivia is mandatory but the main union representing Bolivia's peasant farmers has threatened a general strike if the election is not postponed. They charge that only 50% of the rural population is registered. There have been so many strikes throughout the country that government officials fear that the electoral apparatus simply doesn't exist for them to stage elections.

• • •

Peru: Strike! Thousands of striking government workers marched through Lima, Peru's capital, on July 3, occupying churches and government offices and blocking roads to demand higher wages. Police used water cannons and clubs against the workers, but to no avail. Some 5,000 strikers took over the city's main port. A dozen tires were set afire at the entrance of the city's main expressway, tying up traffic all day, and tree branches and rocks were used to set up barricades near universities.

The striking union represents 600,000 government workers. In at least two other cities, Cajamarca in the north and Cuzco in the southeast, workers began massive hunger strikes to press their demands.

—Robert Dobrow

Salvador guerrilla leader blasts U.S. intervention

By John Catalinotto

JULY 8—Two months ago the El Salvador government boasted that its forces had killed guerrilla leader Joaquin Villalobos. In an interview last weekend with U.S. reporters, Villalobos called this boast "premature." Also premature, exaggerated and downright false were U.S. and government claims that the Salvadoran revolutionaries have been defeated.

On the contrary, the FMLN-FDR forces have begun operations in more areas of the country than ever before, working in small units and carrying out actions in the cities to avoid the massive U.S.-supplied air power that has killed and injured so many civilians in the countryside.

The continued strength of the revolutionary forces was revealed in the interview granted to six reporters from U.S. publications and held in the town of Perquin in the liberated area of El Salvador. Speaking for the guerrillas were Villalobos, Salvadoran Communist Party head Jorge Shafik Handal, and senior officials from each of the five guerrilla groups that make up the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

The interview made it clear that under present battle conditions the guerrillas have chosen to wage a protracted, small unit war of attrition. It exposed U.S. complicity in the deaths of thousands of civilian peasants from large-scale bombing, and brought out that only the massive U.S. military aid over the past few years had kept the Duarte regime in power. Because of the large U.S. role in the war, the revolutionaries consider all U.S. military forces legitimate targets.

Won't lay down arms

During a discussion of negotiations with the Duarte government, Villalobos emphasized that the revolutionaries had no intention of letting themselves be caught helpless before the puppet army. "We have no condition for laying down our arms," he answered, "because we are not prepared to give up our guns ever."

The top FMLN-FDR proposal in the peace talks with Duarte, Villalobos said, was an end to "North American intervention in El Salvador."

Villalobos asserted that the strategy of protracted war with small units would tie up the government forces. "The changes in tactics allow us to conduct operations swiftly, so that their air power is practically useless," he said.

bama-based group with ties to the U.S. military and the ultra-right, which sent him to El Salvador.

Both Glibbery and Carr noted they had left Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on a chartered cargo plane laden with six tons of arms, including M-16 automatic rifles, 20 millimeter cannons, 50 caliber machine guns and 50 millimeter mortars.

Although the arms shipment was supposedly a "private" effort, U.S. officials were more than cooperative. "There were no customs checks and nobody asked any questions," Carr affirmed.

President Reagan loves to picture himself as a real-life Rambo in his efforts to bully Central America. But the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador have a script of their own—one that calls for ridding their countries of the ruthless profiteering practices of the imperialist corporations that have created so much poverty and misery. Like the people of Viet Nam, the peoples of Central America are determined to wage an unceasing struggle against the imperialist colossus until final victory.

"Our strategy has to be based in defeating the resistance and the capacity of the Reagan administration to continue supplying the Salvadoran army," he continued. "If we succeed on this issue, we win the war."

"The Reagan administration can send all the rifles it wants, but it cannot replace the army, the losses in troops. It cannot solve the morale problem," Villalobos continued. By 1987 Reagan will face a choice between a victory for the revolution or direct U.S. military intervention.

If the U.S. does step in, he went on, "we are going to continue the war with the same plan, inflicting casualties and bleeding the troops that intervene."

U.S. troops legitimate targets

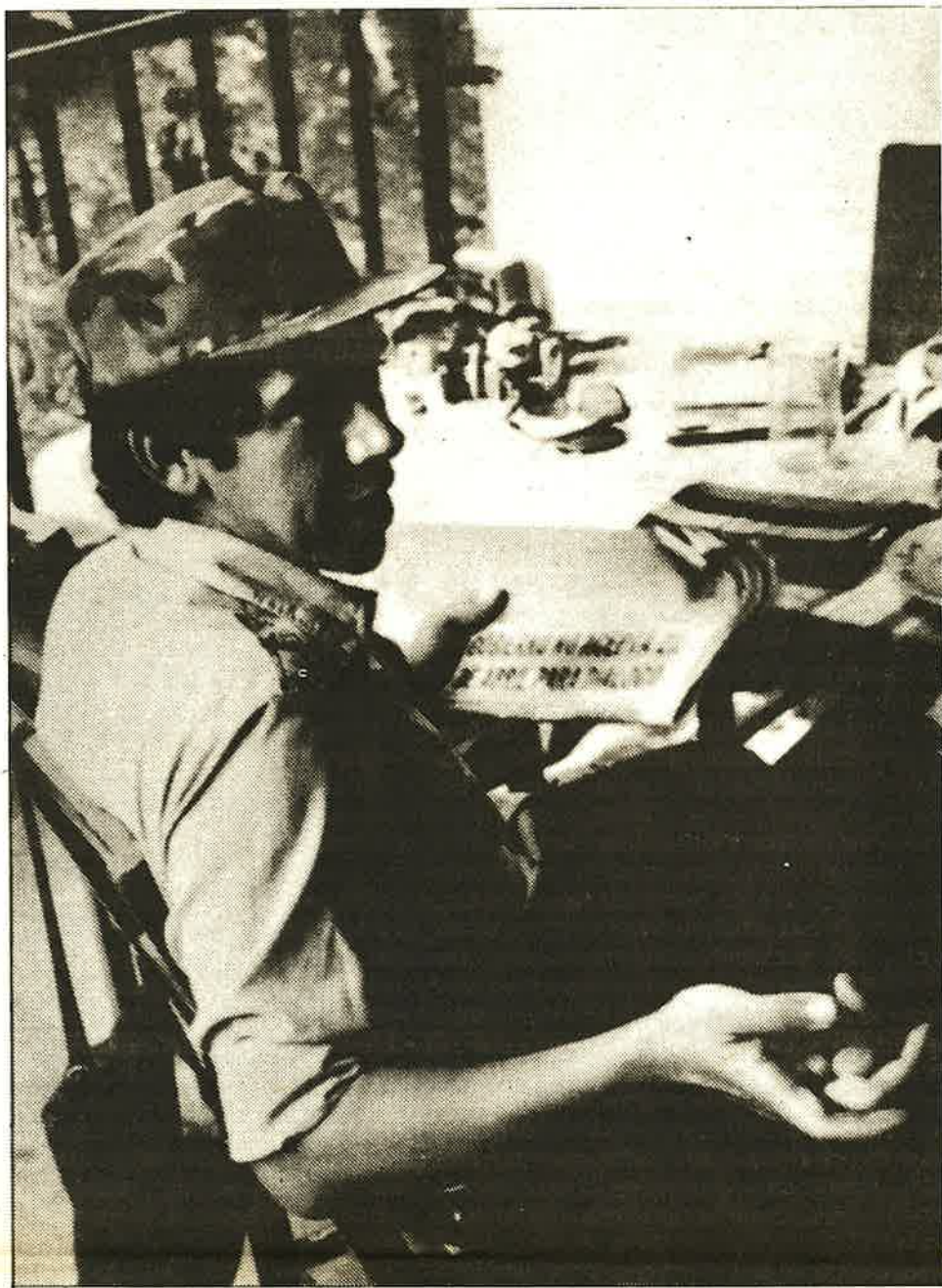
Asked about possible further attacks on U.S. military advisers, the guerrilla leaders all made it clear they backed the attack on the four U.S. Marines two weeks ago. This time Handal explained their position: "We have already said anyone who is involved in the game of this war is a military target of the FMLN."

"The pilots think they can come here with modern airplanes and shoot rockets and mortars onto our civilian population and go home. They go home and take a good long shower and they go out for a good time. It can't be," he said, referring to the combat role being played by U.S. military "advisers" in El Salvador.

Attacks like the killing of the Marines "moralize our people and demoralize our enemy," said Handal.

The overall role of the U.S. was a key theme of the interview. The guerrillas stated that the puppet government would have already been defeated if during 1983 and 1984 the U.S. had not handed over what they estimate at \$2

Continued on page 10



FMLN commander Joaquin Villalobos: "We will never lay down our arms."

'Signal of Freedom'—the truth from El Salvador

By Deirdre Griswold

ANYONE WHO has to rely on ABC News Nightline or the Associated Press for information on what's really happening in El Salvador is in deep trouble. But fortunately there is another choice.

Thanks to the heroic men and women of Radio Venceremos, who broadcast from the liberated territory of Morazan province, and thanks also to dedicated supporters of the Salvadoran cause in this country, news and analysis of the revolutionary struggle there is available here in an English-language publication.

"Signal of Freedom" is an attractive 8-1/2 by 11 magazine containing documents, analysis and firsthand information prepared by the clandestine radio of the FDR-FMLN of El Salvador and translated into English by supporters in San Francisco.

Issue No. 4, which appeared earlier this year, contained a chronology of the events which led to the de facto recognition of the FDR by the U.S.-backed Duarte regime at the now historic meeting between representatives of the two sides on Nov. 30, 1984, in the town of Ayagualo.

It then carries a penetrating analysis of the political and military situation that led up to Ayagualo in the article "Dual Power."

In this journal, we are able to hear directly from the leaders of the Salvadoran revolution, like Joaquin Villalobos, whose piece "We are the armed



front of the working class" explains the development of people's war against U.S. imperialism and the regime it keeps in power in San Salvador.

We learn of the "Arms for El Salvador" campaign in West Germany that raised \$1.3 million in direct material support for the guerrilla movement.

Free Comandante Filomena!

And we also become familiar with the campaign to free Comandante Yaneth Samour Hasbrun, "Comandante Filomena," who was captured by the National Guard just before New Year's along with Maximina Reyes

Villatoro. Both these young women have since been interrogated and tortured by the regime, and were last being held by the Intelligence Division of the Central High Command.

Subscribing to "Signal of Freedom" is both a concrete act of solidarity with the struggle of the Salvadoran people and an unbeatable way of becoming educated on the particulars of this dynamic and creative revolution in Central America. Suggested donations are \$2 for one issue and \$14 for six issues (one year). Make checks out to: El Salvador Information Center, P.O. Box 421965, San Francisco, Calif. 94142.

EDITORIAL

Stockman jumps ship

SAILORS USED to say they knew a ship was ready to go down when the rats started leaving it. And earthquake forecasters in China look for strange animal behavior before a major tremor.

Is David Stockman's resignation from the Reagan administration a sign that the time is near when everything's going to hit the fan?

Stockman made a name for himself while budget director by energetically pushing the biggest cut-backs in domestic spending ever. According to the Brookings Institution, "if you take out military spending, interest, Social Security and Medicare, David Stockman drove federal spending as a share of GNP back to where it was before 1940."

Yet the budget deficit has grown enormously during the five Reagan years—almost exclusively because of military spending and the rise in interest payments on the debt it engenders. The deficit this year is conservatively projected at \$213 billion, and interest payments now eat up 14% of the federal budget!

Stockman and Reagan once justified the domestic cuts as necessary to create a balanced budget. What a joke that was! Now even Wall Street is getting panicky over the ever-growing deficit, since in-

creased government borrowing drives up interest rates. This will further depress the economy, which is showing no signs of life even with current interest rates at their lowest point in several years.

Stockman has talked about some of these things recently—which can't have pleased the Reagan inner circle. He particularly let the cat out of the bag when he told directors of the New York Stock Exchange last month that administration budget projections were phony and that the only way to avert a deficit crisis would be to raise taxes.

Stockman did once complain about high military pensions and "inefficiency." But this conservative "whiz kid" was not one to carry out a campaign against military spending, the only real way to cut the deficit.

Stockman accomplished what Reagan wanted—drastic cuts in all the programs that have cushioned people from the most extreme cruelties of capitalist society. He now moves on to make millions on Wall Street—while the military-industrial complex, wallowing in billions of deficit dollars, can help pick out a more discreet budget director who will keep quiet about the coming disaster.

No paradise

THE STRUGGLE of native Hawaiians to preserve their traditions, their history and their very existence as a people continues today over 100 years after their island was invaded by Western colonialism and then annexed by the U.S. in 1898.

For the last decade, this struggle has been graphically expressed by the homeless, mostly native Hawaiian people, who have militantly battled officials for the right to sleep on public beaches. Their common lands stolen after the annexation and today suffering from sky high prices, especially in real estate, homeless native Hawaiians have repeatedly constructed shacks and tents on the beaches and have braved arrests and repression in the process. And over and over again, the state has systematically attacked and destroyed their makeshift homes.

Ironically, many of the beaches from which the homeless are being driven are owned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, which is supposed to be providing lots for native people to use as

housing sites. Over 9,000 names are on the waiting list for the sites, and many of the homeless sleeping on the beaches are among these 9,000.

Native Hawaiian people have a right to sleep anywhere they wish on their islands, a right established almost 200 years ago by a decree of King Kameha I who asserted that the people could sleep undisturbed in any public place. Certainly, King Kameha's policy was more humane than that which brings in the bulldozers and billy clubs today!

To the U.S. imperialist ruling class, the Hawaiian islands are a lucrative source of profits from agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, a strategic U.S. military outpost in the Pacific and a tropical playland. But the islands are also home to an estimated 994,000 people, two-thirds of whom are members of oppressed nationalities. These oppressed peoples, and especially the homeless native Hawaiians, have shown they are determined to wage a relentless struggle for what is rightfully theirs.



LETTERS

Protest in Colorado

THIRTEEN members of our group were arrested recently in a protest at Rep. Ken Kramer's office in Colorado Springs. The protest was against Congress's support for the contra terrorists who are attacking Nicaragua.

It was very effective. We sang songs. I felt that even some of the reporters were moved.

We also chanted, "Kramer, Kramer pay attention, we don't want your intervention!"

We are an angry gentle people and we are singing for our lives. There were 75 of us. We are growing. The resistance movement is a network of different people from different organizations. Local artists made many signs with powerful messages.

Lorraine Fons
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Transvestites' rights

IN LAST week's issue (Workers World, July 11), your coverage of the New York City lesbian/gay pride march makes reference to a leaflet given out by the Lesbian and Gay Focus of the All-Peoples Congress entitled: "Transvestites' rights are your rights, too."

There cannot be too much praise for an educational leaflet like this which not only denounces the "attacks on transvestites in this society—physical, psychological, ideological and legal," but also explains these attacks as a "weapon against the entire working class."

The leaflet goes on to give examples of how anti-lesbian/gay and anti-transvestite bigotry are used to squeeze ever more profits out of working people on the job, at the risk of occupational safety. "If you're not man enough to do this job, . . . we'll find someone who is." The result (as pointed out in the leaflet) is that many of the tens of thousands of deaths and over one million injuries are the result of having been baited

into life-threatening tasks by phony stereotypes of "manliness."

And of course the Pentagon uses the stereotypes to fill what it so endearingly calls its "manpower" needs: more victims for Wall Street's wars abroad, cannon fodder who will find out too late that incoming automatic weapons fire, shrapnel, grenades and rockets are "gender neutral" in their ability to make "real men" come back to these shores real dead.

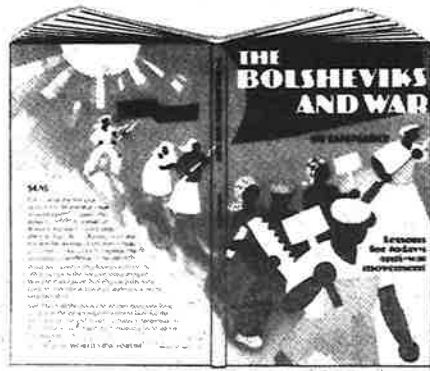
The leaflet continues: "The myth of so-called 'feminine weakness' and so-called 'masculine strength' is not only a direct attack on women, not only an invitation to sexual oppression of all kinds, but a straitjacket that is intended to dupe men also. Sexual stereotypes and sex roles keep people divided against each other and trapped in the confines of the Jerry Falwells, the John Waynes and the Phyllis Schlaflys . . ."

"The All-Peoples Congress knows that all poor and working people—gay, lesbian and straight, transvestites and transsexuals; women and men; Black, Latin, Asian, Native and white; disabled, youth, students, and seniors have a common interest in standing up together against racism, sexism and anti-gay bigotry. . ."

This kind of baiting is nothing new in politics. (In 1886 Harper's Weekly said that criticizing the government was "Miss Nancyism.") What is new is the willingness of the class conscious vanguard to call hostility to transvestites and transsexuals by its real name: bigotry, and to clear away the ideological dust that stands in the way of unity of all the oppressed.

M. Doran
New York City

WORKERS WORLD welcomes letters from its readers. Send all correspondence to: Workers World, GPO Box 948, New York, N.Y. 10116.



A NEW
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Number one terrorist speaks out on terror

By Robert Dobrow

JULY 8—Ronald Reagan let it all hang out last night and delivered one of his most vitriolic, chauvinist and viciously untrue speeches against so-called terrorism.

Iran, Libya, north Korea, Cuba and Nicaragua, he charged, had carried out "outright acts of war" against the United States and constituted a "confederation of terrorist states," "a new, international version of Murder, Inc." He compared these countries to Nazi Germany, insulted their governments with the crudest swipes, and all but threatened a U.S. invasion of their lands. All to the hysterical laughter of the wealthy, silk-suited delegates of the American Bar Association in Washington, D.C.

But this speech was not just a diatribe against terrorism. It was a step closer to U.S. military intervention abroad and an escalation at psychologically preparing the American public for war.

"These terrorist states are now engaged in terrorist acts of war against the government and people of the United States," said Reagan. "And under international law, any state which is the victim of acts of war has the right to defend itself."

During the Lebanon crisis, Defense Secretary Weinberger also said that the U.S. was "at war" with terrorists. With media complicity Reagan hopes to create a war mood in the population, painting the U.S. as the victim under siege to justify U.S. war moves abroad in the name of "self-defense."

Nazi Germany's invasion of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Soviet Union were also called at the time acts of "self-defense" against "terrorists."

U.S. acts of terror

The type of "self-defense" the Reagan administration has in mind was seen a year-and-a-half ago in Grenada when a nuclear-armed naval, air and land force invaded one of the smallest island nations in the world. It was seen last March in Lebanon when a CIA organized "counter-terrorist" unit planted a one-ton bomb in a Beirut residential neighborhood, killing 80 civilians and maiming over 200. It is seen



Reagan's terror squad: U.S. Marines in Grenada in 1983 practiced state terrorism against that small Caribbean island's people.

every day in Central America where a CIA mercenary army engages in wanton rape, murder, assassination and torture as part of its "anti-terrorist" struggle against Nicaragua. And it is seen in South Africa, where Reagan's ideal of law and order—the white supremacist slave-masters of Pretoria—randomly fire into crowds of Black youth with orders of shoot to kill.

Reagan probably would have added Bulgaria to his list of countries were it not for the fact that the Pentagon's star witness against the accused, Mr. Mehmet Ali Agca, has made such a fool of himself in court he's made a complete laughing stock out of the Italian prosecutor's case against Bulgaria. So Reagan and the media are trying to quietly hush up the "Bulgarian connection" and move on to their next frame-up case.

What do Iran, Libya, north Korea, Cuba and Nicaragua really have in

common?

Why didn't Reagan or any other U.S. president ever denounce terrorism in Iran when it was under the heels of the infamous shah, known to his people as the "Hitler of Iran"? Or when Libya was a colonial puppet headed by the hated King Idris, who sold out his nation to the Western oil monopolies and kept his people in feudal impoverishment?

Reagan never had much to say about the genocidal U.S. bombing of north Korea during the Korean War which literally leveled the country so that not even one building was standing. Nor did Reagan ever have an unkind word for Anastasio Somoza, a cutthroat butcher whose U.S.-trained Nicaraguan National Guard were akin to the Nazi SS.

And of course the Cuban dictator Batista who turned Havana into a haven for U.S. gambling houses, pros-

titution, drugs and poverty was always the darling of the White House.

These men were never "terrorists," "criminals," "madmen," "lunatics," etc. Only when they were overthrown by mass revolutionary struggles of the workers and peasants were these countries targeted for "punishment."

It's noteworthy that Reagan didn't target the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe, which he had earlier branded as the "Evil Empire," "liars and cheats," etc., and concentrated his attack on smaller nations the Pentagon feels are more vulnerable to U.S. bullying.

But all of Reagan's saber-rattling won't intimidate the oppressed nations who are daily confronting state-supported terrorism from the shores of the U.S. The daily blows to the contra army in Nicaragua, to the Marcos regime in the Philippines and to the apartheid police state are their answer to Reagan's rant.

OPEC weakness reflects capitalist stagnation

By John Catalinotto

JULY 9—The results of last weekend's OPEC meeting in Vienna highlighted the weaknesses not only of the oil exporting countries but of the entire world capitalist economy.

Most of the U.S. press described the results as a "setback" for OPEC, since the ministers reached no agreement to curtail oil production. Oil prices are expected to decline from the current \$26 per barrel, which is already under pressure as demand is so low.

The continuing lack of demand for oil underlines the stagnation of worldwide capitalist production. And worries over the impact of a price drop for oil on Mexico, Nigeria and Venezuela point to the vulnerability of the imperialist banks regarding the debt crisis.

Also, the inability of OPEC to set prices dashes the myths fostered by the capitalist media and politicians in 1973 that the oil producers were a new superpower, that energy sources were about to disappear from the earth any day, and that bicycles would replace Chevrolets on U.S. highways.

To anyone who remembers those days in late 1973 and early 1974 when OPEC began to demand a fair price for oil, the absence of banner headlines

today must be surprising. The truth is that the mostly Middle Eastern OPEC countries had been forced to practically give away their natural resources for decades to the rapacious imperialist oil monopolies. Far from being a superpower, these countries were and are still a weak section of the world capitalist economy, oppressed by imperialism.

Taking advantage of the mass anti-imperialist sentiment in their countries following the 1973 Middle East war, the oil ministers were able to sharply raise prices for a temporary period. Most of the wealth from this price increase went straight back as deposits in the imperialist banks, especially in the U.S., and much of the rest went to purchase arms from those same imperialist countries. For this the Arabs and Iranians were scapegoated for the economic downturn of 1974-75, and were the butt of the most vile racist propaganda.

Oil monopolies gained big

Some of the biggest gains from the so-called oil crisis of that time were made by the mostly U.S.-owned oil monopolies, who raised their prices sky high, blaming the Arabs and Iranians

while they reaped almost unbelievable profits. Even today, Exxon, Texaco and others face penalty fines up to \$2 billion from illegal price gouging, and what they were caught at only skims the surface.

The temporary advantage for OPEC eroded quickly. The development of new oil sources in the North Sea, Mexico and Alaska, increased use of coal and atomic power and conservation techniques, and, more than anything else, the stagnation of the worldwide capitalist economy, has decreased the demand for OPEC oil.

According to the British magazine *The Economist*, the capitalist world's oil demand went from 51.2 million barrels per day in 1979 to 45.7 m b/d in 1984; OPEC's output fell from 31.5 m b/d to 18.3 m b/d in the same period. Even in 1984, when production in the imperialist countries supposedly grew by 5%, oil needs increased only by 2%, indicating that the gain in production is not in the industrial and chemical goods that need oil.

In 1973-74, the U.S. officials were rabid in their attacks on OPEC, some even threatening war to seize Middle East oilfields. Yet the reaction to OPEC's current setback has been relatively quiet. Far from being overjoyed

at the possibility of a sharp drop in oil prices, the reaction from many U.S. bourgeois economists has been cautious, due mainly to the precarious position of the imperialist banks.

Bank crisis looms

Should there be a sharp drop in oil prices, it will weaken the position of Mexico, Nigeria and Venezuela, three countries with large debts to the imperialist banks. Mexico especially has been on the edge of defaulting on its debt. As has been made clear in previous articles in *Workers World*, such a default endangers the entire imperialist banking system.

Besides the international debts, a number of U.S. banks, according to *The Economist*, "feel exposed to danger closer to home. Banks in Texas have up to a fifth of their loans out to energy-related companies." Such energy-related investments were said to be the indirect cause of the near-collapse of the giant Continental Illinois bank. One Texas banker put it this way, "If the oil price goes below \$20, we'll be wiped out."

The Vienna meeting was advisory, with an official, decision-making one set for July 22, when a drop to as low as \$20 is considered possible.

Struggle to save Black school in Alabama continues

By Monica Moorehead

JULY 8—Nestled in the northeastern corner of Wilcox County, Alabama, lies Snow Hill Institute—a campus of several buildings encompassed by 1,465 acres of timber-rich land. The school was founded in 1893 by William James Edwards, a protege of Booker T. Washington, who had envisioned since his days at Tuskegee Institute coming back to Snow Hill to start an educational and vocational school for grades 1-12 for the impoverished Black community.

As the first principal, Edwards encouraged community residents to buy the land from the school and eventually move out of the old slave quarters. In 1928-29 after Edwards' retirement, the state of Alabama bought ten acres of Snow Hill's campus, constructed two buildings and shared the directorship of the school with the board of trustees.

The school continued to function until 1973, when due to a segregation edict, a federal court order closed the doors of Snow Hill Institute. Though the board of trustees continued to function as well as manage the land and properties, the Black community had lost control of their only vital institution.

In 1979 a granddaughter of Edwards, Consuela Lee Moorehead, initiated a campaign to rebuild and reopen Snow Hill Institute as a cultural-vocational and educational school under the name of SPRINGTREE/Snow Hill Institute for the Performing Arts and Little Children's School, a pre-school program.

However, the Board of Trustees, which is composed of four powerless Black members and three white members, is controlled by a well-known Ku Klux Klan sympathizer, B.N. Ivey.

The Board has been hostile to the reopening of the school and has refused to authorize the necessary funding for the program, although the money is there! The Board has control over the cutting of timber that has garnered tens of thousands of dollars,



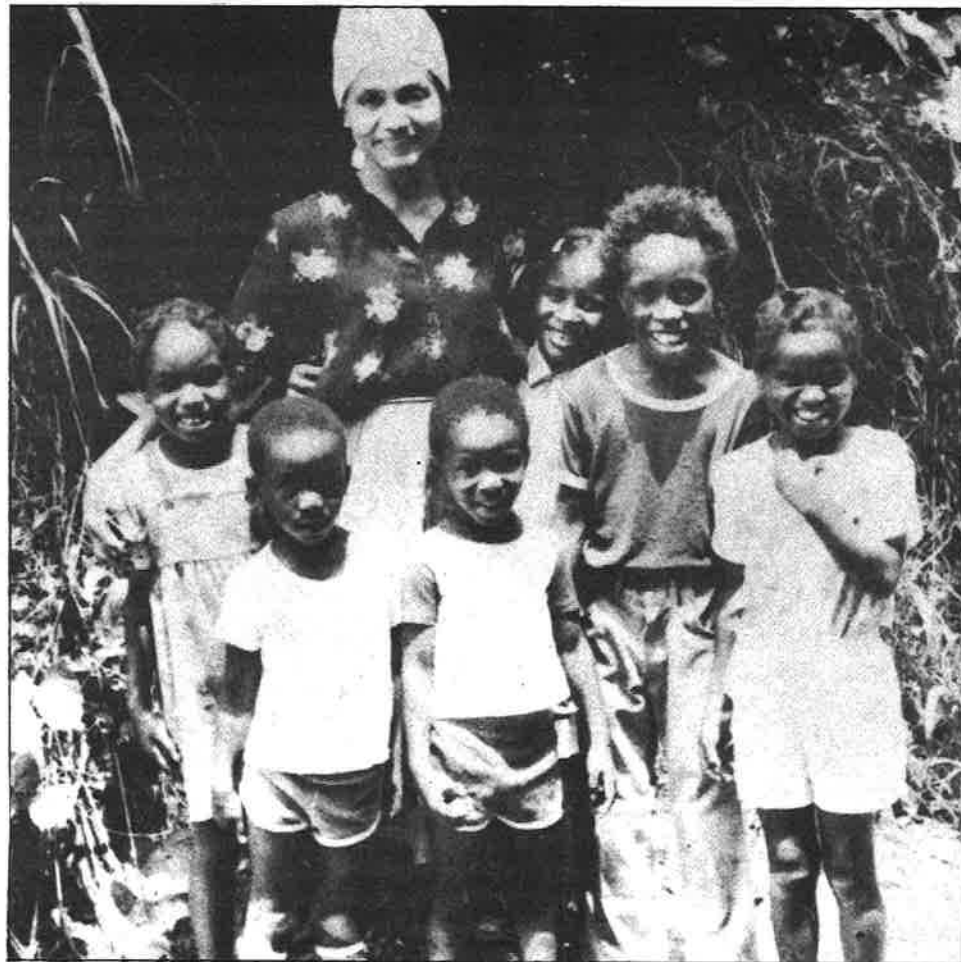
none of which the community has seen.

By denying the school and the Black community the funding, this Board has shown nothing but utter contempt for the right of the community to control its own institutions. However, the school continues to function for several months out of the year thanks to a number of donations.

Racism is the issue

The democratic rights of Black people especially in the South are being violated daily by the racist, white ruling class on every level—local, state and federal—as the struggle to save Snow Hill illustrates. The recent federal indictments of three civil rights workers accused of voter fraud as well as attacks on Black politicians are testimonies to this all-out racist offensive. Black farmers are losing land at the alarming rate of 300,000 acres per year! Research has unveiled that Wilcox County public schools, which are 98% Black, offer no pre-school programs and very little of the cultural arts.

The Snow Hill community is not standing idly while their school is be-



Snow Hill students with Consuela Lee Moorehead. Left, William J. Edwards, founder of Snow Hill.

ing threatened. They are fighting to keep Snow Hill Institute open. A national petition campaign will be under way in the coming months. An all-day rally will be held at the school on Saturday, Aug. 3, which will include speakers from all over the country. At a recent meeting of the Alabama Conference of Black Mayors, Inc., in Montgomery, over 30 mayors passed a resolution strongly endorsing "support and resources for the re-establishment of Snow Hill Institute."

For more information on the struggle to save Snow Hill Institute and to send donations, write Supporters of Snow Hill Institute, Snow Hill, Ala. 36778, or call (205) 746-2223.

Join us in the struggle

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—El Salvador interview

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million in military aid to the Duarte forces.

The U.S. reporters wrote, some for the first time in their newspapers, that

—South Africa

Continued from page 12

the hands of the racist authorities in South Africa.

Under the brutal oppressive system of apartheid it would be no surprise that the hated regime would resort to terrorist death squads in an attempt to suppress the South African masses with the full blessing of Reagan and the rest of his racist reactionary cohorts in the White House.

Ronald Reagan's interpretation of terrorism is, of course, not the premeditated genocidal system of apartheid, nor the massive cuts in social services here at home, nor the trillion dollar military budget.

Instead he insists that the terrorists are the people of Nicaragua, the people of El Salvador, Korea, Libya, Iran, Viet Nam, Cuba, Ethiopia and Lebanon, etc., all who are struggling for their freedom and independence from U.S. imperialism.

Despite the brutal acts of terrorism, the struggling masses in South Africa will put an end to the genocidal system of apartheid, along with its creators and keepers whose demise is as sure and definite as their creation.

Perquin, a town 126 miles northeast of San Salvador, and other guerrilla-held areas had been subject to massive bombing in the past by the government forces. Of course, the weapons were all U.S.-supplied, and the bombing goes on.

The revolutionaries justified their tactics of sabotaging business, traffic, electrical power and telephone communications and destroying crops that produce foreign exchange, saying the economy was a military target as in any war. They also defended their

right to "dislodge the local power in cities across the country" with kidnappings, calling such local power "yet another counterinsurgent element planted by the United States."

The guerrillas plan to bring the civil war to San Salvador, to "operate under the very noses of the high command and in their very homes," Villalobos said, adding that though the FMLN-FDR now controls one-quarter to one-third of the country, "within a year we hope to take the war throughout the entire nation."

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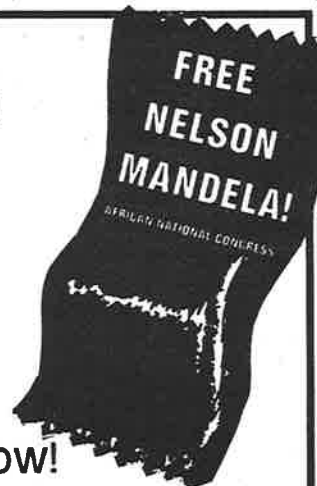
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Tennessee prison revolt exposes gruesome conditions

By Diane Feinberg

JULY 5—Uprisings in four Tennessee prisons this week drew some media attention to the intolerable conditions that gave rise to rebellion.

The media focused on the fuse that ignited the insurrections: forcing prisoners to wear humiliating new uniforms—pants with a wide stripe down the pant legs and blue shirts stamped "TN Dept of CORRECTION" on the back. This was the straw that broke the camel's back in all four prison rebellions, but it doesn't tell the whole story.

Prisoners reportedly rose up at Turney Center Prison in Hickman County last Monday after 30 prisoners were denied a meal because

they did not wear the new uniform shirt. The anger of the prisoners gathered steam until 400 prisoners took control of the 55-acre facility all night, allegedly burning piles of the new uniforms and three buildings. Heavily armed guards and troopers backed up with attack dogs were brought in to put down the prisoners' protest.

Turney prison was recently dubbed the "filthiest and most neglected" in Tennessee, according to the New York Times, July 2, which quoted Warden Frank Wood of the Minnesota Correctional Facility as saying that at Turney "living units are the filthiest, most neglected I've seen in 30 years."

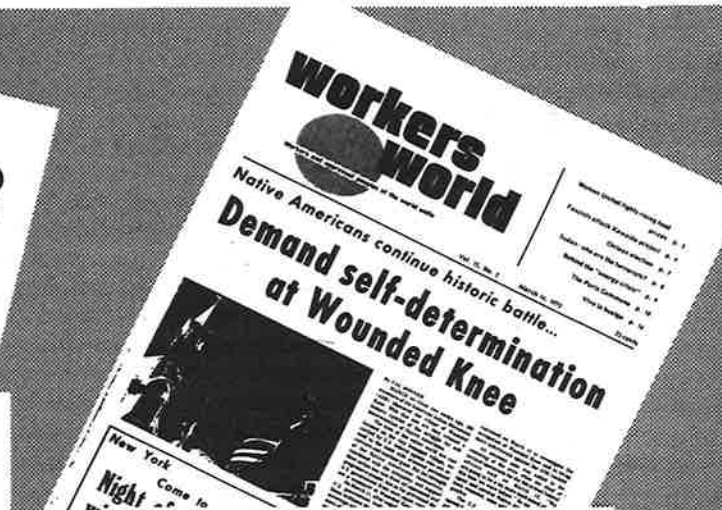
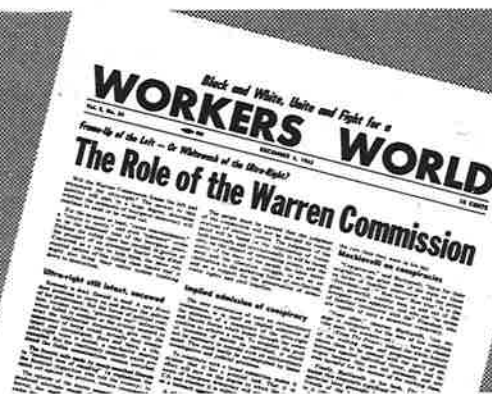
The mood of rebellion erupted at the Tennessee State Prison in Nashville, 60 miles east of Turney. There, prisoners did not end their uprising until being able to air their grievances at a news conference televised by the three network television stations in Nashville.

At the televised news conference, prisoners protested the terrible food, lack of rehabilitation programs and overcrowding so severe it was ordered assuaged by a federal judge. The men also said that Governor Lamar Alexander's administration had done nothing to alleviate the overcrowding although it was mandated in the 1982 court order. The Nashville prison, built to hold 800

people, currently holds some 1,031 prisoners.

Similar rebellions took place at the Morgan County Regional Correctional Facility in Wartburg, and the Bledsoe County Correctional Facility in Pikeville. A spokesperson for Gov. Lamar Alexander said that prison authorities had locked down prisoners in their cells in the other seven prisons across the state to "avoid trouble."

But the trouble erupted from the system of warehousing the poor for crimes of survival in the racist, overcrowded, brutal conditions. Prison officials have only driven the mood of rebellion deeper into the hearts of those they keep caged.



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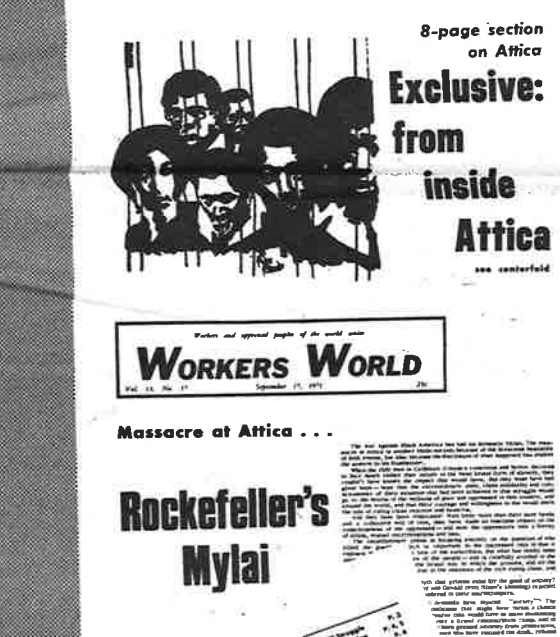
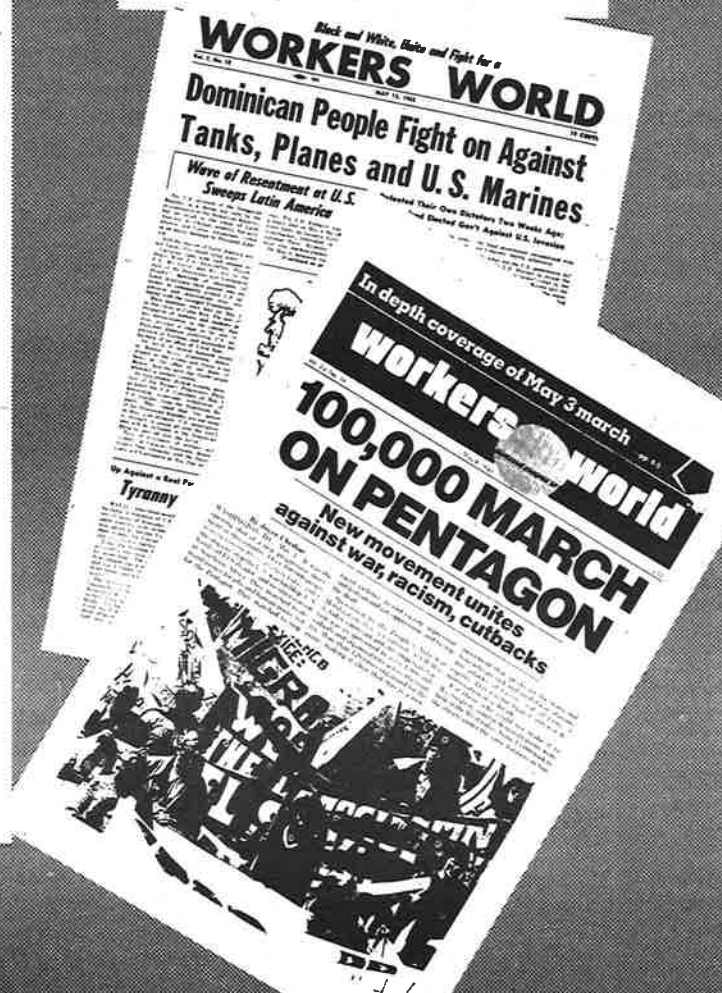
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July 18 is Mandela Day!

By Monica Moorehead

JULY 9—The ribbon-wearing campaign to demand the unconditional and immediate release of Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) has spread to over 30 cities in the U.S.

This campaign, initiated by the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of the All-Peoples Congress (APC) and the People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM), will coincide with the 67th birthday of the South African freedom fighter on July 18.

Nelson Mandela has been a symbol of courage and an inspiration to millions of oppressed Black South Africans struggling against apartheid, as well as other freedom loving people around the world. Thousands of people are expected to wear the Black ribbons with gold lettering outlining "Free Nelson Mandela, African National Congress."

Street meetings, the introduction of city council resolutions, neighborhood tables, media events and other activities highlighting the ribbon campaign will take place in cities such as San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Atlanta, Rochester, New York City, Jersey City, Syracuse, Buffalo, Boston and many more.

Nelson Mandela has been imprisoned by the Pretoria government since August 1962 following conviction for "high treason" for being in the forefront of strikes and other mass actions against the Hitlerite fascists. While Reagan was crying crocodile tears for the hostages in Beirut, he has completely ignored the hostages that

have been held for decades in apartheid dungeons—there are more political prisoners in South Africa than in any other country in the world.

Reagan's so-called constructive engagement with the hated regime is merely a cover for the harmonious relationship between the U.S. ruling class and the oppressors in South Africa, especially to safeguard the super-profits reaped by U.S. multinational corporations and banks that operate in the apartheid slave-labor state.

Wearing a ribbon demanding the release of Nelson Mandela will not only show solidarity with the struggle against the apartheid system but will also send a message to the right-wing, racist Reaganites in Washington that the people of the U.S. will not tolerate the support that is being provided economically, politically and militarily to apartheid at the expense of deteriorating conditions, unemployment and bigoted attacks at home.

The Black people of South Africa have reiterated time and time again that they will one day break down the doors of the prisons to liberate their leaders. Wearing a ribbon in the U.S. will be especially appreciated by the oppressed masses of South Africa who clearly understand the important role people around the world can play in supporting their historic task to destroy apartheid forever. Free Nelson Mandela!

For more information on the ribbon campaign, please contact the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of APC-PAM, 19 W. 21 St., Room 703b, New York, N.Y. 10010.



Nelson Mandela

Apartheid regime opens death-squad rampage

By Carmen Roundtree

JULY 10—There have been at least 20 reported murders at the already blood-stained hands of the racist apartheid regime in South Africa in the past week.

Just yesterday, the police openly invaded the East Rand township of Kwathema in the gold-mining dumps near Johannesburg and killed at least seven people in two separate attacks with shotguns and pistols. Most were killed when police lobbed tear gas canisters into a movie theater where a vigil was being held for Black activists killed earlier; police then opened fire as the people fled the theater.

With regard to the earlier killings,

leading members of the United Democratic Front (UDF) have charged the racist white minority regime "or its agents" of starting a campaign of political assassination against activists in the anti-apartheid movement.

These charges came after the brutal maiming and murder of four Black leaders from the Eastern Cape who were traveling home after a UDF meeting late one evening last week. Matthew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkhonto and Didelo Mhlawuli were found in sand dunes near Port Elizabeth, their bodies mutilated and burned.

In a press statement, the South African regime of course denied taking part

in the brutal slayings. Yet despite the government's denials both Black and white activists in South Africa state that in the Eastern Cape as well as elsewhere the view has taken root that extreme right-wing groups of racists or the authorities themselves are responsible for the deaths.

Mr. Goniwe and Mr. Calata were both school teachers in a small township called Lingeilhle, right outside of Cradock. They organized the longest-running boycott of classes in South Africa's recent history, which became an emblem of protest that had been cited by other activists as an example of militant resistance and defiance.

Goniwe had long been suspended

from his duties as a teacher by the South African authorities for his activism against the apartheid system.

Political assassinations

At a news conference last week, representatives of the UDF stated that over 27 people had disappeared in the Eastern Cape, the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. These circumstances, they went on to say, "only allow us to believe that they have been victims of political assassinations or abductions created either by the regime or its agents."

Over 500 people have been killed since last September, most of them at

Continued on page 10



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