



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

U.S. in secret deal with racist Botha regime

Reagan aide, Wall Street bankers work out apartheid bailout plan

Hundreds of thousands march on Labor Day



New York City

WW PHOTO: LALLAN STEIN



Detroit

WW PHOTO: CHERYL LABASH

By Sam Marcy

SEPTEMBER 4—The Reagan administration has worked out a secret deal with the South African racist regime to stave off its imminent financial and economic collapse.

The deal is calculated to make sure that South Africa is not declared in default on loans in payment of principal or interest, although details of the agreement have not been divulged. The terms were arrived at over the Labor Day weekend, but had been in the works ever since the flow of capital and currency out of South Africa reached flood proportions beginning Aug. 22.

The Reagan administration was represented in the negotiations in Washington by Paul A. Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States. He met in urgent session with Gerhard de Kock, the governor of the Reserve Bank of South Africa.

Both of these banking institutions are arms of their respective governments and are constitutionally bound to carry out the policy of their governments. Matters like the rescheduling of debts or sanctioning a moratorium on the payment of huge amounts of money by foreigners can, under U.S. law, only be done with the consent of the State Department, the Pentagon and the U.S. Treasury.

U.S. people kept in dark

This deal was therefore clearly a government-to-government negotiation. The capitalist press and electronic media failed to report it in a way which would clearly indicate that the tentative bailout agreement between the South African racist regime and the U.S. bankers was sanctioned and fortified by the Reagan administration, making them an accomplice to the crime.

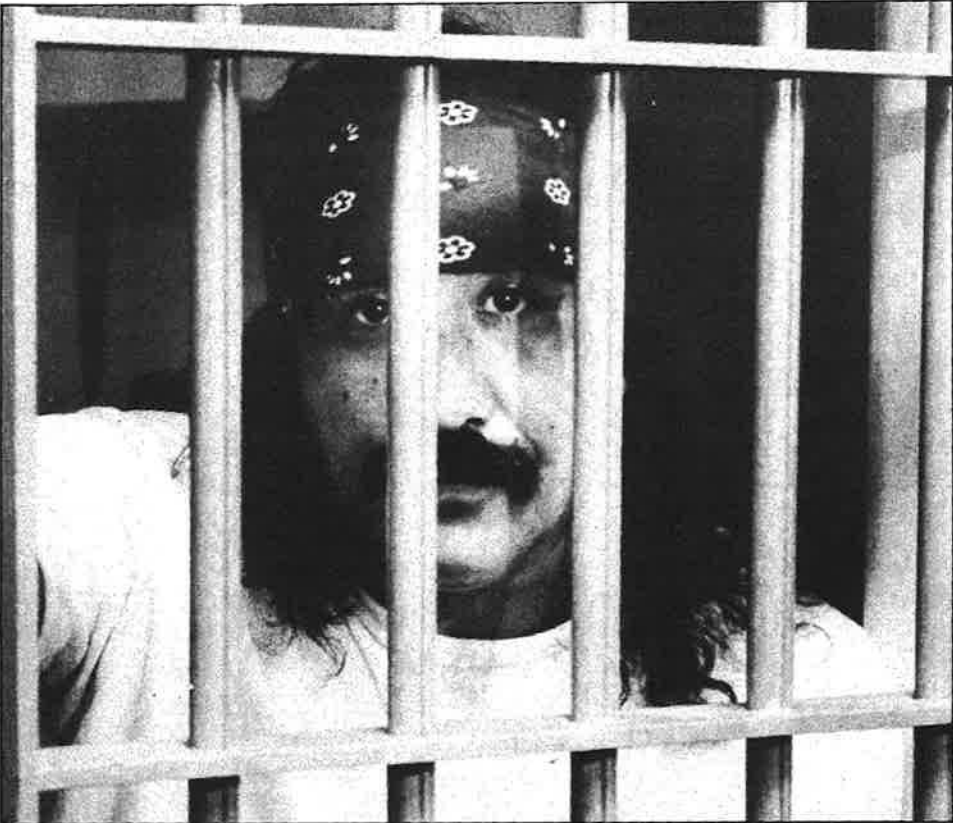
Technically the Federal Reserve chairman is supposed to be independent of Congress and

Continued on page 11

5,000 in Ohio rally for Wheeling-Pitt strikers

March to support freedom for Leonard Peltier

Sept. 7 action to end in rally in St. Louis on Sept. 12



Leonard Peltier

PHOTO: COVERT ACTION

When I was just a boy the Sioux owned the world; the sun rose and set on their land; they sent ten thousand men to battle. Where are the warriors today? Who slew them? Where are our lands? Who owns them? . . . They say I am a thief, a bad Indian. What law have I broken? Is it wrong for me to love my own? Is it wicked for me because my skin is red? Because I am Lakota, because I was born where my father died, because I would die for my people and my country?

Sitting Bull, Lakota leader

By Hachett

SEPTEMBER 3—American Indian Movement (AIM) leader and political prisoner Leonard Peltier will spend his 41st birthday on Sept. 12 behind the walls of the U.S. federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., where he was transferred over the summer. The transfer is attributed to the impact of a lawsuit filed on behalf of the non-Christian inmates' right for freedom of religion as well as the support he received demanding his transfer from Marion Maximum Security Prison in Illinois.

Brother Peltier was framed by the U.S. government in a repressive campaign to destroy AIM leadership. Peltier was convicted in 1977 and given two consecutive life terms for "aiding and abetting" in the deaths of two FBI agents who were part of the 1976 government paramilitary assault on the Jumping Bull encampment on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

After a long legal battle, a new trial was denied by Judge Paul Benson this past May. According to an amicus brief (friend of the court brief) filed by 50 U.S. congressmen on Peltier's behalf, "The government engaged in the deliberate deception of the trial court and the trial jury through the presentation of evidence the government knew to be false."

Represents Indian resistance

Peltier represents the raging fire that burns in the hearts and minds of Indian people—the fight against imperialism that stole their land, the genocide that killed tens of thousands, and all the bourgeois laws that legalize land theft by huge mining and oil

corporations. Brother Peltier represents Indian resistance.

In a recent phone conversation, Raul Salinas, coordinator of St. Louis Leonard Peltier Support Group (LPSG), reported that activities to advance public awareness to free Leonard are building. From Sept. 7 to Sept. 12 marches and rallies are scheduled despite the counter campaign by government and state authorities to disrupt LPSG's organizing efforts.

A freedom gathering and noon rally is scheduled for Saturday noon, Sept. 7, at Leavenworth Prison. On Sept. 8 the march is planned to step off to go to the federal courthouse in St. Louis, Mo., for a gathering and noon rally there Sept. 12, Peltier's birthday.

However, the Leavenworth city council came up with an ordinance to bar marchers from crossing the city—the right to march has been denied. The city insists that the marchers post a half million dollar bond to insure "non-violence" before the activities can take place. LPSG, represented by Kansas City ACLU, has filed for a court injunction against this city ordinance.

A Leonard Peltier encampment in Forest Park, Highway 44, St. Louis, Mo., has been established since July 14 where a continuous vigil was initiated when Peltier's lawyers submitted the notice of appeal for a new trial. This vigil is committed to last as long as it takes to win Peltier a new trial.

Support is more than needed. If you cannot attend, you are invited to send solidarity statements, financial help and/or letters demanding a new trial.

Letters of support and solidarity statements can be sent to: St. Louis LPSG, c/o Raul Salinas, 3005 LaFayette No. 2-W, St. Louis, Mo. 63104, (314) 776-0402.

Contributions should be made payable to: Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Dean's Discretionary Funds, 1047 Amsterdam Ave., New York, N.Y. 10025, Attention: Leonard Peltier Funds for a new trial summer 1985.

To demand a new trial and justice for Peltier send letters to: Judge Gerald Heaney, Judge Donald Ross, Judge John Gibson, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, Mo. 63101.

PROTEST AGAINST Vice President GEORGE BUSH

Wednesday, Sept. 11—12 noon

(12th anniversary of the CIA-planned coup in Chile)

Fairmont Hotel • California & Mason Sts., S.F.

- End U.S. Support for the Military Dictatorship in Chile! Victory to the Chilean People!
- Down with Apartheid! / U.S. Out of South Africa!
- U.S. Out of El Salvador! / Stop the Bombing!
- Hands Off Nicaragua!

Initiating Endorsers: All-Peoples Congress; Casa Chile; Campaign Against Apartheid; Casa El Salvador; Casa El Salvador "Farabundo Marti"; Chile Resource Center and Clearinghouse; Chilean Community of San Jose; Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (S.F. & Oak. / Berk.); La Pena; Southern Africa Freedom Committee / U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network.

For information, call 415-821-6545

In This Issue. . .

SOUTH AFRICA

As Cape Town stands ringed in fire, miners face whips and bullets, and the people take on the stooges of the most hated regime on earth, panic has broken out in the imperialist fraternity who fear their vast economic holdings could be wiped out by revolution. (Articles and analysis by Sam Marcy, pages 1, 6, 7, 9.)

LEONARD PELTIER

Supporters of Leonard Peltier will gather at Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas for a march to the federal courthouse in St. Louis, Mo., to demand freedom for the imprisoned American Indian Movement leader. (Page 2.)

VIET VETS

Viet Nam veterans made one last patrol last week, through the canyon leading to the Western White House to tell Reagan, "No new U.S. war in Central America." (Page 12.)



WW PHOTO: LALLAN STEIN

Labor Day in New York.

LABOR DAY

Support for the liberation movement in South Africa was on the minds of many among the hundreds of thousands of workers who marched in Detroit, New York, Cleveland and other cities, with large numbers of union members holding signs, wearing ribbons and buttons and carrying banners in support of the freedom struggle. (Page 4.)

NICARAGUA DEFIANT

Five years of dealing with the contras has left the people of Nicaragua bloodied but unbowed, ever on alert as imperialism works up its nerve for the attack. (Page 10.)

WHEELING-PITTSBURGH

At a rally of 5,000 for the Wheeling-Pittsburgh strikers, activists of the largest striking local distributed a leaflet saying that "We have a greater claim than all the banks and insurance companies" and "may end up owning, operating and controlling the company." (Page 5.)

VOTING RIGHTS

Ronald Reagan's personal adviser and good buddy Edwin Meese is using his powers as attorney general to alter election laws so racist state governments can deny Black people the vote. (Page 3.)

Also . . .

- On the picketline 3
- Poverty figures 3
- Viet Nam 8
- Bolivia general strike 10
- AIDS 11
- New KAL tapes 12

Editorials

- The new tax hoax 8
- Gorbachev and Reagan 8

workers world

Vol. 27, No. 37/Sept. 12 1985

Closing news date: Sept. 4, 1985

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

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

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

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

Reagan administration attacks voting rights with rule change

Attorney General Meese to allow open discrimination

By Sharon Shelton

SEPTEMBER 2—Ronald Reagan's personal adviser and good buddy Edwin Meese has taken a giant step toward strengthening the hand of the racists through a new attack on the Voting Rights Act.

A long-time opponent of all the civil rights legislation won by the struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, Meese is using his power as Attorney General to change the rules for enforcing the Act. The proposed changes will make it harder for Black and other oppressed peoples to challenge violations of their voting rights.

Under the new rules, changes in election laws that worsen discrimination would be permitted if the Justice Department decides that such "retrogression," in the words of bigot Meese, cannot be avoided. This provision alone could be used to counter enforcement of the Act itself!

Moreover, racist state governments will no longer have to prove that changes they make in the election laws are not discriminatory. In other words, states like Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia—states with long histories of going to drastic extremes to deny Black people the vote—are being given a virtual free rein unless challenged by individuals or groups, who will now have the burden of proving that discrimination was intended.

The new rules also state that court-mandated redistricting plans do not have to be cleared in advance with Washington under the Act, as they are presently. This change would not only undermine the Voting Rights Act, but could also weaken efforts to break down racist gerrymandering.

The Attorney General can use his office to fight a racist redistricting plan only if it results in a "significant reduction of minority voting strength." In other words, the Attorney General is no longer required to intervene if there is discrimination in voting laws, but only if he determines that discrimination is "significant"!

Widespread protests

Already, Meese's scheme has drawn a storm of protest from a wide range of

legal groups including the League of Women Voters, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and others, who point out that the new rules are just a continuation of efforts by the Reagan administration to destroy the Voting Rights Act itself.

Ever since Reagan came into office, his administration has brazenly targeted the voting rights of oppressed peoples. Just last week, the Justice Department ruled in favor of a racist redistricting program in North Caro-

lina that was aimed at undercutting the power of Black voters. Although a panel of three federal judges had ruled that the program was clearly racist, the Justice Department supported the program, saying the Voting Rights Act was designed to assure "access to the electoral process—not insure victories for minority candidates."

The Justice Department action was so blatantly bigoted that it drew opposition from some of Reagan's own cronies in the Republican Party who joined with Democrats in filing briefs against the ruling. Among those op-

posing Reagan was none other than Senate majority leader Bob Dole, a fellow Republican who is not exactly known for progressive views in regard to oppressed peoples.

Apparently, Dole and the other politicians know that Reagan has gone too far in trying to push his apartheid-type policies down the throats of the American people, and they fear a resurgence of anti-racist protests. For these servants of the ruling class know all too well that a strong, anti-racist struggle can only strengthen the working class as a whole.



Selma, Ala., in 1965. The Reagan administration has taken steps to wipe out the voting rights gains won by the Civil Rights movement.

Close look at gov't figures reveals deep poverty

By John Catalinotto

SEPTEMBER 1—A small statistical decrease in official poverty was used last week by the Reagan gang as the basis for ecstatic praise first of the wonders of the capitalist system and second for the genius of the administration. A closer look at the numbers, however, reveals that this statistical drop masks the persistent suffering of the poor under U.S. capitalism, suffering that has only been intensified

through Reagan's economic program.

Other census income data reported last week, far from vindicating capitalism, backs up Karl Marx's analysis of this exploitive and predatory system, especially his statement in *Capital* that "accumulation of wealth at one pole, is, therefore, at the same time, accumulation of misery, agony of toil at the other pole." In other words, that the workers would be increasingly impoverished while wealth is concentrated in fewer and fewer hands.

The government measures poverty by setting up a standard minimum cash income and defining those living in poverty as anyone with less than this standard. In 1984, the standard was \$10,609 for a family of four with adjustments depending on the size of the family. This rule of thumb is then used to make a rough comparison of how the poor are faring under different policies, different phases of the economic cycle or different administrations.

The Reaganites take credit for an economic upturn which began in 1983 after unemployment had reached post-Depression record levels. This so-called upturn was fueled almost completely by huge increases in military spending and huge budget deficits, and had leveled out by the end of 1984. Last week, the Census Bureau reported that as a result of the upturn, the number of people under the official poverty level had dropped in 1984 from 15.3% to 14.4%.

What these numbers hide, however, is that this 14.4% poverty level is still 2-3% points higher than the rates that prevailed before Reagan came into office, that is, before the deep 1981-82 recession and the small upturn. Even on the crest of an upswing in the economy, official poverty is at a much higher level than it was before the last big downswing.

Reagan cutbacks also hurt

Also adding to the misery of the poor are the cuts the Reaganites made in

non-cash programs such as food stamps, subsidized housing and school lunches. While these cuts have no impact on cash income measured in the poverty statistics, they seriously harm the welfare of the poor.

Another policy which hurts the lowest paid workers is the failure to increase the minimum wage even enough to keep up with inflation, a policy for which both the Reaganites and the Democratic-led Congress share the blame.

Reagan's right-wing communications hack Patrick Buchanan had the gall to call the new figures "unambiguous good news," and "a triumph for the Reagan philosophy," as well as showing the superiority of American capitalism.

Even bourgeois economic analysts, at least those not part of the Reagan administration, expect no further improvement in the official poverty figures in 1985. And of course a downswing in the economy will bring even more misery for the poor as the small gain is more than wiped out.

To anyone who walks through a big city's streets and observes those sleeping in the doorways or in the parks, or sees the lineup at the men's and women's shelters and at the soup kitchens, let alone to anyone standing on those lines, Buchanan's and Reagan's self-serving bragging is easily exposed.

And other census data reported last week help explain why the highly-touted improvement leaves so many poor on the streets. For example, continuing a trend which has existed since 1969, the gap between rich and poor spread in 1984 so it is now wider than at any time in the last 40 years. As Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-NY) and Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Calif.) put it in their reaction to the census report, "Since 1980 the rich have gotten richer and the poor poorer."

It's not Reagan's economic policy which is vindicated by these figures, but Marx's analysis of capitalism.

On The Picketline

Teachers strike. As the school year starts this week, teachers without contracts are already walking in several states, while strikes are imminent in a number of other school districts. Strikes have begun in Chicago, Seattle and Flint, Mich., as well as three western Pennsylvania districts and one in Illinois. Meanwhile, teachers are set to strike in San Francisco and other cities. The strikes have been forced, in part, by the cutbacks in funds for education made by the Reagan administration. While billions are being thrown away on Star Wars projects that will only make the corporate elite richer, projects that really help defend the people of this country, like the education of our youth, are denied even the most meager funding.

• • •

Hormel strike solid. The last time they struck, in 1933, the workers at the Hormel meatpacking plant in Austin, Minn., bodily carried out the boss, Jay C. Hormel, then maintained a sit-down inside the plant until Hormel agreed to recognize the union. The power of the 1933 Hormel sit-down strike established the Austin workers

as such a force that they didn't strike again for the next 52 years. Now, in the third week of their walkout in a bitter struggle against a union-busting assault by the number one pig processor, the 1,540 members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local P-9, are refreshing the Hormel family's memory about what it means to take on a fighting union.

Hundreds of strikers spent the last five days in August on a 1,000-mile caravan through Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska, canvassing door-to-door at some 200,000 homes to tell workers about their struggle and ask for their support. In Dubuque, Ottumwa, and Sioux City, Ia.; Freemont, Neb.; Rachele, Ill.; and Duluth, Minn.—each city the site of a Hormel or FDL (Hormel subsidiary) plant—there were strike support rallies, plant gate leafleting, and picketing at branch offices of Hormel's corporate backers, First Bank and Bank of Iowa. A strike leader told Workers World that response from rank-and-file workers at the other Hormel plants was so strong that the potential exists for a company-wide walkout if no settlement is reached at the Austin plant in the next few weeks.

—Shelley Ettinger

Hundreds of thousands march on Labor Day

By Joyce Chediac

NEW YORK, Sept. 2—Hundreds of thousands of trade union members proudly marched in cities around the country today, Labor Day, the day for organized labor to show its strength. Despite efforts by the bosses' media to minimize the marches and even to question the need for unions at all, the trade union movement showed that it is very much alive.

Here in New York, an official of the Central Labor Council told Workers World that they estimate that 300,000 walked the two-mile route down Fifth Avenue. In Detroit, another 150,000 workers showed their strength. In Chicago 55,000 took to the streets and in Cleveland 20,000 marched behind their union banners. Labor Day activities were held in other cities as well.

The New York media played down the significance of 500 union locals marching in the streets and portrayed the labor movement as captive of the bourgeois mayoral candidates, who grabbed the cameras for their own ends. The trade unions that turned out were seriously concerned with politics, however, but it was not the politics the media was talking about.

Although the official organizers of the march did not target any specific issues this year, the key issues felt by the rank and file were reflected in the signs and banners carried in opposition to apartheid in South Africa, union busting, to Reaganite attacks on poor and working people, and to the Pentagon war buildup. Also peppered throughout the march were United Farm Workers' signs calling for a boycott of table grapes and for solidarity with the Phelps Dodge and Wheeling-Pittsburgh strikers.

'Apartheid must go!'

Making South Africa a central theme was the multinational and spirited contingent of District 65 United Auto Workers union, which carried a huge banner reading "Apartheid must

go!" Other unions with anti-apartheid signs and banners were the Transport Workers Union, District Council 37 AFSCME, Newspaper Guild Local 3, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union and Local 144 of the Hotel, Hospital, Nursing Home and Allied Workers union.

Epitomizing the multinational character of the labor march and of this city itself was the International Ladies Garment Workers Union contingent which was Black, Latin, Chinese, Arab and other nationalities and mostly women. One of their lead banners read, "Amnesty for undocumented workers," and another said, "Free South Africa, Free Nelson Mandela, U.S. out of South Africa!"

New York University clerical workers from the American Federation of Teachers Local 3882 loudly chanted, "Clericals demand pay equity now!" And a group of Black, white and Latin women electricians proudly marched behind a banner reading, "Women electricians."

An especially proud contingent was that of the Hotel and Motel Trades Council, which represents 25,000 mostly-immigrant workers who brought the hotel billionaires in this city to their knees this year and won a solid contract.

Support for copper strikers

Despite being placed at the very end of the march, the contingent in support of the Phelps Dodge copper workers struck a deep chord among those watching the march. Chanting all the way, connecting union busting by big business with the attacks on all workers by the Reagan administration and the struggle in South Africa, the contingent was cheered time and again and many people stopped to photograph it. Leading the contingent were Angel Rodriguez and Ray Isner, two of the strike leaders from Arizona.

An indication of the serious and



Labor Day in New York.

WW PHOTO: LALLAN STEIN

thoughtful mood of the rank and file was the reception given to signs distributed by the All-Peoples Congress with the slogans, "Free South Africa, U.S. out!", "Stop union busting" and "Jobs not war!" Most enthusiastically received was the South Africa sign. Thousands were taken and carried throughout the march, helping to articulate the issues felt the strongest by the workers.

Unfortunately, Mayor Ed Koch and his big real estate backers bankrolled hundreds of "Labor for Koch" signs through the IBEW. These signs were booed along the way. Koch, who is running in the mayoral primaries next week, is known for his racism and anti-worker policies. (At the end of the march these signs were seen on 52 Street piled up by the hundreds and waiting to be swept away. They hadn't generated much enthusiasm even among those workers who carried

them.) Carol Bellamy, another bourgeois mayoral candidate, also tried to utilize the march for her campaign within the limits of her resources.

Marching in the world center of high finance, many carried signs against imports, in the vain hope it would save jobs. In fact, it's the export of capital which destroys jobs and undermines workers here—not imports.

Some local activists noted that the turnout this year was smaller than it had been in previous years.

That tens of thousands of rank-and-file workers turned out despite the loose organization of today's event shows that many local union leaders worked very hard to make today's march a success. And the warm reception that the workers and their families got from the passersby made it very clear that despite all the assaults on the workers, New York is still a union town and intends to remain that way.

Detroit labor emphasizes solidarity

Features support for labor struggles from West Virginia to South Africa

Special to Workers World

DETROIT, Sept. 2—Over 150,000 workers and oppressed people marched today through downtown Detroit in the annual Labor Day parade. While the parade may be an annual event, this was a qualitatively different march from those of previous years.

The size of the march alone was impressive, but its political character is what set it apart. Thousands of signs provided by the AFL-CIO commemorated important dates from labor's past struggles, including the Black struggle and the women's movement. Thousands of signs and leaflets distributed by the Southern Africa Freedom Committee (SAFC) of the All-Peoples Congress called for solidarity with the people of South Africa struggling for freedom. These signs were grabbed up and proudly carried on most floats, by virtually every contingent and by onlookers.

Most unions were represented, from the building trades to the Steelworkers and the Teamsters. The largest grouping by far, however, was the United Auto Workers (UAW) celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding.

Community organizations were welcomed, including the All-Peoples Congress and the Westside Mothers. There was a real openness to linking labor's issues with community struggles.

Most of the contingents carried

placards or drove floats stressing a commitment to civil rights, affirmative action, and women's rights. The right to a job and education, the clean-up of toxic wastes and the epidemic of hunger were raised in the keynote address by Owen Bieber, President of the UAW.

'Motown to Coaltown' solidarity caravan

One of the most impressive and certainly the longest contingent was the UAW Region 1E's "Motown to Coaltown" solidarity caravan. Over 200 vehicles—vans, trucks and cars—decorated with "Solidarity with the Massey Miners" signs drove through the parade. The caravan had carried supplies and \$50,000 to the beleaguered strikers this past August. This solidarity was returned by a large delegation of striking coal miners marching in today's parade, an address to the rally by Richard Trumka, President of the UMWA, and an after-rally reception at Region 1E UAW open to the public.

Many of the striking miners brought homemade hand lettered anti-apartheid signs, wore "Free Nelson Mandela" ribbons and anti-apartheid T-shirts printed by the Southern Africa Freedom Committee. The A.T. Massey company has been brutalizing these strikers for close to a year. Massey also owns mines in South Africa.

This is an example of how the issue of South Africa brought out the real spirit of the march. Solidarity was deeply felt.

Support for South Africa struggle

The SAFC was active and visible throughout the day. Working from two literature tables at each end of the march, reams of leaflets, hundreds of buttons, Mandela ribbons and placards were distributed to all present. Led by an Afro-American percussion ensemble, the contingent drew cheers and chants from bystanders.

In addition, union members of the Southern Africa Freedom Committee were instrumental in organizing over ten union locals to carry pro-ANC, pro-SWAPO, anti-apartheid banners. The SAFC also distributed leaflets calling on labor to take action to help the South African people. The flier, signed by eight union officials, invited unionists to a meeting to plan further action after the march.

The theme of solidarity with the fighting people of South Africa was repeated again and again from the official podium. In fact, the militance of the marchers seemed to push the leaders.

Tom Donahue, national Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO, and Tom Turner, President of the Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO, both raised South Africa as a chief concern of the union movement. Owen Bieber of the UAW called for "an end to the weapons of destruction."

A rousing speech by Richard Trumka, head of the United Mineworkers union, called for workers to "abandon old tactics" and join together to beat the multinationals and conglomerates

that use profits from other parts of their empires to defeat local struggles. Trumka called for workers to join the "class struggle," to rebuild the labor movement and to overturn Reaganism.

Workers World Party participated in the march and distributed a special supplement of three articles by Sam Marcy on the Wheeling-Pittsburgh strike and how to win it. The entire steelworkers contingent was given copies of these articles.

Today's march and rally clearly demonstrated that a new mood is developing among the workers and oppressed. The spirit and desire to fight the bosses is pushing to the front. A bond of solidarity between Black and white, women and men, young and old was the mortar of the march.

At the Southern Africa Freedom Committee meeting following the parade over 60 labor and community activists gathered to watch a video on recent events in South Africa produced by the Detroit SAFC. Following the video, a lively, militant discussion took place. One of the suggestions raised by a local union official was for a national labor march in support of the South African people. There were many other suggestions and ideas. The meeting was adjourned with a renewed commitment to build and strengthen the new network that gave voice to the solidarity of so many marchers today with the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

5,000 rally in Ohio to back Wheeling-Pitt strike

By Alan Roth

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, Aug. 31—A solidarity rally here today drew thousands of supporters of the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. workers who are in the 43rd day of their strike.

The 5,000-strong rally was estimated to be the largest Labor Day weekend event ever held in Jefferson County. The action drew supporters from all over the Midwest—Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and West Virginia.

Linda Lenzi, chairperson of the Ohio Valley Teachers' Association summed up the feeling here when she said, "All unions have to stick together at a time like this."

Busloads of steel workers from District 27 in Massillon, Ohio, poured out into the rally. One of the workers commented, "What better weekend than Labor Day weekend to come down and show our support for the Wheeling-Pitt workers."

Others joining the rally were mine workers from District 6 in West Virginia. Jackie Collins, a mineworker from Ravenswood, W. Va., said, "I traveled all the way from Parkersburg area to lend support to the steel workers in hope that a pattern for union-busting would not be set."

Tony Bumbico, a representative of District 6 of the United Mine Workers union, added a powerful message to this day of solidarity. "The United Mine Workers are ready to stand with you," he told the gathered Wheeling-Pittsburgh strikers.

The rally was held in front of the Steubenville plant of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. An effigy of Wheeling-Pittsburgh's Board Chairman, James Carney, hung overhead. Signs dotted the crowd reading, "Community held hostage, support the Steel Workers," and "Carney made me a coin collector—got a quarter?"

Local 1190 rank-and-file leaflet

Everywhere one turned, rank and file activists from USWA Local 1190



Solidarity with Wheeling-Pitt strikers: "All unions have to stick together at a time like this."

WW PHOTO: ALAN ROTH

were handing out a leaflet signed by one of their members, Mike Paesani. The leaflet, which generated great interest and discussion by the workers gathered today, captured the spirit of fighting back that could be felt in the air.

The headline of the leaflet began: "The union must file its own reorganization plan." It reminded its readers that, "With over \$570 million worth of claims against the company, we have a greater claim than all the banks and insurance companies combined. By standing in solidarity in the streets we can enforce the validity of our \$570 million investment."

"The employees of Wheeling-Pitts-

burgh Steel may end up owning, operating and controlling the company... Until the reorganization process is resolved, we must stick to our strike demands."

The union is demanding no cut in wages or benefits as well as retention of the current grievance procedure. The demands also include abolishing the LMPT program (Labor-Management Participation Teams) and elimination of the no strike clause. In short, the workers are demanding that the union contract that was torn up by the company with the help of a bankruptcy judge be retained.

Some 6,000 of the 8,200 striking workers have already signed a petition

stating they will not return to work for anything less than what the company had legally guaranteed in the collective bargaining agreement that is not due to expire for another year.

Speakers reflect spirit of struggle and unity

The strong spirit of the strikers and of today's rally was reflected by all of the speakers. The theme was definitely struggle and unity. Speakers included USWA International President Lynn Williams, District 23 Director Paul Reusen, District 29 Director Harry Lester, District 23 Assistant Director Jim Bodwen (who is rumored to be Reusen's choice to succeed him in his expected retirement), as well as Bumbico from the Mine Workers District 6 and others.

Checks adding up to more than \$120,000 donated by other unionists were presented to the Wheeling-Pittsburgh strikers.

Only two days before the rally, the steel workers won a victory when the courts were forced to rule that the work stoppage is legally a lockout by the company and therefore the workers are entitled to unemployment benefits.

20,000 march in Cleveland

Special to Workers World

CLEVELAND, Sept. 2—Labor Day was celebrated in Cleveland with a huge parade of nearly 20,000 unionists. Contingent after contingent of unions displaying their crafts marched through the downtown streets with signs, union t-shirts and balloons.

American Postal Workers Union (APWU) members and other unionists passed out signs that read, "Labor says, Free South Africa!" The signs were printed by the APWU.

APWU members also carried a banner that caught the attention of other marchers and observers. It read, "Labor solidarity—from the mills of Wheeling-Pitt to the townships of South Africa."

Following the march, anti-apartheid unionists staffed a literature table with information on South Africa and distributed an APWU flyer that urged all unionists to "get involved in the fight against apartheid."



Labor Day in New York.

WW PHOTO: LALLAN STEIN



Labor Day in Detroit. WW PHOTO: CHERYL LABASH



Labor Day in New York.

WW PHOTO: LALLAN STEIN

Civil war measures force S. Africa miners to pull back

By Robert Dobrow

SEPTEMBER 3—The fascist apartheid regime has resorted to civil war measures to crush the strike of 28,000 Black mineworkers in South Africa.

ABC News reported tonight that the mine owners have fired two-thirds of the striking membership of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the largest Black trade union in the country, which called out its members on Sunday.

The United Democratic Front, a leading organization in the struggle against the racist regime in South Africa, declared, "We warn the police and mine bosses that if they continue with the violent suppression of the workers on strike, we will have no option."

The demands of the miners at the Gold Fields, Gencor and Anglo-Vaal gold and coal mines were simple enough: a small increase in pay and some improvements in working conditions. This for workers who are some of the most exploited and oppressed on the planet, whose labor brings fabulous riches to the ruling classes of Pretoria and Johannesburg and of London, Amsterdam and Wall Street. But their simple demands were answered with the frenzied violence of the apartheid state.

Government troops have turned the mines into armed camps and are resorting to the most unparalleled terror tactics to drive the workers down into the pits.

At the Gold Fields mine, guards fired tear gas to break up a picket line. At other sites, police using whips, rubber bullets and live ammunition charged into groups of strikers. At least 13 miners were seriously injured.

Armored trucks patrol the hostels where 97% of South Africa's Black mineworkers are forced by law to live. Before the strike was called police erected fences around the hostels and leaflets were distributed threatening workers with firings. Some mining companies shut off water supplies and refused to feed the workers to break the work stoppage. All the mines have closed their property to reporters.

In a statement Monday night, the NUM charged that police and company security guards are forcing miners to work at gunpoint. Company goons at a non-striking mine fired tear gas and rubber bullets into a crowd of workers who met to discuss a walkout in solidarity with the strikers. Seven workers were injured.

What is significant is that the union has been able to carry out an orderly retreat and remain intact under such severe threats from the government and the mine owners. The miners' determined struggle, daring to strike against such tremendous odds, and the unity shown by the United Democratic Front (UDF) marks a milestone in the liberation struggle in South Africa.

Laboring in hell

Gold is the lifeblood of the apartheid economy. And the apartheid state grew and developed on the basis of the system of control and domination engineered in the mines.

There are 700,000 South African mineworkers—over 600,000 are Black and less than 80,000 are white. African workers earn on the average \$260 a month, whites earn \$1,395.

The government recruits miners on a short-term basis for not more than two years. They are "trained" for three or four days with no idea of where they are going to work, what their work will be or how much they will be paid. They live in barracks-type compounds with two-tiered bunks for 10-20 people. They are not allowed to have their family with them.

Although South Africa's gold mines are some of the most productive in the world, the South African mines are far behind other capitalist countries in extraction technology. According to Timothy Green's *The World of Gold Today*, "The gold-mining industry has been very slow over the years to develop mechanization underground because it has so frequently been cheaper just to send in another ten Africans, instead of inventing a machine."

The result is widespread death and disease. It's estimated that between 1936-1966, some 19,000 workers, 93% of



Striking mineworkers were forced back to work by the armed terror of the state.

them Black, died as a result of accidents in the gold mines. In the last decade, more than 8,000 Black workers lost their lives in the mines. In addition, thousands of African miners contract pulmonary diseases like pneumoconiosis and silicosis and often fall victim to tuberculosis.

The U.S. connection

The Western imperialist corporations are the ones that profit from this institutionalized neo-slavery. And the U.S., in particular, has been intimately involved with the apartheid state for almost a century.

Following the discovery of gold in South Africa, U.S. companies rushed to the scene to get a piece of the action. By 1896, about half of South African mines were run by American civil engineers. The U.S. soon became the largest supplier of equipment to the mines. The U.S. is now South Africa's largest trading partner.

The Anglo-American Corporation is South Africa's largest mining monopoly. It was set up by none other than J.P. Morgan and other U.S. multimillionaires who supplied half the capital when Anglo was founded in 1917.

Anglo employs 100,000 Black workers. Its head, Harry Oppenheimer, likes to foster the appearance of being

a liberal of sorts. But during a strike last year, the bosses called in the police with dogs and batons to drive workers back into the mines. And five months ago, the company fired 14,000 workers from its Vaal Reefs mine—the largest gold mine in the world—after six weeks of work stoppages.

One of Anglo-American's major holding companies is the Mineral and Resources Corporation (MINORCO). MINORCO's board is chaired by Oppenheimer and includes Walter Wriston, recent chairman of Citicorp, and Felix Rohatyn, senior partner of Lazard Freres and architect of the brutal cutbacks of social services in New York City in 1975.

Through this connection, Citicorp is Anglo-American's main U.S. partner. And Citibank is the largest U.S. lender to South Africa. In addition, MINORCO holds 27% of Phibro-Salomon Corporation, the world's largest trader in crude oil. Phibro, in turn, holds 100% of the New York-based Salomon Brothers investment banking firm.

The labor connection

The ties that bind U.S. finance capital to the fascist apartheid state also create a strong link between the oppressed Black South African workers

Continued on page 11



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Anti-apartheid at Caribbean event. At the annual Caribbean Day Festival, an anti-apartheid contingent marched in the parade on Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn, N.Y. The U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of PAM/APC was the major organizer of the contingent. This is possibly the first time that a political contingent participated in the march.

So that the thousands of people lining the march route could get full view of the anti-apartheid contingent, the Network along with a delegation from the African National Congress (ANC) and the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) marched toward the beginning of the parade. Carrying banners and placards denouncing Reagan and Botha, the contingent chanted many slogans against the fascist South African regime.

South Africa was clearly a burning issue among everyone at the festival, and that contributed to the fact that the anti-apartheid contingent was one of the most popular parts of the parade. Thousands of people raised clenched fists as they marched by. At every stop during the over 3-hour march people on the side chanted along with the marchers and many people joined the contingent.

—Neville Edwards

Berkeley students resume protests demanding divestment

By Stephanie Hedgecock

BERKELEY, Calif., Aug. 27—About 1,000 University of California (UC) students kicked-off their first day of fall semester classes with an anti-apartheid rally and march on Monday, Aug. 26.

Thousands of Berkeley students staged a two-month occupation of the Sproul Hall steps last spring, renaming the building and plaza area after Steven Biko, a Black South African activist murdered by the apartheid regime. Students, UC workers and progressive faculty had demanded full divestment of campus funds from South Africa.

The UC Board of Regents met in June, after the spring semester had ended, and voted down divesting the millions that UC has invested in racist apartheid. Instead the regents created an advisory committee to study the objectionable investments.

Students heard from many speakers during Monday's rally, organized by Campaign Against Apartheid, including Willia Gray of Bay Area Free South Africa Movement, UC-Berkeley student president Pedro Noguera, and Gloria La Riva of the Southern African

Freedom Committee of the All-Peoples Congress.

La Riva declared "Those who support the Black people of South Africa must also support their right to pick up arms and fight by any means necessary to be free. Apartheid cannot be reformed. It must be smashed!"

Following the rally, the students marched on the Chancellor's office at California Hall in protest of the regents' June action. Leo Robinson, of International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Local 10, addressed the demonstrators at that time to announce that his local had voted to donate \$2,000 to the South African National Union of Mineworkers in support of their heroic strike.

The students then continued their march back across Biko Plaza and off the campus to the Bank of America on Telegraph Avenue. Telegraph Avenue was shut down for a couple of hours as students chanted and heard talks and announcements.

Further anti-apartheid activities are planned this fall. Faculty for Divestment representative Todd Gitlin said that the regents' June action "was guaranteed to spark continued outcries."

Flames of rebellion sweep Cape townships

By Zenzile

SEPTEMBER 2—In a massive show of solidarity with those who were maimed, murdered and detained after the police attacked a peaceful Aug. 27 protest march by 2,000 people marching to Pollsmoor prison to demand the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, Cape Town flared this week in defiant flames of rebellion.

More than 70,000 gathered Sept. 2 near East London for a funeral for 18 of the slain. It was the largest anti-regime demonstration yet.

On the Cape flats, residents emerged from the Yellow Council flats of Manenberg and stoned passing army trucks and police vans. In some cases military personnel were killed and wounded.

Attempting to cover up the full count of deaths and casualties, the government ordered many victims taken to Wynberg military hospital where access is strictly controlled.

At the University of Western Cape, near Bellville, students stoned police and burned tires for barricades.

There were heavy clashes between residents and police in Athlone, Elsies River and in Mitchels Plain, which is where the Department of Group Areas and Community Development has forcibly settled the former residents of Salt River District, Woodstock and so many other areas declared "white" by rezoning laws.

In all these areas as well as in Gugulethuthere barricades were burned along with council offices and symbols of apartheid control. These scenes are reminiscent of 1976 when Cape Town, like many parts of South Africa, was on fire with confrontation taking place deep in the city center.

Masses rendering South Africa ungovernable

Today, in response to a call from the national movement, the democratic revolutionary masses of South Africa are making apartheid unworkable and are rendering South Africa ungovernable.

There is not one area in South Africa that can claim immunity from the peoples' wrath, which has taken the

form of unabated mass rebellion, targeting all the visible symbols of apartheid authority. This has now developed to the stage of total defiance of the apartheid state and open confrontation with the fascist paramilitary police and the army.

Racist, rightwing pro-apartheid bigots like Reagan and Jerry Falwell are digging in their heels in support of the fascists, mouthing codewords like "reform, they're moving on it," or "they have scrapped social discrimination, like we once had in this country." But such suggestions that South Africa is capable of reform are rendered mute when, for the umpteenth time, the world sees the real face of apartheid—ugly violent, vicious, and repressive.

There is a war in South Africa, oppressor versus oppressed.

Only a revolution can bring about true change in South Africa.

Forward to a peoples' government! Victory to the ANC.

The author of this article is an exiled South African who participated in the 1976 Soweto rebellion.



Police attack demonstrators near Cape Town.

ANC leader assesses movement and its enemies

By Lallan Stein

SEPTEMBER 2—African National Congress (ANC) Secretary General Alfred Nzo gave an assessment on Aug. 30 of some of the issues confronting the liberation movement of South Africa. This was two days after thousands had poured into the streets in defiance of a police ban and despite every possible effort by the South African authorities to crush a massive and heroic action in support of ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Nzo declared that during the past year "the people of South Africa have taken up the call of the ANC to render apartheid unworkable and South Africa ungovernable. In every part of our country mass struggles have erupted against the institutions of minority rule and the apartheid system in general.

"In the second quarter of this year, in practically every urban area the system of community councils (instituted by the apartheid government) have disintegrated as erstwhile councilors resigned en masse and a few diehard collaborators fled.

"Since that time the mass upsurge in opposition to racist oppression has continued unabated, despite the Pretoria regime's imposition of outright martial law in its attempt to contain the situation, and now affects almost every town and city of South Africa."

and other political prisoners was brutally suppressed in this fashion, with scores of people killed and hundreds more injured. A number of the victims have been taken to the Wynberg military hospital in Cape Town in an attempt to conceal the true extent of the atrocities committed."

Nzo goes on to explain the treacherous role of Chief Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi and the direction he has given the organization Inkatha in the context of these historic developments. In the U.S. big business media, which often sounds like the official propaganda mouthpiece for Reagan's pro-Botha policy, Buthelezi is often lauded as a "legitimate leader" of the Black masses in South Africa. But Nzo describes Buthelezi's reactionary activities and gives the ANC's position on those whose actions aid the apartheid system.

In the days prior to the protest for Nelson Mandela when the apartheid regime was doing everything in its power to stop the action, "Buthelezi delivered a bombastic and slanderous diatribe against the ANC and the United Democratic Front (UDF)." On the day before the protest, "Mr. Sabela, a local leader of Inkatha threatened members and supporters of the UDF," charges Nzo.

"Over the past few years, mobs inspired by Chief Buthelezi have been responsible for a pattern of vicious beatings, armed attacks and even murders in the Natal region. During the school boycotts of 1981-82, the leadership of Inkatha, under the guidance of Buthelezi, took it upon itself to break up and suppress the boycott in the townships of Natal. Ostensibly acting in defense of the honor of the Zulu Royal House, an Inkatha-organized gang attacked students at Ongoye University College during 1983 and inflicted serious injuries leading to the death of some of their victims.

"More recently, organized groups of ruffians, brandishing spears and other lethal weapons, have attacked political rallies, meetings and even funerals where our people had gathered to pay homage to those who have fallen in the course of the struggle. All these outrages have occurred with the overt or covert blessing and support of the leadership of Inkatha. It is also a matter of record that the racist regime's police force has either actively assisted in such attacks or passively connived at their perpetration.

"At a time when the vast majority of our people, through the length and breadth of our country, are locked in mortal combat against the oppressive

machinery of apartheid colonialism, it is nothing less than the most abject treachery for any Black person, let alone one who claims to be a leader, to enroll as an auxiliary of the racist police force. By choosing to join the racists in the persecution and repression of members of the democratic movement, the leadership of Inkatha has placed itself in the camp of the enemy. The ANC draws the attention of the democratic movement, other sections of the oppressed, including the rank-and-file members of Inkatha, and the international community to the dangerous role that has been assumed by Buthelezi and the leaders of Inkatha.

"The ANC condemns in the strongest possible terms the criminal conduct of Sabela and his subordinates. Their conduct shall not be easily forgotten nor shall they be easily pardoned. We place the blame for these dastardly deeds squarely at the door of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the leading group in Inkatha. We shall hold them individually and collectively responsible for any injuries inflicted on the persons or property of the patriots whom Sabela has chosen to threaten. For our part, the ANC shall continue, as always to direct its blows against the principal enemy of the people, the Botha-Malan regime."

Leaders assassinated

"Coupled with the action of the police, then the army, and now even naval personnel to crush the revolt, the regime has unleashed gangs of paid assassins to murder leaders of the democratic movement one by one in diabolically planned ambushes. Over the past eight months alone, more than seven prominent opponents of the regime were brutally killed by these murder squads. Others have mysteriously disappeared from their homes and may be presumed dead.

"Every popular campaign expressing the aspirations of the people for freedom and social justice, whether peaceful or otherwise, has been met with unbridled police violence combined with administrative legal measures.

"As recently as last Wednesday, Aug. 28, a peaceful demonstration, to demand the release of Nelson Mandela

Join the
National Ribbon
Campaign to



Free Nelson Mandela

Black ribbons with gold lettering (2"x5") which say "Free Nelson Mandela," and "African National Congress" (25¢/ribbon; 20¢ each for 25 & up; 15¢ on each on orders over 200; 10¢ each on orders on 1,000)

Buttons

Free South Africa,
Victory to ANC & SWAPO
(2 1/4" button \$1.00 each)



South Africa t-shirts

Silkscreened graphic
t-shirts with the slogan of

"Free South Africa,
Victory to ANC & SWAPO"

Red, gold, black (\$7.00 per t-shirt)

s _____ m _____ l _____ xl _____

Green, gold, black

s _____ m _____ l _____ xl _____



Add \$1.25 postage for orders up to \$8.00. For orders above \$8.00 add \$2.00 postage.

Postage
Total

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please prepay on all orders. Make checks payable to:

U.S. Out of Southern Africa
Network of APC/PAM

19 West 21 Street, Room 703b

New York, New York 10010

(212) 741-0633

EDITORIAL

The new tax hoax

WHAT WAS Ronald Reagan's Labor Day message? Did he announce a breathing spell from his never-ending racist and anti-labor measures? Was it at least even some slight acknowledgement all the wealth in this country is produced by the workers? Nothing of the sort. Keeping in character as the mouthpiece of the super-rich, Reagan's Labor Day message was another two-barreled assault on working people, this time in the guise of tax reform.

Trying to feed on the justifiable anger of workers and the middle class over high taxes, Reagan is soft-pedaling his plan by having his speech writers concoct phrases for it like tax "reform," tax "simplification," a "fair share program" and even "helping the poor and lower income groups." This plan has as its real goal, however, to virtually stop taxing the wealthy and let the workers bear the burden.

When Reagan took office the filthy-rich in the highest income bracket paid 70% in taxes. Reagan immediately reduced this to 50%. Now, he wants to reduce it even more to 35% for rich individuals and 33% for corporations. This attempt to abolish the graduated income tax means that if you are single and earn \$20,000 you pay 25% in taxes, while if you make \$2 million, you pay 35%. In other words, you can have a hundred times the ability to pay and still

pay at a rate less than 1.5% times what a worker pays.

What about the huge savings that Reagan claims his plan will bring? Under his plan, if you make \$200,000 a year you will save \$200 a week. If you make \$15,000 or under you will save at most \$3 a week, and even that will be eaten away ten times over by losses in social services.

This "fair share program" would make unemployment insurance and worker's compensation fully taxable, and tax health care benefits as well. This "help for the poor and lower income groups" would abolish exemptions for the blind and the elderly and reduce child care credits. This tax "simplification" would eliminate the deduction for married couples when both work.

And that is not all. An especially devastating aspect of the plan is the elimination of the deduction for state and local taxes, meaning that Uncle Sam wants to tax you for money you never had because it went to the state or the city. Reagan wants to raise \$33 billion next year from this provision, and almost all of it will come from the workers and the middle class.

When all the double talk is stripped away this is not tax reform at all. It is as much a gun aimed at the workers as the Reaganite cutbacks, takebacks and attacks on affirmative action.

Gorbachev and Reagan

USSR SECRETARY General Mikhail Gorbachev's interview in Time Magazine and his meeting with eight U.S. senators have kept the scheduled November summit with Reagan in Geneva at the top of the news. In reasoned and calm tones, especially considering the aggressive provocations of the Reagan administration, the Soviet leader expressed the continued desire of the USSR and its people to reach agreement on limiting arms production and deployment by the two countries, specifically stopping a new arms race in space.

Also during the pre-summit period, the USSR unilaterally began a moratorium of nuclear tests, inviting the U.S. to join it.

In the Time interview, Gorbachev rightly pointed out that if U.S. militarists proceed with their plans to extend the arms race to space, the USSR is capable of matching their efforts, but that such a route would increase the dangers of war and would be costly in material well being to people in both countries.

So far Washington's response to Soviet arms reduction initiatives has been to press on with the drive toward unlimited weapons production which began to speed up in the last Democratic administration and accelerated beyond an arms merchant's dreams under the Reaganites.

The Soviet moratorium was answered with a new U.S. nuclear test. The Pentagon launched an MX missile. And the Air Force scheduled a new test of an ASAT missile to show the administration's commitment to "Star Wars," while Washington threw anti-Soviet "spy dust" into the eyes of the media.

In fact, as a Sept. 1 Washington Post article reported, higher-ups in the Reagan administration and in the Pentagon ordered the ASAT test purposely to show "toughness" before the summit meeting. In other words, to sabotage any chance of reducing funds poured into the U.S. military-industrial complex.

The utter intransigence of the Reagan administration and its backers in the military-industrial complex clarifies their role as militarists and merchants of death who have harnessed the entire U.S. capitalist class to the chariot of war. More sharply than before, the U.S. rulers can be seen as the source of the arms race, as the cause of the danger to humanity.

And more than ever a movement to avert such a war not only must be broadened beyond the freeze movement of three years ago to include the workers and all of the poor, but it must be directed with accuracy against Washington and Wall Street.



WAH

Viet Nam withdrawing troops in Kampuchea

By Deirdre Griswold
SEPTEMBER 2—The foreign ministers of Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos announced on Aug. 16 that, because of progress in the defense and social reconstruction of Kampuchea, the Vietnamese troops stationed there since 1979 will continue to be withdrawn, with all the troops scheduled to be out by 1990.

This optimistic announcement comes after a very difficult period for the revolutions in Indochina. It was ten short years ago that a reunited Socialist Republic of Viet Nam was proclaimed after the fall of the U.S. puppet regime in Saigon. But even with open intervention by U.S. imperialism having ended, the people of Southeast Asia have known little peace.

Washington has continued a hostile policy that includes failure to live up to its promise of reparations for the terrible damage it inflicted in the war; refusal to normalize relations with Viet Nam or Kampuchea; a continuing trade embargo against these countries; and collusion with the reactionary leadership in China on an anti-Viet Nam policy that has led to a continued war against Kampuchea and military attacks on Viet Nam.

Vietnamese troops went into Kampuchea in January 1979 at the behest of the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation. This was a grouping within the communist movement there that opposed the disastrous policies of the Pol Pot regime. Pol Pot had instituted bloody repression within Kampuchea and in foreign policy had become a pawn of China's reactionary leaders, launching many military attacks on Viet Nam.

U.S.-China collaboration against Viet Nam

China responded to the ouster of Pol Pot and his forces with a large-scale invasion of Viet Nam in February 1979 which shocked progressive forces around the world. In all this, U.S. imperialism pretended to be "neutral," but in fact urged on the Chinese leaders. China's Deputy Premier, Deng Xiaoping, had made an historic visit to the U.S. to consummate a de facto alliance just 12 days before Chinese troops launched their invasion of Viet Nam.

The invasion was repulsed after bloody fighting, but Viet Nam has

since reported frequent harassment along its border with China.

U.S. imperialism, even though preoccupied with revolutionary struggles in Central America, South Africa, the Philippines and elsewhere, has joined China in keeping alive a strange coalition of the Pol Pot group, Kampuchean rightists who once fought against them, and former Prince Sihanouk. It is the Pol Pot group that has the bulk of the fighting forces, however, and continues to get diplomatic recognition (forced on the UN by combined U.S.-China pressure) even though it can't claim to hold one square foot of Kampuchean territory.

These reactionary forces stage hit-and-run attacks from bases in Thailand, but their effectiveness, despite millions in U.S. aid, has been on the decline as Kampuchea has got back on its feet.

(As we go to press, it has been reported that Pol Pot is "retiring" as head of the Khmer Rouge to assume a military advisory role, in what appears to be an attempt to give the coalition a new image.)

Prospects for resumption of fraternal relations

China's relations with Viet Nam have not always been antagonistic. On the contrary, in the years following the victories of the Vietnamese and Chinese revolutions, there was strong solidarity between these two socialist states. Veteran Vietnamese leader Le Duc Tho emphasized in a recent (April 9) interview with the Japanese paper Asahi that China gave Viet Nam important material and political aid throughout most of the years that Viet Nam was resisting U.S. aggression.

"China's reactionary turning point," in the words of Le Duc Tho, came with the Shanghai Communique of 1972 which established the beginning of the U.S.-China alliance.

This rightward turn has brought no real benefits to the People's Republic and has discredited its leaders with progressive forces throughout the world. In their recent communique of Aug. 16, the Indochinese foreign ministers called for a "restoration of relations of friendship and cooperation" with China.

Such a development would be a tremendous boon to the peoples of both China and Southeast Asia who have struggled and sacrificed so much in this century.

A new tidal wave of revolt in South Africa

By Sam Marcy

SEPTEMBER 3—What a tremendous gulf now separates the current situation in South Africa from what existed barely two years ago! That was when fascist prime minister P.W. Botha was touring the European imperialist capitals, bringing his message of political and economic stability.

Wasn't it the very same Botha who at that time was being hailed by his imperialist accomplices as a great statesman, as one who knew how to craft meaningless phrases and pass them off as reforms?

He was being toasted for his brilliant strategy in accomplishing the submission of a whole people. Are not the toasts made to him at all those banquets in the imperialist camp still ringing in the ears of his supporters? And wasn't his tour capped by an audience with the Pope himself, who had all but forgotten, certainly on that occasion, the most ferocious repression of an oppressed people in modern times?

What was the basis for the puffed-up and fraudulent optimism which Botha generated in the imperialist capitals?

The imperialist statesmen had been given to understand that there was something of lasting significance in the so-called Nkomati Accords, which the Botha regime had signed with Mozambique and Swaziland.

These agreements, which had been wrested from certain leaders in these countries through manipulation and threats, were supposed to have delivered a fatal body blow to the South African liberation movement and to the African National Congress (ANC) in particular. They were supposed to have ended the internal struggle in South Africa because, so the Botha regime's propaganda ran, the struggle was engineered by "outside agitators," by foreign influences which were infiltrating South Africa.

The Nkomati Accords were supposed to have ended all that. The message that Botha had brought to Europe on his much-touted tour was that the apartheid regime was now firmly and completely in control of the situation.

As always happens in times of great revolutionary change, the ruling class mistakes what is an episodic, purely conjunctural event, having only temporary significance at most, for a full-scale retreat on the part of the masses!

Then came Nov. 5 and 6, 1984.

Workers Intervened

What everyone could see then was the most formidable political initiative of the South African working class, a political strike that shook the very foundations of the South African regime and had its repercussions abroad. Indeed, so deep and so strong was the stay-out, as it was called—a general strike in effect—that it shook up the entire industrial apparatus of the country.

It brought the industrial heartland to a complete halt and demonstrated for all who could see that the labor movement of South Africa, the core of the whole working class, had risen to full stature in one great sweep.

In its wake it demolished a thousand reactionary myths and opened the eyes of millions upon millions of workers and oppressed abroad.

It also fractured the monolithism, the totalitarian political structure of the racist regime and exposed it to internal acrimony unknown before in its history.

For the first time the commercial, industrial and financial establishment of the South African ruling class has had to publicly move away from complete identity with its own political

The fear of the world imperialist bourgeoisie, especially of the U.S. and Britain, is that the sheer dimension of the struggle, the growing revolutionary momentum, will lead to a classic upheaval in the entire framework of capitalist property relations.

instrument of oppression and exploitation. Indeed, it has been trying to play to the left of the racist regime.

It has had to issue, on Aug. 29, a virtual manifesto of its own in which it severely criticized the Botha regime. Earlier, Botha had been urging the business organizations to get involved "politically." But that was when he came back from his European tour flushed with false hopes.

Now the situation has drastically changed. The reigning top corporations, particularly those aligned with imperialist finance capital (as most of them are), are demanding some form of dialogue, some kind of "reform." But note very carefully that in the entire manifesto issued by the South African corporate magnates, which bristles with criticism of the Botha regime, **there is not one specific recommendation—such as, for instance, one person, one vote, or majority rule. Such specifics are taboo.**

Note too that when three European foreign ministers came for a visit, they too were supposed to present a bill of particulars demanding sanctions and the freedom of Nelson Mandela. But after an all-too-gracious get-together at the diplomatic dinner, nothing specific was alluded to by the esteemed imperialist foreign ministers.

Botha's European tour had been calculated to accelerate the flow of capital into South Africa and to make short shrift of the gathering worldwide protest against loans and investments there. Then came the general strike, followed by mass demonstrations in dozens of townships, which have continued without any significant interruption right up to the present moment.

Instead of an acceleration of capital inflow, the movement of capital investment and loans in South Africa has turned into a full-scale frenzied flight of both loan and bank capital, as well as investments in both stocks and bonds of the racist regime.

This flight of capital, as on previous occasions, has been induced not by any moral scruples about apartheid but precisely because of fear of losing a fabulously rich area of investment.

These imperialist exploiters would not hesitate for a moment to bring back their capital were Botha capable of destroying or stamping out the revolutionary fervor of the masses or of decisively crushing the revolutionary development.

What we are witnessing today is a repeat performance, only on a far vaster and more profound scale, of the flights of capital that took place following the Sharpeville massacre and the Soweto uprising. [See Sam Marcy's article in the Aug. 29 Workers World, written before this present flight of capital took on such dimensions.]

South African financier rushes to Europe, U.S.

The recent capital flight has been so spectacular that the Botha government has been forced to suspend currency trading and take other measures

to stop the stampede of capital out of the country. It also forced the Botha regime to arrange another tour of the European capitals and the U.S. This trip, however, was of a qualitatively different character from the prior one.

The Botha regime was forced to send its principal financial and monetary official, Gerhard de Kock, to scurry to the European capitals and the U.S., where he was received in total secrecy. No red carpet was rolled out this time around. There weren't even any public acknowledgments of his meetings with the bankers.

The speed with which de Kock had to make the rounds of the imperialist capitals left no time to speculate on the gravity of the economic crisis. But it was clear that no amount of denials coming out of the Pretoria racist propaganda mills could cover up the fact that the financial and economic crisis was caused by the revolutionary situation.

None of the capitalist newspapers or media in Europe, the U.S. or Japan were able or willing to lay bare the contents of the secret meetings de Kock had with the central banks of England, The Netherlands and Switzerland and those of Wall Street—Citicorp, in particular—and the Federal Reserve Board.

Suffice it to say that the Botha government thereafter suspended payments on its indebtedness to the European and U.S. banks and that a rescheduling of its debts will be worked out between the Botha regime and its imperialist banker-industrialist collaborators.

Officially, the rescheduling was announced as a unilateral act of the Botha regime, but there is no doubt that de Kock's high-speed tour to Europe and the U.S. was to get their collaboration and above all the blessing of the Reagan administration. Notwithstanding that all this is publicly disavowed, it is nevertheless a fact.

Crisis political in origin

This financial and monetary crisis of the Pretoria regime has a double significance, which so far has escaped the attention of the capitalist press. First of all, the amount of indebtedness of the Pretoria regime and the volume of investments in South Africa has been far more formidable than the broad public was given to understand over the years. Due to the opprobrium attached to the apartheid regime, much of it has been secret. Only a fraction of the stupendous amount of loans, stocks and bonds has been previously acknowledged.

Secondly, this manipulation and financial jugglery to stave off an economic collapse of the racist regime differs from the loans and indebtedness situation of the Third World countries, some of whom are undergoing debt rescheduling, as in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Nigeria and others. There the crisis, at least thus far, has been one arising primarily out of the general capitalist economic crisis

which has been ravaging the entire bourgeois world. The origin of the problems in these countries has been basically economic in character and has not reached the stage of a revolutionary struggle.

In South Africa, the situation is altogether different. It is the revolutionary struggle which has propelled the financial and economic crisis. In the eyes of the imperialist bourgeoisie, this is a qualitatively different crisis. In the Third World countries, at least for the moment, the imperialist bourgeoisie can manipulate a variety of different loan schedules and continue to keep a more or less firm hold on their loans and investments. It is otherwise in South Africa.

There is virtual panic in the imperialist banking fraternity. The fear is not about the character of any rescheduling of the debts, the freeze on withdrawals from investment or disinvestment and the like.

The fear of the world imperialist bourgeoisie, especially of the U.S. and Britain, is that the sheer dimension of the struggle, the growing revolutionary momentum, will lead to a classic upheaval in the entire framework of capitalist property relations in South Africa. What the imperialists fear most is not so much a diminution in the value of their holdings but the possibility that a vast and far-reaching social transformation in South Africa, one that overturns not only the political but the class foundations of the regime, could wipe them out altogether.

This is what they have to reckon with.

The growing solidarity and cohesiveness between the working class and the progressive political organizations involved in the struggle, the United Democratic Front and the ANC, projects a wholly new perspective that the monopolist imperialist bourgeoisie and the totalitarian South African overlords, as symbolized by the Botha regime, fear as a mortal danger.

In this respect, their international economic dealings with the indebted Third World countries differ fundamentally. There they only face (at least, so they believe) greater state controls, more restrictions, perhaps social democratic kinds of nationalizations, all of which have as their common denominator the retention and control of the economy by the imperialist bankers, whether they be the IMF or others.

In South Africa, what is on the historic agenda is not a reshaping or remodeling of the old racist social and political system, but, in the words of Marx, "the expropriation of the expropriators."

Such is the vast scope of the crisis. This explains the panicky flight of capital and the so-called moral concern of all types of bourgeois politicians. It is the specter of a real, wholesale transformation of South Africa from a stronghold of world imperialism into a fortress of the worldwide anti-imperialist and socialist revolution.

No let-up in Reagan war on Nicaragua

By Andy Stapp

SEPTEMBER 3—President Reagan says that "freedom" will come to Nicaragua "soon."

A U.S. military officer points to a road being constructed by the Pentagon in Honduras and says it is "worth ten divisions."

Counter-revolutionaries operating out of Costa Rica tell reporters that Col. Oliver North, sent to them on assignment from the National Security Council in Washington, directs all their operations.

General John Vessey, retiring as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, states that "the job of political leaders" is to convince people that when war comes it's "the right thing for the nation." The Pentagon's job, the general says, is to "do it quickly."

The Reaganites appear to have developed a new variation on the time-honored imperialist strategy of talking peace while secretly preparing for war. In the case of Nicaragua, they talk war incessantly, but so far American troops are mostly kept out of the battle zone.

Contra-hirelings do all the killing, while the President pretends he's Rambo, steals lines from Clint Eastwood movies and sends Patrick Buchanan back to the thesaurus to look for some new phrase which will properly convey his determination to cremate the Sandinistas.

Toll of Reagan's war

Of course the damage inflicted by the contras is real enough. The executions, burnings and rapes, the terrible economic toll has stripped clinics of

medicines for the front and schools of children for the fighting. Thousands are dead, thousands more maimed, and the fascist invaders are "awash in fresh supplies," according to the Washington Post (Sept. 3). This makes one wonder what Assistant Secretary of State Langhorne Motley meant when he testified last April that there is "a possibility that under some circumstances the United States might have to get involved."

Or what the CIA official quoted in the Aug. 27 New York Times meant when he said of the contras, "We did not expect that they would continue to win recruits in the absence of any outside support."

The people of Nicaragua must wonder what the war that's ravaging their country would be like if the United

States government really got "involved" and provided "outside support" to the contras.

It's hardly news that the government tells the most grotesque lies about events in Central America.

Reagan, for instance, recently hailed the Salvadoran government's capture of a guerrilla leader supposedly involved in the recent killings of U.S. Marines in that country, even though the press today reported that this same individual has been held in a Salvadoran prison for over a year!

But when the Reaganites say they have plans to invade Nicaragua, believe it. The only thing holding them back is the fear that when the movie is made it won't come out like Rambo, but like the last real war the Pentagon fought, the one they now pretend was only a "syndrome."

Bolivian general strike fights starvation wages

By John Catalinotto

SEPTEMBER 3—Over 15,000 workers marched through La Paz, Bolivia on Sept. 2 as strikes spread through the country to protest the new government's austerity plan as a "famine-causing" program that threatened the very lives of the people.

The action, first called as a 48-hour general strike beginning Aug. 31, has spread to almost all the miners and factory workers, with already over 50,000 out. Oil workers, bank employees and teachers have said they will join the job action on Sept. 3.

In the general economic depression that has gripped the capitalist countries of Latin America, Bolivia, one of the poorest of these countries, has been hardest hit. Its economic output is expected to decline 7.3% this year following a 6.2% drop last year.

Official unemployment was at 15% last year, and is expected to rise sharply if government plans to close four state-run companies are carried out. Inflation of the Bolivian currency has been devastating, and is now at the rate of 14,000% annually. Payments of

Bolivia's \$3.6 billion foreign debt have been suspended since March 1984, and the country is already \$927.9 million behind.

The new austerity plans have already driven up food prices by 1,000%, that is, made them ten times higher than before. The government floated the peso, effectively devaluing it by 95%, froze wages until December, increased the price of gasoline by 1,000%, removed subsidies on food and announced the reorganization of state companies.

Facing a real threat of starvation, the workers see the austerity measures as squeezing the life blood of the people in order to pay back the imperialist banking establishment.

Program called criminal

The Bolivian Workers Central Labor Federation called the austerity program criminal. "Workers are calling for an indefinite general strike in response to the most cruel and inhuman measures that have taken place in our history," said a federation leader, Jose Maria Palacios.

Last March the federation held a general strike which lasted two weeks; that action, which was sparked first by the traditionally revolutionary tin miners, drew support not only from other sections of the working class but also from the peasant movement.

In an oppressed country like Bolivia, a general strike not only pits the working class against the few Bolivian rich, but mobilizes the mass of Bolivia's 5.9 million people, most poor and 70% living in the countryside, against the big U.S. banks and corporations that control the country's resources.

The inability of Bolivia to pay the debt to the imperialist banks without driving the people to starvation is proof, as Cuban Premier Fidel Castro has proposed, that only by renouncing these debts can the people of Latin America escape from the unbearable financial crisis imposed on them. While Bolivia may be the most severe case, the experience there is being watched by the people of Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and elsewhere where the debt crisis threatens the very life of the workers.

Caravan to highlight Central American refugees

By Angel Parker

SEPTEMBER 3—Next week, three caravans will travel through the U.S., leaving from Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, to publicize the harsh living conditions of Salvadoran and Guatemalan civilians, both in their countries and as refugees in the U.S. (many of whom are living under the protection of Sanctuary).

During this campaign, the caravans will stop in approximately 100 cities for solidarity events and to speak out against the horrors their people suffer living under regimes propped up by U.S. economic and political support.

The caravans will converge on Washington, D.C., on Oct. 10, when Congress is voting on key appropriations bills aimed at further support for the Guatemalan and Salvadoran governments.

For more information, and to see how you and your organization can help, contact: Salvadorans for Peace and Justice/National Caravan, P.O. Box 32091 Calvert Station, Washington, D.C., 20009, or call (202) 483-1242.



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Haitians protest NYC police attack. More than 200 people gathered on Eastern Parkway and Utica Ave. in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Aug. 31 to protest the police attack on a Haitian demonstration. Speaker after speaker at the rally drew a clear link between the police attack on the Haitian demonstration near the UN and the apartheid regime's attack on Black people of South Africa. The Haitian community is protesting not only the police attack on Aug. 3 but the Duvalier regime and U.S. imperialist domination of their country. The demonstration was organized by the Haitian Information Center. Others participating included the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of PAM/APC, the Patrice Lumumba Coalition, the New York Eight, and others. —Neville Edwards

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.

If you would like to know more about **WWP**, or if you would like to join us in these struggles, contact the branch nearest you:

Atlanta: 1257 Glenwood Ave., SE, Atlanta, Ga., 30316 (404) 627-3093.

Austin: P.O. Box 6322, Austin, Texas 78762

Baltimore: 424 E. 31 St., Baltimore, Md. 21218 (301) 889-9318

Boston: 295 Huntington Ave., Room 212, Boston, Mass. 02115 (617) 247-1778

Buffalo: 349 Niagara St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14201 (716) 855-3055

Chicago: P.O. Box 6510, Chicago, Ill. 60680 (312) 489-3829

Cleveland: 2012 West 25 St., Room 613, Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 861-6154

Detroit: 1947 Grand River, Room 201, Detroit, Mich. 48226 (313) 962-4979

Houston: P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052

Jackson: P.O. Box 8783, Jackson, Miss. 39204

Milwaukee: 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53202 (414) 224-0429

New York City: 46 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010 (212) 255-0352

Rochester: 898 Portland Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14621 (716) 342-5707

San Antonio: San Antonio: P.O. Box 1504, San Antonio, Texas 78295

San Francisco: P.O. Box 884313, San Francisco, Calif. 94188 (415) 826-4828

Seattle: 1327 Yesler Way, Seattle Wash. 98122 (206) 322-8272

Washington, D.C.: 3221 Mt. Pleasant St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20010 (202) 483-8740



Corporate media targets children with AIDS

By Diane Feinberg

SEPTEMBER 1—At a time when there has been an increased understanding of AIDS and large demonstrations of support for people with AIDS, a campaign is being whipped up by the corporate media and Pentagon to undo it all.

Children with AIDS were in the media spotlight this week as the schools opened across the country. An increasing number of children have AIDS. All the medical evidence shows that AIDS is not an easy disease to transmit. It requires the deep transmission of bodily fluids, and is not contagious through social contact the way an airborne disease like tuberculosis is.

Yet screaming headlines about children with AIDS going to school are aimed at the hearts of parents' genuine

fears that their children might be endangered.

Government officials and politicians who reassure the public about AIDS have little credibility after scandals and cover-ups like Three Mile Island, Love Canal, and Union Carbide leaks.

The unwarranted fears about this disease can only be countered through a mass education campaign that is run by the AIDS support groups around the country. These groups have done the most to bring the truth about AIDS to public light.

Pentagon attacks

Joining the media in whipping up unfounded fears about AIDS was the Pentagon. Top army officials announced at a news conference on Aug. 30 that all prospective military recruits

including the National Guard, military reserves, senior Reserve Officer Training Corps and military academies will be given the controversial HTLV-3 test, and that recruits will be rejected if tests prove they were exposed to the virus.

While the test for HTLV-3, the virus believed to cause AIDS, has proved helpful in screening the blood supply, it is not a diagnostic tool. In other words, a positive result only means a person was exposed to HTLV-3 virus, not that they will develop AIDS.

Soldiers and sailors who have tested positive have already been harassed in an effort to deny them military health benefits.

This purge by the military has nothing to do with dealing with the serious health problems affecting the popula-

tion. The testing will be conducted with the assumption that anyone who tests positive for HTLV-3 is gay, giving the military a new way to target gay men for harassment and discrimination.

Such bigoted assumptions are part of the problem in fighting AIDS. Although many of the people with AIDS are gay men, it is not a "gay disease" and anyone can get it. The military's action is only meant to increase anti-gay oppression and is in no way beneficial to the serious effort that is necessary to stop AIDS.

The day-to-day battle of all progressive people united together can turn back the reactionary hysteria about AIDS being whipped up by the media and at the same time win a marshalling of the tremendous resources available in this country to find a treatment and cure for AIDS.



Arab-Jewish unity. Linking arms and chanting together in Hebrew and Arabic, over 1,000 Jews and Arabs marched through the streets of Umm Al Fahm in Israel over the weekend to protest Rabbi Meir Kahane's racist views and discrimination against Arab people. "Kahane, Kahane, go back to America!" they yelled. "Jews and Arabs fight racism!"

This mostly Arab city of 45,000 northeast of Tel Aviv was the scene of a militant confrontation against Kahane one year ago. The leader of the so-called Jewish Defense League advocates that all Arab people should be forced out of Israel. When Kahane tried to spread his racist message to the residents of Umm Al Fahm last year, he was greeted with a full-scale rebellion which forced government troops to prevent Kahane from entering the city.

Umm Al Fahm, like all Arab communities in Israel, receives a much smaller budget than Jewish cities its size. "This is why you see the open sewage," said Mayor Mahmud Hashem who marched at the head of the protest. "But we are going to fight it. We are not going to sit like mice in our holes."

—S. African miners

Continued from page 6

and the workers in the U.S. The same robber barons who have launched a vicious anti-labor offensive against unionists in this country, be it at Wheeling-Pittsburgh, Phelps Dodge, the Big Three in auto or at countless sweatshops and non-union plants across the country, are the ones who profit from apartheid.

Last week, the South African Congress of Trade Unions called on the international trade union movement to show solidarity with the workers of South Africa by cutting off all transportation, commerce and communications, mounting massive demonstrations and protests and urging immediate sanctions against apartheid South Africa.

The fascist apartheid state can not and will not crush the Black workers of South Africa! The last months' events show that every act of force and violence will only arouse more tens of thousands into the struggle.

Solidarity with the Black workers of South Africa!

Boycott Campbell's!

BECOME A WORKERS WORLD SUPPORTER

You can help month by month. Join the WW Supporter Program by making a regular contribution and keeping in touch.

Every month a \$5 donation or a yearly \$50 donation will bring you a report on the latest developments for Workers World.

Supporter program membership means you will receive a copy of each new book, pamphlet and political button.

Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone

My donation is: ☐\$5 ☐\$10 ☐\$25 ☐\$50

WORKERS WORLD • 46 West 21 Street • New York, New York 10010

—U.S. deal with Botha

Continued from page 1

the President. But especially in matters which deal with foreign relations he must get both the legal sanction and the political blessing of the government to fortify the basis for the agreement.

Drawn into the agreement was Jacques de Larosiere, who is the managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He's a Frenchman appointed by the Mitterrand government. His authority to meet and discuss, let alone to work out an arrangement to bail out the racist regime, is highly suspect.

Almost 100 Third World countries are members of the IMF. But the truth of the matter is that it is the U.S. and the other imperialist powers that actually control the bank.

Also drawn into the agreement was Gerald E. Corrigan, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Of the 12 reserve banks throughout the country, this is the most important one. A large amount of the international capital flows through this bank.

It is not, however, solely a government-to-government deal. The biggest U.S. banks were clearly consulted and acted as participants.

Even before de Kock arrived in Washington, he secretly met with John Reed, chairman of Citibank, which has the largest stake of any U.S. bank in South Africa.

Also, Morgan Guaranty Trust, Bankers Trust, Chase Manhattan Bank, and Manufacturers Hanover Trust had a hand in the deal. These are the same banks with whom Paul A. Volcker worked out a deal to rescue the Continental Illinois Bank. Billions were in-

volved in that deal, which took government money to shore up the banking system after the collapse of one of the largest private banks.

The details of the U.S.-South African agreement were not made public. But the Federal Reserve Bank and the private bankers acquiesced in the so-called moratorium which the South African government had imposed earlier in the week. Instead of calling it a moratorium, the term standstill was used. This is a euphemism traditionally employed by the central bankers when payment is stopped on principal or interest.

Because of the sheer volume of bank withdrawals from the racist regime, a panic psychology had been created throughout the capitalist world. All this was induced by the revolutionary momentum of the struggle of the South African masses.

So great was the exodus of capital from the racist regime that it was called fright capital, a term used to show how perilous is the situation for the bankers.

The secrecy which veiled the negotiations was demonstrated by the way de Kock, the financial emissary of the Botha regime, had to bring home the fruits of his labor. Normally such developments are the occasion for a press conference with radio, television and the print media all present.

This time de Kock gave a television interview only over the South African network without the public participation of any of the U.S. media. It wasn't so much because they were excluded, but that to have brought this to the attention of the public in the U.S. would have implicated the Reagan administration and a good many of the liberal bankers and countless politicians who don't put their money where their mouths are.

No White House official, nobody from the State Department and none from the Pentagon were linked by the press to this very important, sensitive relation between the South African racist regime and the U.S. government, bankers and industrialists.

When the capital outflow from the South African regime suddenly took on such flood proportions, all born out of the revolutionary situation in South Africa, the Reagan administration had the clearcut choice of letting the racist regime sink or swim. They chose the latter.

Whether it will ever work out is another matter. The South African masses and all their worldwide supporters in the struggle against racism and imperialism will have the last word.

Additional articles on the struggle in South Africa on pages 6, 7 and 9.

Vets march on Reagan ranch: 'No Viet Nam in Central America!'

By Bill Hackwell

REFUGIO CANYON, Calif., Aug. 26—When the first rays of morning light filtered down over the Santa Ynez mountains into the canyon below this morning, the point man started leading the column of veterans up the winding road that would eventually lead them to the Western White House where Reagan has been vacationing.

The hushed tones had an eerie familiarity as the march began. Although it went unspoken, we were all reminded of what many had experienced on patrol 16 or 18 years ago in the jungles and mountains of Viet Nam when the next step could be your last.

But today the mission was different. This was a march to deliver a strong message to Reagan that as veterans we didn't want a Viet Nam repeat in Central America.

There is Bob Hanson, a Black GI who was born and raised in Harlem. And Bobby and Manuel, two Chicano vets from Los Angeles who are now 100% disabled from the Viet Nam war. And Charlie Liteky, the Congressional Medal of Honor winner.

Others included Ralph, a decorated Korean War veteran from Marin County, Calif., and World War II vets from the progressive Bill Motto VFW Post #588 in Santa Cruz. And there are many other veterans who had served in all the branches of the military.

The march was organized by the Veterans Speakers Alliance, a San Francisco-based group of Viet Nam and Viet Nam-era veterans and was also sponsored by Americans for Peace in the Americas, a Washington, D.C.-based foundation whose current director, Dr. Charlie Clements, is also a Viet Nam veteran. The Veterans Speakers Alliance is the group that recently organized a series of picket lines against the pro-war movie "Rambo."

As the veterans marched up the four miles of rugged mountain terrain to the Reagan ranch, they took turns carrying a coffin that represented the 58,000 U.S. GIs killed in Viet Nam and all the youth that Reagan is preparing to send off to die in another war in Central America. They also carried Jack McCloskey, a combat medic who was severely wounded in Viet Nam.

When the peace patrol arrived at the gates of Reagan's Rancho Cielo, they were met by military security guards and county sheriff's deputies. After they were denied a meeting with Reagan or one of his aides, the veterans one by one presented letters and testimony against U.S. aid to the El Salvador regime, an end to all military and economic aid to the murderous contras in Nicaragua, and a suspension of all naval and military exercises by the U.S. in and off the shores of Central America.

While many of the veterans were denouncing the growing U.S. military involvement in Central America as a replay of Viet Nam, others attacked the Reagan administration for its callous disregard of veterans. And while access to Veteran's Administration hospitals becomes harder due to deep budget cuts, it is estimated that 30-40% of this country's homeless are veterans.

When the veterans were leaving the gates of Reagan's ranch, they vowed to keep up the anti-war struggle, and the chant of, "No more Viet Nams" echoed throughout Refugio Canyon.

The author of this article is a veteran of the Viet Nam war.



Viet Nam veterans bring anti-war demands to Reagan's doorstep in California.

WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Tapes show U.S. knew KAL flight was off course

By Andy Stapp

SEPTEMBER 2—U.S. government radar operators knew that Korean airliner 007 was flying on a course that would take it directly over Soviet military installations but a suggestion to warn the plane was vetoed.

This latest shocker emerged on Friday, Aug. 30, among documents in evidence at a Washington, D.C. damage suit brought against the U.S. government by relatives of the KAL passengers.

The words, "We should warn him," are clearly audible on a tape "made several hours before the Korean plane was shot down," according to the New York Times (Sept. 1).

Although the government has so far

concealed the source of the words, they appear to have come from either an Air Force radio operator or an administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

No warning was ever transmitted to KAL by U.S. officials, who have claimed for the past two years that they were totally unaware it was headed for Soviet airspace.

Many others have charged that the aircraft deliberately overflowed Soviet territory as part of a Pentagon probe of Soviet air-defense reactions.

On Dec. 22, 1983, Federal District Court Judge Aubrey Robinson, who is hearing the D.C. suit, issued a gag order forbidding employees of the FAA

from speaking to the press about the incident.

The National Transportation Safety Board was simply "taken off the case" by the State Department, according to James Michelangelo, the chief of the board's Anchorage office.

The new information about the aborted warning message explains a contradiction exposed by West Germany's Der Spiegel magazine earlier this year. Der Spiegel reported that Secretary of State George Shultz was on a teleconference call about KAL 007 with a number of other high officials immediately after the plane was downed and long before Washington claims to have known anything about the incident.

SUBSCRIBE TO

WORKERS WORLD

☐ \$2 for a ten week trial

☐ \$6 for six months

☐ \$10 for a year

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____