



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

Reagan uses Summit to push Star Wars

Demands 'national unity' from Congress in fiscal crisis

Thousands in Newark, N.J. march against apartheid —p. 10



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Washington bigwigs grovel before royalty

—p. 5



**50 years ago:
How the CIO was born**

—centerfold

By Deirdre Griswold

NOVEMBER 13—Reagan hasn't gone to the Summit yet, but already this administration's bulldog insistence on developing a whole new generation of space weapons is creating chaos.

The chaos is in Washington, however, not in Moscow.

"Star Wars" is a project whose price tag could easily run to \$1 trillion just for research, development and testing. Where will the money come from?

Looting Social Security

Twice in the last five weeks the federal government has used extraordinary measures to generate operating funds and avoid default. On Oct. 9 it manipulated securities of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund; on Nov. 1 it juggled

UN news conference slams Star Wars

—p. 3

trust funds and payroll tax receipts of Social Security. These measures amounted to robbing pensioners of billions in unearned interest.

This Friday, Nov. 15, \$16 billion comes due to the banks in interest payments on the \$1.82 trillion federal debt. The Treasury says it can only cover \$9 billion unless Congress lets the government borrow more money.

The Reagan administration is using this deadline to pressure Congress to raise the debt ceiling to \$2 trillion and at the same time require a balanced budget by 1990. The measure, now being debated in committee, is called the Gramm-Rudman bill after its two Republican sponsors.

Stop Star Wars before Geneva!

How on earth can you have a balanced budget and have Star Wars? Only with the most catastrophic further cuts in social services. Congress knows this, and should be screaming bloody murder about it before Reagan goes to Geneva!

Instead, they are letting Reagan lecture them. At a special meeting yesterday with Congressional leaders of both parties, the

Continued on page 8

'We buried Pop-pop today'

Worker victim of DuPont greed

By Robert Dobrow

WE BURIED "Pop-pop" today.

He was born William L. Cordrey. His friends called him "Cracker." But to his grandchildren, he was Pop-pop.

The funeral was small—his family and close friends. The preacher who gave the eulogy hadn't known him personally. There were beautiful flowers draping the coffin, from his children and cousins and neighbors. And there was even a bouquet from "the plant." But I don't think anyone from "the plant" management showed up for the ceremony.

It was amazing to look at Pop-pop's face in the coffin. It was so alive, so "healthy." The last time we saw him in the nursing home he had wasted

away to 80 or 90 pounds, with all kinds of tubes going in and out of his body, an oxygen tank constantly by his side. He was 67.

Across the street from the funeral home was the cemetery. It was small. The population of Seaford, Del., isn't much over 5,000. There were two headstones side by side. One for Pop-pop. The other is reserved for Mom-mom. His buddies at the Veterans of Foreign Wars staged a military ceremony with a four-gun salute. Pop-pop fought during World War II.

In the distance, you could see the giant DuPont plant. Smoke billowed from its stacks. The plant works every day, 24 hours. When you drive into town, the sign on Route 13 says, "Welcome to Seaford, Delaware, the nylon

capital of the world." The DuPont nylon plant dominates this town. Everyone either works there, or is related to someone who does.

Pop-pop worked at the plant for 27 years. And it killed him. Pop-pop had asbestosis.

Killed by 'white lung'

They call it "white lung." The white asbestos powder gets into your lungs and never leaves. It suffocates you, making it harder and harder, and finally impossible, to breathe.

Pop-pop had joined a class-action suit with other DuPont workers. They charged the company with poisoning its workforce with asbestos. DuPont settled the case out of court. They paid off some of the workers. Mom-mom will get a check for \$100,000. But DuPont won't admit publicly its responsibility and denies any guilt.

Pop-pop's cousin Bobby works at the plant. He remembers when there was so much asbestos "they used to sweep the floors with the stuff." Today some of Bobby's friends have asbestosis. A few others have contracted different types of cancer. People in Seaford think it's not coincidental that so many people are suddenly getting sick.

Some people in town are resigned to the situation. They think DuPont is doing "the best they can." They believe the company's statements that no one knew about the dangers of asbestos until recently.

In the more than 1,000 asbestos-related lawsuits, totaling more than \$1 billion, the main argument of the corporations is that they "didn't know" about the asbestos danger before 1964.

This is not true. Seven years ago in San Francisco during hearings of the Subcommittee on Compensation, Health and Safety of the House Committee on Education and Welfare, the asbestos industry was forced to release a huge set of documents dated as far

back as 1933 to 1945. They have since been dubbed the Asbestos Pentagon Papers.

Company knew danger in 1932

The papers show that as early as 1932, British scientists had fully documented the occupational hazard of asbestos dust inhalation. U.S. textile corporations like Johns-Manville, Raybestos-Manhattan and others conspired to suppress this information from the American public. Sumner Simpson, president of Raybestos, praised the trade journal Asbestos in 1935 for not reprinting the British findings. In a letter to Vandivar Brown, Secretary of Johns-Manville, he wrote, "The less said about asbestos the better off we are."

Their textile and chemical profits climbed and climbed while they refused to initiate any studies of work-related cancers. All of them had a policy of not informing workers of early evidence of asbestosis. Up until 1977, Johns-Manville even refused to place warning labels on asbestos containers. And they declared themselves "bankrupt" to avoid paying millions of dollars in damages to the workers and communities they poisoned.

Today it's been estimated that 8 to 11 million workers have been exposed to asbestos since the start of World War II. As many as half of all these workers could develop serious diseases such as cancers of the lung and gastrointestinal tract, mesotheliomas and asbestosis. This industrial carnage finally forced corporations like DuPont to stop producing asbestos several years ago. Today, the asbestos crisis is no longer in the news, and the spotlight of national attention is no longer focused on corporations like DuPont. But what DuPont did was murder. And the effects of what they did continue every day in Seaford and in hundreds of towns across the country.

Disabled protest lack of NYC voting access

By Betsy Davis

NEW YORK, Nov. 5—Chanting "Up with ramps, down with Koch!" and waving signs demanding equal access to the polls, four disabled people surprised Mayor Koch inside his polling site when he arrived in the early morning to vote on New York University campus.

Despite a 1980 state law mandating equal access, 58% of New York City's polling places are still not accessible to seniors and disabled people. Mayor Koch has been in office since 1977.

Later that morning, 25 disabled people gathered outside the Board of Elections Headquarters on Varick Street to further protest the lack of equal access. Members of the Disabled Peoples Focus of the All-Peoples Congress and Disabled In Action caught Commissioner B. Dolan walking down the

street and bombarded her with their demands, in the presence of numerous reporters.

In 1984, Disabled in Action had filed a law suit against the City for its refusal to obey the equal access law, and while he was campaigning for office, Mayor Koch promised he would settle this suit. The mayor implied he wanted disabled people to support his campaign in exchange, and he even had 144 ramps (out of over 2,000) installed during the last months of his election campaign. When such electoral support was not forthcoming, he withdrew his offer to settle the suit just days before election day, revealing his true intentions and prompting these angry protests.

Numerous disabled people who have been denied the right to vote will soon be testifying in court against this official discrimination by City Hall.

In This Issue...

THEIR ROYAL MAJESTIES

The top of Washington's social tree is still breathing heavily over Charles and Diana, but the Prince and Princess are thinking about another event, one which brought smiles to many an Irish heart. (Page 5.)

SOUTH AFRICA

The two strategies of the Reagan-Thatcher-Kohl axis, which gives both undercover support for the Botha regime while also maintaining confidential relations with reformist elements of the South African business elite, is on a collision course with the third strategy, the struggle of the South African masses to overthrow the entire apartheid capitalist state. (Analysis by Sam Marcy, page 9.)

AIDS

Government actions around AIDS have had a lot less to do with finding a solution to this health crisis than with invading people's private lives and harassing the gay community. (Page 12.)

HURRICANE CARTER

After 18 years in prison for a crime that he did not commit, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter has won the greatest fight of his life by forcing a New Jersey court to release him. (Page 11.)



Newark, N.J., marched against apartheid. (See page 10.)



10th anniversary of Angola Revolution. (See page 8.)

CIO ANNIVERSARY

Fifty years after the founding of the Council of Industrial Organizations, the trade union movement finds itself confronted with an even more centralized and reactionary capitalist adversary. But the parallels between then and now remain striking, and so do the possibilities. (Page 6.)

GENEVA SUMMIT

The Reaganites are throwing cold water on Summit expectations at the same moment they are throwing money to Lockheed for Star Wars. There is a connection. (Page 3.)

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workers world

Vol. 27, No. 47/Nov. 21, 1985
Closing news date: Nov. 13, 1985

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Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) published by WW 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 WW Publishers.

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

UN news conference slams Star Wars

Kicks off campaign against giant weapons buildup

By Joyce Chediak

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 12—The battle against the Reagan administration's "Strategic Defense Initiative" took a step forward here today when a delegation of prominent U.S. attorneys, scientists and community leaders issued an urgent call for mass action to oppose Star Wars at a news briefing held in the UN Correspondents Association Club.

The delegation, which included former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, called upon everyone to participate in national actions called by the Stop Star Wars Initiative from Nov. 15-19, the days right before the Geneva Summit.

Representing the many millions of people from coast to coast who oppose Star Wars, the delegation spoke with the media after they had been received by Jan Martenson, the Under Secretary General of the United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs. Mr. Martenson was presented with information on the international laws violated by Star Wars and with a copy of the Scientists Stop Star Wars Pledge.

In addition to hearing Clark, 29 representatives of the U.S. and international media also heard statements from Prof. John Kogut, physicist and national spokesperson of the Scientists Stop Star Wars Pledge; C. Vernon Mason, attorney; Prof. Michio Kaku, physicist at the City University of New York; and Monica Moorehead, national coordinator of the People's Anti-War Mobilization.

Ramsey Clark called Star Wars "the most dangerous and most expensive weapons system that the U.S. government has ever proposed. It is inherently a first strike implement. It makes the world far more dangerous. Its costs are staggering. The estimates are up to \$1 trillion. It necessarily means to the poor of the world, abandon all hope."

Violates international law

Hitting the Reagan administration for calling Star Wars "non-negotiable," Clark cited some of the international laws that Star Wars violates. These include the Outer Space Treaty, ratified by over 100 countries including the U.S. in 1967, the 1972 ABM treaty, signed by the U.S. and the USSR in 1972; the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which 137 countries have signed, the United Nations Charter and the Vienna convention on the Law of Treaties.

C. Vernon Mason explained that people working in the civil rights movement, those active in the anti-war struggle, as well as "those trying to dismantle the apartheid government in South Africa have come together to bring the people in America and around the world the message that Star Wars must be stopped. There is no way to develop the Harlems of the world and of America and to spend billions or even trillions of dollars trying to devise a weapons system of mass destruction." Mason called for mass action against Star Wars.

Prof. John Kogut pointed out that the 1,700 scientists who have joined "a boycott of the Star Wars program, pledging neither to solicit or accept funds for it," include "more than 57% of the faculty of the nation's top phys-

ics departments, more than 15 Nobel Prize winners and the presidents elect of the American Physical Society and the American Optical Society."

He called the Star Wars shield "technically absurd." Kogut said that Star Wars "would increase rather than decrease the possibility of a nuclear holocaust. It is just another escalation in the arms race which will bring us closer to what we dread."

How to stop Star Wars

Monica Moorehead explained that "the only way we can stop Star Wars is by mobilizing public opinion. This is why the Stop Star Wars Initiative has called for actions before the Geneva Summit." (See related article, this page.)

"We will be targeting Star Wars research centers in many of these protests," Moorehead continued, "because they provide a clear example of how the money that should go to civilian needs is being diverted to the military. Why isn't all the Star Wars research money being used instead to fight AIDS rather than finding new ways to kill? Why isn't Star Wars development money being used instead to rebuild the cities, to provide decent low cost housing as well as jobs for youth?"

Prof. Michio Kaku, who lost family members when the Truman administration committed genocide by dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, said that the Reagan administration wants to make the idea of nuclear war more acceptable. Reagan is "trying to replace the frightening image seared into the consciousness of the people at Hiroshima with the image of fireworks in outer space as seen from a picnic."

Far from being a defense shield, Kaku pointed out that "the only application of Star Wars is as an offensive system. It is the missing link to a first strike. It can only be used as a mop-up weapon after a first strike. It has no other purpose."



WW PHOTO: PADDY COLLIGAN

Michio Kaku, John Kogut, C. Vernon Mason, Monica Moorehead and Ramsey Clark (l-r) denounce Reagan's Star Wars program.

Star Wars protests set in key cities

THE STRUGGLE in the streets to oppose Star Wars is beginning. In addition to vigils, mass leafletings, meetings and other actions opposing this weapons system in the days before the summit there are the following protests:

On campuses:

Boston: Demonstrations at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the university with largest research contracts on Star Wars.

New York City: Demonstration at New York University, a Star Wars researcher. Saturday, Nov. 16, noon at Washington Square South and LaGuardia Place.

Madison: University of Wisconsin.

Ann Arbor: University of Michigan. Teach-in and rally Nov. 19. Petitions being gathered to oppose school's acceptance of Star Wars research.

Detroit: Vigil at Wayne State University, Monday, Nov. 18.

Baltimore: Protest at Johns Hopkins University.

Anti-corporate actions:

Hartford, Conn.: Demonstration against United Technologies, a giant war profiteer.

Rochester, N.Y.: Protest at International Business Machines (IBM).

Special note:

Washington, D.C.: Demonstration on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 12 noon at the national office of the Strategic Defense Initiative Coalition at 1010 Vermont Ave., N.W.

Detroit: Demonstration Friday, Nov. 15 at the Federal Building.

Pontiac, Mich.: Vigil Monday, Nov. 18.

Protests are also planned in Cleveland, Ohio, Milwaukee, Wisc., and other cities.

For more information, contact the Stop Star Wars Initiative at 19 West 21 St., Suite 703, New York 10010, (212) 741-0633.

Reaganites promise 'no results' from Summit

First space weapons contract rushed to Lockheed

By Robert Dobrow

NOVEMBER 12—On the eve of the Geneva Summit, Reagan has softened his "Evil Empire" rhetoric. He has even refrained from describing the Soviet leaders as godless liars, criminals and cheats.

But he hasn't softened his anti-Soviet deeds. Nor has he refrained from pushing ahead with the trillion-dollar Pentagon war buildup, particularly Star Wars.

Three top government officials—Secretary of State Shultz, National Security Adviser McFarlane and Vice President Bush—have all thrown cold water on the possibility that the Gorbachev-Reagan meeting will result in any serious arms control agreement.

Upon their return from a pre-summit meeting in Moscow last week, Shultz and McFarlane both indicated that "there is only the slimmest possibility that the talks will produce more than a thorough discussion of each side's views," according to the New York Times (Nov. 7).

Shultz and McFarlane spent their time in Moscow lecturing Soviet leaders about alleged "human rights" abuses. They didn't budge an inch on Star Wars.

The Pentagon couldn't even wait until after the Summit before rushing ahead and awarding its first major Star Wars contract. The spoils went to the multi-billion-dollar Lockheed corporation, which specializes in submarine-launched missiles and "spook" hardware, such as reconnaissance

planes and spy satellites.

In the world of international high finance, the name Lockheed is synonymous with bribery, corruption and embezzlement. Lockheed payoff scandals have led to the toppling of a Japanese prime minister, the near collapse of the Dutch monarchy and the resignation of an Italian minister. In the U.S., the company rarely pays income taxes and has contemptuously ignored numerous congressional investigations of fraud, cost over-runs, bribery and other sordid business practices.

Breaks ABM treaty

Last June, Lockheed designed a heavy projectile that successfully destroyed a missile in the air 100 miles above the Pacific Ocean. The five-year Star Wars contract will be to "design, fabricate and test" a refinement of that system. Colonel MacNabb of the Pentagon says that the contract won't violate the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty with the Soviet Union. Judge for yourself. The treaty states: "Each party undertakes not to develop, test or deploy ABM systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based or mobile-land based."

In order to divert attention from this clear and obvious violation of international law, the Defense Department this week will be issuing a report of alleged Soviet violations of arms treaties. The Pentagon study dredges up all the discredited arguments of old war horses like Sen. Jesse Helms, Caspar Weinberger, etc. Not one serious

observer of arms control negotiations takes these charges seriously. The fact that they are being aired once again, this time on the eve of the Summit, is further evidence that the administration isn't the least bit serious about arms reduction.

National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane is a good example of the Pentagon's approach to arms control. According to Time magazine (Nov. 18), it was McFarlane who sold the White House on Star Wars by "arranging a briefing by the Joint Chiefs of Staff who told Reagan that [Star Wars] was feasible." McFarlane is said to favor an arms agreement, but not for the reason that you and I and 98% of the human race wants it, to reduce the danger of nuclear holocaust. McFarlane wants arms control, according to Time, "because he believes the U.S. will benefit in military terms if it can reduce the Soviet advantage in big 'silo buster' ICBMs [inter-continental ballistic missiles]." In other words, to get a military advantage over the Soviet Union in order to assert nuclear hegemony.

Two months ago, the Soviet Union announced that it was unilaterally suspending all nuclear weapons tests until the end of this year. That's the Soviet Union's way of preparing for the summit. The Reaganite way is to ooze phony sweetness and reasonableness in words, while pushing nuclear build-up and outrageous war contracts in deeds.

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Two day strike rocks Chile dictatorship

By Bill Del Vecchio

NOVEMBER 11—The hated regime of General Augusto Pinochet of Chile was shaken last week by a two day protest strike which brought the capital city of Santiago to a halt.

According to the Nov. 6 Christian Science Monitor, "The first day of the strike effectively closed down Santiago Tuesday. Public transport dropped markedly and most shops shut down. A bomb blast destroyed an electric transmission tower, plunging Santiago and other cities into darkness."

Running street battles between students and national police were reported the second day. At the National University campus an estimated 150 students were arrested as the cops tear-gassed and stormed the campus.

By the end of the strike the regime admitted that six protesters had been wounded by police gunfire, and an additional five union leaders were arrested in retaliation for organizing the actions.

The protests had been called to demand freedom for the leaders of the movement against the Pinochet dictatorship who were thrown in jail for organizing mass demonstrations against the regime in September. An on-going campaign on the campuses has already won the freedom of student leaders jailed after the September protests, but many union and opposition political leaders remain behind bars.

After similar protests last November the regime imposed a state of siege which lasted seven months. But this time, sensing the diminishing support for Pinochet even among the rightists

who helped bring him to power, the regime has sought to play down the extent of the resistance actions last week.

Regime's backers break ranks

Fearing that the rising tide of struggle will succeed in sweeping away not only Pinochet but all the pro-imperialist rightist politicians, generals and businessmen that backed his coup in 1973, these fair-weather "oppositionists" have scurried to produce a "National Accord" that calls for democratic reforms.

The power of the movement against Pinochet was underscored when leaders of the reactionary National Party, which was one of the main forces behind the 1973 coup, signed the National Accord, publicly breaking with the regime.

The stated intent of the National Accord is to provide a "non-Marxist" opposition to the regime. This is motivated by the strength of the Chilean Communist Party, the MIR and other revolutionary groups which have continued the underground struggle against Pinochet. These working-class forces are leading the mass movement today.

In 1973 Pinochet and other military leaders overthrew the government of President Salvador Allende, a socialist who used his elected office to try to introduce broad reforms to help Chile's workers and peasants. The Pinochet coup has since been documented to have been planned and directed by the U.S. CIA, and the brutal dictatorship has depended on U.S. support for its survival ever since.

3,000 women defy Spain abortion law

By Kathy Durkin

NOVEMBER 11—In a dramatic showdown with the Spanish government over legalizing abortion, 3,000 women cheered at a feminist convention in Barcelona last weekend, when two abortions were performed during the convention's proceedings.

The convention, sponsored by several women's and pro-abortion groups, focused on the inadequacy of Spain's new abortion law, passed in August, which limits abortions to pregnancies caused by rape, where there are fetal deformities or dangers to pregnant women. To demonstrate the inadequacy of this law, two pregnant wo-

men's first trimester fetuses were aborted by medical personnel in currently illegal abortion procedures.

After news and evidence of the abortions were presented to the convention participants, the entire hall broke into cheers. Nearly all of the 3,000 women present then signed a statement of responsibility for the abortions.

The need for women to be able to have the ultimate choice over whether or not to terminate their pregnancies, based on their own needs and living conditions, has been dramatically demonstrated by the women in Barcelona. This need is a basic right, which should exist free of rigid limitations in Spain and every other country.

Lebanese progressive singer opens U.S. tour

By Michael Bar-Am

NOVEMBER 11—Marcel Khalife and the al-Mayadeen Ensemble will be on a coast-to-coast concert tour of the U.S. from Nov. 10 to Dec. 15. Khalife is a revolutionary Lebanese singer and composer whose music enjoys tremendous popularity throughout the Arab world.

The tour is being sponsored by the Middle East Philanthropic Fund as part of a fund raising effort for the construction of the Center for the Protection of the Mother and the Infant in Tyre, Lebanon. The center will serve 17 Lebanese villages which do not have access to medical care at this time. Funds will also be raised for the reconstruction of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut—Sabra, Shatila and Bourj-Barajneh.

Khalife was born in Amsheet, Lebanon, of a Maronite Christian family. He is a graduate of the National Conservatory for Eastern Arts in Beirut and is a teacher of the oud, a stringed instrument. He has won awards for his revolutionary music in Bulgaria, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia and the U.S.

The tour includes the following cities: Chicago, Nov. 10; Detroit, Nov. 16; Cleveland, Nov. 17; New Orleans, Nov. 22; Austin, Nov. 23; Houston, Nov. 24; San Diego, Nov. 29; Los Angeles, Nov. 30; San Francisco, Dec. 1; Portland, Ore., Dec. 6; Denver, Dec. 8; Washington, D.C., Dec. 13; Boston, Dec. 14; New York City, Dec. 15. For further information call: (212) 628-2727 or (415) 563-3740.



Chile's dictator Pinochet sees his support slipping away. Here students demand freedom for all.

Students meet to oppose Pentagon in Central America

By Paddy Colligan

NEW YORK, Nov. 6—"The U.S. isn't just on the wrong side in Central America—it is the wrong side," asserted People's Anti-War Mobilization organizer David Perez at a forum tonight sponsored by PAM's Hunter College chapter. He urged the audience to join together to expose and defeat the Reagan administration's Central America policies.

Commenting on U.S. foreign aid appropriations for "fighting terrorism in Central America," Perez asked those present to consider who is the terrorist: "Who mines the harbors and trains the contras in Nicaragua? Who sends the bullets to El Salvador? Who overthrew the government of Grenada? Who organizes right wing coups in Guatemala?"

Urging that U.S. corporate interests not be forgotten, Perez noted that only through understanding the economic situation can the motives for U.S. involvement be explained and the connections made between puppet regimes elsewhere and the U.S. corporations here.

Marta Gallegos, longtime worker in solidarity with Nicaragua's Sandinista revolution, talked about Nicaragua. The leaders Reagan is so determined to overthrow, she pointed out, have twice been chosen by the people there—once during the insurrection and again in last year's election. "The Nicaraguan people are ready to defend their country—what are we here doing to support them?" she asked.

Alfredo Sanchez of Casa El Salvador described the many facets of the U.S. counter-insurgency plan for his country: Military—the war now costs more than \$1 million a day. Popula-

tion control—bombing to depopulate rural areas. Psychological warfare—terrorism, death squads, kidnapping to discourage political opposition. Control of the media—limits on information and opinion expressed in Duarte's "democratic" El Salvador.

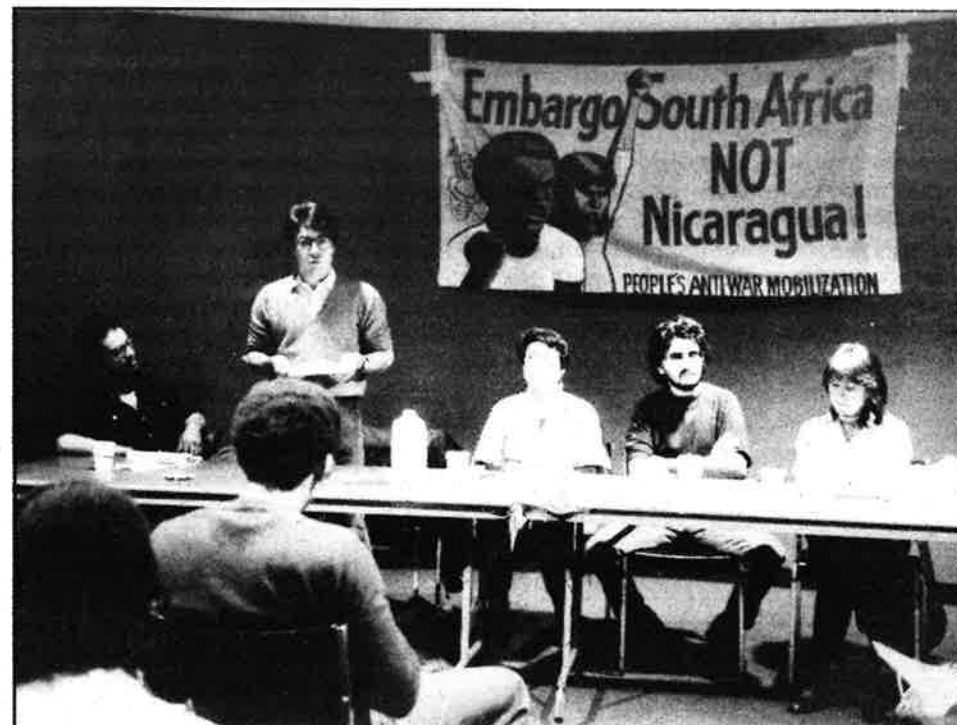
But the people have responded to these challenges. Militarily the liberation forces have expanded the area of operations to include the cities. U.S. advisers are now targets.

Economically, sabotage is used on key targets in the war economy. Workers and people in the cities are increasingly involved in the struggle through strikes, work stoppages and demonstrations, Sanchez said.

Luis Sierra of Casa Honduras talked of the history of Honduras, a potentially rich country whose economic and political life has been distorted for a century to serve the needs of U.S. fruit companies. Today Honduras ranks only behind Haiti as the poorest country in the hemisphere. Yet, Sierra pointed out, between 1982 and 1984, the U.S. spent \$87 million to militarize the country.

There are now some dozen U.S. bases, radar stations and airstrips in place, making the country key to U.S. military policy in the region. Sierra explained U.S.-backed counterrevolutionary forces conduct their anti-Nicaraguan war from Honduras, and Guatemalan and Salvadoran counter-insurgency training is held there. Also thousands of U.S. troops get used to Central American climate and terrain in the seemingly endless series of maneuvers in Honduras.

Petra Guerra chaired this informative forum and the All-Peoples Singers set the tone for the evening with several moving songs of struggle.



WW PHOTO: PADDY COLLIGAN

Meeting at Hunter College in New York City exposes Reagan's Central America police.

White House crowd licks the royal boot



By Andy Stapp

NOVEMBER 10—"Don't call her Princess Diana. She is Your Royal Highness, the Princess of Wales. He is Your Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. After you address them in this manner, you may call them 'Sir' or 'Ma'am.' One does not touch Their Highnesses unless they offer their hands.

"One does not speak first. On being presented into their presence, an inclination of the head is considered very *polite*. Do not wear a tiara unless you are entitled by noble status. If the prince or princess speaks to you, say, 'Thank you for these kind words, sir. Thank you, ma'am.'"

Those were the instructions emanating all month from both the British Embassy and from Selwa Roosevelt, the Chief of Protocol of the United States on the eve of the first joint visit to this country by the future King and Queen of England.

Not surprisingly, Reagan, who gets nervous when "overbriefed," blew it immediately. In his toast welcoming the Royal Couple, he called her "Princess David."

For anyone less exalted than the President, this would have meant social ruin. When they perceive some lapse in the proper bootlicking, groveling and toadying etiquette expected from commoners, the Wales will stare at the hapless victim and say nothing. Charles will clasp his hands behind his back. Diana will tap her foot in imitation of the Queen.

One of them will say, "How amusing for you." For the unfortunate social climber, it's all over. It will do no good to run after them and apologize. The creature who made the blunder is ruined.

Crawling fear that this unspeakable fate would befall them sent every rich and politically well-connected mover and shaker in D.C. running to the British Embassy this month to beg, borrow or steal a copy of the Royal Handbook which explains how to behave when presented to these two Ornaments of Empire.

Slithering toward the Royals

Letitia Baldrige, the Miss Manners of Capitol Hill, was besieged by frantic calls from every big capitalist and major politician in town begging for advice on how to pander, crawl and abase themselves when slithering toward the Royals in the appropriate way.

One may well ask why. Sure the British Crown is rich. Diana spends \$250,000 a year on clothes and arrived in Washington with two tons of wardrobe. Yes, Charles has 300 servants, even one called an "equerry," whose sole job is to tell the somewhat thick Prince where he is. It's also true that Diana has a dozen tiaras, and 27 "major" necklaces.

Still, that doesn't explain why the Washington elite is drooling over these two crowned mannequins. There are families in this country hardly anyone ever heard of—the Waltons, the Packards, the Hills, the Buffetts, the Wexners—with more jewels, servants and huger homes than Charles and Diana Windsor.

What the U.S. doesn't have, however, is a family that has maintained itself undemocratically in authority for nine centuries, a family which claims to be "consecrated by God" to preserve the rule of privilege. That's what the big money men over here

envy, what they would like for themselves, a world that really knows how to bow and curtsy to them!

A prop for bourgeois rule

Two centuries ago, the U.S. ruling class felt it could dispense with the trappings of monarchy. Today, faced with global rebellion, they yearn for this mystical prop to bourgeois rule.

So there they all were at the White House for the big reception, "the top of the social tree," as Betsy Bloomingdale described it, hoping that they would hear Prince Charles say something like, "It's all in the breeding," or Princess Diana, amid "audible and admiring gasps," turn to the George Bushes and say, with that famous touch of wit, "The salmon is awfully good, don't you think?" What fun!

Then again, what if something "awkward" happens? Watch out, Malcolm Forbes! You are too close to the front of the receiving line. The Prince says he prefers those who "hang back because they don't want to be accused of sucking up." Quick, Malcolm, push Dean Martin in front of you! Careful, William Buckley! Don't mention your friend Princess Michael of Kent to Her Royal Highness. Princess Michael, daughter of Nazi SS general Baron Gunter von Reibnitz, just bounced Diana off the top of the Best Dressed Royals list. Mention Princess Michael and Charles will stare, Diana will tap her foot. They will say, "How amusing for you." You will be ruined, William Buckley.

You're in danger, Mrs. Vincent Astor! Don't ask Charles about his first visit to Washington. During that trip in 1971, President Nixon tried to interest the Prince in his daughter Tricia. If you remind him of this, Mrs. Astor, the Prince of Wales will stare, his wife's feet will tap, and you will be ruined.

Look out, Walter Annenberg! Don't compliment Diana on her gown. Diana has said, "Clothes are not my priority." Ask about clothes, and you will hear the feet tap, tap, tap, Walter Annenberg, and you will be socially ruined.

Admiral Shepard! Peter Ueberroth! Estee Lauder! Gloria Vanderbilt! Bring up the subject of Princess Anne at your own risk. If you speak of Princess Anne, the Royals may say, "How

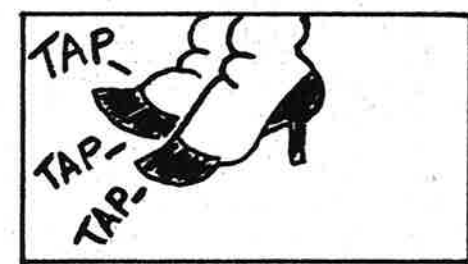


amusing for you," tap, tap, tap and ruin.

Everybody! Don't breathe a word about Prince Charles' efforts to contact his late uncle, Lord Mountbatten, on a Ouija board. Remember, Charles doesn't like to think about the Irish, and the IRA timebomb that dispatched Uncle Dicky. He knows that the Royals have oppressed and murdered the Irish for 800 years.

Charles and Diana Windsor! When you retire for the evening in Balmoral Castle, are you sure that that "tick, tick, tick" noise is only the sound of your grandfather clock? Maybe it's coming from beneath the bed!

How amusing for them.



Colombia police state unmasked as 100 die

By Carl Glenn

NOVEMBER 11—A group of Colombian freedom fighters seized the Palace of Justice in Bogota last week, taking numerous hostages in order to make known to the world the crimes of the government of Belisario Betancur. Betancur responded by refusing any effort to negotiate and ordering the army to storm the building with heavy weapons including tanks, bombs and artillery.

These events took place against a backdrop of acute economic crisis in the country, made more unbearable by the subservience of the government to the wishes of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is demanding austerity measures for the repayment of loans to foreign banks. These measures, which greatly increase the suffering of the people of Colombia, have been backed up by a prolonged and repressive state of siege.

The army assault resulted in over one hundred deaths including all of the revolutionaries, eleven supreme-court judges and dozens of others who

happened to be in the building including maintenance workers, secretaries and lawyers. The guerrillas were members of the M-19 organization, which has challenged the unjust and repressive policies of the government of Colombia for the past eleven years.

Among their demands were the publication of the terms of a cease fire agreed upon by the government and M-19, which was in effect for a six-month period last year, and also the revelation of the details of the agreement between the government and the IMF.

Guerrilla groups strong

The cease-fire between the government and various guerrilla armies was seen when signed in 1984 as an indication of the strength of these rebel groups. It is also indirect proof of the great degree of popularity and respect in which the groups are regarded by the impoverished masses of this South American nation whose northern border connects it with the Central American isthmus.

Although the Betancur government

is portrayed as progressive in the U.S. news media, its record of human rights violations shows it to be highly repressive. During the past year over 500 people have been "disappeared" by government forces. Murders, torturing of prisoners and other atrocities including the bombing of indigenous communities such as took place in the Cauca region last June 29, have been extensively documented by human rights organizations.

The truce was signed by the various guerrilla organizations as the basis of opening up a "national dialogue" not only between themselves and the government, but to include all sectors, urban workers, trade unions, the rural farm population, the indigenous peoples and all political parties.

It was the violation of this agreement as well as the army's efforts to annihilate the guerrillas and civilian population in zones of guerrilla strength which led to the seizure of the Palace of Justice in an effort to indict Betancur for his crimes.

On June 20 of this year, in spite of

threats of severe repression, a nationwide general strike—considered to have been 80% effective—was held. Over six hundred were arrested at that time.

Conference in New York

As the national crisis deepens, the popular resistance continues to rise. Last month a meeting of representatives of Colombian residents of cities in the U.S. and Canada took place in New York. One of their prime objectives as stated in a message issued at the conclusion of the two-day conference was to bring to world attention the dire conditions of the people of Colombia. It was this necessity which also led to last week's seizure in Bogota.

Survivors of the government assault and family members of those killed in the army attack refused to attend funeral services in protest when it was learned that Betancur would be speaking. Immediately after this bloody assault, President Ronald Reagan issued a statement congratulating Betancur for his handling of the situation.

How the CIO was born

50th anniversary of founding of labor organization

By Gary Wilson

THERE WERE no television specials; Reagan made no speeches. In fact, Nov. 9 seemed to be a relatively quiet day even though it is a date of great historical importance.

While the TV is usually filled with documentaries on everything from the mating habits of parrots to the repainting of the Statue of Liberty, there was no documentary this year on the events of Nov. 9 exactly 50 years ago. It is an anniversary that the press, the electronic media and all the other sources of official ideology want forgotten.

On Nov. 9, 1935, in a meeting in Washington, D.C., a group of union leaders met and formed the Committee for Industrial Organization—the famous CIO that was to become one of the fightingest union organizations that this country had ever seen. The very name of the CIO spoken in the 1930s put fear into the hearts of the bosses and hope in the lives of the workers.

The story of the CIO should be known to every person in this country. Its beginnings are easy to tell. The old, encrusted American Federation of Labor (AFL) led by William Green was organized along craft lines, meaning specific skilled trades like plumbing and bricklaying. The AFL considered factory workers “unorganizable.”

The racism that pervaded the all-white Jim-Crow AFL unions meant that only a small fraction of the workforce was organized. The AFL was so conservative that it actually opposed unemployment compensation for jobless workers.

In 1935, the AFL, after 55 years of existence, had a membership of about 3.5 million workers out of a workforce estimated to be 39 million.

Industrial vs. craft unionism

A debate had been running through the union movement for years over the question of industrial unionism, a concept most militantly fought for by the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) in the early part of this century. Industrial unions were organized by industry and not by craft. While the IWW fought brilliantly and established many of the best union traditions that survive to this day, their failure was pointed to as proof that industrial unions couldn't work. This was a purely opportunist interpretation of why the IWW failed, and not a serious analysis which would have been helpful in strengthening the union movement.

But the view that factory workers couldn't be organized, that only the elite skilled crafts were possible to unionize, became the common wisdom. In fact, even as late as 1933, if you were to honestly claim that industrial unions were possible and that millions of workers would go out and fight for the unions, you'd have been branded a lunatic or, worse yet, a Bolshevik.

Yet it was only two years later that several union leaders, none of them lunatics, launched what was to become the strongest industrial organization in the country. One personality dominates the founding and early history of the CIO—John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers union.

John L. Lewis and the Mine Workers

In the years since, there have been many attempts to discredit Lewis and smear his character. It is true that like the other founders of the CIO he had achieved his position within the old AFL based on his conservative, pro-capitalist politics along with his contempt for union democracy. He was also insensitive to racism. Yet these faults are not what upset those who criticize Lewis today.



1934
San Francisco
general strike,
one of three
that year that
paved the
way for the CIO.

Lewis is a target today because it was his boldness, aggressiveness and courage along with the tremendous financial and organizational assistance of the rank and file of the Mine Workers union which helped to push the CIO through its early years. In the 1930s, the strong figure of John L. Lewis was the symbol of progressive industrial unionism and the CIO, which organized unions on the basis of equality between Black and white and fought for the social welfare of all, including winning such important government programs as Social Security, unemployment compensation, food stamps, and aid for the poor.

This progressive, anti-racist and pro-worker, pro-poor people heritage of the CIO is usually the hidden target of today's critics of John L. Lewis.

It was in October of 1935, just weeks before the founding of the CIO, at the AFL convention in Atlantic City, that the famous confrontation took place between those AFL leaders who saw the promise of industrial unionism and those who were afraid to leave the old ways. Insult after insult was hurled at the supporters of industrial unionism, and finally John L. Lewis strode across the convention hall and punched William Hutcheson of the Carpenters union on the nose. That punch symbolized the break that had emerged in the union ranks.

The others forming the CIO with Lewis were Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Max Zaritsky of the United Hatters, Charles P. Howard of the International Typographical Union, David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Thomas P. McMahon of the United Textile Workers, Harvey C. Bremming of the Oil, Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers, and Thomas Brown of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. Of course, there were many others but these are the best known today.

Superficial histories of the CIO picture these personalities as the creators of the mighty union movement of the 1930s who built the CIO solely out of their own power. But to describe the beginnings of the CIO in such a way would not only be a crude distortion of history, it would be an insult to both these union leaders and the millions of workers whose strength, will and determination truly built the CIO.

The CIO did not spring full-grown from the imaginations of a group of union leaders meeting that one day in Washington, D.C. That meeting was the culmination of many events and forces; it was the announcement that a qualitative change had come to the working class in the U.S. and that a new turn was beginning.

Two objective factors that led to founding CIO

There were two objective factors that led to the founding of the CIO. One was the Great Depression; the other was the working class upsurge that began to sweep the country in 1934.

Long-time union activists will tell you that it is difficult to organize mass unions in times of so-called prosperity. In fact, part of the reason that the IWW ran into difficulty was that economic conditions changed in the country in the early 1920s following the First World War. Even the AFL found itself foundering, with important strikes being lost and membership declining. For the bosses, the 1920s were like a union-busting holiday.

But then the economic prosperity ended with the crash of 1929 and the Great Depression that followed. There were at least 17 million jobless. The collapse of the capitalist economy was being taken out on the working class. But the workers began to respond—“We're fed up and not gonna take anymore.”

At first, there were organizations of the unemployed and tremendous demonstrations for the rights of the jobless. On March 6, 1930, the first nationwide demonstration against unemployment drew an estimated 1.25 million in protests in cities across the country.

This was followed by a wave of strikes in 1933 that were brutally crushed by the newly elected Roosevelt administration. But the struggle of the workers was desperate and not so easily stopped.

Three strikes that led the way

What really set the stage for the beginning of the CIO were three strikes in 1934—the Toledo Electric Auto-Lite strike in Toledo, Ohio, the Teamsters strike in Minneapolis and the general strike in support of the dock workers in San Francisco. All three strikes, led by socialists and communists, showed

that with bold and militant tactics industrial union struggles could be won. They opened a new day for the working class. These strikes set the tone for the coming CIO organizing drives.

It was the militant tactics that succeeded in these three landmark strikes that inspired workers in every mill and factory across the country. Workers were finally standing up and winning. With these first successes came the confidence that led to victory after victory where the common wisdom had claimed that no victory was ever possible.

While 1985 is not 1935, the history of that period is still important to know and understand for all who are fighting for a better world for the workers and oppressed. The unions remain to this day “the real class organization of the proletariat in which it carries on its daily struggle with capital,” in the words of Friedrich Engels, Karl Marx's co-thinker. As in Engels' time, the unions are the combat organizations of the working class.

Today, the unions are confronting a centralized capitalist adversary which is intimately tied up with the state power. There can be no doubt that the Reagan administration represents the rich elite and is working in coordination against the workers and their unions.

At the same time there is mass unemployment of some 15 million with some 25-30 million living below the official poverty level. And there is a large section of the workforce that is unorganized, especially among the service workers. The union movement has been dealt one defeat after another over the last six years and many of the official propagandists are saying that the union movement is dead.

That would appear to be the common wisdom, the same common wisdom that prevailed in the 1920s. But the common wisdom was as wrong then as it is today. As long as capitalism rules in this country, there will be a union movement because the union is the organization of the workers in the struggle for decent wages, livable working conditions and social justice. And as in the 1930s, the bosses of today will discover that when the workers start moving there will be no turning them back.

General Dynamics rally. More than 500 unionists from around southeast Michigan gathered the night of Nov. 6 for a rally in solidarity with the striking UAW workers at General Dynamics. Tom Turner, Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO President, denounced General Dynamics for their criminal activity in defrauding the government. “They grant amnesty for corporate criminals. Why won't they grant amnesty to the workers fired for picket line activity?” he demanded. UAW Local 1200 President James Coakley (in photo) said the militance of his local's strikers is “in the best tradition of



WW PHOTO: DAVE SOLE

Labor solidarity grows for Watsonville strike

By Gloria La Riva

WATSONVILLE, Calif., Nov. 10—An enthusiastic rally of 1,000 cannery strikers and supporters brought more pledges of community and union solidarity to help fight Richard Shaw and the Watsonville company today.

A heavy rain storm forced the scheduled march indoors to the Fairgrounds. Chet Mack, head of Teamsters Joint Council No. 7, which called the rally, chaired and stated that the strike "is the battle that is being fought for all of organized labor in northern California. We'll do what we have to do to win this strike."

Cheers greeted the strike leaders who spoke. Their determination in this crucial fight against the frozen food packers has drawn the support of the labor movement from throughout the central valley and northern California.

Chavelo Moreno from the Watsonville plant said, "Each day more people are coming to give us their support. We will win because justice is on our side."

Vickie Nunez urged people to donate to help free Amador Betancourt, jailed since Oct. 11 on \$250,000 bail. She shouted, "He is suffering the consequences of the bosses' racism. We're

doing this for him today, tomorrow for us . . . I feel very proud to be part of this community and a Teamsters member."

Among the delegations present were Teamsters Local 748 (Modesto Cannery and Farmworkers); Local 890 (Salinas Cannery); Locals 70, 137 and 576; International Molders Union, and many others. The leaders of Teamsters Joint Council 38, the Central Labor Councils of Santa Cruz county and Alameda county and San Francisco county gave commitments to build more support in their regions.

Yesterday, United Farm Workers (UFW) President Cesar Chavez spoke to 500 strikers and announced that the UFW will launch a boycott of the brands related to the cannery.

He told the workers, who are mostly Latino, "We're committed to supporting you. We are the same race, the same blood. Your fight is our fight." The UFW will send organizers and other support for the boycott.

One hundred thousand pounds of food and \$5,000 of the mostly recent contributions were called out from the podium. The Plazita Medical Center sent up a note saying that all strikers and their families will be treated regardless of their ability to pay.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Watsonville, Calif., rally shows changing face of the working class.

Detroit health workers defy union-busting attack

Bulletin: The fired nutrition workers have been awarded reinstatement to their jobs based on an unfair labor practices ruling.

By Cheryl LaBash

Exec. Board AFSCME Local 457
DETROIT, Nov. 8—"CNWs need a union," chanted picketers at the Detroit Health Department today, "Hey George: Don't pick on WIC." The demonstrators were protesting the unjustified layoffs of Community Nutrition Workers (CNW) engaged in a union organizing drive.

CNWs enroll Detroiters into the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition program. This important program is on the front line of fighting the high rate of inner city infant deaths here.

At the end of the day on Wednesday, CNW grades I, II, and III were called into an emergency meeting by Health Department Director, George Gaines. He told them not to report to work next week and refused to give any assurance that they would ever be called back.

AFSCME Local 457 charged this action by Gaines was: 1) an effort to keep CNWs out of the union, 2) retaliation against the union effort to make the City comply with fair wage statutes and pay CNWs (payless since Oct. 4), and 3) was harmful to the women and children dependent on the WIC program for healthy development.

Although Health Department workers are organized in AFSCME Local 457, the CNWs are among the growing number of city workers hired through "Personal Service Contractors." The city views these workers as "self-employed" and therefore not eligible for union membership.

In a September decision, the Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) even saw through the City's "self-employment" hoax. MERC ruled that CNWs were in fact City employees and ordered an election to be held so that they could decide if they wanted to be members of AFSCME Local 457. Because of the City's stalling no election has been scheduled yet.

CNWs often work side by side with regular City workers and do the same kind of work as the union-represented "Community Health Assistant". Yet the CNWs face the same conditions as the majority of unorganized workers in this country, especially women workers in the service and high-tech industries.

CNWs receive low pay, no medical, pension or other benefits, no holiday

pay or vacation time. Recently they were forced to work 12 hours overtime on Saturdays, but were paid straight time, got only half an hour for lunch and no breaks.

Urgent need for union benefits

The urgent need for union benefits was underscored when one of the key CNW organizers, Winifred Morgan, was stricken with a life-threatening disease this summer. To receive the medical attention she needed, she had to quit her job and, with her two small children, go on Aid to Dependent Children. She has no recall rights to her job.

In addition, nearly every year, these workers suffer delayed pay. Some years this extends from October 1 through the Christmas holidays. Yet they are still required to come to work.

Allegedly this results from the Detroit City Council not approving their "Personal Service Contracts" in a timely manner because of delayed grant authorization letters. Yet 85% of Health Department funding comes from grant money. Regular city employees do not go payless.

CNWs even receive the same kind of paychecks as regular city employees. The union contends that the CNWs should be paid through other city funds, not penalized because of inefficiency in processing paperwork.

Today's picket line was only one step in mobilizing support for the CNWs' organizing drive and restoration of experienced qualified workers to the WIC program. According to Anita Hicks, Local 457 President, Detroit Common Council passed an emergency resolution against the layoffs Friday and scheduled a hearing for Tuesday.

In addition, unfair labor practice charges are being filed with MERC and the State AFSCME Council 25 has authorized attorneys to seek a temporary restraining order if workers aren't returned to work on Tuesday.

Even with short notice, supporters from the labor movement and community organizations joined today's protest. UAW Locals 15 and 600, AFSCME leaders from at least 10 other locals, AFL-CIO officials and community activists from the All-Peoples Congress made it clear that they viewed an injury to one as an injury to all, and would help to organize the unorganized.



WW PHOTO: CHERYL LABASH

Health care workers win job reinstatement in Detroit unionizing campaign.

The Picketline

—Shelley Ettinger

LA grocery strike. Some 22,000 supermarket workers went on strike in southern California on Nov. 5 following the breakdown of last minute talks between 19 union locals and eleven major grocery chains. The locals all voted Nov. 3 to reject the contract proposal of the Food Employers Council, representing 1,128 supermarkets from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Strikers include 10,000 meat cutters and wrappers, represented by six United Food and Commercial Workers locals, and 12,000 warehousemen, truck drivers and office workers, represented by 13 International Brotherhood of Teamsters locals. Another 65,000 retail clerks in nine locals have refused to cross the picket lines. Union members were arrested the first morning of the strike at Vons and Lucky warehouses following two incidents of scabs driving into picket lines. Three Lucky's Teamsters pickets were injured. All eleven grocery chains, which serve over 12 million people, had previously hired scabs in preparation for the strike.

Continued on page 12



Los Angeles supermarket strike: the cops are still at it.

the founders of the UAW." He reaffirmed that Local 1200 would fight concessions and demand total amnesty for the nine fired workers and 93 others disciplined by the company during the strike. Bob Lent, Region 1B UAW Director, told the crowd that the strike, now in its eighth week, was "the result of a conspiracy by the Reagan administration and the defense contractors to destroy unions." On Nov. 12, the strike was settled with all workers returning to their jobs.

EDITORIAL

New gov't assault on health care for poor

AFTER YEARS of failing to enforce a 1946 law requiring hospitals and nursing homes built with federal funds to give minimal health care to poor people, the Reagan administration proposes to abolish this requirement altogether. This comes on top of Medicaid and Medicare cuts already designed to discharge the ill and injured "sicker and quicker."

Thousands of health institutions would be exempted by the administration's move from the legal mandate that they offer some "uncompensated services." Forcing the medical profession to care for those who can't pay is "procedural nonsense," according to the Reaganites.

The callousness of this "pay-or-die" approach needs little comment, except to note that the President himself grabs up every bit of free medical care he is entitled to by law, despite his millionaire status. That is the true nature of Reaganism. Reagan takes an oath to "see that the laws be faithfully obeyed," but only enforces those statutes which benefit him and his rich friends while refusing to enforce those which benefit the poor.

Such gross and atrocious hatred for the millions who would be left without care under this new scheme, reveals a special kind of sickness, not the sort caused by microbes or injury, but by the pathological priorities of a society where money rules.

—Reagan and Congress

Continued from page 1

Star Wars president angrily laid down the law. Yes, he told them, they have to raise the debt ceiling and support a balanced budget; no, he said, they can't cut back military expenditures.

"You can't have both!" was the unvarnished reaction of Rep. Les Aspin of the House Armed Services Committee and a Democrat. But House Democratic leader Tip O'Neill showed his party's loyalty to the military-industrial cabal and their position at Geneva when he said, "We're leaning over backwards to help him [Reagan]. The fight will be waged when he comes back."

Oh sure. They've only had five years to start fighting. What's a few more weeks?

But these weak-kneed "opponents" know what it will cost to pay for all the high-tech military hardware. They know it will come out of school lunches, and pensions, and other things that may not be important to the elite but that mean everything to the common person. And once they vote for that balanced budget, the squeeze will really be on.

Right now, before Geneva, they could use the government's fiscal crisis to insist on a real program for disarmament. The Soviet Union has of-

fered a 50% reduction in nuclear weapons. How's that for starters?

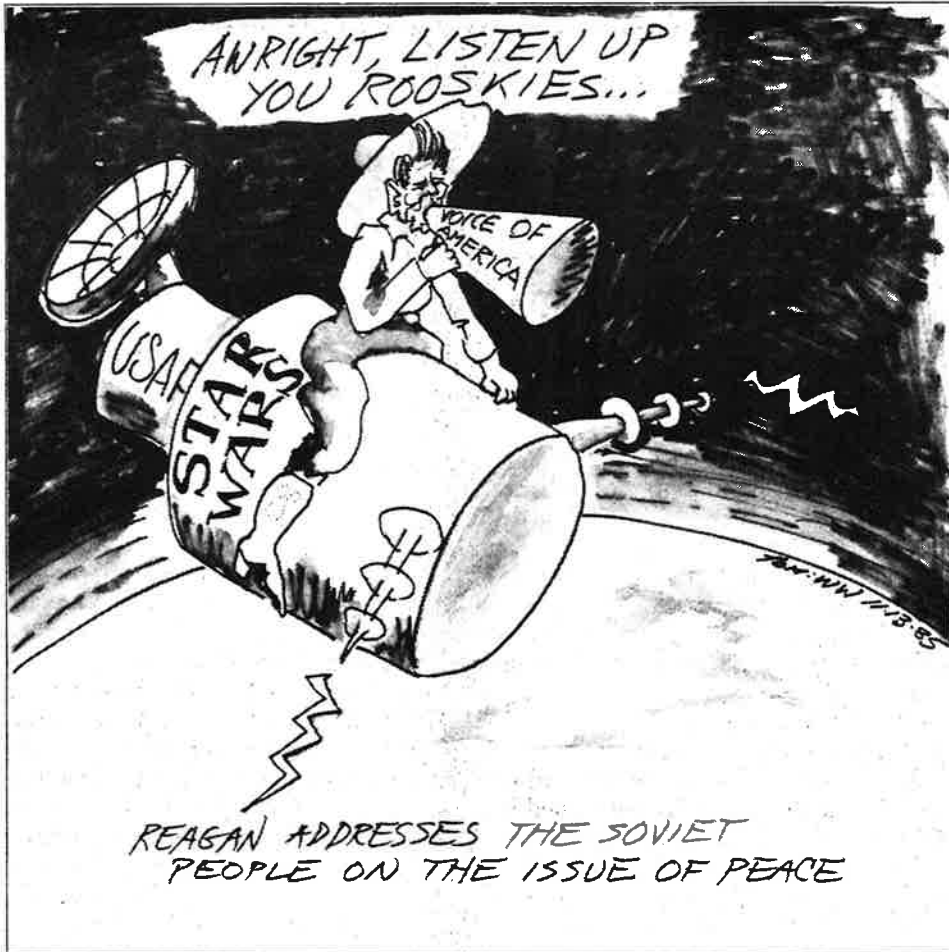
U.S., Soviet people don't want Star Wars

Instead of joining the right-wing orgy of pre-Summit red-baiting, they could tell the people here the truth: that Reagan's Star Wars program will bleed both the U.S. and the USSR, who will be forced to respond. Isn't that a common, material basis on which an arms agreement could be negotiated, if Reagan were really negotiating in good faith?

Instead, the Congressional "opposition" has agreed to wait until after the Summit to fight Reagan on the military budget. But this means giving Reagan the chance to firmly commit the U.S. to this monstrous space wars program and to convince people here that no agreement is possible with the USSR!

Meanwhile, the sheer weight of this horrendous military burden is grinding to dust every humane antidote to capitalist oppression that has been won over the years.

That's where a vigorous fightback to militarism will come from. Not from the capitalist liberals, but from those who owe nothing to the profit system and can mount a struggle based on the crying needs of the workers and oppressed peoples.



Angola at 10: Still fighting imperialist assaults

By Monica Moorehead

NOVEMBER 11—Ten years ago today, an event took place inside Southern Africa that would forever change the complexion of the struggle against imperialist oppression and exploitation on the African continent and around the world. That event was the Angolan revolution—a revolution that had its roots firmly implanted within the formation of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) back in 1956, culminating in a people's victory against a centuries' long struggle against Portuguese colonialism and slavery.

During this same period, the African countries of Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique had also freed themselves from Portuguese domination. All of these struggles were greatly aided by the victory of the Portuguese working class when in April 1974, they overthrew the hated fascist regime that had ruled Portugal for four decades.

The establishment of the People's Republic of Angola (PRA) was no doubt a major blow to U.S. imperialism and to its fascist ally, the racist white apartheid regime of South Africa. Following the November victory, developments took place resulting in the class character of the Angolan revolution becoming a major issue for polemics within the progressive movement within the imperialist countries, particularly the U.S.

In a Jan. 30, 1976 statement answering the movement critics of Angola called "The Controversy Over Angola," Workers World Party defended the Angolan revolution as part and parcel of the heroic worldwide struggle also led by the Vietnamese against U.S. imperialism. The statement defended the Cuban revolution as well as distinguishing the MPLA, a genuine national liberation movement, from the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), two phony liberation groupings that were later exposed as puppets of the U.S.-backed Zairean government, CIA and the apartheid regime. This statement also defended the MPLA's right to receive material aid from any source it wishes, namely the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Support for ANC and SWAPO

Today the PRA is not only providing human needs for its population like health, care, education and housing,

but has also provided a strategic base of support for the African National Congress and the South West African People's Organization, the two vanguard national liberation movements leading the revolutionary struggle against apartheid inside of South Africa and Namibia respectively. Both of these organizations have been banned by the apartheid regime.

U.S. imperialism and apartheid have never reconciled themselves to accepting the sovereignty of the PRA and therefore have not allowed the PRA to rebuild Angola free from imperialist hostility.

Even now, the U.S. Congress is "debating" whether to provide "humanitarian" assistance to the UNITA mercenaries in the form of \$27 million. These imperialist puppets of UNITA not only wish to see the destabilization of the PRA but also want to see the ANC and SWAPO's primary base of support destroyed. With the assistance of thousands of internationalist Cuban troops, however, the PRA is successfully beating back the terrorist maneuvers of the UNITA bandits and their U.S.-South African masters, while consolidating the gains of their glorious revolution. They can do this with the support and arming of the Angolan people. **Long live the People's Republic of Angola!**



Luanda, Angola, this year.



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Calendar contains beautiful black-and-white photographs, graphics, poetry and other writings which capture the spirit and history of the liberation struggle in southern Africa against the apartheid regime. Includes a striking graphic by Sahu Barron alongside the Freedom Charter of South Africa. A print of young militants at Crossroads is shown with a moving poetic tribute to Soweto's youth by Zenzile, a South African exile. A pictorial tribute hails Black South African workers while other photographs commemorate South African Women's Day, Nelson Mandela Day, and Free South African Political Prisoners Day. Contains pictures of historical and recent protests in South Africa and anti-apartheid activities in the U.S.

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Three strategies in the South African revolution

By Sam Marcy

NOVEMBER 11—There are three basic strategies, three historical perspectives, that concern the progress of the South African revolution.

The South African revolution is a world historic development and has earned the attention of the bulk of humanity, particularly of all the oppressed and exploited masses throughout the world.

It is necessary to first give consideration to the strategy of the Reagan-Thatcher-Kohl axis.

U.S. embargo full of holes

It has been fully six months since the Reagan administration issued an executive order to ban exports and sales to the apartheid regime and to impose some aspects of an embargo. It is now very clear with the passage of time since the signing of this executive order that the Reagan administration has permitted the continuing flow of the very highest and most sophisticated technology to the apartheid regime. In other words, it has managed to exempt from the embargo what is most crucial to the apartheid regime.

In this, the Reagan administration has the full support of the Thatcherite regime. And the West German imperialist government, no less than Reagan and Thatcher, is equally interested in continuing the flow of these vital elements, whose interruption could possibly do serious damage to the apartheid regime.

The most important aspect in this ploy is that it permits very important sales of high technology to South African commercial arms contractors, which will surely find its way into the apartheid regime's repressive forces, including the military and the police.

It will be remembered that Reagan's executive order banning certain sales and exports to the apartheid regime has no real enforcement aspect. It is also possible, on the basis of new regulations issued by the Commerce Department, to evade much of the executive order by so-called re-export loopholes.

What is true of the Reaganite provisions regarding the continuation of commercial, banking and financial relations with the apartheid regime is equally true of the West German and British governments. Their basic strategy is to continue undercover support for the Botha regime while at the same time mounting anti-apartheid rhetoric in the most disgusting and hypocritical manner.

It is to be noted that the Thatcher government was able to push through a rotten compromise on sanctions against South Africa at the recent Commonwealth congress, which is mostly composed of former British colonies. It is this rotten compromise which the Thatcher government dangles before the world as its contribution to the struggle against apartheid.

The West Germans continue their relationship with South Africa much more surreptitiously but nonetheless in full solidarity with the aims of its axis partnership with Thatcher and Reagan. Likewise the Dutch and the Swiss, the latter through their banking connections.

International imperialism as a whole aims not to divest its interests in South Africa but to retain them by other means. Only Sweden, Norway and southern Europe, which never had any significant interests in South Africa, are generally clear of the apartheid-axis partnership to continue the plunder of the South African masses.

It should not be said, however, that the imperialists have closed their eyes

to the rising revolutionary struggle and the increasing instability and growing peril to the existence of the Botha regime. They see this, and so they are holding out their hands to and maintaining firm and confidential, but again undercover, relations with the second tendency.

Imperialist ties to 'moderates'

This tendency consists of what are traditionally called, on the eve of and during every revolutionary struggle, the reformists. These are the businessmen, so-called, who have made contact with the leadership of the South African liberation struggle, and who in so doing have defied the Botha regime, which prohibits any such meetings.

There are also a growing number of politicians in Botha's own party who have grown more fearful of the great extremes to which the Botha government has gone in this last period, including the suppression of television reporting by the foreign media and threats to the domestic press, including imprisonment.

This reformist tendency has wide support in the more moderate imperialist circles, who share their concern about what may befall the entire social system on which apartheid is based. But, no matter how many times they speak of serious concessions and attack the Botha regime, they offer not the vaguest hint of how to do it, or who would do what.

The differences between the moderates and the extremists are not based on opposing ideological conceptions, nor are they based on sympathies or antipathies or moral scruples. Their strategic conceptions are divergent, but lead towards a common aim, the preservation of imperialist exploitation and superprofits in South Africa.

Two approaches are discerned in the variegated second grouping of moderates. One is the approach of moral suasion, which differs from the others in that it occasionally uses strong language to attack the apartheid regime. Another tendency within this grouping, or another shade of opinion, calls for a new administration and the resignation of the Botha regime. This is the least audible tendency but, as the situation becomes more perilous to the regime, it is possible that it will take on more momentum.

All of these leaders, both within the imperialist countries and in the South African ruling class, seek in one way or another to either stretch out their hands to the leadership of the liberation struggle or to in some way identify themselves with some of its demands.

A change of administration?

The point in all of this is that the revolutionary struggle is bound to take on a more tumultuous character, is bound to become broadened and widened, even if there is a considerable pause in the momentum. It is thus absolutely inevitable that the moderates of all shades, the second tendency, will become more vocal and more articulate in calling for a change of administration.

Of course, any such change, including that of the resignation of Botha, and/or the freedom of Nelson Mandela of the African National Congress, the acknowledged leader of the oppressed masses, is conceived by these moderates as a form of both reform and conciliation with the regime.

It goes without saying that any such development would mark a singular victory for the movement of the oppressed masses, and would be a concession won in battle, not a gift from the oppressors. Either way, whether



WW PHOTO: ALAN ROTH

Cleveland anti-apartheid rally exposes link to U.S.-based imperialist monopolies.

this development comes more quickly or takes on a more protracted character, it is bound to come—as it does in all great revolutions—as a sort of first great step which is the work of the masses through sweat and blood and sacrifices, and most often is the result of a general assault by the masses.

This will not prevent the moderators, the conciliators, those who were originally for the flimsiest and most threadbare of compromises just a bare two or three years ago, from proclaiming that they in fact were its architects.

It is therefore worthwhile, not as a matter of speculation but as a matter of historical comparison, to see the South African revolution as a link in the chain of the great revolutions of our times, including the Russian, Chinese, Cuban, and Vietnamese revolutions, all of which differed in so many vital ways but which historically have had their moderators, their compromisers and conciliators before the real revolution took hold.

More than a facelift necessary

It is necessary to examine the difference between the change of an administration and a change in the form of the state. The two are not at all the same.

To change the administration, even in a radical way, removes the administrators, the supervisors, the servants of the system of monopoly capitalism and leaves intact the ownership of the means of production, leaves intact the relationship of exploiter to exploited.

Apartheid is not only a series of laws which discriminate against the Black and colored masses. Apartheid is of the very essence of capitalist oppression in South Africa.

The capitalist state in South Africa in its essential skeletal form is a military and police machine for the oppression and exploitation of the masses. A change of administration does not ever extend to the inner reaches of the repressive forces. The repressive police and military forces are the very essence of this state. The apartheid regime could never last without firmly resting on the repressive police and military forces as its pillars.

Apartheid law, custom and practice is so interlaced, so intimately connected with every avenue of life and with every nook and corner of the regime as to make a change of administration a mere change of face, that is, a change of form while leaving the essence of the matter intact.

That leaves the problems of the revolution unsolved. In all of this it has to be remembered that while the state

is essentially a machine for the oppression and suppression of the masses, it is also a complex of social and political institutions which are geared to and intermingled with the state as a repressive force. The essence of all social and political institutions in South Africa can be summed up in one word: apartheid.

Thus, a real struggle against apartheid must be a struggle against the state, for its overthrow, which is precisely what the masses are organically oriented to and which, whether it is formulated openly, is merely a matter of time and of emerging circumstances.

Mass struggle to overthrow the apartheid state

This is what the third tendency in the struggle is all about: the organic orientation of the masses in the direction of a struggle to overthrow the state of apartheid, not just to give it a facelift, not just to remove some of its most odious administrators.

Thus, it is necessary to struggle here with redoubled energy and enthusiasm to ban all sales and exports to South Africa, to close all shipping and all airports, to give all forms of aid and assistance and do everything by way of international solidarity that will help the revolution achieve its full objective.

Bruce Springsteen: Fight racism in U.S.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN, the popular rock-and-roll musician, says he decided to sing on the anti-apartheid record "Sun City" because he is concerned about racism in the U.S. as well as South Africa.

"Bringing attention to what's going on down there will also make us look in our own back yards about the terrible problem we have with racism right here in this country," he said in a recent interview that is part of a radio special on "Sun City."

The anti-apartheid record and video called "Sun City" was organized by Springsteen's former guitarist and best friend, Little Steven, and features over 50 other musicians including Miles Davis, Bob Dylan, Jackson Browne, Lou Reed, Daryl Hall, John Oates and Gil Scott-Heron. Springsteen has also done several benefit concerts for unemployed workers, particularly steel workers in the Pittsburgh area.

Thousands in Newark rally against apartheid

New Jersey's largest South Africa march

By Deirdre Griswold

NEWARK, N.J., Nov. 9—Today thousands of people marched and rallied here against apartheid in South Africa. But never has a foreign policy issue been more intimately connected with the struggle at home.

The target of today's activities was racism and exploitation. The people who marched are all too familiar with what that means.

Newark is a majority-Black city, still remembered for one of the biggest rebellions of the 1960s. There's been some rebuilding of the downtown area; some of the scars of that struggle have been erased. But you can't hide the obvious. Newark is a teeming concentration of super-oppressed people ringed by vast industrial complexes on one side and a network of affluent white suburbs on the other.

It's not apartheid—the open, legalized expression of white racist domination—but conditions in Newark would feel familiar to someone from Johannesburg or Capetown.

Today's demonstration, therefore, had much in common with the early civil rights movement. It was organized by the New Jersey Anti-Apartheid

Coalition, made up mostly of Black groups, trade unions, religious organizations and progressives, and it pulled in support from area politicians.

There was of course some opportunistic jumping on the bandwagon. Even New Jersey Bell passed out "souvenirs" to the marchers, some of whom carried signs demanding that AT&T get out of South Africa.

But this only underscored the success of the demonstration, which was clearly expressing the popular sentiment in Newark. As the march, which went from Essex County College to Military Park, wound its way through residential streets to reach the downtown shopping area, onlookers showed universal support, many wearing anti-apartheid buttons and ribbons.

The marchers and speakers were predominantly Black, and came from a broad spectrum of the community. Union hats from District 65, ILGWU, CWA and District 1199 were in abundance, as were dashikis and the red, black and green colors of Black nationalist sentiment. Youngsters from various cultural groups performed marching and drill routines with the theme "Apartheid No!"



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

Like the civil rights movement, but on a foreign policy issue.

Latin and white participation was substantial and was organized mainly through the trade unions and progressive organizations from around northern New Jersey.

A strong multinational contingent came from the Jersey City PAM/APC. Heads turned as its section of the march swept by, chanting "Jail Botha, Free Mandela!" to a compelling drum-beat.

Speakers at the two rallies went all the way from politicians like Newark's Mayor Kenneth Gibson to SWAPO representative Hinyangerya Asheke. The demonstration was the largest ever against apartheid in New Jersey, and generally showed that the movement building against U.S. imperialist foreign policy in the 1980s is based much more in the working class and the oppressed communities than in the past.

Study avoids racist roots of assault on MOVE

By Joseph Jacques Piette

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 6—If the MOVE Commission had been made up of, and run by community groups, unions, and poor and working people, then police brutality and racism would have been on trial, not the 11 dead MOVE members and children. Homelessness and unemployment in Black and other oppressed neighborhoods would have been made an issue.

But when the four-week-long, highly-televised official MOVE Commission ended this week, the only issue exposed was the incompetence and bungling of city officials. The hearings produced volumes of testimony, only to bury the truth.

Dominated by five lawyers, a banker, and a former Abscam FBI investigator, the 11-member commission concentrated on discrepancies between the testimonies of Police Commissioner Gregor Sambor, City Managing Director Leo Brooks, Fire Commissioner William Richmond and Wilson Goode, the city's first Black mayor.

The local big-business news media have placed most of the blame on Mayor Goode and have criticized the others for mishandling the whole operation. They let off the hook the bankers and businessmen who live in the Main Line suburbs, who really run Philadelphia, and who are really to blame for the 11 deaths, along with the racist police department that serves these few rich.

What the Commission revealed

On May 13, 1985, trigger-happy cops attacked the MOVE house on Osage Ave., resulting in the deaths by fire of six MOVE adults and five children, the destruction of 62 homes and damage to 20 more homes, with 250 people left homeless.

Against one rifle, one shotgun and two pistols in the MOVE house, the police amassed an arsenal of 10,000 twenty-two caliber rounds, 2,000 forty-five caliber Thompson machine gun rounds, 2,000 rounds of 30-06 rifle fire; also 2,240 rounds of M-60 fire, 4,000 rounds of Uzi submachinegun fire and 15,000 rounds of M-16 223-caliber fire.

In addition, there was one anti-tank weapon, hundreds of teargas cannis-

ters, 20 stun devices, smoke shells, grenades, explosives—including Tovex, TR2, Detcord and C-4 and one helicopter, two water cannons, and dozens of police vehicles.

Some 10,000 rounds of ammunition, half-a-million gallons of water, tear gas and the unsuccessful use of explosives to gain entry had all failed to force MOVE's eviction for three warrants on minor violations. A bomb was then dropped from a helicopter. The resulting fire was allowed to burn "to eliminate the bunker on the roof."

Thirteen-year-old Birdie Africa, one of only two survivors, said that police fired on MOVE children as they tried to flee the burning row house. Police did not allow firefighters to fight the fire until three hours later.

Commission ignores cop racism

Eleven cops refused to testify. When a federal judge on Nov. 5 ruled that they could not refuse, the commission failed to prolong the hearings past Nov. 6, even though these reluctant cops might have provided crucial testimony on the use of the bomb and the gunfire that prevented MOVE members from fleeing the fire. Cops were not questioned on their attitudes toward Black people, despite the evidence of a police video tape of the MOVE house in flames and the sound of laughter by police in the background noise.

The commission failed to pursue all the threads to various federal agencies used in carrying out the police action. A 1979 court decision specifically bars federal authorities from intervening in local police matters. Yet the powerful C-4 explosives, which by law are only available to the military, were funneled to the assault team by the FBI.

After the worst fire in Philadelphia history, Police Commissioner Sambor received a message from Reagan's Attorney General Edwin Meese, praising the "very rational and reasonable police action."

While the question of the fire commissioner's subservience to the police was pursued, it was only characterized as a personal weakness. The question was not raised to the level of why fire departments in general, not just the one

in Philadelphia, have been made to collaborate with police in repressing people.

History of police brutality

The commission also chose to gloss over Philadelphia's long history of police brutality. Some of the cops who participated in the Osage Ave. devastation were the same cops who harassed, brutalized and raided Black Panther and Young Lord chapters here 15 years ago. They are the same cops investigated by the U.S. Justice Department in 1979 for 9,000 police brutality complaints and 600 people killed by police under "suspicious circumstances" between 1971 and 1979.

Just weeks after May 13, "a repeated persistent pattern of unconstitutional stops, detentions, seizures and frisks" by the police in the Puerto Rican Spring Garden community here, was ordered halted by a federal judge after numerous protests. On Sept. 7 in the Germantown area, two Black men were killed while in police custody.

These are the same cops who harassed MOVE members for over a decade, yet the commissioner did not seriously consider that history in the hearings. MOVE, a "back-to-nature" organization made up mostly of Black people, experienced an escalating cycle of police beatings in the 1970s. When an infant of a MOVE mother was killed in one such attack in 1976, MOVE began to defend itself.

In 1978, one cop was killed during an attack by 300 cops on a MOVE house; ten MOVE members were sentenced to from 30 to 100 years in jail. In the last negotiations to take place before May 13, MOVE members demanded a legal review of that unjust decision, and the replacement of their home destroyed in that 1978 police confrontation.

The MOVE Commission report will be used as part of the investigation also being carried out by the District Attorney and the U.S. Attorney's office. But only one person has been placed in prison for the May 13 crime. She not only suffered burns on 40% of her body, but remains in jail accused of assault, riot, terroristic threats and criminal conspiracy. She is one of the victims—Ramona Johnson Africa.

Join us in the struggle

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

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Hurricane Carter freed after 18 years of injustice

By Neville Edwards

NOVEMBER 9—It has been 18 years since the heroic Black rebellion of Newark and 18 years since Rubin "Hurricane" Carter was imprisoned by New Jersey's racist court system. Last Thursday Judge H. Lee Sarokin of the Federal District Court overturned Carter's sentence stemming from a 1967 murder conviction and the 1976 retrial of Carter and John Artis.

The judge ordered the immediate release of Carter for the same reasons Carter has always fought on: the prosecutors withheld evidence from the defense and the trial was racist.

The 48-year-old Carter, a world class middleweight boxer, and John Artis were arrested and charged for the murder of three white people in a Paterson, N.J., bar. One year later both men were convicted and sentenced to life in prison for a crime they did not commit.

Carter and Artis were arrested during the atmosphere of Black rebellions across the U.S. The Black city of Newark, angered by the racist policies of then-Mayor Hugh Addonizio and Governor Hughes, rose up in response to a racist police attack on a Black cab driver.

In the uprising the Black community burned police cars, attacked police stations and burned businesses. The mayor and the governor called in the National Guard, despite the people's demand for the removal of the police from their communities.

The National Guard, state troopers and Newark police murdered 25 Black women, men and children. Over 1,200 were wounded and 2,000 were taken to jail. Two white cops were also killed.

At that time, Rubin Carter spoke out in support of the heroic mass rebellion in Newark, denouncing the police for racism. This enraged the city and state government and led to the frame-up of Carter and Artis.

During the first trial the judge barred anyone from talking to the jurors or their families about the case. This was an attempt to frustrate the supporters of the defendants. Though not one person at the bar during the murder said they saw Carter and Artis at the scene of the crime, the all-white jury convicted the two men.

A national campaign arose to free the two men. Bob Dylan wrote a song about Carter and sang it at a Madison Square Garden benefit for "The Hurricane Fund," and Muhammad Ali, the world famous boxer, joined many others to free them.

State arranged perjury

So great was the pressure that in 1976 the state was forced to free them after two prosecution witnesses recanted their testimony that they had seen Carter and Artis at the scene with guns in their hands. Both witnesses were facing criminal charges at the time of the trial and admitted that they had been offered lenient treatment by the District Attorney's office in return for helping to frame up Carter and Artis. One witness stated that he was offered \$10,500 if both men were convicted.

The two were retried and once again the prosecutors concocted false evidence, stating that Carter and Artis committed the murders to revenge a Black man who was killed. One of the original witnesses, after stating that he had lied in the 1967 testimony, testified that he had seen Carter and Artis commit the murder.

At a conference in the judge's chamber this witness, Alfred Bello, refused to say who in the prosecutor's office was pressuring him to change his testimony. It was also proven that the police had planted shotgun shells in Carter's car and that they were not the

same kind found at the murder scene.

One eyewitness who later died of wounds testified that Carter and Artis were the only two men police brought to her hospital bedside and clearly stated that she saw neither of the men at the scene of the murder. Despite all the evidence pointing to both men's innocence, the racist court system convicted them for the second time. Carter and Artis were sentenced to a total of six life terms.

Like a champion

During the 18 years in prison Carter fought like a true champion. He was determined to prove to the world that he was convicted by a racist court system for something he didn't do. In his Rahway cell he wrote his autobiogra-

phy, "The 16th Round—No. 1 contender to No. 45472," which was published in 1974.

Father of two children and divorced after the second conviction, Carter refused to eat the food prepared by the prison. He fought hard and succeeded in wearing his own clothes instead of the prison clothes. But most of all he worked hard to win his release from prison.

That the state of New Jersey was forced to free Carter makes it clear that both Carter and Artis, who was released on parole in 1981, were victims of a racist court system. Their freedom is an admission of guilt by the U.S. judiciary system.

Now the Passaic County prosecutor's office has stated that it will ap-



peal Judge Sarokin's ruling, claiming that Carter is "dangerous to society." But the real danger comes from the racist institutions which framed up these two men.

Roots of Virginia prison rebellion

By Diane Feinberg

NOVEMBER 9—Last month's prisoner uprising at Buckingham "Correctional" Center in Virginia was described by prison spokesperson L. Duncan Brogan as "an isolated incident." A recent article in the Richmond News Leader indicates the rebellion was anything but.

Prison officials admit that the insurrection began on Oct. 1 over a protest about pay for mess hall workers, which resulted in a walkout. Other prisoners working in the kitchen were reportedly ordered to replace the workers, but they walked out in solidarity.

A rebellion spread throughout the mess hall and spilled out into the yard and the commissary, and some 300 prisoners refused to return to their cells.

Prison officials admit that guards in the towers began firing at the prisoners, while officers equipped with riot gear forced the men back into their cells. The prison remained on a lockdown.

Not "isolated incident"

This mutiny was not at all an "isolated incident." In a letter to the News Leader on Sept. 2 a prisoner reported that on Aug. 8, ten inmates walked out of the prison's sheet metal shop to protest a paycut. The protesting workers were fired.

"In recent weeks, there has been inmate unrest throughout the state on the issue of inmate pay," wrote the prisoner, who asked not to be identified.

At the State Penitentiary last Feb-

ruary, metal shop workers put down their tools to protest cutbacks in pay. Similar protests broke out in the Penitentiary warehouse and Powhatan slaughterhouse.

Non-industrial workers are reported to receive wages of only 90 cents a day for their labor while industrial workers get 90 cents a day with "incentive pay."

With great understatement, the News Leader reported following the October uprising that "Some tensions at Buckingham may stem from extensive use of housing two prisoners in a cell to deal with crowding." The prison is designed to hold 500 prisoners, but is currently overflowing with 725.

Gross overcrowding of prisoner workers who are paid merely pennies for the wealth their labor produces has created a time bomb.

Progressive writer denied U.S. residency

By Kathy Durkin

NOVEMBER 11—"The war is over and the Vietnamese Revolution has won its greatest victory. U.S. imperialism has suffered the greatest defeat, a strategic turning point in its decline."

For these words and many more in support of the people of Viet Nam, Cuba and Nicaragua, noted writer Margaret Randall has been denied permanent resident status in the U.S. by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), an arm of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Under the "ideological exclusion" clause of the reactionary McCarran-Walter Act of 1952, passed during the Cold War, "foreign citizens" with left-wing ideas or associations can be prevented from visiting or remaining in the U.S. Randall joins the ranks of many prominent writers and others—Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Hortensia Allende, Pablo Neruda, Farley Mowat, Dario Fo, and Dennis Brutus—whom the U.S. has excluded or attempted to exclude under this McCarthyite law.

After denying Randall permanent resident status the INS ordered her deported. Their ruling quoted extensively from her writings and cited her support for the people of Viet Nam, Cuba, and Nicaragua. It cited her criticism of the lack of civil rights for Black people in the U.S. and of U.S. policy in Central America.

It also assailed her political activism, since Randall had participated in many anti-Viet Nam war protests in the U.S. in the early 1960s. On the

basis of her words and activities, Randall was deemed "excludable."

Randall has been a poet, translator, editor, teacher, writer and photographer over a period of 25 years and has lived in Mexico, Cuba and Nicaragua. She was born and grew up in the U.S., and became a citizen of Mexico in 1967. There she co-edited a literary magazine, El Corno Emplumado.

In Cuba she worked for the Cuban Book Institute and for the literacy campaign. She also worked for the literacy campaign in Nicaragua initiated by the Sandinistas.

Randall has written 40 books, including Cuban Women Now and Sandino's Daughters. She is an outspoken advocate of women's rights and civil rights and for the right to sovereignty and self-determination of the people of Latin America and elsewhere. Randall, whose husband, elderly parents, and four children live in the U.S., returned here in 1984 on a visa and applied for permanent residence status. She currently teaches at the University of New Mexico.

Authors join suit

Several well-known authors, including Norman Mailer, Alice Walker, Kurt Vonnegut, Grace Paley, Arthur Miller and Toni Morrison, have joined with Randall in filing a federal lawsuit challenging the INS decision to exclude her under the McCarran-Walter Act. The plaintiffs state that their rights to associate with and learn from Randall are being violated and that her First Amendment rights to free

speech and association are being abridged.

The Center for Constitutional Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union, which represents Randall, state in their legal brief that this is only "part of the larger policy and practice whereby the INS and U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese are improperly using their authority to limit political debate to deny the people of the U.S. a chance to meet with critics of U.S. policy and advocates of policies which differ from the government's" and to "chill freedom of expression."

They charge this is part of the practice of "unlawfully curtailing information on U.S. policy in Central America," and say that it is "ideological filtering of the population." They charge that the government does not believe in a free exchange or marketplace of ideas and seeks to prevent the people of the U.S. from hearing views which differ from the narrow views of the government.

Many writers and progressive people are rallying to Randall's defense. E.L. Doctorow, Denise Levertov, Norman Mailer, Tillie Olson, Adrienne Rich and Arthur Miller sent a telegram to the INS which asserts "We object to U.S. officials impugning writers under the ideological exclusion provision of the McCarran-Walter Act."

As Randall herself asks, "What does it tell about the state of the country when those who choose to dissent or provide alternative information are excluded from living in this society?"

AIDS: Fight the disease and beat back the bigots!

By Saul Kanowitz

NOVEMBER 11—Are recent events around AIDS meant to offer a real solution to this national health crisis? In New York City, is the closing of the Mine Shaft, a men's bar, and the hearings in the New York City Council on resolutions to close down all gay gathering places and test all school workers and students for the presence of the HTLV-III virus for the purpose of stopping the spread of AIDS?

No. These actions are irrelevant to stopping AIDS and are another part of the ruling class's war on the gay community. They are reactionary political acts that have nothing to do with solving the medical crisis around AIDS. They are meant to confuse people and turn legitimate concerns about an epidemic into a bigoted crusade against gay men.

Calling for mandatory tests for a virus that cannot be transmitted by the daily contact schoolworkers and students have with each other is a hypo-

critical ploy that uses the concern for children to whip up confusion and anti-gay bigotry. If these right-wing zealots were really concerned about the children, they'd attack the Metropolitan Transportation Authority of New York City for the over 100 subway train derailments last year, which endangered thousands of children in particular and millions of subway riders in general.

Using as a pretext the need to contain AIDS, the closing of gay bars is an effort to drive gay men back into the closet. Government invasion into people's private lives to regulate sexual activity is political repression. This will do nothing to contain AIDS, and in fact will just drive the disease underground and make the syndrome harder to monitor.

Educating the country and those in the high-risk group about safety measures to prevent the spreading of AIDS is what is needed. Education of the gay community by the gay community

has lead to a significant drop in the incidence of venereal disease there, while in the heterosexual population the incidence of venereal disease is increasing.

Media's coverage bigoted

The big-business media has presented one-sided and fanatically anti-gay coverage of the AIDS epidemic. In spite of this conspiracy to make anyone opposed to this foaming-at-the-mouth campaign feel like a needle in a haystack, there is resistance. In Houston, for example, former mayor Louie Welch conducted a virulent anti-gay campaign against Mayor Kathy Whitmire, calling for the shooting of gays as a solution to the AIDS crisis. Mayor Whitmire won a landslide victory where voters' overwhelming concern was about the economy.

It is the duty of progressives and the working class to be firm and oppose the ruling class attacks on the gay community. The relevant issues in

fighting AIDS are: education, funding for treatment, research, cure, and social services. Not only are these demands aimed at fighting AIDS, but they link the fight against AIDS with the demands to meet the needs of all poor, oppressed and working people: jobs, housing, food, education and social services for all, not for the Pentagon and bigotry.

On The Picketline

Continued from page 7

Underbelly of capitalism. The official unemployment rate has stood at about seven percent for months now. But in fact, according to a new study titled "The Underbelly of the U.S. Economy: Joblessness and the Pauperization of Work in America," the actual jobless rate stands at 14.2%, with more than 15 million unemployed people, one in every five employed workers only having part-time jobs, and 5.8 million long-term unemployed not counted by the government. Nearly half of all workers survive in "the poverty zone." "The poverty zone" is defined as wages up to 30% above the official poverty rate; by taking into account variations in cost of living in different regions and cities, the poverty zone more accurately reflects the reality of life for most workers. The study, issued by the Council on International and Public Affairs, points out that the current average wages for workers in the two fastest growing sectors of the labor force—retail and health services—are at or below the poverty zone level of \$265 a week. As for unemployment benefits, only 25.8% of those seeking work get the government checks, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. In the state of Michigan, the unemployment capital, that figure is 17.4%, or only 72,500 out of the 416,000 people looking for work. That means that only one out of six unemployed in Michigan receive unemployment benefits! In 1980, the percentage was twice as high, but as jobless workers have exhausted their benefits, state and federal agencies have also reduced benefits and made it harder to qualify, so now, with the need greatest, the benefits are least available.

—Shelley Ettinger

A FEW FACTS ABOUT AIDS

Dr. Martha Rogers, from the federal Centers for Disease Control, "The evidence thus far indicates that transmission by casual contact will never occur."

—"What city workers need to know about AIDS," *Public Employee Press, District Council 37, AFSCME, Sept. 20, 1985*

"The important thing is to understand what we do know," explained Dr. Richard Rifkind, chairman of Sloan-Kettering Institute, the research arm of Memorial Hospital Sloan-Kettering, at a Health Department press conference Aug. 26, 1985. AIDS, he explained, "is very poorly transmitted except under special circumstances: the transfer of (body) fluids—blood, semen, feces, from the infected person directly into the body of another."

What about from a spoon, a tray, a facial tissue?

Rifkind answered, "The evidence so far is that the ability to transmit

requires the introduction of material directly into the body of a wound or into the bloodstream."

—*New York Post, Aug. 27, 1985*

"It's not spread through the air," said Dr. Dan Williams, a Manhattan internist who treats many people with AIDS. "It's not spread through casual touching. I do it five days a week in my office. I shake their hands, feel their abdomens, listen to their hearts, look in their throats and provide a variety of normal functions without fear. You can say I'm living my convictions."

—*Washington Post, July 11, 1983*

Bob Cecchi of Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), who is himself at risk for AIDS, said that GMHC workers "intimately care" for people with AIDS, "holding them, letting their tears fall on their clothing," he said. And none of them has ever contracted AIDS.

—*New York Post, Aug. 27, 1985*

"The AIDS virus is not communicated by food handlers. Even if a food handler bled into the salad, you wouldn't get AIDS," said Dr. Stephen Schultz, deputy commissioner of epidemiological services at the Health Department.

What's more, Schultz adds, if the virus got into your stomach, acidic gastric juices would probably kill it.

—*New York Magazine, Oct. 7, 1985*

"People with AIDS should be visited by their friends and relatives. There is no danger to anyone who visits or cares for a person who has AIDS. Hugging, caressing, holding, shaking hands or being in close contact . . . will not put one at risk."

—*Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby), nationally syndicated columnist, Aug. 12, 1985 (based on consultation with Dr. Michael Gottlieb, Rock Hudson's doctor and a UCLA immunologist.)*

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Newark, N.J., marches against apartheid. (See page 10.)

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