



Michael Stewart verdict ignites widespread anger

Cops acquitted after brutal murder of Black youth



Angry community members confront police and jury members after six racist cops who killed Michael Stewart were found "not guilty."

**5,000 in Spain
march for
abortion rights** —p. 9

**Popular pressure
wins parole for
Dennis Banks** —p. 12

Boston hotel workers vote 'strike!' —p. 10



By Neville Edwards

NEW YORK, Nov. 24—After a "prosecution" by the City of New York that was more like a defense of the six white cops charged in the death of Michael Stewart, a verdict of not guilty was brought in today. In the two years that have elapsed since Stewart's death, the case has gained nationwide notoriety as an example of extreme racial injustice.

Today's verdict was another example of the callous disregard of Governor Cuomo, Mayor Koch, the Police Department and the District Attorney's office for the sentiments of Black, Latin and other oppressed people in this city.

Though the acquittal of the six white transit police who murdered Michael Stewart, a young and promising Black artist, in the wee hours of Sept. 23, 1983, comes as no surprise to the Stewart family, friends, supporters and the oppressed community, it was nonetheless a painful fact to witness.

Today's acquittal brought an angry response from people inside and outside the courtroom. There were shouts of "Murderers" and "You have blood on your hands" to the police, who immediately went to a party to celebrate their exoneration.

The trial of the six transit cops, all white, was fraught with deceit and corruption emanating from the New York State government, the city government with Mayor Koch at the helm, and the District Attorney's office, which disposes of a budget the size of several state governments'.

The facts are very clear that Michael Stewart was beaten to death by the police. Here was a 23-year-old Black man who was arrested for allegedly writing on a subway wall. Such an offense is normally handled by issuing a simple summons.

Instead, according to the testimony of 24 witnesses, the police beat and kicked Stewart, put him in a choke hold, and then hogtied and dumped the badly injured young man into a police

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"Research AIDS, not Star Wars!" Recent protest in Washington, D.C. WW PHOTO: SUSAN LESSER

San Francisco curbs AIDS discrimination

By J. Marquardt
SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20—The toughest law in the country against discrimination towards people with AIDS went into effect here today. San Francisco is the third U.S. city, after Los Angeles and West Hollywood, to pass such a law.

All three cities' laws are similar, but the teeth in San Francisco's are bigger. The new law makes it illegal to discriminate against those with AIDS in medical services, employment, housing and business. The law also bans employers, landlords and anyone else from requiring medical tests for the HTLV-III virus.

But the penalty provisions allow people discriminated against because of AIDS to sue for up to three times their actual damages and attorney's fees. The minimum award would be \$1,000, in addition to legal fees.

Number of complaints on rise
Last year there were 19 recorded complaints of discrimination against people with AIDS in San Francisco, but that same number was received

during just the last three months of this year alone!

Spokeswoman for the Lesbian and Gay Liaison Unit of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, Eileen Gillis, stated recently, "What we saw was the firing of employees or the denial of housing or services—with impunity."

She added that some of the complaints come from heterosexual males and from women, but most from gay men.

More is needed
For the 1531 people with AIDS and estimated thousands with Aids-Related Complex (ARC) here in San Francisco today, this measure is welcome, but much more is needed on both the local and national levels. Funding for healthcare, disability payments, research and education remains inadequate. Without additional measures, people with AIDS and ARC cannot afford to stay in housing landlords are now prohibited from denying and cannot pay for healthcare doctors must provide.

Reagan's favorite charity

By Peter Goselin
HARTFORD, Conn., Nov. 24—Gary Trudeau, the cartoonist who draws the popular Doonesbury cartoon strip, recently did a cartoon in which Ronald Reagan, Jerry Falwell and company cut a record "to aid the needy security forces in South Africa," and titled it "Aparth-aid."

While the cartoon was intended as humor, an article in the November issue of the Hartford Advocate supports the old adage that "there is truth in every joke."

According to the Advocate, a multi-million dollar, right-wing "charity" exists for the expressed purpose of funneling money to worthy causes like political repression, murder and counterrevolutionary destruction.

Americares, a Connecticut-based "charity" with close ties to Reaganite rightists in the U.S. and fascists on several continents, claims to distribute "humanitarian aid" to the tune of \$48 million in 15 countries. Who are the needy recipients of this largess? Nicaraguan contras got \$3 million to fight the revolutionary Sandinista government. In Guatemala, Americares saw to it that \$3.4 million in aid was distributed "through the armed forces as part of its resettlement program of 'model villages' aimed at defeating leftist insurgencies."

The "model villages" program is based on the U.S. Army's genocidal "strategic hamlet" project developed during its war on the people of Viet Nam. In all, Americares has distribut-

ed \$18 million to right-wing and governmental forces in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras since 1982.

Aid to Afghan counter-revolution
But Americares' generosity to ultra-right gangsters and terrorists is not limited to Central America. Bob McCauley, the head of Americares, received a special commendation from Ronald Reagan for funding a medical airlift for the counterrevolutionaries of Afghanistan.

And Americares is more than happy to assist the CIA by providing aid to rightist forces in Lebanon, Zimbabwe and the Sudan. Most recently, McCauley announced a \$2 million "medical aid" program for the Philippines—no doubt designed to help prop up the shaky Marcos dictatorship.

Who is behind Americares? Its board of advisers includes such luminaries as Zbigniew Brzezinski, who served as national security adviser to Jimmy Carter; Heritage Foundation Director William Simon, who served in the Nixon administration as Treasury Secretary; Prescott Bush, the brother of the Vice President, and J. Peter Grace, an arch-racist corporate bigwig who pals around with the likes of convicted Nazi war criminal Otto Ambros.

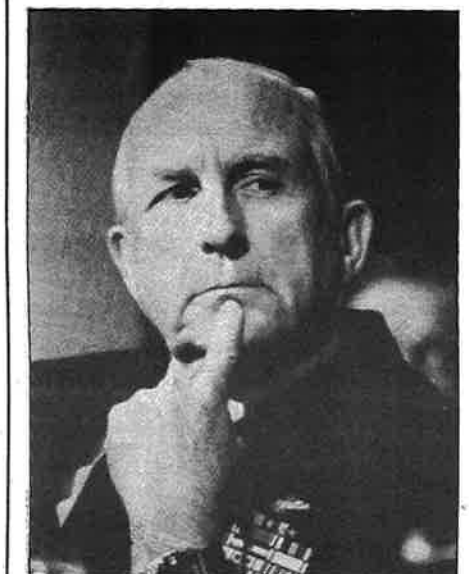
Contributors to Americares include an anti-Sandinista front group for Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church (\$350,000), Moon's newspaper the Washington Times (\$100,000), former U.S. UN representative Jeanne

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AIDS
A new progressive law made San Francisco the third U.S. city to forbid discrimination against people with AIDS in housing, employment and medical services. (Page 2.)

JOINT CHIEFS
The House has passed a bill raising the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff over the civilian secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, a step in line with the growing military domination of the U.S. economy. (Page 3.)



Time for a warlord?
NATIVE STRUGGLE
Native activist Dennis Banks was released on parole after a year of jail on frame-up charges of riot and assault, a positive note this Thanksgiving season, now recognized as a "National Day of Mourning" for Native people and a time to renew dedication to the struggle for sovereignty. (Page 12.)



Spanish abortion rights protest.

SPAIN
A Workers World correspondent in Barcelona, Spain, reports on a mass women's march aimed against the government and the rightwing, protesting the repressive law forbidding almost all abortions. (Page 9.)

HOTEL WORKERS
The 3,500-strong Local 26 hotel workers in Boston pledged to do "whatever it takes, for as long as it takes," as they authorized a strike to beat back the concession demands of the giant insurance companies and banks that own many of the nine unionized hotels in Boston. (Page 10.)

RACISM, USA
Racism and police brutality topped the national news as a New York City court acquitted six transit police involved in the killing of Michael Stewart, an apartheid-style park law passed in "white-only" Dearborn, Mich., and a Klan-type rally hit integrated housing in Philadelphia. These ugly events were combatted by organized action in each of the cities. (Page 1, centerfold.)

SOUTHERN AFRICA
The hot point in the growing revolutionary movement in South Africa was Mamelodi, where thousands defied the deadly bullets of the apartheid police. The 10th anniversary of the Revolution in nearby Angola was the focus of a forum in New York City. (Page 4.)



Angolan militiaman.

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Summit brings no halt to Reagan's Star Wars

And no slowdown to U.S. wars against Angola, Nicaragua

By Andy Stapp

NOVEMBER 24—While it is still too early to make any really definitive evaluation of the results of the Geneva summit, two points are fairly obvious. Washington has not pulled back one inch from either its pell mell rush to launch the Star Wars system or from its crusade to subvert and destroy anti-imperialist regimes in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Less than 48 hours after the Geneva meeting had ended, Reagan announced that he will be instructing the CIA to fund the pro-South Africa UNITA forces against Angola "because we all believe that a covert operation" would "have more chance of success right now."

And the dirty war against Nicaragua is being escalated as well with the arrival of U.S. helicopters for the contras. Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams spelled out exactly what all this means when he told a Philadelphia meeting of Reagan supporters yesterday that, "Our aid is to permit people who are fighting on our side to use more violence."

Trying to bully the Soviet Union into cutting off aid to Angola and Nicaragua was obviously a top priority for Reagan in Geneva. It's all part of his fantastic desire to run the film of history backward, back to the days when Angola was a NATO-Portuguese colony, Ethiopia and Afghanistan were ruled by right-wing monarchs, Southeast Asia was occupied by half-a-million U.S. troops and Nicaragua's neck was firmly under the Somoza boot.

This is what Reagan really means when he speaks of human rights.

Reagan obeys Pentagon

The apparent outcome of the Geneva summit on arms control can be seen in the remarks of Lieut. Gen. James Ab-

rahamson, who said, right in the middle of the talks, that he expected he would soon receive instructions to march forward "much more quickly" on the Star Wars project.

"The question," says the general, "is no longer can we do such a thing, but when, how fast and at what cost." Abrahamson is currently very excited about what he calls "the potential of electro-magnetic rail guns." Defense Secretary Weinberger is full of that can-do spirit too, even congratulating Reagan in public for blocking any arms agreement with the USSR.

After both these gentlemen had their say, the President himself finally spoke on the subject. "Mr. Gorbachev

insisted that we might use a strategic defense system to establish nuclear superiority," Reagan told Congress, as if such a thought was the farthest thing from his mind.

At his own news conference held in Geneva at the summit's conclusion, Mikhail Gorbachev repeated this assertion, saying, "One could even quote President Johnson, way back, who said that whoever manages to gain power in space will rule the earth. And they're just itching to get their hands into it. They're just itching to get this world domination and look down on the world from on high."

He added that he told Reagan "to bear in mind that we are not simple-

tons" and that if necessary the USSR would counter Star Wars with measures which "will be effective, though less expensive."

Closer to earth, the Soviet leader noted the debt crisis of Mexico, Brazil and other countries in hock to the imperialist banks.

"You can imagine what effect that's having on their societies," he said. "And the situation is going to get worse. There is going to be an explosion."

Even as Gorbachev spoke, 500,000 were rallying against the fascist regime in Chile, the country with the world's largest per capita debt to the international banks.

Democrats okay Reagan-style tax plan

Unemployment benefits to be taxed

By Bill Del Vecchio

NOVEMBER 25—Last summer Reagan proposed a tax plan that he called a "Second American Revolution." Wrapped in layers and layers of rhetoric and decorated with a few ornamental concessions, Reagan's tax package was a time bomb aimed at destroying the few gains poor and working people have won.

But fear not! The Democrats, that fearless opposition party, that "friend of working people," has come up with its own plan that has just passed the influential House Ways and Means Committee.

In this tax plan, just as in the many votes on the military budget, social service cutbacks, aid to contra terrorists and the undermining of Social Security, the Democrats have taken the Reaganites' outrageous, provocative

proposals and modified them enough to make them workable.

After all, the Pentagon can't have everything they want, the Democrats argue, so let's just give them the vast majority of what they want. It's a scandal the administration was giving murdering, raping mercenaries a blank check to rampage through the Nicaraguan countryside, so let's just give them \$27 million, the Democrats say. And so on, and so on.

The Democratic counter-attack on taxes is more of the same. They sorted through Reagan's plan, dropped many of the elements that stepped on too many people's toes, but kept the most important, anti-working class ingredients.

Reagan's original plan was a wholesale assault on working people, particularly union members and states where unions are strong and a high level of social services is provided. But the Democrats, fearing the opposition that would be aroused, dropped Reagan's plans to eliminate deductions for state and local taxes and taxing health and other benefits as income.

Tax on unemployment benefits

But before you go cheering those courageous Reagan-slayers, hold on. One important group of workers was intentionally forgotten in the Democrats' "counter-attack."

Taxing workers' health benefits hurts the mega-buck insurance companies. Not letting taxpayers deduct state and local taxes would wreak havoc in many state and local govern-

ments. But Reagan's call for taxing unemployment benefits only hurts the unemployed, the Democrats figured, so they said, "Why not?"

So, the "friend of working people," the Democratic Party, has stabbed the unemployed in the back, precisely because they are poor and downtrodden and unable at the present to fight back in an organized way.

It wasn't concern for working people's welfare that guided the House Democrats, but rather political expediency in achieving Reagan's basic goals. As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Democrat Dan Rostenkowski, said of his tax plan, "I think Mr. Baker is somewhat pleased with the document." Rostenkowski was referring to Reagan's Treasury Secretary and chief hatchet man, James Baker, who is Rostenkowski's close personal friend.

The Reaganites are pleased because the Democratic plan includes their undoing of the graduated income tax. When working people were first forced to pay federal income tax, the tax rates were steeply graduated so that the richest people were supposed to be taxed at 91% of their income. This was steadily whittled away. By 1969 the highest tax bracket paid 77%, and when Reagan came into office it was 70%, which he quickly lowered to 50%.

Some compromise!

Reagan's plan called for letting the rich get away with only paying 35%, and the Democrats agreed to 38% in-

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House votes more power to Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman

By Bruce Bradshaw

NOVEMBER 22—The U.S. House of Representatives voted by a large margin yesterday to enhance the power of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), the highest ranking uniformed military officer in the Pentagon's command structure.

Rep. Ronald Dellums (D-Calif.) cast one of the few dissenting votes against this measure, after making an impassioned speech warning that this step would further erode what is left of civilian control over the military. Mr. Dellums is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus.

This bill, which passed 383 to 27, marks the most extensive revision in the organization of the Joint Chiefs in over a quarter of a century, reordering the present chain of command by raising the JCS Chairman above the heads of the civilian secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force to the number-three position, just below the President and the Secretary of Defense.

The JCS structure, which institutionalized the wartime power of the military brass, was created by the National Security Act of 1947. By the same act, the National Military Establishment (NME) became the Department of Defense, headed by a member of the Presidential Cabinet. The idea, as it was explained at the time, was to avoid the emergence of the sort of military supreme commander or General Staff Chief who had wielded so much power in the European armies with such dire results to world peace.

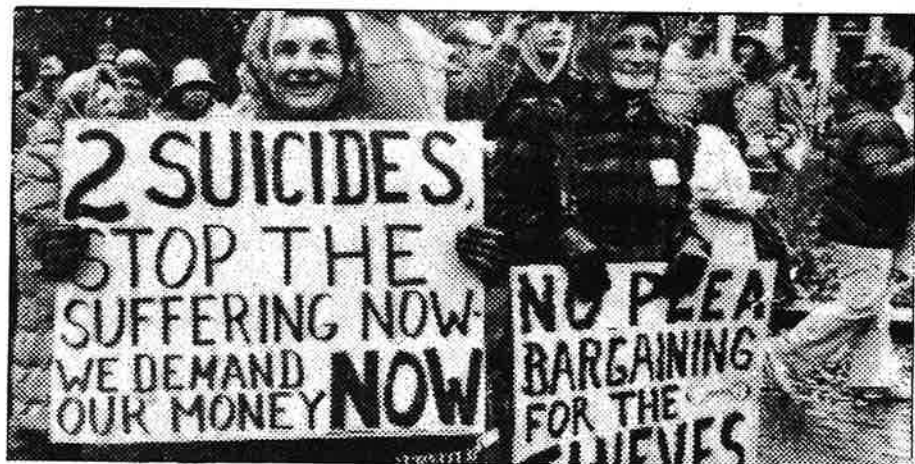
It was not long, however, before the

military began to reach out for more authority, and by 1949 the National Security Act had been amended to create a Chairman for the Joint Chiefs, whose four-star rank would give him great authority in the councils of government. Yesterday's House action would further this process, elevating the Chairman to the virtual role of National Warlord, with a four-star officer under him!

Military domination of economy

This whole trend is entirely in line with the increasing monopolization of the U.S. economy by a handful of giant armament contractors and the ever-more dominant position of the Pentagon in U.S. politics, as the civilian branches of government delegate more and more power to the generals and admirals. It is significant that the House of Representatives, which is supposed to be the most democratic wing of Congress, passed this legislation, especially right in the middle of the summit conference when U.S. imperialism is affecting a peaceful demeanor!

Reagan himself is not rushing to embrace this new plan immediately, but is asking the Senate to defer action until his Commission on Defense Management makes its final recommendations next June. This commission is headed by billionaire David Packard, a director of two monopolistic defense contractors, Standard Oil of California and Caterpillar Tractor. He is also the chairman of Hewlett-Packard, a leading manufacturer of the type of electronic warfare equipment being readied for the Star Wars project.



Maryland S&L depositors want their money. On Nov. 16, some 1,600 people rallied at the State House in Annapolis, Md., to demand that Gov. Harry Hughes release for withdrawal the more than 100,000 depositor accounts in Maryland Savings and Loan institutions that he froze six months ago.

At that time, news reports of risky loans and shady dealings in a number of the largest "thrift" institutions led to a mass run, threatening the collapse of this portion of the banking system. Instead of guaranteeing the savings of the many small depositors, as the federal government did to the big depositors at Continental Illinois when that bank flopped, Hughes shut down 102 S&L associations. Now depositors are demanding he use the \$150 million in the Maryland Deposit Insurance Fund to distribute funds to those with savings in the institutions he closed.

Angola: 10 years of struggle

By G. Dunkel

NOVEMBER 24—The day after President Reagan returned from the Geneva conference, where peace and disarmament were on the agenda, he openly announced that the U.S. will increase its "covert" aid to South Africa's war against Angola.

This is another example of Reagan's warmongering, which he tries to disguise by preaching peace, and the U.S.'s imperialist and racist role in southern Africa, according to Monica Moorehead, a contributing editor of Workers World and member of the National Committee of Workers World Party, who spoke to a New York audience tonight.

The day Angola won its independence, Nov. 11, 1975, South African troops were 500 miles inside the country, racing towards Luanda, its capital. The Angolan Peoples Army (FAPLA), with the help of their staunch ally Cuba, were able to defeat South Africa then, but ever since South Africa has waged an undeclared but real war against Angola. And the U.S. has consistently given political, and if necessary, material support to this war of South Africa's.

There have been numerous invasions and sustained occupations by the regular South African army. South Africa set up irregular units, called Unita, under the command of a notorious Angolan traitor Jonas Savimbi, which conduct sabotage and terrorism throughout Angola.

There have been large-scale bombing attacks by the South African air force, both in support of the South African armies in Angola and against "strategic" targets like Angolan hospitals, schools, factories, dams and refugee centers.

With the development of an air force capable of challenging South Africa's control of the air and an army that has the heavy equipment not only to resist



On Jan. 17, 1976, when South Africa was still driving on Luanda, 1,000 people marched through the streets of New York City chanting, "Victory to MPLA!" The protest was initiated by Workers World Party. At far left, Monica Moorehead.

South Africa's armies but to defeat them, with ten years of socialist development and aid from its socialist allies Cuba and the Soviet Union, Angola is poised to give South Africa a defeat that will challenge imperialist control over southern Africa.

Significance of the Angolan Revolution

Tonight's Workers World meeting, where Monica Moorehead spoke, was held to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Angolan independence. Moorehead assessed the significance of the Angolan Revolution and its relationship to the struggle against U.S. imperialism and apartheid in southern Africa and here in the United States.

She traced the development of the Popular Movement for the Liberation

of Angola (MPLA) from a small group of cadres to a mass resistance movement waging a people's war against Portuguese colonialism, which was heavily supported by its NATO allies. The first task of the MPLA was to struggle for class consciousness among the Angolan workers and peasants, who had been brutally oppressed by racist Portuguese colonialism for five centuries.

The "cries and demands of the people of Angola, and Mozambique, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau" met with support and solidarity around the world, and especially in Portugal, where the workers and peasants were struggling against a 40-year-old fascist dictatorship. The MPLA under the leadership of Augustino Neto fully solidarized itself with the struggles of the Portuguese people against their common oppressor.

The overthrow of the fascist Portu-

guese regime was a key element in Angola winning its independence, just as the struggle in Angola was a key element in weakening the Portuguese regime.

Right after Angola's independence, when South Africa was still driving on Luanda, Workers World Party held a major demonstration of over 1,000 people in New York City in January 1976.

This demonstration had a clear political position: the MPLA was leading a revolutionary struggle and the duty of progressives and workers in the U.S. was to support it. Just like a decade ago, the best help for the struggle against imperialism and apartheid in southern Africa, Comrade Moorehead asserted, is to struggle against, and defeat, U.S. imperialism here in its homebase.

Carmen Roundtree chaired the meeting.

Students seize ruling party's office in s. Korea, hit U.S. rule



South Korean secret police drag chanting protester from U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

By Bruce Bradshaw

NOVEMBER 23—South Korean dictator General Chon Du Hwan received another setback in his campaign to tame the country's anti-fascist youth movement on Nov. 14 when university students seized the headquarters of the general's Democratic Justice Party for six hours, hung placards in the windows attacking the U.S. government as the puppet master of the torture regime and then set the building ablaze with gallons of kerosene when the police charged in to arrest them.

The subsequent imprisonment of 191 of these protestors led to a further massive demonstration in the streets

of the southern capital city of Seoul yesterday, where students and cops hurled teargas and rocks at each other. During this action, 20 more youth were taken into custody, yelling popular chants for the fall of the government and the ouster of U.S. troops and capitalists from their country as they were dragged bleeding into waiting police vans.

Earlier this year, south Korean students occupied the U.S. Information Service office and the headquarters of the American Chamber of Commerce in Seoul. Both actions were met with the sort of hammer-like police and judicial blows that Koreans have come to expect from a regime that had previously killed thousands of unarmed civilians just for demanding a democratic government.

Repression can't stop struggle

As a recent dispatch from the British news agency Reuters notes, however, "The crack-down on dissent in South Korea is failing to dent the determination of students dedicated to the removal of President Chon Du Hwan's government. 'The strong-arm tactics do not appear to be paying off. If anything the student demonstrations are getting more violent,' one Western diplomat said."

On Nov. 5, the south Korean government itself admitted in a report to the National Assembly, the regime's nominal parliament, that 75,000 students had demonstrated against General Chon and the U.S. on 350 occasions during the months of September and October alone.



WW PHOTO: KEN OXTOBY

Irish solidarity

By Ken Oxtoby

DUBLIN, Nov. 9—Workers represented by the Irish Distributive Administrative Trade Union have been on strike against the Dunnes department store for 17 months, refusing to handle South African goods. According to Karen Gearon, one of the Dunnes store strikers, the workers are remaining firm in their determination to hold out until Dunnes stops handling South African goods. In the picket here today, the strikers were supported by members of the Irish Actors Union.

'Botha fears darkness tonight'

Mamelodi township defies racist bullets

By Zenzile

NOVEMBER 25—A few months ago, Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC) stood before the council of war that was called to chart the course to victory. In an opening statement to this gathering, which represents all sections of the South African struggle, he declared, "The darkness that has shrouded our country for so long is now lit by flames that are consuming the accumulated refuse of centuries of colonialism and racism. Botha fears darkness tonight; all his fearful eyes can see is a desolate road that ends in an abyss."

For the heroic democratic revolutionary masses of South Africa, these words sum up their resolve to liberate themselves and also the fate of the corrupt, fascist regime of Botha.

Once again, just this past week, in open defiance of the regime's emergency decrees, the flames of rebellion leapt high into the oppressive apartheid skies. On Thursday in Cape Town, hundreds of people turned out for a funeral to pay respects to yet another fallen fighter who was murdered by the police during recent battles. The funeral demonstration was led by Allen Boesak, a leader of the United Democratic Front (UDF), and the general mood was one of open defiance and a resolve to continue the struggle whatever the costs.

There was also a spontaneous outburst on the streets at about 7 p.m. This coincided with the regime's propaganda news hour.

The struggle can be momentarily suppressed by the armed might of the apartheid state in one area, but is bound to burst out in another because the whole of the country is irreversibly engulfed in a war to overthrow the apartheid state and destroy the root cause of the people's suffering.

Mass protest in Mamelodi

On Nov. 22, more than 50,000 people gathered to protest at a puppet administration council in Mamelodi, a Black township in Pretoria.

Mamelodi is one of the areas which is occupied by troops, where rents have just been raised, funerals are banned and conditions of life are totally inhuman. This is also an area where police have recently viciously attacked popular uprisings. The death toll in this part of the country has been one of the highest in the nation, and the people have sustained heavy casualties.

This is the reason why many of the elderly people of this township gathered at the administration council to demand troops out of the townships, an end to the high rents which the regime has forced on the people and an end to the ban on weekend funerals.

The response to these legitimate demands of the Mamelodi residents was brutal. The bloodthirsty apartheid police, who under the fascist decree have been given the green light to kill at random, responded to this peaceful protest of mainly elderly women by firing teargas without warning. They then proceeded to fire indiscriminately into the demonstration, killing more than 16 people on the spot. Who knows how many were wounded.

The blood of the Mamelodi residents was not shed in vain, neither has the blood of any other martyr been shed in vain. These bloodthirsty, murderous acts of Botha and his thugs will surely be avenged. They must pay the full price which the oppressed and exploited masses have been paying almost daily.

Mandela returned to Pollsmoor

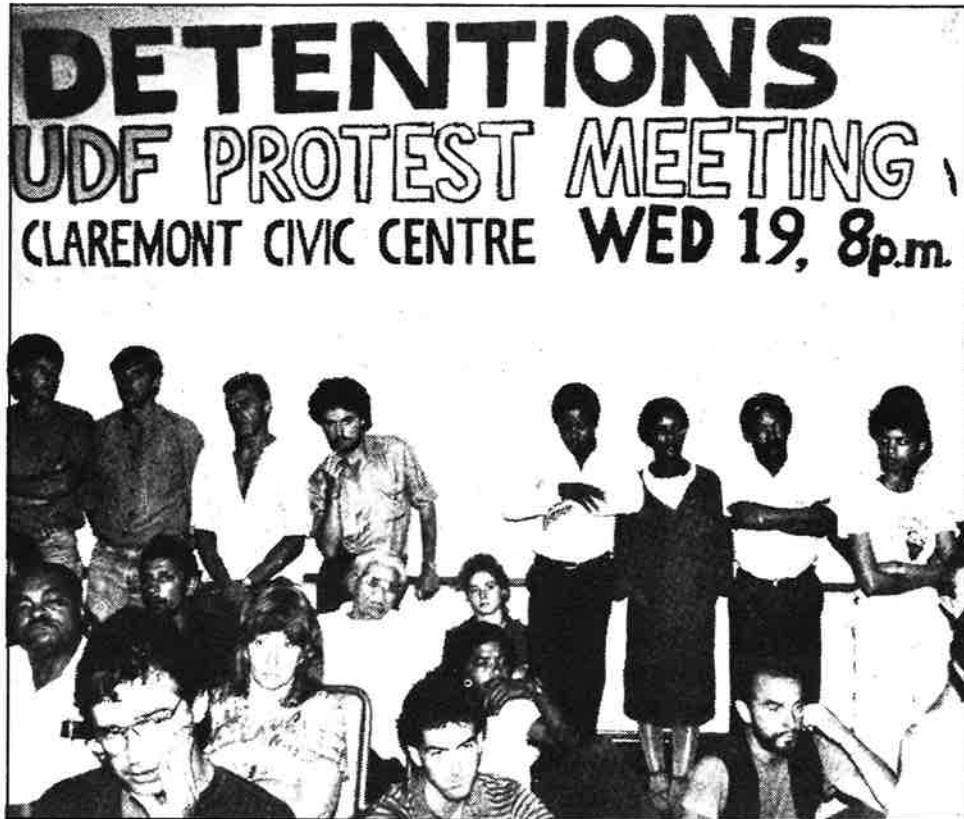
While the regime continues with its fascist program of murder and repression, there has been some speculation

that the release of South Africa's most prominent political prisoner, Nelson Mandela, is imminent. Mandela had spent some time in the hospital to deal with a medical problem.

According to the Nov. 24 New York Times, Botha is under pressure from foreign bankers that the release of Mandela be a condition for the rescheduling of South Africa's \$24 billion debt. However, it must be pointed out that it is the pressure of the struggle of the people of South Africa, who have always demanded the unconditional release of Mandela and all other political prisoners, which has motivated these imperialist robbers. They are in a state of indecision about whether it will enrage the masses more to hold Mandela or galvanize the people with his release. For these racists, it's a no-win situation.

The regime continues to defy the people's will by placing conditions on Mandela's release. Mandela has previously refused to be released on condition that he renounce the legitimate violence of the oppressed. Mandela has also stated that he will not leave prison unless his comrades Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki are released and he will not be forced into exile or be restricted to the Transkei, one of South Africa's bantustans.

This was supported by ANC General Secretary Alfred Nzo, who said, "We agree with him fully when he says he will not come out of the country."



Recent UDF meeting in Cape Town.

It is the people who by their own actions, by their dedication to the struggle to overthrow the regime and seize power from the racists, will force open the doors of the jails and break down the walls of Pollsmoor, Robben Island, Kei Road cells, Caledon Square, John Vorster Square and all

the other penitentiaries and detention/torture chambers.

It is the people under the leadership of the ANC and the United Democratic Front and Umkhonto we Sizwe, the people's army, who will free all the prisoners and who will liberate South Africa.

Another form of apartheid Palestinians under Israeli rule, part 1

By Joyce Chediac

NOVEMBER 26—In May, a 16-year-old standing trial was given the choice of a stiff fine or a jail term for throwing stones at soldiers ten years ago, when the youth was only six!

Where did this take place? Most would say "In South Africa." But the fine the young man's family has to pay was \$300,000 shekels, not rands. The youth's name was Mohammed Idris Badawi. He is a Palestinian Arab. The court was Israeli. The place was the Israel-occupied West Bank.

November 29 is the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, a day declared by the United Nations. Yet, no national liberation struggle has been so vilified by Washington and the daily media. In truth, the Palestinians, like their Black counterparts in Soweto or Durban, battle a form of apartheid. They have every right to fight back, and there is every reason to support their just struggle.

Land theft

South Africa and Israel are both settler states where a group of European colonialists stole the land from the indigenous people at gunpoint. Said Fred Dube, spokesperson for the African National Congress (ANC), "What the Zionists did to the Arabs in Palestine was exactly the same thing that the whites did to us."

In 1948, armed with weapons provided by the imperialists, especially the U.S. and Britain, Zionist settlers kicked three-quarters of the unarmed Palestinians out of their country and set up Israel on Palestinian land. (Unlike South Africa, Israel was populated with other victims of racist genocide, Jewish survivors of the Holocaust, who were used by the Western powers as cannon fodder against the Arab people.)

Land confiscation by the Israeli state continues to this day. For exam-

ple, the Palestinian village of Umm el Fahem, the largest in the Israeli Triangle area, has had nine-tenths of its land stolen since 1948 while the population has grown fourfold.

According to Hassan Jabrin, a spokesperson for the Abna el Balad Movement, and a resident of Umm el Fahem, Tel Aviv will not grant this town permission to build a school. Rented classrooms are currently distributed throughout the whole village, in quarters very similar to those of Soweto, where there is no electricity, no water, no yard for the children to play.

Many here have seen on TV the footage of Black South Africans in Crossroads sitting in to prevent Pretoria from demolishing their homes because their land has been arbitrarily declared "for whites only." In the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, 1,356 Palestinian homes were blown up by the Israeli military between 1967 and 1982, according to a UN publication.

In South Africa, Black people are only allowed to live on, farm or purchase land in 13.7% of their own country. Israel Shahak, chairman of the Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights and a survivor of the Bergen Belsen concentration camp, recently pointed out that 52% of the West Bank and 40% of Gaza have been confiscated by the Israeli government. Shahak said, "Palestinians can't buy it, rent it, open a business—half of the land is Soweto and half of the land is Johannesburg."

Pass system

A long-time focus of the struggle in South Africa is the hated pass system, which applies only to Black people. Until 1966, a military permit was required if a Palestinian in Israel wanted to leave his place of residence, return to his original village or go to his place

of work. While Jewish people have full freedom of movement, Palestinians are still required to carry papers.

Super exploited as workers

In South Africa all work of value is done by Black people who are viciously exploited. In Israel, Palestinians form the backbone of the underpaid, unskilled workforce, toiling as hired day laborers, seasonal agricultural workers, in light industry, construction and in the service industries.

As the jobless rate is 30-40%, half of the male workforce on the West Bank must seek work in Jerusalem. But, much as trade unions suffer government repression in South Africa, so too Palestinians from the West Bank who work in Israel have no union protection and get none of the benefits Israelis enjoy, like paid vacation and sick leave, health insurance or classification according to job description.

Like their South African counterparts, many Palestinians from the Occupied Territories are denied papers to work where they need to—in Israel—and must work there as fugitives. It is always illegal for Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza to spend the night in Israel. The trip back home, however, is long, and a 12-hour work day is not unusual. To keep these jobs, many Palestinians sleep during the work week in the gutters, kitchens, warehouses and chicken houses of Israel's major cities and farming areas.

Sometimes they are even locked in at night. Israel Shahak relates one instance where Palestinians perished in a fire because the door to the area where they were asleep was locked from the outside.

Next, repression, the U.S.-Israeli-South Africa connection, struggling youth, the bond between the African National Congress and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Black community fights racism in Dearborn

By Kris Hamel

DETROIT, Nov. 23—A new struggle has erupted in Detroit in the ongoing fight against racism. Leaders in the Black community have called for a boycott of stores and businesses in Dearborn, a predominately white suburb which recently passed an ordinance barring non-residents from using its parks. The residents-only ordinance is seen as a clearly racist move designed to keep Black people out of Dearborn altogether (only 60 Black people live in this city of 90,000).

The Greater Detroit Baptist Pastors Council, the NAACP, the American Civil Liberties Union, the 1st Congressional Democratic District and prominent civic and business leaders in Detroit announced the boycott on Tuesday, along with possible park demonstrations and legal action against the city of Dearborn.

"We're moving along with the boycott," said Arthur Featherstone, an aide to U.S. Congressman John Conyers. "This ordinance is a slap in the face of every Black person, and we're dead serious. We plan to continue this boycott until this ordinance is rescinded."

Joe Madison, national voting education director for the NAACP, said the park ordinance reminds him of apartheid in South Africa, where Black people must have passes to enter certain areas. "We've got our own little South Africa right here in southeast Michigan," he said.

Boycott growing

Support for the Dearborn store boycott is growing among both Blacks and whites. Dearborn is the site of the Fairlane Town Center, a huge shopping mall with a 40% Black clientele. Many of the department stores that have shut down in Detroit, like J.L. Hudson's, have moved to Dearborn's Fairlane mall. The boycott is expected to have noticeable impact during the holiday shopping season.

Dearborn, the world headquarters of Ford Motor Company, was originally set up by Henry Ford as a "whites only" community for the workers at the Ford Rouge Complex, once the largest automobile factory in the world. Ford set aside Inkster, west of Dearborn, for the Black workers and their families. For the Black community of Detroit, Dearborn has long been synonymous with racism.

The boycott is supported by UAW Local 600, representing the Ford Rouge workers and the largest UAW

local in the country. A mass rally against racism is being organized this week at the Little Rock Baptist Church, one of the 400 churches calling for the Dearborn boycott.

Dearborn is also the home of the largest Arab population in the U.S. The newly elected mayor, Mike Guido, ran his campaign on an openly racist, anti-Arab platform. The Arab community too is gearing up to fight the city of Dearborn and its racist attacks.

—Michael Stewart

Continued from page 1

van. Nurses at Bellevue Hospital reported that when Stewart arrived, he was comatose and battered all over. His neck was severely injured, and he never regained consciousness.

As with the cases of Eleanor Bumpurs, 67-year-old grandmother, and Edmund Perry, a Black high school honor student, both brutally murdered by New York City cops, the case of Michael Stewart demonstrated the power of the City authorities to defend the actions of the police at any cost.

The City manipulated the entire prosecution so that the case was adjourned until after the reelection of the District Attorney and the Mayor. This then cleared the way for Morgenthau, the New York City District Attorney, to continue his campaign to retain his office without any mention of the Stewart case.

The city government put its whole weight behind sabotaging the prosecution. No Black people were allowed on the jury. The jury did not reflect the fact that Black, Latin, and other oppressed people constitute almost 50% of the city population. In fact, the jury selection was a reflection of Mayor Koch's racist policies.

The Stewart family and their lawyer, Louis Clayton Jones, had no say whatsoever in the legal proceeding. It was the District Attorney—who works hand in hand with the police—who prosecuted the cops. He has the funds and political power to influence the entire trial. In the end it was demonstrated that police crime against the oppressed and poor is a fundamental part of the capitalist government's law, and that Bruce Wright, a Black New York City Judge, was entirely correct when he said that the principal cities in the U.S. are, in effect, "police cities."

Assistant District Attorney John Fried, the chief prosecutor, said: "We got the opportunity to take our case in front of the people before a fair jury and a fair judge." What he was really admitting was that there were no Black people on the jury, the judge was white and the prosecutor was also white. Only the victim was Black!



Supporters of Stewart's family react angrily to verdict freeing cops.



Eleanor Bumpurs (above) and Michael Stewart were both murdered by cops for trivial offenses.

His "crime" was graffiti, hers, inability to make rent.

GRAPHIC: BOHEMIA

The trial lasted almost six months, the jury deliberated for seven days and over 10,000 pages of testimony were prepared. This was meant to prove that a fair and lengthy deliberation took place. But the trial was a farce. The City knew from day one that the killer cops would go free.

William McKechnie, president of the Transit Patrolmen's Benevolent Association stated at a press conference that the police union spent over \$300,000 to defend the six cops, three of whom actually beat Stewart to death, while the others helped cover up the murder. In reality the PBA and the entire city and state government spent millions of dollars protecting the police.

Now, in an obvious attempt to defuse the widespread anger and frustration over the outcome of the case, Mayor Koch says he will decide "in about a week" whether to bring "possible disciplinary charges" against the six cops, with no criminal penalties of course. The results of this will be nothing, just like the toothless probes of Dr. Elliot Gross, the New York Medical examiner, who has already been investigated twice for wrong-doing stemming from reports to the press by his co-workers that Gross engineered cover-ups of evidence concerning people who died while in police custody.

The medical examiner twice changed his autopsy report on the cause of death in the Stewart case, from cardiac arrest to bronchial pneumonia, and finally to spinal cord injury brought on by a blow to the neck.

The oppressed community will not allow this case to be decided by the Manhattan Supreme Court. It is the duty of other oppressed people and the progressive community to support the struggle of Black people in the fight against police brutality. The six killer cops, John Kostic, Anthony Piscola, Henry Boener, Henry Hassler, James Barry and Susan Techsky, must be brought to justice. Only in the streets can the real battle for freedom and justice be fought and won.

Long live the struggle for justice for Michael Stewart!

—Reagan's charity

Continued from page 2

Kirkpatrick (\$20,000) and the so-called Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), which provides 10% of Americares' funds as well as sponsoring several other right-wing "aid" programs.

Add to all of this the fact that all of Americares' donations are distributed by a secretive ruling class religious clique called the Knights of Malta, a shady group whose members hold high rank in corporate, government, military and right-wing circles throughout the capitalist world.

But there is a bright side to this tainted web of reactionary political intrigue disguised as "charity." In spite of the military and economic might of U.S. imperialism and its allies and stooges, the peoples of the world are winning the struggle against oppression and exploitation. And it is precisely this fact that makes it necessary for these millionaires and billionaires to shell out their hard-stolen loot to groups like Americares.

Country Club racism

By Kevin Carey

DETROIT, Nov. 24—In a city that is 65% Black, where the Mayor and most of the City Council is Black, there is still a private, luxurious, "white only" private club, the Detroit Golf Club.

This case of brazen racism came out in the news when Detroit Mayor Coleman Young was nominated for membership to the club. It has rejected the applications of Black people many times before, according to Jay Berman, Mayor Young's press secretary.

There are many other country clubs in the suburbs around Detroit that exclude Black people. Only five of the 15 such clubs have any Black members.

Pressure continues to build to organize and fight this totally arrogant racist discrimination by the wealthy white establishment.

Klan-style mobs threaten Black Phila. families

By Berta Joubert

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 24—Once again, Philadelphia, the "City of brotherly love," has been wracked by racist violence. On Wednesday and Thursday nights, mobs of white residents demonstrated in front of the homes of two families, one Black and one interracial, demanding that they leave the Southwest neighborhood where both couples had purchased homes.

Chanting, "We want them out, we want them out," about 400 racists

demonstrated outside the home of Charles Williams and Marietta Bloxom on Wednesday. The demonstration occurred in the context of earlier violence directed at the couple. BB pellets have been fired into the couple's upstairs windows, while empty bottles broke downstairs windows.

Williams said he thought he was moving into a mixed neighborhood. "Personally, I am not scared, but I have a family and I have to look after them." He said his 7-year-old daughter is staying with relatives.

The following night, about 200 racists demonstrated outside the home of Gerald and Carol Fox. Their experience has been, if possible, even more traumatic. Before completely moving in, their house was broken into, a firebomb thrown into their basement, furniture smashed and holes punched into both the hot water heater and an oil pipe. Consequently, they are without heat or hot water.

Carol Fox, a native of England, commented, "I knew it might be bad, but I never believed it could be this bad."

On Friday, Mayor Wilson Goode declared a state of emergency and all gatherings and demonstrations in the area were prohibited. While the Mayor reaffirmed the right of "anyone to live anywhere," many saw the Mayor's action directed as much against the growing anger in the Black community as against the racist mobs.

PUSH demonstration stopped

The Philadelphia branch of Operation PUSH had called for a motorcade and rally in support of the beleaguered families. The demonstration was postponed when James White, the city's newly appointed managing director, at a meeting at PUSH offices Satur-

day, threatened the organizers with arrest if the demonstration proceeded as planned. He further added that PUSH "will be responsible for any violence that may occur."

Meanwhile, PUSH is pursuing in federal court a restraining order to overturn the city's ban as an undue restriction on the constitutional right of the people to peaceably assemble.

PUSH organizers and other community activists, including members of the All-Peoples Congress, are monitoring the situation. It is likely that a future meeting will be called to plan further activities in support of the besieged families.

Throughout all this, charges of block-busting and pandering to racism by the real estate firms have been raised. In the past, banks and the real estate industry have used both block-busting and red lining to enforce segregated housing conditions. These conditions have allowed them to exploit latent racist sentiment and to give an opening to organizing by arch-racists in the neighborhood.

A priority for anti-racists must be the defense of the two families who are under racist attack and the reaffirmation of the right of oppressed people to live any place they choose.



Some 13.1 million children are now shackled to poverty.

Children and poverty

By Merrill Charles

HARTFORD—Ronald Reagan is for children and the family. He looks to youth to build a bright future for the U.S. At least that is what he has claimed in speeches across the country over the last six years. A host of recent studies and reports from a variety of organizations paint a rather different picture.

These sources indicate that 1985 is a disastrous year to be a child in the U.S. According to a report issued by the Ford Foundation entitled **Women, Children and Poverty in America**, children now constitute 40% of the nation's poor. This amounts to 13.1 million children shackled to poverty, an increase of 3.1 million since 1979.

The Ford Foundation report supplements a 1984 study by the Congressional Research Service which found that federal budget cuts in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program along with cuts in several related social programs during 1981 and 1982 pushed 560,000 people below the poverty line. Of these, more than half were children.

Additionally, U.S. Census Bureau data show that 900,000 people were forced into poverty in 1983, bringing the total number of people in the U.S. that are officially living in poverty to a startling 35.3 million. This figure,

which probably misses several million individuals who for one reason or another are not counted in the official statistics, is 10 million higher than 1978. Nearly 40% of the increase is made up of children under the age of six.

For Black children living in single-parent families headed by women under the age of 25, the poverty rate is 85.2%, according to the Children's Defense Fund. Black children in the U.S. are three times as likely as white children to be poor. Currently, 50% of Black children, 40% of Latin children, and 20% of white children are living in poverty, the Fund reports.

The extent of the poverty suffered by millions of children from California to New York is revealed in a study conducted by the Boston-based Physician Task Force on Hunger in America. The study showed that up to 20 million people in the U.S. may be hungry at some period of time each month. The Task Force indicates that children and seniors are among the most vulnerable to malnutrition and associated ill-health.

The cause of the rising rate of poverty and malnutrition among children is easy to pinpoint. A 1983 Congressional Budget Office study shows that social programs targeted at low income persons were cut by \$57 billion by the Reagan Administration between fiscal 1982 and 1985. Programs geared to helping low income families have borne almost 30% of the cost of Reagan's effort to stuff massive funds into the bloated military budget.

Apparently, Reagan's real attitude toward children is "let them eat school prayer and cruise missiles."



Holyoke demonstration protests discrimination against Medicaid recipients.

Reagan declares war on Medicaid

By Lee Paterson
and Hollee Bledsoe

HOLYOKE, Mass., Nov. 21—"Hey-hey, ho-ho, discrimination has got to go" was the message as militant welfare rights activists demonstrated outside Holyoke Hospital Medical Center today, one of many health care providers in the Western Massachusetts area involved in openly discriminating against Medicaid recipients.

Demonstrators explained that there have been numerous cases in which patients have had their appointments revoked when doctors learned that the patient was a Medicaid recipient.

The night before the demonstration, the 11-year-old son of a Medicaid recipient died from a high-grade fever, because doctors at the Wesson Memorial division of Springfield's Baystate Medical Center refused treatment and instead gave the child aspirin. Demonstrators complained that the bourgeois press did not bother to report the incident.

Marchers carried signs that read "People before profits" and "Health care, not Star Wars" to underline the important link between cuts in health programs and the Reagan war budget. Reagan cuts have meant that there are now only seven gynecologists and obstetricians in the Springfield, Mass., area to care for over 10,000 Medicaid recipients.

As one demonstrator stated, "When Reagan gets sick he can go to Bethesda Naval Hospital to take advantage of every opportunity to receive free health care, while poor people in Massachusetts can't even see a doctor. That means there's welfare for the rich and nothing for the poor and working people."

Arise, a welfare rights organization that organized the demonstration, is planning lawsuits against doctors who refuse to treat Medicaid recipients, as well as further demonstrations in front of hospitals and doctors' offices.



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by Elizabeth Ross

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EDITORIAL

No accident

IT WAS NOT bad luck that caused the explosion at the ECI System plant in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Nov. 22. It was not random chance that brought 46 workers together to be burned and gassed by that cyanide blast. It took careful planning by the Pentagon and the military-industrial profiteers to do it.

ECI systems is a weapons contractor. It exists because of a plan, a plan to make profits by making new weapons of mass destruction. Make them as fast as possible, as quickly as possible and as profitably as possible.

Florida politicians sitting safely in Congress like to brag how they bring billions of dollars of Pentagon contracts to their state every year. They don't have much to say

about the ECI workers writhing in agony now in the burn unit over at the Bayfront Medical Center. Nor is the news media reporting anything about what the safety conditions were at ECI. That would be "unpatriotic."

There will be even more horrors like that at ECI if the Pentagon is permitted to continue down the path it has chosen of turning the whole productive base of this country into one huge adjunct to the so-called "defense industry."

A real defense program will entail first and foremost getting the Pentagon's procurement department off the back of the working people, along with the military contractors who fatten off weapons of mass murder.

Reagan policies trigger hijacking

WASHINGTON'S repressive and exploitative policies in the Middle East triggered the series of events which resulted in the storming of Egyptair Flight 648 in Malta and the death of 60 of the 80 passengers.

To begin, it was the storming of the plane by U.S.-trained Egyptian commandos which set off the battle and the fire that ended with scores dead. It reminds one of the incident at the 1972 Munich Olympics. Palestinians seized Israeli athletes in an effort to free 200 Arab prisoners in Israeli jails. On orders from the Israeli military, West German police fired directly into vehicles carrying the Palestinians and the Israeli athletes. In the end, everyone was killed.

Egypt, however, is a client state of Washington. The Pentagon humiliated Cairo when U.S. fighter planes hijacked an Egyptian plane carrying the Palestinians who commandeered the Italian ship Achille Lauro. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, however, made it crystal clear what Cairo was expected to do this time. He said that the hijackers "should have no place to hide," and "we must stamp them out."

And just in case Cairo had other ideas U.S. jets were scrambled from the nearby aircraft carrier Coral Sea to once again humiliate Egypt by hijacking its plane if it left Malta.

For Washington the issue was never saving the lives of the passengers. They were expendable. The issue for imperialism was striking a blow to hijackers and all in the Middle East who fight for freedom. The U.S. government,

which never forgets to utilize racism, had it both ways with Cairo storming the plane. A client state has served Washington's interests and the Reagan administration could always hold Egypt responsible for the casualties.

Meanwhile, the imperialists and their mouthpieces in the press are trying to blame the hijacking on Palestinians, Syrians or even Libyans. Cairo has even utilized the situation to put its troops on alert on the Libyan border. Hidden in all this is the fact that the young men raised very specific demands. They called for Egypt to break relations with Israel and to expel Israeli diplomats.

Following the U.S. naval assault on Lebanon last year, the recent Israeli bombing of Tunis, Washington's praising this assault, and then the Achille Lauro incident, anti-imperialist sentiment in the Middle East is very high. While the hijackers were just a few men, the political demands they raised represent growing mass sentiment in Egypt and in the entire Arab world.

The events in Malta are just another indication that the Mediterranean and the Middle East are war zones, not vacation spots. The hijackings and other forms of intrigue will continue as long as the U.S. government and its proxies in Tel Aviv continue to grind their heels in the faces of the workers and oppressed people of the oil-rich Middle East.

When will the hijackings stop? When U.S. finance capital and its puppets get out of the Middle East and stay out.



The crime and punishment of Kathryn Ann Entress

By Andy Stapp

NOVEMBER 25—With over one-and-a-half million laws on federal and state statute books in this country, the net of justice is stretched very broadly, so broadly in fact that last month it managed to sweep up two people who had just about nothing in common other than their sudden arraignment before the bar of justice.

Kathryn Ann Entress, a 37-year-old, five-foot tall woman living with her cat in a dreary trailer park on the outskirts of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., collided with the law when she got caught stealing water.

Kathryn Entress, who was compelled to leave her post office job after chronic asthma attacks had made work impossible, had recently moved to The Sunshine State where she was scraping by on a meager disability pension so small that she couldn't pay her water bills.

All through last summer's heat, Kathryn Entress hauled her water home in jugs from a nearby laundry, but the labor became too exhausting. So she cheated. She hooked back up the pipe the water company had disconnected from her trailer. That, as everyone knows, is against the law, and when the Florida police found out they arrested her. Unable to make the \$250 bond, Kathryn Ann Entress was locked up in the Broward County jail.

George Arie, age 34, hails from a different world altogether than that of trailer parks and water-hauling. He is a New York City landlord and a big one, like Harry Helmsley and Donald Trump. The New York City press treats big landlords like baseball idols or rock music stars, that is, like heroes. Mr. Arie boasts a personal fortune of \$100 million.

His trouble with the law started when tenants in Mr. George Arie's apartments began to die of the cold. Two quite elderly ones perished of hypothermia last winter. Hypothermia is the word that New York newspapers

discreetly use to describe death by freezing. The two victims had had no heat, no hot water for almost a month.

'I know I'll get off'

Mr. Arie had told one of the aged tenants that he had better move out or Arie would make him "suffer, suffer, suffer." After his arrest, Arie bragged to an investigator, "Rich people get away with everything in New York, so I know that nothing is going to happen."

Statements like this tend to enrage the general public, even in New York where the press treats big landlords like heroes, so at the recent conclusion of Arie's trial, Judge Edward Greenfield felt he had to do something and gave the killer slumlord a six-month sentence.

That's when Mr. George Arie began to cry, breaking into tears and blubbering, "I beg over and over again, please forgive me."

Mr. Arie's lawyer explained that his client "suffers from claustrophobia" and could not endure "even one day of stifling prison conditions." As Arie continued to sniffle loudly, the judge's heart melted. There is always time for another appeal, His Honor stated, and the millionaire defendant, eyes now dry and a little smile on his lips, walked out of court a free man. The sentence of prison had been deferred, perhaps forever.

There were tears at the Broward County Jail too, when the cops brought in the water thief, Kathryn Ann Entress. She broke down in complete despair when they finger-printed her, but wept hardest when the police took away her breath inhaler, the one she bought at the drug store for her asthma attacks.

The Broward County Jail, however, is not New York City where the press treats big landlords like heroes, and all the tears in the world could not soften those policemen's hearts. The law says that prisoners must be stripped of personal possessions, and the law must be obeyed.

Two nights later, Kathryn Ann Entress, gasping for air as she slowly suffocated, died alone in her cell.

The net of law is stretched very broadly here in the United States, but its fiber is that of the cobweb which entangles and catches the small and weak, while the large predators, the rich and mighty, break through.

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5,000 march for abortion rights in Spain

Workers World correspondent interviews activists

By Tom Soto

BARCELONA, Spain, Nov. 17—Some 5,000 women, and many male supporters, marched through the streets of this city today to protest the lack of abortion rights.

The demonstration, which extended for close to a mile in length, was very spirited and militant. Marchers often chanted, "If the Pope was pregnant abortion would be a sacrament." Banners in lavender, yellow, white and orange attacked the government and rightwing for opposing the right to abortion. The demonstration had the support of all progressive organizations of the working class.

Maite, a young worker from Barcelona, said, "We are marching to demand total legalization of abortion. At present abortions are only legally permitted in three special cases: when a woman has been raped, when the fetus is deformed and lastly when the health of the mother is threatened. These three categories represent only about 3% of the abortions that take place."

Other common chants of the demonstration were "Right-wing assassins don't speak about life," and "Abort me here, not in Paris." Maite explained that the right wing has mobilized to threaten doctors who carry out legal abortions and has gone so far as to even attack women who fall into the above categories and who legally choose abortion.

For almost 40 years, Spain suffered under a brutal fascist dictatorship, and that state apparatus has only been partially replaced.

Rosa, an unemployed school teacher, explained, "One in six workers is unemployed in Spain and many poor working women can't afford to go to London as some women, whose financial status is more secure, can do."

Abortion is a national issue in Spain, which is one of the few European countries where abortion is illegal. In many people's minds this issue is tied to and understood as part of the



Spain is one of the few European countries where abortions are still illegal. Here, 5,000 demand abortion rights.

WW PHOTO: TOM SOTO

general struggle against militarization of the country as represented by the presence of U.S. military bases and Spain's entry into NATO.

"The people who favor U.S. military bases in our country and the entry of Spain into NATO are the very same people who oppose abortion rights," said Rosa.

Opposition to the U.S. bases and Spanish entry into NATO is so extensive that the so-called socialist government of Felipe Gonzales, which backed down on election promises to close the bases down has, under mass pressure, called a referendum on the issue of entering NATO.

This writer mentioned to a young worker that in the U.S. the impression is given by the big business media that the people of Europe support Reagan. To this Guillermo responded, "When Mr. Reagan came to Spain, 1,500,000 people demonstrated against him! That's what we think about him!"

FILM REVIEW

Personal Decisions, for women's rights

By Sue Davis

NEW YORK, Nov. 14—Planned Parenthood's documentary film, "Personal Decisions," which premiered today, explains the many reasons why women choose to have abortions through stories of seven women's lives.

Produced to counter the scientifically inaccurate, scare-mongering anti-abortion film, "The Silent Scream," the film focuses on the real, highly complex and difficult social, emotional and health factors, among many other reasons, that women are forced to weigh when confronted with an unwanted pregnancy.

The film acts like a speak-out, with

the women telling their stories in their homes, with their families, at work. You see their loved ones and hear how the whole family is affected by each woman's decision. The only other voice in the film is that of Dr. Kenneth Edelin, the Black doctor who was tried for murder in the 1970s after performing an abortion. As he walks through an emergency room and examines patients, he explains, with professional insight and deep compassion, why abortions must be kept safe, legal and accessible to all women.

The film opens on a woman describing her dangerous illegal abortion in the 1950s after she had been brutally raped on her way home from working late as a waitress to support her family of four. This is contrasted with a present-day high school student who is able to have a safe, legal abortion after she decides with her parents that it is better for her to postpone motherhood.

Another woman, whom you see playing with her young daughter, finds out that she is carrying a severely deformed fetus. The couple describes why they did not feel they could continue the pregnancy. A Black gynecologist and mother of four explains why she had an abortion in her first year of medical school after her contraceptive failed.

For two single mothers—one Black and one Latin—making the decision to have an abortion became a turning point in their lives. The crisis of an unwanted pregnancy forced them to examine their lives and make them realize they wanted to study and get better jobs to make a secure future for the children they had. A devout Roman Catholic college student and her mother explained why they chose for her not to bear an unplanned, unwanted child.

Honest and heart-wrenching, the film cuts through anti-abortion propaganda, which, according to an extensive, well-documented article in the Nov. 9-15 TV Guide, has been legitimized by biased media coverage since "The Silent Scream" was endorsed by President Reagan last January. This film exposes the right-wing's hypocritical defense of fetuses by focusing the issue where it belongs—on real women grappling with real problems.

To help teachers and youth leaders use the film as an effective teaching tool, a film study guide is provided. For information on how to rent the film, call (

Death in Colombia—

The politics behind the tragedies

By Edgar Rubiano

NOVEMBER 24—In recent weeks Colombia has become a focus of world attention, first with the seizure in Bogotá of the Palace of Justice by the guerrilla group M-19 on Nov. 6, followed only days later by the catastrophic eruption of the Arena volcano in the rural central-western zone of the country.

These two events, although apparently unrelated, have raised a single question for the Colombian people with particular sharpness: Is the government genuinely concerned with the interests of the people or does it only represent the interests of the ruling and exploiting classes of Colombia? Obviously, it is not a question of whether the crises themselves might have been averted, but once confronted with them wasn't the government forced to reveal its true interests in an instant for all the world to see?

In the same way that the government of Belisario Betancur turned a deaf ear to the calls from the supreme court justices, the news media and the M-19 guerrillas for negotiations to avoid a massacre at the Palace of Justice, it also turned a deaf ear to the

many warnings of Colombian and international experts on volcanic activity and failed to take any life-protecting measures that might have saved the lives of thousands of farmworkers, inhabitants of the region and others. As a columnist in the conservative daily, El Tiempo, observes in the Nov. 18 edition, "When the emergency is over it will be impossible to avoid a trial in which the authorities are dispassionately but severely held accountable, that while it had been possible to avert the greatest tragedy in the history of the country, they permitted the most apocalyptic prophecies to be fulfilled."

How the government of Colombia dealt with the tragedy of the volcano is not only a problem of what they might have done but didn't do, but a problem that is in reality much more profound: it is the problem of the antagonistic interests of the classes that exist in the country; of the lack of respect or even interest in the lives of the farmworkers, the urban workers and the exploited classes in general.

The conditions under which the rural population lives are the most backward and difficult; the only means of survival for the majority is subsistence farming. Meanwhile, in the big cities of the country the privileged sectors take for granted all of the social services, hospitals, the best schools, paved roads, sewer systems. In towns such as Armero, a town virtually obliterated by the volcanic cataclysm, there did

not even exist a road that might have facilitated the rescue of the inhabitants.

It is ironic that the same government that declared a state of "National Mourning," last year ordered the army to evict a group of farmworkers who had taken possession of land in the Valle del Cauca province to dramatize their demand for an agrarian reform. It is also a government which Amnesty International and the International Red Cross have named as a violator of the human rights of its citizens. These organizations have pointed especially to the army with its paramilitary squadrons as the only party guilty of the disappearances and tortures of thousands of Colombians.

The opposition within the country to the government of Colombia is mounting and for this reason it will be necessary to follow events there closely in the coming months. Already parliamentary representatives, the news media, mass organizations and political groups are voicing discontent with the government. There has also been talk of a possible move towards unification among the various guerrilla groups. At the same time, the government's efforts to make payments on the national debt to the International Monetary Fund, banking only on its ability to squeeze more and more out of the hides of working people, has the potential of opening the way for a revolutionary development in Colombia.



1,300 cheering hotel workers vote 'strike'

By Ed Childs

BOSTON, Nov. 20—Shouts of "Whatever it takes, for as long as it takes," shook the rafters of the Arlington Street Church here tonight as over 1,300 jubilant hotel workers, jumping to their feet with fists in the air, demonstrated their determination to beat back their employers' concession demands and fight for a just contract.

The hotel workers, members of the 3,500-strong Local 26, Hotel and Restaurant Workers union (HERE), were joined in the rally by hundreds of unionists, some politicians, religious leaders and community groups who see in this fight against concessions a way to advance the standard of living for all poor and working people of Boston.

Flanked by the union's 70-member negotiating committee, Local 26 President Domenic Bozzotto asked, "We are ready to be arrested for you, for the union. Are you ready?"

Strike authorized

As the cheers of support mounted, Bozzotto called on the members to put their demands to a vote. Feeling their momentum and militancy growing daily, the hotel workers confidently voted 95% in favor of authorizing a strike when their present contract ends on Nov. 30.

The strike vote and rally—conducted in five different languages—is the culmination of weeks of imaginative organizing which has resulted in Local 26 taking on the giants of finance capital in Boston, the insurance companies and banks, who own many of the nine unionized hotels in Boston, including the Park Plaza, Copley Place, Ritz-Carlton and Sheraton. Five other Boston hotels abide by the union contract.

The hotel business in Boston is booming with 13 new hotels built in the last few years. These new hotels are non-union. Boston's John Hancock, Aetna, Prudential and Equitable, with investments of over \$300 million



WW PHOTO: STEVE GILLIS

"Whatever it takes. . ." Hotel workers vow to fight concession demands.

own and control Boston's hotel industry, have vowed to keep them non-union by bringing the union down to doormat level.

Though refusing to negotiate themselves, these financial giants have instructed the Hotel Association to propose major concessions, such as health and welfare takeaways, the two-tier wage system costing new employees \$4,000 per year, a five-year contract and elimination of some job categories from the union.

In response, Local 26 launched a publicity campaign to expose the control of these insurance giants on the living standards of the poor and working people of Boston. They distributed thousands of pamphlets detailing the exorbitant profits these financiers take from workers. And at the recent picketing of John Hancock's national headquarters, 700 union members and supporters rallied under the slogan,

"Our contract is our life insurance policy."

"The picket line at Hancock showed the masters of the hotels that we are going to take them on directly," said Local 26 Vice President Jerome Cockley. "When hotel management saw the picket line, they were scared."

The enthusiasm of the members is reflected in their contract committee of over 500 union sisters and brothers who have drawn up the union's demands. And their militancy has been shown at the negotiating table where their negotiating committee of 70 selected members, backed by dozens of union and community supporters, forcefully confronts the eight Hotel Association managers and lawyers.

Stop discrimination!

One of the primary union demands is to end discrimination in the hotels. The workers want all jobs in all hotels

opened to all members. Currently, "back of the house" jobs are filled mostly by Black, Latin and Asian workers, while those in the higher paying "front of the house" jobs are mostly white. In some hotels, the best paying jobs are held almost exclusively by men.

According to Bozzotto, "Management says the hotel jobs are segregated because no hotel wants to be the first to integrate. We will integrate the hotels."

Other union demands include no concessions, no two-tier, recognition of Martin Luther King Day as a paid holiday and union recognition for the Back Bay Hilton, also owned by John Hancock.

As the strike day nears, hotel management has increasingly interfered with organizers, sent threatening letters, hired temporary scabs and intimidated workers on the job. In response, the contract committee has held meetings inside the hotels to confront every guilty manager.

"We feel strong enough to talk to management by confrontation," explained Sheraton cook Johnny Frierre. "It makes us ready to take on the hotels."

More than 100 community leaders and groups have joined the Hotel Workers Community Support Group. They have gone unannounced to hotel lobbies to confront directors about the racism of the hotels and to support the union's just demands. Groups of roving union supporters have marched through swank hotel lobbies with banners and chanting, "We'll be back on Dec. 1." Delegations from Local 26 and the international union, accompanied by community members, have gone to large banks in Boston to demand that executives sign a decree declaring a moratorium on the debts of hotel workers during the strike.

Local 26, in conjunction with the Coors Boycott Committee and the All-Peoples Congress, is planning to hit hard on Dec. 1 by staging a massive picket of Legal Seafoods, a non-union restaurant in a union hotel which serves Coors beer. The hotel managers and financial corporations who have attempted to push a union-busting concession drive across the country from Las Vegas to New York will shortly meet in Boston a united and totally prepared union membership and community intent on only one thing. Victory.

—Tax plan

Continued from page 3

stead. Some compromise! The wide range of tax brackets, based on the idea that the more you have the more you pay, is tossed out the window, replaced with four brackets.

This brings closer Reagan's goal of a flat tax, where everyone, rich and poor, would have to pay at the same rate. That way a working family that just makes ends meet on a combined income of \$22,000 a year would have to pay the same rate, such as 25% of their income, as the multi-millionaire that doesn't know what to do with all his money. That's Reagan's idea of fairness.

When federal income taxes were started, they were meant just for the rich. But as the money needs of the federal government grew to finance its war machine, the tax burden shifted onto the backs of the working and poor people. Now the Democrats and Reagan have teamed up to dump even more of the tax burden onto working people to pay for the Pentagon's insatiable greed for weapons.

Boston bus drivers to strike against takeaways

By Steve Kirschbaum

Shop Steward, USWA 8751

BOSTON, Nov. 21—At a membership meeting here tonight, Boston school bus drivers, United Steel Workers of America (USWA) Local 8751, voted unanimously to strike on Jan. 2 if their contract demands are not met.

This current battle is only the most recent in a long chain of struggles against union busting and for justice this year. This past spring, this 600-member multinational local won a major job security victory. Through a campaign of rank-and-file militant unity combined with the solidarity of parents, community and labor, a campaign including countless picketlines, press conferences, thousands of parent support letters, militant demonstrations in School Committee chambers and an impending strike, the local forced the School Committee on June 20, 1985, to pass a union-sponsored resolution that states that no matter what bus company the city hires to provide transportation for the nearly 30,000 school children, they must keep the union drivers.

During the same period of time, the School Department unleashed a vicious, slanderous, union-busting campaign on the basis of a witchhunt style "criminal records" which resulted in the firing of drivers with

10 more on the firing line. Again the local mobilized and prepared for an Oct. 16 strike. The drivers exhibited an unshakable unity of the rank and file even in the face of daily attacks by the School Department and new School Superintendent Laval Wilson. They were also treated to a well-orchestrated media slur campaign including major editorials in both Boston papers. On the evening of Oct. 15 the city caved in and agreed to a settlement to provide justice for the fired drivers.

Companies seek concessions

Also, that evening School Department and bus companies informed the union that there would be no problem in settling the rest of the union contract. Now, the bus companies and School Department are trying to deny economic justice for the drivers.

They have come to the negotiating table with a whole package of ruthless and cruel takeaways including the denial of medical insurance during a medical leave of absence (!), the violation of seniority in assignment of driver runs, docking drivers two and a half to 3 hours pay if they are ten minutes late, institution of discriminatory discipline for accidents, refusal to provide adequate upgrade training so that drivers in lower paid jobs can improve, etc.

To add insult to injury, National

School Bus wants to post date the contract so as to avoid nearly 30 important grievances. They have refused to answer these grievances or set up step-2 meetings. The union demands no concessions, full paid health insurance and a modest contribution to a pension.

The companies, who have been awarded by the city an approximately \$16 million contract (\$4 million richer than the last management company), have stated that they will not pay any wage or benefit to the drivers that the city won't reimburse. The drivers have a contract with the bus companies and not the city. Where the dollars come from is the companies' problem. There is plenty of money in their fat corporate profit margins.

The School Committee and Superintendent have publicly attacked the drivers' just economic demands—the same committee that last month voted themselves \$8,000 more apiece and the same Superintendent who just bought a \$360,000 lush Victorian home.

The drivers' demands are just. The local has shown its readiness to strike to defend the drivers' job guarantee and again to defend the fired drivers. Local 8751 has now once again shifted into high gear to prepare for Jan. 2 whether they receive economic justice or put the brakes on 600 buses and say, "No contract! No work!"

On The Picketline

Fighting mad at Chrysler. The rank-and-file workers at Chrysler Corporation are fighting mad. After going on strike Nov. 4 for twelve days and then winning a contract, the company has proceeded to attempt to cut down what small gains were made by the union. This rich and powerful corporation that pays its top corporate officers like Lee Iacocca in figures that are multiple millions of dollars, is even holding back paying the \$2,120 "bonus" promised in the new contract to workers on strike at the St. Louis Assembly Plant No. 2.

The St. Louis workers are on strike over a local contract, demanding that management honor union seniority rights that are in effect in every other

Chrysler plant. Since September 1983 the St. Louis workers have been denied the right to bid on available jobs, and management, without regard for seniority, has assigned whomever they wanted for the job. A militant rally was held by the St. Louis workers on Friday, Nov. 22. *[As we go to press, reports indicate that a tentative settlement has been reached in the St. Louis strike. The membership has yet to vote on it.]*

Other struggles over local contracts are also going on at the Belvidere, Ill., plant, the stamping plant in Warren, Mich., and two Kokomo, Ind., plants. The corporation is able to attack the national contract because the UAW international leadership has aban-

doned its member locals and left them to fight their battles alone—instead of confronting this union busting with the united strength of the membership. This approach to the attack by Chrysler management can only further weaken a union that is just holding its own in the auto industry.

Democrat friends of whom? The Democratic Party-controlled House of Representatives has rejected a most mild AFL-CIO-sponsored bill that would have required companies with more than 50 workers to give at least 90 days notice of plant closings. With shutdowns a virtual epidemic destroying the lives of working people

all across the country, it might have been thought that such a bill, which in no way prevents a shutdown but only requires notification, might have gone through the House where Democrats are the overwhelming majority. But like all the pro-capitalist so-called friends of labor, the Democratic politicians are beholden first and foremost to business interests. The Chamber of Commerce lobbied heavily against the prenotification bill. The final vote, on Nov. 22, was 208 to 203 against, a slim margin but enough to kill it. It's time for the labor movement to recognize that the only politicians who can legitimately be called friends are those who are independent of the two big-business-controlled parties.

—Gary Wilson

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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—Dennis Banks

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prosecute him for raping a 15-year-old Lakota girl.

Because of Janklow's repeated threats, Banks took sanctuary in California. Then-Governor Edmund Brown, Jr. declined to extradite Banks after more than 1 million people in his state signed petitions demanding Banks be allowed to stay. When reactionary George Deukmejian, who had vowed to turn Banks over to South Dakota officials, was elected Governor of California, Banks took sanctuary on territory belonging to the sovereign Onandaga Nation in New York State.

Despite urgings from Indian and non-Native supporters, Gov. Mario Cuomo refused to give Dennis Banks the freedom of New York State, which many believed compelled Banks to return to South Dakota last September for the sake of his family.

Today Dennis Banks emerges from prison the way he entered: as a proud warrior in the struggle for self-determination for Native Nations.

—Boston meeting

Continued from page 12

reluctantly asking Wamsutta to speak after it was pointed out that if it hadn't been for the Wampanoag people, the Pilgrims would not have survived.

Since Wamsutta's speech contained the true history of the brutality of the Pilgrims towards the Native people, the celebration committee disinvited him after reviewing it. But his rebuff and the reasons for it were televised nationally and he received hundreds of telegrams and letters of support.

UAIINE was founded shortly thereafter, and on Nov. 28, 1970, more than 500 Native people, including national leaders like Dennis Banks, went to Plymouth to commemorate the first National Day of Mourning. Their actions, which included boarding the Mayflower and taking down the British flag and St. George's flag, turned the event into a focus of Native struggle.

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Mass pressure wins parole for Dennis Banks

By Diane Feinberg

NOVEMBER 22—American Indian Movement (AIM) warrior Dennis Banks was released on parole from the South Dakota Penitentiary today. His step towards freedom can only bring the greatest joy to the millions around the world who support this liberation fighter.

Banks was sentenced last year in South Dakota to three years in prison on charges of riot and assault. Under state law, he could have received 16 years.

Clearly the minimum sentence was won on the weight of a massive campaign of support for Banks, including letter-writing and telegrams sent to Judge Marshall Young. Telegrams on Dennis Banks' behalf were sent by Jesse Jackson, Cesar Chavez, Harry Belafonte and several members of the U.S. Congress.

The All-Peoples Congress headquarters in New York City and the Boston chapter sent telegrams and organized other groups, clergy and union leaders to do the same. During the trial 26 character witnesses spoke for six hours in his defense.

The charges against Banks stem from incidents that occurred in February 1973 in Custer, S.D. There, a Lakota man named Wesley Bad Heart Bull was stabbed to death by a white businessman. Despite the fact that an Indian eyewitness attested that the killing was carried out in cold blood, the killer was merely charged with second-degree manslaughter.

A demonstration to protest this injustice, led by Wesley Bad Heart Bull's mother, was attacked by police. Rioting police then beat the mother and arrested her on charges of assaulting a police officer! In response, Native militants took over a gas station and police cruisers were burned. Although Banks was reported not to have taken part in the action, he was arrested and charged with inciting to riot and assault on a police officer.

William Janklow, now Governor of South Dakota, was then Attorney General. This bigot has stated that all leaders of the American Indian Movement should be shot. Banks was singled out for having led a campaign against Janklow including trying to

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Wamsutta Frank James, a Wampanoag Nation Elder, addresses Boston solidarity meeting.

WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

Native history comes alive at Boston meeting

By Phebe Eckfeldt

BOSTON, Nov. 23—The elite of Boston all try to trace their ancestry back to the Mayflower and, at this time of year especially, love to sermonize to the rest of us on what we all have to be "thankful" for. But tonight, an audience of 100 people came out to "An Evening of Solidarity with the Struggle of Native People" here, sponsored by the All-Peoples Congress (APC), where a very different view of history was presented in several lively talks.

The event, chaired by Elizabeth Doran, opened up with traditional Native singing by the northeast Intertribal Drum. Rachel Nasca of the APC opened with her organization's view supporting the struggle against racism and for self-determination and sovereignty rights.

The audience then heard two Native leaders speak: Bob Gustafson of the Mohawk nation, a member of the United American Indians of New England (UAINE) and national board member of the APC, and Wamsutta Frank James, a Wampanoag Nation Elder and moderator of the UAINE.

Gustafson's talk, "The Rebellion That Shook Canada," was dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Metis rebellion.

To fight racism and theft of their land, on March 19, 1885, Metis leader Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont, a brilliant Metis military strategist, cut the telegraph wires in the town of Batoche, Saskatchewan, and formed the first sovereign government of the Metis nation.

The war that followed cost the Canadian government \$10 million. The British possessed many more weapons, including a machine gun, yet Dumont routed them. The Metis continued to fight against 25 to 1 odds.

On May 12, 1885, the rebellion was finally crushed after the Metis ran out of ammunition and food. Dumont escaped to Montana and was granted asylum by then-president Grover Cleveland. Riel was hanged for treason on Nov. 16, 1885. Last Saturday, Gustafson related, hundreds of Metis people traveled to Riel's grave to pay tribute to the heroic leaders.

'National Day of Mourning'

Wamsutta Frank James then recounted the 16-year history of the "National Day of Mourning." On the 350th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving in 1970, the state of Massachusetts spent \$100,000 on a celebration,

Continued on page 11

U.S. attacks on Native people linked to arms race

By Stephanie Hedgecock

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 16—On the eve of the Geneva Summit the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) and the Dennis Banks Defense Committee co-hosted a conference today on the link between the arms race and the genocidal attacks on Native peoples.

IITC representative Bill Wahpepah called on the anti-war movement to "link up uranium mining and milling with the arms race, and what effect the arms race has on our communities from the Southwest to the Upper Plains." Wahpepah explained that Native and other oppressed peoples are being destroyed for the uranium and other strategic minerals required by weapons production.

Lorelei Means, Wounded Knee veteran, detailed the forced removal of Oglala people from 30,000 acres of Pine Ridge reservation land seized by the U.S. in World War II. This land, now the site of Ellsworth Air Force Base, contains rich deposits of strategic minerals. In spite of the tightest secur-

ity there, the Lakota people have evidence of radioactive contamination of the "Gunnery Range," due to an outbreak of birth defects nearby and the highest lung cancer rate of any Native group.

Means also explained that the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, which was originally created under the Department of War, is involved in all phases of mineral assessment on Native lands and finding markets for these minerals. Although the richest mineral deposits are found in Native lands, Native peoples have the highest unemployment rate in the U.S.

The "Uranium, Arms Race and Human Survival" conference was attended by many Bay Area movement activists and anti-war and anti-apartheid groups, including the All-Peoples Congress, Bay Area Nuclear Freeze and Bay Area Free South Africa Movement. Conference sponsors also called for the formation of a coalition to continue the work of linking the Native struggle with the anti-war movement.

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