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workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

Gays tell High Court: We won't go back!



WW PHOTO: SUE ROTGARD

By Saul Kanowitz

JULY 1 — "Fight! Fight! Fight!" was the chant that filled Harvey Milk Plaza in San Francisco last night as 1,500 lesbians, gay men and supporters militantly denounced the Supreme Court's reactionary and bigoted decision upholding a Georgia state anti-sodomy law. Such laws are overwhelmingly used against

gay men and lesbians.

However, the Supreme Court ruling should not be seen as affecting only the gay community. Part of the decision specifically says that laws can be enacted against "any kind of private sexual conduct between consenting adults."

And since the Court ruling says that "homosexual conduct" can be outlawed

because there is "no connection between family, marriage or procreation on the one hand and homosexual activity on the other," the decision may also be paving the way for future decisions against abortion and even birth control. That is, if the rightwing has its way.

But instead this decision is sparking a

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Contra aid vote a
declaration of war** —p. 7

**Detroit city union—
'We want equitable raise'**

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Detroit city union: 'We want equitable raise'

By Cheryl LaBash
Executive Board Member
AFSCME Local 457

DETROIT, July 1 — Yesterday afternoon, only hours before the midnight contract expiration deadline, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) local presidents representing over 7,000 City of Detroit workers and chief negotiator Al Garrett took a break from unproductive bargaining to tell the union's story to the media, the people of Detroit and send a message to management, too.

In his opening statement, Garrett stressed that city workers have sacrificed since 1977. Wage and benefit concessions left workers with meager or no raises over those nine years. In light of record city budget surpluses over the past two years, Garrett said, "We now believe it is time for us to share in the city's well-being. We're not seeking 44%, like the mayor got, but we are seeking some kind of equitable raise."

The city's latest offer was two percent the first year with the option of taking it back if revenues fell and in-

creases tied to city revenues for the second and third years of the contract. A similar formula yielded raises of less than three percent over the life of the last contract.

Garrett stated that the union did not want to disrupt city services in a work stoppage. However, the members feel strongly that in light of past sacrifices, they are entitled to justice in this contract. Most locals, he reported, had already taken strike authorization votes and not one had rejected giving the union leadership the right to call a work stoppage if that was necessary.

After expressing the willingness of the union to extend the contract, Garrett said, "How long we talk will depend on what's happening at the table. If they're stonewalling we'll have to explore our options."

When the negotiating committee returned to the table at 5 p.m. last night, the city and union agreed to extend the current contract for one week to July 7.

A record \$52 million budget surplus, tax breaks to corporate giants like GM and Chrysler, hefty salary increases to city officials combined with a six-

year wage freeze on the workers' pay scales (so low in some cases that a family of four supported by an entry level clerical worker is eligible for food stamps), have pushed the economic issues to the forefront of the negotiations.

However, city negotiators have revealed an underlying bargaining goal that endangers the very heart of the union.

What is this bargaining goal? In the auto industry it is known as Saturnization. It is management's bargaining strategy in virtually every industry and every contract negotiation today. What is touted as a "new and innovative" response to changing technology and labor-management relations is really not new at all.

Whether it's called Saturnization or, as the city's labor relations department calls it, service improvement consideration, the concept is simply that your boss is your friend and will take good care of you. As the Detroit News put it in a lead editorial on June 30, the City of Detroit has given workers employment so they should be glad

to forego pay raises. But, that is just how it was in the past, before the sit-down strikes and massive organizing struggles of the 1930s forced the bosses to recognize that workers not only have rights but would take those rights.

Up until then workers at Ford Motor had to paint the foreman's garage, cut his lawn, wash his car and do other favors to keep their jobs. And that is the future that "service improvement consideration" points to when the city proposes to transfer workers without regard to seniority, reduce the number of union representatives and restrict their ability to investigate grievances, and contract out work using workers who have no benefits like health insurance, sick time and vacation.

As Garrett put it, "The city wants to return to the days not just before collective bargaining, but before civil service!"

According to the latest AFSCME Alert, a contract update newsletter produced for the union by a rank-and-file committee, a community outreach leaflet will be ready this week.

AT&T strike ends with contract agreement

By Shelley Ettinger

JUNE 30 — After 26 days on strike, the Communications Workers of America (CWA) reached a tentative contract agreement with AT&T on June 26. A ratification vote will take place by mail ballot over the next several weeks. The final result is not expected until early August, but strikers returned to work on Friday, June 27.

While precise details of the settlement are not available, the most important provisions appear to center on an "employment security program" the company and union say they will run jointly. AT&T says the program will cost \$40 million over the three years of the contract, and will provide job retraining and career counseling to workers with two or more years seniority.

AT&T forced the strike as part of its drive to compete for profits in the starry new worlds of space telecommunications and weaponry with no contractual impediments from the union protecting workers.

The union resisted that drive, and the strike did slow it down to some extent. The union won wage increases of 2% and 3% over the life of the contract, as well as improved medical, dental, and pension benefits.

CWA kept all strikers on the lines for well over a week after a basic settlement had been reached because there were not yet agreements in the six divisions of the company.

Clearly, despite all management's protests to the contrary, the strike did hurt. The skills and experience withheld by the striking workers were what brought AT&T back to the bargaining table with whatever concessions the union was able to wrest from the company.

But COLA was lost. And the agreement does downgrade key technical and clerical job classifications. This will entail severe wage cuts for many workers, both relatively better-paid technicians and lower-paid, mostly Third World and women workers. The cuts will be phased in, with low-

seniority workers reaching the new lower pay levels first.

Still, union leaders hailed the new employment security program as an important achievement that will protect jobs. But the existence of the program itself may indicate that AT&T is planning a major round of layoffs. Specific provisions for exactly how the program will work, whether it will be autonomous from the company, whether any actual job security guarantees are part of it — none of this was disclosed.

Whatever the contract language, it is questionable, as the autoworkers have learned, that any such program will really save jobs.

But the AT&T strike did show, as other recent strikes have, that in the current anti-labor climate the strike weapon is not outmoded. Rather it must be strengthened — with creative, militant tactics, with rank-and-file leadership and with broad support from the whole labor movement for every strike.



AT&T workers took on the communications giant.

In This Issue...

TENANTS MARCH

A neighborhood coalition uniting Black, Latino and white tenants marched three miles through Jersey City, N.J., to demand \$1 billion from the state and federal government to build 20,000 units of decent, low-cost housing. (Page 12.)

BIG MOUNTAIN

With July 7 marking the deadline for forced relocation of Diné and Hopi people from Big Mountain, Ariz., a major demonstration has been set for Sunday, July 6, in Washington, D.C. It will call for a halt to the plans to militarily push out the population and for an investigation of the giant corporations exploiting Indian lands. (Page 6.)

HORMEL ACTION

Some 1,500 had gathered to march in Austin, Minn., to cap a week-long series of solidarity actions. Standing ovations to Native leader Vernon Bellecourt and to a call to free ANC head Nelson Mandela demonstrated the increasing political awareness of the strikers at the Hormel plant and their supporters. (Page 3.)

LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE

In San Francisco, 200,000, in New York, 150,000 lesbians and gay men and their supporters marched to show their pride as well as their determination to struggle against the new wave of bigoted attacks on their rights. (Page 5.)

CONTRA AID

Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega called the House vote authorizing \$100 million in aid to the hated contras "a virtual declaration of war," while a recent vote in the World Court marked the U.S.-backed terrorist contra campaign illegal. (Page 7.)

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

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Week of actions supports Hormel strikers

Special to Workers World

AUSTIN, Minn., June 28 — Chanting against concessions and singing union songs, 1,500 people marched here today in support of the 10-month long Hormel strike of UFCW Local P-9.

Today's march and the rallies that preceded and followed it capped a week-long series of activities centered around "Solidarity City" in support of the strike.

Solidarity City, modeled after the tent cities set up during the 1960s civil rights movement, demonstrated the continuing strength and vitality of the women and men of P-9. Participants camped all week in tents, trailers and a tepee from the Native Anishinabe Nation.

Daily events, both cultural and political, kept everyone of all ages busy and informed.

The main activities began with a rally at Solidarity City on Friday evening. The featured speaker was Monsignor Charles Owen Rice from Pittsburgh, a long-time labor supporter. He encouraged the strikers and their families to hold out and stay unified against the "greedy capitalists and their evil system."

The rally was a remarkable example of solidarity. Over \$350 was raised for

the struggle of the Diné and Hopi people at Big Mountain, Ariz. The collection followed a speech from the Big Mountain Support Group of Kansas City.

Alda Bello, chief steward of ACTU in New Bedford, Mass., read a solidarity statement from her local. Dan Benvigoli of CWA Local 1186 in Buffalo, N.Y., received a standing ovation by linking the fight of P-9, the Native people and the oppressed people of South Africa. The rally ended with a speech by suspended P-9 President Jim Guyette.

The march was led by motorcycles, children on tricycles and a large tractor displaying a sign, "Farm aid, not contra aid."

The front line of marchers included Jim Guyette, Vernon Bellecourt of the American Indian Movement and Tom Kough, a striker and the mayor of Austin. The marchers represented many unions from different areas of the country: Teamsters Local 600, St. Louis; ACTWU and ATWU from Greensboro, N.C.; CWA from Buffalo and Miami; Machinists from Minneapolis.

There were marchers from Portland Ore., San Jose, Calif., Seattle, Wash., Iowa, Idaho, New England and vari-

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Vernon Bellecourt (left) of the American Indian Movement with Local P-9 leader Jim Guyette at Hormel strike support rally in Austin, Minn.

WW PHOTO

3,000 rally in Watsonville to back 10-month strike

By Gloria La Riva

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29 — Callaghan Park in Watsonville, Calif., was filled today with 3,000 supporters of the 10-month long strike against Watsonville Canning Company. Eleven hundred Latina workers have refused to accept the 60% wage and benefit cut demanded by the company.

Not one striker has crossed the picket lines and, even with scabs being brought in, the cannery workers' union, Teamsters Local 912, says that production is 50% of normal.

Jesse Jackson, the featured speaker at a fund-raising breakfast, walked with the strikers in a march to the rally. He received enthusiastic applause when he spoke of the signifi-

cance of the cannery workers' struggle: "Watsonville is today to economic justice what Selma, Ala., was to political justice 20 years ago."

Now another company, Crosetti Frozen Foods, also in Watsonville, is trying to force the same cuts on the 700 workers there. The workers will vote this week whether to go on strike.

One woman, Maria Salas, explained that if they accepted Crosetti's demands, her wages would be cut from \$7.06 to \$5.85 an hour. In speaking of their need to strike to defend their jobs, she said the company "is even talking about a 90-day contract so they can come back around for another round of cuts in 3 months. . . We're not going to accept it."

On The Picketline

Defend workers with AIDS.

The day the Justice Department ruled that workers may be fired for having AIDS, some New York City sanitation workers responded with fear when a Black worker who has AIDS returned to work after a medical leave. While sanitation workers face higher risks of on-the-job hazards than almost any other workers, they faced no possibility of contracting AIDS. However, they refused to work alongside the worker with AIDS, despite efforts by union leaders to defend him and explain to them that AIDS is not transmitted by casual contact and they were in no danger. The incident clearly demonstrated the intent and effect of the Reagan ruling: to embolden bosses and set in motion panic, confusion, bigotry and division among workers. The media did their best to inflame the situation, publishing the worker's name and photograph, and creating the impression that the union, Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association Local 831, was taking part in the attack on him and that only management was on his side. That was not the case. In fact, the

union, according to Vice President Peter Scarlatos, is supporting the worker with AIDS and is interested in working with other unions and AIDS activists from the gay community to educate its members about AIDS. While the lesbian and gay community has done remarkable organizing around AIDS, there is still a deep need in the labor movement for a comparable effort to reach into the ranks with AIDS education.

Newspaper Guild vs. contra

aid. Meeting in their international convention in Philadelphia last week, the 30,000-strong Newspaper Guild condemned the vote by Congress to send \$100 million to the contras for an escalation of the war against Nicaragua. The delegates, from the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico, voted overwhelmingly for a resolution which condemned the human rights abuses by the contras, called for an end to all assistance to the contras, recognized the right of the people of Central America to determine their own des-

tiny, and warned of the possibility of U.S. troops being sent to widen the war.

Weyerhaeuser strike.

The first local to vote on the new Weyerhaeuser pact rejected it 420 to 6, sending a powerful message to the company that they are ready to fight for the wages and benefits won over years of struggle. Over 7,500 workers from the International Woodworkers of America and the Lumber, Production and Industrial Workers have been on strike since their contract expired May 31. The unions sent the company's "final" proposal to a membership vote without recommendation. It called for a \$4.30 an hour reduction in pay for loggers and mill workers in the lumber and wood-pulp producing company. The company proposed a complicated "profit-sharing" plan to replace the lost income for up to \$1.20 an hour to be paid out in lump-sum payments. In recent years the company has cut 11,000 workers from its workforce, in-

tuted fare hikes across the board. The new higher fares made them close to the fares of other major carriers and so more and more air travelers deserted People.

Instead of creating some job security, the sacrifices made by the workers at People created job insecurity for all the workers in the airline industry. Major banks and investors gave credit to People because it served as a temporary battering ram against the airline unions.

As is always the case under capitalism, the price war in air fares is just serving to increase monopolization in the airline industry. The increased competition was just a means of redistributing the market, and only the strongest are surviving while smaller airlines are getting gobbled up.

Just like Laker Airways, People Express is finding that the opportunity for new companies with new ideas to succeed in today's monopolized capitalist market place are virtually nonexistent.

cluding about half its managers, and has twice frozen wages. They also closed six plants in the Pacific Northwest and three in the South and reopened them only after workers agreed to concessions.

Philadelphia labor struggles.

Over 20,000 municipal workers in Philadelphia went on strike at 12:01 a.m. July 1. Called by AFSCME D.C. 33 representing 13,000 clerical and maintenance workers and D.C. 47 representing 2,500 professional and technical workers, and including sanitation workers, the strike is asking for 16% over two years. The city offered a wage freeze until a day or two before the strike deadline when they finally put a small amount of money on the table. Municipal workers struck for eight days in 1978. Over 5,000 hospital workers in seven private hospitals and one mental health facility have also vowed to strike over a demand for 5% annual raises over three years.

— Louis Napier

Boston poor win higher welfare benefits fight

By Linda Tate

BOSTON, June 26 — A judge has ordered the State of Massachusetts to develop a plan to increase welfare benefits so that welfare recipients can afford to raise their children in their own homes and not be forced into homelessness.

The lawsuit was filed by the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless and the Coalition for Basic Human Needs, a welfare rights group, based on a 1913 state law that requires state aid to be sufficient to enable parents to bring up their children in their own home. The original law was passed to stop the practice of placing a widow's children in institutional homes so that she could work. Another law cited by the judge was one that requires the state to set a standard of assistance that should be reviewed yearly to see if it is "adequate."

4,500 homeless

Massachusetts welfare payments are 43% below the federal poverty line, and an estimated 4,500 families are homeless because they can't afford the skyrocketing rents.

This ruling does not force the state to use its \$575 million surplus to increase welfare as the lawsuit demanded, but organizers feel it is a step forward in their "Up to the Poverty Level and Beyond" campaign.

For 18 months welfare recipients and their supporters have rallied, demonstrated, testified at hearings and sued the state to force an increase in welfare up to the federal poverty level. They've managed to wrest a 25% increase over the past three years.

Dottie Stevens, a member of Coalition for Basic Human Needs, said, "This is a monumental decision that should have the effect of doubling welfare benefits in the next few years. In 1985, 4,500 AFDC recipients were made homeless and applied for emergency shelter. This is because a family of three receives \$432 a month and the median rent in Boston is \$520 a month and rapidly on the increase. This shows a direct correlation between inadequate income and homelessness. In the past the courts have always claimed they had no jurisdiction."

The state has said it will not appeal the ruling.

— We won't go back!

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a broad fightback.

Michael Hardwick, the man arrested under the archaic Georgia statute whose appeal was before the Supreme Court, spoke to the San Francisco march via telephone. He said, "This decision sets individual freedom back 200 years. It is a threat to every adult in the U.S. and shows the mentality of the Spanish Inquisition. We have not lost. We have been strengthened. Thank you for coming out today. The battle has just begun."

New York demonstration

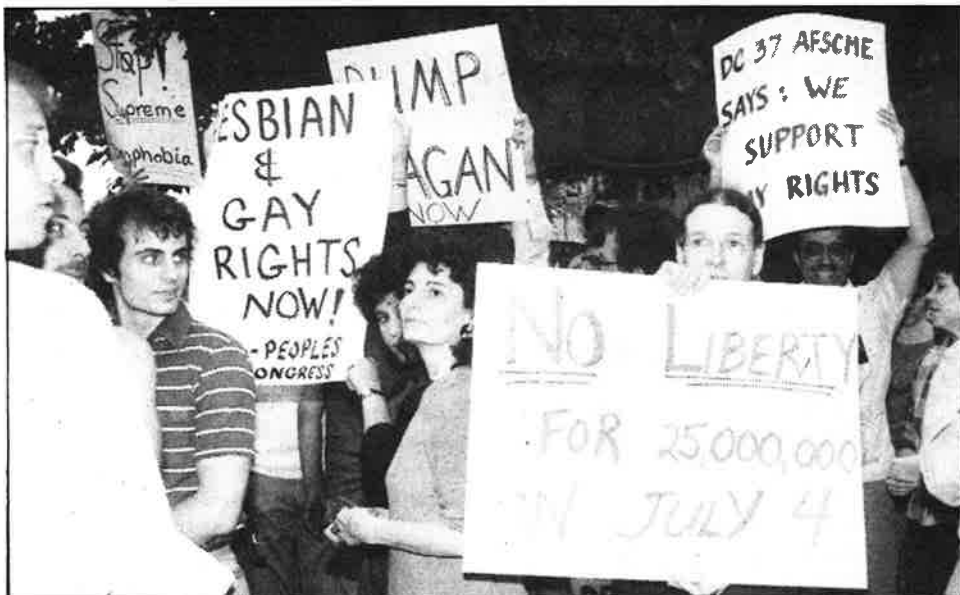
In New York City tonight, over 1,000 people rallied in the gay community to express their anger and outrage at the decision. People chanted, "Civil rights or civil war!" and "Boycott the Fourth" (in reference to the hypocritical "liberty" weekend gala being

staged by the government and big business) as they took to the streets and blocked traffic. Speaker after speaker condemned the ruling, saying that the gay community, not the government or courts, would decide their fate.

Darrell Yates-Rist of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, sponsors of the rally, stated, "We are claiming our liberty. Reagan, Meese, and Burger — we are not bound by your laws."

Trudy Rudnick, a lesbian and trade union activist speaking for the People's Anti-War Mobilization, said to the crowd, "This ruling is a call to our community, the women's community, the Black, Latin, Asian and Native communities, the disabled community and the labor movement to build a militant and fighting movement."

Speaking for the Lesbian and Gay



WW PHOTO: SUE ROTGARD

New York City: 'Civil rights or civil war!'

Labor Network, Shelley Ettinger linked the struggle for lesbian and gay rights to the struggles in southern Africa and El Salvador and to the fight against aid to the contras in Nicaragua. With an immediate response from the crowd she closed chanting, "We will win this fight, from Stone-wall to Soweto!"

Workers World Party statement

The ruling has sparked outrage from the entire progressive movement. In a statement from Workers World Party, Monica Moorehead, a National Committee member, drew a parallel between today's ruling and the infamous Dred Scott case of 1857 that declared that slavery was legal. Moorehead stated, "The ruling class of the past thought it could keep Black people in servitude by legal decree. But history shows that the struggle for liberation and freedom is what determines the future of the oppressed."

Moorehead continued, "The medieval and bigoted decision by the Supreme Court is yet another attempt by the bourgeoisie to hold back the tide of human progress. We have no doubt that this latest attack on the lesbian and gay community will be defeated. It is in the interests of all oppressed and working-class people to militantly come out against this assault on the lesbian and gay community in particular, and the working class and oppressed in general."

In handing down this decision the Court's opinion relied almost entirely on the fact that there is a long history of laws against homosexuality going back to 1791. Of course, the original laws were adapted from the feudal codes of King George of England and modified to suit the colonizers of North America. That was a time of

slavery and the subjugation of the Native people, when women didn't have the right to vote or own property, while they could literally be branded with a hot iron for the "crime" of adultery.

The Court's decision is not a reflection of the opinion of the majority in this country, since repeated polls have shown most support gay rights. What the Court's decision, as well as the Justice Department's ruling legalizing discrimination against people with AIDS, do reflect is the rightwing offensive that has been launched by the Reagan government and big business.

Reactionary offensive

The ruling class is trying to create a reactionary climate both socially and politically to stifle working class resistance at a time when there has been a steady erosion in the living standards of the workers and there continues to be a persistently high level of unemployment, leaving millions hungry and homeless.

The Supreme Court has historically been the most conservative and reactionary branch of the government. The few progressive rulings it has issued were reflections of victories won in mass struggles of the working class and oppressed.

While this is a setback for the lesbian and gay community, it is not irreversible. Lesbians and gay men have existed since the dawn of humanity and will continue to exist. Lesbians and gays will overcome this attack as we overcame Anita Bryant, as we will overcome AIDS.

While the Supreme Court may wish to pretend there has been no progress since 1791, the reality is that this is 1986 and the lesbian and gay movement is stronger than at any time in history. We will not go back!

— Hormel

Continued from page 3

ous Native nations. The march wound past an office set up by the UFCW international to take over the local, and marchers denounced this treachery in the struggle.

The afternoon-to-evening rally was remarkable in its political diversity. There were many speakers under a blazing sun, but the enthusiasm never lagged.

The featured speaker was Crystal Lee Sutton, the real "Norma Rae." She encouraged the strikers to fight on by recounting her own experiences. Union speakers from all over the country offered their solidarity.

Two events demonstrated the militancy and the increasing political awareness in this tiny Minnesota community. The first was a standing ovation given by the largely white, Midwestern crowd to a call to free Nelson Mandela, the jailed African National Congress leader. The call came in a speech by an ANC representative.

Another standing ovation was given to Vernon Bellecourt who eloquently linked the struggle of the Native people with the trade union fight. He

called for the Hormel strikers to unite with the Native people this year to expose the original Thanksgiving holiday (after which hundreds of Indians were slaughtered by the colonists) and boycott Hormel turkeys.

Other speakers represented the National Organization for Women, Committee for a United Ireland, Big Mountain Support Group and a representative of retired Hormel workers.

"Land is the issue here and in Nicaragua. The corporations want it and Reagan wants to get it for them," said Jim Pratt, an Iowa farmer. He described and denounced the devastating effects of Reaganism on the small farmer and called "unity in a rainbow coalition" a necessity.

The militancy and spirit of the rallies and march was tempered by the knowledge of the difficulties that the strikers face. No one underestimated the national drive for concessions by the corporations or the treachery of the international union.

But by consciously linking their struggle to the world's oppressed and by standing firm, P-9 displayed what it takes to be successful.



Angry protesters gathered in New York's Sheridan Square for an instant response to Court ruling.

WW PHOTO: SUE ROTGARD

**New York City
Emergency Demonstration
Against the Supreme Court's
Anti-Gay Ruling**

**Friday, July 4
12 noon
Sheridan Square**

**For information call
the Lesbian and Gay Focus
of PAM (212) 741-0633**



NYC lesbian/gay march biggest yet

By Gin T. Loy

NEW YORK, June 29 — The 14th Annual Gay Pride March here was perhaps one of the largest to date. The last of the marchers hadn't even stepped off when the front of the march reached Sheridan Square, about 3 miles away.

The slogan "Forward Together" as well as the symbol of the rainbow flag, representing the diversity of the community, were the international themes of this Gay Pride celebration.

It took hours for the tens of thousands of lesbians, gay men and their supporters to stream into Sheridan Square, the heart of the gay community. It was here, 17 years ago at the site of the Stonewall Inn, that transvestites, gay men and lesbians fought pitched street battles for four nights against the cops, refusing to be pushed around any longer. It was this fight-back that began the gay rights movement.

This year's march was the first since the passage of the Gay Rights Bill in New York. The huge turnout today was a celebration born of years of struggle. That gay men, lesbians, transvestites and transsexuals openly take to the streets is itself a protest against bigotry and the right wing.

Thousands of balloons were released in memory and honor of all the gay men and lesbians who "have gone before us, including those who have fallen victim to homophobia, anti-lesbian/gay violence, persecution and AIDS," in the words of the parade organizers. Like the AIDS memorial Friday night when many of the balloons had the names of those who died, it was a visual symbol of the pride, unity and determination of the gay and lesbian community.

The AIDS crisis, including the recent Justice Department's ruling that bosses can fire people with AIDS, and the continued rightwing offensive have deepened the struggle and per-

spective of the gay movement.

A lead banner carried by a multinational contingent of lesbians read: "Diversity our strength — Liberation our goal." Throughout the march, many people wore t-shirts with the Daily News headline, "Gays, yes. Contras, no." Many had signs that read, "Nicaragua is not our enemy."

The All-Peoples Congress and its familiar banner of "Fight lesbian and gay oppression" was most enthusiastically received chanting, "We're lesbian and gay. We have pride. We say no to apartheid!" and "From Stonewall to Soweto, people fight back!"

The huge multinational contingent of the National Association of Black and White Men Together, National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays, and Men of All Color Together were loudly cheered as they chanted, "No to racism, sexism, bigotry and apartheid!"

The women's contingent was significantly multinational with Salsa Soul Sisters leading. Also present were Lesbianas Latinas, whose banner read, "P'Afuera y P'alante" (Out and in front), as well as Asian Lesbians of the East Coast. A large contingent marched behind the banner, "Sober women, one day at a time," reflecting one of the many concerns facing the gay and lesbian community.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral and Rockefeller Center, hundreds of cops protected a handful of rightwing hecklers and the property of the richest church and one of the wealthiest families in the world. Cardinal O'Connor has viciously opposed the gay rights bill passed in New York City last March. Protesters chanted, "Not the church, not the state, we'll decide our own fate" and "Bigotry has got to go" as they passed.

Women's groups, parents of gays, the disabled, people with AIDS, youth, Black, Latin, white, Asian and Native and many more also came out.



San Francisco.

WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL



Dykes on Bikes in Los Angeles parade.



New York City.

WW PHOTO: JOYCE CHEDIAC

200,000 participants in San Francisco

By J. Marquardt

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29 — Over 200,000 lesbians, gay men and their supporters participated in the annual "Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade" here today, with several hundred Dykes on Bikes leading the march from Market and Spear to the Civic Center Plaza.

Near the front of the march was the "Stop the LaRouche Initiative" contingent, organized by San Francisco Community AIDS Network (S.F.CAN). The LaRouche Initiative, on the California statewide election ballot this coming November, would declare AIDS a casually transmitted infectious disease in order to quarantine, intern and isolate all AIDS-antibody positive people. It is clearly a right-wing political attack on all working people, especially those with AIDS

or ARC (AIDS-Related Complex) and lesbians and gay men.

Among the organizations participating in the Stop the LaRouche Initiative group were Mobilization Against AIDS and the All-Peoples Congress. The crowds along the street cheered and clapped their hands in enthusiastic support as the marchers chanted, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, tell LaRouche he's got to go!"

Thousands of Stop the LaRouche Initiative signs and placards were passed out along the march to the crowds viewing the parade. The anti-LaRouche sentiment became the predominant theme of the march.

From Stonewall to Soweto to El Salvador to Big Mountain

Marching behind the banner "From Stonewall to Soweto to El Salvador to

Big Mountain," several hundred people formed the Liberation Contingent. A coalition of many progressive organizations formed the contingent.

Participating groups included Lesbians of Color; Gay American Indians; All-Peoples Congress; Somos Hermanas; Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention (LAGAI); Comité El Salvador; Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES); Workers World Party; November 29 Committee for Palestine.

Los Angeles Parade

Last weekend in Los Angeles, over 150,000 people marched in the 16th annual Gay Pride Parade. As in San Francisco, participants wore T-shirts and carried signs supporting AIDS research and other community causes.

'Money for AIDS cure, not for war!'

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29 — Speaking at the rally at the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day here today, Willy Palacios from Comité El Salvador and La Coordinadora Salvadoreño de Solidaridad called for "money to find a cure for AIDS, not for war in Central America."

He said: "In the second week of July Reagan will try to get \$514 million from Congress to continue his policy of war against the Salvadoran people. We want to make a deal with you. We demand that the \$514 million be used to find a cure for AIDS to save lives in the U.S. and avoid death and terror in El Salvador."

"The policy of this government toward Central America isn't an isolated case — it's part of their same policy in the whole world from South America to the barrios of poor people in the U.S. The government defends the interests of the rich minority, taking the resources of the poor and humble majority."

"The oppression of lesbians and gays is linked to the oppression of Blacks, Asians, Latinos and the working class right here. Brothers and sisters — together let's say in a loud and strong voice: 'Stop repression in Central America and the U.S.; Money to find a cure for AIDS, not for war in Central America. Long live freedom for all! Money for AIDS not for war, U.S. out of El Salvador!'"

— J. Marquardt

Big Mountain: Will government back off?

July 6 rally in Washington, D.C.

By Lyn Neeley

JUNE 30 — Monday July 7 is the deadline set by Congress for the completed relocation of all Dineh (Navajo) and Hopi people from their land at Big Mountain in Arizona. But despite U.S. threats of a forced removal on that date, 16,000 Dineh and Hopi people have refused to leave their homes and the land they have lived on for generations.

On April 26 traditional Dineh and Hopi Elders and leaders met and reaffirmed their unity in opposition to the relocation act. They have called on supporters to continue to build local support networks and organize local demonstrations the week of July 7.

In New York City on Sunday, June 22, over 200 people marched from Washington Square to Battery Park chanting "Self-determination, not relocation: Defend Indian rights."

Demonstrations and activities have taken place or are planned in Boston, Chicago, Detroit and San Francisco.

Rally in D.C. on July 6

Many cities are organizing for a major demonstration in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, July 6. Buses are being sent from New York, Baltimore, Ithaca, Orlando and North Carolina. The Warrior Society from Canada and groups from Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago are also organizing to demonstrate in Washington.

Dacajeweah, a Mohawk Indian of the Iroquois Confederacy and a major organizer of the Washington demonstration, told Workers World, "We're going to rally to let the people in Washington know we're serious. We want a full-scale investigation and moratorium on the multinational corporations. We want a repeal of the govern-

ment-sponsored PL 93-531."

He said the big-business media, which plays hand in hand with the government, would like the people of this country to believe there's not going to be a forced relocation on July 7.

However, "there's still a forced relocation happening just as it's happening to Indian people throughout the history of the U.S.," Dacajeweah said. "Get corporations like Bechtel and Peabody Coal out of Indian Country."

PL 93-531 and Peabody Coal

In 1974 Congress passed the "Navajo-Hopi Relocation Act" (PL 93-531) with the excuse of solving a phony land dispute between the two nations. But it was greedy U.S. corporations like Peabody Coal Co. that were behind the passage of the act. They have had their eye on the land at

the Big Mountain reservation, which is rich in natural resources. These corporations, with the backing of the U.S. Congress, are responsible for atrocities that are destroying the land and the way of life for the people there.

Tremendous support and national attention has been drawn to the forced removal at Big Mountain, including the Academy Award-winning documentary "Broken Rainbow," a recent special on ABC's 20-20, and a benefit in Los Angeles where stars Elizabeth Taylor, Bruce Springsteen and others raised money for Big Mountain.

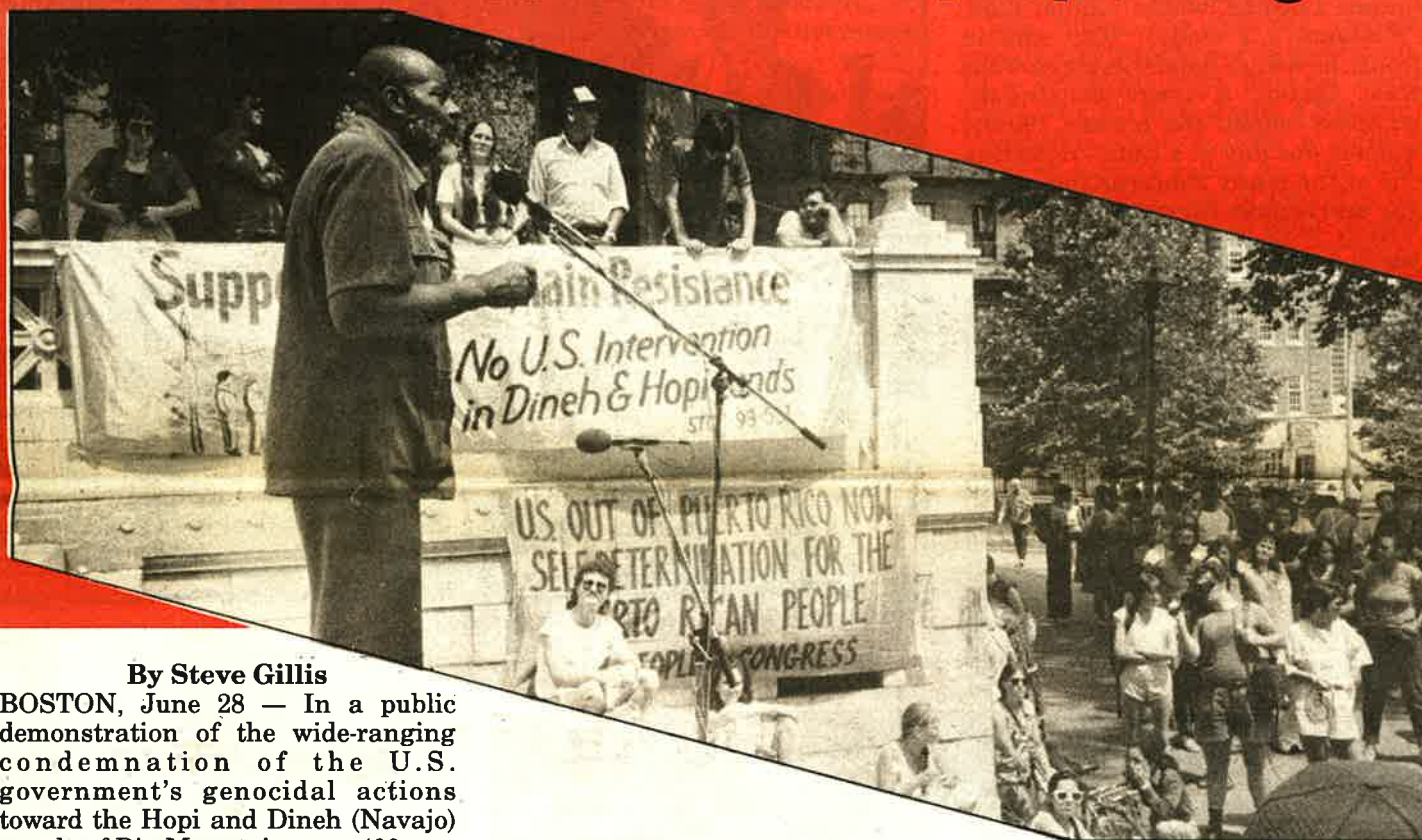
Many of the Dineh Elders have left their homes for the first time to speak in cities all across the country. The People's Anti-War Mobilization and the All-Peoples Congress sponsored a five-week speaking tour in which three members of the Dineh Elders council — Zonnie Katney, Jane Biakaddy and Larry Anderson — toured with Vernon Bellecourt of the Anishinabe nation. They travelled to 13 East Coast and Midwest cities to raise money and support for Big Mountain from audiences packed to overflowing.

Because of the widespread opposition to relocation, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) director Ross Swimmer has been forced to retract earlier threats of calling in the National Guard, and say that violence will not be used on July 7 to evict anyone. But this covers up the increasing amount of harassment used by the U.S., the corporations and the BIA to force the Dineh and Hopi off their land.

Corporations which began mining uranium there as early as 1949 have left large radioactive pilings standing in the open near people's homes. As a result, birth defects on the reservation are eight times higher than in the rest of the country. Strip mining has already destroyed large portions of the land surrounding Big Mountain. The BIA has signed plans for six coal gasification plants, 10 uranium mills, and 100 uranium mines by the year 2000. The National Nuclear Waste Disposal Site Co. has also leased an area of land near Carlsbad, N.M.

For more information on the Washington, D.C., rally contact the Big Mountain Support Group, 1512 U St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 or call (202) 234-4938.

Boston rally supports Native peoples' rights



WW PHOTO

By Steve Gillis

BOSTON, June 28 — In a public demonstration of the wide-ranging condemnation of the U.S. government's genocidal actions toward the Hopi and Dineh (Navajo) people of Big Mountain, over 400 people rallied on the State House steps here today to demand the immediate repeal of Public Law 93-531 (the Navajo-Hopi Relocation Act) and for self-determination for all Native peoples.

Bob Gustafson, a member of the Mohawk Nation of the Iroquois Confederacy and a leader of the United American Indians of New England, warned the demonstrators today that Big Mountain "is not an isolated incident or a struggle between two Indian nations, but is part of the attempt from coast to coast by the U.S. government, the BIA, and its agents in the so-called Tribal Councils to complete the cycle of genocide begun by the Pilgrims over 350 years ago."

Referring to a Massachusetts Indian nation, Gustafson related that "last Wednesday [June 25], the BIA declared the Gayhead Wampanoags are no longer a tribe. This attack was aimed at destroying their claim to 238 acres on Gayhead. Smack on top of Wampanoag land sits the million dollar estate of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. And under Big Mountain lie billions of dollars worth of coal, uranium, and natural gas whose rights are owned by the Peabody Coal Co., controlled by the Mormon Church, one of the deadliest enemies we have to fight."

More than 20 organizations at the rally condemned the genocidal legislation and allied themselves with the struggle for Native sovereignty.

Themba Vilakazi of the African Na-

Mel King addresses Big Mountain rally in Boston.

tional Congress, Alberto Barreto, a Puerto Rican independence activist, and Idi J'war Akim, a Haitian activist and poet, tied the struggles of indigenous and Third World people around the world against U.S. imperialism and exploitation to the Native peoples' fight for self-determination and the need for solidarity.

Mel King, 8th District congressional candidate, and Jim Stuart, of the Mass. Coalition for the Homeless, compared the government-big landlord collusion in gentrifying the nation's cities to the forced removal of Native people. "Condo conversion, evictions, gentrification, and cuts in social services," said King, "come from the same enemy, the U.S. government and the Pentagon, which has met Native people with hate, death, and genocide."

Other speakers included Jane Kaatz, a lesbian activist with the All-Peoples Congress as well as representatives from CASA Guatemala, Greenpeace and NOW.

Early on, Sam Sapiel, spiritual leader of the Penobscot Nation in Maine, set the tone for future struggle. "When the government wanted to put a nuclear dump on our land in Maine, Indians and whites fought together to combat and defeat it. But we can't let our guard down, in Maine or at Big Mountain. We can't ever trust them — they have the money and the greed. But we have the strength."

Indian prisoners in solidarity action

THE following was contributed by Crazy-Horse Coppola, a Native activist being held in prison in Huntsville, Texas. Crazy-Horse Coppola is a Shaman Chief of the Lodge of the Wolf-Raven, A.O.S.T. and National Chairman of the Committee to Safeguard Prisoner's Rights as well as a Jail-house Lawyer, member National Lawyers Guild.

By Crazy-Horse Coppola

OVER 10,000 Native Americans face forced relocation from their traditional homelands in the four-corners region of northeast Arizona. To the corporate sector and military hawks this land is potentially rich in coal, natural gas and uranium. To the Hopi and Navajo Dineh people this land is sacred ground.

In late 1974 the passing of Public Law 93-531 was ushered through quickly due to a Watergate-distracted Congress. Proponents and apologists for PL 93-531 claim the law was passed in order to settle "a long-standing dispute" between the Hopi and Navajo. However, it has become increasingly clear that this maneuver was calculated to remove all residents and relo-

cate them elsewhere in order to exploit the remaining natural resources.

Following the largest strip-mining fiasco in American history the ecological raping of Black Mesa stands as a grinning and barren death's head forewarning us of coming attractions. Subsequently, the traditional land of the Hopi and Navajo becomes a National Sacrifice Area — along with every remaining element of tradition held sacred to the guardians of this sanctuary.

A Congressional report released in 1985 clearly indicates that these relocation efforts are failing and that PL 93-531 cannot be implemented under its guidelines. Its findings state that: "... relocated Indians are ill-prepared to move off reservation(s) but are forced to do so. . . . The relocatees literally have no place to go and are forced to move to town."

Further studies indicate that over half of those who have already relocated have had their homes fraudulently taken away from them by corrupt realtors and financiers.

Pauline Whitesinger, a Navajo woman explains to outsiders, "In our

Continued on page 10

Ortega calls contra aid vote 'declaration of war'

World Court rules U.S.-backed terror is illegal

By Sharon Shelton

JUNE 30 — It was "a virtual declaration of war."

This is how Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega described last week's cave-in by House Democrats who passed President Reagan's request for \$100 million in aid for the Nicaraguan contras.

The vote came almost simultaneously with a World Court ruling against the U.S., a ruling which not only declares the contra war illegal, but also symbolizes worldwide outrage at the Reagan administration's efforts to overthrow the popular Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

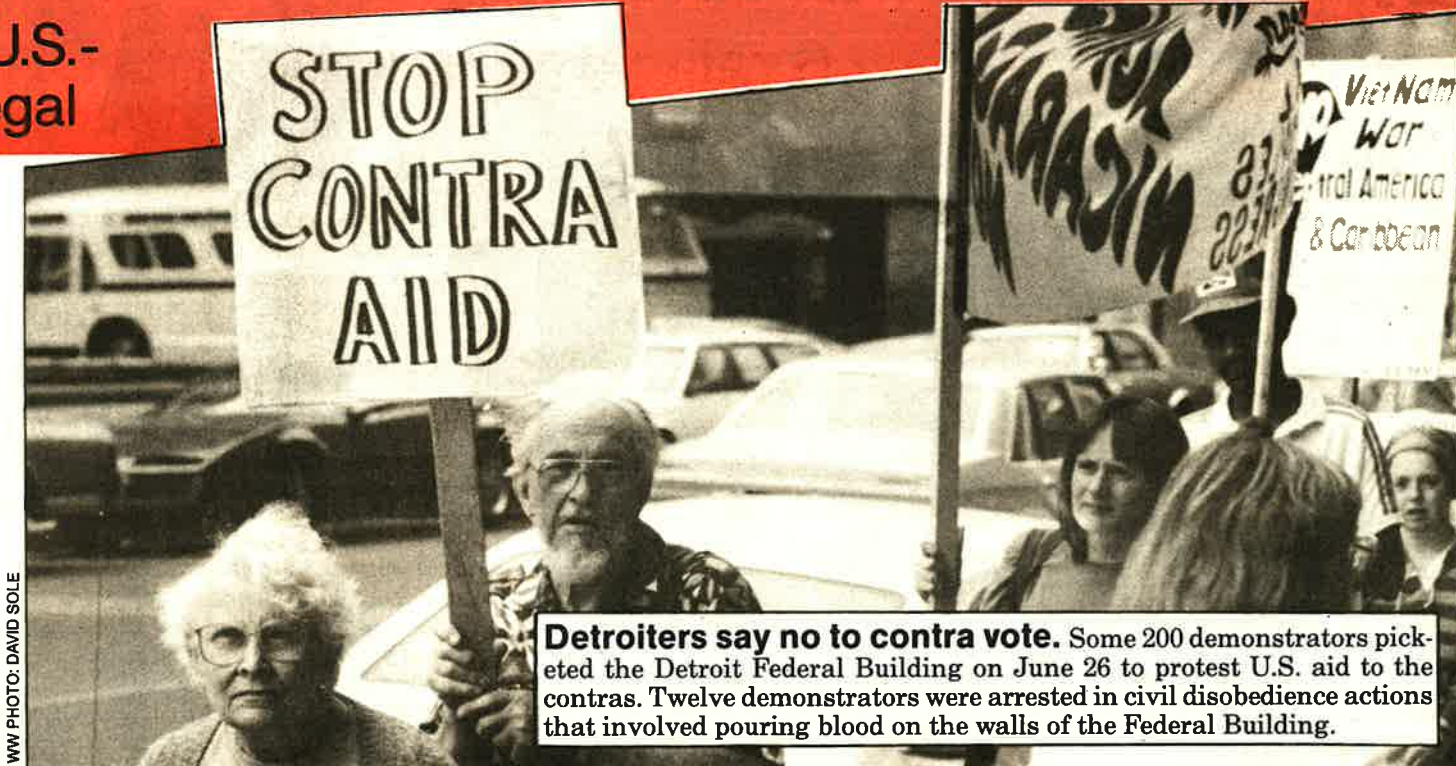
Specifically, the aid measure provides \$70 million in military aid and \$30 million in so-called humanitarian aid. (This "humanitarian" aid includes monies for tents, binoculars, clothing and other non-weapon supplies needed to keep Reagan's dirty war against the peoples of Nicaragua going.)

The measure also allows Reagan to choose any U.S. agency to oversee the aid and removes congressional restrictions on CIA involvement. While the CIA never really stopped its activities with the contras, despite a Congressional ban since 1984, the inclusion of this provision will dramatically increase CIA intervention.

In fact, according to Newsweek Magazine (July 7), the CIA is already preparing to furnish over \$400 million in "covert logistical support, training, communications and intelligence." The magazine also revealed that the spy agency has been ominously beefing up its intelligence network in Central America, has been busily recruiting Spanish-speaking agents and will increase efforts to funnel money and supplies to the contras from U.S.-backed regimes abroad.

The House vote additionally authorizes \$300 million in aid for its puppets in Guatemala, Honduras and elsewhere in Central America — aid no doubt also to be used against Nicaragua.

Strengthening Reagan's hand and preparing the way for future infusions of military aid — if not outright U.S. intervention — the measure could



WW PHOTO: DAVID SOLE

Detroiters say no to contra vote. Some 200 demonstrators picketed the Detroit Federal Building on June 26 to protest U.S. aid to the contras. Twelve demonstrators were arrested in civil disobedience actions that involved pouring blood on the walls of the Federal Building.

never have passed had it not been for Reagan's so-called opponents in the Democratic Party such as liberal House Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin.

The vote exposes these Democrats who make such grandiose claims to represent ordinary working people but who in reality line up again and again with Reagan on behalf of the ruling class to cut social services in order to stoke up the imperialist military machine.

World Court indicts U.S. imperialism

Already, both the people of this country, whom polls show overwhelmingly oppose the contra war, as well as Peoples abroad have shown their outrage over the measure. Here at home, emergency demonstrations have occurred in several cities. And the World Court, revealing the sentiments of people throughout the world, has issued a stern indictment of U.S. military moves against Nicaragua.

Citing U.S. training of the contras, attacks on Nicaraguan oil installations, mining of the harbors, the distribution of a CIA manual trying to whip up sabotage against the Sandinista government and eleven other counts, the Court demanded that the U.S. pay reparation to Nicaragua to compensate for the damages it has caused that brave, revolutionary nation.

Yet, with typical imperialist arrogance, the Reagan administration has thumbed its nose at the World Court ruling, claiming that the issue is "too complex" to be decided by this world body whose judges come from 14 countries, including India, France, Poland, Argentina, Nigeria, Italy, Brazil, Senegal, Algeria, China, Norway, Japan, the U.S. and Britain. Last year, White House representatives stormed out of the court, complaining that the body favored Nicaragua.

According to Nicaragua's chief envoy to the United Nations, Nora Astorga, the Sandinista government is asking for a UN Security Council meeting to discuss how to make the U.S. comply with the ruling.

The U.S. ruling class lined itself up behind Reagan in hopes he could better salvage U.S. fortunes abroad than Carter had before him. But so far, outside of a shameful bully-boy attack on the tiny island of Grenada, the Rea-

gan administration has not been able to stem the tide of history and in fact is facing unprecedented revolutionary struggles in South Africa, the Philippines, south Korea and in Latin America.

Moreover, U.S. imperialism is isolated as never before. At one time, it used international bodies like the World Court to ram through its imperialist objectives. Today, only the judges from Britain and Japan voted with the Reagan administration.

Actually, Reaganites cannot stop the world's peoples from rising up to control their own destinies. It is the imperialist system that creates the conditions for revolutionary struggle, and Reagan's renewed, stepped-up war against Nicaragua can only further discredit U.S. imperialism and increase the revolutionary determination of the Nicaraguan people and their supporters here in the U.S. and around the world.

Day of solidarity with Honduran people

By Angela Hernandez

NEW YORK, June 30 — About 50 people came together here on Wednesday, June 25, to celebrate a "Day in Solidarity with the People of Honduras," which was organized by Casa Honduras to commemorate the 1975 "Los Horcones" massacre where 15 people were killed.

This cowardly act occurred when leaders of the National Union of Peasants (Union Nacional de Campesinos — UNC) were meeting in their offices (Centro de Capacitacion Campesina) in Santa Clara, Department of Olancho, to coordinate a protest to demand the continuation and deepening of the land reform. They were fired on by the U.S.-backed and trained military.

Speaking 11 years after that vile act,

a representative from Casa Honduras spoke about the increasing attacks that the organized movement is facing from the puppet government and military that have sold their country to the U.S. Honduras is being used as a counter-insurgency platform against the people of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Despite the repression and military occupation as well as intervention of the U.S., the students, peasants and workers continue to organize and resist the invaders in their struggle for a true peace, justice and freedom.

A video called "War Games" was also presented, showing the U.S. occupation of Honduras as well as the training of the contras being done by the U.S.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

SF battle against contra terrorists. Over 3,500 angry protesters targeted the return of the Battleship Missouri in San Francisco on June 28 to show their opposition to the Congressional approval of \$100 million for the contra terrorists. Gates at Pier 30-32 were blocked for the entire day, restricting naval personnel from coming or going onto the ship.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein greeted the ship and then was unable to leave because of the demonstration and was forced to sneak away on a tug boat to the other side of the city to avoid this tremendous show of opposition to U.S. policy in Central America.

The police, who continually attempted to remove the protesters and clear the gates, found themselves sometimes overwhelmed as demonstrators built barricades in the street with anything they could put their hands on. Others tore down an entire section of fence surrounding the dock facility. Some 135 were arrested by the end of the day.

— Bill Hackwell



New York protest on June 25 against contra aid.

WW PHOTO: CHRIS

EDITORIAL

Congress capitulates

THERE HAS never been any doubt that the majority sentiment in this country opposes the dirty war being waged by the U.S. government against Nicaragua. It has been proven again and again in various polls.

The ruling class, however, will not give up its efforts to reverse the Nicaraguan Revolution without a much bigger fight here at home than has been mounted so far. The arm-twisting and bribery that went into the Reagan administration's successful campaign to get contra aid passed in the House are evidence of this.

The Congress, of course, is supposed to be the most democratic branch of the government. Representatives in particular are elected for relatively short terms and are supposed to more closely represent the will of the people than Senators, the elitist, appointed-for-life Supreme Court or the executive branch.

Yet Congress is in no way an instrument of the popular will, especially when it comes to imperialist wars. When has Congress ever stopped the war schemes of the military-industrial juggernaut? One little fact to remember is that Congress didn't vote to withhold funds from the Viet Nam War until 1975 — when the war was already over! On the contrary, Congress has always been forced to rubber-

stamp whatever the Pentagon and the White House worked out together, whether it was the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, the invasion of Grenada or more hundreds of billions for nuclear weapons.

The contra aid vote merely points more irrevocably than ever to the need for independent, mass anti-war action of the type that challenged imperialism on the Viet Nam War. It underlines the futility of trying to persuade capitalist politicians, through various types of lobbying activities, that imperialist aggression is wrong.

What could be more morally reprehensible than the odious system of apartheid? Yet Congress never bothered itself about this modern form of slavery until the South African masses made it very clear that they are on the road to tearing it down, brick by brick. Then they rushed to pass a resolution calling for sanctions (which will probably not be enforced, but that's another story).

The almost spontaneous wave of militant responses to the contra aid vote across the country is an encouraging development. It shows that the disillusionment with capitalist political institutions is leading not to demoralization but to the understanding that to stop the war, the people have to take the struggle into their own hands.

Stop the KKK!

THE KKK HAS once again confirmed that in times of deepening economic crisis, it will rear its ugly head in an attempt to win over various sectors of white workers, especially the youth. Therefore, it was no accident that these racist hoodlums targeted the city of Chicago on June 28 to demonstrate in the infamous Marquette Park.

Chicago, an extremely segregated city of some three million people, has the kind of festering unemployment and poverty typical of the industrial Midwest. Capitalist economic processes are creating more jobless, more hunger, and it's the Klan's job to turn white workers against their class brothers and sisters before they can unite together and fight the ruling class that is responsible.

Mayor Harold Washington, a Black man, has been virtually unable to address the economic problems of the city; his administration has been blocked by the entrenched remnants of the racist Daley machine led by city councilman Edward Vrdolyak and

backed by the banks and local ruling class.

Chicago is also affected by the racist, bigoted climate created by the Reagan administration: the upholding of sodomy laws by the U.S. Supreme Court; the "Justice" Department's encouragement of firings of workers inflicted with AIDS; vicious attacks on affirmative action, reproductive rights, etc. This has given the green light to the KKK to raise its fascist program, hoping to turn back all hard-won progressive social gains.

The KKK is an extra-legal arm of the U.S. ruling class; it has no right to exist. The interest of white workers does not lie in allying themselves with these racist, anti-gay, anti-union terrorists. It lies in solidarizing themselves with the most oppressed elements of the working class — Black, Latin, Asian, Native, gay and lesbian — into a mighty, militant movement that will fight together against the entire right-wing offensive that depends on imperialist war, racism and poverty to solve the capitalist economic crisis.



Women, unions mount fight against sexual harassment

By Joyce Chediac

JULY 1 — "I was so proud. My new job was a four-grade promotion — from clerk-typist to senior secretary. I even called my mother to tell her about it," said Louise Blackburn, a Connecticut state worker in 1979.

Today, Blackburn is trying to put her life back together after the nightmare she experienced on that new job. For three years, Blackburn was kissed, touched and fondled by her boss against her will and despite her protestations.

Blackburn developed chronic insomnia, acute anxiety; there were periods of uncontrollable crying. She was hospitalized repeatedly. Finally, she read in a state employee newsletter about a workshop sponsored by the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) on what to do about unwanted sexual advances on the job. Then Blackburn realized that it was not just her problem, or her fault. She turned to her union (AFSCME) for help and after a long and difficult struggle won a state human rights settlement and workers' compensation.

It is due to the courage of women like Louise Blackburn, who fought back, that her nightmare and the nightmare of millions of working women has a name — sexual harassment on the job. It is a form of discrimination against women that is dehumanizing, degrading, intimidating, and now, illegal.

What Supreme Court didn't do

Recently the Supreme Court, under pressure from millions of women in the workplace, significantly expanded the circumstances under which sexual harassment can be considered in violation of the federal civil rights law. This court, however, rejected a lower court ruling that the company is always liable for sexual harassment of workers by supervisors.

A recent study of sexually harassed women found that more than a quarter had been fired, and another quarter had resigned rather than go along with a revolting and intolerable work situation. Under present legislation, their only recourse is to file suit. Suppose they are too poor to wait for a settlement, or cannot afford legal fees?

In fact, it is essential for the company to be held liable for sexual harassment on the job if women are to have an accessible avenue to address their grievances.

Reports of sexual harassment are up

nearly 50% since the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission started counting in 1981. Why?

The Reagan administration, which has assaulted affirmative action, attacked women's right to abortion, slashed at daycare programs, and waged war on the entire working class, has created a climate which encourages sexism, racism and all forms of bigotry. The rise in sexual harassment cannot be separated from this general rightwing ruling class trend. In fact sexual harassment, like all forms of discrimination, is spawned by the capitalist system.

A significantly increasing number of sexual harassment cases involve rape. The Women's Legal Defense Fund gets an average of five calls a month from women who have been raped or assaulted on the job. A 1981 study revealed that one in every 100 federal employees reported rape, attempted rape or assault on the job. Most rapes at work are probably not reported.

History of sexual harassment

Some 14 women's groups, including the Working Women's Institute, the Sisterhood of Black Mothers and the Women's Rights Project of the Instituto Puertorriqueno de Derechos Civiles, filed a friend of the court brief in the recent Supreme Court decision giving additional information on sexual harassment:

- Any woman can be a target. The majority of women have experienced one or more forms of unwanted sexual attention on the job regardless of their age or marital status, whether they were blue collar workers, clerical workers or professionals.

- Sexual harassment is usually not an isolated incident. Frequently more than one woman is harassed. (Nine women in Little Falls, Minn., filed a complaint against the same boss.)

- Women are vulnerable to sexual harassment because of their economic oppression. Women earn 63 cents for every dollar earned by men. Black and other nationally oppressed women who, due to racism, are paid even less, are especially vulnerable. A study of sexual harassment in the auto industry found that Black women not only were harassed more frequently than white women, but were also harassed more severely.

Many cases of reported sexual harassment go along with other forms of

Continued on page 10

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WORKERS WORLD

General strike to defy South African terror laws

By Sahu Barron

JULY 1 — It has been less than a month since South Africa declared a nationwide state of emergency, its second such decree in a year. Shielding itself from the eyes of the world, the apartheid state has erected a wall of censorship, behind which Botha has launched an unprecedented campaign to stem the revolutionary onslaught against his racist regime.

After three weeks of Pretoria's massive arrests and detentions, of its open military occupation of the Black townships, of fascist terror carried out by its police and surrogate armies, the Reagan administration announced that it would undergo "a major review" of its policy toward that embattled country. Could it be that Washington, so long the principal economic and political mainstay of apartheid, is now joining the voices of outrage emanating from within South Africa and around the world?

Not on your life! "Apartheid is repugnant," said Ronald Reagan in a June 29 press release announcing that the White House would seek "new ways" of settling the intensifying struggle sweeping South Africa. In his statement, Reagan decried apartheid's "assaults on social and economic justice."

Unionists arrested

This champion of economic freedom did not, however, condemn the fact that over the past week alone, the number of trade unionists detained by the regime has risen from 171 to more than 900, making the number arrested since June 12 a whopping 4,500 people! Nor did Reagan address the detention of two key labor leaders, who were arrested during the same weekend his press release was issued.

On June 27, Elijah Barayi, president of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), was picked up by apartheid cops at his home. On the next day, General Secretary of the Metal and Allied Workers Union, a COSATU affiliate, Moses Mayekiso, was arrested at the Johannesburg airport upon his return from Europe.

Averting a blood bath?

In his press statement, Reagan also echoed the concerns of other imperialist powers when he said that all leverage must be used to "avert a blood-bath" in South Africa. Obviously, it is not the blood of the Black majority that concerns him, for their blood is spilled every day. Since the imposition of martial law last month, 100 people have been killed by police fire, adding to the 2,000 who have died at the

hands of white minority rule in less than two years.

The only bloodbath Reagan seeks to avoid is the spilling of the blood of the apartheid clique, whose stability is more and more threatened by the people's struggle there, which has already reached revolutionary proportions.

Does Washington's revamping of its South Africa policy mean an end to "constructive engagement"?

"No, we want to remain engaged," said Secretary of State George Shultz during a recent interview as he elaborated on Reagan's new policy initiative. It is apparent that the new plans of the White House only spell business-as-usual, for constructive engagement has been a green light to Pretoria as it has moved to widen its war of aggression beyond its own borders to the independent African states within the region.

So what is the bottom line in Reagan's so-called policy review? The answer is found within a report gathered by the "Eminent Persons Group," a coalition of seven European nations researching alternatives in their relationships with South Africa. In their report, they warned that unless the U.S. moved swiftly, "a radical black government would emerge that will destroy Western interests absolutely."

There you have it. These so-called "new ways" of intervening in South Africa mean nothing more than desperate attempts by Reagan and the rest of the imperialist ruling class to preserve billions in super-profits stolen from the unpaid labor and untold misery of 24 million South African people. A free South Africa would mean the wealth produced by the people would be used for their welfare and not the benefit of the multinational corporations.

General strike on July 13

Washington and its policy swings cannot alter the mounting resistance of tens of thousands of Black workers there who have already responded to the detention of their leaders by staging over 100 strikes in the past month. COSATU, the organizers of the massive strikes that rocked the apartheid economy on May 1 and June 16, has warned Pretoria that if the trade unionists are not released and the state of emergency lifted by July 10, another general strike will be staged on July 13.

The South African majority have decided that they will fight to the bitter end to win their freedom, and neither the brute force of the fascist regime nor the political machinations of the White House will forestall their inevitable victory.



South African women and children arrested for protesting the violence against their communities.

The Freedom Charter: What South Africans want

"THE Charter is more than a list of demands for democratic reforms. It is a revolutionary document precisely because the changes it envisages cannot be won without breaking up the economic and political set-up of present South Africa. To win these demands calls for the organization, launching and development of mass struggles on the widest scale."

— Nelson R. Mandela

By Monica Moorehead

JUNE 25 and 26 marked the 31st anniversary of the Freedom Charter of South Africa. While many interpretations and views have been espoused in an ongoing debate concerning what exactly the South African people are fighting for, it is the Freedom Charter that expresses the true aspirations and the right to self-determination of the struggling people of South Africa.

The Freedom Charter of South Africa was born out of the living struggle against apartheid, especially during the early 1950s. It was precisely due to the escalation of the mass struggle that such a written document was needed in order to help chart the course for the struggle as well as give inspiration to the oppressed peoples.

From 1950 until June 26, 1955, the day the Freedom Charter was ratified, many actions were called by the African National Congress (ANC), the national liberation movement of South Africa. On June 26, 1950, the ANC called the first national political strike to protest the May 1 mass murder of 18 unarmed people. The strike opposed all discriminatory laws and called for full rights for all.

A Congress of the People

Since that day, June 26 has been proclaimed South African Freedom Day. On June 26, 1952, the ANC and the South African Indian Congress initiated a nationwide "Campaign for the Defiance of Unjust Laws." At an annual ANC conference in December 1953, a proposal was ratified calling for a congress of the people. This congress would have the task of recording the demands of millions of oppressed South Africans and their allies into the document that would eventually be known to the world as the Freedom Charter.

Three thousand delegates gathered in Kliptown, Johannesburg, representing millions of South Africans. These delegates were workers, peasants, women, youth, students and others of all nationalities, at the most representative gathering in South Af-

rican history. The organizers of this congress included the ANC, the South African Indian Congress, the Coloured Peoples Organization, South African Congress of Trade Unions and other groups that adopted the Freedom Charter as their program for a liberated South Africa.

What does the Freedom Charter state? In part, the opening statement reads, "We, the People of South Africa, declare for all our country to know that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, Black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people."

The main principles of the Charter are: "The people shall govern! All national groups shall have equal rights! The people shall share in the country's wealth! The land shall be shared among those who work it! All shall be equal before the law! All shall enjoy equal human rights! There shall be work and security! The doors of learning and of culture shall be opened! There shall be houses, security and comfort! And there shall be peace and friendship! Let all who love their people and their country now say as we say here: 'These freedoms we will fight for, side by side, throughout our lives, until we have won our liberty.'"

As the oppressed and exploited masses in South Africa bring their struggle one step closer to final victory, so too will this victory help to transform the principles of the Freedom Charter into a living reality for all South Africans and for humankind. As Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC remarked, "We can with confidence say that in struggle millions of us have reaffirmed that the Freedom Charter constitutes the embodiment of our deepest aspirations and the blueprint for a new South Africa." Death to apartheid!

FREEDOM CHARTER

The people shall govern!
All national groups shall have equal rights!
The people shall share in the country's wealth!
The land shall be shared among those who work it!
All shall be equal before the law!
All shall enjoy equal human rights!
There shall be work and security!
The doors of learning and culture shall be opened!
There shall be houses, security, and comfort!
There shall be peace and friendship!

West Coast meet backs ANC, SWAPO, maps future actions

By Jane Cutter

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30 — They came from Tucson, Ariz., Seattle, Wash., San Diego, Calif., Portland, Ore., just to name a few cities.

They were 450 anti-apartheid activists who met here this weekend to hear delegations from the African National Congress (ANC) and South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO), to discuss demands and formulate strategy.

At the Western Regional Conference in Solidarity with the Struggling Peoples of Southern Africa, there was strong participation from trade unionists and students. Among the unions represented were Local 250, Service Employees International Union, United Auto Workers from Fremont, Calif., and Local 10 of the Interna-

tional Warehousemen's and Longshoremen's Union, whose 1984 boycott of South African cargo sparked the Bay Area anti-apartheid movement.

Campuses represented included delegations from University of California at Los Angeles, San Diego and Berkeley, University of Washington, University of Oregon, University of Arizona, Stanford, California State University-San Jose and San Francisco State University, which was the site of the conference.

Out of all the panels, plenaries, workshops and spirited discussions, the overwhelming political thrust was support for the ANC and SWAPO on the basis of self-determination and a call for the immediate imposition of

Continued on page 11

CIA tries to squelch new book on KAL

By Lallan Stein

JUNE 30 — It can only be called blatant censorship when William J. Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), along with an agent from the National Security Agency (NSA) make threatening calls to Random House concerning their publication of Seymour Hersh's new book on the 1983 Korean Airlines (KAL) spy flight over the Soviet Union. According to the New York Times, Casey made a thinly veiled threat that publishing the book might be a violation of national security.

At the critical time when the KAL incident occurred, it was clear that the

multi-billion-dollar publishing industry and the rest of the U.S. media were practicing almost total self-censorship on the many questions that arose such as how a flight could stray so far off course (into a strategic Soviet military zone) without any contact or warning from U.S. or Japanese air traffic controllers.

But they weren't just silent on the many obvious loopholes in the U.S. government's story covering the event. They collaborated with the Pentagon in the most rabid accusations against the Soviet Union, inciting world opinion as part of the Reagan administration's drive for world mili-

tary superiority.

By now it is widely known that the KAL flight was on a spy mission for the U.S. intelligence apparatus. It has been widely documented that the CIA, the NSA and the U.S. military closely followed the course of that KAL flight and that they knew the Soviet Union was conducting a major missile test at the time. It has also been demonstrated that there was no way for the Soviet Union to detect that it was a passenger flight making this obviously military mission.

From all that has already been revealed it can be concluded that the war-mad U.S. military chiefs were pre-

pared to sacrifice the 269 people on board in order to test Soviet responses and/or to create an incident against the Soviet Union.

Now, when one of the biggest publishing houses is ready to release a book on the subject and in the words of Random House Chairman, Robert L. Bernstein, "has done everything possible, short of submitting the book to the Government for censorship," the government is taking action to intervene because they would prefer a cloak of silence to shroud even the mildest explanation of the KAL incident.

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Israeli regime shields killers despite uproar

By Michael Bar-Am

JULY 1 — In an attempt to quell controversy over the brutal and cold-blooded murders of two Palestinian prisoners of war, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres last week worked out an agreement granting immunity to the head of the General Security Service (Shin Bet) and three top aides. The Shin Bet chief had ordered the murders in April 1984 after getting the okay from Yitzhak Shamir, who was then Prime Minister of Israel and is today Foreign Minister.

This case, although two years old, has created one more crisis for the fragile coalition between right-wing extremists like Shamir and the Labor Party, headed by Peres. It has revealed the deep divisions — class, ethnic, political and religious — within Israeli society that are coming to the surface, often violently.

The move by Peres was denounced by those in Israel who are looking for some form of resolution of the conflict with the Palestinians. Comments reported in the press included this by Binyamin Cohen, a former judge: "I believe the pardon was granted to quell fears that, if properly investigated, Shin Bet officials would have to admit that they have always lied, killed and that, until now, these were legitimate tactical procedures" (Jerusalem Post, June 27).

The two Palestinians, members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, were beaten and clubbed to death after the Israeli military recaptured a bus they had hijacked. Two others were killed during the storming of the bus. The military at first tried to

claim the survivors had been fatally wounded in the fighting, but film clips showed they were not seriously wounded before being taken into custody.

The commando group had seized the bus to call for the release of hundreds of political prisoners from the hell-holes of Israeli prisons, where many had been held for over 15 years. In revolutionary solidarity, they had specifically demanded the release of a Jewish prisoner who was a supporter of the Palestinian struggle.

According to a CIA report, Shin Bet, the military organization that stormed the bus, is "responsible for counter-espionage, anti-terrorist operations, control of political subversion, and the research and maintenance of a counter-intelligence index on Arabs" (CounterSpy, May-June 1982).

As casualties in Lebanon mount and the cost of militarism plays havoc with the economy, Israel's role as the main Pentagon base in the Middle East to be used against the Arab Revolution is increasingly becoming the source of antagonism within Israeli society. Many are fearful that right-wing extremists like Shamir, and out-right fascists like Meir Kahane, will not only join in parliamentary maneuvers against any attempt to make peace, but will join in physically intimidating any Israeli open to new ideas with respect to the Palestinian people.

In the fragile coalition that now runs the government, Shamir is scheduled to rotate back to being Prime Minister again in a few months. There

is a move afoot to prevent this among some of the centrists. However, playing coalition politics with the right-wing is no answer. Only by joining with the Palestinian Revolution in a militant struggle can Israelis who are for a just peace take on the growing right-wing and fascist movement in Israel, which itself is an expression of imperialist interests in the Middle East.

— Big Mountain

Continued from page 6

traditional tongue there is no word for relocation. To move away means to disappear, and never be seen again."

Another Navajo woman, Katherine Smith, takes a more fixed perspective echoing the voices of many of her people, as she warns, "I will be buried here before I move."

Solidarity forming worldwide

AIM Warriors stand guard at the invitation of the Elders on the Sacred Ground at Big Mountain while hundreds of thousands of supporters the world over make preparations in monumental solidarity.

An unexpected addition recently emerged from within prison walls. Chained AIM Warriors, medicine-men such as this writer, and prisoners of all distinctions have joined the ranks of supporters in a very unique way.

Although our bodies may be restricted, our hearts, our minds, our pen-hands and our spirit remains free. Prisoners have written freeworld organizations who have organized Summer Solstice festivals and workshops all over the world asking them to set aside some time to join in the Thunderbird Vision Ceremonies, and to encourage participants on their return home to demand the repeal of PL 93-531. Prisoners will be fasting the entire weekend of June 20-22. Some will remain fasting until July 7 and afterwards if necessary, while meditating and invoking visions.

— Sexual harassment

Continued from page 8

discrimination. A court recently ruled that Western Electric Company had illegally tolerated sexual harassment and also discriminated against women in hiring, promotions and discharges. This has been true of a case against Gulf Oil in 1982 and another citing Hertz in 1984.

Several suits filed by the United Auto Workers union, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and others seek to hold employers fully accountable for sexual harass-

ment of women workers on the job, and for creating an atmosphere which encourages abuse.

Sexual harassment is a very real and painful form of discrimination, and is not to be hushed up, or blamed upon the victim. Surely the very least that the government and corporations can do is to provide every means of non-humiliating redress for the women subjected to sexual abuse and suitable punishment for the offender.

But, like every other gain won by women, it will take a struggle in the streets and through the trade unions to win this demand.



WW PHOTO: SUE ROTGARD

Protest says: 'U.S. out of Korea!' A militant demonstration was held June 25 in New York City in front of the south Korean Consulate and Trade Promotion Center in solidarity with the struggle of the south Korean people against the U.S.-backed regime of Chon Do Hwan. Korea is occupied by 40,000 U.S. troops and is a major base for U.S. nuclear weapons. Over 2,000 U.S. corporations reap untold profits with the help of the repressive military dictatorship there. The rally was called by the People's Anti-War Mobilization/All-Peoples Congress and the U.S. Out of Korea Committee.

— Gin T. Loy

POLITICAL PRISONERS

'60s struggles the issue in Bingham acquittal

By Stephanie Hedgecock
SAN RAFAEL, June 30 — Former prison lawyer Stephan Bingham was acquitted Friday after an eleven-week trial focused on the details of the Aug. 21, 1971, San Quentin prison murder of Black activist George Jackson.

Bingham faced a possible life sentence on two counts of murder and one count of conspiracy. California prison officials alleged that Bingham had smuggled a gun to Jackson and that Jackson had used this gun in an "escape attempt."

The state's scenario of Jackson's murder, however, was disputed in the trial by the results of the autopsy and the many inconsistencies in the testimony of prison-guard witnesses. Bingham's defense contended that Jackson was murdered

as he lay on the ground, crippled by a previous shot to the ankle.

The 10 women and two men on the jury deliberated for 23 hours, conducting a thorough review of the over 200 pieces of evidence. Juror Idell Armijo told the San Francisco Examiner (June 28) that the wig Bingham allegedly gave Jackson to conceal the gun "was a big issue."

Armijo explained, "If a man did not wear a wig into a visiting room and then walked out with a wig, wouldn't somebody notice the change? Not one person testified that he looked different."

The panel, described by juror Ruth Barton as "liberal thinking," also considered the fact that the one unidentified fingerprint found on

the 9mm automatic definitely did not match those of either Bingham or Jackson.

During the trial, defense lawyer Gerald Schwartzbach recalled the police violence of the 1960s and early 1970s, including the murders of Black Panther leaders in Chicago and Los Angeles. Jackson, the Field Marshal of the revolutionary Black Panther Party, was violently hated by prison officials for his inmate organizing work at San Quentin and Soledad prisons.

Schwartzbach pointed out that Jackson "was a leader for prison rights and a Black inmate. He had published a book 'Soledad Brother' which had received international acclaim."

Following the acquittal Schwartzbach said, "I hope this

case gives people a new perspective on the 1960s... A lot of people worked real hard to fight social injustice."

Bingham stated, "It's clear that this case represented something much larger and more important than myself."

He said, "This verdict encourages people to address serious issues of our time."

Bingham plans to continue his own political involvement, which he did not give up during a 13-year exile. He mentioned many important struggles he intends to be involved in, including prison reform and the anti-apartheid movement.

Just two days after his acquittal Bingham attended Sunday's rally and march of 3,000 in support of the Watsonville Cannery strikers.

National march set to defend Puerto Rican political prisoners

By Merrill Charles
HARTFORD, June 26 — A coalition of progressive political organizations has launched a drive to build a national march on Aug. 30 in defense of 15 Puerto Rican independence activists on trial here. Its plans were announced at a meeting tonight called by the Connecticut Committee Against Repression.

Elizabeth Toledo, who chaired the meeting, explained the reasons for the march. "Ten months ago the FBI launched an invasion of Puerto Rico to kidnap leaders of the independence movement and bring them to stand trial in the land of their oppressor. Their real 'crime,' as we know, is wanting Puerto Rico to be free after 493 years of colonial domination. While countries around the world have fought for and won their independence from colonialism, even to think of political independence in Puerto Rico puts you at risk of being labeled a terrorist by the U.S. government and the big business mass media."

Representing a broad spectrum of the working class and oppressed communities, speakers included Juan Ramon, coordinator of the

legal defense team for the defendants; Gloria Gerena of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party; Tom Soto of the All-Peoples Congress; John Brittain of the Federation of Black Lawyers; Minji Kwon of Young Koreans United; and Mixashawn, a Native American activist and music keeper of the Pequonawonk Canoe Society.

Juan Ramon drew attention to the unconstitutional preventive detention component of the Bail Reform Act which has been used by prosecutors to deny bail and keep nine of the 15 independence activists in jail for ten months.

Ramon also noted that while the government spent millions of dollars on high-tech spying equipment to follow the defendants around for three years prior to their arrest, and has thousands to spend on marshals at each of their court appearances, it claims insufficient funds, because of the Gramm-Rudman Bill, to provide the defense team with enough copies of the prosecution's evidence.

Tom Soto analyzed the trial in light of the objective conditions of U.S. capitalism and the changing

character of the working class. "When Puerto Rico became a U.S. colony in 1898, U.S. capitalism was still growing and expanding. It could afford to set up a few factories on the Island, some social programs, a few jobs. But now the U.S. control of the world's gross national product is shrinking. Massive numbers of workers are being permanently pushed out of industrial jobs. All the working class is under attack. Unlike the Viet Nam period, the conditions exist for a fightback that includes all of the broad sectors of the working class."

Soto stressed that even though we are in a period of right-wing reaction, economic changes are creating the conditions that can involve large numbers of people in the fight against repression and in support of the Puerto Rican independence struggle.

The many parallels between the struggle against U.S. imperialism in Korea and Puerto Rico were reviewed by Minji Kwon. "Just as U.S. colonialism replaced Spanish colonialism in Puerto Rico, U.S. neo-colonialism replaced Japanese colonialism in Korea. So we know

Libertad para
los presos políticos
Puertorriqueños

Free
Puerto Rican
Political
Prisoners



that Korea can never be free as long as Puerto Rico is a colony. We are with you in the struggle until the end," he declared. In an act of international solidarity that drew extended applause from the audience, Kwon delivered part of his talk in Spanish.

The Aug. 30 demonstration is already being built in cities throughout Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York, and new organizing centers are being started in other states. Information can be obtained from the Connecticut Committee Against Repression, P.O. Box 6159, Hartford, Conn. 06106.

— Jersey City

Continued from page 12
City; Mamie Moore, a Sussex County tenants-rights activist; Rachel Duell, an organizer for the All-Peoples Congress and one of the main organizers of the march, and Teresa Lugo, president of the Federacion for Fair Housing.

Entertainment was provided by New Editions, Reality, and the All-Peoples Singers.

Why People Came

Dorothea Rogers, 25, came because "I'm a single mother with three kids living in a shelter. Welfare'll give me money for an apartment, but I can't find one that will take three kids."

Anna Monserrat has nine children and is being evicted from her apartment because she refuses to pay rent until the landlord repairs it.

Shaisele Richburg, a single mother with four children, pays \$425 a month for a cold water flat where the bathroom ceiling has been fallen for a year.

Both in the Black community, along Martin Luther King Drive, and in the Latin community near City Hall, where gentrification has raged the fiercest, people came off the street to

join the march. An estimated 500 people participated.

Jo Ann Lewis, a JCMC worker, caught the mood of the march when she said at the last rally in front of City Hall, "If you rent in this city, you should march and march again. The way developers are coming in, you might only get 30 days to find another apartment, but a decent one that you can afford doesn't exist."

Vince Copeland, the editor of the Jersey City Community Voice, announced the formation of the Committee of One Hundred to carry the message of the march to Trenton and Washington. He said, "They'll say \$1 billion is too much, that they don't have it. But they do. They had \$3 billion to bail out Continental Illinois. They had \$1 billion for Lockheed, \$2-to-\$3 billion for Chrysler, that's owned by the Rockefeller multi-billionaires. This city had \$40 million to pay for sidewalks and sewers for the real estate moguls that are spending \$10 billion on Newport City [a luxury office and condo complex on the waterfront]. Yes, they have it and we're going to get it for decent housing in this city and throughout this country."

— ANC/SWAPO

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"total and comprehensive sanctions against the illegal apartheid regime" by the U.S. and an end to "constructive engagement."

Another major focus was a commitment to increase awareness of the struggle beyond the borders of South Africa: the illegal occupation of Namibia and the U.S.-backed efforts to destabilize the frontline states of Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Botswana, Zambia and Swaziland.

In a workshop on foreign policy, Hipo Hanutenya, the minister for information and publicity for SWAPO, said, "Destabilization is at the core of constructive engagement." In this same workshop, Pallo Jordan, deputy secretary for information of the ANC, further elaborated on the destabilization and detailed the economic sanctions imposed by South Africa on the frontline states and the extreme hardship it causes the peoples of those countries.

In keeping with the grassroots, activist character of the majority of con-

ference participants, the conference issued a call for action. Proposed dates for fall actions were: Oct. 11 Political Prisoners Day and Oct. 27, which will mark the 20th anniversary of the termination of South Africa's mandate in Namibia.

A call was also made for material and financial aid campaigns to aid ANC and SWAPO.

While the conference strongly condemned the brutality of the racist Pretoria regime, attention was paid not only to the U.S. role in defending Pretoria's policies but also to racism and unemployment here at home.

On the opening night of the three-day conference a panel discussion took place on the differences and similarities between the U.S. civil rights movement and the liberation struggle in southern Africa. Hinyangerwa Asheeke of SWAPO summed it up best when he said, "No matter what differences, it is the same struggle. It is the same forces responsible for the massacre of Blacks on the continent or removed — the forces of international capitalism."

March for housing unites poor in Jersey City

By G. Dunkel

JERSEY CITY, June 28 — The Billion Dollars for Housing March, a coalition of Black, Latino and white tenants as well as some homeless families living in shelters, has a solution to the housing crisis facing Jersey City — one billion dollars from the state and federal government for 20,000 new units of decent, low-cost housing.

The coalition marched over three miles through this city today to show the politicians in Trenton (the state capital) and Washington that, as All-Peoples Congress organizer Sahu Barron put it at the kick-off rally, "Decent housing is no luxury, housing with heat and hot water, housing without vermin and roaches is no special request, it is our right."

The housing crisis in Jersey City is ferocious. The average rent doubled from 1970 to 1980 and then doubled again from 1980 to 1985. 20,000 families — one out of four — face an immediate loss of their homes, either because they're paying more than they can afford, or their home is so dilapidated it might collapse, or their landlord has taken legal action to put them on the street.

Under the mass pressure that organizing for this march produced and facing the rising mass anger over the housing crisis, the City Council voted last Thursday to support this march ("in general") and to declare that Jersey City faced a housing crisis.

"This is a step in the right direction



Jersey City march for \$1 billion.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

but it does not go far enough," said John Jones, one of the main organizers of the march and chair of the rallies at Journal Square and City Hall, speaking of the Council's vote. "It should have the force of law and prevent evictions and rent hikes, while the emergency is in effect. This is what's done when there is a flood or other natural calamity. Why should a

man-made disaster be treated any differently?"

Rally in Journal Square

Journal Square is the main transportation hub and also one of the main shopping areas of Jersey City. The marchers came in chanting, "We're going to beat, beat back the landlord attack," behind a colorful banner that

read "March for a billion, march for a home."

"Money for housing, not for war in El Salvador, money for housing, not for war in Nicaragua, money for housing, not for racist South Africa," was the way Larry Holmes of the All-Peoples Congress began his speech. He went on to say, "We have a right to live in this city. This city belongs to ordinary working and poor people."

Vusi Shangasi of the African National Congress brought the greetings of the president of the ANC, Oliver Tambo, to the rally. "I am glad to march today for one billion dollars for housing in Jersey City because in my country we are homeless in our own land. The government has made us not just simple workers and serfs but foreigners in our own land. That is why we are not only demanding jobs and houses but free the land."

Dwayne Bradley, an executive board member of AFSCME Local 2254, which represents most of the workers at the Jersey City Medical Center (JCMC), tied the housing crisis in Jersey City to the health care crisis that will occur if plans to convert JCMC from a public hospital to a private one go through.

Other speakers at the rally included Vera Spruill, a tenant organizer from Buffalo, N. Y., who tied the struggle for housing in Buffalo to the struggle for housing in Jersey City; Lucha Rodriguez, representing the youth of Jersey

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Black, Latino and white of all ages tell New Jersey and federal authorities: "You got it — We need it!"

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

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