



City workers tell bosses: 'Fight Reagan, not us!'

Rallies defend Native lands —p. 4



JULY 9—City workers out on strike in Philadelphia may soon be joined by fellow AFSCME members in Detroit. In both places workers are forced to fight to defend their jobs and benefits because of cutbacks in social and other service programs begun by the federal government.

First with the 1981 Reaganite cutbacks and now with Gramm-Rudman, the poor have been hurt, especially the oppressed communities and the millions of women driven below the poverty line. The same cuts have trimmed wages of government service workers and threatened their jobs.

In Philadelphia and Detroit, these workers are fighting back. In both cities the unionized service workers agree with the slogan Philadelphia strikers have directed at local city officials: "Fight Reagan, not us!"

(See detailed reports from these two cities on page 3.)

WW PHOTO

South African miners walk out

—p. 9



July 4 protest at U.S. bases in Philippines

—p. 9



Nicaragua tightens up on contra supporters

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High Court rules against laid-off union members

By Gary Wilson
JULY 7 — In a little-reported ruling, the Supreme Court said on July 2 that states may deny unemployment compensation to workers laid off during a strike if they have paid into a union strike fund, including strikes the workers themselves are not involved in.

The case goes back to 1967 when the United Auto Workers (UAW) was negotiating a contract with General Motors (GM). The union had set up a special strike fund and although a national agreement was reached with the corporation, strikes over local issues closed several plants.

In retaliation for the local strikes, GM began to shut down other plants. Such actions are common by big businesses, not for any economic reasons, but mainly to penalize union members. The goal is to embitter the laid-off workers against those who are striking for a just contract, and thus to break down union solidarity.

The court case was brought by three GM workers denied unemployment by the state of Michigan after being laid off. The plants they worked in were closed by GM after others were shut down by the local strikes. The Supreme Court found that since these three had paid into the union's strike

fund, they had therefore "financed" their own unemployment and could on that basis be refused compensation.

For the trade unions, this ruling represents another in a series of legal setbacks in the Reagan era. For the working class as a whole, this is one more Supreme Court ruling taking away rights. This Court has had several such rulings this year, including the notorious finding that anti-sodomy laws aimed against gay men and lesbians can be instituted by the states.

To understand this and other rulings it is necessary to have an historical view of the Court. It was initially set up to insure the rule of the wealthy

by acting as a conservative force against the other branches of government, particularly the House of Representatives which was the only directly elected democratic part of the U.S. government.

Over the years the Court has consistently acted to protect the wealthy class. President after President has appointed representatives of the rich to this life-long position.

The Court's ruling have reflected this class bias. When slavery was still a rich and powerful institution, it ruled in 1857 that Black slaves were property and not people and therefore had no rights under the Constitution. This ruling, known as the Dred Scott decision, was only overturned by the Civil War.

Union, community fight merger of Detroit papers

By Kris Hamel
Shop Steward
Newspaper Guild Local 22
PHILADELPHIA, June 27 — Leaders of the Newspaper Guild representing workers at the Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press today signed a letter demanding a hearing before the U.S. Justice Department on the proposed Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) between the two publishers.

The entire Detroit delegation to the Newspaper Guild International Convention here joined U.S. Representative John Conyers, All-Peoples Congress national board member William Roundtree, community leader Nellie Cuellar and AFSCME vice president Diane Goldberg in opposing the JOA. The Newspaper Guild of Detroit, along with numerous unions, business, civic and political figures, had previously gone on record requesting a Justice Department hearing.

A joint operating agreement between the Detroit newspapers would combine all but the editorial staffs and result in the loss of over 1,000 jobs. Hefty profits of \$100 million would be the end result for the Gannett-owned News and the Knight Ridder-owned

Free Press.

The letter reads in part: "The (JOA) application is fraudulent because, rather than rescue a failing newspaper as required by the Newspaper Preservation Act, it is a maneuver designed to restructure two basically healthy newspapers to extract profits through an illegal monopoly at the community's expense.

"A JOA would hurt the large number of poor, Black and Latin communities in Detroit. Past experience with JOAs has shown that circulation and coverage would be cut in these communities to satisfy pressures from national advertisers who want the newspapers to reach only the more affluent areas, rather than service the city and state as a whole. This would be particularly tragic in Detroit where tens of thousands of people have been left jobless as a result of plant closings and are relegated to a substandard existence. They need the services of a newspaper to enter the job market and follow issues which affect their communities.

"The city would be hurt by the loss of as many as 1,400 jobs, mainly in departments which have been traditional sources of employment of Black and Latin communities, communities where unemployment is already high. The JOA also acts as a form of intimidation against the unions which enter contract renewal talks later this year."

The letter continues: "And finally,

we view the application as fraudulent because neither paper has had a history of financial hardship. In fact, the Knight Ridder-owned Detroit Free Press, supposedly the failing paper in this application, has embarked on an aggressive program of capital improvements for new production facilities in recent years, hardly a sign of a failing publication in a year when newspaper revenues are up on a national basis.

"The application for a JOA comes only weeks after the acquisition of the Detroit News by Gannett and is an attempt to reduce the Detroit area to a form of second-class citizenship in the newspaper industry and to further increase the already profitable bottom lines of the two largest newspaper chains in the country. Indeed, the rapid growth of these chains has made the issue of monopolization in the newspaper industry a national, not a local, issue."

It remains to be seen whether or not the Justice Department's Antitrust Division will extend the June 30 deadline for public comment on the JOA or grant a hearing. Clearly the volume of public opinion is high and overwhelmingly against this newspaper merger.

The Newspaper Guild Convention today unanimously supported the Detroit local in fighting the JOA and pledged the International's assistance to the Detroit Guild in opposing the agreement.

In 1876, the Court nullified legislation for the 8-hour day that had been won by union action, a ruling that was also overturned by the mass labor struggles in the following years.

In 1894, the Court found that union organizations themselves were illegal under the Sherman Anti-trust Act. But the unions did not go away; rather they became more powerful and made themselves legal by their strength.

In fact, the Supreme Court has such a long anti-labor history that the unions and socialist movement at the turn of the century campaigned on a platform of getting rid of the Court — and they got more than a million votes at a time when no women and few Black people were allowed to vote.

In more recent years there has been some confusion about the Court and its role. Its ruling on school desegregation made it a target of ultraright groups like the John Birch Society. What is forgotten is that the Court was acting because of the strong civil rights movement led by the Black population. It reflected ruling class fears of a new civil war unless segregation laws were struck down. But, as recent rulings have shown so clearly, it didn't at all change the conservative class character of the Court.

The unemployment compensation at issue in this recent case was won by the tremendous labor struggles of the 1930s. Like the 8-hour day and the right to join unions, it cannot forever be denied to workers who justly need it simply based on a Supreme Court ruling. This, too, can be overturned by the struggle.

**BOYCOTT
HORMEL!
BOYCOTT
HORMEL!**

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SOUTH AFRICA
Gold and diamond miners have crippled the apartheid economy with walkouts and slowdowns in two major industrial centers. A broader strike action is set for July 13 to demand an end to the State of Emergency and the release of prisoners. (Page 9.)

GAY FIGHTBACK
Thousands of gay and lesbian rights backers marched to Battery Park in New York in the midst of Liberty Weekend to protest the Supreme Court's decision upholding Georgia's anti-gay sodomy law. (Page 12.)

BIG MOUNTAIN
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NICARAGUA
Following the contra aid vote in the U.S. Congress and the threat of a wider war, the Nicaraguan government has tightened its measures to defend the Revolution by closing the reactionary newspaper La Prensa and barring from the country two subversive church officials. (Page 6.)

CHILE
For two days the people of Chile stayed away from work to demand an end to the Pinochet dictatorship. They shut down 70% of the businesses and kept 95% of cargo trucks off the highways, while 80% of students stayed home from school. (Page 7.)

VIGILANTES
While the media was praising the virtues of immigration in New York Harbor, a gang of CIA-backed fascist mercenaries based in Alabama went uncharged and unpunished after illegally seizing and holding at gunpoint 15 Mexican women, children and men near the Arizona-Mexico border. (Page 4.)

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Phony 'Freedom Festival' flops as Philly workers set up mass pickets

By Betsey Piette

PHILADELPHIA, July 5 — Garbage collectors, clerical workers, laborers, computer operators, nurses, street pavers, librarians — 15,000 strong — went out on strike against the city this week. "We don't want the moon," said one striking city mechanic, "all we want is job security and a decent wage."

Led by AFSCME District Councils 33 and 47, the strike, which began July 1, has been marked by militant picket lines and demonstrations of working class solidarity on the one hand, and arrests of workers and increasing management arrogance on the other.

Mass picket lines at most city facilities on the first day of the strike successfully blocked anyone from entering the buildings. At the Municipal Services Building, striking workers — predominantly Black and women — formed in rows with arms linked to shut the building down.

Twenty-three members and supporters of DC 47 were arrested on Thursday morning when 100 picketers again blocked the Municipal Services Building entrances in defiance of a court injunction limiting pickets to eight per entrance. Among those arrested was Chris Sprowal, President of the Delaware Valley Union of the Homeless whose members — unemployed and homeless women and men — demonstrated their solidarity with the striking city workers. DC 47 members had supported the Homeless Union last month when they demonstrated to get better treatment from the city's Adult Services Division.

Disrupt July 4th ceremony

In another display of working class unity, non-unionized drivers and construction crews refused to cross DC 33's picket lines to unload scaffolding for a bandstand for the Philly Pops concert planned as part of the city's July 4th "Freedom Festival." When Musicians Union Local 77 also indicated that its members would honor 33's line, the city administration was forced to call off the event.

A contingent of DC 47 strikers interrupted Mayor Wilson Goode's speech at July 4th ceremonies at Independence Mall with chants of "Contract Now." Leaflets explaining the union's demands were distributed to people attending the city's July 4th events. Throughout the city, garbage and refuse is mounting on the curbs as working and poor people defy the city's request to keep their garbage inside — as if, out of sight, the strike would be out of mind.

Long-standing, unresolved grievances between the city unions and the administration have surfaced to fan the workers' militancy and determination in this strike, planned by the unions since last July. Concession demands and unfair bargaining tactics have done the rest. After first proposing yet another two-year wage freeze for the workers, who accepted wage freezes in 1980, '82, and '84, Goode made an eleventh-hour proposal of a 6% raise over two years to DC 47, who rejected the offer. As the strike nears its sixth day, Mayor Goode has announced a 12%-over-three-years proposal — to the press, without ever putting it on the bargaining table — an attempt to make it appear that wages are the only issue at stake in the strike.

Unions oppose contracting of work

District Council 33, the larger of the striking unions with nearly 13,000 members, has maintained that the contracting out of city services is the primary issue involved, and is insisting that the city first comply with previous contracts before the union will

agree to bargain over any new provisions.

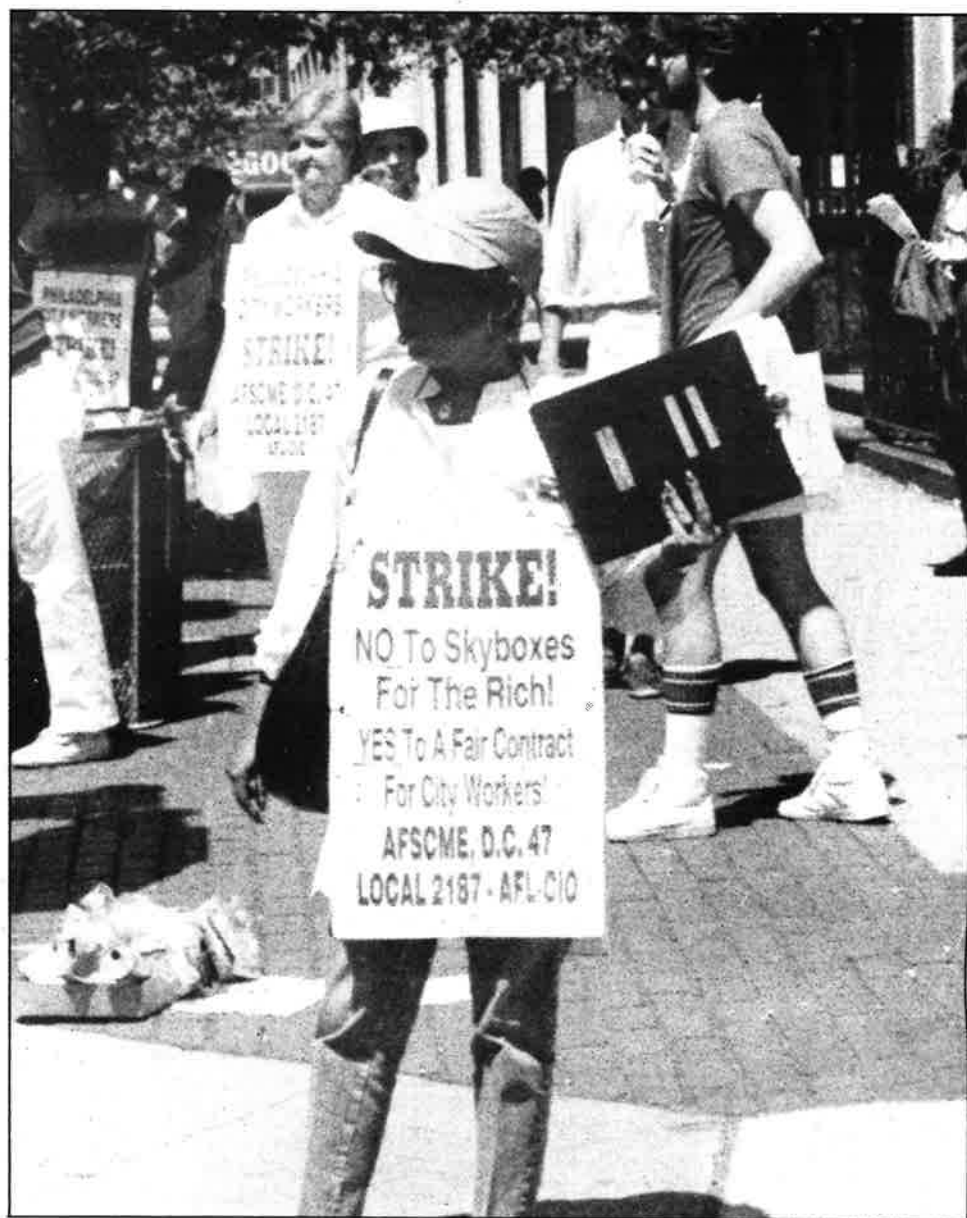
An article in a recent issue of the union newsletter underscored the problem of contracting out: "The city has blatantly violated the current contract between DC 33 by contracting out work that should be performed by our members. . . While we listen to the bosses tell us they don't have the money to hire electricians, carpenters, custodial workers and other maintenance people who retire, we watch the pot of money for contractors get bigger and bigger."

Under the current contract the city can hire unionized private contractors so long as it notifies the city unions and proves the contractors can do the work for less money than city workers. The city administration's first item in its proposals to DC 33 was a provision that "all subcontracts valued at \$150,000 or less be left to management's prerogative."

Subcontracting over the past 10 years has resulted in the loss of 4,000 city workers' jobs, and has led to three wildcat walkouts in the last two years. AFSCME Local 403 business agent John White, a Black city worker, and Local 403 President Leonard Tilgham hit at the racism involved in this practice during an interview with the Philadelphia Daily News (June 20, 1986). They noted: "Members of Local 403, all of them city residents and most of them Black . . . can do nothing while a white contractor (Joseph Paolino & Sons, Inc.) from New Jersey, who was fined \$38,665 last year for violations of the minority set-aside ordinance, paves city streets." (A set-aside ordinance requires that a certain per cent of city contracts go to minority and women workers.)

White raised that city work crews can't compete for the contracts because the city fails to provide the proper equipment and materials. Moreover, the city has often lent out what materials it has to private contractors.

The administration's proposals are all give-back demands. They include smaller wage/benefit package for new hires; elimination of one paid holiday;



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Philadelphia pickets: 'All we want is job security and a decent wage.'

forced overtime; layoffs at anytime; and joint control of the unions' health and welfare funds, with a cap on the city's contribution. DC 33 is demanding that the city make good a court-ordered payment to the health and welfare fund which is facing a multi-million dollar debt due to the administration's failure to make adequate payments. Other union demands at issue include provision for a comparable worth study and safety concerns

due to asbestos contamination at the City Hall Annex, the subject of recent job actions by DC 47.

The unions are demanding a 16% wage increase of a 1-year contract. While the city has made wage offers to DC 47 in an apparent attempt to split the ranks of striking city workers, DC 47 President Thomas Cronin has vowed that his members would not cross 33's lines. "They're working people, and we're with them."

Detroit AFSCME gears up for battle

By Cheryl LaBash
Executive Board Member
AFSCME Local 457

DETROIT, July 8 — Negotiations broke off here today between AFSCME, representing over 7,000 city workers, and city management when the bosses refused to budge at all on economic and union rights issues.

The city bosses have insisted that workers' wage increases must be limited to 2% the first year and a so-called "equity formula" for each of the last two years. In the expired agreement a similar formula yielded less than 3% over the 3-year life of that contract.

\$52 million surplus

In the same period the city managed to amass a \$52 million surplus, the largest in Detroit's history, and gave salary hikes of 15% to 44% in 1986 alone to mayoral appointees, city council and the mayor.

City workers are tired of that kind of equity. It won't pay the house note, utility bills, buy groceries or clothes.

The city is also demanding that the workers give up the right to be paid for 50% of unused sick leave on retirement.

Although these issues are paramount for city workers who have labored under cutback contracts for 9

years, the city management is leveling an even more serious attack on the very existence of the union. This is the "service improvement consideration" (SIC plan) which would allow management to transfer workers at whim without regard to seniority.

The city is also demanding that the union pay for the time stewards and grievance committee members are away from the job investigating grievances.

The union aims to restore past wage and benefit concessions. This includes pay raises of 20%, 10% and 10% over the three-year contract. Although 20% may sound like a lot, for the average city worker it would amount to less than \$70 a week before taxes, compared to the \$10,000 per year raise for city council members and \$22,000 for the water department head.

It is no accident that the average pay increase for workers across the U.S. last year was about 2%; nor is it accidental that the SIC Plan is a close copy of the "Saturn" contract between the UAW and General Motors that aroused such opposition at the UAW's recent convention.

The city management sitting across the table from the union are not representing the people of Detroit. In reality, they speak for the big business and

banking interests which are grinding down the living standards of working people, whether or not they are currently employed or in unions.

The city management is really speaking for the Reagan administration's anti-worker and anti-poor budget-cutting assault. If they really spoke for the people of Detroit they would join with the union to end tax breaks to corporations like GM and Chrysler that cost the city \$55.3 million in tax revenues but did not save jobs for Detroiters.

Detroit city workers couldn't agree more with the slogan of our striking brothers and sisters in Philadelphia directed to the politicians there: "Fight Reagan, not us!"

Ahead lies a test of strength and determination for Detroit city workers. It can be won if we know who we are up against and organize together with our natural allies — all those who have no way of living but by selling their ability to work. These friends are our neighbors, in block clubs and churches, the entire labor movement, the youth who need jobs, the anti-war and anti-apartheid movement and those who have mobilized against Reaganism. The city workers' fight is their fight, too.

Big Mountain marchers: 'Stop relocation!'

By Brian Becker
and Marc Gurvitch

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 6 — Some 2,000 traditional Native Americans and supporters marched through the streets of Washington today demanding the government stop the relocation of over 10,000 Dineh (Navajo) and Hopi Indians from their traditional homeland around Big Mountain, Arizona.

Faced with brutal 97-degree heat, the spirited demonstration made it clear to the Reaganites, their Bureau of Indian Affairs agents and to the Congressional lackeys of the coal, oil and uranium interests that the people of Big Mountain are attracting growing support for their struggle to maintain their land.

The lively procession began at the Washington Monument and ended at the U.S. Capitol building. The route of march took the demonstrators in front of various U.S. government institutions which have earned international notoriety for their role in the oppression of Native Americans.

Led by a large contingent of traditional indigenous people, the march stopped first at the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Next came the White House, the FBI headquarters, the Justice Department, and finally the Capitol building.

In addition to the Native delegation, demonstrators included trade unionists, anti-war and environmental activists and progressive clergy and elected officials from Washington, D.C.

Part of a centuries-long struggle

The chairperson of today's rally was Dacajeweah, a Mohawk of the Iroquois Confederacy and the coordinator of the Big Mountain Support Committee of D.C., which sponsored today's demonstration. He told the crowd, "Today's demonstration is in solidarity with the centuries-long

struggle of the Native people who have always resisted the genocidal policies of the U.S. government."

Dacajeweah brought the crowd to its feet when he declared, "The message of our demonstration today is that the people of Big Mountain do not stand alone. Support is building in the U.S. and around the world for the Dineh and Hopi people who are determined to remain on their land. They will win!"

The U.S. government claims that it is relocating the thousands of Native people in order to resolve an alleged conflict between the Dineh and Hopi people. This argument was denounced as "a lie, a public relations cover and an old trick by the government to steal Native land" by representatives from both the Dineh and Hopi traditional elders, who appeared jointly on the stage at the rally.

Also speaking was Sahu Barron of the All-Peoples Congress (APC). The APC had mobilized extensively for the demonstration and had formed a large contingent in the march with its members from D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

Barron received a rousing response from the crowd when she drew the parallels between the U.S. support for apartheid in South Africa and "its apartheid policies for the Native people in Arizona."

Other rally speakers included Rev. Ben Chavis, D.C. City Council member Hilda Mason, Rev. Ambrose Lane, Chief Billy Tayac of the Piscataway Nation and others. Cultural presentations included Floyd Westerman, the Piscataway Traditional Drummers, the All-Peoples Singers and Lucy Murphy and Friends.

For more information and to contribute to the defense of Indian lands, call the Big Mountain Support Group/D.C. at (202) 234-4938.



'The people of Big Mountain are not alone!' D.C. marchers show solidarity.



Support for Big Mountain. As some 800,000 people entered Chicago's Grant Park for the Taste of Chicago festival and fireworks July 3, they were greeted by demonstrators protesting the planned eviction of thousands of Dineh (Navajo) people at Big Mountain, Ariz.

The response was very positive. Hundreds of people signed petitions and many bought buttons and gave donations. Lorraine Curtis, a Navajo now working for the American Indian Economic Development Association, told the crowd: "How hypocritical to celebrate the Statue of Liberty's birthday when my people are once again being sacrificed to the greed of the big energy companies!" The demonstration was organized by the All-Peoples Congress.

— Jeff Sorel

No 'Liberty Weekend' for undocumented Mexican men, women, children held at gunpoint by vigilantes

By Sharon Shelton

JULY 8 — While the big business politicians and media were using the occasion of the July 4 patriotic bash in New York City to extol the "blessings of liberty" and hail the U.S. as "a nation of immigrants," it was no Liberty Weekend for a group of undocumented Mexican immigrants who were held at gunpoint near the Arizona-Mexico border by vigilante terrorists with close ties to the CIA and U.S. military.

On Saturday, July 5, 15 Mexican women, children and men spent a harrowing 90 minutes being held by armed members of Civilian Materiel Assistance (CMA), an organization of CIA-backed mercenaries who have illegally fought alongside the contras in Nicaragua against the revolutionary

Sandinista government.

Members of the group, who admitted that "innocent people" had been "terrorized" by the action, said that the Mexicans had been fired upon and their vehicle booby-trapped by the vigilante team. They also revealed that CMA patrols had gone several miles inside Mexico as part of the paramilitary operation.

Victims taken into custody

Armed with M-16s and other assault weapons and clad in camouflage uniforms, the vigilantes were not arrested for this racist, terrorist assault. Their victims, however, were taken into custody by the notorious Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

Although the INS tried publicly to

disclaim association with the vigilante group, CMA head Tom Posey told the press that an INS official had requested his men patrol the border area.

Several years ago, none other than the Ku Klux Klan announced it had been invited by the INS to carry out similar patrols, but the INS was forced by the public outcry which followed to disassociate itself from these arch-racists, and the scheme was quietly dropped.

The CMA tried to claim the reason for its patrol was to stop an inflow of drug traffic from Mexico. But this is just a thin pretext for joining in the ruling class effort to harass, intimidate and scapegoat undocumented workers. If Posey's group were truly interested in stemming drug traffic, it could begin with its contra cronies, who, according to recent disclosures in Congress, routinely use U.S. aid to carry out a thriving business in narcotics.

Ties to CIA, Pentagon

While the capitalist press is fond of portraying the CMA as a "fringe group" unconnected to the big business establishment, in reality it has close ties to the CIA and Pentagon. Some of these were revealed in September 1984, when two CMA members were killed during a contra battle inside Nicaragua.

Dana Herbert Parker, Jr., an active duty officer in the Special Forces Unit of the Alabama National Guard and a

member of CMA, and his co-pilot and fellow CMA member James P. Powell III were in a CIA helicopter at the site of a contra attack on the Tapasali Military School near Santa Clara, Nicaragua, 10 miles from the Nicaraguan border with Honduras, when they were shot down.

Protesting the incident before the UN Security Council, the Sandinista government of Nicaragua charged that the two were sent into battle inside Nicaragua by the CIA.

Unanswered questions

The U.S. never answered why these two men were inside Nicaragua aboard a U.S.-supplied craft, nor did it respond to disclosures that it was the U.S. Embassy in Honduras that arranged meetings between a group of CMA mercenaries and Honduran officers who led the mercenaries to the contras.

The Reagan administration chose to ignore that the mercenaries, several of whom were active duty members of the Special Forces unit of the National Guard, were waved through customs when they originally arrived in Honduras, carrying combat weapons and 4,000 rounds of ammunition. And it hasn't said a word about an admission by Posey himself on Cable Network News (Sept. 10, 1984) that the CMA's military security advisor is also an officer in the Special Forces.

The Special Forces, which include the notorious Green Berets, were

Continued on page 8

'Unpatriotic July 4'

BOSTON, July 4 — The Third Annual Unpatriotic July 4th Celebration at the Boston Common today drew over 1,000 people to hear progressive local bands and speakers address this year's theme: "Myth Liberty." The event was organized by the Media Workshop, a Boston-area coalition of musicians and political activists.

Between reggae groups such as the Lions and African Roots, speakers from the Central American Solidarity Association (CASA) and the All-

Peoples Congress (APC) blasted the Liberty extravaganza as a vicious lie.

Marshall Yates, representing the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of the APC, and the only gay speaker at the event, drew enthusiastic cheers when he said "President Reagan claims to be cutting big government, but he is spending trillions on the Pentagon while slashing AIDS funding. Now the Supreme Court is invading our bedrooms, but as lesbians and gay men we'll never go back!"

Another Calif. death points to racist lynchings

By Gloria La Riva

SAN FRANCISCO, July 7 — On June 24, Jacquelyne Peters, a 35-year-old Black woman, was found hanging from a tree behind a bank in Lafayette, Calif. This shocking death occurred only ten miles from the still-unsolved lynching last Nov. 2 of 22-year-old Timothy Lee, a Black gay man, in the town of Concord. The predominantly white towns of Concord and Lafayette are 35 miles northeast of San Francisco in Contra Costa County.

While the county sheriff's department, citing three notes allegedly left by the dead woman, has claimed that Jacquelyne Peters committed suicide, various activists in the Black community are skeptical of this predictable response from the police.

Thordie Ashley of the NAACP, who was instrumental in forming the Racial Intolerance Task Force soon after Lee's death, told Workers World, "It is certainly no surprise that the police would say she committed suicide." Ashley made it clear that the task force is continuing its investigation into Peters' death, noting that the police evidence has only just been released for public information.

"The statistics show that a woman

just does not go in public and commit suicide by hanging herself," commented Ashley. "She was found hanging from only 16 inches of rope, from a pulley nailed to a tree, which is practically impossible for someone to do alone. There are only 87 Black families in Lafayette, and the week prior to her death, the words 'KKK' and 'Die n---, die' were sprayed on cars and around town."

Lafayette has a population of 22,000. The Peters family has been harassed and had received racist threats in their apartment building, which Jacquelyne Peters had reported to the NAACP in December.

In Timothy Lee's case, despite overwhelming evidence that he was lynched, the Concord police immediately ruled his death a suicide and burned the noose that Lee was hanging from. The same evening as Lee's murder, only blocks away, two Klansmen in terrorist robes and hoods and displaying KKK cards stabbed two Black men, Tony Miller and Jeffrey Hall.

In a further outrage that could only give encouragement to racists in the area, police chief George Straka then declared that racism doesn't exist there.

The NAACP held two public hearings early this year around Lee's death. Hundreds of people attended these hearings, and many voiced their personal experiences of racist violence and threats. The NAACP study also has revealed that the Klan has moved its state headquarters from Visalia to Concord.

The reactionary climate created by the Reagan administration continues to alarm anti-racist activists in the Bay Area. For example, in mid-June leaflets of the fascist White American Resistance (WAR) were passed out in various parts of San Francisco that scurrilously attacked Black, Jewish and Latino people.

Local cable TV station 25, run by Viacom Cablevision, has given free and open access to this Nazi-like group, allowing WAR to run a weekly show to

openly recruit other racist scum.

But racist violence is not limited to groups like WAR. Incidents of police brutality against Black and other oppressed people are also in evidence in the Bay Area.

In San Francisco last April, another racist murder aroused community indignation in the Ingleside district. Residents are now collecting petitions to demand justice in the cop-murder of Larry Lumpkin, a Black man. He was ambushed in a parking lot by undercover plainclothes police who shot him eight times as he was unbuckling his seatbelt.

It is ironic that while the racist U.S. ruling class spends millions for a chauvinistic orgy like Liberty Weekend, racist terror threatens the lives of Black and other oppressed peoples daily. That kind of "liberty" workers and oppressed can do without.

D.C. coalition denounces police brutality in 'drug raid'



Pam Parker at City Council hearing.

WW PHOTO: ALI

Special to Workers World

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 2 — Today a hearing was held before the City Council here to air charges against the D.C. police department and the city government of brutality against the Black community in the form of a supposed drug raid last winter code-named "Operation Caribbean Cruise." Today's hearing was organized by a coalition of 40 community organizations.

The raid began early in the morning last Feb. 22. Over 800 D.C. police officers and federal and area law enforcement authorities simultaneously raided 69 homes in the Washington area. Their stated purpose was to "break a Rastafarian and Caribbean heavily-armed drug network."

This giant operation resulted in the arrest of 27 people. Most were held without charges for up to three days. Of the ones who were finally charged, almost half had the charges dropped.

Protest from the Black community resulted in today's hearing. At the hearing, Pam Parker of the All-Peoples Congress (APC) testified on behalf of the community and against the police raid. The following are excerpts from her statement.

APC statement

"The police did not concern themselves with the innocence of their victims. The nature of these police attacks was obviously racism and anti-Black sentiment.

"Just imagine what it would have been like if hundreds of heavily-armed police had stalked a different neighborhood in search of drug dealers that night. Certainly drugs are pushed everywhere.

"What if the raid had taken place in Chevy Chase or Bethesda or any of the other white and affluent areas around

D.C.? What if they had swooped down on a white well-to-do neighborhood, breaking down doors, pushing people up against the wall, holding guns on them and their children, making them stand half naked in the freezing February air, forbidding a mother from going inside to feed her screaming four-month-old baby for four hours, ripping up people's homes, stealing their property — and then finding nothing illegal and simply leaving?

"There would be front-page headlines. Top police officers would resign in shame. There would be lawsuits galore. The careers of leading political figures would be over.

Gestapo-like raid

"But this is simply hypothetical. These kinds of gestapo-like police assaults don't happen in the affluent white areas. They are saved for the oppressed neighborhoods, for Black, Latin and other oppressed peoples who have already suffered the ravages of extreme racism, unemployment and inadequate housing, health care and education.

"The D.C. chief of police, Maurice Turner, praised his men and women for a job well done. He also thanked the U.S. Park Police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Internal Revenue Service, stating that, 'The aforementioned agencies took part in today's operation and without their assistance success would have been difficult to achieve.'

"We in the All-Peoples Congress join with thousands of area residents who are outraged and who condemn the brutality and the unjustified, premeditated assault against the Black community on Feb. 22, 1986, by the police."

KKK trying to whip up racism in Chicago

By Jeff Sorel

CHICAGO, July 3 — Right-wing racist hate groups are actively organizing in Chicago this summer. Two rallies by the Ku Klux Klan last weekend highlight the need for a strong and broad response.

On June 28 a "white power" rally was called by the Klan and the America First Committee (a front for the Nazis) in Marquette Park on Chicago's southwest side. A permit was granted by the city.

The park and surrounding neighborhood have long been targeted by civil rights activists. In 1966 Martin Luther King was hit by a rock there when a racist mob attacked a fair housing march he was leading. Similar marches in the 1970s led by local Black ministers were also violently assaulted. The marchers received little or no protection from the police, many of whom live in the Marquette Park area.

Although only about 25 Klansmen appeared at the June 28 rally, they mobilized over 500 youth who charged at two small groups of multi-racial demonstrators protesting the racist rally. The attackers threw rocks and shouted racist epithets, forcing the protesters out of the park. The police escorted the demonstrators out of the park, once again failing to take necessary measures to ensure the right of all Chicago's residents to enjoy what's supposed to be a city park.

The next day the Klan appeared in Lincoln Park on the north side, rallying against the 60,000-strong gay/lesbian pride parade. On less friendly ground and greatly outnumbered, this time the Klan needed and received police protection, and hastily left after a brief appearance.

These two rallies coincide with a 58% increase in racial incidents over last year, according to the Chicago Police Department. Although these incidents are often ignored by the major media, the past year has seen cross burnings, several firebombings of Black families' homes in previously all-white areas, the murder of a white youth after he publicly quit and denounced a Nazi street gang, and the

organized smearing of racist graffiti and stickers in targeted neighborhoods.

In addition, the racists have made a concerted effort to recruit white youth, forming the Chicago Area Skin Heads, which attempts to distribute racist literature at punk and rock clubs, promotes a "philosophy" called "romantic violence," and foments attacks on Blacks and interracial couples. The American Nazi Party brought members of two north side street gangs, the Rebels and Gaylords, to their west suburban Cicero headquarters to see films and videos espousing Nazi propaganda.

(It should be noted that the response of most youth to this racist garbage is one of anger and disgust, and the Skin Heads are regularly chased out of the punk and rock clubs.)

Spurred on by Reaganism

According to Chip Berlet, a journalist who researches the far right, the increase in racist activity is partly the result of a new coalition among previously splintered right-wing groups, including the Klan, Nazis, Posse Comitatus, Aryan Nations, the Order, and others. Espousing a "religion" known as Christian Identity, they have been holding Midwest regional meetings in Cohoctah, Michigan, and have set up a remote-access racist computer terminal Bulletin Board Network, with one terminal in a Chicago suburb, to coordinate their plans. All of this is, of course, spurred on by the racist example set by the Reagan administration in attacking affirmative action and other basic rights of oppressed people.

Although the organized adherents of the Klan and Nazis in Chicago are small in number, their impact is heightened by their violent tactics, their links to elements of the police and old Democratic Party machine, and the racist atmosphere promoted by opponents of Chicago's first Black mayor, Harold Washington.

In a recent interview with a TV news reporter, local Klan leader Ed Novak stated that the Klan hopes to make major gains from the racial ten-

Continued on page 11

Ortega: 'Nicaragua will not let traitors provide cover for contras'

By John Catalinotto

JULY 7 — In response to the open funding of contra terrorist attacks by the Reagan administration, the Nicaraguan government has tightened its measures to defend the Revolution from internal enemies.

The first step was to close the reactionary, privately owned newspaper, La Prensa. The next was to bar two pro-imperialist members of the Catholic Church hierarchy from Nicaragua.

Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega explained these steps in a declaration the day after the U.S. House voted \$100 million in aid for the counter-revolutionary gangs: "The government will no longer allow traitors to provide cover for the contras."

That an expanded war was in preparation could already be seen at the contra camps in Honduras. As the July 6 New York Times reported, "The signs that fighting will come soon are all around." The correspondent described seeing stacks of ammunition, food and boots.

Green Berets in Honduras

The evidence also points to a wider direct participation by U.S. military forces. "In Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital, American and Honduran officials talk of the expanding role they expect the Central Intelligence Agency and advisers from the Green Berets to have, now that Congress has moved to lift restriction on CIA assistance." According to National Public Radio of July 5, however, Green Berets with Viet Nam experience are already in Honduras training the contras.

That's exactly the role played by these "advisers" in the early stages of the war against Viet Nam. The Reagan administration is well aware of the broad opposition to such a war in the U.S. itself. Yet it is opening up the road to another Viet Nam.

To combat this Viet Nam-type war, the Sandinistas have moved against some officials of the Catholic Church who have been supporting the contras. These are not measures against religion as such, but against open treason by counter-revolutionaries shielded by

the church hierarchy.

The church officialdom in Nicaragua have a history of working for the rich and powerful. This meant being tied in with the wealthy landowners and with U.S. imperialism. Managua's Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo was frequently photographed with the hated dictator Anastasio Somoza, smiling together and embracing.

In May 1984 Obando met in New York City with executives from W.R. Grace Company to secure financing for activities directed against the Sandinista government. The archbishop described his campaign then as "the best organized opposition in Nicaragua." Since that time Obando has been named cardinal by the Vatican.

Contras of the pulpit

With the war danger growing, the Sandinist government moved one day after the House vote to put a stop to this subversion. Church envoy Bismarck Carballo was refused entry to the country after meeting with exiles in Miami on the way back from Paris.

Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, another opponent of the revolution, had gone to the U.S. to lobby for contra aid, proclaiming that "We can't deny the people the right to defend themselves." This "defense" the bishop speaks of includes planting land mines like the one in the north of Nicaragua which last week killed 33 people, mostly women and children.

The Sandinista government ordered Vega expelled from Nicaragua on July 4.

Cardinal Obando rushed to defend his two agents, as reported in the July 7 Washington Post. "The cardinal drew prolonged applause when he told about 400 mainly affluent Catholics in his small church in a well-to-do Managua suburb that Carballo and Vega 'bear the mark of Christ.'" The Post description showed clearly who the cardinal was speaking for and to — the same wealthy class he's always served.

La Prensa — capitalist tool

The newspaper La Prensa has also served the wealthy classes in Nica-

ragua. It had become the mouthpiece for what the Sandinistas called a "fifth column" of pro-U.S. business interests willing to sanction sabotage and murder of their own countrymen in the cause of counter-revolution.

What really horrifies these bourgeois contras is that the Nicaraguan revolution went beyond merely ousting Somoza. It began enacting profound social reforms. The Sandinistas began breaking Nicaragua's ties to U.S. imperialism. The La Prensa group had been willing at the end to see Somoza go, but real changes for the mass of the people were more than the backers and owners of La Prensa had bargained for.

The paper began publishing only those items unfavorable to the Sandinistas. It gave "respectability" to thugs and murderers. As a reward, La Prensa recently received \$100,000 from the National Endowment for Democracy, a private American group that channels government funding to foreign institutions.

When Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega told of his plans to stop the internal traitors, he spoke not to the applause of a few rich people, but to the Nicaraguan masses.

"We defend freedom of press and freedom of thought," Ortega said. "But we won't allow freedom of the press and freedom of thought to be used in defense of terrorism and counter-revolutionary activities."

"We are not afraid of the political and ideological struggle, but what confronts us is a war, and to war we answer with war."



Chile protest. Over one hundred Chileans in New York City picketed and crowded the entrances to the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where a reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship.

The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship.

This event followed by less than a week a reception for the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship.

The faces of many of the guests were familiar to those who had seen the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship. The reception was to honor the officers and commanders of the Chilean military dictatorship.

'Nicaragua solidarity must be maintained'

WW interview with captured W. German

By Judy Greenspan

WASHINGTON, July 3 — She awoke very early — 4:30 a.m. — on the morning of May 17 to the sound of gunfire. "We knew it was an area of war and so it was clear that the contras were attacking," explained Reingard Zimmer to this interviewer. Zimmer and 11 other West Germans were part of a work brigade in Nicaragua that was kidnapped by counter-revolutionaries. The group spent a total of 24 days as hostages of the largest contra force, the FDN.

The West German activist explained that she went to Central America as part of several brigades that grew out of the West German solidarity movement with Nicaragua. "The main issue of these brigades is to build up in areas of war where the contras had been destroying. And so the decision to go into war areas was not just an accident," Zimmer said.

She explained that her group had gone to a state cooperative in the south of Nicaragua to strengthen and rebuild it. "This cooperative and its members had been attacked three times," Zimmer said. "Nearly half of the members of the cooperative had been murdered by the contras." It was a startling fact and showed the courage of those who remained to do the work.

Zimmer explained that the cooperative was situated in a very impoverished area of the country that had come under heavy attack by the contras. "Now it is very difficult to improve something for them because teachers are murdered. Just one week or 10 days before we arrived, four teachers had been murdered by the contras," Zimmer said.

Then, on May 17, a large group of contras attacked their village, sur-



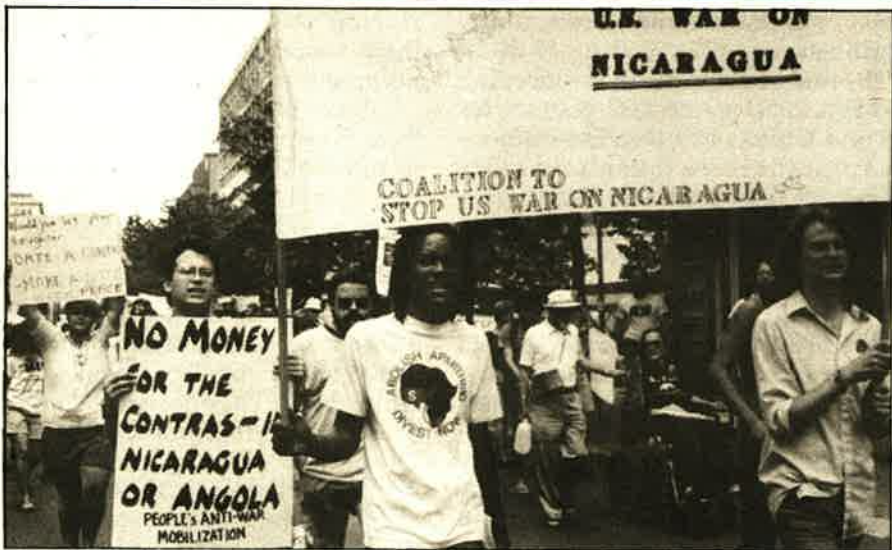
Reingard Zimmer

rounding the house the West German brigade was living in and threatening to blow it up. "They forced a member of the brigade who had hepatitis to leave the village even though he was very ill," said the solidarity activist.

Used U.S.-made field radios

She pointed out that the local contra commander turned out to be none other than a former Somoza national guard who had fled after the revolution and was trained by the CIA. "The kidnapping was directed from Honduras over very modern U.S.-made field radios," she said.

"I served as spokeswoman for our brigade and tried to get much information from the contras, that I later gave to the Sandinistas," Zimmer said. The contras, she added, told her that the kidnapping had been planned for a



Earlier demonstration in Washington against contra aid.

WW PHOTO

Protest contra aid. Over 350 people demonstrated in front of the White House on June 29 to protest the House of Representatives' approval of President Reagan's \$100 million war chest for the Nicaraguan contras. The demonstration, called by the Coalition to Stop the U.S. War on Nicaragua, focused on the need to build a massive movement in the United States to stop U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and all of Central America.

Reingard Zimmer, one of 12 West Germans kidnapped by the murderous contras in Nicaragua and recently released, addressed the demonstration. She spoke of the need for international solidarity in the anti-imperialist movement. "When I go back to Germany, I will tell my people that the struggle is also done here in the belly of the beast by people like you," she said. She called upon the protesters to build "an international mass movement to defend the right of Nicaragua and other countries in the world to self-determination."

Other speakers at the rally, chaired by Judy Greenspan of the People's Anti-War Mobilization, included representatives of the Pledge of Resistance (D.C. Chapter) and the Nicaragua Network.

Success of general strike isolates Pinochet

By Lucinda Sintierra

JULY 8 — A general strike gripped Chile for two days July 2 and 3. People were called on not to buy even food for several days, not to send the children to school, not to go to work or do business.

The success of the strike can be seen in the figures. It is estimated that 70% of the businesses had their doors closed, with only emergency personnel in the hospitals at their jobs. In the schools, 80% of the students stayed away.

The Metropolitan Federation of Truckers, who had helped bring down the progressive Allende government in 1973, supported the strike against the hated regime it had helped install. At least 95% of the cargo trucks were off the highways.

Rodolfo Seguel of the Workers' National Command said that in the capital city of Santiago, where the military is strongest, 60% of the workers did not go to work.

The general strike was called by the National Assembly for Civility (Asamblea Nacional de la Civilidad), a coalition of 18 organizations in Chile, including unions, working-class neighborhood associations and professional schools. Two months ago the Assembly delivered what is known as the Chilean Demand, which calls for an end to the military regime and a return to democracy.

The military, backed by the CIA and giant U.S. transnational corporations, toppled the Social Democratic government of Salvador Allende in 1973.

During the strike 7 people were murdered by the military, more than 50 injured and 500 arrested, according to the most reliable reports to reach this country so far. Among the injured were two young people on a tour with other university students. The two were grabbed by soldiers and doused with a flammable liquid, then set on fire.

One of the victims, Rodrigo Andres Rojas de Negri, was visiting Chile from Washington, D.C., where he lived with his mother who is a Chilean political exile and an active opponent of the Pinochet regime. Rojas died from his burns on Sunday, July 5.

According to Chilean novelist Ariel Dorfman, Rojas was held in an ill-equipped emergency center that had no facilities to treat burns. Although Rojas's family and friends had arranged for him to be transferred to the Hospital del Trabajador which could have properly treated him, they were prevented from doing so by police authorities.

The second victim, Carmen Gloria Quintana, is still in critical condition.

Another victim of the random terror practiced by the Pinochet military was a 13-year old girl who had gone out to buy bread and was shot by a soldier.

Year of demonstrations

This year has seen massive demonstrations by different sectors of Chilean society: women, students, trade unionists, different political organizations and dwellers of the settlements where the poorest workers live. These settlements have been singled out for

the most violent and vicious assaults by the military government.

On May Day the armed forces occupied the settlements to intimidate and harass the population. Homes were raided, the few possessions people had were destroyed. In April and May alone, more than 8,000 men from the ages of 14 to 60 were detained and questioned. For the days of the general strike, these areas were again under military occupation.

The people who were killed were from these areas. Two days after the general strike the military surrounded the settlement called "Cuatro Alamos" and ordered all men between the ages of 18 to 60 to leave their homes. Several hundred were detained and questioned.

The leaders of the strike are now being sought by the regime for what are called "violations of national security." Police are also seeking the heads of two radio stations. Four radio stations were ordered to halt any news coverage of the strike.

Role of the U.S.

Although news from Chile is hard to gather, especially from outside the capital city, reports indicate that in the copper mining area of Chuquibambilla, 1,600 kilometers north of Santiago, miners had a meeting before the general strike to determine how they would show their support. These miners work in an industry that is the country's major export commodity, and is controlled by U.S. corporations. Although it is not yet known what ac-

Continued on page 8



WWW PHOTO: CARL GLENN

ns living in exile and other anti-fascist New es to a reception hosted by the Chilean Em- tel July 7. As guests arrived they faced a sesino! Murderer!"

and cadets of the Esmeralda, the ship used as a ne in Chile. The Esmeralda was in New York ent to participate in the "Liberty Weekend" this symbol of oppression by the Reagan ad- ightedened the outrage of the demonstrators. ity police on hand had difficulty at moments nitarities" arrived.

general strike in Chile, in which the Chilean p more forcefully than at any time since that Many at tonight's protest felt encouraged by Chile. Several people expressed the opinion ver.

iliar to people on the picket line. "That's the y airport," pointed out a working-class Chi- sts, hated for their complicity with the Pino- rers and torturers in their country, were spat rs included: "Esmeralda torture ship, out of — Carl Glenn

st continue!

erman brigadista

long time and its purpose was to con- solidate their military position in the area. "They wanted to make interna- tionalists afraid and force them to leave the country," Zimmer said.

The West German activists also learned a lot about the sophisticated weaponry used by the contra forces. "Here it is always said that the contras need more weapons. That's really a lie because each of them had at least one automatic weapon," Zimmer explained. "For us it was interest- ing that nearly half of their guns were German weapons. All their other stuff was from the United States," Zimmer added. "The contras told us they had rockets for shooting down helicopters."

The West German brigade members were released by the contras on June 10 after worldwide protest. Zimmer and a few other brigade members left immediately for the United States. "We got the information that the vote of \$100 million for military aid to the contras was near and so we decided to come and inform the public about what had happened to us," the activist said. It was only through intense lob- bying by Black Congressional Caucus members that Zimmer and her group were allowed into the country.

Congress voted for the Reaganite war plans, so the young brigade mem- ber is returning to Nicaragua this week. "I think it is necessary to demonstrate that we in the movement do not give up," she explained. "We now want to send more international brigades to these war areas."

Zimmer explained that to her the Nicaraguan revolution "is a symbol of people who fight for their indepen- dence. It is very important for us to support Nicaragua against U.S. inter- ests," she concluded.

Sanctuary defendants get probation

Gov't fails in effort to curtail solidarity with Central America

By Kathy Durkin

JULY 6 — The unpopularity of the U.S. war in Central America was felt again last week when eight defen- dants in the internationally known Sanctuary trial were sentenced to pro- bation. They had faced jail terms of up to 25 years.

The sanctuary activists had earlier been found guilty on several charges of conspiracy to smuggle undocu- mented workers into this country.

The defendants used the sentencing sessions in a Tucson federal court on July 1 and 2 to make strong political statements and introduce material which had been barred from the trial. Federal Judge Earl H. Carroll, formerly an attorney for the union-busting Phelps-Dodge Co., had banned testi- mony on U.S. policy in Central Amer- ica, on the brutal and repressive condi- tions in Central America which force thousands to flee each year, and on the humanitarian motivations of the sanctuary workers who, risking jail, joined the movement to aid many Sal- vadorans and Guatemalans in com- ing to the U.S.

During sentencing, the activists gave moving testimony on brutality in Central America. They charged the U.S. government with acting illegally, disobeying both international law and the U.S. Refugee Act of 1980, by denying refuge to people suffering po- litical persecution.

Judge Carroll originally forbade de- fendants from associating with those in the sanctuary movement during their long probations. He changed this, however, when defendants said they couldn't comply with those re- strictions. The defendants all said they want to continue to work to aid

Salvadoran and Guatemalan refu- gees.

With all its power, the state, includ- ing the courts and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), were unable to use these trials to cur- tail the national campaign to aid Cen- tral Americans. Constant pressure on the courts and solidarity with the sanctuary movement kept up through- out the trial. In fact, the sanctuary movement grew in size and strength during the trial and sanctuary cities were declared all over the U.S. Thou- sands of letters protesting the trial were sent to the judge and other gov- ernment officials. And many activi-

ties were carried out at the courthouse and in Tucson throughout the trial.

As Rev. John Fife, a co-founder of the sanctuary movement who received five years probation, explained, "After the government has spent \$3.5 million and two years on this case, the only ef- fect is that the sanctuary movement has doubled and redoubled in strength."

Other co-defendants who received probation were Sister Darlene Nicgor- ski, who had faced 25 years in prison; Phillip Willis-Conger; Peggy Hutchin- son; Wendy LeWin; Mario Socorro Pardo de Aquilar; Rev. Tony Clark and Rev. Ramon Dagoberto Quinones.

300 march in Boston to back sanctuary movement

By Susan Franzblau

BOSTON, June 26 — Today over 300 people marched and rallied in support of the sanctuary movement in Cam- bridge and in protest against a series of seven break-ins over the past 18 months at the Central America Soli- darity Association (CASA) office in the Old Cambridge Baptist Church in Cambridge. Cambridge became a sanctuary city for refugees from Cen- tral America in the spring of 1985. The church has been working as a sanctu- ary for refugees from El Salvador since that time.

Alan West, information coordinator at CASA, stated that many people in- volved in the Central America solidar- ity movement believe the FBI is re- sponsible for these break-ins. Each one occurred just before mass protests against U.S. intervention in Central America or just before critical Con-

gressional votes on aid to the contras fighting the Sandinista government in Nicaragua. Furthermore, the har- assment began only two weeks after the church became a sanctuary.

The Cambridge Police have been completely uncooperative in helping to solve these crimes. West empha- sized that, "If these attacks are at- tempts to intimidate the Central American solidarity movement, we will not be intimidated. In fact, people have been sending in money, and more and more people have joined CASA since these attacks occurred. It is clear that the issue of Central Amer- ica is important to the Reagan admini- stration and we will probably see more acts of desperation against the move- ment to try to shut us up. But they won't succeed. People of the U.S. are against contra aid and against U.S. intervention in Central America."

EDITORIAL

Gramm-Rudman: From the bottom of the deck

CAN ANYONE make sense of the Gramm-Rudman budget-cutting law and the Supreme Court ruling on it? At first glance, it looks like one of those card shark routines where you're not sure how it's done but you know you're being took.

The bill itself is a farce. Almost every aspect of it has been ignored by Congress, except of course the part about cutting every significant non-military program in the country. Congress has disregarded all the deadlines and other requirements of the law, while the military was exempted from the first round of Gramm-Rudman cuts last March.

Gramm-Rudman is just a slick way to impose more cuts in social programs, retirement benefits and a host of other programs that the government is supposed to provide. And it makes it possible for the Reaganites to turn over more and more of the people's hard-earned tax dollars to the vultures in the military-industrial complex.

Gramm-Rudman is part of the trend by Congress to cede its power to the executive branch of government, as the Pentagon has emerged as a dominant power. Although the Constitution says that only Congress has "the power of the purse," Gramm-Rudman is an attempt to turn that power over to an appointee of the president, the Comptroller General who heads the Government Accounting Office.

As to the Supreme Court ruling,

it did not say anything about Congress trying to give its spending powers to another part of government. But it did come at an opportune time for the Reagan gang. The Court ruling stopped some cuts in the Pentagon budget that were due to go into effect.

And the Court, by focusing on the question of the Comptroller General and his relation to Congress, in the words of the New York Times (July 8), "might alter the balance between Congress and the President in favor of the executive branch." This is because the decision weakens the Comptroller General and the GAO, which has wide financial authority over all aspects of government spending, and the President may now intervene more fully against appropriations it opposes such as food stamp programs or hot lunches for school children.

This is the essence of the Supreme Court's ruling. But giving the President more and more power will not make the budget cuts in social services any more popular with the people of this country, nor will it make the ever-growing military colossus loved.

But all this does not happen in a vacuum. There are real people being sliced up by the draconian cuts of the Reagan-Gramm-Rudman Congress. And one day they'll find out that these real people just won't take anymore. The anger is already simmering; soon it will reach the boiling point.



—Vigilantes

Continued from page 4

created under the Kennedy administration during the Viet Nam war. Though they are part of the Pentagon, they are commonly known in the military and have been described by former CIA officers as being the combat arm of the CIA.

Capitalist class scapegoats undocumented

Especially during times of high joblessness, the U.S. ruling class tries to find scapegoats. The CMA border attack serves this purpose of creating an hysteria against the undocumented.

Just as U.S. imperialism uses puppet dictators like the Pinochet regime in Chile or death squads to do its dirty

work abroad, it often relies on right-wing groups to carry out its aims at home. Extra-legal vigilante-type groups are resorted to when the ruling class feels the state itself cannot be used to carry out its full program at the moment.

Working people in this country must see through the hypocrisy of the ruling class, which hails "what America has done for immigrants" and "the freedom that all enjoy," even as it backs reactionary racist groups like the CMA. The U.S. working class has far more in common with its toiling undocumented brothers and sisters from Mexico and elsewhere than it does with the war-driven, profit-mad U.S. imperialist ruling class.

—Chile

Continued from page 7

tion was taken, the mineworkers have a long history of militancy.

Arrests, disappearances and murders have been commonplace since the 1973 coup led by General Pinochet and the military with U.S. backing. More than 30,000 have been murdered and 10% of the population is in exile. The repression continued for several years, then slowed for a short while, but in the 1980s was stepped up considerably following the emergence of a strong opposition.

There are several factions within the opposition. The Christian Democrats, one of the larger bourgeois parties, has sent its leader, Gabriel Valdes, to seek the support of the U.S.

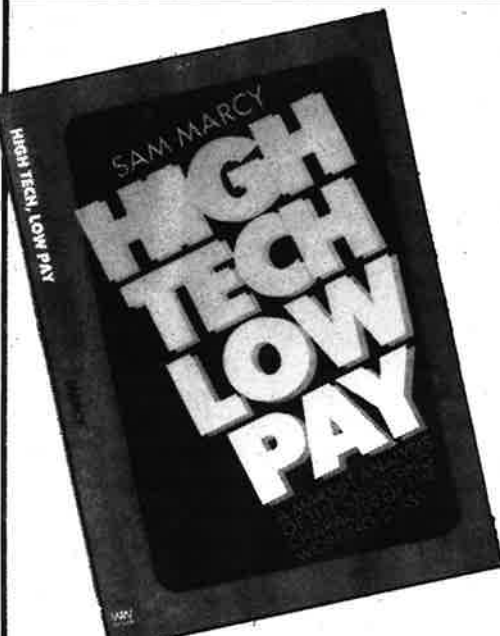
Washington, for its part, has replaced the ambassador, sending in Harry Barnes whose talk about human rights abuses is meant to distance the Reagan administration

somewhat from Pinochet. Barnes recently held a reception where some of the leaders of the coalition National Assembly for Civility attended.

But the alliance between the Christian Democrats and the U.S. does not fool the working class of Chile. They have suffered the most from policies that enrich a few while the majority are unemployed or hardly working, hungry and in need of medical care, education and housing.

The people know the role the U.S. played in installing the military regime. Even the middle class, which is shrinking rapidly every year, is joining with the working class in increasing numbers. The opposition in Chile is united around the fact that Pinochet has to go.

The author of this article is a Chilean exile.

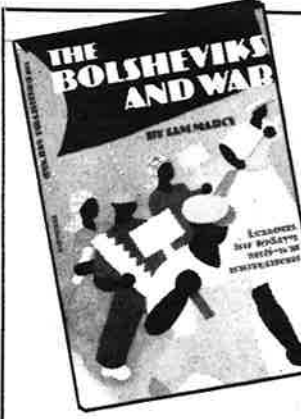


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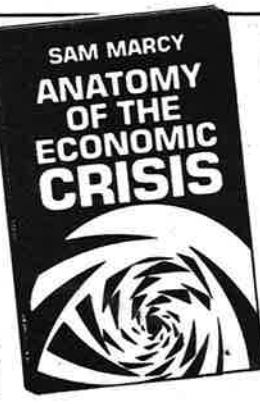
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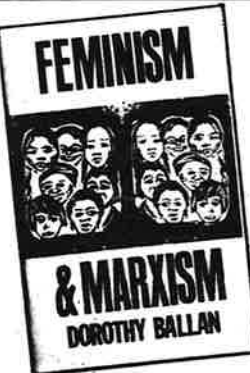
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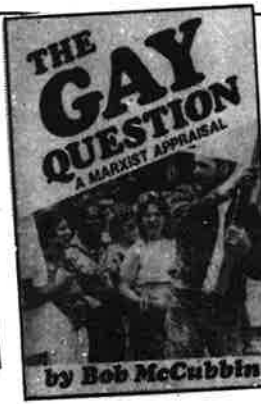
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Filipinos mount huge July 4 protest at U.S. bases

As aborted coup highlights role of military

By Lydia Bayoneta

JULY 7—The large July 4 demonstration in the Philippines against the presence of U.S. military bases there showed that, far from abating, the struggle for self-determination and against U.S. domination is continuing.

July 4 is called "Philippine-American Friendship Day," a reminder of Manila's semi-colonial status. The demonstration was attacked by police of the new Aquino regime using tear gas, truncheons and guns, in a scene reminiscent of many during the Marcos regime.

Lino Brocka, an activist film director and a member of the constitutional commission charged with drawing up a new constitution, told reporters: "I thought that things had changed when a new government took over. But we are back here in the streets protesting and being dispersed."

Contrary to what official sources in Washington have been saying, the downfall of Ferdinand Marcos and the ascension of Mrs. Aquino's government have not caused the demise of the left, although this was their hope and intent. Instead, the revolutionary and democratic forces have continued to move forward, pressing many demands which the Aquino government has been forced to grant.

The new government, however, is unable to make the kinds of fundamental changes which are necessary to solve the economic and social crisis in the Philippines.

Whatever the future course of events, the military, represented by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and General Fidel Ramos, both prominent members of the Marcos regime, is bound to play an important role. Both also have strong ties with U.S. imperialism. The instrument of repression under the fascist Marcos dictatorship was the Philippine military, and this infrastructure still remains. Moreover, this military was, and is, the creation of the U.S.

During the Philippine-American war of 1898, mercenaries known as "Philippine scouts" were used as auxiliary forces by the U.S. against the revolutionary forces of Aguinaldo. These then served as the nucleus of the Philippine Constabulary, established in 1908 as a means of consolidating U.S. colonial rule. The role of the Philippine military has not essentially changed since then.

The Tolentino 'revolt'

Military power played an important part in the recent attempt by Arturo Tolentino, the running mate of Marcos in the "snap elections," to have himself declared "acting president" of the Philippines. Although some Marcos supporters have been demonstrating almost daily, it was apparently the presence of some 350 soldiers, along with some disgruntled former military commanders, which encouraged the political "challenge." When it was obvious that neither the U.S. nor a significant part of the military supported



NPA liberation fighters capture weapons after ambushing jeep.

the move, the attempt collapsed.

The forces behind by the "loyalists" who still follow Marcos should not be taken lightly. They represent significant sections of the landowning and compradore classes in the Philippines. Many of the warlords still maintain private armies and have significant international connections. They are motivated by a desperate fear that the Aquino government will not be able to contain the people's movement, especially the New Peoples Army (NPA).

Although the U.S. government currently supports the government of Cory Aquino, it has exactly the same fears. The attacks on the anti-imperialist demonstrators and the actions of the Marcos supporters have been carefully watched by the U.S. Although the Reaganites have chosen to appear aloof, they have in the past used such events to intervene, either directly or through their agents in the Philippine military. It is from this quarter that the greatest danger lies.

Walkouts shut gold, diamond mines in South Africa

Protests aimed at release of anti-apartheid prisoners

By Sahu Barron

JULY 8—On the Fourth of July, the South African workers showed the U.S. ruling class as well as the Botha regime the real meaning of independence.

With that Friday came yet another powerful display of the Black workers' strength as some 13,000 gold and diamond miners crippled the apartheid economy by staging walkouts and

slowdowns in at least two major industrial centers.

The scores of work stoppages included a strike in the mining city of Kimberly, where more than 1,900 Black workers walked out of four diamond mines owned by DeBeers Consolidated. DeBeers, which has a virtual monopoly on the world's diamond market, conceded that the strike at all four sites was 100% effective.

In another action, 3,000 participated in a work slowdown at a state-owned gold mine in the Orange Free State. The gold and diamond industry represents a major cornerstone in the apartheid economy, accounting for more than 50% of South Africa's export earnings.

These industrial actions were called by the 300,000-member Metal and Allied Workers Union to protest the detention of hundreds of trade unionists under the State of Emergency imposed last month. In addition the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) has vowed to stage a general strike on Sunday, July 13, if the regime does not lift the emergency decree and release its labor leaders as well as all 4,500 people who have been arrested since June 12.

In a move attempting to allay the intensification of the people's heroic resistance, meanwhile, the white minority regime has overturned its 24-year

banishment orders and censorship against African National Congress leader Winnie Mandela. Under the restrictions, Mrs. Mandela was barred from travel, prohibited from living in her home town of Soweto and proscribed from speaking to anyone outside of her immediate family.

The lifting of these restrictions on July 7 represented only a formality, however. Mrs. Mandela has valiantly defied every restriction for years, risking imprisonment or death.

As the South African majority continues to challenge the hated apartheid state, the regime will most assuredly continue to make paltry concessions on the one hand, while meting out brutal and naked force to silence the people on the other. The people, however, as Winnie Mandela has shown for more than two decades, will defy every fascist dictate, and push aside every meager concession until apartheid is finally driven into the sea.



Carter in Zimbabwe: A Reaganite at heart

IS THERE any reason to believe that the Democrats are really that much different than the Republicans? On big issues there's hardly a dime's difference.

Take South Africa. Some in the anti-apartheid movement look to the Democrats for leadership against Reagan's open support for the Botha regime.

But when a chance came to show solidarity with the struggle against apartheid, one of the Democrats' leading liberal spokesmen, Jimmy Carter, came out on the side of the Reaganites.

At a Fourth of July reception in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, one of the frontline states that has been in-

vaded by the racist terror regime in South Africa, the Foreign Minister denounced the refusal of the U.S. and Britain to impose major sanction on South Africa.

At a meeting that is supposedly to celebrate freedom, what could be more appropriate than to show solidarity with the freedom struggle of South Africa?

To Jimmy Carter, it was an "offense" and he led a walkout to show his anger. It seems that Lester Maddox's old running mate has not forgotten the Old South, as Carter added racist insult to his show of support to the Reaganites.



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Rightist laws threaten French workers, immigrants

Anti-racist protest reflects growing fightback

By John Catalinotto

JULY 5 — Two office workers sat across from this writer in the company cafeteria not far from the Bourse in central Paris. The computer programmer had come from a former French colony in Western Africa over 20 years ago. The secretary had left her Basque homeland while Franco fascism still ruled there.

Their conversation touched on the loss of their roots with their former countries, with its customs and way of life. Yet in the country which now was their home, France, a new mood of anti-immigrant sentiment was making them wonder just where they stood.

Even a casual observer could see that this mood was being promoted by ruling class circles. A new series of anti-immigration laws had already been passed by the new right-wing council of ministers and was soon to be brought to parliament.

And the gutter press owned by media mogul Robert Mersant, France's answer to Rupert Murdoch, was waging an anti-immigrant campaign which included daily articles on "Yugoslav child thieves at the Louvre" and "South American pickpockets," as well as racist fare directed against Arabs and Africans.

These internal developments in France contrasted sharply with the tributes to the "traditions of liberty" on the July 4 weekend as French President Francois Mitterrand met with Ronald Reagan.

It's true that the rightist parliamentary majority, led by Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, is most responsible for the domestic changes in France. In the present unorthodox "cohabitation" between Mitterrand and the openly rightist Chirac, the Socialist Party President has taken charge of foreign policy.

In that realm, as Mitterrand himself admitted in an interview in the June 28 Washington Post, France is a strategic ally of the U.S. In other words, French imperialism is also dedicated to suppressing national liberation movements and confronting the socialist countries.

If France refused to let U.S. bombers

fly over on their way to bomb Libya, it's only because the French bosses and bankers prefer to act independently rather than as U.S. toadies.

Reaganism with a French accent

On the other hand, the internal policies carried out by the rightists are pure Reaganism. Racism against foreign workers, especially Arabs and Africans. Cutbacks in social programs and continued layoffs of workers. Attempts to strengthen police powers under the guise of fighting terrorism. Selling the profitable nationalized enterprises back to private owners.

The new immigration laws propose restricting entrance to new immigrants, making it more difficult to receive permission for a long stay. They also eliminate the automatic right of the children of immigrants to remain. And they make it far easier to expel an immigrant.

Much of the power to decide who gets expelled is left in the hands of the police. They could expel someone for being a "menace to the public order." Of course, to the police, a striker or union organizer is automatically such a menace.

So-called anti-terrorist laws threaten a wide section of the population, but would undoubtedly be applied with most prejudice against those with origins outside of metropolitan France. The laws empower the police to detain suspects for a longer time without cause and to encourage informers with bribes. They would allow the courts to mete out longer sentences.

The proposed laws have been accompanied by the appointment of a cop named Pasqua as Minister of Justice. This is the rough equivalent of naming Ed Meese as Attorney General here.

Youth opposition, 200,000 strong at Bastille

The offensive by the ruling class has aroused resistance. The broad opposition to the racist anti-immigration offensive has been carried out by SOS-Racism, which has organized nationwide marches ending up in rallies of hundreds of thousands in Paris. This



June 16 anti-apartheid protest in Paris.

WW PHOTO: JOHN CATALINOTTO

June 14, they drew some 200,000, mostly young people, for a popular music concert at the Place de la Bastille in Paris.

While the action was low key, the message was still clear. France was multi-national and multi-racial, and the youth thought racism was stupid as well as dangerous. The more openly political message was shown in banners of solidarity with the struggle in South Africa and by one contingent from the Revolutionary Communist Youth who dressed as 35 rats, representing the 35 fascist members of the National Front in the new parliament.

Though 10% unemployment has put the workers on the defensive, they too continue to show fight. A Paris subway/bus strike on June 12 to protest proposed layoffs was 100% successful. An editor of the news magazine of the leading union federation, the CGT, told this writer it was the first time in years that participation in a stoppage of this sort had been so unanimous.

Similar actions in private industry have been less successful. Still, the loss of office by the Socialist Party and its replacement by open representatives of French capital has encouraged a more combative spirit within the trade unions.

Another workers' action shut down TF1, one of the nationalized TV channels, on June 27. It was protesting government plans to sell the channel to

private owners, most likely to the infamous Mersant, who already monopolizes more than 30% of the French daily newspapers.

All the propaganda over the Statue of Liberty can't wipe out the facts about the U.S. and France. These countries remain citadels of class oppression, not bastions of freedom.

Join us in the struggle

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

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On The Picketline

Caterpillar. The economic crisis has had a deep impact on workers in mining equipment manufacturing. The UAW has signed a 28-month contract with Caterpillar, the manufacturer of earth moving and mining equipment, whose main element is a wage freeze (salaries average \$13.60 an hour) and what the Wall Street Journal calls an "innovative" job security agreement.

Caterpillar has been automating its plants at a rapid rate. Over four years it cut its hourly wage force by 44% (over 24,000 jobs) after a \$1 billion "modernization" plan. It has announced another "capital improvement" plan (read job elimination) for \$320 million to reduce the workforce another 15% over the next three years. In 1979 its main plant in Peoria had 24,000 workers. It now has 9,000 and Caterpillar has closed six other plants. The UAW has a backlog of 7,000 grievances, most involving seniority and job security. The company blames foreign competition — but Caterpillar now manufactures over 50% of its components and finished products abroad, and is seeking to bring its U.S. labor costs in line with costs abroad,

integrating U.S. workers into its world workforce and lowering living standards in the process. The job security language in the new contract does not put a stop to moving work to subcontractors and plants outside the U.S., nor does it stop the elimination of jobs through automation. It only limits those losses to 10% of the workers, not including plant closings.

The only way to fight a multinational giant such as Caterpillar is by coordinated company-wide bargaining. U.S. unions must develop those kinds of concrete links with workers abroad.

• • •

Aluminum workers. After a 5-week strike against Alcoa, two unions (the Steelworkers and the Aluminum, Brick and Glass Workers) have agreed to a 95 cent-an-hour cut in benefits and a freeze in wages. Two companies, Reynolds and Alcoa, had sought to force \$2.90-an-hour cuts while the unions had sought a 40 cent raise. The Wall Street Journal chided the companies for not getting the kinds of concessions Kaiser Aluminum extracted from its workers: a \$4.50 cut in wages

and benefits.

The company claimed the settlement was "an important step toward enhancing the company's ability to compete in world markets," but in fact Alcoa is its own foreign competition. It has wholly owned subsidiaries or large interests in companies in Brazil, the Netherlands, West Germany, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Panama, Australia, to name just a few. What the company really had in mind was similar to Caterpillar: bring down the standard of living and working conditions in its U.S. operations to match labor costs elsewhere in its world subsidiaries; integrate its U.S. workforce into the lower living standards of poor and oppressed countries, in many cases achieved through a brutal suppression of the labor movement by U.S.-supported regimes. Further improvements in U.S. contracts will be difficult until the unions go beyond the phony company argument of "competition" and begin to view these transnational corporations for what they are: a world-wide empire in which workers have to coordinate bargaining on an international basis.

— Louis Napier



Deaths at B'klyn paint plant point to weakened OSHA

By Monica Moorehead

NEW YORK, July 7 — Why did such a tragedy have to occur?

Two workers died in Brooklyn on July 5 from suffocation when they were overwhelmed by fumes emanating from the deadly cancer-causing degreaser and solvent, trichloroethylene. Thomas Labora and James Cabot, a Latin and a Black worker respectively, were fatally injured while cleaning excess paint from an oven where metal products are stripped and new paint is baked on. A third worker, Arnaldo Trochez, is currently in critical condition.

According to a chemist representing the city's so-called Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the accident may have happened when the fumes escaped from the chemical on a conveyor belt transferring the metal products through the oven. Another theory put forth was that the fumes may have leaked from a 1,000-gallon tank adjoining the oven.

The accident occurred at the Ever-Nu Metal Products company, near the Park Slope West section of Brooklyn, a working class neighborhood. Many of the emergency workers called to the scene were so overcome by fumes that they reportedly had to keep switching places with each other.

It is a miracle that more residents were not overcome by the fumes. Could such an accident have been avoided? The answer is yes. There were no safety precautions such as masks or any safety equipment provided to these workers, who had to labor under the most hazardous conditions. It was like working inside a time bomb.

And what about the owner of this plant? According to the police, Frank Gagliardi was nowhere to be found following the accident and did not respond to any messages left for him. It's not known how many safety viola-

tions run rampant in this plant and how often the plant was inspected by the DEP, if at all. Gagliardi and the DEP's behavior could only be characterized as criminal neglect.

It is not uncommon for such incidents to take place in poor, oppressed or working class neighborhoods. From Bhopal, India, to Brooklyn, thousands have been maimed for life and have even died thanks to the blatant disregard for the health and safety of the affected community and the general environment by profit-hungry chemical conglomerates like Union Carbide and Dow. For them it's more profitable to operate an unsafe plant than a hazard-free one. These racist corporate bosses take a who-cares attitude especially when it comes to the lives of the poor and the workers.

Need an independent investigation

In New York City alone, there are thousands of small toxic chemical sweatshops, potential deathtraps for the workers and the surrounding community. The gutting of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) begun in 1981 by the Reaganites has given the green light to agencies like the DEP to relinquish any responsibility in cleaning up deathtraps like Ever-Nu.

Nothing can be done to restore life to these two workers. What is needed now more than ever is to insure that such tragedies will never occur again. What could be more appropriate than for the community along with the workers from this plant to carry out their own independent investigation? They could demand money from the racist Koch administration for compensation for the families of Thomas Labora and James Cabot and to make this plant and others safe for all workers. Job security and safety on the job are the rights of all workers.

—Gay protest

Continued from page 12

ments and parks. Altogether 22,000 cops were mobilized for the weekend, together with 25 city, state and federal cop agencies utilizing centralized command posts, computer networking, and remote control cameras.

As the marchers approached Broadway and Wall, they were met by rows of cops in riot gear. After a tense standoff, the demonstrators managed to dodge around the police barricades and headed south on Broadway.

'The Fourth of July is a lie!'

'Liberty for all!' 'Gay rights, right now!' 'Gay, straight, Black, white, together we struggle, together we fight,' were heard by surprised throngs of people from all over the country and the world, many of whom had never seen the gay rights movement or heard its demands.

At a rally right in Battery Park marchers urged the speakers to "Tell them why we're here!" Activists raised the concerns and struggles of the gay community as well as the struggles of Nicaraguans, Salvadorans, the Dineh and Hopi people at Big Mountain, and South African workers. Exposing the hypocrisy around "Liberty" Weekend, a Chilean activist from the People's Anti-War Mobilization pointed out that the INS bans lesbians and gays from migrating to the U.S. She also denounced the inclusion of the torture ship Esmeralda in today's tall ships procession as a symbol of the brutality of the U.S.-backed dictatorship in Chile.

Six hours after the march had left the site of the old Stonewall, it re-

turned triumphant. Many still did not want to disperse. "Out of the bars and into the streets!" shouted gay activists as their numbers swelled once again and several hundred people stayed in the streets to discuss the road to rights and freedom.

—Chicago KKK

Continued from page 5

sion expected to be generated around next year's mayoral election. This week's rallies were opening shots in that campaign to shoot down the Black community's right to exercise political power.

Opposition to racism

But there is a lot of opposition to racism in Chicago, even in such neighborhoods as Marquette Park. Marquette Park now has a Black alderwoman, Marlene Carter, as the result of a special election after a court-ordered redistricting of ward boundaries to more fairly reflect the city's racial makeup.

On the morning of the Klan rally, Alderwoman Carter spoke at a press conference along with a number of community leaders from the area, many of them white, to present a petition signed by 7,000 residents of Marquette Park denouncing the Klan and white supremacy. Among the speakers were Jean Mayer, president of the Southwest Parish and Neighborhood Federation, and Rev. Peter Paurazas, pastor of St. Adrian's church.

This multinational response was a

Move denied to 15 Puerto Rican defendants

By Jean Bowdish

JULY 7 — In another move directed against the pro-independence movement in Puerto Rico, the U.S. District Court has denied a motion to move the trial of 15 independence activists, currently being heard in Hartford, Conn., to their homeland of Puerto Rico. They are charged with aiding in a \$7 million Wells Fargo robbery in Hartford.

The District Court judge claimed that to move the trial would cause too long a delay and would keep the defendants from having a "fair" trial. This is despite evidence presented showing that the racism faced by Puerto Rican people in the Hartford area will make an "impartial" jury impossible to find.

This denial further underscores the government's aim to destroy the struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico from U.S. colonialism.

Over the past ten months, since the FBI swept through the island arresting the independence activists, a support movement has grown against the repression. In Puerto Rico these activists are not considered "terrorists," as the pro-

secutors label them, but heroes for opposing the U.S. domination of Puerto Rico. Certainly the last thing the U.S. government wants is a jury that would truly represent the defendant's peers — because this would mean a jury opposed to the U.S. presence on the island.

By forcing the trial to be held in Hartford, the government is keeping the defendants separated from this support and from their families. The expense of having to come back and forth from Puerto Rico and staying here during the trial is a major obstacle for their families.

A national demonstration has been called in defense of the independence activists, and will be held Aug. 30 in Hartford. The main demand of the demonstration is for the U.S. government to free all Puerto Rican political prisoners.

Organizing has already begun in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York. There is much to be done to build the demonstration. To show your support and to help build the activity, contact the Connecticut Committee Against Repression, P.O. Box 6159, Hartford, Conn. 06106.

NYC tenants fight landlord's arson terror

By Sue Davis

NEW YORK, July 2 — "Victims have no standing in this court," ruled Justice Harold Rothwax this morning.

With this outrageous but brutally class-conscious dismissal of tenants' testimony, Rothwax accepted a plea-bargain from Chelsea landlord-arsonist Thomas Lydon. In exchange this wealthy former narcotics detective, who has already served time for a near-fatal beating of a tenant, received a slap-on-the-wrist sentence of 1-1/2 to 4-1/2 years. Although charged with a 54-count indictment, which could have led to a sentence of three to nine years, Lydon pleaded guilty to lesser charges of grand larceny, extortion and conspiracy.

Representing the tenants was C. Vernon Mason, a prominent Black civil rights attorney, who requested that the judge vacate the guilty plea and make Lydon stand trial. Six tenants were there to testify about his crimes. These include 16 fires since 1981, with the last one two days after he pleaded guilty in May.

But as Rothwax arrogantly refused to hear evidence about Lydon's campaign of racist terror and arson, the courtroom rang with angry protest from members of the Chelsea Coalition on Housing. Rothwax ordered the courtroom cleared. Miriam Lemos, a single mother who had been terrorized by Lydon, cried out to the judge, "There's no justice for poor people — only the rich."

Even though Rothwax later remanded Lydon to jail and ordered him to pay \$5,000 in restitution to each of

big step forward in building unity against the racist offensive. At the same time, however, it is clear that petitions are not enough to stop the Klan and Nazis. A massive and militant movement must fill the streets to open up Marquette Park and all other Chicago neighborhoods to all its residents, and beat back the forces of racism once and for all.

16 tenants, no amount of time served or dollar bills can restore Miriam Lemos's home or her peace of mind and sense of security expressed in the old saying, "Home Sweet Home."

Either that proverb, so dear to the hearts of most people, holds no meaning for the likes of Lydon and Rothwax, or they think poor and Third World people don't have a right to a home. Either way, they are heartless. And in that they are not alone.

In the midst of record homelessness, long lists of people waiting for public housing, and soaring rents as thousands of units are gentrified into high-priced condominiums, the Reagan administration and Congress are refusing to budget federal money for new housing. In collusion with wealthy real estate magnates and Wall Street bankers, who consider housing just another kind of profit-making business, the ruling class government is creating a national housing crisis for all poor and working people.

And they are emboldening racist bullies like Thomas Lydon. Even the New York Times admitted that Lydon "was indicted in 1984 along with 20 members of a gang that he had hired to clear tenants from his buildings so they could be rented at higher rates or converted to cooperatives or condominiums." (WW emphasis)

But tenants are not looking to the courts for justice or pleading with the ruling class to have a change of heart. Like Miriam Lemos, they are uniting and fighting back. And that kind of mass movement is what is most urgently needed from Chelsea to Jersey City to the shanty towns of South Africa.

The capitalist system, built on a foundation of landlordism, private property and profit, must be torn down. In its place the workers and oppressed can build a new system based on socialist cooperation and sharing. Only in that way will landlords be outlawed as parasites and "Home Sweet Home" be each person's birthright.

Lesbian/gay protest crashes 'Liberty' fete to hit Supreme Court ruling

By Leslie Diane Feinberg
NEW YORK, July 4 — Some 5,000 gay and lesbian demonstrators and their supporters took to the streets of New York City today to disrupt the "Liberty Weekend" celebration in a remarkable action protesting the Supreme Court's decision upholding Georgia's anti-gay sodomy laws.

The ruling class Fourth of July plans boasted the largest and most costly security system ever assembled to keep out unwanted guests. But hell-bent on being heard, gay and lesbian protesters crashed the bash, announcing, "The Fourth of July is a lie!"

Gathering steam on just a few days' notice, thousands rallied at Sheridan Square at noon today, marched to Federal court, took their case to the crowds of the festival, rallied again at Battery Park (the heart of the "Liberty" shindig), protested at the waterfront headquarters of the notoriously anti-gay New York Post, and then marched back to Sheridan Square, site of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion which ignited the gay liberation movement.

Immediate protests

Today's demonstration is part of a continuing surge of anger that began on Monday, June 30, when the Supreme Court decision was announced — one day after the annual Lesbian and Gay Pride activities had concluded. By Tuesday night, 3,000 gay men and lesbians were marching through the streets of Greenwich Village, blocking traffic. They then held open community speak-outs on how to disrupt the Fourth of July plans.

Today's protest was called by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, LAMBDA Legal Defense, and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Speakers at today's noontime rally called for a united fightback against lesbian and gay oppression and for unity with all those who are discriminated against. Some likened

the Supreme Court ruling this week to the Dred Scott decision in 1857 which upheld chattel slavery as legal.

"Miss Liberty?" read one sign. "You bet I do!"

The crowd was anxious to march, chanting, "Let's go! Let's go!" But when speakers from the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays took the mike, stressing the need for more Third World representation, the people cheered, applauded and listened attentively.

When the demonstration finally headed south, a group who had been harassing the marchers were beaten back. "We are gay, we are proud, we will fight back!" the crowd chanted at the fleeing forms of the bigots.

"Courts say get back, we say fight back!" was the chant at the Federal courthouse at Foley Square. The courthouse was fenced out of bounds by police barricades and federal agents. But the crowd defiantly surged onto the court steps with signs and banners.

"What do we want? BATTERY PARK! BATTERY PARK!" cheered demonstrators pointing south towards Wall Street. The march quickly reassembled and headed south chanting, "We're gonna beat back the Reagan attack!"

Undaunted by heavy security

While this was happening, President Reagan, Navy Secretary John F. Lehman, Jr., Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, and a bevy of Pentagon warlords were steaming down the Hudson on the battleship Iowa, together with an armada of 31 armored warships, as fighter jets streaked overhead.

Navy helicopters and corporate blimps hovered in the cloudless sky, police divers searched piers, customs agents boarded ships, hundreds of Coast Guard boats patrolled the harbors, U.S. rangers guarded monu-

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WW PHOTO: JEAN BOWDISH

NYC gay and lesbian demonstrators march during 'Liberty' weekend.



WW PHOTO: TOM DORAN

Atlanta gays protest. Some 300 people rallied in Atlanta, Ga., July 3 to protest the Supreme Court decision upholding Georgia's anti-sodomy laws. The rally at the Russell federal building was the largest in Atlanta in a number of years. The rally was called by the Metro-Council, a coalition of lesbian and gay organizations, on just two days' notice. Maria Dolan, a lesbian activist, showed the scope of the attacks by the Reagan administration and the Supreme Court on the rights of lesbian and gay people, from legalizing job and housing discrimination to taking away the right to privacy. She and other speakers called for more street demonstrations as well as a national march to help roll back the Reagan reaction.

— Jimmy Montgomery

A message to new subscribers

In the past few weeks, hundreds of you have become new readers of Workers World. At the giant June 14 marches against apartheid, at the Lesbian and Gay Pride marches in New York, California and other cities and the protests of the Supreme Court pro-bigotry decision, at the June 28 tenants' march in Jersey City and the July 6 rally for Big Mountain in Washington, D.C., you've bought our special 8-week introductory subscription.

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