



Angola resists large-scale South Africa attack

Racist regime has more troops poised on border

By Monica Moorehead

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are in trouble. Think your deposits are insured? S&Ls are barely covered. And already shaky Continental Illinois just got burned in the stock market. 5

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Army called in against Soweto rent strike

November 18 — The South African racist regime is preparing to move thousands of soldiers into the Black township of Soweto, according to reports on National Public Radio.

This unprecedented attack by an army on civilians of the same country is meant to break a mass rent strike in effect since June 1986. After paying exorbitant rents for years for the most miserable shacks, the people have banded together on rent strike to demand better services for the township and increased political rights.

The racist, minority regime in Pretoria is not recognized anywhere in the world as legitimate. It uses the most vicious terror to enforce its tyrannical rule. The super-exploited people of Soweto won't bow down before them and instead have set up their own governing councils.

by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

UNITA has tried for many years to portray itself as a legitimate national liberation movement, but its close ties to the hated apartheid regime show it to be nothing more than a discredited band of terrorists and murderers in the eyes of the international community.

These counter-revolutionaries are made from the same old mold as the

contras in Nicaragua. Both Angola and Nicaragua, still very undeveloped, have been forced to divert their attention and meager resources away from rebuilding their war-torn economic infrastructure and meeting the general needs of their respective populations in order to militarily defend their sovereignty. The undeclared war against the Angolan people has cost

that country \$12 billion since the tri-
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SOCIALIST CONFERENCE

Workers World Party lays out fightback program in response to layoffs, budget cuts and capitalist economic crisis. Sam Marcy shows how 1987 is not 1929 — it's worse. 6, 7, 9

'We're not just on strike for ourselves!'

International Paper workers expect big turnout Nov. 21

By Phil Whtaylo

"We're not just on strike for ourselves anymore," said Ruth Lebel, striking paperworker and union spokesperson at the International Paper Company's (IP) Androscoggin mill in Jay, Maine. "What happens here will affect the whole country, because if IP can break this strike, it's only a matter of time before all the other companies go after their unions. We're on the front line now and we're taking the hardship, so we're calling on all the unions in the country to come out and support us."

That support will take on a concrete, visible form this Saturday, Nov. 21, as thousands of workers and their supporters gather for a massive solidarity rally in Jay.

The 1,250 Jay workers, represented by United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 14 and Firemen and Oilers Local 246, have been out on strike since June 16 against IP, one of the largest paper companies in the country. Company demands of wage cuts, concessions and work-rule changes are basically the same as at two other IP plants now on strike, involving 760 workers in Lock Haven, Pa. and 370 in DePere, Wis. In addition, 1,200 workers have been locked out since March 21 in Mobile, Ala.

At all four plants, the main barrier to a settlement has been the company's determination to permanently replace their striking workers with scabs, in effect breaking the locals. This is the same vicious tactic that companies across the country have been using to break strikes and unions, from PATCO to Phelps-Dodge to

Hornel to TWA to the NFL football strike.

"The ability of companies to permanently replace striking workers with scabs is one of the biggest single threats facing the union movement today," said Harold Mendlowitz, president of AFU (Greyhound) Local 1202 to Workers World today. "The IP strike could be the place we turn this anti-union offensive around." Mendlowitz is a national spokesperson for the Job Is a Right Campaign, a network of unions and labor activists that has been fighting for a moratorium, or ban, on plant shutdowns and layoffs. The campaign has been urging all its network members to support the strike.

One example of the form that union support could take comes from the battle last year of the United Steel Workers union (USW) against the giant USX Corp., formerly U.S. Steel. The company had locked out 45,000 steelworkers in an attempt to force concessions on the union. Like IP, USX was making profits hand over fist, but sought to take advantage of the anti-union offensive encouraged by the Reagan administration to try and weaken the union, in particular targeting the pension fund.

Some months into the struggle, the USW and the AFL-CIO created the "Steel Workers Support Committee, a formidable coalition of some of the most powerful international unions. They... formed a coordinating committee of 70 affiliated unions in an effort to lay the basis for broad solidarity support which would mobilize an unprecedented number of workers in the struggle." (Workers World, Oct. 2, 1986)

Of course, such a coalition can only

be a powerful weapon against the companies if it includes the deep involvement of the rank-and-file, so that literally millions of union members and their families are mobilized to come to the aid of the striking paperworkers. And not only the unions need to be mobilized — the communities, too, must be reached out to and brought into the struggle.

— South Africa invades Angola

Continued from page 1
umph of the revolution over Portuguese colonialism in 1975.

Neither UNITA nor the Nicaraguan contras could sustain themselves for one day if it were not for the millions of tax dollars handed over to them by the U.S. government. The U.S. ruling class, the apartheid regime and its mercenaries all have their hands permanently stained with the blood of hundreds of thousands of slaughtered and maimed unarmed civilians. Jonas Savimbi, the notorious "leader" of UNITA, was quoted in the Nov. 13 *Newsday* as saying that U.S. weaponry was what enabled his band to inflict heavy casualties against the Angolan armed forces.

Why has imperialist intervention against Angola intensified at this moment? Is this intervention related to the role Angola plays in the overall struggle against the apartheid system?

First of all, a revolutionary Angola is a threat to imperialist domination, particularly of the U.S. and South Africa, in the region.

This kind of organized unity is what can turn the tide against the vicious, relentless anti-labor drive of big business and the Reaganite repression against the workers and the masses of oppressed people as a whole. That tide must be turned, and the heroic striking paperworkers are now in the front line of that battle. It's up to all of labor to come to their defense.

The U.S. and South Africa like to argue that they are fighting "Soviet and Cuban expansion" in the region. It's a convenient cover to keep capitalist property relations intact — a source of super profits. These relations are being threatened daily by the guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), fighting to free their Namibian territory from the illegal occupation of apartheid. Angola provides SWAPO with its main operations base. Destroying this base is a main objective of the apartheid racists.

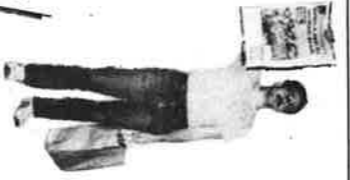
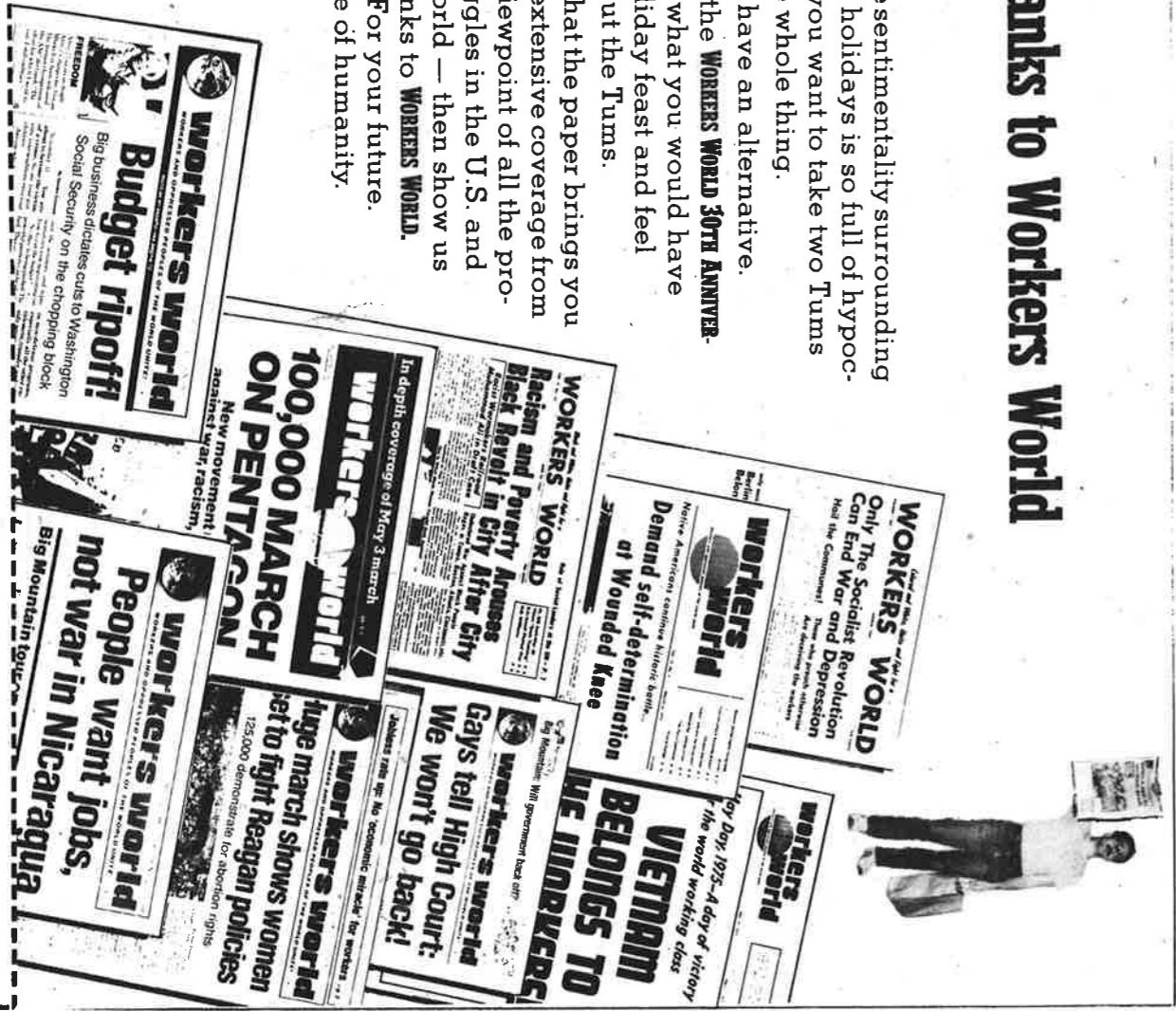
More and more, apartheid is resorting to outright armed terror to solve its irreversible crises in Angola and Namibia, even as the revolutionary upsurge from the oppressed masses inside South Africa grows daily. While apartheid's days are certainly numbered, the besieged people of Angola immediately need the wholehearted support of progressive forces around the globe as they prepare themselves to once again defend their precious gains against the fascist invaders.

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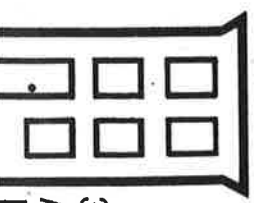
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Feel poorer? You are, says report — but rich have fattened at your expense

By Lillian Stein

Long before the stock market crash in October there was overwhelming statistical evidence of a major shift in the distribution of wealth to the very richest, the top one-fifth of all families in the U.S.

Figures to corroborate this were published in a Nov. 6 press release by the Council on International and Public Affairs. They showed a sharp decline in income for the remaining four-fifths of the population, proving that the Reagan recovery (while it lasted) was only for the rich.

Falling wages have pushed more than a million working people with jobs below the poverty level since 1980, bringing the total of working poor to nine million. Of course, this decline hit hardest in oppressed Black, Latino, Asian and Native families and in households headed by one person. Altogether, some 30 million people now live below the poverty level.

The meaning of the statistics when seen as a whole indicate a widening chasm between the working class that produces the wealth and the exploiting class that owns it.

With the market crash came a rash of furious activity and the release of new economic statistics from the government and the Wall Street-dominated press which revealed an even greater trend toward the extremes of wealth and poverty.

What had been happening in the poorest and the most oppressed strata of society was never hidden. The human "statistics" were only too obvious, searching for sheltered doorways or a warm grating on the city streets.

What was new was the extent to which the rich had concentrated their wealth. According to a study drawn up by the Congressional Budget Office, by the end of next year the income of the richest 1% of families in the U.S. will have leapt by 50% since 1977, when adjusted to account for inflation.

That is a great increase. But the projection of the congressional study actually covers up a greater shift in

wealth to the rich. Income is only a small part of the wealth of those who own and control the accumulated wealth of all capitalist society.

The really massive shift of wealth in the recent period has been carried out through the restructuring of industry and the growth of agribusiness.

In the book *High Tech, Low Pay*, Sam Marcy showed how the capitalist class has used the transformation of technology to lay off workers and reduce job skills while attempting to increase production.

The result has been an overall decline in wages from a weekly average of \$210 in 1973 to \$167 in May 1987 in constant 1977 dollars (New York

Times, Nov. 16). Practically all new job openings have been in the low-paying service sector. The latest news confirms Marcy's thesis.

"Eighty percent of the jobs created in the 1980s are in retail sales and miscellaneous services where average wages adjusted for inflation are below the national average wage in 1949" (New York Times, Nov. 1).

Of course, the Reaganite policies carried out by both the Republicans and Democrats in Congress have aggravated the decline in the living standard. The minimum wage of \$3.25 an hour, below the poverty level for most families, hasn't increased since January 1981. Inflation has caused

average prices to rise 26% during the same time.

Marcy also comments in the book on the changing character of the workforce, the majority of whose ranks are now swelling with Black, Latino, Asian, Native and women workers. These workers, the first to be hit by massive layoffs in manufacturing, have now been forced into the low-paying service jobs.

There is a positive aspect behind all this. Marcy points out that as the oppressed and super-oppressed predominate more and more in the labor force, there will be a widening opportunity for the classwide unity and solidarity needed in the struggle ahead.

Only 25% of unemployed get benefits Lowest portion compensated since 1955

By Sharon Shelton

If you lose your job in upcoming layoffs, unemployment insurance is there to protect you until you get back on your feet. Isn't this what most people think?

But it's not necessarily true. In fact, at the moment a full three-fourths of those officially counted as unemployed are not collecting their benefits — the highest number since record-keeping began in 1955.

This is the shocking finding of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a group which studies the impact of government policies on the poor.

Hardest hit is Florida, where 81.5% of jobless workers do not receive any benefits at all. In New York, 68.6% don't get compensation, and in New Jersey 62% don't.

Actually, the problem is much worse. The figures on those not receiving benefits count only workers officially recognized as unemployed. Not included are all the thousands of others not counted in jobless statistics: high school graduates looking for a

job for the first time, part-time workers who can't find a full-time job, the homeless, undocumented workers, so-called discouraged workers and others. Discouraged workers are workers who have been out of a job for so long they've given up trying to find one.

While Reagan recognizes only 7.7 million as unemployed, the Council on International and Public Affairs (CIPA), a non-profit research group, puts the real number at 16 million, more than twice that number. If workers who have only part-time work are added, it comes to another 24 million.

All these people are not unemployed insofar as Reagan's jobless statistics are concerned, and none qualify for unemployment insurance — even though they desperately need it.

During October, 5.1 million of those officially counted as unemployed did not receive benefits, while only 1.7 million did, according to the Department of Labor.

One of the main reasons they didn't is because they were without a job for 27 weeks or longer, and their compensation ran out. Other restrictions imposed by the Reagan administration or by states badly strapped for funds account for the problem.

The percentage of jobless workers receiving benefits has plunged due to cuts by the Reagan administration. In 1978, when the official unemployment rate was the same as it is today, a third more workers collected benefits.

One of the biggest blows to the unemployed occurred in 1981, when the much-needed extended unemployment program, which provides 13 extra weeks of benefits to long-term jobless, was decimated by a ruling that requires states to shoulder part of the payments. Their budgets already strained by other cutbacks, the states made eligibility requirements so stringent that today no state provides extended benefits even though nearly 1 million people have been officially recognized as unemployed for longer than 27 weeks.

Also, in 1982, a federal program to aid the unemployed was eliminated entirely.

While most of these cuts took place during the Reagan administration, the politicians in the Democratic Party are also to blame. All the social service cuts including those in jobless pay have been accompanied by a costly, gargantuan buildup in the imperialist military machine. The Democrats could easily have stopped this shift, but instead have rubberstamped all of Reagan's anti-people, pro-war budgets.

A job is a right, not a privilege, and every unemployed worker deserves compensation until he or she is able to go back to work. But, working and oppressed peoples cannot rely on the two-faced politicians whose loyalties lie with the capitalist class. It is up to the working class itself — employed and unemployed — to fight for jobless compensation for all who need it.

Corporate layoffs deepen since crash GM, Chrysler, Eastern, Honeywell top list

By John-Peter Daly

Workers are suffering layoffs in the thousands as big business seeks to make up for profits lost gambling on the stock market.

Chrysler admits that its scheduled layoffs are because of its own mismanaged overproduction and the recent crash on the stock market. The workers, of course, are to pay for Chrysler's anarchic gambling, for in January two of nine plants are scheduled to cut back in production, laying off 2,000 workers.

Behind the doors of the top ruling officials of Chrysler, decisions are being made on other temporary and permanent shutdowns. Members of the United Auto Workers Union are left in the dark as to whether or not they will be working in the coming year, or if benefits will be paid from the supposedly exhausted company unemployment fund.

The General Motors Corp., also claiming to be "burdened" by producing far too many cars (consumers surviving on minimum wage can't buy them), will carry that burden to 6,400 workers. Layoffs of all 3,700 workers at the Framingham, Mass., plant are to begin Nov. 30. At the GM plant in

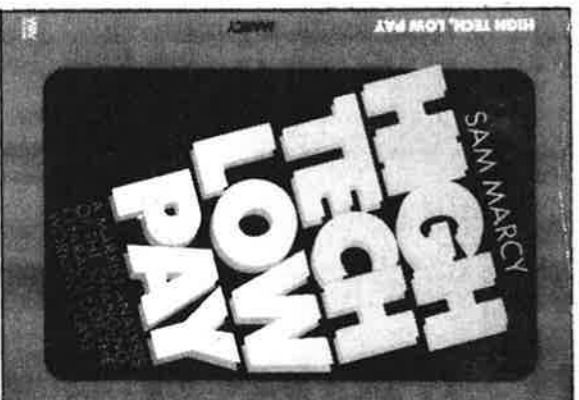
Oshawa, Ontario, 2,700 workers are to be laid off.

Eastern Airlines, a unit of Texas Air Corp. headed by the notorious union-buster Frank De Lorenzo, is taking out its losses from the Wall Street crash on the backs of the organized workers of Eastern. De Lorenzo's tactic is to lay off 3,500 union workers at Eastern and switch those jobs over to the unorganized, cheap labor of Continental (also a Texas Air Corp. unit). He hopes to starve and bust the union before his planned future merger of Eastern and Continental.

The layoffs are not only timed to raise cash to pay Eastern's bank debts but also to frustrate the International Association of Machinists before contract negotiations. IAM is fighting back. It is not only holding out for wage increases but has achieved enough signatures of Continental's pilots to call for an election to bring them into the union.

Honeywell Bull, a multinational computer operation, is slashing 10% of its workforce — 1,600 workers — through job elimination, attrition and early retirement.

Despite claims by senior executives to be "doing very well," the crash has prompted these sharks to steal even more from the workers.



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High Tech, Low Pay, written last year, is the most thorough examination yet written of how the scientific-technological revolution is bringing sweeping changes in the composition of the working class that will have profound importance for reviving an independent struggle of the workers against the bosses. It uncovers the roots of the financial crisis which is now rocking Wall Street

Child abuse: the media manipulates tragedy

By Joyce Chediak
New York

Lisa Steinberg, only six years old, is dead. She was beaten into a coma from which she never awoke by her father, a New York City attorney. Who would deny that this is a horrible crime and a terrible tragedy? Yet, like much that the government and the daily media get their hands on, Lisa's death and the circumstances surrounding it have been sensationalized, distorted and twisted to suit the needs of those in power.

The murder of this New York child by her father has been treated by the press as an unusual incident. But this is not true. According to Terry McGrath, spokesperson for the New York State Department of Social Services, over 100 children died in this state last year from abuse — that's about two a week.

This is just New York State, and these are just the reported cases. There is every reason to believe that the real figure is higher. For example, after Lisa's death, the child abuse hotline was flooded with up to 1,500 calls coming in a day. And women's groups report that this violence against children can be found in all classes, and all layers of society.

Why do federal, state and local governments allow this situation to continue?

All these agencies have been cut back in recent years. Yet they are expected to pick up the pieces after capi-

talism, with its wars, depression and day-in, day-out callousness, has wrecked people's lives.

And while many dedicated people try to do good in these agencies, they are headed by political appointees whose loyalties are to the greedy bankers and landlords running the city, not to the people.

Mayor Ed Koch, after claiming to be shocked and outraged, tried to shift the blame for Lisa's death from the city onto "indifferent neighbors," whom Koch asserted "wouldn't get involved." But many, many times neighbors had called the police, the Bureau of Child Welfare, Lisa's school and the City Human Resources Administration, where documented complaints go back to 1983 when Lisa was only two years old. Yet no action was taken.

Why is it that the mother, Hedda Nussbaum, who was also brutalized by Steinberg, is under arrest for murder?

The state is charging Nussbaum for not reporting Steinberg's assaults to authorities. While recuperating from her wounds, she is being held under 24-hour guard in the city Hospital Center at Elmhurst. She has even been shackled to her bed, in violation of state law, while Steinberg, in prison, is not chained.

The Battered Women's Defense Committee has called Nussbaum a "helpless victim" and expressed its outrage that the district attorney has not even filed charges against Stein-



Hedda Nussbaum. Once again, blaming the victim.

berg for beating Nussbaum.

Friends, social workers, Nussbaum's attorney and even police investigators say that Nussbaum was abused physically and emotionally by Steinberg for more than a decade. Once a self-confident editor and author, as a result of that abuse she lost all self-respect and seemed unable to defend or extricate herself. According to social workers, this is not uncommon with battered women, and especially those with children who are also beaten by their spouses. In fact, many

better herself and take care of her baby, she said. "I want my daughter to be proud of me."

Kimberly's sister rented the apartment from the Atlanta Housing Authority (AHA). She reported the gas leak eight times in the last year but no one came to make repairs. Sam Hider, AHA director, said his staff had no record of any complaints about gas leaks at the Allen apartment. Citing cutbacks in funding for public housing, Hider stated that maintenance did the best job possible. Tenants and activists say a better picture of his policy is shown by last year's indictments of maintenance managers for demanding payoffs and sexual favors.

Public housing tenants, community activists, and even the city inspection bureau have often labeled the Atlanta Housing Authority the city's biggest slumlord. John Hope residents report that furnaces in many apartments have not worked in two years. Broken plumbing leaves ankle-deep water in several buildings. Rats and roaches are ignored by management. Despite

the problems thousands of Atlanta's poor families, including many of the city's ten thousand homeless, are on waiting lists to get into even these wretched dwellings.

Twenty-three-month-old Nicholas Burke died in a fire so intense that rescuers were driven back only an arm's length from his crib. Fire inspectors believe a blanket fell into a space heater.

Mike and Anne Burke moved their family from Syracuse, N.Y., in 1984. Driven south by the lack of jobs at home and drawn by the economic promise of the Sun Belt, Mike Burke delivered pizzas and grilled hamburgers. He cut trees and worked in a warehouse. He worked as many as three jobs at a time to provide for the family.

Mike Burke broke his back in January 1986. Disability benefits of \$96 a week forced the family from an apartment of their own. They stayed with family and friends for a while.

In September, although Mike Burke had found steady work, his pay wasn't enough to afford decent housing. Mike and Anne moved their two sons into Lamb's Inn, a Christian charity where they paid \$100 a week for a single room. The two children were taking a nap on Nov. 11 when the blanket caught fire. Flames quickly engulfed the room. Four-year old Jarrod was able to escape. His baby brother was not.

Twenty-five people came to Nicholas' funeral, riding pickups and flatbed trucks. A single pall bearer carried his casket to the grave, for which the county paid \$490, triple Georgia's monthly subsistence allotment for AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children).

Mike Burke questions a world that treats people like numbers. "There was nobody to help us when we were down, but there were plenty of people to take my car, take the children. They didn't care. It was terrible."

November 16 — The deaths of two Atlanta children illustrate the deadly poverty facing thousands of children and their families in one of the richest, most technologically advanced countries in the world.

Runes from a rusted-out water heater poisoned a four-year-old girl and her mother in a public housing apartment. Within days, an infant boy died in a fire at the homeless shelter where his family was living.

On Sunday, Oct. 25, 19-year old Kimberly Butler and her daughter Gabrielle were found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in their apartment at University-John Hope Homes, a project in southwest Atlanta. Kimberly Butler was living with her sister, Phyllis Allen, and her three children while going to school. The Friday before she died, Kimberly Butler had been interviewed at the Job Corps Center about her hopes for the future. School gave her a chance to

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Role of media

This city is known for its large and powerful media establishment, which is cynical and highly manipulative of the news. The minute details surrounding Lisa's death have been blown into banner headlines in the tabloids for days on end, yet everyone knows that when the media have squeezed all the sensationalism they can out of this case, they'll drop the issue of child abuse and move onto something else.

But there is more. There is a deep undercurrent of racism in the media. In this huge metropolis, where there are millions of Black, Latino, Asian and Native people, more and more are asking if Lisa's death received so much media attention because her family was white and middle class. Certainly the media and the establishment are not known for their concern about the plight of Black children, or any oppressed person whose life is needlessly lost.

One need only turn a few pages in the papers to see the contrast. At Howard Beach last year, a group of bigots angrily and willfully killed a young Black man, and tried to kill several others. The trial is going on right now. But there are no human interest stories about Michael Griffith, or what his loss has meant to his grieving family. Instead, the media has slandered the dead youth, has shown a marked sympathy for the bigots and their families, and is attempting to put the surviving victims of this racist attack on trial in the press!

The problem reaches the core of the system itself. And the killings and abuse of the poor, the innocent and the oppressed will only stop when the current system is replaced by one that fights bigotry and puts human needs above all else.

Banks edge closer to the abyss

Savings and Loans, Continental Illinois shaken by market crisis

By Deirdre Griswold

One of the questions on a lot of people's minds is, when will the developing economic crisis bring down one of the big banks?

The savings and loan banks (S&Ls) have been in a lot of trouble already. About 450 of them, or 15%, are "dead or dying," according to the U.S. League of Savings Institutions, and another 10% are "struggling." Desperate depositors have already had to line up for days outside some of these dying savings banks, trying to get out their money in time.

Most people think that whatever happens, the U.S. government will guarantee their deposits. But the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. (FSLIC), which is supposed to insure deposits up to \$100,000, actually went bankrupt itself earlier this year. It was revitalized only after Congress voted a \$10.8 billion bailout that was supposed to come from committing resources of the S&L industry to raising finances in the capital markets.

So far, however, only \$600 million of that — or about 5.5% — has been raised. So that another big shock to the economy could knock out the underpinnings of the whole system.

It's ironic to note that, faced with such a possibility, the S&L bankers are suddenly getting religion. They're worried about "the needs of homeless and low-income Americans," and intend to "work with Congress to find ways to move housing higher on the national agenda," says U.S. League Chairman Joe Morris.

Are they suddenly appalled by all the homeless people sleeping in bank doorways at night? Maybe, but it's more likely that with so many people unable to keep up their mortgage payments as wages drop relentlessly and unemployment grows, the real worry of the banks is that they'll be stuck with bad debts, repossessed homes and no buyers. And that (heaven forbid!) could spell disaster for the banks as well as the homeless.

The S&Ls, however, are small potatoes compared to the big commercial

banks. There's one of the giants that really bears watching.

Continental Illinois — bad debts and stock market losses

Continental Illinois, the huge Midwest bank (then the seventh largest commercial bank in the country) that nearly folded in 1984 and had to be revived by the federal government with an injection of billions, is in deep trouble again.

After the federal government bailed out Continental Illinois, what did the bank do? Obviously, it wasn't going to recoup its losses by putting its money into the closed-down plants of the Midwest, or into the real estate that has plummeted in value since workers have left the area looking for jobs.

Much of its original losses came from having squeezed oppressed countries so dry that they had to de-

fault on their loans. In this, Continental is no different than Citicorp, Chase Manhattan, or any of the other banks that went to the Third World to rake in fabulous super-profits, only to leave their economies in tatters and the accumulated debts unpayable.

Continental Illinois can't find relief anymore in Brazil, or Mexico, or even Chile.

So the bank tried another desperate tack. It found a way to get rich quick. It bought a high-risk securities firm, First Options of Chicago.

It was going to recoup its losses in the stock market.

Well, you know the rest. On Oct. 19, that fateful day when the market fell 509 points, First Options went splat. No other banks would lend it a dime, so Continental Illinois was forced to rush in capital to save its prodigal son. Some accounts said the

Bennett plan would cut federal aid to colleges that serve the poor

By Bill Del Vecchio
New York

If Reagan's Secretary of Education William J. Bennett gets his way, college doors will be slamming shut for the thousands of students who can't afford today's soaring tuition costs.

Bennett announced last week he plans to cut off all federal financial aid to students of colleges where 20% or more of the former students have failed to pay back federal student loans.

Federal Guarantee Student Loans are one of the many financial aid programs that make it possible for working class and poor students to attend colleges, universities and all sorts of institutions providing commercial training. Many schools that service oppressed Black, Latin, Native and recent immigrant communities are so dependent on financial aid programs that their very survival could be at stake if aid were cut off.

A quick look at the schools that will

be hurt by the new rule shows Bennett's racist, anti-poor intentions. Take New York City, for example. At

Columbia University, where the sons and daughters of the wealthy prepare their minds for a lifetime of decision-making, Bennett's rule won't mean a thing, since only 3% of the students default on their loans.

But in the grant City University system, where roughly 150,000 working class students are enrolled so that they can survive in today's job market, Bennett's new standard would be devastating.

The CUNY schools that would lose their financial aid under the new rules include City College, John Jay, York, Medgar Evers, Manhattan Community, New York City Technical College, Bronx Community, Kingsborough Community, La Guardia Community and Lehman College.

The magic cutoff point of 20% somehow managed to penalize the CUNY campuses that are majority Black and Latin.



Will he be denied a college education?
PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Cutting off student loans, Pell grants and all the other forms of assistance at these CUNY schools could threaten their existence. At New York Technical College, a majority Black and Latin CUNY college in downtown Brooklyn, more than 80% of the students receive financial aid.

Although higher education has become a necessity for many jobs thanks to the high-tech revolution, Bennett and the reactionary Neanderthals he represents still see college as the ivory tower training ground for the elite. They resent public money being used to educate the public and would rather spend it on "worthwhile" projects like Star Wars research.

Some university officials belittle Bennett's new plan by pointing out that it is scheduled to take effect in 1990 when a new administration will be in office.

But a new Republican administration would certainly try to carry out this financial aid cutback. And don't expect help from the two-faced Democrats.

Budget cutting is becoming a holy crusade in Congress since the stock market crash, and the Democrats' zeal is no less than the Republicans' in this sacred cause. None other than Senator Claiborne Pell, Rhode Island Democrat and the creator of the "Pell Grant," one of the largest financial aid programs, has his own plan to cut back student loans.

"In essence, I think Secretary Bennett is on the right track, though his proposal is a tiny bit more draconian than mine," Pell said.

A tiny bit more draconian? It doesn't sound like the thousands of students facing aid cutoff should count on Senator Pell for help.

Mild in manner, Bork in matter

Judge Kennedy — a soft-sell reactionary

By Andy Stapp

Sooner or later, Ronald Reagan is going to get someone put on that vacant Supreme Court seat. The Democrats could stop it if they had the will, but they exhausted their small supply of that commodity when they sent Bork down 58 to 42. Ginsburg, of course, self-destructed.

So now it's the turn of Judge Anthony Kennedy. Is he "Bork III"? A look at Kennedy's previous court decisions would indicate yes. In racial cases, he has ruled that if there is "no deliberate intent to discriminate," then no discrimination exists. But who can prove subjective intent? Doesn't every bigot claim, "I'm not prejudiced?"

In 1980 Kennedy struck down as unconstitutional a "legislative veto" law that allowed Congress to veto an order from the executive branch, ruling that this was a "prohibited legislative intrusion upon the executive and judicial branches." This case was somewhat complicated, but essentially Kennedy's decision, which was upheld by the Supreme Court in 1983, strengthened the concentration of monopoly power in the White House and, by implication, the Pentagon.

Kennedy's ruling significantly eroded Congress' authority to implement the War Powers Act, a fact not lost on the Reaganites who have refused to obey this law.

In the same year as the legislative veto case, Kennedy upheld the Navy's bigoted policy of discharging gay and lesbian sailors, even though he called the regulation "harsh."

Kennedy has also upheld the death penalty, and in 1985 he overturned a lower court order that required Washington State to give women employees equal pay for jobs considered to be of equal value to those usually held by men.

The Nov. 13 Wall Street Journal noted happily that Judge Kennedy "doesn't believe in applying antitrust laws too stringently." In 1980 he argued against outlawing price fixing by a group of doctors in Tucson and Phoenix, but was overruled by the Supreme Court. In 1982 Kennedy disagreed with an appeals court ruling that permitted a worker to sue his company after being fired for exposing the firm's price-fixing and bid-rigging.

In one of his first cases, back in 1976, Kennedy ruled that people testing for racial bias in housing sales

transfusion was as much as \$200 million. First Securities admits to having lost \$90 million, which its parent bank had to make good or see its investment ooze away on the cold, hard pavements of Wall Street.

On Nov. 9, the bank's officials had a grim meeting in New York. What they talked about, how bad things are, hasn't been made public yet. But the big word now is "restructuring," shedding its consumer banking business, closing some foreign offices. And laying off workers.

Some 15% of the bank's employees, or 1,200 workers, are to be thrown overboard. It's the kind of move that capitalists make when they're faced with disaster. Anything to save the bank from going under! Why, that could bring on a depression. So get rid of the workers, they're expendable, and all you'll have is — a depression.

Socialist conference draws workers to analyze capitalist crisis



Speakers at plenary session of conference outline a program for struggle in period ahead.

WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

By John Catalinotto
New York

This past September few would have expected a public conference promising a Marxist look at the U.S. economy, like the one held by Workers World Party Nov. 14, to attract a large audience of activists. As one of the conference speakers put it, "September was BC, that is, before the crash."

Before the 508-point Dow Jones plunge on Oct. 19, no one but financial analysts or business students would have sat still for a half-hour explanation of currency devaluation. But now laid-off autoworkers were asking about the meaning of T-bonds, homeless activists were questioning the impact of the new round of budget cuts, school bus drivers and retired steelworkers were exploring the impact on pensions.

With only three weeks' notice, over



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

The Jackson campaign: Basis of WWP's critical support

Following are excerpts from the talk by Monica Moorehead on the struggle against racism and the campaign of Jesse Jackson.

Racism is an ugly social disease deeply woven within the fabric of class society, especially in the U.S. Racist ideology is a tool used by the bosses, the bankers, big landlords and media to divide the workers along superficial lines, just like lesbian and gay oppression, sexism, bigotry against the disabled, and national chauvinism.

As the capitalists continue to slowly drown in their intractable economic crisis, they desperately turn to racism as a life jacket to keep their irrational, chaotic system afloat. Racism can loom like a heavy cloud over every struggle and issue, seeking to obstruct class unity and solidarity, which is so key in focusing mass opposition and anger toward the real enemy camp — the capitalist ruling class.

It is for these reasons that as Marxists we fight racism with such militant conviction and determination. As Karl Marx said before the Civil War, "Labor in the white skin cannot emancipate itself while labor in the Black skin is branded."

Workers World's record
Workers World Party is very proud of its record in the anti-racist struggle.

We have initiated and supported numerous significant struggles from support for the Black Panthers and Young Lords during the 1960s and 1970s, to organizing national anti-racist marches in Philadelphia, Boston and Oroville, Calif., to organizing for the anti-Bakke march in 1978, anti-death penalty campaigns in the South, the Howard Beach demonstrations in New York, to defending the right to self-determination for all oppressed people inside the U.S. and around the world against imperialist aggression and plunder.

Our anti-racist history is reflected in our position and work regarding the Jesse Jackson campaign. When Jackson announced he was running for the presidential nomination in 1984, it created quite a stir within the left movement, particularly those who saw no future for the workers and oppressed in the Democratic Party. Some said that we should not support his candidacy because the Democratic Party is a trap for the oppressed and workers.

We viewed his candidacy as, first and foremost, a grassroots movement built from below, a rallying point for some 40-50 million Black people. Not to solidarize yourself with this important struggle was to abandon the

struggle against racism as well as set back the class struggle.

The basis of our support was not that we agreed with his positions or perspective, which are bourgeois. In fact, we ran our own candidates in 1984, not to compete with him or try to win votes from him, but to have our own independent voice; the two were not contradictory.

In fact, our own candidates and our Party as a whole vigorously defended Jackson against racist attacks emanating from the ruling class.

How Jackson's campaign today is different

In 1984 Jackson's candidacy embodied an aggressive struggle against the racist leadership of the Democratic Party, demanding more Black and oppressed representation, exposing the bigoted and exclusionary character of the so-called party of the oppressed.

There was even a possibility then that Jackson might break off all ties with the Democrats and run an independent campaign, which would have been a tremendous development for the working class movement.

His candidacy today, by comparison, is very tame and respectable. It is pretty safe to say that he is very much

350 people came to apply Marxist ideas to the new conditions. They were a cross-section of the working class in the U.S. And measured by participation in the workshops, there was especially strong representation of those who are specially oppressed.

They weren't looking for new areas to invest money. In fact, none had money to invest. Instead, they were trying to understand the capitalist system in order to better prepare the working class for a struggle that Oct. 19 turned from a distant possibility to a nearby reality.

Marcy analyzes economic crisis

The opening and major analytical address to the conference was given by Sam Marcy, chairman of Workers World Party. Marcy showed how the ruling class was unable to do anything to control the market on Oct. 19. This confirmed Marxism and showed the inevitability of a capitalist collapse, he said.

Marcy spent the morning exploring the similarities and differences of the 1980s crisis with that of the 1920s and examining the impact of the coming period on the working class. (See extended excerpts, page 9).

The afternoon session opened with talks from Workers World Party's 1988 presidential and vice presidential candidates, Larry Holmes and Gloria La Riva. They were followed by Workers World Party national committee member Monica Moorehead, who examined the Jesse Jackson candidacy in light of the need to combat racism. (Excerpts from these talks are in accompanying articles.)

Preston Wood, who has played a leading role in developing Workers World Party's position on the struggle for lesbian and gay rights, drew the conference's attention to two events in "what seems now like the distant past."

These were the visit of the Pope to the U.S., which "pooped out," and the

Continued on page 8



Monica Moorehead, WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

National Committee member.

working within the confines of the Democratic Party, adhering to its rules and regulations.

Again, we do not feel obliged to either echo or support his positions on the economy, the domestic or international fronts. And while they may tend to be more liberal than those of his white opponents, they are nevertheless bourgeois solutions.

If we give the impression that his positions and views are the fundamental basis of our support, we will not only be miseducating our class brothers and sisters, but hampering our Marxist principles and hampering the development of independent thought and the building of a truly working class movement. Our support

Continued on page 10

Holmes: 'Our job is to help the masses intervene'

Following are excerpts from the talk by Larry Holmes, Workers World Party's candidate for president in the 1988 elections. The talk was part of the fightback program presented at the conference.

What's the real situation for the workers today? As Comrade Marcy pointed out, the rich are getting richer and it's not only the poor who are getting poorer.

Yes, the poor, the most oppressed take the brunt. But over the past ten years, and especially during the Reagan era, everyone but the rich has been getting poorer.

We have seen the most radical redistribution of the wealth of this country. For every new millionaire that the so-called bull market has created, there are 20 new homeless people. For every new millionaire that all the speculation and all the ripping off of the masses through real estate has created, there's a thousand people now living below the poverty line.

The role of the Democrats

There's nothing like another crisis to expose the fraudulent claims of the Democratic Party politicians that they represent our class. We're supposed to take some comfort in the fact that now the Democratic politicians are meeting with Reagan around the clock after the crash to cut the budget deficit.

They forget one thing. The masses didn't elect them to cooperate with the Reaganites. They elected them to oppose Reagan's budget-cutting policies. The unity that they have is very good and wonderful for them. But it's unity against us.

The truth of the matter is that we don't really know what they are talking about behind closed doors, where they really state their positions, really plan how they are going to carve up the social programs.

They opened up the so-called contra hearings. Let them open up these very important negotiations over the budget! We should know what's going on. They shouldn't do it behind closed doors because it affects us.

There's been a lot of demagoguery about cutting the military. Many of them know that the military budget exacerbates their crisis and it's something they have to confront. But they're not really going to harm the military budget.

Mostly it's a political problem for them. They know that the military budget is tremendously unpopular with the masses and that's what the masses want to cut.

About the budget deficit

Comrades and friends, the bankers and the businessmen and all the politicians are crying about the budget deficit. "We've got to cut the budget deficit." That's all you hear.

But we should not lie to the workers. The budget deficit is not the reason for the capitalist crisis. Sure it exacerbates it, especially the military budget. But it's a symptom of the crisis.

The cause is the general crisis of capitalist overproduction. They want to cut the budget deficit because they are desperate for any measure, any maneuver, any trick that might stimulate their economy, which is sliding to a halt.

But there's another reason they want to cut the deficit. It's because they know that sooner or later the ruling class has got to open up a huge, perhaps unprecedented assault on the workers and the oppressed here and around the world.

Don't look at what the politicians

are saying, they're worried about the elections. Look at what the columnists say: look at what the economists say: "Social Security can't be sacrosanct, we've got to cut that too and we've got to cut into those programs for the poor. If we really want to get that deficit down, we've got to cut everything."

Reagan given a bum rap?

I think they give Reagan a bum rap when they talk about how he's a weak leader, that he's out of touch. I think they forget how much he did for them. They gave him a mandate to smash the unions, drive the living standards of the workers down, especially the oppressed. They should be happy for about that. They should be happy for him. What we would like to do with him is another matter altogether.

So why is it that they turned on him, that the ruling class got sour on Reagan? Is it because of Contragate? Is it because he lied and he did illegal things?

No, that's not it. They always lie and do illegal things. As long as it works, it's okay. They can do anything. They can boil children in oil and get away with it if it helps their system.

They turned away from Reagan because even before the stock market crash on Oct. 19 they knew that he

hadn't saved the system. He hadn't turned the situation around.

When that stock market crashed a few weeks ago, it made a crack in the consciousness of the workers and the oppressed. And our job is to widen that crack. There's nothing that the capitalists are more worried about than the radicalization of the workers.

Participating in the elections

The reason why we participate in the capitalist elections is because, although we would rather be in the streets, it remains an important political arena, an important battlefield for the political struggle, for the class struggle, the class warfare.

And we're not going to abandon it. We think the revolutionary voice of Marxism has to be represented in the elections.

We've got to say to the workers that we can no longer be at the mercy of the capitalist system.

It won't happen by itself. It happens on the basis of the masses intervening. And that's where the role of the party comes in. Some say that the problem with you communists, you're too dogmatic, you're too rigid, you're too secretive and conspiratorial. It's a turnoff, you know.

It's the ruling class that is secretive and conspiratorial and a big turnoff.

La Riva: 'Struggle against war must focus on the system'

Following are excerpts from the talk by Gloria La Riva, Workers World Party's candidate for vice president in the 1988 elections.

If you ask anyone in the street around the world, they will tell you they hate war. But why is it, if everyone is against it, every generation in this century has been thrown into war?

Marx and Lenin answered this question for workers and oppressed people of the world, those who have had to do the fighting and dying.

First, Marx and Lenin supported wars fought by workers and oppressed people against their rulers — civil wars; or against imperialist domination — wars of liberation. These are different from wars waged by the capitalist and imperialist class for plunder and expansion.

The U.S. war in the Persian Gulf

Take the Persian Gulf war, where the U.S. has 40 warships, and other imperialist powers have 60 warships, supposedly to protect the shipping routes. In the last two months, the U.S. has attacked Iranian and other ships, killing and wounding many people. If this was supposed to make shipping safer, why did the shipping insurance premiums by Lloyds of London go up only after the U.S. entered the Persian Gulf?

The U.S. has turned the Persian Gulf into a floating battlefield for one reason: oil and the profits to be made from it.

When Reagan came into office in 1981, he declared the end of the "Vietnam syndrome." What was this syndrome, this dread disease? It was the mass hatred and opposition to wars of aggression. Yes, they want us to get over that syndrome.

But how are the current U.S. wars of aggression going?

Even though the Nicaraguan people have suffered terribly by the constant contra attacks, all the aid by Congress and Reagan and the ultra-rightwing

have not defeated the Sandinistas. The Nicaraguan people are determined to stay free of the U.S. and Somalia's thugs.

In southern Africa, the ANC and SWAPO are gaining ground, and it is not only racist apartheid that is on its way out, but the capitalist system itself. And Reagan was Botha's strongest supporter yet.

And what about the Middle East? The U.S. can send dozens of warships to the Persian Gulf and gather its allies against Iran, but it can't bring back the shah or his son. Exxon is gone and so is the CIA's spy headquarters.

The treaty with the Soviet Union
On Dec. 7, General Secretary Gorbachev will be in the U.S. to sign a treaty with the U.S. to limit intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. We support the idea of the treaty. At the same time, we don't think that any summit agreement can or will lead to imperialist disarmament.

We need to keep a balanced and realistic view of what the summit can and cannot accomplish. For one thing, it will not stop Star Wars.

But remember, it was Ronald Reagan who had denounced any talk about arms control agreements, who talked about the winnability of a nuclear war with the Soviet Union, who joked about bombing the Soviet Union in five minutes and who showed his disdain for diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

And yet, in the last years it's been Reagan clamoring for a treaty. The imperialists have had setbacks and limitations.

Does this mean that the imperialists will accommodate themselves to their losses? Does it mean that they have come to accept the existence of socialist Cuba, the Soviet Union?

Well, we can see how they've treated Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan. And we can see in the Philippines what the U.S. is doing. In the face of a



Larry Holmes,
WWP candidate for president.

WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

But we admit once again to being hard headed, to being very disciplined, to being very tough, to being very forthright and appreciating the necessity to wage class warfare on every level of the struggle.

In the final analysis our role is to help the process of the masses intervening and building a new world. Our party is going to play the decisive role in this country along with our counterparts in every corner of the globe. Build a Workers World Party!



Gloria La Riva,
WWP candidate for vice president.

WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

mass insurgency led by the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People's Army, the U.S.-backed Aquino regime with the help of people like U.S. General Singlaub is openly organizing death squads like in El Salvador.

Imperialist militarism and war are so ingrained, so vital to the whole fabric of the capitalist system, that it is not a question of if but when and where will be the next bloody war.

Building the anti-war struggle

The struggle against war cannot be successful if it focuses only on war itself, if it is disconnected from the struggle against the social system, capitalism, which produces war as inevitable as it produces racism, sexism, anti-flesbian/gay bigotry, unemployment, homelessness, etc.

This is the fundamental difference in outlook on the anti-war struggle between revolutionary Marxism and pacifism.

We believe that our greatest contribution to fighting war lies in building the Party itself, in building the organization which is necessary if the working class is to move from protest to power.



Where's the cheese?

Look away for a second and the Reagan administration makes another attack on the poor. Like the cut in funding to family planning centers and the threat to stop educational subsidies for the neediest schools (see page 5), the latest came as another administration edict without benefit of democratic vote. It was the announcement that the program to distribute "surplus" cheese, milk and rice will be cut in half next year.

This announcement follows a report issued earlier this fall by the Physicians' Task Force on Hunger that as many as 20 million people in this country don't get enough to eat.

In the past six years, while the old food stamp program was cut in half, this distribution of goods through soup kitchens and community centers has become an important part of the regular diet of people with low incomes. In states like Texas, for example, the distribution program helps more people than food stamps.

There's no question that this change in the program will hurt the poor. Studies show that 98% of those getting the food have incomes less than \$15,000 a year, while 44% earn less than \$5,000. So for all the talk of a "safety net," the Reaganites are ready to take food from the mouths of babies — and starve seniors, too.

The government agencies say it's impossible to avoid the cuts. It seems the "surplus" is run-

ning out because their policies succeeded. Less milk is produced because the government paid 14,000 dairy farmers to slaughter or export cows, calves and heifers. The Reagan gang may be proud, but to us this has the flavor of the 1930s' depression, when farmers unable to sell their produce to the hungry unemployed dumped milk or poured gasoline on their oranges and burned them.

In other words, it's another sign of bankruptcy, not only of the Reagan program, but of the capitalist system itself. People are hungry, but food is destroyed, and this time the destruction is promoted by the most laissez-faire capitalist administration since Hoover's.

The lesson is this. Fight to restore the food distributions. Fight to increase food stamps. And don't take your eyes off the bosses, banks — and their government — for a second.

Brazil embargo

Fear and trembling have gripped the capitalist establishment since last month's stock market crash. Washington's mouthpieces and their technical experts are thrashing about, searching for solutions. But do they have solutions?

Take the international debt crisis, for example, which many fear may eventually lead to the collapse of the entire international capitalist banking system. To get out of the current worldwide economic gridlock, a section of the bourgeoisie is calling for Washington to stimulate the economies of Third World countries so they can once again become a market for U.S. goods. But can the bourgeoisie actually follow through on such a plan?

To find out, let's take a look at Brazil. This

large South American nation has a huge foreign debt. Brazil recently stopped foreign penetration into its computer market, reserving it for domestic products. This was done in order to strengthen the weakened Brazilian economy, something which a sizable section of the ruling class here, those who want to stimulate the economies of Third World countries, should be for. Right? Well, it may seem that way on paper, but in the real world just the opposite is true.

The Reagan administration has responded to Brazil's moves to strengthen its domestic computer industry by imposing punitive tariffs on Brazil covering more than \$100 million worth of imports from that country. This is the first action against a major debtor nation under Reagan's "get tough" policy.

No matter what the bourgeoisie here may plan on paper, it is driven to destroy the economies of oppressed nations such as Brazil in order to prevent them from selling their goods here.

But this latest attack on Brazil, in the long run, erodes the economy here at home. Since Brazil relies heavily on its export earnings to help pay its massive foreign debt, much of which is owed to U.S. banks, this retaliatory move by Washington only hurts Brazil's ability to pay. This, in turn, means that U.S. banks will be left holding more bad loans, which will further weaken the banking system and the economy as a whole.

At the same time, by tightening the thumbscrews on workers and peasants in oppressed and indebted nations like Brazil, the U.S. government is creating the conditions that are bound to lead to more struggle. Capitalism, which is ruled by forces which neither its lofty leaders nor its technical experts can control, can find no way out of its economic quicksand. In a thousand-and-one ways, this rotten, outdated system is creating its own gravediggers.

— Socialist conference

Continued from page 6

hullabaloo about the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, which Wood found "underwhelming." These were eclipsed by the October stock market crash and by the 500,000-strong march in Washington on Oct. 11 for lesbian and gay rights, said Wood.

Rachel Duell, co-chair of the Billion Dollar Housing Coalition of Jersey City, N.J., reviewed struggles during the Reagan years to fight his reactionary program, including the forming of the All-Peoples Congress and the mass anti-racist demonstration in Philadelphia in February 1986.

Cheryl LaBash, executive board member at large of AFSCME Local 456 in Detroit, outlined Workers World Party's role in a number of strikes and in giving impetus to the National Job Is a Right Campaign.

Lydia Bayoneta of Rochester, N.Y.,

Letters

Youth fight cutbacks

In reference to the article in the Nov. 5 issue entitled "California students protest cuts in education," I would like to inform Workers World readers that the San Francisco high school students won back their after-school sports programs. Suddenly some extra money was found.

However, other cutbacks threaten this city's youth. Apparently all youth programs, including the after-school jobs (MISY program — small as it was) were eliminated in October. This also means loss of jobs for several adults.

Meanwhile, college students at San Francisco State University, University of California at Berkeley and around the state held a "Week of protest for education." Led by Third World student activists, we marched and confronted administrators face-to-face on racism on campus and the need for more ethnic studies and affirmative action.

The students here are militant and refuse to be divided, but the fight for quality, accessible education is far from over.

Sara Cat
San Francisco

Argentina coverage

Down here I read your paper every time I can get it. You have no idea how much it encourages us to see that we count with brothers and sisters in struggle in the depths of imperialism.

I have read your coverage of Argentina since the early 1970s. You were the only ones to give us active support in 1972 when revolutionaries were massacred in the Naval Base of Trelew. Your reporting of the Malvinas War was right on the line. And you were the only ones to give a class perspective of the April 1987 military uprising. In particular, I want to point out this last subject. At the time I had

access to a lot of the movement press in the United States, and you were the only ones who I thought came close to what was actually happening, as well as the meaning behind it.

Evidently this is a product of your continuous solidarity with popular and revolutionary struggles all over the world, as well as of your class perspective within the U.S. All I wanted to say was keep up the good work, for you have no idea how important it is and how it strengthens us to have your support. Be sure that, just like we rely on you, you can rely on us.

Pablo Lopez
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Workers World welcomes letters from its readers. Send correspondence to: Workers World, Letters to the Editor, GPO Box 948, New York, N.Y. 10116.

PC alert!

Workers World needs IBM-compatible personal computers. Before we introduced the Spanish page, we were already stretched too far. It was like squeezing an elephant into a telephone booth. Now it's worse. The Spanish page staff needs its own computer. If you have a PC and could donate it to Workers World, call Gary at (212) 206-8222.

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opened the conference and chaired the morning session, and Berta Joubert of Philadelphia chaired the afternoon session.

Workshops for discussion

Following the afternoon talks, conference participants spread over eight workshops to ask questions in more detail or make the points they wanted to add. Each workshop focused on a different aspect of the economic crisis, from comparisons of 1929 to 1987, to an examination of the role of U.S. banks, to the impact on the socialist countries.

While most workshops had 20-30 attending, 74 came to the one called, "The Wall Street Crash and the Working Class Struggle." Here the discussion was excited, as housing activists, trade unionists and community organizers wrestled with ways to defend their class from new attacks from the bosses and bankers.

John Jones, a panelist in this workshop and a leader of the Jersey City Billion-Dollar Housing Coalition, found the input from these activists among the most inspiring aspects of the conference. "Each speaker gave me a new idea for carrying on the struggle," he said.

Coco Wells, a Lakota Indian now living in Boston, said she most appreciated the diversity of those present, who included not only all nationalities but lesbians and gays and a strong caucus of disabled people. A speaker from Texas praised Workers World's constructive support of the Chicano-Mexicano struggle.

A first year high-school student from Brooklyn said the conference changed the way she "looked at the world." The Oct. 19 crash is changing the way the working class will look at the world, and Workers World Party is pointing out what to do next.

Marcy: 'Financiers met, couldn't control market crash'

Following are excerpts from the talk by Sam Marcy, chairperson of Workers World Party, at the Nov. 14 conference.

We have to discuss today what will go down in history as one of the turning points in the 20th century. It is very important to put it in historical perspective and prepare for the coming weeks and years, because it will dominate not only people's consciousness but also the economic and political situation.

At the beginning of the decline in the stock market, the bourgeoisie didn't want to tell the truth. The stock market went down 40, then 60 points. The Friday before the stock market collapsed, it went down 100 points, which is considerable.

Over the weekend all the financiers and important Washington officials were hurrying and scurrying. Very early in the morning on Monday, the 19th of October, the critical day (we don't want to call it "Black Monday" — that has racist overtones to it) they were in the office of the head of the New York Stock Exchange at 7:40 a.m. The head of the stock market had over the weekend called in the four largest securities companies, headed by Merrill Lynch, to meet very early Monday morning.

They discussed their fears almost until the opening bell. At the same time they got into communication with the head of the Federal Reserve Board.

They discussed what to do when the market opened. And they could do nothing. They just went down in one big crash. What did that show us?

Confirmation of Marxist analysis

It was the most important confirmation and verification of Marxism — the inability of the bourgeoisie to control the system. Here they were, the ones who deal with hundreds of billions. They wanted very badly for the stock market to come up, or at least not go down in a resounding crash. But they couldn't stop it.

That showed to all the world, everywhere, that however long they may delay it, the capitalist crisis is inevitable. They couldn't stop it. It was beyond control.

That indicates what we have often thought to be a central tenet of Marxism, that you cannot control the capitalist system and that it inevitably leads not only to a softening, a downward move, but to a collapse.

A collapse of the economic system might not come immediately following the stock market crash, but it does come.

There are hundreds, maybe thousands, of stock market analysts throughout the world who have had apprehensions about what might happen. Because it is a worldwide phenomenon, not only in New York, Tokyo, Paris and Bonn but also in most of the capitalist dependent countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa. Especially in Mexico, where the percentage of the stock market crash was much greater than on Wall Street.

You could say it was accidental if it happened in one stock exchange, but when it happens on a global basis and the crash is sustained over a period of time, it shows that the crash was inevitable.

Frederick Engels, the great collaborator of Marx, explained the anarchy of the capitalist market in a very popular, short book of his, *Socialism: Utopian and Scientific*:

"No one knows how much of his particular article is coming on the market, nor how much of it will be wanted. No one knows whether his individual product will meet an actual demand,

whether he will be able to make good his cost of production or even to sell his commodity at all." That is very true. They can rig the capitalist market for a period of time. They can have monopoly prices. But it breaks down. Eventually it is vulnerable to an economic crisis.

Facing period of economic decline

Our job is not to go into the intricacies of the capitalist stock market. But we do need to be warned that we are now facing a period of economic decline. It will affect the workers and most severely the oppressed countries, Black people, Latin people, Native people, Asians, the undocumented, seniors, lesbian and gay people and disabled people.

We are now entering the decline. How rapid it will be no one can tell. But the next and most immediate period will be one of political maneuvering by the ruling class on how to throw the burden on the masses. The ruling class of each capitalist nation will try to shove it on the others. And they will all try to ship it out to sea onto the oppressed peoples. That's the economic content of the political maneuvering that will go on.

We want to address the differences we consider important between 1929 and today. Many bourgeois economists, Harvard professors like Galbraith and others, will say they predicted the stock market crash, that they all knew it was coming eventually.

What is the difference between our Marxist view and theirs? First they relate it exclusively to the stock market and to speculation. And they overlook or minimize the very deep economic causes, of which the speculation and the stock market crash are only symptoms. They don't want to reveal what is underneath.

We want to view it in the historic context, as the early communist movement did in the 1920s. Then, like now, it was becoming obvious there would be an economic catastrophe. But unlike the bourgeois economists, the communists of all tendencies — those who adhered to Stalin, Bukharin or Trotsky — all saw the end of capitalist stabilization coming after the First World War.

When the stock market crash of 1929 took place, they looked at it in terms of the general crisis of capitalism, as the beginning of a breakdown of the capitalist system which opened up a new era in capitalist development.

Was it a breakdown of the capitalist system? Of course it was. Did it have incalculable political consequences and change the international situation? Of course it did.

It not only provoked revolutionary working class struggle from Detroit all the way to Paris. It also brought about Hitler and the Second World War.

There wouldn't have been the great big sit-downs in Detroit, Flint and Cleveland if the economic crisis hadn't ravaged the standard of living. There wouldn't have been any revolutionary struggles in France and Germany if it hadn't been for that great big economic crisis.

Crisis of 1930s led to war

All the political maneuvering ended up in a drive toward imperialist war. Because there was a breakdown in the system that couldn't be fixed by adjusting the exchange rate, devaluing the dollar, the pound, the lira, the Deutschmark, the yen and such.

This stock market crash, and it may be only the first one, will bring on a second phase of the breakdown of the capitalist system. It may not come immediately, nor did it in 1929.

It is said that the 1929 crisis ended after Roosevelt came in 1933. That he propped up the system. What they don't bring out is that there followed another shock in 1937. It brought the market down and wiped out not just most of the gains that had been made in stock market values but the economic gains of many of the workers, who had gone back to work but then lost their jobs again.

So that around 1936-37 the U.S. began to prepare militarily for the Second World War. That's what pulled it out, not just the Roosevelt administration's very important concessions to the workers. So that the economic decline following the stock market crash lasted all the way to 1939, when there were already millions of people working in the defense industries.

This proved that the first phase of the general crisis of capitalism had in reality not been resolved. In truth the war diverted it into military channels.

Big difference between 1920s and 1980s

What is a main difference between the 1920s and the early 1980s? The period of the early 1920s was one of capitalist prosperity. The capitalists tell us that in a period of capitalist prosperity, all the workers gain as well. And in a period of depression, everybody loses. Not quite.

The New York Times of Oct. 1 had a front-page article saying we had completed almost 59 months of economic progress. And it gave data to show that it had been a period of what they call capitalist prosperity, that this period of prosperity had delighted the conservative economists and con-founded the liberals. But it didn't say how the Marxists viewed it. And it didn't say how the workers viewed it.

Sure, it was 59 months of capitalist stability. But there was a big difference between this and the 1920s. Then there was an upward improvement in the condition of the workers, right up until the crash. What about the 1980s? The period from 1979 to 1982 was a recession. They all admit that. But in the so-called recovery ever since, there has been the most ruthless intensification of cutting the living standards.

Plant closings, government cuts in the most vital services, wide disparity between rich and poor, more homelessness and more unemployed per capita. What the capitalist economists don't explain is that a period of capitalist expansion doesn't necessarily employ everybody. On the contrary, it can ruthlessly cut down on those employed and create a surplus army of unemployed.

Recovery of 1980s deepened poverty

In the 1920s there was improvement in the material conditions, notwithstanding the relative growth of unemployment, and notwithstanding the outlandish and savage discrimination, the racism, lynchings and so on.

But in the 1980s, jobs are being lost while products are turned out in larger and larger numbers. One article in the Wall Street Journal a year ago said that factory workers' output had increased five times faster than the increase in factory jobs.

Why is that? Because the period of the 1980s is characterized by the high-tech revolution. In a barbarous way it has cut out millions of jobs on a worldwide basis. So that this period of capitalist prosperity is remarkable for the deterioration and savage cuts in the living standard of the workers, the cuts in jobs, the shift to the service industries.

This is common knowledge. When we wrote about it some years ago, it might have been new, but now every-

body knows that the service jobs pay less. And industrial jobs too are paying less money.

So that in auto, while they are still producing many cars, they have cut about 150,000 jobs. No job is really secure there. It's a lie. It's the same in steel and everywhere else.

The outstanding feature of the 1920s was the development of the automobile industry, which became the locomotive to all of capitalist industry. More workers were hired, especially from the South. The Ford Motor Company hired tens of thousands of new workers, in contradistinction to the present period. So did General Motors and the others. Ford introduced a new system — the assembly line — which unlike today's high-tech revolution brought in more workers.

That's the big difference between then and now. This economic prosperity that Reagan and the New York Times pushed so hard to explain has its other side. And it shows that this crisis will be more severe, precisely because the living standards have already been cut.

Capitalists and money

I would like to say a word about the two revolutions that have taken place in this country. First, the American Revolution of 1776. You might have heard the words "It isn't worth a Continental," which referred to the money used during the Revolutionary War in the United States.

Do we know why? It's because the bourgeoisie were all for the overthrow of the British monarchy, all for independence, but they wouldn't lay out money to pay the soldiers, except in a worthless currency known as the Continental. They said, "Well, this currency is good to give to the soldiers. But for us, the bankers and merchants, we'll exchange on the basis of gold." They wouldn't support the currency with gold.

Later when the war was over and the system got stabilized, the rich bought up all the Continentals cheap. They were then sold in New York City to such men as Alexander Hamilton and others, who sold them back to the Treasury for more and made millions that way. The workers, the poor, those who had fought the war, the small merchants and the others got fleeced.

The same thing happened during the Civil War. You've heard the word greenbacks. Greenbacks are what the government passed out. But the bankers wouldn't support them. It was a repetition of what happened in the other war.

Breakdown of monetary system

Today the monetary system has broken down. The U.S. government hasn't been on the gold standard since 1933. In the long period of capitalist development after the Civil War and after the First World War, the U.S. was stable enough to say, "Any time you want your money in gold, we're strong enough to give it to you."

But after the breakdown of the system following the 1929 crash, one country after another found it couldn't meet its obligations and had to get off the gold standard. Finally Franklin Delano Roosevelt pushed the U.S. off the gold standard.

They never recovered from that. So what are they doing now? They're playing with paper money. France, Britain, West Germany, Holland, Japan, none of them are strong enough to convert their money into gold in the event of a crisis.

That's only a symptom of the deep economic crisis. When you can convert your currency into actual gold, that's a

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Poland's price hikes: Don't blame socialism!

By Andy Stapp

"The plan is to disengage the government as much as possible from the day-to-day running of the economy and emphasize market forces increasingly."

That's how the New York Times last Oct. 8 described the economic changes that are taking place in Poland. "Poland," this same article noted, "more than other Warsaw Pact countries, has already gone far along these lines. Most farms are privately owned, and many services are provided by private businesses."

Six days later, the Times followed with another piece on Poland. "The crux of the program," the newspaper reported, "is the plan to straighten out the price and wage system, to close the extraordinary gap now existing between the real value of goods and the prices charged." This can only be done, the Times stated, "by slashing immense state subsidies that keep prices for things like housing and public transportation unrealistically low."

To solve this so-called problem of

"unrealistically low" rents and food prices, the article says that the Polish government "intends to open the door wide to private industry," meaning capitalist industry.

One month later, on Nov. 14, the lead story in the New York Times reported that "panic buying of food and other products" was sweeping Poland as the government announced that "prices for rent and fuels and energy would double or triple, while prices for basic foodstuffs would more than double on the average."

Then came the part, the key item of news, that was missing from the earlier two articles in October. "The World Bank has urged Poland to speed up the pace of economic change and enact tough austerity measures to help reduce foreign debt, which is expected to grow from \$34.5 billion this year to \$37.35 billion in 1992."

So that's what lies behind Poland's economic restructuring! The Western banks don't want the money spent on "immense state subsidies" to feed and house and clothe the Polish people. What a waste when the same money could go to a bunch of New York City

bankers!

The bulk of the Polish debt to the U.S. financial institutions is held by Manufacturers Hanover, Bankers Trust, Chemical Bank, Citibank and Bank of America. Such a deserving crowd of folks. With their country club bills, huge mansions, new limousines every year and so forth, they need every zloty they can squeeze out of the hides of the Polish working class.

Then, when they are done, these same big capitalists can cry in public about the "poor standard of living in communist Poland," and about how "Russia should stop interfering and let Poland be Poland."

There is nothing new in this, nor are Poland's horrendous problems a recent development. Back in February 1981, Representative Les Aspin was bragging that "the strongest foreign leverage on Poland is the huge debt to Western banks."

Despite the undermining of its economy and political leadership, Poland retains the framework of a socialist country. But it clearly isn't socialist policies which are sending prices sky high and sparking a wave

of nationwide panic among working people over there.

This is the result of imperialist penetration, in the form of foreign bank capital. Poland is just one of scores of nations, ranging from Argentina to Zaire, which have been victimized in this way.

All these countries know the score. First an imperialist emissary arrives, like George Bush in Warsaw last month. There is pressure put on the government for another round of "belt tightening" to pay more hundreds of millions of dollars into the vaults of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the leading private banks. Then the price rises begin anew. And the people suffer.

The solution for Poland is not more loans, which are nothing but chains binding them tighter to their blood-sucking enemies. The only real way out is to repudiate these monstrous debts, level with the workers about the consequences of such a step, and begin rebuilding a socialist economy independent of the capitalist exploiters who lured them into this trap in the first place.

Lebanon general strike fights hunger

By G. Dunkel

Lebanon was paralyzed for over a week beginning Nov. 5 by a general strike that affected every employer except hospitals and bakeries. The strike was called by the General Confederation of Lebanese Workers (GCLW) to protest the "economic catastrophe" that Lebanon is suffering and to demand that the "responsible politicians adopt an economic rescue plan while waiting for their quarrels to be settled."

The economic catastrophe is simple to describe: Workers are paid in nearly worthless money. There are serious shortages of cooking fuel, bread, electricity, water and medicine, as well as galloping unemployment. The guaranteed minimum monthly wage, which was just doubled, is still less than \$20. Workers in Lebanon are not just facing extreme hardship, they are at the edge of famine.

The leaders of the GCLW realize it is going to be difficult to maintain the unity of their union in the face of all the deep divisions that exist in Lebanon and difficult to force the local representatives of powerful, rich imperialist interests to the bargaining table. But the terrible calamity that faces the working class of Lebanon left them no other choice than to use the only weapon they had — the general strike.



WW PHOTO: JOYCE CHEDIAC

Hits Stinger missiles. Dr.

Ali Abdulsalam Treiki, Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations, explained at a press conference in New York on Nov. 16 that by sending Stinger missiles and U.S. military personnel to Chad, "the U.S. is looking for a direct confrontation with Libya in Chad." Dr. Treiki pointed out that "the objective of the U.S. is to destabilize Libya and overthrow the existing government." A special committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), consisting of seven heads of states, is currently mediating between Libya and Chad over the Aouzou strip, which is claimed by both. But Washington, backed by the former colonial powers in Africa, France and Britain, pressured Chad to override the OAU by bringing the situation before the United Nations "with the intentions of escalating the problem," said Dr. Treiki. The General Assembly, however, recently voted not to hear the Libya-Chad question at the request of the OAU, which asked for it to remain within the context of its own mediation efforts.

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for the Jackson campaign is of a conditional and critical nature.

The Democratic Party and the workers and oppressed

I want to mention another reason why we support the Jackson campaign. I mentioned earlier that there were some so-called Marxists who had the view that to support Jackson is tantamount to supporting the Democratic Party. On the other side, there are those who consider themselves Marxist whose basis of support for Jackson has less to do with fighting racism than with the notion that the Jackson campaign offers them some inroads into the Democratic Party in an attempt to influence its policies and to consolidate the "left wing" within the Democratic Party. We want to totally dissociate ourselves from this objective.

We do understand why the workers and oppressed vote for the Democratic Party. They do not feel that they have any other serious alternative to express their "lesser evil" vote. That will change, however, when class con-

sciousness is raised through the many struggles yet to come.

It is another matter when so-called Marxists try to shove the masses into the Democratic Party. Their perspective should be showing them the light at the end of the tunnel, the correct road to the class struggle and their ultimate destiny — socialism.

We are interested in the Jackson phenomenon for the same reason that millions of workers and oppressed are interested — not so much for what he says, as for what his candidacy represents.

The workers and oppressed on a whole are not naive; they know that he has a very remote chance of being elected because of racism. They rally to him because they see his campaign as a continuation of the civil rights movement, helping to bring them closer to the finale of the revolution that the Civil War began.

The struggle for economic and political justice and equality will no doubt continue to take on many forms. But regardless of the form, Workers World Party will be standing in firm class solidarity with all of them.

Join us in the struggle

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

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

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Ortega visit exposes U.S. as source of war

Reagan puppets in Guatemala, El Salvador break agreement

By Dee Knight

While Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega was in Washington the week of Nov. 9 discussing the Sandinista ceasefire proposal, Ronald Reagan took to the airwaves to denounce the Sandinistas and praise "the democracies of El Salvador and Guatemala."

President Ortega's diplomatic efforts dramatized the fact that Washington is the key to peace in Central America because it's the source of all the war funds. But Reagan's brazen commentary from never-never land showed his determination to continue the bloodshed indefinitely.

House Speaker Jim Wright looked like the peacemaker of the week by hosting President Ortega and facilitating the negotiations with Nicaraguan Archbishop Obando y Bravo. There was no mention that just a week earlier Wright had helped pass \$3.2 million in short-term aid for the contras as part of a so-called "continuing resolution" — or that he had helped get \$3.5 million for them in September.

Both times Wright and his staff assured opponents that "this is it, there will be no more money for the contras." And each time he and the other Democrats caved in. They'll get another chance this week, when Republicans propose adding \$30 million for the contras to yet another "continuing resolution."

Repression in Guatemala, El Salvador

Meanwhile, in Reagan's favorite "democracies," death squads and government repression are undercutting the possibility of peace. In Guatemala, the government says there are no political prisoners to release because the army "takes no prisoners." Five days after the ceasefire was to go into effect, the army is engaged in what it calls a "final offensive" against guerrillas, including aerial bombardment and coordinated military sweeps through rebel zones.

Talks broke down when the government rejected the call by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URN) for an end to counter-insurgency programs and the creation of demilitarized zones. "There

will be no more conversations with the guerrillas," President Vinicio Cerezo said last week. "The government will energetically enforce law and order in those areas where the rebels continue the armed struggle." For whole areas of the country, especially the traditional areas of the Quiche indigenous people, "law and order" means tens of thousands of civilians murdered by the army in years of fighting.

In El Salvador, FMLN/FDR leaders charged Nov. 9 that the government had violated its own ceasefire by bombing a village in Chaletenango province. Earlier, Herbert Anaya Sanabria, the head of the non-governmental Human Rights Commission, had been killed Oct. 26 by unidentified gunmen while taking his two children to school. Two more death squad victims were found on a roadside Nov. 8, beaten to death and left with the letters FDR written on their bodies. It's an open secret that the death squads come from the army and Treasury Police. Their money comes from Washington.

In response to these incidents, the FMLN/FDR representatives dropped out of the peace talks. "What's the point of talking about democratization and ceasefire when the government continues to wage its dirty war against unarmed civilians?" the FDR asked. The Social Democratic Party's representative to the Salvadoran National Reconciliation Commission resigned because of "the permanent violation of human rights in the country and the government's inability to stop it."

"Inability" is not really accurate. The Duarte regime could stop arresting trade unionists and agricultural cooperative members, but hasn't. And the Treasury Police didn't have to celebrate their recent grant of new U.S. funds by raiding the offices of the National Union of Salvadoran Workers.

This is the "democracy" Reagan is defending. And the "tyranny" he attacks in Nicaragua is the first popularly elected government to exist there since the U.S. marines installed the Somoza dictatorship in 1932.

Nevertheless, the U.S. government may have to revise its stance on Central America. The war has nearly destroyed all the economies of the

region, which have been in depression since 1982. In the wake of the Iran-contra scandal and the impending end of the Reagan years, Reagan's puppets fear they will be left to cope with the remnants of the defeated contras on their own. As one conservative Honduran politician told the New York Times, "We are totally isolated for backing the contras; nobody is willing to support us except Reagan and he is weaker than ever."

While the U.S. has conducted continuous military exercises in Honduras during the Reagan years and constructed at least nine secret military airstrips there, the contra war has been a military failure. It has suc-

Nicaragua leader welcomed by D.C. anti-war movement

By Brenda Sandburg
Washington, D.C.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega received a warm welcome from the progressive community in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 11. Addressing a town meeting of supporters, Ortega reiterated Nicaragua's intention to both support the peace plan and defend itself against U.S.-backed contra aggression.

Ortega stressed Nicaragua's desire for peace from the U.S.-imposed war on its people. Noting his support of the Arias peace plan, Ortega said that all the Central American presidents have agreed that foreign military troops should leave the region and accords should be signed so that "foreign military bases never will be installed and military maneuvers will never take place" again in Central America.

Ortega paid his respect to Benjamin Linder, who was murdered by the contras, and also expressed gratitude to Brian Willson. Willson was run over by a train while protesting arms shipments to Nicaragua at Concord Weapons Naval Station in Concord, Calif. Willson's wife Holly Raunen read a statement of support to Ortega. He was in Washington to attend the annual assembly of the Organization of

ceded in sapping the Nicaraguan economy, but it has also weakened the economies of U.S. allies in the region, and politically isolated the Reaganites throughout Latin America. Even among its NATO allies the administration can find precious little support for its rabid counter-revolutionary stand.

As the struggle continues in Central America, there is one clear demand that all progressives here in the U.S. can make: that the U.S. get out of Central America completely! End aid to the contras, stop funding the death squads, and let the people of the region determine their own affairs. This will bring genuine peace to the region.

American States. He took time out to recognize the solidarity movement in the U.S.

In response to a question about freedom of speech in Nicaragua, Ortega declared that U.S. policy has not allowed Nicaragua to have free expression. "Freedom of the press means the rich man can speak and the poor man can speak. Before the triumph of the revolution, those who controlled the communications media were the rich. With the revolution, for the first time the poor had access to the media."

However, he said, the rich used the media to help gain U.S. approval of \$100 million for the contras and "we had no option but to close down" La Prensa and Radio Catolica. At that time, Ortega stated, "we said when the aggression stops, the media can resume."

The aggression against the Sandinista government has not stopped, Ortega said, but due to the Arias peace plan La Prensa is now circulating and Radio Catolica is broadcasting. He noted that if the U.S. approves \$270 million to aid the contras, Nicaragua would have "to take all measures to protect" itself, which would mean "closing the political space" that has been opened in the country.

— Marcy on crash

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sign of lasting economic significance. The most extreme conservatives know this. They had a lot of dreams when Reagan got in. They spoke of going back to the free enterprise system so quickly that they could get back on the gold standard.

But they didn't go back to the gold standard. They're back to the falling dollar. And all the imperialists are trying to use monetary manipulation in order to undercut each other.

What does it all signify in the end? It's a repetition of the period before the Second World War. The rivalry among the capitalist states in the face of economic crisis.

Some say, raise exports. Where do you export to if there's a worldwide

crisis. Now they are all shouting, even among themselves, about cutting defense spending somewhat.

I was amused the other day to see that Carlucci, the next Secretary of Defense, who breezed through the Senate confirmation hearing with no opposition, hinted that cuts would be made in the military.

They cannot embark on another giant military buildup on the heels of a capitalist recession. Why can't they do it? The Japanese, the British, the French and others won't buy the bonds, and the IOU's that the Pentagon will be issuing. They won't buy them because they are not backed up by economic performance.

They can try to milk the Persian Gulf for a bigger war. But among themselves there's no great enthusiasm for it at the moment. There's demoralization all around them.

That's their crisis. They made it. We've got nothing to do it with it. And don't they dare try to throw it on our backs.

That's what this party was born for. Our slogan is, Expropriate the expropriators! We've been expropriated long enough! Now it's our turn to do it to you.

We're not going to be demoralized by your depressions. We're going to turn it around. Long live Communism!

ATLANTA

Fri., Dec. 4: 30th Anniversary Building Fund Fundraising Dinner. Speaker: Vince Copeland, founding member of Workers World Party on "Why socialism is the answer to the capitalist crisis." Tickets: \$15. Reserve by Nov. 30. No childcare. 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. At Paschai's Motor Hotel, 830 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, call (404) 688-7422.

CALENDAR

economic crisis? Who's going to buy? Stop imports, some say. Well, if you stop imports on one end, you stop exports on the other end. Haven't they been telling us all along that it's a world market?

When they can't solve the crisis through monetary manipulation, they try through legislative means. They focus on the budget. But the budget is burdened by over \$300 billion in military expenditures this year. Over the Reagan period, they'll have spent \$2 trillion for the military. It's led to a huge debt. They can't get away from that.

The debt, however, is just a reflection of the underlying problem of the disproportion between capitalist production and the consumption of the masses. All capitalist accumulation creates poverty at one end and riches at the other. It is impossible for it to ever reach a stable, long-lasting balance.

Must present the socialist solution

The solution lies in the socialist ownership of the means of production. It is necessary to pose a socialist solution. Even if it is not in the immediate sense, it is the only one.

Perú: Gobierno y Oligarquía contra el pueblo

Por Santiago Manque-Milla

En una batalla por el control financiero del Perú entre secciones de la clase dominante, el gobierno y la banca privada, dos bandos que tradicionalmente están unidos, se enfrentaron los pasados días, con una tanqueta, bombas lacrimógenas y cerca de 500 efectivos de la policía el gobierno de Alan García expulsó forzosamente a los banqueros atrincherados en sus bancos.

Las dificultades por las que atraviesa Perú son una demostración más de que después de las dictaduras militares, los procesos de desarrollo económico en democracia están plagados de dificultades. Los consensos no se pueden conseguir fácilmente, los acuerdos se pueden romper y el peligro de un retorno militar al poder está latente.

Después del retorno a la llamada "democracia" en el Perú en 1980 el pueblo se encontró con una herencia enorme, expresada en tres deudas: la externa, la interna y la social, que y que lleva al gobierno Alan García a un enfrentamiento con los agentes económicos más poderosos, los banqueros.

La filosofía gobiernista para enfrentar esta situación es: la imposibilidad del desarrollo interno y pagar la deuda externa.

El gobierno en unas de sus declaraciones demagógicas llamó a no negociar los pagos con el FMI por concepto de intereses de la deuda externa.

En el Perú la batalla por el control bancario refleja los problemas internos. La nacionalización de la banca fue anunciada como una nueva etapa en el país para "democratizar el crédito". Ya que los bancos privados estaban fugando capitales al exterior, y especulando, a pesar del crecimiento que tenía la economía peruana.

Esto sumado a las acciones que efectúa la ultra derecha pone en peligro el frágil sistema "democrático" del gobierno que se ha visto enfrentado por la derecha lo ha acusado de tener "tendencias totalitarias" esto declarado por el escritor Mario Vargas Llosa, vocero del movimiento ultraderechista "Movimiento por la Libertad". En el plano militar con el fracaso de la lucha antisubversiva, Sendero Luminoso ha hecho sentir su presencia en las llamadas zonas de emergencia que comprenden tres departamentos en el que ha operado preferencialmente. Durante estos dos últimos meses el movimiento laboral peruano ha estado activo, el 11 de noviembre 80.000 médicos, enfermeras y



La crisis imperialista impacta severamente a los países oprimidos de Latino América.

empleados sanitarios llevaron a cabo una huelga por mejoras salariales. De por sí el panorama para Alan García no es de los mejores ya que se enfrenta a la derecha oligárquica, que apoyado por el gobierno de E.E.UU. quiere volver a tomar el control total de la economía para poder seguir saqueando al país las divisas monetarias que tanta falta le hacen a la economía.

En el plano popular vemos como la clase obrera lleva adelante sus

movimientos, en procura de recuperar los beneficios sociales injustamente usurpados por las dictaduras militares, que en su paso por los pueblos de Latinoamérica han dejado una secuela de muertos y desaparecidos. Pero la clase obrera latinoamericana se ha puesto de pie de lucha y vemos como se enfrentan día a día con los remanentes de las pocas dictaduras que van quedando. Solo la lucha nos hará libres. Vencere-

Los impuestos atacan de nuevo

Por Carlos Vargas

Como esas películas de monstruos que salen con interminables secuencias, el ogro de los impuestos está de nuevo en las noticias.

Después del tremendo impacto que ha sufrido la bolsa de valores, una voz llegó desde Washington y de Wall Street que declaró que la unción solución a la crisis era la de reducir el presupuesto del déficit haciendo cortes en los servicios sociales y aumentando los impuestos. Por eso es que el presupuesto del déficit está siendo culpado por la crisis del capitalismo.

Después de que la fiel voz habló, un juego se comenzó a jugar. Al centro de este juego está Reagan.

En la prensa, Reagan está siendo presentado como el hombre quien está firmemente en contra del incremento de impuestos. Ninguno en la prensa o en los Partidos Demócratas o Republicanos se atreven a desafiar esta farsa.

Como quiera, veamos los hechos. Los años de Reagan han sido tanto de "impuestos y gastos" como los años Democráticos que le precedieron. El único cambio real es que el paquete está siendo presentado en una cubierta diferente.

En 1985 la Institución Brookings hizo un estudio de impuestos. Y encontró que los trabajadores y la gente pobre era los únicos que llevaban el peso de los impuestos. Un estudio de 100.000 familias fue hecho y se comprobó que un 20% de la gente más pobre pagaban la misma cantidad de impuestos que el 10% de los más ricos.

¿Y qué hizo Reagan mientras tanto? ¡Introdujo una nueva ley de impuestos que redujo los impuestos a los ricos aún más!

Cuando los impuestos de ingreso fueron primeramente introducido, uno de las maneras en que fue vendido a la gente era que el mayor peso sería para el rico y las corporaciones. En los años siguientes de la Segunda Guerra Mundial gente

siendo severamente reducidos. Pero los que más están abolidos por la nueva ley de impuestos son los ancianos, especialmente aquellos que tienen grandes cuentas médicas. Si las enfermedades no matan a los ancianos la nueva ley lo hará.

¿Entonces cual es este lo que la prensa continua repitiendo de que Reagan está firme en contra de los impuestos? Los únicos impuestos de que él está en contra son aquellos para los ricos y las grandes corporaciones. El Está para los impuestos del pobre y los trabajadores y él consistentemente ha aumentado esos impuestos a través de los años. Simplemente él no anuncia esto en sus sesiones con la prensa.

Ahora el monstruo de los impuestos ha vuelto. Y de nuevo es tiempo para un buen consejo. Cuando Reagan dice que está en contra de los impuestos, es hora para los pobres de correr a proteger sus bolsillos.

Suscríbese Ahora

No Compre Uvas

Perú: Gobierno y oligarquía contra el pueblo

Por Santiago Manque-Milla

En una batalla por el control financiero del Perú entre secciones de la clase dominante, el gobierno y la banca privada, dos bandos que tradicionalmente están unidos, se enfrentaron los pasados días, con una tanqueta, bombas lacrimógenas y cerca de 500 efectivos de la policía el gobierno de Alan García expulsó forzosamente a los banqueros atrincherados en sus bancos.

Las dificultades por las que atraviesa Perú son una demostración más de que después de las dictaduras militares, los procesos de desarrollo económico en democracia están plagados de dificultades. Los consensos no se pueden conseguir fácilmente, los acuerdos se pueden romper y el peligro de un retorno militar al poder está latente.

Después del retorno a la llamada "democracia" en el Perú en 1980 el pueblo se encontró con una herencia enorme, expresada en tres deudas: la externa, la interna y la social, que y que lleva al gobierno Alan García a un enfrentamiento con los agentes económicos más poderosos, los banqueros.

La filosofía gobiernista para enfrentar esta situación es: la imposibilidad del desarrollo interno y pagar la deuda externa.

El gobierno en unas de sus declaraciones demagógicas llamó a no negociar los pagos con el FMI por concepto de intereses de la deuda externa.

En el Perú la batalla por el control bancario refleja los problemas internos. La nacionalización de la banca fue anunciada como una nueva etapa en el país para "democratizar el crédito". Ya que los bancos privados estaban fugando capitales al exterior, y especulando, a pesar del crecimiento que tenía la economía peruana.

Esto sumado a las acciones que efectúa la ultra derecha pone en peligro el frágil sistema "democrático" del gobierno que se ha visto enfrentado por la derecha lo ha acusado de tener "tendencias totalitarias" esto declarado por el escritor Mario Vargas Llosa, vocero del movimiento ultraderechista "Movimiento por la Libertad". En el plano militar con el fracaso de la lucha antisubversiva, Sendero Luminoso ha hecho sentir su presencia en las llamadas zonas de emergencia que comprenden tres departamentos en el que ha operado preferencialmente. Durante estos dos últimos meses el movimiento laboral peruano ha estado activo, el 11 de noviembre 80.000 médicos, enfermeras y



La crisis imperialista impacta severamente a los países oprimidos de Latino América.

empleados sanitarios llevaron a cabo una huelga por mejoras salariales. De por sí el panorama para Alan García no es de los mejores ya que se enfrenta a la derecha oligárquica, que apoyado por el gobierno de EE.UU. quiere volver a tomar el control total de la economía para poder seguir saqueando al país las divisas monetarias que tanta falta le hacen a la economía.

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con mayor ingreso pagaba a un costo de 91% de impuesto. Esto fue reducido al 77% en 1969 y cuando Reagan tomó la presidencia en 1980 era del 70%.

¡La nueva ley de impuestos reduce esto al 28%! Por supuesto, ningún rico jamás pagó el 70% El Congreso se ha asegurado de que hayan suficiente salidas para el rico. Pero ahora la tasa de impuestos es aún más baja.

¿Qué ha significado la nueva ley de impuestos para los trabajadores y los más pobres? Por primera vez la compensación de desempleo es hoy impositiva. Antes si usted estaba desempleado se suponía que usted no debería ser penalizado por no tener empleo. Hoy si lo es.

Los beneficios médicos también están siendo penalizados y los créditos de impuestos para cuidado de niños también, tanto como gastos para el trabajo, hermanías y uniformes están

siendo severamente reducidos. Pero los que más están abolidos por la nueva ley de impuestos son los ancianos, especialmente aquellos que tienen grandes cuentas médicas. Si las enfermedades no matan a los ancianos la nueva ley lo hará.

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Suscríbese Ahora

No Compre Uvas



Angola resists large-scale South Africa attack

Racist regime has more troops poised on border

By Monica Moorehead

POVERTY

Incomes of all but the top 10% have fallen, and more jobless than ever are struggling without benefits. 3

BANKS

are in trouble. Think your deposits are insured? S&Ls are barely covered. And already shaky Continental Illinois just got burned in the stock market. 5

CENTRAL AMERICA

Ortega puts contras' bosses on spot. But war continues in Guatemala, El Salvador. 11

IMF AND POLAND

Which system is to blame for price rises — capitalism or socialism? 10

The racist, apartheid regime of South Africa has stepped up its bloody military intervention against the Peoples Republic of Angola.

According to the Angolan Ministry of Foreign Relations, 3,000 apartheid troops backed up by sophisticated military aircraft and 70 armored cars have been operating inside southeastern Angola for the past six weeks. South Africa admits to 24 of its soldiers being killed — its highest casualties ever.

Major General Ndalu of the Angolan armed forces charged on Nov. 15 that now 10,000 South African troops are massed in northern Namibia in an apparent preparation for a large-scale invasion of Angola.

This increased threat has reached such a perilous stage that Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met earlier this month with leaders of the frontline states, including Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Botswana, in an emergency session in Angola's capital, Luanda. President dos Santos also called on other African leaders "to undertake action to strengthen Angola's defense."

The racist South African regime has had to publicly admit that its troops were involved in direct combat in Angola. This underscores the weakness and inability of its mercenary stooges in UNITA to overthrow the anti-imperialist Angolan government, headed

Army called in against Soweto rent strike

November 18 — The South African racist regime is preparing to move thousands of soldiers into the Black township of Soweto, according to reports on National Public Radio.

This unprecedented attack by an army on civilians of the same country is meant to break a mass rent strike in effect since June 1986. After paying exorbitant rents for years for the most miserable shacks, the people have banded together on rent strike to demand better services for the township and increased political rights.

The racist, minority regime in Pretoria is not recognized anywhere in the world as legitimate. It uses the most vicious terror to enforce its tyrannical rule. The super-exploited people of Soweto won't bow down before them and instead have set up their own governing councils.

by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

UNITA has tried for many years to portray itself as a legitimate national liberation movement, but its close ties to the hated apartheid regime show it to be nothing more than a discredited band of terrorists and murderers in the eyes of the international community.

These counter-revolutionaries are made from the same old mold as the

contras in Nicaragua. Both Angola and Nicaragua, still very undeveloped, have been forced to divert their attention and meager resources away from rebuilding their war-torn economic infrastructure and meeting the general needs of their respective populations in order to militarily defend their sovereignty. The undeclared war against the Angolan people has cost

that country \$12 billion since the tri-
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WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

SOCIALIST CONFERENCE

Workers World Party lays out fightback program in response to layoffs, budget cuts and capitalist economic crisis. Sam Marcy shows how 1987 is not 1929 — it's worse. 6, 7, 9