



WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

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Noticias en español vea página 12

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By Gloria La Riva
San Francisco

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Continued on page 4



WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

LABOR SOLIDARITY

Over 5,000 union members and supporters marched in solidarity with striking paper workers in Jay, Maine. 3

Nuestro dinero y los ladrones de Washigton

Por Petra Guerra

¡Prepárate, por que vas a ser víctima de un robo! Pero tambien lo van a hacer tus padres, tus vecinos y tambien tus hijos.

Toda persona que ha trabajado en su vida para sobrevivir, va a ser robada. Se está planificando abiertamente un gran robo, una estafa. Tendremos tiempo para prevenirnos?

Has trabajado toda la vida y has ahorrado dinero cada pago y sabes que tienes unos pesos ahorrados aunque no los puedas ver, sabes que es tuyo ese dinero: ese dinero lo controla el Seguro Social.

Ese dinero que has ahorrado para cuando estés de edad avanzada y no puedas trabajar más, esa cuenta que no has tocado, te la van a robar.

¿Quiénes están detrás de este robo?

¿Acaso son solamente los senadores y representantes que están negociando los recortes presupuestarios? No, ellos están siendo manipulados. Estos poderosos manipuladores pueden ser fácilmente identificados, fueron los que costearon un anuncio de dos páginas la semana pasada en el New York Times y tambien en el Washington Post.

El anuncio hace un llamado a un "plan presupuestario bipartidista" que ponga todos los programas bajo el cuchillo de los recortes. Con un lenguaje fabuloso, el anuncio llama a proteger los programas sociales para los pobres y a restringir (no recortar) el presupuesto militar. Esto no es más que un escamoteo vacío.

La realidad es que ya no queda mucho de donde recortarle a los programas sociales. Republicanos y Demócratas están de acuerdo en recortar 5 mil millones del presupuesto

militar, esto no es nada a comparación del de 300 mil millones que ellos tienen.

Pero lo importante de este anuncio es lo a continuación manifiesta: "Los recortes se deben de hacer en programas que no son para la defensa, especialmente todos los programas de ayuda que no dejen ningún valor." Eso quiere decir en palabras prácticas Seguro Social, medicare y en la ayuda para los pequeños propietarios de tierras.

¿Y quién firmó este anuncio? Pues fueron hombres de la talla de David Rockefeller, Lee Iacocca, J. Peter Grace y George Weyerhaeuser. Y como si fuera poco, la lista de firmantes in-

cluye cabecillas de 145 de los bancos y corporaciones gigantes desde IBM, Mobil, Boeing, Westinghouse, Xerox, Goodyear, AT&T y Chemical Bank.

Estos son los super millonarios que hacen y deshacen del país juntos con ex miembros de Gabinete como William Simon, Harold Brown, John Connally, C. Douglas Dillon y Robert McNamara.

Ellos están haciendo un llamado al Congreso, ¡"Recorten el Seguro Social! ¡Recorten el Seguro Social!" Quieren empezar por limitar los reajustes al costo de vida, conocido como COLA. Saben que estamos en una etapa de inflación que es eso lo que representa



Con pancartas leyendo, "La falta de representación es racismo," manifestantes demandaron el jueves pasado que se nombre un Latino a la Junta de Educacion de Nueva York. En esta ciudad los niños hispanos representan la tercera parte de la población estudiantil. La manifestación estuvo llamada por una coalición de grupos comunales y políticos y participaron gente de todas razas y nacionalidades.

eres del gobierno nicaragense en alguna fecha futura y que la Casa Blanca no pediría los 270 millones de ayuda a la contra hasta enero.

Ninguna de estas dos declaraciones indican cambios reales. Reagan declaró que Schultz se enteraría con los Sandinistas solamente después que hablarán directamente con los contras, de todas maneras la Casa Blanca probablemente no podría conseguir la ayuda para los contras antes de enero.

Estas declaraciones demuestran cuán aislada y débil se encuentra la administración especialmente en su política hacia Nicaragua.

A diferencia de los Sandinistas, el imperialismo y sus títeres centroamericanos no han hecho absolutamente nada substancial para demostrar su buena fé. Justamente la semana pasada, el congreso — republicanos y demócratas — pasó otros 3 millones de ayuda "humanitaria temporal" para los contras. Esta propuesta se espera será ratificada fácilmente por el senado cualquier día.

Armas en ayuda humanitaria

Actualmente todos saben que las armas son rutinariamente incluidas en los embarques de "ayuda humanitaria" de Estados Unidos y tambien deben saber que los políticos en el

Congreso han pasado uno tras otro los pedidos "temporales", prometiendo siempre que la próxima vez se opondrán a Reagan.

No es sorprendente que ninguna de las bases de Estados Unidos en Honduras desde donde los contras llevan a cabo sus sangrientos ataques hayan sido desmanteladas, ni siquiera porque el plan contempla que Honduras no permita a los contras operar de su territorio. El 5 de noviembre, día en que la primera parte del plan estaba supuesto a entrar en efecto, el presidente de Honduras José Azcona Hoyo ni siquiera se molestó en presentar su informe, lo cual demuestra la influencia que tiene Estados Unidos, la política en ese país contra los deseos de la mayoría de los Hondureños que a propósito se sienten enfermos y cansados de los militares yanquis y los contras que pisotean su suelo usando como base de agresión contra sus vecinos nicaragenses.

En Guatemala, país que tambien supuestamente está incluido en el tratado, es la misma historia. Los combates se siguen llevando a cabo actualmente entre los militares y las fuerzas de liberación. El gobierno apoyado por los Estados Unidos se entrevistó solamente por tres días con las guerrillas, pero las conversaciones

se terminaron y los oficiales manifestaron que no hay señal de que se reanuden nuevamente.

Aun cuando el régimen de Guatemala anunció una amnistía, hasta la prensa burguesa de Estados Unidos admite que la amnistía "Tendrá un efecto limitado" porque el ejército de Guatemala ha asesinado a la mayoría de la gente que ha capturado en años recientes (Publicado en el New York Times noviembre 6). Lo que el Times no menciona, es que el ejército de Guatemala es entrenado en sus métodos de tortura y asesinato por el pentágono.

Rotas las conversaciones

En El Salvador, las fuerzas de liberación rompieron las conversaciones con el gobierno durante la primera semana de noviembre para protestar el asesinato a sangre fría del líder de los Derechos Humanos del país, por los escuadrones de la muerte entrenados por los Estados Unidos. La idea del régimen de Duarte de cumplir con los acuerdos, fue dar amnistía a los escuadrones de la muerte, para dejar libres a los asesinos del Arzobispo Romero y de las cuatro monjas estadounidenses y decenas de miles de trabajadores y campesinos Salvadoreños

Nicaragua, Reagan y el acuerdo de paz

Por Angela Vera

En vísperas a su visita a los Estados Unidos el 11 noviembre, el presidente de Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, propuso conversaciones directas con el presidente Reagan y sus títeres los contras, para terminar con la guerra en centroamérica.

La administración Reagan inmediatamente indicó que no aceptaría tan generosa oferta, quejándose de que se intentaba hacer de los Estados "pequeños asociados de los Estados Unidos," lo que todo mundo sabe.

La respuesta de Washington a la oferta por parte de los Sandinistas que están haciendo concesiones con el objeto de cumplir con los términos del acuerdo de paz centroamericano, no es inusual. Washington ha demostrado una y otra vez que no está interesado en terminar con la guerra, sino que permanece comprometido en sus esfuerzos por derrocar al gobierno popular Sandinista.

Con una contra vencida militarmente y con la opinión pública mundial solidamente unida contra el imperialismo yanqui, la administración Reagan ha tenido que mantener para aparentar que está buscando una solución pacífica. Esto es lo que está detrás del anuncio de Reagan que Schultz podría conversar con los lid-



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Bipartisan budget plan aimed against workers, poor

By John Catalinotto

On Nov. 20, after four weeks of intense negotiations, the joint White House-Congressional committee agreed on the so-called budget reduction plan. A look at the plan shows how both Democrats and Republicans were willing to solve the problems of the bankers and brokers on the backs of the workers and poor.

Before examining the details of the agreement, it's important to point out that this plan still must be passed by Congress before it becomes law. Congress may still reverse some of the points agreed on in the committee.

Until Congress votes, the automatic Gramm-Rudman reduction goes into action. Enacted in 1985, this law mandates cuts of all government programs by an equal percentage to bring the deficit below a fixed total.

The pressure for this round of budget cuts has come from Wall Street and from its counterparts in the major imperialist centers. This includes the bankers and bosses of West Germany, Japan and Britain as well as those in the U.S. They claim that a U.S. federal budget reduction is needed to stabilize world financial markets. This claim, by the way, is questioned even by many capitalist economists.

Whatever the impact of deficit reduction on the great gambling dens known as stock markets, it does nothing to help working people and the poor. On the contrary, it gives the rich another chance to slash social programs that have already been cut to pieces by seven years of Reaganism.

For Black, Latino, Asian and Native people who have already been hurt by the Reagan program, for all

working people, it's these cuts which are most important to examine.

Gramm-Rudman cuts hurt AIDS research

The automatic Gramm-Rudman cuts are supposed to total \$23 billion. Spread evenly among almost all government programs, these cuts went into action Nov. 20 despite the agreement in committee. Of note in these automatic cuts is that some vital health programs face substantial reductions.

For example, \$600 million will be slashed from the National Institutes of Health and \$82 million from AIDS research. This flies in the face of popular demand. This could be seen from the Oct. 11 march of 500,000 for gay and lesbian rights, which demanded that billions be poured into AIDS and related research.

A second area hit hard by the automatic cuts is education, where the cost of student loans will be raised.

Another thing the Gramm-Rudman cuts point out is the predominance of military spending in the federal budget. Here the automatic cuts would be \$11.5 billion, because military spending is almost half of total federal spending.

This military cut is one which has no harmful impact on workers and poor people. Yet the Democratic Party was more than willing to reduce the cut to far less than the automatic \$11.5 billion.

Cuts by the agreement

It's expected that something like the Nov. 20 agreement will finally be passed and will replace the automatic cuts. Under this agreement, the mili-

tary budget will be cut by only \$5 billion in the 1988 budget. This still leaves it at \$285.4 billion, an increase over the \$280 billion in 1987 used to enrich the military-industrial complex.

Instead, \$2 billion will be cut from Medicare and \$250 million in guaranteed student loans. The agreement also foresees a \$200 million gain from a fee for Veterans Administration loans. These are the areas which obviously hurt the working class. Also in this category are the \$2.6 billion in domestic program cuts which will be decided on in House and Senate Appropriation Committees.

The agreement also projected cuts in farm programs and in government pay scales. From increased taxes, none of which are income or direct sales taxes, it's projected that \$11 billion will be raised. One such tax that will hurt working people is the extension of the 3% excise tax on telephone service.

Gov't workers feel the knife

In sum, about half of the budget cuts and an indeterminate part of the taxes will directly hurt workers and poor people. Other cuts will reduce salaries for government employees or result in layoffs. And this is all for a program designed to help bankers and speculators.

The initial reaction from Wall Street to the agreement is that it is inadequate. This means that the bankers and brokers will continue to pressure Congress to make further cuts.

Of course these fat cats want cuts not on the military program, but on domestic social programs. They want to hurt the poor even more. As an ex-



Will Social Security be cut next?

tensive media campaign showed, the big businessmen even want to put Social Security on the chopping block. They want the working class to pay the costs of a crisis that belongs to the rich and should be paid for by them alone.

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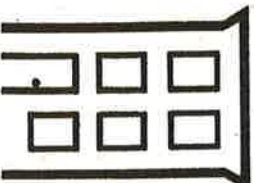
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Editor: Dendre Griswold
 Technical Editor: Lillian Stein
 Managing Editors: Joyce Chediac, Robert Dobrow,
 Sharon Shelton, Gary Wilson
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 Rotgard
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5,000 Maine workers brave freezing cold to aid strikers

By Phil Willyto
Jay, Maine

November 21.—It was bitter cold here today, with the temperature in the teens and a wind chill factor of 11 degrees below zero, but that didn't stop over 5,000 union members and their supporters from marching on the International Paper Company's (IP) mill to show support for 1,250 striking paperworkers.

Along with union paperworkers from around the state, both women and men, there were railroad workers on strike for safety after one of their members was killed in an on-the-job accident last week. Local 6 from the Bath Iron Works was represented, along with members and officers of IUE Local 201 from Lynn, Mass., where 3,000 factory workers face a mass layoff. There were teachers from Jay and hotel workers from Boston, other union members from New York and New Hampshire, and high school students from the local area out to support their neighbors and friends.

Out since June 16, the Jay strikers are resisting an onslaught of company takeback demands that would eliminate jobs, reduce wages and weaken the union. Most importantly, the company has hired hundreds of scabs to replace the strikers and vows it will keep them on even after a settlement. Similar demands have forced strikes on 760 paperworkers in Lock Haven, Pa., and 370 in DePere, Wisc., while 1,200 workers have been locked out by IP in Mobile, Ala. since March 21.

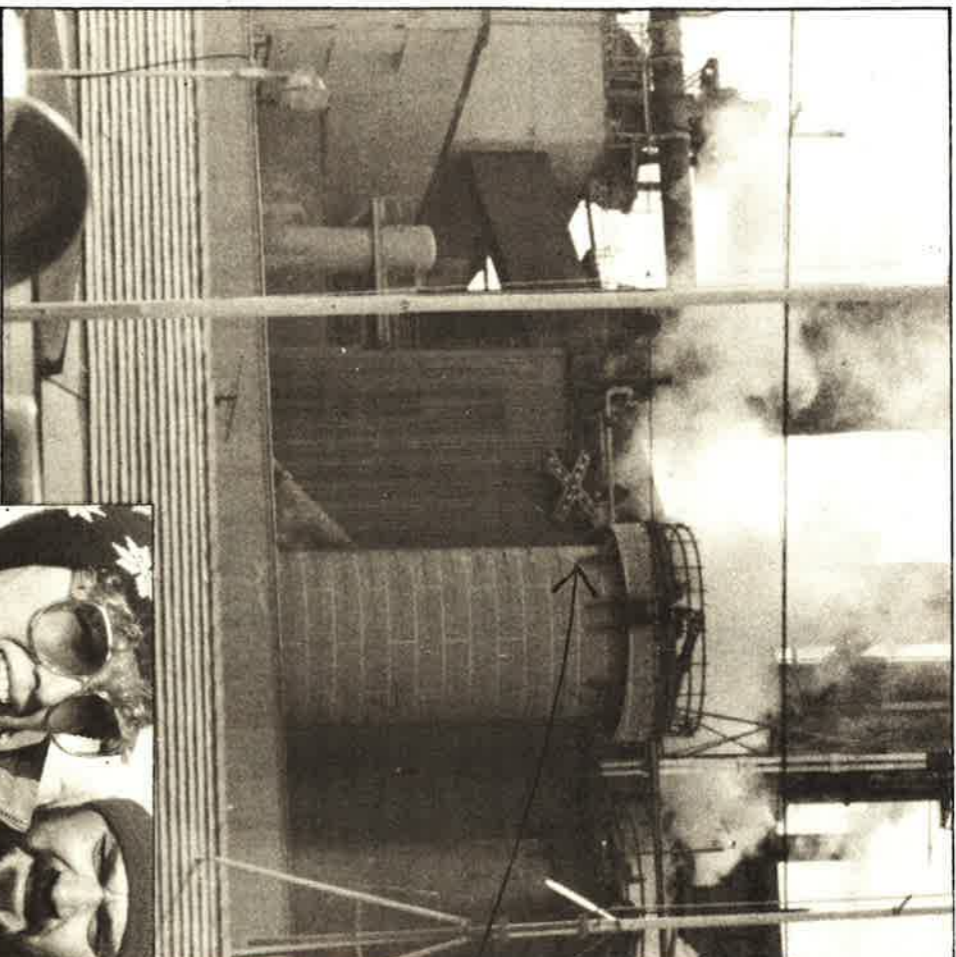
With a court injunction against mass picketing lifted for the day, the marchers were able to come right up to the plant gate. Suddenly, as the chants of "Scabs out, union in!" rose in the cold autumn wind, two figures, high up on top of the plant, could be seen draping a large Confederate flag over the side of the building. The so-called "rebel" flag has become a symbol of the Alabama-based BE&K Co., a professional strike-breaking outfit that has provided scabs to the company. Far from representing Southern workers, Black or white, this flag has always been a racist symbol of the slave-owning plantation owners of the old Confederacy. For a few days last month, the flag had actually been flown over the plant, apparently with the approval of IP, until union pressure forced its removal.

When the workers saw the scab flag, they massed at the gate and angrily chanted, "Take it down! Take it down!" The handful of police present looked increasingly nervous as people started yelling, "Let's go inside!" and within a few short minutes, the frightened company management had gotten the flag, brought it out to the gate, and threw it over the fence to the marchers, who immediately and jubilantly set fire to it and ripped it to shreds in front of the TV and newspaper cameras, as a great cheer went up from the crowd.

Strike leader calls for national support

At a rally in the Jay high school gymnasium before the march, United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) Local 14 President Bill Meserve had emphasized the national character of the strike which, despite the long months of picketing and lost wages, has remained over 97% solid.

"This attack's against all unions," exclaimed Meserve, "not just the UPIU. The companies want to reduce our wages to the level of some other countries. We need to band together as never before. We make this country turn, and if we stop making it turn, they'll be no more megabucks for the big companies." He explained that the



Racist Confederate flag hangs at rooftop of International Paper plant in Jay, Maine (left). Strikers (below) pull it down and burn it.



WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

union was preparing to go nationwide in its fight, sending strikers across the country to build support for the union.

Also addressing the crowd were state AFL-CIO President Charles O'Leary, Secretary-Treasurer Ed Gorman and UPIU East Coast representative Royal Rodrigue, among others.

Leading the line-up of speakers at the follow-up rally after the march was Ed Childs, New England Regional Director for the National Job Is a Right Campaign. Childs raised the example of the "Steelworkers Support Committee" that had been formed by the national AFL-CIO during last year's strike against the giant USX corporation, formerly U.S. Steel. The committee, representing 70 affiliated unions, had created the organizational framework necessary to mobilize broad ranks of labor to come to the support of the steelworkers. Such a

On the picket line

Rail strike at Guilford. Railroad workers at Guilford Transportation, the New England rail line, walked out on strike Nov. 16 to protest increasingly unsafe working conditions. The 1,200 strikers, members of the United Transportation Union (UTU), are no strangers to struggle, having waged a tough two-month strike in 1986 that was forcibly ended by the intervention of Reagan and Congress. Since then, however, conditions have deteriorated as a result of Guilford's drive for "efficiency" and "streamlining," code words for beefing up profits on the backs of the workers. With most Guilford operations running out of its Springfield Terminal subsidiary, where work rules and wages have been cut, worker injuries and deaths caused by cutbacks in maintenance and what UTU president Fred Hardin called an "absolute disregard for safety" are increasingly frequent. Guilford is trying to break the strike with scabs, but strikers are angry and strong.

structure, said Childs, could be used to concentrate the full strength of the labor movement on the issue of replacing scabs, forcing IP to abandon its plans to break the paperworkers' union.

early this summer. A number of people asked where they could get a copy of the collected reprinted articles on the strike, which were prepared as a gesture of solidarity with the striking paperworkers. To receive a copy, just send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: WW-IP Strike, 46 W. 21st St., New York, N.Y. 10010.)

Stock Exchange struggle.

The 1,400 Office and Professional Employees who walked out on strike Nov. 10 at the New York Stock Exchange and Securities Industry Automation Corp. returned to work after three days on the picket line. They still don't have a contract, however, and union leaders say they may resume the strike if an acceptable settlement isn't reached. The strikers voted to return to work pending ongoing negotiations, but expressed determination to win improvements in pension benefits and lower the retirement age, the two key demands in the strike. Stock exchange management hired scabs and claimed the strike had little effect, but those on the floor report that traders are very worried about their ability to keep on wheeling and dealing on their own.

Family leave bill advances.

The Labor Committee of Congress voted to approve proposed legislation mandating family and parental leave for workers on Nov. 18, clearing the way for a vote by the full Congress in the next couple of months. The legisla-

tion would establish the right of workers to 10 weeks unpaid leave of absence to care for newborn or adopted children or for illness of children or parents, and 15 weeks for the workers' own illness. Companies that employ fewer than 50 workers would be exempt, and only workers who work more than 20 hours a week and have one year on the job are covered. The U.S. is the only industrialized country without any parental leave law, and the proposed bill is considerably watered down from its original version. Nevertheless, despite the bill's limitations, big business is solidly opposed to it. Wild estimates of its costs — at one point the Chamber of Commerce claimed it would cost business \$16 billion per year — are only part of the issue, admitted a Chamber spokesperson. The larger issue is the bosses' opposition to any extension of the rights of workers, particularly women workers, who would be the primary beneficiaries of the new law, and their fear that "this legislation is... a foot in the door" leading to paid leave in the future. . . .

Castro speaks on economic policies of Che Guevara

At a ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the death of Ernesto Che Guevara, Cuba's Fidel Castro gave a speech that concentrated on Che's economic policies during the early years of the revolutionary government. During that time Che played a key role in organizing the new socialist economy. He headed the National Bank as well as the Ministry of Industries during the early 1960s.

"What I ask for modestly at this 20th anniversary is that Che's economic thought be made known, that it be known here, in Latin America, in the world: in the developed capitalist world, in the Third World and in the socialist world," Castro declared.

The following excerpts from this speech have been condensed from the English-language translation provided by the Cuban Council of State.

Is there a better moment than this particular anniversary to remember Che, when we are in the middle of the rectification process?

What are we rectifying? We're rectifying all those things — and there are many — that strayed from the revolutionary spirit, from revolutionary work, revolutionary virtue, revolutionary effort, revolutionary responsibility; all those things that strayed from the spirit of solidarity among people.

We're rectifying all the shoddiness and mediocrity that is precisely the negation of Che's ideas, his revolutionary thought, his style, his spirit and his example.

Voluntary work, the brainchild of Che and one of the best things he left us, during his stay in our country and his part in the Revolution, has been steadily on the decline. It became a formality almost; it would be done on occasion on a special date, a Sunday.

People would sometimes run around and do things in a disorganized way. The bureaucrat's view, the technocrat's view that voluntary work was neither basic nor essential gained more and more ground. The idea was that voluntary work was kind of silly, a waste of time.

We had fallen into the bog of bureaucracy, of overstaffing, of work norms that were out of date, the bog of deceit, of untruth. We'd fallen into a whole load of bad habits that Che would have been really appalled at. If Che had ever been told that one day, under the Cuban Revolution there would be enterprises prepared to steal to pretend they were profitable, Che would have been appalled; or enterprises that wanted to be profitable and give out prizes and I don't know what else, bonuses, and they'd sell the materials allotted to them to build and charge as though they had built what-ever it was, Che would've been appalled.

Reject worn capitalist paths

Che would have been appalled if he'd been told money was becoming the main concern, the fundamental motivation. Che would have been appalled for he knew that communism could never be attained by trekking along those worn capitalist paths and that to follow along those paths would mean eventually to forget all ideas of solidarity and even internationalism. To follow those paths would imply never developing a new man and a new society.

Were Che to have seen a group of enterprises teeming with capitalist hucksters — as we call them — playing at capitalism, beginning to think and act like capitalists, forgetting about the country, the people and high standards (because high standards just didn't matter, all they cared about was the money being earned



Che Guevara

thanks to the low norms) he would have been appalled.

And were he to have seen that one day they would not just make material work subject to norms — putting just anybody under the knife in order to double or triple his income — I can truthfully say that Che would have been appalled, because none of those paths will ever lead us to communism.

On the contrary, those paths lead to all the bad habits and alienation of capitalism. Those paths I repeat — and Che knew it very well — would never lead us to building real socialism, as a first and transitional stage to communism.

But don't think that Che was naive, an idealist, or someone out of touch with reality. Che understood and took reality into consideration. But Che believed in man and if we don't believe in man, if we think that man is an incorrigible little animal, capable of advancing only if you feed him grass or tempt him with a carrot or whip him with a stick, anybody who believes this, anybody convinced of this will never be a revolutionary; anybody who believes this, anybody convinced of this will never be a socialist; anybody who believes this, anybody convinced of this will never be a Communist.

Che was a realist and didn't reject material incentives. He deemed them necessary during the transitional stage, while building socialism. But Che attached more importance — more and more importance — to awareness, to the ethical factor.

Recently, all these ideas were compiled and an economist wrote a book which was awarded a Casa de las Americas Prize. The author compiled, studied and presented in a book the essence of Che's economic ideas. The name of the book is *El pensamiento economico del Che* [Che's Economic Thought].

So much has been done to recall his other qualities that this aspect — I think — has been largely ignored in our country. Che sustained truly profound, courageous, bold ideas which were different from many paths already taken.

Importance of education and awareness

In essence — in essence! — Che was radically opposed to using and developing capitalist economic laws and categories in building socialism. He advocated something which I have often insisted on: building socialism and

communism is not just a matter of producing and distributing wealth but is also a matter of education and awareness. He was firmly opposed to using these categories which have been transferred from capitalism to socialism as instruments to build the new society.

Many of Che's ideas are absolutely relevant today, ideas without which I am convinced communism can't be built, like the idea that man should not be corrupted; that man should never be alienated; the idea that without a conscience, simply producing wealth, socialism as a superior society could not be built, and communism could never be built.

Capitalists are overjoyed when they hear people talk about rent, profit, interest, bonuses, superbonuses; when they hear about markets, supply and demand as elements that regulate production and promote quality, efficiency and all those things.

For they say, "That's my kind of talk, that's my philosophy, that's my doctrine," and the emphasis that socialism may place on them makes them happy, for they know these are essential aspects of capitalist theory, laws and categories. We ourselves are being criticized by quite a few capitalists; they try to make people think that the Cuban revolutionaries are unrealistic, that the thing to do is go for all

the decoys of capitalism, and then they aim their guns at us for that reason. But we'll see how far we get in the rectification process with the steps we're taking now.

Cuba's internationalism

I'm sure Che would be proud, not of the shoddy things which have been done with a two-bit profiteering mentality; he'd be proud of the knowledge and technology our people have, of our teachers who went to Nicaragua and the 100,000 who offered to go. He'd be proud of our doctors willing to go anywhere in the world, of our technicians, of our hundreds of thousands of patriots who have been on internationalist missions!

If there is something left to say tonight it's that despite our problems; despite the fact that we have less hard currency than ever before, for reasons we have explained in the past; despite the drought; despite the intensification of the imperialist blockade, as I see our people respond, as I see more and more possibilities open up, I feel confident, I feel optimistic and I am absolutely convinced that we will do everything we set our minds to!

We'll do it with the people, with the masses; we'll do it with the principles, pride and honor of each and every one of our Party members, workers, youth, peasants and intellectuals!

— Mexican peso first casualty

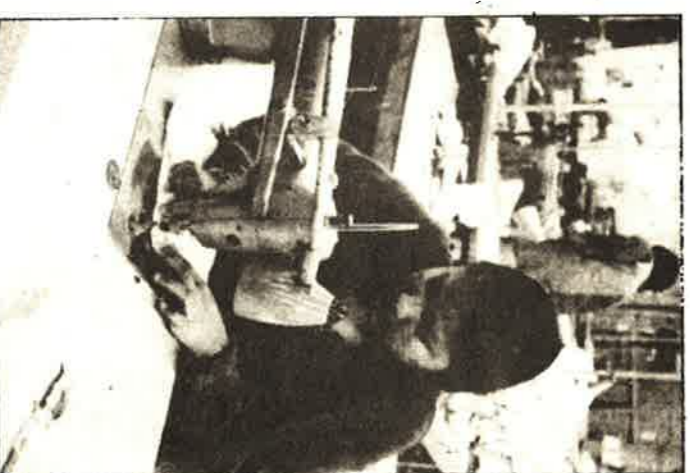
Continued from page 1

impoverishment of the masses of people, especially in the Third World.

No country illustrates this more sharply than Mexico, which has long been a source of underpaid labor for U.S. agribusiness and industry and whose productive economy has become totally mortgaged to U.S. banks even as the people have grown poorer and poorer.

For decades the peso was valued at 12.25 to the dollar, until 1982, when the decline in world oil prices forced the Mexican government to devalue the peso to 44 to the dollar. Since then it has continually eroded until Nov. 18, when it took 2,700 pesos to buy one dollar.

In an economic downturn, middle class and especially rich people in Mexico tend to convert pesos to dollars, because the latter is a more stable currency. These conversions, which deplete Mexico's foreign currency reserves, are really a "flight of capital,"



Mexico is a source of underpaid labor for U.S. industry. With the drop in the peso, U.S. companies are paying Mexican workers even less.

since the money is then invested abroad, almost always in U.S. banks. The billions of dollars involved in this capital flight has grown to the point where it now totals more than Mexico's foreign debt payments!

The worldwide stock market panic of Oct. 19 caused big investors in Mexico to shift their investments from overly-inflated stocks to dollars. The increased demand for the dollar pushed its price in pesos up. When the National Bank of Mexico stopped selling dollars on the market in an attempt to protect its foreign exchange reserves and halt the flight of capital, the peso collapsed.

When dollars became scarce and extremely expensive, many of the same investors went back to buying stocks, causing a recovery of about one-fourth of what the Bolsa had lost. But this rise in the stock market is not an indication of renewed confidence in the economy, but instead part of a desperate search to maintain profits.

The latest devastation of Mexico's economy, like the stock market fall worldwide, is a direct consequence of the crisis of capitalist overproduction. Mexico's recent and much-heralded "economic recovery" was based totally on improvements in exports, 65% of which go to the U.S. The Mexican bourgeoisie, fully aware that the boom in exports was about to end with the U.S. downturn, dumped their stock holdings. This brought the market crashing down, with the largest percentage loss of any world market.

Mexico is absolutely dependent on the U.S. economy. A recession in the U.S. means Mexico cannot sell its exports, and thus will not be able to make payments on its massive foreign debt, most of which is owed to U.S. banks. The fears of further erosion of Mexico's economy were expressed by the editor of one Mexico City business newsletter: "People here are worried. A U.S. recession would kill Mexico."

Next: Deeper crises ahead — the impact on Mexican workers and peasants.

Black South African troops mutiny inside Angola

By Andy Stapp

Mutinies have broken out among Black troops of the South African Army fighting inside Angola. According to the current issue of *The Weekly Mail* in Johannesburg, Black soldiers in the 101 Battalion, objecting to the invasion of Angolan territory which began in late October, "had gone on strike." The report stated that "more than 400" took part in the action. Normally a battalion has about 800 soldiers.

In addition to this press account, the South African regime itself has admitted that 47 Black soldiers from the 202 Battalion have been given discharges for "failure to meet military standards," a code word for insubordination.

Like the U.S. in Vietnam, the South African military has set up units from among the very population it is exploiting and oppressing.

Such forces have often proven unreliable, particularly in times of revolutionary tumult like the last three years in South Africa. The tendency of a soldier to sympathize with "the other side" grows, especially when "the enemy" is fighting for liberation from a neo-colonialist regime which has oppressed the soldier and his family.

For more than a decade now the South African military has been pur-

suing an active war against the People's Republic of Angola. On the very day of Angolan independence, a large South African invasion had penetrated nearly to the capital city of Luanda, and was only driven back with heavy fighting. These attacks have never ceased, the most recent before the present one taking place in June of 1986. Aside from the loss in

human life, Angola has sustained more than \$12 billion in material damage.

The current round began in late October when a South African detachment entered Angola to blow up a bridge over the Lomba River. This time, the racists have suffered heavy casualties, 237 soldiers killed, 36 military vehicles destroyed and 39 air-

planes shot down, according to the Angolan Foreign Ministry. P. W. Botha, Pretoria's fascist chief of state, recently toured the front lines, inside Angola, in an attempt to raise his troop's sagging morale. It is characteristic of Washington's pro-apartheid policy that no one in the U.S. government protested Botha's "visit" to the occupied southern part of Angola!



WW PHOTO: SCOTT SCHEFFER

ANC: 'The source of violence in our country is apartheid'

On Oct. 9 the African National Congress (ANC) issued a statement outlining their position on the question of negotiations with the South African regime. This statement was made available at a news conference held at the United Nations on Nov. 30. The following are excerpts.

In the recent period, both the Pretoria regime and various Western powers have been raising the issue of a negotiated resolution of the South African question. Inspired by the deep-seated desire and unwavering commitment to end the apartheid system as soon as possible and with minimum loss of life and property, the National Executive Committee met and considered this matter with all due seriousness and attention.

The racist regime has raised the issue of negotiations to achieve two major objectives. The first of these is to defuse the struggle inside our country by holding out false hopes of a just political settlement which the Pretoria regime has every intention to block. Secondly, this regime hopes to defeat the continuing campaign for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions by sending out bogus signals that it is ready to talk seriously to the genuine representatives of our people.

In practice, the Botha regime is conducting a determined campaign of repression against the ANC and the mass democratic movement. This includes the assassination of leaders, mass detentions, military occupation of townships and a program of pacification.

Once more, we would like to reaffirm that the ANC and the masses of our people as a whole are ready and willing to enter into genuine negotiations provided they are aimed at the transformation of our country into a united and non-racial democracy. This, and only this, should be the objective of any negotiating process.

We reject unequivocally the cynical demand of the Pretoria regime that we should unilaterally abandon or suspend the armed struggle. The

source of violence in our country is the apartheid system. It is that violence which must end. Any cessation of hostilities would have to be negotiated and entail agreed action by both sides as part of the process of the creation of a democratic South Africa.

Equally, we reject all efforts to dictate to us who our allies should or should not be. Specifically, we will not bow down to pressures intended to drive a wedge between the ANC and the South African Communist Party, a tried and tested ally in the struggle for a democratic South Africa. Neither shall we submit to attempts to divide and weaken our movement by carrying out a witchhunt against various members on the basis of their ideological beliefs.

Our struggle will not end until South Africa is transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country. This is the only solution which would enable our people, both Black and white, to live as equals in conditions of

peace and prosperity. The overwhelming majority of our people accept that the Freedom Charter provides a reasonable and viable framework for the construction of a new society.

We reject without qualification the proposed National Statutory Council (NSC) which the Botha regime seeks to establish through legislation. This can never be a genuine and acceptable mechanism to negotiate a democratic constitution for our country.

We insist that before any negotiations take place, the apartheid regime would have to demonstrate its seriousness by implementing various measures to create a climate conducive to such negotiations.

These would include the unconditional release of all political prisoners, detainees, all captured freedom fighters and prisoners of war as well as the cessation of all political trials. The state of emergency would have to be

lifted, the army and the police withdrawn from the townships and confined to their barracks. Similarly, all repressive legislation and all laws empowering the regime to limit freedom of assembly, speech, the press and so on, would have to be repealed. We take this opportunity once more to reaffirm that the African National Congress is opposed to any secret negotiations. We firmly believe that the people themselves must participate in shaping their destiny and would there fore have to be involved in any process of negotiations.

There is, as yet, no prospect for genuine negotiations because the Botha regime continues to believe that it can maintain the apartheid system through force and terror. We therefore have no choice but to intensify the mass political and armed struggle for the overthrow of the illegal apartheid regime and the transfer of power to the people.

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The other invisible government

By Sam Marcy

November 20 — Most often when the phrase "the invisible government" is used, it refers to the CIA. The Federal Reserve Bank of the United States, however, is far more secretive and insulated, not just against popular pressure but against any popular control.

This isn't something new. It has been this way for many decades. Opposition to the secret functioning of the bank, if any, has been extremely weak. Any vocal criticism has come mainly from extremists of the right.

With the CIA, it is at least possible to get a glimmer of what goes on inside this terrorist institution when there is a spectacular falling out among themselves, as witness the Iran-contra affair.

When the stock market crashed, which bankers and brokerage firms got special assistance from the government? How many billions of dollars were committed to provide 'liquidity' on Wall Street? How had the credit system before the crash helped bring about the inevitable?

Only the Federal Reserve knows — and it is shrouded in secrecy. It particularly wants to keep the mass of the people in the dark. That's who'll pay for the debacle in the long run.

A falling out among the bankers, however, is much more muffled. The terminology they use is calculated to obscure the issues and mystify the public rather than reveal the internal mechanisms of the Federal Reserve. Internal struggles among them can be glimpsed only when they get to be of so serious a character that they are carried out by proxies in the Congress.

None of the members of the Federal Reserve Board is elected by the people. All without exception are bankers, and they are appointed for 14-year terms. Their deliberations are shrouded in secrecy.

What was role of Fed in stock market crash?

The exact role of the Fed in the stock market crash has only been superficially dealt with in the financial organs of the bourgeoisie, although the decisive character of its intervention is acknowledged.

The Wall Street Journal of Nov. 20, one month after the crash, in a long article entitled "How the Stock Market Almost Disintegrated a Day After the Crash," reported that on Tuesday, Oct. 20, "the New York Stock Exchange died," but that "within an hour or two, it was raised from the dead" due to the intervention of the Federal Reserve Bank.

"Bank credit is the lifeline of Wall Street securities firms," wrote the Journal, but after the disastrous 508-point plunge on Monday, the banks "were cutting back credit to the securities industry." The heads of the Federal Reserve "feared that something far worse than a stock-market panic might be in the offing. If credit dried up, securities firms could start to collapse, much as the banks did after the 1929 crash."

On Tuesday morning, therefore, the

head of the Federal Reserve system, Alan Greenspan, announced that there would be "liquidity," meaning that the Federal Reserve would flood the market with cash. How was this done?

The Federal Reserve has established the Federal Open Market Committee as its operating arm. In a time of crisis it has the authority to buy government securities and in return give cash. The way it purchases them and what the rates are is determined by the market, but in this case the Federal Reserve was anxious to give out cash in order to bail out the brokerage firms and big investors and at the same time help the banks themselves by extending cheap loans (called lowering the rediscount rate).

So this time, unlike the way things happened in 1929, Greenspan im-

mediately said: Look, there'll be plenty of cash for any and all government securities. However, this certainly didn't mean that the Fed was indiscriminately handing out money to everyone. What exactly happened? Who got what? What are the names and the amounts?

Congress seems barely interested

So far, all this has gotten the most minimal attention from the congressional committees that are supposed to deal with it.

It's within the constitutional authority of Congress to conduct a full inquiry, regardless of what rules and regulations the Federal Reserve Bank makes on its own.

The Federal Reserve has vast authority to buy and sell billions upon billions in government securities. It has the power to speed up or slow down the flow of money. How much of it was pumped into the Wall Street banks before and during the crisis?

Who voted for and against, to tighten or to lighten the flow of funds into the coffers of the bankers, the brokers, the dealers, the whole kit and kaboodle of the financial oligarchy?

There's no sharp line between the brokerage firms, the banks and the interlocking agencies. They have government relations. The "liquidity" wasn't made available on a democratic basis to all but favored the biggest and most powerful. Which banks, which brokerage firms, which multi-nationals got the money?

Congress has the power to order the chairman of the Federal Reserve to testify and to subpoena the bank's records for purposes of examination. That's what the vast public, the little guys about whom the bourgeoisie often sheds crocodile tears, want to know. How did it affect them? What

did it do to their money?

One would think that the crash of an extraordinary opportunity for the appropriate congressional committees to summon the chairman of the Federal Reserve and his associates and commence an immediate public inquiry into the reasons for what admittedly was a catastrophic collapse.

Instead, only Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan appeared on his own before the House Banking and Currency Committee, as though performing a perfunctory chore. After a few innocuous questions, that had generally been dealt with in the press and TV anyway, the whole thing was over.

How is it possible that, after such a truly enormous historical event in the evolution of U.S. capitalism, one of the principal actors in it could be let go

without the most searching scrutiny by the so-called popular arm of the government?

How could they be so intimidated by the power of Wall Street that they have virtually surrendered their power of dissent? They have given in to the onslaught of the big business press to cut the budget instead of taking this golden opportunity to put the profiteers in the dock and demand to know how this could have happened. They acted like craven, servile and submissive instruments for capital.

The Congress is in fact a caricature of a parliamentary institution. Instead of speaking for the people, they are the ones who are spoken to and commanded. Here are the Democrats with a vast majority in the House and a sufficient one in the Senate, yet they permit themselves to be bamboozled, lambasted and shamelessly abused.

Perhaps that really is their role.

The bankers long ago learned how to cultivate them, then corrupt them and finally coopt them altogether. Then, when political conditions change, these real rulers abuse and discard them.

International monetary crisis

The flooding of the market with liquid funds also pulled the dollar down and created a crisis of international proportions with the imperialist allies, whose economies are threatened by it. Were it not for the military significance of their NATO alliance, the currency struggle would have immediate political consequences.

President Reagan, fearful that there might be a real congressional inquiry into the market crash, predictably set up his own commission of inquiry. Like the Tower commission on the Iran-contra affair or the Kissinger

committee on Central America, it is nothing but a self-serving means for diverting attention away from the real issues.

When stock prices were dropping so disastrously, what did Washington do to protect the millions of small-fry investors with their life savings involved in the market? It set up a so-called hotline for inquiries on what happened to their investments. As many as 500 frantic calls a day were recorded.

Of course, the apologists for the bankers will tell you that the deliberations of the Federal Reserve Board and especially its operating arm, the Federal Open Market Committee, are secret and that information on these discussions can only be divulged five years later! Such is the arrogance of finance capital. It makes itself a virtually autonomous body in relation to the Congress.

There is no legal basis for this. There is no legislative, and least of all constitutional, authority for it.

The only authority they wield is the omnipotence of finance capital, of the big banks, the millionaires and billionaires who believe they can make their own laws.

It took only about 30 or 40 members of Congress to scuttle the tentative invitation to Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev to address the Congress. Their violent, unbridled and vicious attacks forced a reconsideration. Yet there was no voice from Congress, no demand for a public inquiry when the middle class (which the bourgeoisie boasts is ever growing when in reality it is contracting) lost hundreds of billions of dollars in a few days in a mass expropriation.

How many millions would have been interested in watching that on TV instead of watching matters that are really of no concern to them?

What's required of Congress is not a muckraking expedition but an effort to bring out the facts, facts which deeply concern many millions, including workers and oppressed peoples in all areas of life who are always affected when such a calamitous event takes place.

What happened to the Sunshine Act?

With a view to opening up the information process to some extent, Congress in the 1970s passed the Sunshine Act. It was supposed to let a little sunshine in where before all had been dark. It was passed along with the Freedom of Information Act at a time when all the progressive movements were in struggle and was supposed to, among other things, shed light on the manipulation of credit and currency by the bankers.

But it has been a dead letter.

Arthur Burns, Gerald Ford's chairman of the Federal Reserve Board and a stalwart rightwinger if ever there was one, even said openly that if Congress ever demanded transcripts of the meetings and internal discussions of the board, they would cease making transcripts (an early version of the shredding of documents).

This didn't cause shock waves anywhere, mainly because the bourgeois economists and financial writers have long cultivated a superstitious fear that none but the ruling financial oligarchy are capable of guarding and maintaining the alleged stability of the financial system and its instrument, the Federal Reserve.

Criticism and exposures have always been part and parcel of the so-

called free press, but the criticism here is of a superficial character, directed against individual speculators, against partial revelations of malfeasance, bribery and corruption. It does not go to the essence of the wholesale operation, that is, the expropriation en masse of vast social strata of the population. That is what this great debacle in the stock market has demonstrated.

Past struggles against the 'moneyed interests'

Nor should we forget the popular struggle of the masses over many decades, of workers, farmers, small business people, the rural poor, those who lived by the land and earned their living by the sweat of their brow just like the workers. For more than a hundred years, they put up a struggle against what used to be called the moneyed interests, the bureaucracy, the trusts. Much of their struggle went into demands for legislation to rein in the power of the industrialists and the bankers.

In all the annals of U.S. history, from the early days of so-called Jacksonian Democracy and right through the Greenback movement after the Civil War, efforts to rein in the untrammelled forces of capitalist finance and industry have proved futile.

A review of the innumerable legislative acts of Congress that deal with money and credit shows that in the final analysis each new act, rather than weakening the power of capital, has strengthened the hand of the financiers, the speculators and the ruling oligarchy.

When President Andrew Jackson did away with the Bank of the United States (by dissolving it and putting U.S. Treasury funds in a host of smaller banks, then derisively called "pet banks"), it might have been seen as a democratic act. But in fact at that time a central bank (which is what the Bank of the United States was in embryo) proved a brake on the development of capitalism. The proliferation of many private banks was necessary at that time for the historical development and tremendous expansion of the system. It wasn't until much later that monopoly capitalism would need a central bank like the Federal Reserve.

There was no one in the United States in those days who understood the relation between money and commodities in the Marxist sense. By the mid-nineteenth century there were a few German immigrants who had assimilated some aspects of Marxism, but they were in no position to combat the infantile, cheap-money theories of the time, such as those held by the Greenbackers, who got a million votes in the 1870s.

The Greenback Party represented small landowners and shopkeepers stuck with large debts they had incurred during the inflationary period of the Civil War. They opposed measures taken to deflate the dollar after the war by restricting the printing of currency, or greenbacks.

The Greenbackers didn't recognize that gold is the universal equivalent for the exchange of commodities and paper is only a symbol of it, so that issuing paper notes either privately or by the government would tend to depreciate the currency and ultimately depress the living conditions of the masses.

Wilson, the Federal Reserve Act and the progressives

It is ironic that the Federal Reserve Act, which became law in 1914 during the Wilson administration, was bitterly fought for by the Democratic Party, and particularly its left wing. The right wing of the bourgeoisie and the financiers rabidly opposed it, as incredible as that may seem today.

To the extent that this was a put-up job to deceive the masses, it is a lesson in how the bourgeoisie conducts its politics.

First the New York Sun, a direct organ of the financial interests, and the New York Times strongly opposed the setting up of the Federal Reserve system. It didn't take too long, however, for them to see in this institution an instrument for the further accumulation of capital and enormous profits. Today no institution is more hallowed or revered by the ruling class than the Federal Reserve system.

(In the same way, many of the institutions created by the New Deal legislation in the thirties, like the Securities and Exchange Commission, became instruments to generate greater profits for the very ruling class that had at first vigorously opposed them.)

Many progressives just before the First World War thought the Federal Reserve Act would be an instrument of control over the moneyed interests. Even a good many socialists deserted the revolutionary leader Eugene Debs in his 1912 campaign for president in order to join the "lesser evil" of the capitalist parties and what they thought would be the enlightened, progressive Woodrow Wilson administration. They were sucked into the maelstrom of bourgeois politics and abandoned the Socialist Party, which for its time was a clear voice of opposition to capitalist exploitation and oppression.

Wilson's election instead paved the way for the U.S. to get into the imper-

alist world war and strengthened the hand of monopoly.

While the progressives of that time thought the Federal Reserve Act would be an instrument for reining in or at least diminishing the power of the capitalist class, in reality the act was calculated merely, in its own words, to "furnish an elastic currency." How true that was! Franklin Delano Roosevelt proved it best when he devalued the dollar by almost 50% in 1933.

Devaluation then (as now) meant that the prices of hundreds of everyday necessities imported from abroad were raised steeply. It was an indirect form of wage cut that hit all the workers across the board. The limited advantage it gave to export industries was eventually lost as other countries devalued their currencies, and as industries in other countries, hurt by the competition, closed down, causing them to cut their imports in a vicious circle of worldwide depression.

Low interest rates for bankers

The language of the Federal Reserve Act allows the bank to "afford means of rediscounting commercial paper," meaning that commercial banks can borrow from the government at low interest rates when it suits the banking community. They can jack up the rediscount rate or lower it to suit their needs.

The small home owner, the small farmer, the worker cannot apply to the Federal Reserve Bank for a loan on the basis of his or her collateral. But the commercial banks can. The Federal

Reserve is their lender of last resort, their last hope.

The frankest section of the act is the one which states clearly that its purpose is "accommodating commerce and business" — not labor, not the small farmer. It's to accommodate them.

Today's Federal Reserve system is a manifestation of the centralization of finance capital, of monopoly. It is an instrument of the domination of both industrial and financial capital. The two are intertwined and their dominance is unquestioned, notwithstanding more than a century of legislation.

Each succeeding period in the development of capitalism has made them less and less responsive to any kind of public control. But it has not made them invulnerable to the laws of capitalist economics.

On the contrary, it has accentuated the problems, as the crash itself so vividly demonstrates. They are utterly unable to control the very force they are supposed to be master of. For all their daunting power, they seemed helpless in the face of a catastrophe which they were fashioning with their own hands.

Whatever the money manipulators might do, they can no more than express the anarchy inherent in capitalist production. They can speed up or retard things here and there, but in the final analysis they become overwhelmed by the very forces which they seemingly control.

Secretive and insulated from popular control through the Federal Reserve

Continued on page 11

Savings banks cracking in wake of market fall

By Robert Dobrow

The savings and loans banks, where millions of working people keep their savings — for retirement, a child's education or that hard-earned vacation — are experiencing growing crises in the wake of last month's stock market collapse.

Practically every day a small news item appears in the financial papers of a takeover, profit drop or failure at one of these institutions. This week the banks, or thrift industry as they are collectively called, suffered a double body blow.

Largest gov't bailout

First came the demise of Vernon Savings and Loan Association in Dallas, Texas, and with it the largest federal bailout ever of a savings bank. The government was forced to move in and liquidate Vernon Savings after the bank's net worth had sunk to a negative \$716.86 million. It was expected to exceed \$1 billion by year-end.

Vernon's ten branch offices all closed down on Friday, Nov. 20. On Monday, Nov. 23, they reopened as the Montfort Savings Association, but only after the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) pumped \$1.3 billion into the reincarnated bank.

The plight of Vernon is just the tip of the iceberg for Texas banks, which have been pummeled by a wave of bad real estate and energy loans in the wake of the oil glut in the Southwest. Many of these banks have been taken over by larger financial institutions. But this time no one was willing to step forward and absorb Vernon's staggering losses. So the government had to rush in. Under federal law the government must insure all deposits of \$100,000 and less at federally insured savings banks.

But many banks don't have federal insurance. And when one of them goes it can mean an immediate crisis for working people who have money in the bank.



Depositors line up at failed bank in 1930s Depression.

Such a situation is facing tens of thousands of people in Colorado after officials seized 13 of the 89 industrial banks in that state.

Industrial banks were set up in the 1920s to provide workers with credit at a time when they couldn't get it from commercial banks. More recently, with the deregulation of the banking industry, the giant Wall Street banks have moved in like sharks, out-competing the industrials and taking over many of them (Citicorp owns eight).

A state insurance fund exists to protect industrial bank deposits up to \$40,000. But that fund is now bankrupt. It has reserves of only \$4 million to insure 8,780 accounts totaling \$40 million. This is a miniature version of the federal FSLIC, which has \$10.8 billion in funds to insure over 1,000 banks with over \$500 billion in deposits.

The result in Colorado is that thousands will lose part of the money that they had thought was being held safely in the bank.

While the federal government in recent weeks has shown that it has billions of dollars available to hand over to Wall Street securities firms to insure their profits in these troubled times, it has nothing for the thousands of working people in Colorado.

Already, depositors from banks in Fort Collins and Greeley have received 50 cents and 70 cents on the dollar. Lines of people who want their money are starting to appear outside some banks. And the big commercial banks, fearing a ripple effect, are putting ads in the local papers saying that the banks "are sound."

Of course, if the banks were really sound no one would have to take out any ads.



Contra report — what they left out

"A cabal of zealots," operating with "secrecy, deception and disdain for the law," took the U.S. government to the point where it, "in effect, deteriorates toward dictatorship."

This is the basic finding of the 690-page report issued by the Congressional Iran-contra committee on Nov. 18. The conspirators were identified as "a small group of senior officials," with President Reagan described as "a knowing participant."

Very serious charges. And anyone who followed the ten-month investigation knows that there is plenty of evidence to back them up. Why then did the report not recommend any action against anyone involved in the plot, including Reagan? Even the President's own Secretary of State, George Shultz, testified on TV that he had warned Reagan that the illegal contra funding would constitute an "impeachable offense."

The answer to the riddle lies not in what Congress uncovered, but in what it deliberately chose to ignore. The "cabal of zealots" who ran "the Enterprise" were all key operatives of the gigantic military-industrial complex with deep roots in the CIA and Pentagon. William Casey, Admiral Poindexter, General Secord, Cols. North and Dutton were not engaged in some kind of "off the shelf" scheme "outside" the U.S. government. They were at the very heart of the government.

Congress knows this but is afraid to say so,

fearful of taking on the powerful militarist elements who have gained ascendancy in this country. That's why they never called Admiral William Crowe, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to testify among the 500 witnesses who were heard, even though the admiral is one of the small handful of officials who run the National Security Council where the conspiracy was headquartered.

The crimes of the Iran-contra affair spring concretely from the U.S. government's position as world imperialism's counterrevolutionary leader, something very few in Congress oppose.

And that's why their report, while spelling out the most serious crimes, cannot offer the people any solutions.

For Nov. 26 — Free Leonard Peltier!

Average real wages hit the 1963 level. The market crash points to a new attack on workers' living standards. It might seem that few in the working class here have anything to be specially thankful for this holiday.

One section of the working people has particularly little to celebrate on Thanksgiving Day. In fact, the Native people of this continent have made it clear that, like Columbus Day, the Thanksgiving holiday is a day for mourning and for struggle. Witness the "Unthanksgiving Day" ceremonies on Alcatraz Island near San Francisco and the "National Day of Mourning" in Plymouth, Mass.

After all, on the first Thanksgiving the local Indian people welcomed the Pilgrims, sharing Native food with them before a harsh winter. In return for this act of generosity, they got smallpox, the U.S. cavalry, the Long March,

the robbery of a continent of Native lands, the pollution of the waters, the destruction of the forests and the murder of the wildlife. All in the pursuit of profit.

While the crimes of U.S. capitalism against Native peoples are vast, they are also far from over. In the past year, three in particular come to mind.

One is the Clayton Lonetree case. This Marine of Winnebago-Dineh background was scapegoated with a 30-year sentence following a media hype on the alleged bugging of the U.S. embassy in Moscow. The judge at his court-martial blatantly restricted his defense.

A second is the struggle of the Dineh or Navajo people to fight relocation from the Big Mountain area in Arizona, a region already severely exploited by mining and power companies. The courage shown by these Native people and the national support they received stopped the government from using troops to drive them out on July 7, 1986. While dropping the threat of troops, Washington has kept up the pressure to relocate.

A third is the continued imprisonment of Leonard Peltier, who has become a symbol of the oppression of the indigenous people of this country. This Native leader has spent more than 12 years in jail under brutal conditions that have caused him the loss of eyesight in one eye.

But Peltier is not just a victim. He is also a symbol of Native fightback. He is a symbol of armed resistance at Wounded Knee that awoke the continent in 1973. And as shown by the 17 million signatures of Soviet workers on letters demanding his freedom, Peltier has become a symbol of the heroic Native struggle that has given the worldwide working class something to be thankful for.

For any who say words over Thanksgiving dinner, let them be: Justice for Clayton Lonetree! Hands off Big Mountain! Free Leonard Peltier!

Letters

Frankfurt airport struggle

Let me give you a short report on Starbahn-West, the airport extension in Frankfurt, West Germany. We know in the movement here that Starbahn-West is an important strategic point for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force for the Middle East, and that's the reason for so many demonstrations and opposition for years. As you probably know, at the latest demonstration this fall, two cops were killed in the confrontation.

In 1980 the resistance began and the place was occupied by many people. In 1981, 150,000 people demonstrated in Wiesbaden against the airport expansion. Also, 220,000 signatures were gathered for a referendum in Hessen, but the coalition Social Democrat-Free Democrat government in Weisbaden put it under the table. Then for years there has been a juridical fight — without success.

In 1984 fighting began between demonstrators and the cops.

Observation, occupations, traffic on Starbahn-West was stopped several times because of big fires. All these fights have been very bitter, with brutal cops or "bulls" as we call them here, much blood and many arrests and convictions. In a way the latest escalation has its own logic. Nevertheless it has divided the movement.

In the past two years, the groups known as Autonomie or Schwartzler Block were rather integrated in the

general movement of the radical left opposition. But now this has become a major topic of discussion. Also, the Bonn government has new excuses to make repressive laws against demonstrators.

We have read your reports concerning the stock market crash and once more we see Marxist analysis confirmed.

W.J.
Cologne, West Germany

Food for thought

I am writing you concerning my subscription of Workers World. I changed address so I would appreciate if you would forward your publication. Workers World is a serious part of my world and I really look forward to my weekly supply of food to nourish my thoughts.

Willie Smith
Immokalu, Fla.

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

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The crisis began long before October 1987.

Here are three works by Sam Marcy that illuminate the development of the economic crisis over the past decade.

Reindustrialization, written at the end of the Carter administration, forewarned of the anti-worker offensive being prepared by big business.

Anatomy of the Economic Crisis

Illustrating the speculation and bank failures of the early '80s, showed how monopoly was stifling capitalist development, and provided a fightback program for UAW workers confronted with the first major giveback demands by Ford Motor Company.

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.

Order individually, or get all three books at the special price of \$10.00.
High Tech, Low Pay, 217 pages, \$5.95. (Add 75¢ for postage and handling)
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Anatomy of the Economic Crisis, 128 pages, \$3.25. (Add 75¢ for postage and handling)

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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.

Bill Haislip editorial cartoonist — 1938-1987

By Deirdre Griswold
New York

Bill Haislip, an editorial-page cartoonist for Workers World newspaper for over a decade, died Nov. 17 at the age of 48 of an AIDS-related illness. Bill was known to WW readers as "WAH," and his biting caricatures of Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, Pentagon generals and corporate blood-suckers were frequently reprinted in other progressive publications, here and around the world.

A frequent device of his cartoons during the Reagan presidency was the movie billboard, in which he lampooned the Hollywood background of U.S. imperialism's most visible symbol, depicting Reagan as "Rambozo," "The Mummy from 1600 Pennsylvania Ave." and "The Far Right Stuff."

One of Haislip's earliest cartoons for the paper showed former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger receiving a dove for his supposed contributions to peace, then picking its bones clean at a banquet table.

Active in many struggles

Bill's first association with Workers World Party was through the



anti-racist struggle, when he helped organize the mass mobilization in Boston in December 1974 that demanded an end to racist violence and defended the right of Black children to attend formerly white schools via busing.

His last political act before being

hospitalized was to march in the annual Gay Pride demonstration June 28 in New York City, as he had done every year since the Stonewall Rebellion. Bill was an organizer and founder of the Party's Lesbian and Gay Caucus.

As a gay man and as a medical worker in the field of epidemiology, Haislip early recognized the gravity of the growing AIDS epidemic. He participated energetically in the ongoing struggle to stop AIDS-related discrimination and force the U.S. government to commit the resources necessary for an all-out battle against this virulent new disease.

Bill Haislip was an elected delegate of Local 1199 at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and a member of the union negotiating team. He was noted among his fellow workers for his quick wit and his deflating sarcasm when dealing with the bosses. Earlier, while working at Academic Press, Bill was an organizer for District 65, UAW.

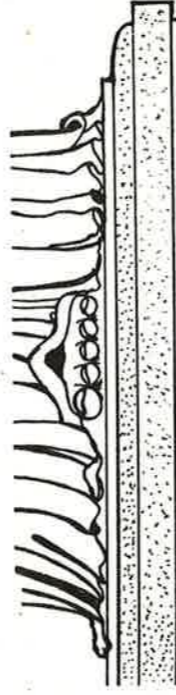
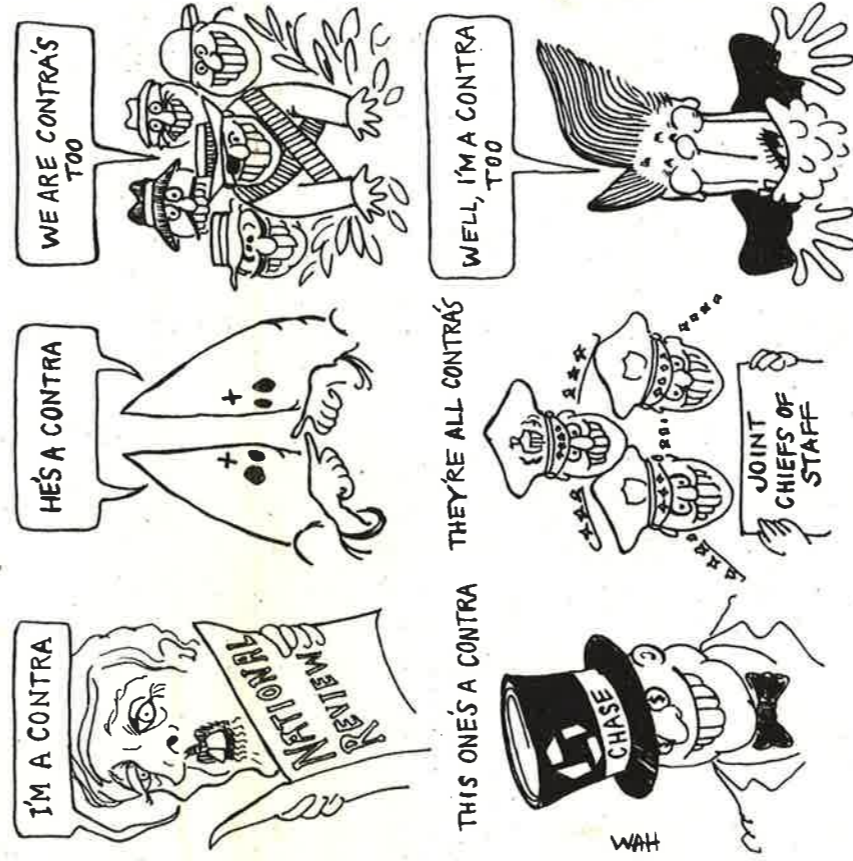
Bill had been a pioneer in the Off Broadway theatre movement before he became politically active. In the 1960s and early '70s, he appeared in scores of productions, including the original cast of "Fortune and

Men's Eyes," "Madonna in the Orchard," "Valentine Rainbow," "The Sand Castle" and "Aretha in the Ice Palace." His acting career also encompassed a number of movies, including the anti-racist film "The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll."

While contemptuous of the commercialization of art and its subordination to bourgeois themes and values, Bill brought the verve and elegance of his theatrical training into his political life.

Besides his contribution as a cartoonist, Bill was a hard-working organizer of the Workers World Party printing crew and a regular on the childcare staff, where his warmth, charm and high spirits made him especially popular with the children.

Bill's friends, comrades and co-workers paid loving tribute to his life and exceptional qualities at two memorial meetings held in New York City on Nov. 22 and 23. Before his death, Comrade Bill Haislip requested that any contributions in his memory be made to either the Gay Men's Health Crisis or the People's Rights Fund. Checks made out to either group and sent to this newspaper will be forwarded to the designated organization.



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WAH

Court rules teacher with AIDS can return to classroom

By J. Marquardt,
San Francisco

A major victory in the fight against discrimination against people with AIDS was won here on Nov. 18 when a U.S. court ruled that Vincent Chalk, a teacher with AIDS, be allowed to return to his classroom job.

In a unanimous decision the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against the Orange County Department of Education, and for Vincent Chalk, a 42-year-old teacher of hearing-impaired high school students in southern California. Chalk was barred from teaching and confined to a desk job earlier this year after he was diagnosed with AIDS.

Chalk, who is taking AZT and "feeling fine," plans to return to teaching immediately. He said he is "real happy

with the decision." He said, "I will continue to fight the disease I have and do the work I'm trained to do... I want to be with the children."

There has been no public opposition to Chalk's return to school. In fact many parents have publicly expressed support for him. One of his students, Nikki Thomas, 15-years-old, said, "I am deaf and that is a handicap, and I give him all my support — so have other handicapped people."

The court order, which allows Chalk to return to work, states that "casual contact incident to the performance of... teaching duties in the classroom presents no significant risk of harm to others, and that although handicapped, because of AIDS, appellant is otherwise qualified to perform his job within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973."

In March the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a Florida teacher with tuberculosis was covered by the same act as long as she did not pose a "significant risk" to others. The court also said the risk must be based on "medically sound judgments." Although AIDS was not named specifically, many interpreted it to apply to people with AIDS and other ailments, too.

At issue in the Chalk case was whether the Rehabilitation Act that protects disabled workers from discrimination also protects people with AIDS. (Other courts have already ruled that children with AIDS may continue attending school.)

Important ruling

Several American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) attorneys represented

Chalk in his four month legal battle. One attorney, Paul Hoffman, called the decision "probably the most important AIDS case in the country because it is the first appellate ruling." He added that the decision will affect hundreds of thousands of teachers, hospital workers and others across the country because usually states take the lead from federal decisions on issues of this magnitude. Hoffman continued, "It sends an absolutely clear message to every recipient of federal funds that they are not entitled to exclude people with AIDS."

Another attorney, Georgia Garrett-Morris, said that the Ninth Circuit decision "is going to make a big difference. Now we have a citable case." The order could cover all employees protected by the Rehabilitation Act, as much as one-third of the entire California workforce.

Other issues, such as attorney fees and damages for Chalk's emotional distress remain unresolved and it is not certain whether or not Orange County will appeal the decision.

Cops attack anti-war protesters at Concord Naval station

At same base where weapons train ran over Brian Willson

ernment.

Following a march to the main gate of the weapons station, a rally was getting under way when riot police moved in without warning. They pushed and clubbed protesters and began confiscating cardboard that had been intended for use in constructing a shanty. Protesters had planned to build a shantytown to symbolize the recent efforts of Salvadoran refugees displaced by the war to return home.

The police then attempted to destroy the shanty, but were obstructed by hundreds of enraged protesters who linked arms and pushed them back. The police used their clubs, fists, feet and chokeholds to evict people from the shanty, and then destroyed it.

When the police momentarily with-

drew, another shanty was brought forward, to the cheers of the demonstrators. Police again moved in, using force in what one legal observer termed a "police riot." Again the police met stiff, active resistance. For one hour the face-off and confrontation continued, with homeless union members standing shoulder to shoulder with Central America activists. One cop pulled his gun during the melee. Another lost his billy club to the delight of the crowd. Four people were arrested during the confrontation, and many suffered cuts and bruises.

During a brief lull in the police attacks, the crowd was addressed by Chris Sprowal of the National Union of Homeless and by a Salvadoran activist.

Many here feel that the police attack was a calculated attempt at intimidation and retaliation against the protests which have continued at the weapons station on a daily basis since August. Today's police attack only served to intensify people's determination to escalate protests in the coming months. The defiant crowd then marched away from the base, vowing to return.

By Brad Lee

San Francisco

A peaceful demonstration of 1,000 people opposed to the U.S. war in Central America was attacked by police on Saturday, Nov. 14, at the Concord Naval Weapons Station here. This is the same military base where a weapons train ran over anti-war activist Brian Willson in late August, resulting in the loss of both of his legs.

Large contingents of homeless activists from the Oakland and Berkeley chapters of the National Union of the Homeless joined the march, which was sponsored by CISPES and the Pledge of Resistance, drawing the links between the homeless in the U.S. and in El Salvador. Both groups are victimized by policies of the U.S. gov-

ernment.

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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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CALENDAR

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 Paschal's Motor Hotel, 830 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, call (404) 688-7422.

DETROIT

Fri., Dec. 4: Workers World Party 8th Annual Dinner. Vera Spruill, founding member of WWP and National Committee representative, will speak on "What socialism means to me." Pam Parker of the All-Peoples Singers will provide entertainment. Advance reservations only. Tickets \$10 or \$6 for unemployed/fixed income. 6:00-10:00 p.m. For reservations, tickets, information call (313) 962-4979.

Thurs., Dec. 10: Commemorate South Africa Heroes Day. Featured speaker: Mpule Mogudi, representative of ANC Women's League. 6:30 p.m. At Wayne State Univ. Student Center Hilberry Lounge B & C, call (313) 962-4070.

NEW YORK

Fri. Dec. 4: Cultural benefit to commemorate International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People. Speakers from Palestinian and South African struggles. Cultural presentations. Full-course Palestinian dinner. Sponsors: WBAI radio and Palestine Solidarity Committee (formerly Nov. 29 Comm. for Palestine). \$10. 6:30 p.m. At MLK Labor Center, 310 W. 43 St. (at 8th Ave.), call (212) 577-5410 for tickets and information.

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Political prisoners

Atlanta cop let off in racist killing

By Tom Doran
Atlanta

November 20 — A wave of anger surged through the crowd of spectators in the Fulton County courtroom when officials announced the verdict. Atlanta police officer Michael Long was cleared of involuntary manslaughter in the shooting of Eddie Lee Callahan. More than 30 brown-shirted deputies cleared the courtroom as

other police rushed forward to congratulate Long and his partner Ridley Watson, who was not charged.

No one in the four day trial disputed the fact that Long shot Callahan six times on Sept. 5. Hundreds of Carver Homes residents, including many children, watched as the two white officers chased the Black man across an open field. Watson tackled Callahan and held him to the ground as Long emptied his gun into Callahan's back.

Atkins' supporters seek new trial

By Phebe Eckfeldt
Boston

November 16 — A motion for a new trial has just been filed in the case of Nate Atkins.

In 1980 Atkins, a Black man living in Boston, was falsely arrested and subsequently framed up for the murder of two white people in Brookline, Mass. After a two-week trial characterized by racist slander and bigoted pre-trial publicity, he was convicted by an all-white jury and sentenced to two consecutive life terms with no chance for parole.

The State's case rested exclusively on the testimony of one person. This key witness was a self-confessed perpetrator in the murders and was the chief suspect in the case before agreeing to testify for the prosecution in exchange for a new identity, relocation and immunity.

The motion for a new trial is based on recent newly discovered evidence in the form of a polygraph test that the prosecutor administered to its key witness. The witness, who was the only person who connected Atkins to the crime, failed the polygraph test. Yet, the prosecutor used her apparently perjured testimony both at the grand jury that indicted Atkins, plus at the trial where Atkins was convicted of two homicides.

Due to the racist actions of the DA, who knowingly withheld this information, Atkins has spent the last seven years in jail for a crime he did not commit. At the time of his arrest he was a student at the University of Massachusetts/Boston and was active in the anti-racist and progressive movement.

Nate Atkins needs your help! Sup-

— Invisible government

Continued from page 7

may be, it is not an autonomous organization. On the contrary, it is an integrated arm of the capitalist state, its monetary wing that deals with credit and the manipulation of the currency.

When the bourgeoisie can't enforce their policy through the Federal Reserve, they have the Treasury Department, with whom it must coordinate. The Treasury must give its authorization when the Federal Reserve prints and distributes the money.

Should these two be unresponsive or incapable, there is still the president, who is as committed to the "sanctity" of the domination of capital as the others.

Pressure on Congress to cut the budget

What these three cannot accomplish, they then of necessity press with all their might and main on the Congress to do. The severe pressure ex-

porters are urged to write letters to the trial judge urging him to set Atkins free immediately or, at the very least, grant him a new trial. Letters should be addressed to Judge Mulhern and sent to: Judge Mulhern, c/o Nate Atkins Defense Committee, PO Box 897, Cathedral Station, Boston, Mass. 02118.



Medical examiner Saleh Zaki testified that Callahan was probably dead after the first two shots. A total of six dum dum bullets were removed from Callahan's body, all within 12 inches of each other. They were fired at point blank range and included contact wounds.

Trial called 'a set-up'

Community activists have complained that the trial was a set up. The judge and prosecutor allowed the selection of a jury that was three-quarters white although Atlanta is two-thirds Black. Prosecutor Tom Jones called only four eyewitnesses to the stand although a dozen had appeared before the grand jury and almost fifty gave statements to police investigators. Many were outraged that the district attorney had only sought a misdemeanor charge. "They give kids worse than that for stealing a bag of cookies," one spectator said.

The judge forbid testimony about the two cops' history. Since last spring Long and Watson have received three

brutality complaints, have been sued twice, and were involved in the shooting death of one other Black man. None of the cases have been resolved yet in internal investigations.

The pair has been characterized by the leader of the Afro-American Patrolmen's League as a "nuclear bomb." Both have publicly made sneering remarks about "the type of people" who live in public housing. Their defense attorneys, who include a former Republican candidate for governor, have denounced those who protest Callahan's death. One called for the arrest of demonstrators and the removal from office of officials who have been critical of the pair.

The protests against police brutality will continue, according to activists. Callahan's family has sued the city government and the two policemen. A federal civil rights investigation has been requested. Police killings also continue, however. A week before the trial police from Long's precinct shot a man 25 times, killing him in a vacant lot. They claimed he shot first but no gun has been found.

Latino inmates at Walpole send message on racist conditions

Editor's note: The following are excerpts from a statement issued by Latino prisoners at Walpole Prison in Massachusetts.

We want to express our concern to the community-at-large in order to make you aware of the conditions that prevail today in the state penal institutions throughout Massachusetts, when dealing with the Hispanic population.

In the prison system we receive the same treatment from prison authorities that the Hispanic community receives from the government: lack of job opportunities, health, education, housing, legal representation and so forth.

We are confronted with a prison administration that does not adequately deal with issues concerning the Hispanic population. We have been victimized by racial discrimination in and throughout the judicial process, and we speak from experience.

We then face the same racist and

discriminatory treatment at the hands of prison officials. There are no services available to the Hispanic; we lack representation in even the most critical services offered to other inmates such as, education, medical treatment, vocational programs and legal assistance, etc.

This disregard towards the Hispanics is in fact detrimental to our existence in the system and helps to destroy us morally, psychologically and physically. We seek the right to be treated with equality. We voice our grievances in a responsible, orderly manner.

We advocated that all people should speak out against injustice, racism and discrimination. We remind all, that the same political, judicial and economical system that we are today victimized by, is the very same one that threatens our future generations. We cannot sit idle and allow these actions to continue.

Spanish Inmate Group
Mr. Jamie Dessus

Just raising the question would in itself constitute a mark of progress and independence in the mass movement instead of just joining in on the criticism dispensed by the media.

Let's bear in mind that, as the crisis deepens, the extreme rightwing will raise the issue of the moneyed interests, the so-called Eastern Establishment. They will portray it as a dark conspiracy by a small group of international bankers. Their aim will be to divert progressive, democratic, anti-capitalist propaganda away from the whole ruling class to some mythical conspiracy which they concoct for racist and ultranationalistic purposes.

Didn't Reagan and the Reaganites push this theme before he became president? But no sooner was he installed in the White House than he appointed the very symbol of Wall Street, Donald Regan from Merrill-Lynch, to the most powerful post in the cabinet, the Treasury Secretary. Casey of the CIA was a top Wall Street lawyer, as were James Baker and others.

The so-called California clique turned out to be mere servants of the big financial oligarchy.

called democratic institutions exist for the sole purpose of securing and maintaining the plutocracy.

A real issue for the elections

With the approach of the national elections, this at least should be raised to the stature of a political issue: Why should those who control the flow of money and credit be appointed for tenures that are virtually life-long? Should not the chairman and the others be elected? The chairman of the Federal Reserve is often called the second most powerful person in the government. Why should it be sacrosanct? Why should the board be a secret society? How can it be that those who control the money are beyond any type of popular control?

This issue should be raised during the election campaign. Why make such a big fuss about who is appointed justice of the Supreme Court when the main question is whether he or she should be elected instead? Why discuss whether the chairman of the Federal Reserve did this or that rightly or wrongly, when the real question is that he is beyond any control by the masses?

Nuestro dinero y los ladrones de Washington

Por Petra Guerra

¡Prepárate, por que vas a ser víctima de un robo! Pero también lo van a hacer tus padres, tus vecinos y también tus hijos.

Toda persona que ha trabajado en su vida para sobrevivir, va a ser robada. Se está planificando abiertamente un gran robo, una estafa. Tenemos tiempo para prevenirnos?

Has trabajado toda la vida y has ahorrado dinero cada pago y sabes que tienes unos pesos ahorrados aunque no los puedas ver, sabes que es tuyo ese dinero: ese dinero lo controla el Seguro Social.

Ese dinero que has ahorrado para cuando estes de edad avanzada y no puedas trabajar más, esa cuenta que no has tocado, te la van a robar.

¿Quiénes están detrás de este robo? ¿Acaso son solamente los senadores y representantes que están negociando los recortes presupuestarios? No, ellos están siendo manipulados. Estos poderosos manipuladores pueden ser fácilmente identificados, fueron los que costearon un anuncio de dos páginas la semana pasada en el New York Times y también en el Washington Post.

El anuncio hace un llamado a un "plan presupuestario bipartidista" que ponga todos los programas bajo el cuchillo de los recortes. Con un lenguaje fabuloso, el anuncio llama a proteger los programas sociales para los pobres y a restringir (no recortar) el presupuesto militar. Esto no es más que un escaparate vacío.

La realidad es que ya no queda mucho de donde recortarle a los programas sociales. Republicanos y Demócratas están de acuerdo en recortar 5 mil millones del presupuesto

militar, esto no es nada a comparación del de 300 mil millones que ellos tienen. Pero lo importante de este anuncio es lo a continuación manifiesta: "Los recortes se deben de hacer en programas que no son para la defensa, especialmente todos los programas de ayuda que no dejen ningún valor." Eso quiere decir en palabras prácticas Seguro Social, medicare y en la ayuda para los pequeños propietarios de tierras.

¿Y quién firmó este anuncio? Pues fueron hombres de la talla de David Rockefeller, Lee Iacocca, J. Peter Grace y George Weyerhaeuser. Y como si fuera poco, la lista de firmantes in-



Con pancartas leyendo, "La falta de representación es racismo," mil manifestantes demandaron el jueves pasado que se nombre un Latino a la Junta de Educación de Nueva York. En esta ciudad los niños hispanos representan la tercera parte de la población estudiantil. La manifestación estuvo llamado por una coalición de grupos comunales y políticos y participaron gente de todas razas y nacionalidades.

cluye cabecillas de 145 de los bancos y corporaciones gigantes desde IBM, Mobil, Boeing, Westinghouse, Xerox, Goodyear, AT&T y Chemical Bank.

Estos Son los super millonarios que hacen y deshacen del país juntos con ex miembros de Gabinete como William Simon, Harold Brown, John Connally, C. Douglas Dillon y Robert McNamara.

Ellos están haciendo un llamado al Congreso, ¡Recorten el Seguro Social! ¡Recorten el Seguro Social! Quiéren empezar por limitar los reajustes al costo de vida, conocido como COLA. Saben que estamos en una etapa de inflación que es eso lo que representa

la caída del dólar. ¿Cómo piensan ellos que personas que dependen del Seguro Social pueden vivir sin el beneficio de COLA, ellos ya están sufriendo por el alto costo de Medicare? ¿Y las personas que sufrieron pérdidas porque su pensión fue invertida en la bolsa de valores?

Esos estafadores no tienen vergüenza cuando dicen que esos recortes se necesitan para salvar "nuestra economía" y "nuestra manera de vivir." ¿Qué manera de vivir están hablando? ¿La economía de quién? ¿Los que se estarán muriendo de hambre en su vejez? ¿Los que han perdido sus trabajos cuando estas corporaciones trasladaron las fábricas a países donde los sueldos son muy bajos y los trabajadores no tienen ningún beneficio.

Lo que estos ladrones quieren es mejorar su manera de vivir, y mejor control sobre las riquezas del mundo.

Los recortes en programas como el Seguro Social, son ataques dirigidos a millones de personas y no resolverá la crisis económica de Wall Street. Wall Street ha vivido acomodadamente por muchos años, lo que se le ha dado al pueblo han sido migajas, desempleo, desamparo, y recortes en los salarios. Si la estructura financiera se esta desmoronando, pues que se desmone, lo que necesitamos es empezar nuestro propio sistema socialista, donde la producción está basada por necesidad.

¿Cuál es la solución? Ningún recorte al Seguro Social! Este dinero pertenece al trabajador, lo ha pagado y lo merece, que los estafadores se la arriegen como puedan, con nosotros no cuentan para salvarse, fueron ellos los que crearon esta crisis y ellos son los que tienen que solucionarla.

Nicaragua, Reagan y el acuerdo de paz

Por Angela Vera

En vísperas a su visita a los Estados Unidos el 11 noviembre, el presidente de Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, propuso conversaciones directas con el presidente Reagan y sus títeres los contras, para terminar con la guerra en centroamérica.

La administración Reagan inmediatamente indicó que no aceptaría tan generosa oferta, quejándose de que se intentaba hacer de los contras "pequeños asociados de los Estados Unidos," lo que todo mundo sabe.

La respuesta de Washington a la oferta por parte de los Sandinistas que están haciendo concesiones con el objeto de cumplir con los términos del acuerdo de paz centroamericano, no es inusual. Washington ha demostrado una y otra vez que no está interesado en terminar con la guerra, sino que permanece comprometido en sus esfuerzos por derrocar al gobierno popular Sandinista.

Con una contra vencida militarmente y con la opinión pública mundial solidamente unida contra el imperialismo yanqui, la administración Reagan ha tenido que maniobrar para aparentar que está buscando una solución pacífica. Esto es lo que está detrás del anuncio de Reagan que Schultz podría conversar con los lid-

eres del gobierno nicaragense en alguna fecha futura y que la Casa Blanca no pediría los 270 millones de ayuda a la contra hasta enero.

Ninguna de estas dos declaraciones indican cambios reales. Reagan declaró que Schultz se entrevistaría con los Sandinistas solamente después que hablarán directamente con los contras, de todas maneras la Casa Blanca probablemente no podría conseguir la ayuda para los contras antes de enero.

Estas declaraciones demuestran cuán aislada y débil se encuentra la administración especialmente en su política hacia Nicaragua.

A diferencia de los Sandinistas, el imperialismo y sus títeres centroamericanos no han hecho absolutamente nada substancial para demostrar su buena fé. Justamente la semana pasada, el congreso — republicanos y demócratas — pasó otros 3 millones de ayuda "humanitaria temporal" para los contras. Esta propuesta se espera será ratificada fácilmente por el senado cualquier día.

Armas en ayuda humanitaria
Actualmente todos saben que las armas son rutinariamente incluidas en los embarques de "ayuda humanitaria" de Estados Unidos y también deben saber que los políticos en el

senado han pasado uno tras otro los pedidos "temporales", prometiendo siempre que la próxima vez se opondrán a Reagan.

No es sorprendente que ninguna de las bases de Estados Unidos en Honduras desde donde los contras llevan a cabo sus sangrientos ataques hayan sido desmanteladas, ni siquiera porque el plan contempla que Honduras no permita a los contras operar de su territorio. El 5 de noviembre, día en que la primera parte del plan estaba supuesto a entrar en efecto, el presidente de Honduras José Azcona Hoyo ni siquiera se molestó en presentar su informe, lo cual demuestra la influencia que tiene Estados Unidos, la política en ese país contra los deseos de la mayoría de los hondureños que a propósito se sienten enfermos y cansados de los militares yanquis y los contras que pisotean su suelo usando como base de agresión contra sus vecinos nicaragenses.

En Guatemala, país que también supuestamente está incluido en el tratado, es la misma historia. Los combates se siguen llevando a cabo actualmente entre los militares y las fuerzas de liberación. El gobierno apoyado por los Estados Unidos se entrevistó solamente por tres días con las guerrillas, pero las conversaciones

Rotas las conversaciones

En El Salvador, las fuerzas de liberación rompieron las conversaciones con el gobierno durante la primera semana de noviembre para protestar el asesinato a sangre fría del líder de los Derechos Humanos del país, por los escuadrones de la muerte entrenados por los Estados Unidos. La idea del régimen de Duarte de cumplir con los acuerdos, fue dar amnistía a los escuadrones de la muerte, para dejar libres a los asesinos del Arzobispo Romero y de las cuatro monjas estadounidenses y decenas de miles de trabajadores y campesinos salvadoreños

se terminaron y los oficiales manifestaron que no hay señal de que se reanuden nuevamente.

Aun cuando el régimen de Guatemala anunció una amnistía, hasta la prensa burguesa de Estados Unidos admite que la amnistía "Tendrá un efecto limitado" porque el ejército de Guatemala ha asesinado a la mayoría de la gente que ha capturado en años recientes (Publicado en el New York Times noviembre 6). Lo que el Times no menciona, es que el ejército de Guatemala es entrenado en sus métodos de tortura y asesinato por el pentágono.