

26 deaths in Ky. show—

Miners' lives continue to be sacrificed to profits

Miners walk out to protest weak black lung law

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, March 14—Coal mining is the single most dangerous occupation in the U.S. Besides the constant threat of deadly cave-ins and explosions, U.S. coal miners daily face the real possibility of a slower, more painful death by strangulation—from a disease called black lung. Black lung, or pneumoconiosis, is caused by inhaling coal dust, which gradually constricts the lungs, causing great suffering and finally death. The disease also can bring on heart attacks, since the heart has to work harder to force air in and out of the damaged lungs.

According to a recent study, at least 52 percent of miners working in the coal fields for 11 years or more had x-ray evidence of black lung. Another report, the National Coal Workers' Autopsy Study, found that 90 to 95 percent of coal miners who had had autopsies and had worked at least 20 years in the mines had the dreaded disease.

INADEQUACIES OF EXISTING LEGISLATION

In 1969, following a mining disaster in which 78 people were killed and which drew public attention to the dangers in the mines, Congress passed a bill which supposedly would correct the horrible working conditions miners faced and compensate black lung victims and their survivors.

Now, seven years later, with thousands of miners still contracting the suffocating disease, the gross inadequacies of the bill, the 1969 Coal Mine Health and Safety Law, have become painfully apparent.

On March 2, the House again passed by 210 to 183 black lung legislation in the form of an amendment to the original bill. This legislation would widen desperately needed compensation to those suffering from the dreaded disease and would shift responsibility for payments of black lung benefits to the mining concerns themselves.

Despite the limitations of this bill, it was admitted in the floor debate by Pennsylvania Rep. John Dent that "The National Coal Association is making noises against it. The Chamber of Commerce is against it." These powerful business lobbies are known cohorts of President Gerald Ford who will have veto option over the bill this summer. Yet, even if this amendment does become law, it merely compensates black lung victims instead of attacking the conditions that cause the disease.

ANGRY MINERS WILDCAT

In protest of Congress' and the mineowners' crass disregard for their health and safety, 5,000 coal miners in West Virginia walked out the first week in March following the House vote. The miners' week-long wildcat strike was staged to voice their objections to the serious shortcomings in the House amendment.

According to a March 13 release from Liberation News Service, the miners were angered mainly by a provision in the legislation that required hard-coal miners to have worked 25 years and soft coal miners 30 years before 1971 to automatically receive black lung compensation. The miners had demanded a 15-year eligibility.

The excuse legislators used for the 1971 cutoff date was that a June 30, 1971 law required coal dust to be reduced to 2 milligrams per cubic meter of air. However, according to a Dec. 31, 1975 report by the General Accounting Office entitled "Improvements still needed in coal mine dust-sampling program," violations of coal dust limitations are rampant, often undetected, and mostly unpunished.

A similar GAO study following the 1969 law limiting samplings to 3 milligrams per cubic meter of air also found incredible violations. By the end of 1970, the GAO reported, only 1 percent of the required health inspections had even been made and there was evidence of collaboration between the mining



Members of United Mine Workers lobbied Congress last September for a law against black lung. But miners are still contracting the killer disease because bosses' government won't put health before profits.

Photo: United Mine Workers Journal

companies and the Bureau of Mines to falsify data.

Another study that same year conducted by Robert K. Jones of the Kentucky health department found that some miners were actually breathing 76 times the maximum allowed concentrations of coal dust!

WHY U.S. MINES ARE DEATHTRAPS

The reason for the terrible, killing working conditions forced on miners can be found in the stubborn refusal of the bankers and businessmen who own the mines to consider the safety of the workers for even a moment. Powerful families like the Rockefellers and the Mellons are the ones who are profiting off maintaining the unsafe conditions that are creating black lung.

Mining does not have to be the killer job it is in the U.S. The Soviet Union, for example, has installed sprinkler systems to hold down

coal dust and giant fans to suck dangerous gases out before they reach unhealthy levels. Miners showing signs of developing black lung are transferred to other areas of work.

In a 1973 interview in the United Mine Workers Journal, a U.S. miner who had visited the coalfields of the Soviet Union pointed out, "I was really impressed with the emphasis they put on safety. They're all out for production, but they demand that the men do it safely. We went underground in four Russian mines and every one of them had a doctor on duty 24 hours a day, in case a man got injured. One of the mines we went in even had an underground hospital that had six beds in it. . . .

"They have about three or four times the number of men working at a mine than we would have here, so their accident rate on a man-hours-worked basis would be a lot better than ours."

By ROBERT BOHDAN

NORFOLK, March 13—A mine disaster that killed 26 people this week in Oven Fork, Ky., recalls the 1968 explosion in Farmington, W. Va., in which 78 miners lost their lives. The difference is that a federal mine safety act was passed in 1969. This time a law was on the books.

Yet disaster due to unsafe conditions in the mines has once again taken a terrible toll.

This week's explosions, caused by a buildup of methane gas, took place at the Scotia Coal Co.'s No. 1 Black Mountain Mine, killing 15 miners on the day shift March 9, then 11 others who went back into the shaft two days later to make repairs.

SOME SUFFOCATED

At least six miners had survived the first blast and managed to put on devices that provide breathable air for up to an hour. Rescuers found their bodies huddled behind a canvas curtain the miners had tried to use to shield themselves from the poisonous gas and smoke, before dying a slow death as the air in their respirators ran out.

The second explosion took place in the same tunnel in which the first 15 miners were killed approximately 36 hours earlier. Two of the team, who had entered the mine to make repairs, managed to escape unhurt, while the other 11 were killed by the impact of the blast.

VIOLATIONS FOUND

Less than 24 hours before the first deadly explosion, a federal mine inspector issued violations for an inadequate number of sprinklers to spray down coal dust, inadequate air movement to carry away methane gas, and an air-directing curtain placed too far from the cutting face.

The mine has had repeated

(Continued on page 11)

Shipyard strike in fourth month

By a striker at Maryland Drydock
BALTIMORE, March 1—Nearly four months on strike haven't dampened the spirits of 1,800 workers at Maryland Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., a subsidiary of the Fruehauf conglomerate. The members of Local 31, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, AFL-CIO, are demanding parity with wages and benefits at the two Baltimore shipyards of Bethlehem Steel Co.

The Bethlehem Steel contract was settled without a strike, and Local 31 considers a similar settlement to be the bare minimum at Drydock. The company offer falls short on wages, retirement, health benefits, and in other areas.

Recently Fruehauf tried the

time-worn union-busting technique of running full-page ads in the papers urging the members to turn against the union and demand a "secret ballot" to return to work. The ads met with a response from the workers—the day after they appeared the picket line was stronger than ever before.

After freezing in the snow, boiling in the sun, working knee-deep in grease, breathing welding smoke and sandblast dust—if you're not laid off—not too many members of 31 are about to believe in the bosses' concern for "the welfare of our employees."

Right now there are ships in port waiting for the strike at Drydock to end. The pressure is on the company now because the members of Local 31 are determined to win.

Philadelphia YAWF participates in citywide Women's Day program

By BAYINNAH SHABAZZ
PHILADELPHIA, March 15—On March 6 the Philadelphia branch of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) joined in a citywide program of solidarity with women's struggles around the world.

The program was structured for the enjoyment and education of the whole family. Over 40 women's organizations, community groups, special interest groups, and political tendencies participated.

There were a wide variety of booths set up by these organizations covering subjects from child care to fighting the city's attempt to close Philadelphia's one municipal hospital to make room for a luxury hotel and parking lot.

Other topics included a display on hazardous conditions at the work place, the fight to save Chinatown from being leveled to the ground to make room for the new expressway, and group organizing against the Bicentennial hysteria that has gripped this city. There were also booths on the defense of Susan Saxe, a gay former member of the Weather-people. A housing skit showed how tenants can fight back against slumlords only when they are organized as a united group.

YAWF Women presented a debate between Marx and Malthus, based on direct quotes from both men, wherein Malthus blames poverty and misery on the "over-populated" masses of workers, while Marx shows that poverty

results from the ownership of the means of production being in the hands of a tiny few, while the many who produced the goods are kept at the poverty level.

To round out the day there were slide shows, movies on Cuban women, Vietnamese women, child care in China, and organizing drivers of hospital employees.

YAWF completed its celebration of International Women's Day the following Saturday, when Sara Flounders of YAWF's Women's Caucus spoke on the origin and character of women's oppression.

(More articles on International Women's Day appear on page 5.)

Boston celebration hails strides made by women worldwide, calls for struggle against racist attacks

By JANE KAATZ

BOSTON, March 12—"Until all oppressed people are free, no one is free."

In this spirit of international solidarity, the Women's Caucus of Workers World Party here tonight presented an evening of support and applause for the courageous sisters fighting for the liberation of their people throughout the world.

Responding to an invitation to celebrate International Women's Day, some 50 women and men heard talks about the gains made by and for women since last International Women's Day. Liberation songs of the MPLA,



Atlanta pickets denounce Kissinger.

WW photo

Norfolk pickets: 'Ford, Kissinger the real outlaws, not People's Cuba'

By TOM GARDNER

ATLANTA, March 11—On March 5, with the militant chants of massive Latin American demonstrations against U.S. imperialism still echoing in his ears, Henry Kissinger was greeted with a picket line here, condemning his criminal exploits.

Kissinger had chosen Atlanta and a Southeastern convention of professional journalists to pursue his latest missile-rattling threats against the African and Latin American struggles. Only a few days before, his co-conspirator Gerald Ford had called Fidel Castro, leader of revolutionary Cuba, an "international outlaw" for that country's fraternal help to the liberation forces of Angola.

The picket line was organized on one day's notice by the Atlanta branch of Workers World Party to make clear, as the lead banner read, that "Ford and Kissinger are

the real outlaws, not People's Cuba," and to tell the U.S. to keep its "Hands off Africa."

Chanting "Down with Kissinger and the CIA, Long live the victory of the MPLA," the demonstrators confronted Kissinger's private parley with the press right in front of the Omni International Hotel where the meeting was in progress. The loud chants, heard inside, celebrated the victories of Vietnam, Angola, Cuba, and Mozambique, and predicted the victories of the liberation struggles in Zimbabwe, Chile, Puerto Rico, and all of Africa and Latin America.

The militancy of the Atlanta picket line was summed up in the last chants: "Kissinger-Ford-CIA, imperialist outlaws, you will pay!" and the people's sentence, "Jail Kissinger, jail Ford, jail the rich and free the poor!"

Vietnamese sisters, the writings of Marx, Lenin, and Engels, and the inspirational examples of the Russian Revolution, China, Africa, and Indochina, the roots, development, and solution to women's oppression were clearly and often dramatically presented.

The evening was concluded with a call for the women of Boston to recognize the need to fight the racist, sexist attacks that have been organized by right-wing groups like ROAR against busing and abortion. The audience was urged to defend the rights of Black and Third World sisters to self-determination and self-defense.

Chilean resistance, and the Palestinian Front as well as songs about women's struggles here greeted all those attending with a message of courage, determination, and victory.

The victories of the Cuban, Indochinese, and African liberation struggles and the indispensable role women played in them were presented to demonstrate that the road to women's liberation is through socialist revolution which will finally put an end to the private property relations that give rise to all oppression.

Using the poetry of Black and

below the \$70 million level.

"William J. Burns set up his own detective agency in 1909. Among his first clients were the American Bankers Association.

"Today, the company bearing the Burns name does more than \$170 million a year. Just ten years ago it was below the \$50 million level.

"... Lipson comes up with the staggering figure of \$50 billion a year as 'the true cost of crime to American business.' That comes to more than 5 per cent of the gross national product. And so you can see why crime—and fighting crime—is big business."

NO BULL!

New York Post, March 3:

"The top Buy-Centennial bad taste award went to Midwest Breeders Cooperative for its Bicentennial Semen Sale.

"Complete with picture of George Washington, the semen advertisement offered seven quarts of bull semen for the price of six."

DECLINE AND FALL

WHY WE LIVE IN OLD FIRE TRAPS

New York Times (letter column), Mar. 12:

"... the study (of the 1975 Census Bureau commissioned by New York City) found that 55 percent of the vacant units built in 1974 had a median rental of \$800 per month while the remaining 45 percent had a median rental of \$400 per month."

ONE OF AGNEW'S MINOR GOOFS

From CIA and the Cult of Intelligence, p. 293:

"Early in the meeting Secretary of State William Rogers jokingly pointed out, to general laughter in the room, that it might be inappropriate for the group to discuss the



subject at hand, since some of those present had represented southern African clients in earlier law practices. Vice President Spiro Agnew gave an impassioned speech on how the South Africans, now that they had recently declared their independence, were not about to be pushed around, and he went on to compare South Africa to the United States in its infant days. Finally, the President leaned over to Agnew and said gently, 'You mean Rhodesia, don't you, Ted?'

The meat of this paragraph was originally deleted by CIA censors, but reinstated by the court. Whether the censors were concerned with shielding Agnew from charges of ignorance or with shielding the U.S. from obvious comparison between American lynch law and South African apartheid is a moot question.

DOES "CRIME PREVENTION" COST MORE THAN CRIME?

Buffalo Evening News, Feb. 2:

"The private security business is booming.' That's the way Milton Lipson begins his book, On Guard.

"In 1969 there were 4280 separate guard and investigative agencies doing business in the United States, nearly four times the number of such firms in 1954.

"In the private security business, as in the toothpaste or automobile or detergent businesses, a few 'brands' dominate the action.

"Alan Pinkerton set up his detective agency in Chicago in 1850. His first big customers were the railroads, who hired him to protect their property. His name later became notorious as a strike-breaking, union-busting arm of U.S. industry.

"Today, the company bearing the Pinkerton name does business at the clip of \$200 million a year. Just 10 years ago it was

In Boston

Black and Latin workers picket racist boss

By MARSHALL

BOSTON, March 5—Members of the Third World Workers Association conducted a picket line March 3 at the construction site of the New Madison Park High School here to demand a fair share of the jobs for workers of color, since the school is being built in Lower Roxbury, which is mainly a Third World community. Twenty-six of the demonstrators were arrested and charged with "trespassing."

The main target of the protest is a construction company called Perini and Co. The demand was for 50 percent of the jobs on construction sites in Third World communities and at least 10 percent throughout the rest of the city. Perini has now only 30 percent or less on this job and refuses to hire any more.

THREE STRIKES AGAINST PERINI

This is the third time since 1970 that Perini's unfair hiring practices have caused such protest in the Third World community. When Egleston Square Housing for the Elderly was built in 1970, Third World workers were jailed for demanding a fair share of jobs on that project. Again in 1971 Perini was the focus of community protest at the construction site of the new City Hospital.

City officials and Perini claim that three out of ten workers at the New Madison project are workers of color and they ought to be satisfied with that. The workers of oppressed nationalities view this claim as ridiculous, since white workers have almost 100 percent of the jobs downtown and in their neighborhoods, and it is only fair, they assert, that workers of color have at least half of the jobs on projects in their neighborhoods.

Moreover, Perini had agreed to this two years ago.

The picket line at the New Madison High School site started around 7 a.m. Workers of color blocked the entrance to the site and chanted, "If we don't work, they don't work." Within 15 or 20 minutes five police vans and several carloads of police arrived and tried to break up the picket line. Failing that, the police grabbed, carried, dragged, and shoved 26 of the protesters into the vans. The 26 were charged with trespass and will go on trial March 26.

MARCH TO FEDERAL COURT

The next day, about 30 people, some of whom had been arrested the day before, marched from the Third World Jobs Clearing House in Roxbury to the federal court building downtown to demand U.S. Judge W. Arthur Garrity help the Spanish-speaking, Black, Chinese, and Native American construction workers get a fair share of the jobs on the new Madison Park High School.

The march passed through part of the Third World community and was very well received, with some joining the march and others raising clenched fists of solidarity. The demonstrators chanted, "We want construction jobs" and "Obreros unidos jamas seran vencidos" ("Workers united will never be defeated").

At the courthouse there was a rally and press conference. A delegation presented the demands of the demonstrators to Garrity's clerk after the marchers were blocked by federal security guards.

50 PERCENT JOBLESS. WORKERS TESTIFY

In response to these develop-

ments, a hearing to receive testimony from workers of color in the construction trades was held the next day, conducted by State Senator Bill Owens. The fact that the unemployment rate among construction workers of color stands between 50 and 70 percent in Boston was cited, as was the fact that the Mayor's "affirmative action program" was not being lived up to.

One of those who testified, Kenny McAllister, the treasurer of the Third World Workers Association, said that he'd been in the construction trades for eight years and had actually worked steadily for only two. He told the hearing that when the 26 protesters had been in court two days earlier, the judge told them to leave those "nice Perini people alone."

Chuck Turner of the Third World Jobs Clearing House said that Boston is not a city for workers, and that the real enemy was "unrestrained greed on the part of the banks, the colleges, and others on the top who reap a profit when the workers in this country must suffer."

Also testifying was Alex Wan, a jobs counselor at the Third World

Jobs Clearing House who was also arrested on March 3. One of the big problems in the Chinese community, he said, is that most of the workers are in restaurant work, working 12 hours a day, six and sometimes seven days a week, for \$2.50 an hour. They are demanding jobs on which they can work eight hours a day for at least \$5 an hour.

Mr. Wan believes that there is a need to take to the streets to protest for jobs.

The sentiment of these workers is firmly opposed to the racist hiring practices of Perini and others. They are committed to continuing the struggle until justice is won for all workers of color.

Rally urges Massachusetts extend rent control statute

By CODY GORDON

BOSTON, March 4—A large, militant demonstration gathered today across the street from the gold dome of the State House to let the legislators know that tenants demand the state rent control act be extended permanently, not allowed to die at the end of a 90-day reprieve it was given on December 30 of last year.

Speakers also denounced the recent Boston "vacancy decontrol" ordinance, which will remove apartments from rent control as they are vacated by present tenants.

Demonstrators marched three

blocks down Beacon Hill to City Hall where they booed Mayor Kevin White's recent switch to the anti-rent control side. White was just re-elected on the campaign slogan, "When landlords raise the rent, Kevin raises hell." Now that he is securely back in office, he can more openly represent his real constituency, the real estate barons and big business.

Also calling attention to the racist city councillors with offices in the same City Hall, the demonstrators chanted, "Speculators, landlords, and racist politicians, enemies of all poor and working people" and "Rent control yes, ROAR no!"

Arch-racist candidate Wallace named in Alabama murder suit

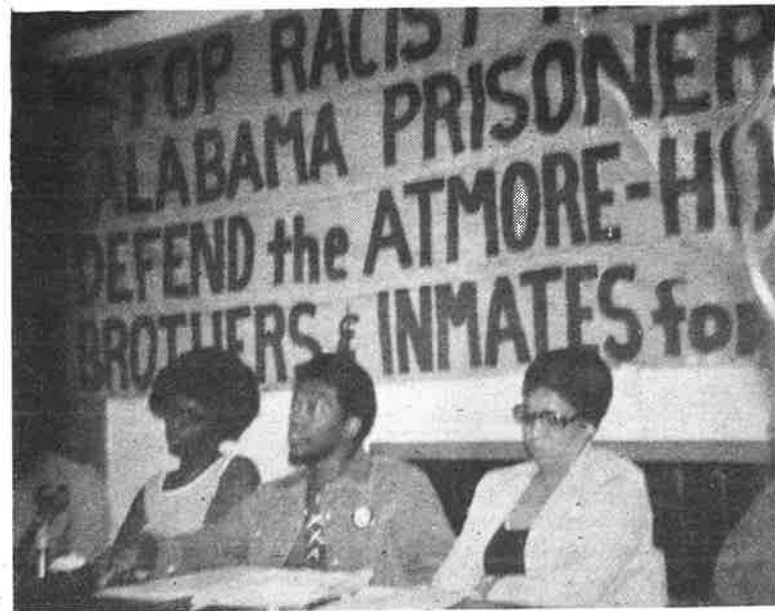
By the Committee for Prisoner Support in Birmingham and the Atmore-Holman Brothers Defense Committee BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 8—In an emotional news conference held today by the Dobbins-Dotson Legal Action Fund, Ms. Lillie Bracey, the mother of the murdered Alabama inmate leader Tommy Yukeena Dotson, announced that she is suing George Wallace, ex-Commissioner of Corrections L.B. Sullivan, and several other prison officials for \$500,000 each in the beating death of her son.

The news conference came just one day before the Florida primary in which Wallace has been running as a "law and order" candidate. Also speaking at the news conference were Mafundi, a leader of the Committee for Prisoner Support in Birmingham and founding chairperson of the Inmates for Action (IFA), Alabama's radical prison organization, and Ms. Carrie Bush, the mother of George Chagina Dobbins. In May 1975, Ms. Bush also filed a "wrongful death suit" against Wallace and others for the brutal murder of her son at Atmore Prison on Jan. 18, 1974.

MURDER OF YUKEENA

Yukeena, a strong Black man, had always been an outspoken critic of the Alabama prison system and was the chairperson of the IFA at Alabama's Holman Prison. As such he was under constant harassment and subjected to frequent beatings and threats by guards and other prison officials. On March 12, 1974, Yukeena was stripped naked and handcuffed, allegedly to be taken for a shower. On the way, seven guards attacked the handcuffed Yukeena, beat him for 20 minutes until he was dead, threw him down a flight of stairs, and then returned to beat him again. The autopsy report shows that Yukeena's skull had been cracked like an egg shell.

The Atmore-Holman Brothers



Press conference at which Ms. Lillie Bracey, [seated on left] announced suit against Gov. Wallace and prison officials. To her left are Mafundi and Ms. Carrie Bush.

Defense Committee went before the Escambia County Grand Jury last year to ask for criminal indictments against the murderers of Yukeena and Chagina. Needless to say, no indictments have ever been handed down. As Mafundi noted at the news conference:

"The significant thing about this suit which is being filed today is that it isn't a criminal proceeding, rather it's a civil action that is being initiated and financed by private citizens. The people who are responsible for and under oath to uphold the law and prosecute those who violate the law—and who also get paid for this by the taxpayers' money—refuse to take criminal procedures against the murderers of Tommy and George. Gov. George Wallace, who now seeks the highest office in this country, set the climate for these type racial murders to continue."

As Mafundi also noted, "The filing of these suits is the beginning of a campaign to bring to justice the murderers of prisoners and those who in office protect these

murderers and encourage such murders in this state."

The suit is similar to that filed by Ms. Bush last year. Both sue Wallace, Sullivan, Thomas Staton, Director of the Board of Corrections, and several other prison officials. Grounds of the suits are 1) intentional deprivation of civil rights; 2) negligent deprivation of civil rights; 3) negligent hiring, training, and supervising of correction officials; 4) wrongful death; and 5) conspiracy to deprive civil rights.

The thrust of the suits is to maintain that because Yukeena and Chagina were strong, outspoken Black people; because they were leaders of the IFA; because they refused to be degraded and humiliated; that because of all this, guards and prison officials did conspire to murder these men, with the direct assistance provided by Wallace, Sullivan, Staton, and the rest, who openly encouraged such treatments of rebellious in-

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Tommy "Yokeema" Dotson, a leader of Inmates for Action, knew he was next on the prison guards' "death list." Above, the last picture of Dotson alive. Below, Dotson lies dead, his head caved in by the blows of clubs and baseball bats.



Despite claims of rich

No recovery in sight for Detroit's unemployed

By GENE HIDARI

DETROIT, March 10—As the U.S. government and the capitalist politicians continue to lie to the American public regarding unemployment, millions of U.S. workers suffer. The 7.8 percent unemployment figure listed by the Department of Labor for January and the first half of February 1976 is but one of the many cover-up jobs of U.S. government agencies.

AFL-CIO critics of the administration's figures charged on Saturday, Feb. 15, that joblessness in the nation during January averaged 10.6 percent of the work force. The union economists charged that the Labor Department used statistical gimmickry to greatly exaggerate the decline in unemployment.

The conservative figure used by the AFL-CIO is also seriously open

to question. A comparison of government statistics and reality can best reveal the Depression-like unemployment situation.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics placed Detroit's unemployment rate at 23 percent, but an in-depth study by Professor Milton Taylor of Michigan State University indicates the overall figure was actually 33 percent and approached 60 percent in some areas. Black, Latin, Native American, and other oppressed communities carried the burden of super-high unemployment.

What is really happening is that because about 100,000 Michigan workers exhausted their unemployment pay over the past seven months, they dropped from official view. Michigan Employment Security Commission Director S. Martin Taylor predicts that

another 120,000 workers will use up their benefits this year and no one will know, officially, what became of them either.

The Labor Department figures are designed to make unemployment look as low as possible, said Taylor. "I think it is done for political reasons. People in the federal government know how high unemployment actually is. We've found it (real unemployment) runs about 40 percent higher than the official figures, and that goes for the whole country," he said.

President Ford's answer to this was to veto the "anti-recession bill" on Feb. 19. And the high unemployment is compounded by continued inflation.

In the local Detroit area, this means a massive assault on the workers. Unemployed workers are being forced to work for their

welfare checks in city departments. This "forced workforce" is being used by the city to get dirt-cheap labor while promoting speed-ups and layoffs and an attempted destruction of the unions.

Mayor Coleman Young has reduced city expenditures by \$100 million, laying off more than 5,000 more city workers.

The current situation may be a "recovery" to the politicians and the super-rich class they serve, but the poor and working people have yet to feel its effects.

Buffalo jobless rate tops list for NY State

By JOAN MARQUARDT

BUFFALO, N.Y., March 11—Once again the state monthly unemployment figures have been released, and the Buffalo area remains the New York State's area of greatest joblessness. The local jobless rate for January was of-

ficially 14.1 percent, while the state's rate was 11.1 percent.

Additional facts are needed to show how bad the situation really is, however. They include the unreported statistics of people who've run out of unemployment benefits and, still unable to find work, have gone on welfare; those who've been out of work for months but are not technically entitled to unemployment insurance; and many other people who are for one reason or another not figured into the statistics, but who are nevertheless jobless and in need. For instance, a recent independent survey in Niagara County, adjacent to Buffalo's Erie County, showed an actual unemployment rate of 25 percent, in an area where the government had proclaimed 11 percent unemployment.

No matter how the figures are juggled or "seasonally adjusted" to appear palatable, none of the area's jobless or laid-off workers are living any better. Each day, each week, the struggle just to survive gets tougher and tougher, a struggle that has brought many workers to demand jobs for all.

100,000 workers' old age benefits stolen

Will your pension be there when you retire?

By T. MITCHELL

NEW YORK, March 10—Over the last 18 months, more than 5,500 companies across the U.S. have terminated their pension plans, leaving more than 100,000 workers in the lurch.

So far, 80 percent of the cancelled pensions have been at businesses employing less than 30 workers, but the threat of poverty in old age is facing nearly all workers now covered by any form of government or private company pension plan.

The greatest notes of alarm have been sounded over the Social Security system itself—which was never designed to be more than a supplement to other sources of income in retirement, although far too many are forced to subsist on these meager payments alone. President Ford has warned the current heavy payroll tax for Social Security will not be enough to meet expenses.

And in New York City, where the bankers' Emergency Financial Control Board has raided already underfunded city workers' pension funds, it is clear that the better pensions that attracted many present city workers are headed into bankruptcy.

These two cases are the best known, but concern is quietly being expressed about pension plans for federal civil service workers, for workers at state and local level, and for workers at many private firms where not enough money is being put aside to provide promised retirement income.

WHY ARE PENSION FUNDS SHORT?

Some companies are complaining about the costs of the 1974 Federal Pension Reform Act which is supposed to allow workers to keep pension credit when they change jobs. This is to be expected from these same companies whose abuses in discharging older workers near retirement age brought popular pressure for reform in the first place. It is estimated that the reform has added only 5 to 7 percent to the average company's pension cost.

No, what is happening in this period is that older workers who are retiring are the first generation to have worked for an entire lifetime under Social Security and private pension plans.

So, for the first time, the full load

of pension payments is being placed on the funds—and the bad news is coming out. Pension funds are short, and the workers are in line to get shortchanged out of their pensions.

All through the last generation, the bosses have repeatedly held down wage increases by promising to improve pensions, a promise that was never doubted until recently when a pattern emerged at many companies of keeping workers from reaching retirement age.

There is an insidious reason why the boss has always been readier to promise benefits later than to pay wages now. Now that many workers with pensions due them are retiring, the truth comes out that the promise has been a cruel deception since adequate funds have not been in fact set aside.

Retirement on an adequate pension after a lifetime of labor is every worker's dream. This dream has become a reality in all the socialist countries but it is something that workers here, young and old, must still fight for.

Thousands left hungry after storm halts electrical service

By E. B. HARRISON

BUFFALO, N.Y., March 10—Thousands of families were left without food here after a severe ice storm last week disrupted electrical service to their homes for several days, causing food in their freezers to spoil. But even an emergency Food Stamp program set up by the welfare department has brought no relief for these families, only endless hours of waiting in lines and endless red tape.

The announcement that food stamps would be available to storm victims brought hundreds to the welfare office over the weekend. The food stamps, however, were not free. Even welfare recipients were told that they would have to pay for them, although their monthly grants did not leave any extra money for emergencies.

On Monday and Tuesday, after standing for hours in the cold outside the welfare building,



The growing elimination of pension plans is forcing more and more workers into desperate circumstances. This couple searches for discarded food outside Manhattan grocery.

Wind and ice hit poor hardest, thanks to Detroit Edison bias

By KEITH PAVLIK

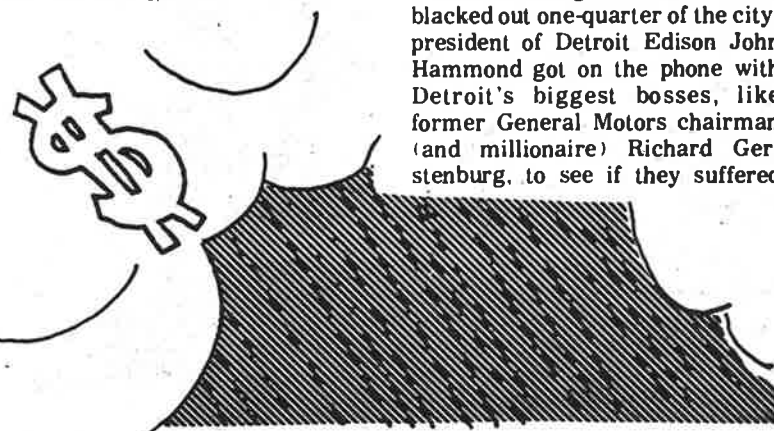
DETROIT, March 10—When a severe wind and ice storm struck this city last week, power lines were damaged and 250,000 customers of Detroit Edison were without electricity. The ice storm was not prejudiced since the homes of rich and poor, of boss and worker, were blacked out that night. But not so with Detroit Edison.

The same night that the storm blacked out one-quarter of the city, president of Detroit Edison John Hammond got on the phone with Detroit's biggest bosses, like former General Motors chairman (and millionaire) Richard Gerstenburg, to see if they suffered

any losses. Detroit Edison workers were all mobilized on an over-time basis to restore power in the ruling class suburb of Grosse Pointes. Yet workers living on Detroit's North East Side are still without electricity, more than one week after the failure.

Bobby J. Sanders, an apprentice lineman at Edison was killed on March 6, electrocuted while working overtime. He had been working for 14 hours without relief when the accident occurred. Because of management's frenzy to restore power to the Gerstenburgs, the Fords, and the other bigshot bosses, the ranks of the repair force were spread thin and Sanders was not working along with a journeyman lineman.

Sanders was killed while at work in a wealthy suburb, where Detroit Edison was pushing the hardest to restore service. The 2,000 homes on the North East Side that have still not gotten power back may have to wait another week.



International Womens Day celebrated across the country

Film in NYC shows gains of Cuban women

By CONNIE HARRIS

NEW YORK, March 15—On March 13, friends were invited to join members of Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism here in a celebration of International Women's Day.

The main event of the evening was the showing of the film *Con Las Mujeres Cubanas* (With Cuban Women).

This film, made in 1974, is a colorful documentation of the great strides that Cuban women have been able to make under socialism toward their liberation.

The film opens with a scene of a group of Cuban men agreeing that women are afraid of cockroaches, mice—in fact, everything. The scene cuts to a shot of a woman parachuting from a plane.

The film is characterized by the candid recognition that backwardness still exists on the woman question in Cuba, a recognition coupled with the realization that the primary factor in overcoming prejudices about women will be the achievements of women themselves.

With Cuban Women clearly shows that these achievements have been enormous. Before the Cuban Revolution, few jobs other than domestic and waitressing jobs were available to women. Tens of thousands of poor women turned to prostitution to survive. Now the socialist economy of Cuba needs the skills and energy of all its people, and particular efforts have been directed towards the integration of women into the work force.

Interviews with women doctors, chemical engineers, farm managers, cane cutters, crane operators, and many other women demonstrate that women in Cuba—Black and white—have confidence not only in their capabilities, but also in their society's willingness to

allow them to prove themselves.

But the awareness of Cuban women is deeper than simply a consciousness of themselves as women. It is a socialist consciousness. Every woman interviewed expressed the recognition that, had there not been the Cuban Revolution, they would not be where they are. Moreover, they recognize that the Revolution did not end with the seizure of state power, but is a continuous, ongoing process, of which their work is a vital and necessary part.

Their socialist consciousness is further demonstrated by their spirit of proletarian internationalism, as expressed by a woman crane operator who volunteered to go to Vietnam. When asked why she wanted to go, she said, "I want to teach the women of Vietnam how to do my job. Then, when I leave, they will be able to do it. And then, some day, they will go to another country and teach the women there what I taught them."

With Cuban Women shows, beyond a doubt, that only under socialism can women be truly liberated; and to see it gives inspiration and determination to our own struggle for the socialist revolution in the U.S.



Cuban women today—Black and white—have confidence not only in their capabilities, but also in their society's willingness to allow them to prove themselves. Photo: Cuba Internacional

Greeley forum focuses on crucial issues facing women in 1976

GREELEY, Colo., March 9—A forum on "Strategy for the Women's Liberation Movement 1976" was held here today. Speakers were Christine Lucero from the Apostles for Justice, a Chicano organization in Greeley; Betsy Karowski, an attorney and vice-president of the Colorado National Organization for Women (NOW); Sheryl Stubblefield from the February First Movement, a Black anti-imperialist student organization; Vicki Welch, a factory worker and member of the Boulder Anti-Imperialist Solidarity Committee; and Lee Shelton, a women's liberation activist from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Several topics were discussed and at times strongly debated. Among them were the nature of women's oppression and whether fighting to elect more women politicians like Bella Abzug or

Madame Gandhi of India is the answer—in short, whether to turn the women's liberation movement into a fight for merely a bigger slice of the capitalist pie or to link women's struggles to the overall struggle for socialist revolution.

Betsy Karowski from NOW said their primary work was centered around working for the Equal Rights Amendment in various states. She also said that the Empress of Iran had played a "progressive and leading role" at the Mexico City International Women's Conference. She wouldn't comment on a statement by a member of Workers World Party about the savage repression and torture of women in Iran.

Lee Shelton spoke briefly about how capitalist society's sex roles and mores oppress women. The oppression of lesbian women and gay people generally was also discussed.

One speaker from the audience stated that the struggle for gay liberation had nothing to do with either the revolutionary women's movement or the revolutionary communist movement and thus shouldn't be supported.

Other speakers from the panel and audience strongly disagreed. Christina Lucero from the Apostles for Justice stated that she didn't support the theory of men as the main enemy of women advocated

by some lesbian feminists, but she supported the struggle of lesbian women and gay men for democratic rights. She also said that she and the Apostles for Justice strongly object to the sexist practice of some groups that claim to be communist of excluding lesbian women from rallies and demonstrations solely because of their sexual orientation, regardless of whether they have a working-class analysis of women's and gay people's oppression.

Dalice Miller of Workers World Party spoke from the floor about how anti-gay bias is another way the ruling class keeps the working class divided and pointed out how the Bolsheviks officially abolished anti-gay legislation after their revolution and worked hard to eliminate all traces of anti-gay discrimination from Soviet society.

Sheryl Stubblefield from the February First Movement talked about how the struggles of women revolutionaries worldwide, from Vietnam to South Africa, help to strengthen the revolutionary women's movement here. She also talked about the triple oppression Black working women face because of the class, race, and sex.

The 50 people who attended the forum felt the panel discussion was very helpful in clarifying points of unity and difference in the women's movement.

OL attacks lesbian workers

Anti-gay bigotry mars Colo. march

By DALICE MILLER

DENVER, Colo., March 6—A march and rally were held here today to celebrate International Women's Day.

The International Women's Day Coalition, led by members of October League (OL), had organized the action and had publicly stated that it was open to any women or men who accepted three main slogans: 1) Equal pay for equal work; Men and women unite to fight for women's rights; 2) Support liberation struggles of Third World peoples; 3) Women hold up half the sky.

The Lesbian-Feminist Workers of Denver upheld the three demands and wanted to participate in the march and rally. They also wanted to carry their own banners with slogans like "Capitalism and sexism work hand in hand, Unite to fight back," "Support Inez Garcia, self-defense is a right," and "Support child custody for lesbian mothers."

Before the march started, members of the October League approached the L-F Workers and stated that they could only march if they left their banners behind, because banners in support of lesbian rights would "turn off

workers and minorities—they don't relate to homosexuals." The L-F Workers strongly rejected OL's sexist demands and, as the march started, unfurled their banners and prepared to join it.

Members of OL then charged the group of predominately working class, Black and Chicano women holding the banners, shoving and hitting them in an attempt to tear down the banners. Some people were slightly injured in the scuffle.

The cops then intervened on the side of OL, telling the Lesbian-Feminist women that they couldn't march on the street since only the International Women's Day Coalition had a parade permit.

In protest of the attack on the Lesbian-Feminist workers, Members of MECHA, a Chicano students' organization, and several other groups withdrew from the main march. The L-F workers had a separate march on the sidewalk with about 50 people participating.

The OL-led coalition, numbering about 80 people, marched to the State Capitol, had a rally, then dispersed.

The clash, naturally, was heavily publicized by the local capitalist media. One local TV commentator talked about how a "group of self-

proclaimed lesbians tried to muscle in on the International Women's Day march today." The Rocky Mountain News Sunday paper covered most of its front page with a large photo and lead article entitled "Lesbian Feminists, Women's Coalition Clash in Denver March."

The Lesbian-Feminist Workers of Denver are planning an open letter to the movement stating what happened on March 6 and asking for support for the rights of lesbian women to participate as equals in all women's movement events, and protesting sexist attempts to exclude them.



Chicago rally recognizes world's women in struggle

CHICAGO, March 5—International Women's Day was celebrated here tonight with a program that paid tribute to the struggles of women worldwide. Over 100 women and men attended the program which consisted of talks, a slide show, and cultural events.

Pattie Brey of Workers World Party explained how women's oppression originated with the accumulation of private property and the overthrow of mother right. She spoke of the inspirational gains made by the people of Vietnam under a socialist society, and the heroic struggle of women in the U.S., including the Farah workers and the women in North Carolina prisons.

A slide show presented by women of the Chicago Committee

for the Liberation of Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea outlined the struggle of Angolan women. A woman from the Iranian Students Association spoke of the struggles of women in the oppressed countries. She told how women are playing leading roles in the fight against imperialism from Angola to Argentina to the Middle East.

Solidarity statements were heard from the Organization of Arab Students and the Eritreans for Liberation in North America. Cultural events included revolutionary songs by Arab and Iranian students and by El Grupo Latino. The spirit of international solidarity was highlighted by some very impressive traditional and revolutionary dances by members of the Eritreans for Liberation in North America.

Zimbabwe armed struggle spreads

By NICK DE FREITAS

NEW YORK, March 15—The collapse of the reign of illegal white minority rule is on the African horizon.

Armed with the fresh spirit of the MPLA's triumphal rout of U.S. puppet forces from Angolan soil, the national liberation movements on the African continent are preparing for a decisive struggle with the racist regimes in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and South Africa.

"Never before in the ten years of illegal independence has the morale of the white population in Rhodesia slipped so low," wrote the British Manchester Guardian of March 8.

Advertisements by Rhodesian settlers desperately trying to sell their mansions and land—even at half price—appear frequently in London papers. "I know it's madness," one such ad explained, "but health comes first."

And the 270,000 privileged whites in Rhodesia have good reason to feel their unlawful rule is threatened by the territory's 6,250,000 Black population. Out-numbered 20 to 1, the regime of Ian Smith has imposed an absolute tyranny on the impoverished Black nation of Zimbabwe. But reports from the guerrilla movements tell of many Black youths leaving their towns and villages in order to join the armed struggle now going on against the racist Smith regime.

FRATERNAL SUPPORT FROM MOZAMBIQUE

Many Zimbabwe freedom fighters are receiving training in Mozambique, the former Portuguese colony that is today led by a new, militant Black government after winning its freedom through 11 years of liberation war.

This anti-imperialist regime in its short existence has already provided important support to its enslaved comrades on the African continent. Mozambique was part of the vanguard in aiding the now victorious freedom struggle of the Angolan people under the leadership of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). The government of Mozambique led by Samora Machel of Frelimo has consistently

pledged its aid and support for the African revolution, in particular to the African masses living under the yoke of white minority rule.

On March 2 President Machel called upon the nation's 9 million people to build air-raid shelters and spend off-duty hours manning anti-aircraft defense against "racist aggression" from neighboring Rhodesia.

Machel, whose militant radio address was first interpreted by Western observers as "a declaration of war against Ian Smith," closed Mozambique's 800-mile frontier and severed all links with the Salisbury government. Mozambique's boycott leaves landlocked Rhodesia with only one congested outlet to the sea via South Africa.

While officials of the Ian Smith regime quickly maintained the Mozambique communiqué did not constitute a full state of war (later confirmed by the Frelimo government), officials of the Black African nation reiterated that their country was on a "war footing" with Rhodesia.

RHODESIAN ATTACKS AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE

The Mozambican leader said these actions were the result of a Rhodesian air and artillery attack on the village of Pafuri on the Limpopo River inside Mozambique. Frequent incursions of Rhodesian troops have been made into Mozambique territory, supposedly in "hot pursuit" of Zimbabwe freedom fighters. In recent weeks, villages have been bombed, invaded, and some virtually destroyed.

The South African press, reflecting a rising hysteria against the newly liberated countries, has estimated there are 16,000 Zimbabwe guerrillas presently massing along the Rhodesian border. Increased guerrilla activity in Rhodesia over the last few months has led to fears among U.S., British, and South African officials of an intensification of "massive coordinated guerrilla attacks staged and coordinated from Mozambique and Namibia." The fascist settler states and their imperialist backers also live in fear that the socialist countries will

extend aid to the Zimbabwe guerrillas, who in the past have fought courageously and with the support of the people, but without the equipment or training needed to defeat the well-armed Rhodesian army.

U.S. IMPERIALISM'S STAKE IN AFRICA

It is an open secret that Wall Street and Washington have closely collaborated with the racist regimes in southern Africa. While imperialist liberals deplore the "excesses" of the apartheid governments, they fail to mention that American Metal Climax, Union Carbide, Foote Mineral Company, and other U.S.-owned multi-national corporations are the ones that profit most from the Nazi-like white minority rule.

The fascist atrocities committed by the Ian Smith regime in Rhodesia against the Black population have isolated it and brought it disgust and hate from all the progressive world. In 1966 the United Nations Security Council imposed mandatory sanctions on trade with Rhodesia, branding it "illegal" and "a threat to international peace." Despite this, the U.S. openly trades with Rhodesia, especially since Congress passed the Byrd Amendment which allows trade for chrome and other "strategic minerals" in spite of the UN ban.

THE NEW STRATEGY

Fearing that a continuation of the hated and discredited policies of Ian Smith will only hasten the downfall of colonialist rule in southern Africa, the U.S. and Britain are banking on recent talks between Ian Smith and Black leaders considered more "moderate" than the guerrilla fighters to work out a compromise which will retain the essence of white minority rule but set up a political structure that will appear to give some participation to the Black population.

England has been one of the main forces pressuring the Smith regime to conduct the talks and make "concessions to the Black majority" before it is too late.

Through its officials in Parliament it has indicated that it

might be willing to send troops to Rhodesia to aid against the liberation struggle if the Salisbury regime would give the Black population some form of token representation in the government.

Britain, South Africa, and the U.S. have urged Smith to reach a negotiated settlement as soon as possible in order to avoid an all-out war with the Black guerrilla forces, making it clear they will not send troops unless the regime makes some apparent concessions to the Black majority. A less isolated government would make it easier in the eyes of the imperialist powers to muster international support and intervene on behalf of the bankrupt and illegal white minority.

While this maneuvering goes on, however, the millions of terribly oppressed Black people have been absorbing the lessons of the recent victories in Portugal's former colonies: that only a clean break with reformist politics and the establishment of a liberation movement armed ideologically and militarily makes it possible to oust the oppressors and establish a real government of the people.

With Wall Street's backing

Rhodesia: 80 y

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, March 15—The history of present-day Rhodesia, one of the last bastions of white minority rule in Africa, has left an ugly legacy of repression, gross discrimination, and unspeakable poverty for the 96 percent of the population who are black.

OVER 80 YEARS OF PLUNDER

European plunder of the southern African land of Zimbabwe began in the 1880's, when profit-hungry diamond millionaire John Cecil Rhodes led a group of 200 mercenaries into the area from South Africa in search of gold.

Rhodes named the land after himself, and his company, the British South Africa Company, ruled directly over Rhodesia until it was declared a British colony in 1923. In 1965, Ian Smith, prime minister of Rhodesia, announced a settlers' declaration of independence, dedicated to perpetuating the privileges of the white minority. This triggered a UN-sanctioned embargo of Rhodesian goods.

From the very beginning, the invading European interests had made it clear what their policies would be toward the people of Zimbabwe. In 1898, the administration issued a declaration announcing, "The British South Africa Company, having recognized the impassable barrier between the two races, in order to avoid a social collision, has adopted a policy of segregation, whereby the natives, not directly or indirectly working for Europeans, live apart in large areas reserved for them...."

LAND-STEALING POLICIES CONTINUE

This odious policy is still in effect today. The latest of laws aimed at stealing Africans' land is the Land Tenure Act of 1969, which set aside 45,000,000 acres for the 250,000 whites and approximately the

same amount for the almost 6 million Africans!

Not only was the tiny white minority given much more land per person, but white land areas enjoy better soil quality, climate, and transportation facilities. The Africans have been forced onto the worst land with poor soil, usually granite-sand, in isolated sections of the country.

The repressive land policy coupled with heavy taxation not only secured for white settlers the best land; it also functioned to drive Black landholders into European-owned farms, factories, and mines at slave wages.

According to the Associated Press Almanac of 1974, the average monthly wage for white Rhodesian factory workers in 1970 was \$250, while it was only \$36 for Black factory workers. This, of course, doesn't take into account the many Africans who are involved in subsistence farming and receive no wages at all.

LEGALIZED RACISM

Land policy is not the only way the reactionary rulers in Rhodesia have perpetrated staggering inequalities between Black people and white settlers. Through the years, Rhodesian law has canonized arch-racism. Not only is it illegal for Africans to live on lands allocated to white settlers, but they also cannot be admitted to a hospital reserved for whites only, even if it is a matter of life or death. The legacy of Rhodesian law has also made it a criminal offense for Black men to have sexual relations with white women, for Africans to "repeat rumors" or "cause alarm," and for anyone except property owners with a high school education to vote.

Other colonial laws made it illegal for Black workers to enter into collective bargaining or form unions, forcing them to accept the wages their white bosses saw fit to pay them. Although these laws are no longer on the books, a majority of the trade unions in Rhodesia are



Members of the Organization of Mozambican Women in free Mozambique. The liberation of Mozambique has given great inspiration to the Black majority in Zimbabwe in their struggle to defeat the fascist Rhodesian regime.

Thousands of Blacks defy 'Terrorism Act'

Vorster threatens to lynch SASO 9

By NICK DE FREITAS

"Nine men are dying to hear from you."

This is the message from the international defense committees established for 9 Black leaders of the South African Students Organization (SASO). They are presently facing death by hanging in a trial characterized by the racist hysteria of the apartheid regime in Pretoria.

Confronted by the victory of the MPLA in Angola, weakened by Mozambique's blockade of the racist regime of Rhodesia and threatened by a rapidly-expanding guerrilla war of SWAPO in Namibia, the South African government is becoming increasingly aware of the power of the 17 million Black people within its own borders.

Using a vague "Terrorism Act" aimed at destroying any type of opposition to the racist minority regime, the South African police have unleashed a wanton attack against the Black population. According to the Terrorism Act, any person can be imprisoned for expressing opposition to the Vorster regime. The security

forces are using the Act to arrest and torture Black people without formal charges and keep them locked up for an indefinite period. These arrests and detentions have led to the longest series of political trials since the harsh political repression of the early sixties.

Currently the major trial in South Africa is that of the members of the all-Black South African Students Organization (SASO), the Black People Convention (BPC), the Black Allied Workers Union (BAWU) and various other Black movements. The 9 accused Black leaders have been imprisoned for one and a half years. They are charged under the Terrorism Act with conspiring to bring about revolutionary change in South Africa by violent means and encouraging racial hostilities between Blacks and whites.

RACIST POLICE ATTACK RALLIES

The present racist attacks stem out of attempts by SASO to organize rallies in Durban, Capetown, Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg and Pietersburg in solidarity with the revolution in Mozambique.

In spite of constant threats by the

South African government, officers of SASO and the BPC issued a statement declaring the rallies would take place, and thousands of students gathered in support of the Mozambique victory. Soon after the solidarity program started, South African police arrived in 15 riot vans and five squad cars, and armed with attack dogs, shotguns, and riot gear. As the students left singing the African national anthem, the police attacked them.

A few days later, the President of SASO and the President of the Student Council were arrested.

In the city of Durban, 2,000 Black people gathered in the stadium before the police cordoned off the area. Soon an estimated 5,000 people had gathered on the outside, singing the African national anthem and chanting "Viva FRELIMO." In a preplanned assault, the police unleashed their dogs on the crowd and launched an armed attack.

Many of the Black people were arrested at random, others were picked off at the hospitals where they had gone for treatment of injuries. Later that evening

COUNTRY-WIDE SWEEP

members of SASO and the BPC

were arrested at their offices.

"This turned out to be the beginning of a country-wide sweep by secret police on all Black organizations," observed a recently-published pamphlet of the SASO 9 Defense Fund. "Within a month after the detentions which followed the rally in Durban, many people who were either members or supporters of the different Black movements were detained in different parts of South Africa."

After the many days of confinement, forty people out of the hundreds arrested were charged with terrorism. But due to massive pressure on the South African government, charges against 31 of them had to be dropped. Today the SASO 9 are facing 104 pages of trumped-up charges and a racist court.

"Support is needed right now," the SASO 9 Defense Fund told Workers World. "We are in need of volunteers, office space, telephones, postage stamps, stationery, funds, and endorsements."

If you can contribute money and/or services, contact the SASO 9 Defense Fund, P.O. Box 467 Cathedral Station, NYC 10025. Telephone: (212) 280-3992.

Years of plunder

still divided along racial lines.

REPRESSION KEEPS RACISTS IN POWER

With all these gross inequalities perpetrated against the overwhelming majority of the population, virtually the only thing keeping the Ian Smith regime in power is the harsh repression carried out against Africans. Today, according to the March 7 Manchester Guardian, an English newspaper, there are 8,000 "security police" operating in Rhodesia and the military budget tops \$102 million.

"Rhodesia's rapidly-inflated military machine has turned many men between the ages of 18 and 38 into what one disgruntled reservist called 'commuters of war,'" the Manchester Guardian reports. "It is quite normal for reservists to be called up for three 56-day periods of duty a year."

Fighting alongside settler troops and reservists are mercenaries from Europe and the U.S. According to the Summer 1975 issue of Soldier of Fortune, a magazine published by and for white racist mercenaries, pay is equivalent to \$1,600 a month and can be deposited in a foreign bank.

These mercenaries, the Rhodesian army, and paramilitary police are responsible for creating an atmosphere of terror among Black civilians, who have been napalmed, tortured, and massacred. Just recently, the London Daily Mirror published an interview with Tom McCarthy, a white mercenary who fought in the Rhodesian Army. McCarthy told the Daily Mirror he had participated in a massacre where all the inhabitants of a village were killed and their homes drenched with gasoline and set on fire.

Not only are entire villages razed by Rhodesian regulars and mercenary troops, but villagers in border areas have been uprooted and forced into camps called "protected villages," reminiscent of the "strategic hamlets" con-

cocted by the Pentagon and their stooges to terrorize the Vietnamese population during the Indochina war.

For the last ten years, the racist regime has concentrated about 200,000 Africans into these village lockups, surrounded by barbed wire and under heavy guard. Identity passes are required to enter or leave the area, and there is a strict curfew at night.

ROLE OF U.S. IMPERIALISM

Of course, the tiny minority of racists who are running Rhodesia are not able to remain in power by their efforts alone. U.S. corporations are anxious that the southern African country not take the path that the Angolan people did in driving back pro-imperialist puppet troops and invaders recently.

The United States, along with England, West Germany, South Africa, and a handful of imperialist powers are alone in the world in violating a UN-imposed embargo of trade with the racist regime. The greater part of U.S. capital invested in Rhodesia is tied up in chrome and asbestos mining. For corporations such as Union Carbide, investments in the southern African country have enormous allure due to the starvation wages Black workers receive, the lack of taxes on corporations, and other inducements favorable to continued imperialist plunder.

However, these companies as well as rulers in both Rhodesia and the U.S. are becoming increasingly nervous as the struggle among the oppressed African masses builds. The imperialists and their good friends in Salisbury know that the 80 years of plunder that have stripped the Black people of Zimbabwe of their land and wealth have also created a steadfast determination among the Black masses to seize control of their destiny and end forever the gross racist discrimination and inequalities they have suffered.



With the end of minority white rule in Africa imminent, the racist settler governments, in a desperate attempt to keep power, have stepped up their attacks against Black liberation fighters. Here Rhodesian troops go on a terror mission.

YAWF leader in Chicago

Unmasks U.S. imperialism's role in Africa

By ALEC HORTON

CHICAGO, Feb. 27—Tonight more than 60 people heard Claudette Furlonge, a member of the Steering Committee of the Third World Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism, speak on the role of U.S. imperialism in Africa.

Furlonge traced the origins of massive U.S. involvement in Africa to the period following World War II, when the United States moved in to prop up the European colonial powers, such as Britain, France, and Belgium. She outlined the penetration of U.S. corporations—both openly, and covertly through control of European companies—into Africa and their increasing control of the natural resources and economies of African countries.

When the first wave of resistance to American and European imperialism arose in the 1950s, centered around leaders like

Patrice Lumumba of the Congo, the imperialists were able to intervene through puppet leaders like Moise Tshombe and Joseph Mobutu (now President of Zaire) to topple progressive nationalist regimes. This has been turned around, she noted, by the rise of powerful liberation movements in African colonies and neo-colonies.

She stressed how the victories in Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and other Portuguese colonies have already advanced the struggles in other African countries. The revolutionary FRELIMO government in Mozambique, for example, has provided strong support for liberation forces in Zimbabwe.

She traced the history of the struggles in Angola and Eritrea, saluting the sweeping victory of the MPLA in Angola and expressing solidarity with the Eritrean liberation fighters and

confidence in their final victory.

A lively and spirited discussion followed. When one speaker, responding to Furlonge's praise of support given to African freedom fighters by the Soviet Union and revolutionary Cuba, charged that the USSR was "imperialist" and as bad as the United States, a Black speaker in the audience retorted that everywhere he had been in Africa, he had seen that oppressor forces were armed by the U.S. while liberation movements received their arms and equipment from the socialist countries.

A speaker from Eritrea provided information about the fight in his country and about the MPLA. The dominant need in the discussion, as it had been in the presentation, was one of revolutionary internationalism and solidarity with the struggles of oppressed peoples all over the world.

EDITORIAL

The West Bank protests Israeli occupation

Only two months after the attempt by U.S. imperialism's Phalangist allies in Lebanon to crush the Palestinian resistance movement there, the Palestinians are once again under attack, this time on the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Israeli authorities have stepped up their attempts to build settlements in the occupied areas and permanently incorporate them into Israel, but these provocations have sparked widespread resistance among the Palestinian residents.

The town of Ramallah has been placed under an indefinite total curfew as punishment for daring to stand up to the racist occupation forces. Students at Bethlehem University barricaded themselves in their school and flew the flag of Palestine out the window. The mayors and town councils of Ramallah, El Bireh, and Bir Zeit and the town council of Nablus resigned in protest of the brutal beating of demonstrators at Bir Zeit College by Israeli "security" forces. The resignation by these officials, who are supposed to serve as puppets for the occupiers, dropped the fig leaf of legitimacy the Zionist settler state used to cover their expansion and further robbing of Palestinian residents' land.

This mass popular uprising of the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank is a revolutionary answer to current U.S.-sponsored schemes to split the Palestinian movement, hoping a new "moderate" leadership will renounce the struggle in order to achieve temporary gains.

The Israeli, Jordanian, and Phalangist Lebanese agents have failed to crush the Palestinian struggle to regain their homeland. Their tireless and heroic struggle for a secular, democratic Palestine deserves the unhesitating support of all genuinely progressive people.

Sadat's cancellation of Soviet treaty

President Anwar el-Sadat's announcement on Tuesday that he intends to cancel Egypt's friendship treaty with the Soviet Union can only be viewed as a highly provocative act, just one step short of breaking relations with the USSR. It is to be noted that Sadat's new turn to the right comes on the heels of William Simon's visit to Cairo where the U.S. Treasury Secretary pointedly flattered the Egyptian President for his demonstrations of ever greater belligerence to the Soviet Union.

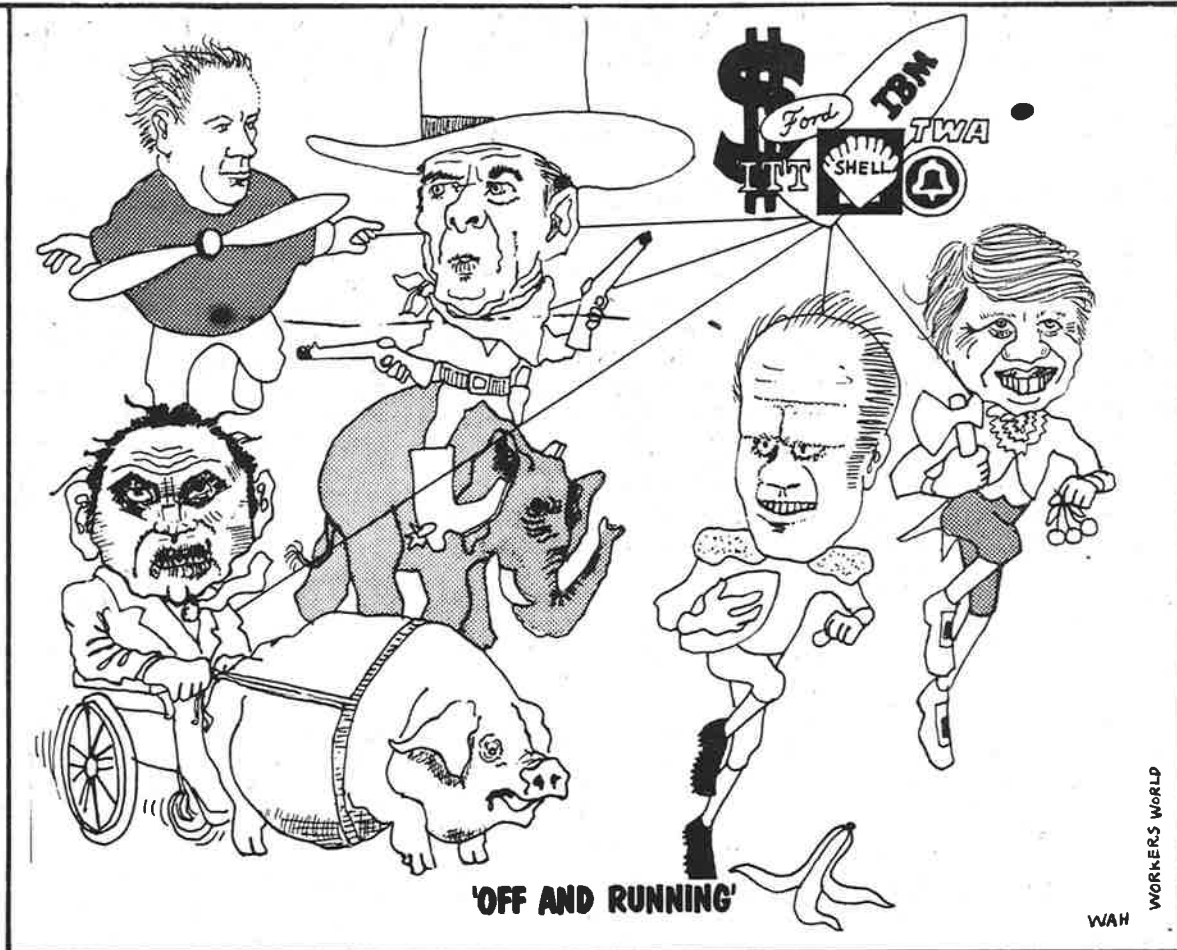
There is some irony in all this when one recalls that in May of 1971 former Secretary of State William Rogers paid a similar call on Sadat with the aim of nudging him closer to the camp of U.S. imperialism. Within a few days after Roger's return to Washington, Sadat launched a counter-revolutionary coup, arresting former cabinet ministers and especially the key military figures who had backed the late Gamal Nasser from 1952, when he overthrew the English puppet King Farouk, up until his death in 1970.

SADAT'S OPENING TO IMPERIALISM

Of course, Sadat's 1971 putsch was not a counter-revolution in the classical Marxist sense in which the power is wrested from one class and handed over to another. Rather it opened the floodgates to Western imperialist penetration, to the extent that now the U.S. multi-national corporations have been given a green light to overrun the whole of Egypt, exploit the people, and plunder the nation's resources.

It is true that while he resisted foreign imperialism, Nasser himself helped enthrone the local capitalist class. In recent weeks even members of the rubber-stamp People's Assembly have complained that there are over 500 millionaires living in "socialist" Egypt. And as for Sadat, one of his first acts in office was to return to the landed aristocracy property Nasser had nationalized in an anti-feudal reform. But Sadat has gone much further than just strengthening local bourgeois elements; he has brought the country directly into the imperialist fold, a total regression from Nasser's anti-colonialist positions.

All the more unfortunate, then, that the Chinese government should characterize Sadat's termination of the Friendship Treaty with the Soviet Union as "a great victory for the Egyptian people," when in fact it merely signals a more open enslavement of the Egyptian masses by Wall Street.



East Timor resistance is firm; struggle gains worldwide support

NEW YORK, March 15—Recent reports from the Democratic Republic of East Timor indicate that the resistance there is continuing to prevent massive Indonesian invasion forces from making military progress.

Indonesia's fascist military regime invaded the recently independent former Portuguese colony on December 7 with 6,000 marines, and on December 25 another 25-30,000 heavily armed Indonesian elite troops were thrown into battle. Despite the use of helicopters, tanks, artillery, napalm, and chemical bombs, the Indonesian forces have been unable to control more than about 15 percent of the territory of East Timor. The entire population of 650,000 has been organized by Fretilin, the Revolutionary Front for the Independence of East Timor, into militia units and is offering fierce resistance at every point to the Indonesian aggressors.

Jose Ramos-Horta, the Foreign Minister of East Timor presently in this country to bring Indonesia's aggression before the United Nations, said today that an unexpected Fretilin major offensive had been launched against Indonesian army-controlled areas.

"Following an uprising by the population in Dili on March 13th," said Mr. Horta, "forces of the government of the Democratic Republic of East Timor went in support of the anti-Indonesian rebellion, causing heavy casualties among the Javanese troops. Since March 13th, nationalist forces have continuously launched raids against Indonesian military camps in Dili, Bacau, and Aileu."

U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED

Mr. Ramos-Horta's statement continued, "Over the past two weeks the following military equipment has been captured: 600 U.S.-made submachine guns; 100 U.S.-made heavy machine guns; and thousands of rounds of ammunition."

Since the U.S.-sponsored coup in Indonesia in 1965, in which hundreds of thousands of progressive

Indonesians were massacred, the U.S. government has been the main supplier of military weaponry to the fascist regime.

"60,000 DEAD" SAYS PRO-INDONESIAN PUPPET

In the past few weeks Indonesian forces in Timor have resorted to the tactic of civilian massacres in a desperate attempt to break the will of the East Timor people. A spokesman from the pro-Indonesian puppet "government" established in Dili recently told the press that up to 60,000 East Timorese have been killed in the fighting over the past few months. The spokesman naturally failed to mention that nearly all these deaths were civilians who were massacred by Indonesian troops. He also failed to mention that Fretilin forces, despite the presence of 30 U.S.-supplied warships off the coast of East Timor, managed to recapture villages along the shore, and that up to 20,000 Indonesian elite troops have been killed or wounded in the faltering invasion.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

The heroism of the East Timor people has won them international support from many progressive organizations and countries. Perhaps the most dramatic was the recent decision by 40 Australian trade unions to charter a ship with humanitarian aid to Fretilin-held areas. The ship, which will be run by a volunteer crew from the Australian Seaman's Union, will attempt to run the Indonesian naval blockade around the island of Timor.

In addition, several Australian unions are boycotting all transactions with Indonesia including

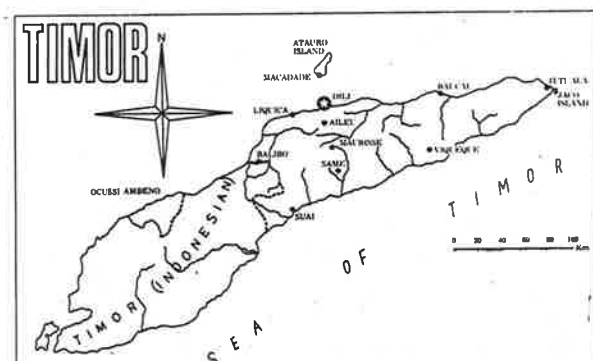
postal and telegraph service, dock loading and unloading, and even meat service to the home of the Indonesian ambassador. Student and church groups in Australia have also provided strong support for Fretilin's right to govern the country.

East Timor has also begun to win the support of many progressive governments. Strong statements of solidarity have recently been issued by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Democratic People's Republic of Kampuchea (Cambodia), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Albania, and the People's Republic of China.

At a recent conference in Luanda, Angola, 83 liberation movements expressed their solidarity with Fretilin and the governments of Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, and the People's Republic of Angola have pledged their support to their brothers and sisters in this last of Portugal's colonies to come under the gun.

Here in the United States, support is also growing for the East Timor struggle. On Monday, April 5, a demonstration will be held by the Timor Defense Committee, at which several progressive organizations will be present, to condemn the genocidal Indonesian invasion of East Timor, to demand an end to all U.S. aid to Indonesia, and to express solidarity with the right of self-determination of the East Timor people under the leadership of Fretilin. The demonstration will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the United Nations (42nd St. and First Ave.).

(Thanks to Prof. Richard Franke of the Timor Defense Committee for this article.)



INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Ranks bolt from rightist-dominated Lebanese military, form Arab Army

By BILL DEL VECCHIO
NEW YORK, March 16—After suffering a shattering military defeat last January at the hands of the Palestinian and leftist forces, Lebanon's wealthy rulers are now faced with losing control of their last functioning government institution, the Lebanese Army.

A force of rebellious soldiers and low-ranking officers has broken with the Phalangist-dominated officer corps and formed the Lebanese Arab Army, which now appears to have the allegiance of the majority of the soldiers.

Demanding political and economic reforms, a complete restructuring of the military, and proclaiming solidarity with the Palestinian revolution, the Arab Army has won over garrison after garrison this past week.

"COUP" BY AHDAB

In an attempt to re-establish officer control over the army, Brigadier General Abdel Aziz al-Ahdab, military governor of Beirut, proclaimed himself military governor of Lebanon and demanded the immediate resignation of President Franjeh, a hated rightist. The move by Ahdab had the open support of the pro-Phalangist Army head, Major General Said, and was not opposed by the Syrian mediation team which arranged and has supervised the ceasefire since January.

The "coup" by Ahdab was decided on by the officers after an offer of amnesty was rejected by the mutinous soldiers and three more garrisons broke away.

"If I had not interfered, one army barracks after another would have fallen," said General Ahdab, the highest-ranking Moslem officer. A graduate of the U.S. Army Military Police School in Fort Gordon, Ga., General Ahdab is known for having led the Squad 16 police force which aided invading U.S. Marines in crushing anti-imperialists in the 1958 civil war.

Despite Ahdab's interference, one barracks after another have "fallen" to the Arab Army. Led by Lieutenant Ahmed Al-Khatib, the breakaway movement was started shortly before the ceasefire, after the pro-Phalangist officer corps used the Lebanese troops to aid Phalangist and rightist forces in the bitter fighting. The continued use of the Lebanese Army by the rightists during the ceasefire to regain their former military strength fueled the mutinies.

On March 11, three garrisons, two on the Israel border and one in Tripoli, joined the Arab Army. On March 12, garrisons in Saida and Trye joined the movement, and by March 13 the New York Times gloomily stated, "There is no firm figure of how much of the 18,000 man Lebanese Army remains intact."

Showing Ahdab's coup to be a political maneuver rather than a military one, a general in Beirut admitted to the New York Times on March 15, "We have all the officers, but no troops." In his statements, Ahdab has been careful to reassure the Palestinians that the coup isn't directed against them, and declared that the mutinous soldiers have legitimate grievances. The choice of Franjeh as a target is a calculated compromise aimed at sacrificing a key rightist in order to continue the rule of the wealthy, pro-imperialist minority.

President Franjeh, who never made a statement to the people

during the 9-month civil war, has become isolated from the rightist forces, as well as the Syrians, and was always hated by the left. Reflecting this isolation, two-thirds of Parliament supported General Ahdab and signed a petition demanding the President's resignation on March 14, but Franjeh refused.

Following Franjeh's refusal to resign, General Ahdab began threatening to militarily remove the President from his fortified palace. Franjeh responded by saying he would die rather than

surrender the presidency.

The Arab Army began to move troops to seize Franjeh's palace, but so far hasn't actually attempted to attack it. It is unclear whether the Arab Army supports General Ahdab in anything more than ousting Franjeh.

The long overdue rebellion of Lebanon's rank and file soldiers is helping to dig the grave once and for all for imperialism's stranglehold over Lebanon.

The mutiny of Lebanese soldiers and the rebellion of the Lebanese masses indicate that the hold of the wealthy, pro-imperialist rulers has been fundamentally eroded and that Lebanon can no longer be depended on as the "Hong Kong of the Middle East" by U.S. imperialism.

Jail, torture, wage slavery make life unbearable for south Korean women

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU

NEW YORK, Mar. 14—While many women throughout the world took time out last week to commemorate International Women's Day and the gains women have made from Vietnam to Angola, their solidarity also went out to the many women still struggling against imperialist domination and exploitation.

The despicable condition of women still held in virtual slavery by capitalism is nowhere more clearly revealed than in south Korea, where U.S. imperialism's occupation army props up a brutal dictatorship.

WOMEN DENIED RIGHTS, DECENT WAGES

First Japanese, then U.S. imperialism have trampled on the political and civil rights of Korean men and women through the illegal occupation of south Korea.

In an attempt to stifle any opposition by working and poor people against his tyrannical rule, U.S. puppet president Pak Jung Hi proclaimed the "political party law" forbidding any party but his own from establishing itself. The effect of this law on women is to deny the right to form women's organizations to fight for their own emancipation.

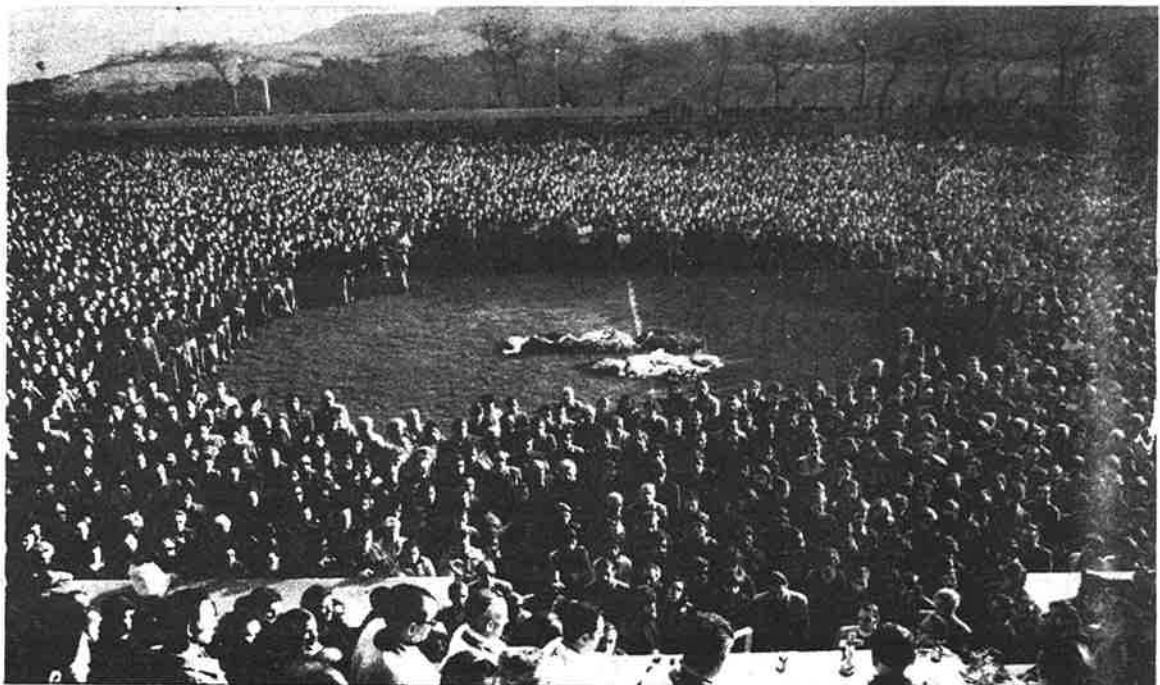
Assemblies and demonstrations, such as the militant anti-fascist protest by students at Rihwa Women's University in 1974, are also banned and subject to vicious police attacks.

While 7 million are jobless in south Korea and conditions for those working are deplorable, the worst burden falls upon women workers. Only 5 to 6 percent of the women able to work can find jobs. When they find them, wages are 45 to 49 percent of what men make for the same job. Women clothing workers, for example, are paid between 8 and 18 cents an hour for a 12, 16, or 20 hour workday! (Pregnancy or marriage can result in firing.)

Nearly 80 percent of working women in south Korea suffer from occupational diseases. Ninety percent of the women workers at the Taesong Precision Industrial Company in Seoul are suffering loss of memory and eyesight, and brain damage from toxic chemicals there. Over 40 percent of rubber factory workers are brain-damaged from handling lead-contaminated rubber. Yet, no medical treatment is available for these diseases and there are no safety standards in south Korea to protect the workers from the unbridled profit-seeking of U.S. and Japanese business interests.

Desperate to provide an income for themselves and their families,

over 400,000 women in south Korea have been forced into prostitution just to survive. The Pak regime actually operates houses of prostitution under the title of "Kisaeng girls villages" which cater to Japanese and U.S. militarists and businessmen. In an arrogant, chauvinist statement, Pak Jung Hi remarked, "Kisaeng-girl tourism is a very paying business and brings us lots of foreign currency for it doesn't need



any capital, facilities, or raw materials."

Besides encouraging prostitution, the Pak regime sells women outright into wage slavery to giant corporations in West Germany and as divers to South Pacific countries.

Despite the misery meted out to them, Korean women have risen again and again, inspired by their sisters in the north and around the world. In October and November 1975, 4,000 women students from Rihwa University demonstrated their outrage at the Pak dictatorship. Students at Home College in Seoul and at Songsin Women's College in Chunchon have also risen in struggle.

Three hundred families last fall protested the jailing and torture of their husbands and sons, demanding to visit their detained relatives.

Beginning last April, women garment workers in a number of textile mills staged sitdown strikes for better wages and working conditions. Gradually the struggle of south Korean women is being organized and is developing into a political struggle which will one day help to sweep U.S. imperialism and its puppet regime from the whole of Korea.

Fascist repression, U.S. military aid go hand in hand in south Korea

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, March 15—Ordering another of the pre-dawn police round-ups that have become the hallmark of his rule, south Korean dictator Pak Jung Hi had 11 political opponents of the fascist regime arrested without warrants on the night of March 10. Each was charged with "attempting to overthrow the government" though they had merely suggested Pak step down in light of the "economic irregularities and corruption" that permeate his administration from top to bottom. Pak's venality is well known, the \$4-million bribe he got from Gulf Oil being merely one example.

Nevertheless, on March 11, a south Korean official told the New York Times that "it is the Government's interpretation that calling for the President's resignation is the same as calling for the government's overthrow."

On Saturday the 13th, close to 500 teachers at various south Korean universities were fired, having failed to show sufficient enthusiasm for indoctrinating their students with the latest decrees from Pak's propaganda ministry. By Monday, the number of arrests had reached at least 28. All remained in jail (no bail is permitted in south Korea) and if

convicted they face indefinite imprisonment.

Others who had been picked up, detained, and then released by the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) during this latest wave of repression described to the foreign press how up to ten agents had interrogated them at one time. Some told how they had been tormented by incessant questioning for as long as six days without sleep.

Among those charged was Kim Dae Jung who had committed the crime of running against Pak in the rigged 1971 presidential elections. On Aug. 8, 1973, Mr. Kim was kidnapped by KCIA agents in broad daylight from the heart of downtown Tokyo where he had fled to escape Pak's vengeance.

Drugged and dragged back to Seoul, he was kept under house arrest until his recent indictment.

Despite legislation passed this year by the U.S. Congress barring military aid to governments which carry out "gross violations of internationally recognized human rights," neither the Senate nor the House of Representatives has even voted on reducing the \$202.7 million Ford is asking in military assistance to prop up the hated Pak regime.

Thousands of Basque demonstrators gather at memorial for fallen comrade killed by Spanish police.

Juan Carlos regime in Spain facing strike wave, discontent in military

NEW YORK, March 15—In a climate of acute political and labor unrest, a Spanish court-martial on March 10 sentenced nine anti-fascist army officers to prison terms ranging from 30 months to eight years.

The nine officers were accused of being members of an illegal organization called the Democratic Military Union (DMU), a group believed to be somewhat similar to the Portuguese Armed Forces Movement which overthrew the Caetano dictatorship in Lisbon two years ago. The Spanish police have expressed fears that 400 to 500 officers, mostly captains and majors, have joined the DMU since last summer.

If the more privileged layers of the military are expressing this sort of dissatisfaction with the new right-wing government of King Juan Carlos, one can be sure that such sentiments are far more

widespread among the lower enlisted ranks of the armed services.

Last week left no doubt about how the Spanish, Catalan, and Basque working class feel about their rich new monarch. On the same day that the nine were sentenced, 60,000 textile workers in Barcelona walked off the job demanding wage increases in defiance of the pay freeze law. Per capita income in Spain is only \$818 a year.

The Barcelona action brought the number of strikers currently out to 300,000. Recent figures released by the Madrid regime show that in January and February of this year workers struck 36 million labor hours, twice the comparable figure for the whole of 1975! And with an inflation rate of 16.5 percent coupled with a rise in unemployment of 80 percent over the past year, the struggle is sure to intensify. —A.S.

Rigged elections 1876-1976

1900—the not-so-accidental President

By V. COPELAND

The re-election of William McKinley in 1900 was not as important as the political character of the Vice President who succeeded him (because of an assassination) in 1901—Theodore Roosevelt.

This talented but tempestuous servant of the capitalist class was given the Vice Presidency, according to all account, in order to shelve him and finish his political career.

But to regard him, therefore, as an accidental figure would be a great mistake.

To begin with, he was a member of an old American family—that is, a family of pillagers and robbers who had accumulated their pile some hundred years or more before he was born, making him a bona fide member of the ruling class before election to any office.

In addition, he was in Republican politics from young manhood, if not from childhood. His father was a Collector of the Port of New York, which was a highly "political" Customs House job with links going all the way to the White House and all the way down to a large number of ward heelers in New York City.

Like his father, he was in the Morgan-Vanderbilt stable of politicians, as almost any important Republican of New York State had to be at the time.

A SUCCESS AT 23

At the age of 23 he was nominated for the New York State Legislature (as Assemblyman) by none other than Chauncey Depew, the Morgan-Vanderbilt representative, who gave him the nod at a dinner in the famous Delmonico restaurant.

He was nominated for Mayor of New York in 1886—again by Chauncey Depew. And this nomination was checked out and approved by Elihu Root and Levi P. Morton, the Morgan partner who was to be Vice President in 1888 and later Governor of New York State.

He was appointed U.S. Civil Service Commissioner under President Harrison and Cleveland through the good offices of the previously-mentioned Morgan politicians, and thus groomed as the "reformer" that his own individual bent was also supposed to have made him.

And in 1897 he was made Assistant Secretary of the Navy by the same Wall Street wire-pullers.

Nothing could be more characteristic of his later career as President or more consonant with the political needs of monopoly capital at this turning point in U.S. history than Roosevelt's enthusiasm for these two very

"different" jobs. Civil Service satisfied his appetite for honest bourgeois government and reform, while the Navy secretaryship satisfied—and increased—his itch for imperialist expansion.

(It was Assistant Secretary Roosevelt who dispatched the U.S. battle fleet half way around the world to the then Spanish-controlled Philippines the day before the war with Spain "over Cuba" was to begin. He did this during the convenient absence of his superior, the regular Secretary of the Navy, but obviously with tremendous backing from Wall Street.)

FROM COLONEL TO GOVERNOR

After a suspiciously over-publicized four-month stint as a cavalry colonel in the Spanish-American War early in 1898, he was nominated for Governor of New York State in the same year.

Who nominated him? Of course—Chauncey Depew. And Elihu Root, the Wall Street lawyer, seconded the nomination.

Unlike the case of the New York mayoralty election (where he had come in third), Roosevelt easily won the governorship. It was Depew who suggested that he make patriotism the campaign issue—"patriotism" meaning the drive to spread the domain of the dollar throughout the world on the tips of bayonets and the muzzles of naval guns. This being right up TR's alley, he captured the now chauvinist-infected voters like an epidemic of the flu.

As governor he became very popular, more because of his flamboyant personality than anything he really did for the people. But New York State governors had been so uniformly reactionary that Roosevelt's style alone would have put him over. And he actually did sponsor some mild reforms and took great pleasure in defying or putting down the machine politicians of his own party, for whom he had an aristocratic as well as a more or less moral contempt.

As important an authority as Depew himself reveals the machinations of the party leaders

over "TR" in his autobiography *My Eighty Years* (incidentally throwing some light on the kind of candidate generally preferred by Wall Street):

"Roosevelt's administration (as governor) was high-minded and patriotic. But by his exercise of independent judgement and frequently by doing things without consulting with the leaders, State or local, he became exceedingly unpopular with the organization. It was evident that it would be very difficult to renominate him. It was also evident that on account of his popularity with the people, if he failed in the renomination, the party would be beaten. So it was unanimously decided to put him on the national ticket as Vice President."

THE "INDEPENDENT" PRESIDENT

But when McKinley was assassinated shortly after his second election, Roosevelt came into his own and conducted the Presidency with a vigor and apparent "independence" that endeared him to the majority of the long frustrated voting population.

Most of his vigor was spent, however, in enforcing the new gunboat policy, enlarging the Navy, intervening against the Boxer Rebellion in China, carrying out the bloody counter-revolution in the Philippines, consolidating U.S. gains in Cuba and Puerto Rico, and plotting a phony revolution in Panama (which was then part of Colombia) to secede and give the country to the U.S. to build the canal.

His movements toward "reform" (which we will discuss in the next installment) were merely an attempt to greater stability at home in order to more securely launch imperialist adventures abroad.

This recipe was so good that it was taken over by the Democrats for the First World War, the Second World War, the Korean War, and the war in Vietnam.

Thus the "accidental" election of Theodore Roosevelt in 1900 was, if not planned by individual capitalists, deeply programmed in the logic of imperialism itself.

officials have refused to deal with their responsibilities. Ms. Bush stated that "I join in the struggle to see justice done in regards not only to the death of my son, but to maybe better conditions for all sons and daughters in the Alabama prison system. . . . I think now the problem lies with us because we are on the outside and we are in a better position to aid the oppressed men and women."

Ms. Donnie Howard, Yukeena's sister, told the assembled media and 25 supporters gathered at the

Get in the struggle with Youth Against War & Fascism and Workers World Party!

Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism are organizing and responsible for many of the struggles you read about in the pages of this paper. These groups are made up of women and men, Black, white, Latin, Asian, and Native American, young and old, straight and gay, working, students, and unemployed, who fight on all the issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society.

If you would like to find out more about Workers World and YAWF, or if you would like to join them in their struggles, contact the branch nearest you from the list below.

ATLANTA—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 424, Atlanta, Georgia 30301
BALTIMORE—Workers World Party, 2402 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21218
BOSTON—Workers World Party, 419 Boylston Street, Room 204, Boston, Mass. 02116, (617) 353-1400
BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 730 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y. 14202, (716) 855-3055
CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Room 310, Chicago, Illinois 60605.
CLEVELAND—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 2576, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112, 451-9538 or 231-8456
DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, 3rd floor, Detroit, Michigan 48226
HOUSTON—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052
MILWAUKEE—Workers World Party, 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, 224-0422
NEW YORK CITY—Workers World Party, 46 West 21st Street, New York, N.Y. 10010, (212) 255-0352
NORFOLK—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, Virginia 23509, 627-0870
PHILADELPHIA—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 9894, Philadelphia, Pa. 19140
RICHMOND—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 12132, Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 353-9937
ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14614 (716) 546-6429
WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, care-of P.O. Box 1117, Washington, D.C. 20013

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March 19, 1976

—Wallace

(Continued from page 3)
mates, especially rebellious Black inmates.

"PEOPLE OUTSIDE MUST HELP"

The theme of the conference was to urge the public to become involved in these suits, suits that the people have been forced to undertake because state and prison

FOR THE BIRDS...

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HALF WAY TO THE
COUNTER IN ONLY
3 HOURS!

...OHMIGOD!

I GOTTA GO
TO THE
BATHROOM!

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POLITICAL PRISONERS



Suit bares evidence of police-FBI conspiracy in 1969 Fred Hampton murder in Chicago

NEW YORK, March 14—Details of how the police and FBI conspired to murder Black Panther Party leader Fred Hampton are emerging in the court hearings on a \$47.7-million damage suit filed by the mothers of Hampton and of Mark Clark, also murdered by police, and the seven survivors of the police raid that took place in Chicago on Dec. 4, 1969.

Former Chicago FBI Director

Marlin Johnson admitted on the stand last week that the FBI had given a map of Hampton's apartment to Illinois State Attorney General Edward Hanrahan shortly before the house was raided by police under Hanrahan's authority. Johnson, now head of the Chicago Police Department, also testified that the map had an X marked on it with the notation "Hampton sleeps

here." Hampton was murdered in his sleep on that very spot during the police raid.

James Montgomery and Jeff Hass, attorneys for the plaintiffs, got Johnson to admit that the Chicago FBI office had received the FBI Cointelpro (Counterintelligence Program) documents instructing the FBI to use local police to help them "restrain" and "cripple" the Black Panther Party in order to prevent the "rise of a Black Messiah who would electrify the Black masses."

However, Johnson claimed that the FBI had nothing to do with the raid. He called it routine policy to hand the map over to Hanrahan. Washing his hands of the matter, he said that what the police did with the information was none of his concern.

Johnson also verified a report that the weapons kept by the Panther Party in Hampton's apartment were legal and registered. In the FBI raid he led on Panther headquarters in June 1969, the Panthers made no resistance to the entrance of the FBI after being informed of their intention to search the office.

These admissions were especially significant as Hanrahan maintained that he conducted the Dec. 4 raid because of a tip from the FBI that the Panthers were storing large quantities of illegal firearms at the apartment. Hanrahan claims his police conducted the raid at four in the morning because they feared a hostile response if the Panthers were awake. Hanrahan has insisted that the enormous number of shells fired by the police into the apartment was a response to heavy gunfire from the Panthers, but a jury found that all the 88 shots fired came from the police.

Contributions and requests for more information can be sent to: December 4th Committee, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Rm. 1362, Chicago, Ill. 60604.

John Gibbs: gay leader beaten, injured, abused by prison officials

NEW YORK, March 14—Homosexuals in jail must suffer all the anti-gay prejudices brought from outside society compounded by the brutality and violence used upon all prisoners by the prison authorities. John Gibbs, co-founder and chairman of the National Gay Coalition for Prisoners' Rights (NGCPR), has been subjected to the worst forms of abuse and repression since he bravely began to speak for the rights of gays in jail.

In 1973, the co-founder and vice-chairman of the NGCPR was murdered in Leavenworth Federal Prison, the victim of a set-up by prison officials. Since then, Gibbs has been repeatedly beaten by prison guards, and he fears that he too might be murdered for demanding an end to the oppression of gay men and women behind bars.

In 1975 Gibbs was placed in the Behavior Modification Program in Marion Federal Penitentiary. This program is really a chamber of horrors devised to break the most political and most struggle-minded prisoners brought there from jails all over the country. Behavior modification is also used to "correct sexual deviation" in one of the most hair-raising and vile ways to oppress gay people.

Gibbs' treatment at Marion has been so abusive that other prisoners in the Behavior

Modification Program have written to this paper asking us to publicize John Gibbs' plight. The following is a recent letter from Gibbs.

"I am contacting you as the pre-trial hearings on my first case against certain prison officials that I filed in October 1975 are coming up. I am suing for \$500,000 and for my release as I was placed in jeopardy, 'promised' parole, assaulted by officials, beaten, and injured—all due to my being chairman of the NGCPR.

"Assault charges against five more officers (Lt. Shields, Mr. Laswell, Mr. Todter, Mr. Boye, and Mr. Willcott) who beat me on January 13 will be heard also, as summons were issued last month and 12 witnesses on my behalf will be presented. The actions are going to be helpful to all gay prisoners in halting the abuse and torture of gay prisoners.

"My attorney is Freddy L. Shapiro, 1006 Walnut St., Murphysboro, Ill. 62966. Any support letters can be sent to him. Letters of protest can be sent to Judge James Foreman, U.S. District Court of East St. Louis, Ill. 63202.

"Your publishing this will be deeply appreciated in much-needed support by all people interested in Gay Rights.

"In Gay Struggle,
John Gibbs
(86976-132)"

Wilmington 10: framed up civil rights activists locked in N.C. dungeons

NEW YORK, March 14—Reverend Ben Chavis, one of the Wilmington 10, has been transferred from Central Prison in Raleigh, N.C. to the Caledonia Prison Farm in Tillery, N.C.

The Wilmington 10 are civil rights activists framed up for the alleged burning of a stable that took place while they defended the Black community in Wilmington, N.C., during a four-day siege by white vigilantes in February 1971. Denied a fair trial, Chavis and the nine other defendants turned themselves in to the North Carolina prison system on Feb. 2 after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review their case.

Chavis has begun serving a 34-year sentence for arson and conspiracy to attack police and firefighters.

Anne Sheppard, the only white in the group, has taken an active role at the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women in Raleigh where she is incarcerated by helping other prisoners obtain legal help regarding grievances over prison treatment and appeals of their cases.

The eight other men defendants are still being held at Central Prison in Raleigh.

Clearly, the Wilmington 10 have been jailed only because of their anti-racist activities.

Puerto Rican Senate calls on U.S. to free Nationalist political prisoners

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTY
NEW YORK, March 13—The Senate of the colonial government in Puerto Rico unanimously approved a resolution on Tuesday asking that President Gerald Ford release the five Puerto Rican Nationalist prisoners—Lolita Lebron, Oscar Collazo, Irving Flores, Andres Figueroa, and Rafael Miranda.

The resolution, introduced by Senator Ruben Berrios, president of the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP), cites the humanism of the Puerto Rican people as a major consideration of the Senate in approving it. This was part of an amendment insisted upon by the ruling Popular Democratic Party (PPD) and the pro-statehood New Progressive Party (PNP). They also insisted on including a phrase attributing to the Puerto Rican people a rejection of violence—a thinly veiled attack on the revolutionary

actions of the five Nationalists. The colonial House of Representatives, which passed a similar resolution demanding that then-President Richard Nixon release the Nationalist prisoners in 1973, called the Senate action hypocritical. The Senate shelved that resolution in 1973 when it was submitted for its approval.

Carlos Gallisa, socialist member of the colonial House of Representatives and one of the spokespersons for that body, said, "It is not proper that there be two expressions in a matter which involves the liberty of five patriots. That weakens the resolution."

Angel Viera Martinez, a representative from the PNP and a spokesperson along with Gallisa for the House, said that it is the Senate's responsibility to place in its calendar a discussion of the House resolution of 1973.

On Wednesday, the House unanimously approved a resolution demanding that the Senate return the 1973 resolution to the House.

The Senate vote is an obvious response to the growing campaign to release the five patriots, who are the longest-held political prisoners in the U.S. Four have served 22 years in U.S. prisons—Collazo has served 26 years.

Correction

The correct address for communications and support for Allen L. Lamar, who is suing the Texas Department of Corrections for its racist practices, is now the Lamar Defense Committee, Mrs. Beulah Mae Wilkins, 2316 Fairway Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76119.

—Miners killed

(Continued from page 1)

citations for unsafe levels of coal dust—24 times in 1975 alone. (High levels of coal dust have been found to touch off explosions when methane accumulates. (Since April 1, 1970, the mine has been cited for a total of 584 safety violations.

In addition, a sharp drop in barometric pressure in the area, which can increase the amount of methane gas seeping into a mine creating more flammable conditions, was noted by a mine-safety monitor in Norton, Va. The Scotia Coal Company was never notified, however.

Harrison W. Combs, a spokesperson for the mine safety office in Norton, said that the reason the Scotia mine wasn't notified was that it wasn't considered a "gassy" mine.

MINERS KNOW OTHERWISE

Harvey Sturgill, son of one of the dead miners, said his father and others who worked in the Scotia mine had told him that the mine

management somehow seemed to know in advance when the inspectors would arrive and would "clean up" any unsafe conditions. He explained that one way the company did this was by diverting ventilation air from one area of the mine to another to "get a good reading" on monitoring equipment. Sturgill said it was "generally known that this mine is unsafe."

This week's disaster was not an act of nature or of god, but an act of capitalist greed. Nor was it an accident, but deliberate murder by greedy coal barons who sent people into mines they know to be unsafe.

The Coal Mine Health and Safety Law of 1969 was passed through the struggle of miners, who so often are in the vanguard of the working class, from Kentucky to South Africa.

The laws are on the books but not enforced, since it is a capitalist government that is supposed to enforce the safety standards.

It is only the miners themselves who can prevent murder in the mines. One important clause the miners have been trying to get into their contracts with the coal operators is the right to walk off the job when their safety is endangered. This is an elementary right that all workers must fight for.

Protest assault on education



NEW YORK—Parents here are protesting shortened school hours brought about by city budget cuts. Here, parent sits in P.S. 9 at 84th St. and Columbus Ave. trying to keep school open until 3:00.

March 19, 1976

3 Native Americans arrested

Students demand Indian program

By D. PRYZBYLA

MILWAUKEE, March 15—Three members of the Native American Student Organization at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) were arrested for loitering Saturday, March 6, after refusing to yield their occupied office to school authorities. Those arrested were Lee Thundercloud, Paul Smith, and Lawrence Ford.

The Native American Student Organization took over the vacant room at MATC in the first week of November 1975, after MATC officials refused to meet demands that the school institute a Native American studies program. The students were asking for full-time Native American instructors, financial aid, counseling, office space, Native American literature, and other necessary requests to implement their program.

AFTER FOUR MONTHS, NO COMMITMENTS

For more than four months the students remained in the office 24 hours a day, while at the same time meeting with the administration to work out any possible commitments with the school. But no firm commitments were ever received on certain vital issues for Native American students.

Instead, without any prior warning whatsoever, the administration posted a notice on the



Members of the Native American Student Organization being arrested after refusing to leave office which they had occupied for four months. WW photo

occupied office early Saturday morning, March 6, telling the students that all persons and property would be removed. In fact, they increased the number of security guards at both entrances of the office and refused them exit or entry to the room.

At 3 p.m., after the Native Americans again stated their rights to occupy the room, the Milwaukee police were called in to arrest them. At first saying that all three would be charged with disorderly conduct, the charges

were later changed to loitering, a higher charge which carries a maximum \$500 fine and a possible six months in the House of Correction.

"WE WERE WASTING OUR TIME"

At a meeting with an advisory committee the following week, administrative officials on the committee said they knew nothing of the arrests. This was the same committee that the Native American students had met with

time and time again in their efforts to obtain even the most minimal concessions. "In other words," said Ms. Marilyn Skenedore, chairperson of the Native American advisory committee, "we were wasting our time even talking to you."

Native Americans present at the meeting voiced their anger at the deceitful tactics of the MATC administration. Demanding complete amnesty for all the persons involved in the occupation of the unused room, and for

dropping the charges against those arrested, the Native Americans present refused to accept the answers they were getting.

"You've proved once again that the only thing you have to offer us is more lies," said Mark Laroque, a Native American recruiting counselor at the school. "Instead of a commitment to our program," he told the administrators, "you answer us by calling in the police to arrest us."

Laroque blasted the MATC administration for their lack of action in the previous years also. "The treatment we're getting here today is typical of the treatment Indians have received throughout history—nothing but lies!"

A Native American woman objected to the arrests, saying that the action to occupy the vacant room was peaceful. "We didn't threaten any lives or destroy any property. We are demanding and have a right to have our own program."

The Native American Student Organization will continue to fight against the racism and discriminatory practices of MATC. All charges should be dropped immediately against those arrested!

Amnesty for all Native American students! Implement the demands for a Native American program!

WW interviews Little Man

Seminole Indians victimized in U.S. court

The Seminoles are a Native American people who originally lived in what is now Florida but who were forced to migrate all the way to "Indian Territory" in the 1840s after years of bitter warfare against the U.S. government. Five leaders of the Ancient Seminole Treaty People were convicted of serious charges March 11 in Muskogee, Okla. Their current struggle is described in this interview conducted by Workers World reporter Brad Kané with Little Man, a Traditional Seminole Indian who was in Buffalo to speak at a fund-raising event sponsored by Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), and to raise political support for the case.

WW: How did the Ancient Seminole Treaty People begin their struggle to be recognized by the U.S. government as sovereign?

LM: For many years the Seminole people had been the victims of racist attacks by the government, its police forces, and racist white business organizations such as the Cattlemen's Association. The Seminoles found themselves constantly being dragged in front of the courts to face charges, and learned through many examples that the courts consistently ruled against us. We had to begin to do something.

We couldn't just sit there and let the government walk all over us and our sovereignty. We realized that we couldn't get justice in the courts. However, we knew we were a sovereign nation and felt that maybe by bringing up our treaties the Seminoles could get someplace.

U.S. HAD RECOGNIZED SEMINOLE SOVEREIGNTY

We began researching our treaties, and in the process confirmed that the Traditional Seminoles were sovereign and recognized as such in U.S. legislation (31 U.S. Stat. 250), but that we had never really exercised our sovereignty.

So in June of 1975, we began educating our people by distributing leaflets which showed our sovereignty and explained how the U.S. government had no right to interfere in the lives of the Seminoles and had no jurisdiction over Seminole land.

In October 1975, we sent a traditional enrollment of over 200 names to the U.S. President, the Secretary of the Interior, the Justice Department, the Governor of Oklahoma, and other government officials. The enrollment officially signified that the Traditional Seminoles were no longer citizens of the U.S., and laid

the basis for the establishment of an independent nation within the boundaries of the U.S. This was followed by a declaration of independence.

How did the Seminoles fight against the Santa Fe railroad to receive what was rightfully owed to you?

STRUGGLE WITH SANTA FE RAILROAD

First of all, the Secretary of the Interior had told us to deal directly with the railroad. So in the middle of November 1975, we presented an ultimatum to the Santa Fe railroad which demanded that the railroad compensate the Seminoles \$217,000 for the use of Seminole land. The railroad had made payments to the Treaty Indians from 1898 to 1904, but from then on ceased further payment.

Upon hearing the ultimatum, the railroad contacted the Seminoles and asked to set up negotiations. Here the Seminoles demanded that the railroad live up to the treaty agreed upon in 1898 between the Seminoles and the railroad, and called for the compensation of the Seminoles by the railroad. The railroad officials present stated that they were unable to work out a

settlement without contacting their national office in Chicago.

TRAP SET UP

About one week later, the railroad again contacted the Seminoles to continue negotiations, but this time wanted the negotiations to be held at an isolated park in Shawnee, Okla. We were suspicious of the fact that they wanted to meet in such an isolated area and sent out a scouting team to view the situation. The Indians, instead of finding the railroad officials, were met by a large group of FBI marshals, county, and city police.

Another meeting was set up at the Seminoles' office. Instead of the railroad officials appearing, government forces were sent from the FBI, city and county police, and the National Guard, again with the purpose of jailing our leaders.

When the police entered the office, they neither had nor produced any warrants. Immediately, the heavily-armed police chained and shackled the five occupants of the building. The sixth defendant was to be picked up and charged later.

The Indians were then arraigned and charged with extortion, con-

spiracy, and possession of dangerous explosives. The alleged explosives were never found. Bond was set at \$25,000 and each defendant faced up to 60 years in jail.

Over 60 supporters of the defendants were immediately mobilized to picket the court as the arraignment took place.

The trial began on March 8, and after three days the jury went out for deliberation. After only one-half hour of deliberation, the all-white jury returned a guilty verdict against five of the defendants, while the sixth was let go.

As of today, no sentencing date has been set, but an appeal of the convictions is planned.

What can people do to support your struggle?

Just to get to court, we have to travel 80 miles. Our phone bills for our office and legal work must be paid if we are to prepare a strong defense for the appeal. Funds for these necessities can be sent to, and more information can be obtained from, The Ancient Seminole Treaty People, Box 71, Seminole, Okla. 74868. Letters of protest can be sent to the U.S. District Court, Muskogee, Okla.