

On May Day, the international workers' holiday— **Fight racist rule from Boston to Johannesburg!**

In this year of Bicentennial saturation, the date May 1, 1886, known and commemorated around the world, is never mentioned here in the imperialist metropolis. But it was just 90 years ago that May Day, the international workers' holiday, was born in a massive demonstration of 500,000 workers in Chicago for the 8-hour day, and in the bloody repression that followed it.

Ninety years have passed, and capitalism has changed the face of the globe with the development of technology. But do the workers—even in this highly advanced capitalist country—have an 8-hour day? Not really. Ask any auto worker who is forced to work a 60-hour week and must surrender the largest portion of that overtime in taxes. Ask any underpaid worker who must moonlight to keep a family together.

And in that part of the capitalist world where imperialist penetration has brought the most terrible intensification of labor at starvation wages, the 8-hour day is not even a fiction of labor relations press releases.

For the miners deep underground in South Africa, wages and working conditions are far, far worse than even the kind of industrial slavery that brought out the Haymarket demonstrators in Chicago 90 years ago. And their conditions of slave labor are enforced by a code of racist social laws that are the most fascistic and genocidal on earth.

STILL A SYSTEM OF BOOM & BUST

For all its tremendous expansion in the last 90 years, capitalism is still the irrational system of boom and bust that casts millions into the streets looking for work and breeds wars to get the economy going again. Even now the much-touted "recovery" has not been reflected in the unem-

The answer to Kissinger's African strategy: A strong movement vs. imperialism, apartheid!



Press conference held on April 27 by organizations endorsing the May 1 Anti-Apartheid action in New York City. Left to right: Gay McDougall, National Conference of Black Lawyers; Laurie Fierstein, Youth Against War & Fascism; John Akpan, Pan African Students Organization in the Americas; Tom Soto, Larry Holmes, YAWF; Yemi Agbeyegbe, PASOA; Keke Nkula,

Pan African Congress of Azania; Dan Berrigan; Tulinane Emvula, South West African People's Organization.

Mr. Emvula said the "apartheid fascists" have the "consent of the Western powers" in illegally occupying Namibia. "South Africa is the international outlaw and not Cuba," he added emphatically.

WW photo: Greg Dunkel

ployment figures. And even now, the U.S. imperialist ruling class is arming to the teeth again while abandoning the concept of detente—meaning a resumption of cold war.

This innate war drive of imperialism is not merely a clash over ideologies, but an organic need of capital to expand, to find new markets, sources of cheap labor, and raw materials, so that the capitalist quest for profits—the mainspring of the system—will be satisfied.

This is the meaning of Kissinger's trip to Africa this week. All his carefully worded phrases about majority rule are only an application of his Mideast strategy to the conditions of Black Africa. The fireman for the multi-national billionaires is trying to stamp

out the flames of genuine liberation which are sweeping southern Africa. He will try to use the vast (although reduced) economic might of the U.S. as a carrot to split the Black African states while the stick of U.S. military intervention is always implied, if not threatened outright.

And in his game of diplomatic mirrors, this staunch representative of U.S.

imperialism, the pillar of apartheid, will appear to be forcing moderate concessions from the fascist regimes of Rhodesia and South Africa.

LESSON OF MAY DAY

But the lesson of May Day is that in the long run it is only the independent struggle of the workers and oppressed themselves that wrests any victories from the class

enemy. In Africa, it was the long and heroic struggle of the thousands of liberation fighters, many of whom gave their lives in the forests and in the jails of Guinea, Mozambique, and Angola, that has forced U.S. imperialism to abandon its open collaboration with the white settler regimes and embark on a new strategy.

Last year May Day saw the triumphal entry of the Vietnamese revolutionary army into the newly liberated city of Saigon. This year the progressive masses of the world will celebrate the victories in Africa.

For all the workers in this country, the struggle for their own emancipation—for the socialist revolution—will advance with each blow delivered against racism and national oppression.

**Centerfold articles on
Angola, Zimbabwe,
and South Africa**

THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

Drop charges against UFW pickets
when cop & storeowner admit lies

By L. DUJACK

ATLANTA, April 5—Another victory was scored by the United Farmworkers (UFW) here as charges against seven persons who had been picketing Sunmaid and Sunsweet products at Superior Foods in Atlanta were dropped today, under pressure from the very storeowner being picketed!

The turnaround came as the arresting officer shamefacedly admitted publicly that the false charges of "blocking traffic" and "interfering with the lawful occupation of another" were trumped up only at the request of the owner of Superior, who was losing money because of the picket line.

The cop and the storeowner, in asking that the charges be dropped against the seven, had to admit to the judge and the whole courtroom their conspiracy to close down the picket and scare off union sup-

porters by arrests and attempts to run them down. Picketing had continued despite these attacks, and community and union support grew as a result of the arrests.

The storeowner found he would not only have to remove Sunmaid and Sunsweet products, but Gallo as well, and would have to promise to get the cops to drop the charges.

Judge Brock (a state-appointed judge in a "right-to-work" state) seized on the issue of the picket itself to launch a labor-hating attack on what he called "paid unionism" and "outside agitators," only to find that the only non-volunteer organizer, John Mackoviak, and his family receive \$10 a week, and that the others arrested were not only Atlanta residents, but nearly all members of various unions, from Teamsters to Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Phila. denies permit for July 4
Coalition protest at Bicentennial

By JOYCE BETRIES

April 24—The city of Philadelphia has refused the July 4th Coalition a permit to hold a demonstration on that date, it was announced here today.

The demonstration has been called to demand independence for Puerto Rico, an end to the economic sacrifices forced on working people, and an end to the rampant racism and sexism that deny equal opportunity to Blacks, all oppressed people, and women.

Today at a press conference held by National Board members and local leaders of the July 4th Coalition, coalition members said that their groups would demonstrate in Philadelphia, permit or no permit. Alan Howard, press secretary for the coalition, said it will fight for the permit, taking the matter to court if necessary.

Philadelphia officials have denied the permit on the grounds that Fairmont Park, the requested rally site, was "reserved for the people" on July 4 and not available for the demonstration. They also said a demonstration of thousands would tax sanitary and other facilities.

Philadelphia will be the site of the U.S. government's Bicentennial celebrations, and the government, including President Ford, will move there from Washington for the day.

Concerning the government celebration, Alfredo Lopez, National Coordinator of the July 4th Coalition, has said, "We cannot accept the government's version of the Bicentennial. It is an act of

blatant hypocrisy for President Ford to speak in the name of an anti-colonial revolution when the U.S. government carries out colonialist and imperialist policies throughout the world."

The July 4th Coalition is made up of 102 organizations from 40 to 50 cities nationwide. Present at the press conference were representatives from the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, the International Treaty Council of the American Indian Movement, Fightback, Accion Borinquen, the Student Government at Hostos College, Friendshipment, and the Inter-Religious Foundation for Community Organizing.

Phil Rivera from Accion Borinquen represented the opinions of most of those present when he contrasted the billions of dollars in profits being made by the corporations off the Bicentennial with the economic crisis affecting New York City that has resulted in the loss of half the civil service jobs previously gained by Puerto Rican workers here. In New York, Puerto Ricans suffer from a 35 percent unemployment rate, and on the island of Puerto Rico the number of those without jobs is just as high. The government may expect Puerto Ricans here and on the island to celebrate the Bicentennial, he said, but there is nothing to celebrate.

Referring to the demonstration, he continued, "How can anyone prevent us from saying what we feel by denying us a permit? We're going to say what we feel anyway."

Auto workers demonstrate against
proposed layoffs of 2,000

By GENE HIDARI

DETROIT, April 13—More than 500 United Auto Workers (UAW) members demonstrated today outside Ford Motor Company's "World Headquarters" in Dearborn to protest the elimination of 1,500 jobs at the Ford Rouge complex.

In addition to the 1,500 jobs that are to be lost when Ford permanently shuts down two engine lines, 500 fuel tank and radiator jobs are also scheduled to go. This attack on Rouge workers follows in the wake of pious promises of "recovery" in the layoff-devastated industry.

Over 1,000 UAW Local 600 members attended a protest meeting on April 4. It was clear at

the meeting that massive sentiment exists for militant action. When it was recalled that the local shut down the entire Rouge plant in 1949 in defense of the assembly-plant workers, the membership roared its approval.

The last 18 months have seen massive and often permanent layoffs, speed-ups, the General Motors and Chrysler SUB (supplementary unemployment benefits) funds going broke, and management attacks on individual workers and the union as a whole. A militant strike in defense of jobs would serve as a rallying point of the entire UAW membership for industry-wide strike action in this year's contract fight for job security.



At press conference, National Board members of the July 4th Coalition announce plans to demonstrate in Philadelphia on that date. From left to right: Cora Weiss from Friendshipment, Phil Rivera of Accion Borinquen, Joe Carnegie of Brooklyn Fightback, Alexis Colon, president of student government at Hostos College, Jim Houghton, national director of Fightback.

Student leaders call May 3 strike
to stop CUNY destruction

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, April 24—Unrelenting attacks aimed at dismantling the City University of New York (CUNY) have sparked a call by student leaders for a system-wide strike beginning May 31.

Latest in a series of schemes to drive out students is a new requirement that all third-year students pass a special reading and math test before they can complete their studies. The test will be designed to eliminate 10 percent of the sophomore class, Chancellor Kibbee announced yesterday.

The university system has already been hit with devastating cutbacks in the past year. The Open Admission policy, which for the past five years has guaranteed anyone with a high school diploma a place in CUNY, has been ended. New applicants are now required to have been in the top three-quarters of their high school graduating class. This plus a

general uncertainty over the new admissions requirements has reduced next fall's new enrollment by 40 percent.

In addition, under the recently approved "Kibbee Plan," Hostos, Richmond, and the liberal arts program at John Jay have been eliminated, and Medgar Evers has been changed from a senior college to a community college. These slashes heavily affect Black and Latin students.

In response to these moves by city and state officials to destroy CUNY, the University Student Senate voted on April 25 to call a strike of the entire student body until the policies of open admission and free tuition were retained and cuts were ended. Demonstrations and rallies are set to build the protest action, such as a demonstration and boycott of classes at City College for May 5, a rally at Hostos college May 10, and a CUNY-wide rally at City Hall May 12.

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DECLINE AND FALL

SNATCHES VICTORY
FROM JAWS OF DEFEAT

Buffalo Evening News, April 1:

"Paris (UPI)—General William C. Westmoreland, retired United States Army chief of staff and the top commander in Indo-China at the height of the American buildup, claimed Wednesday the Vietnam war was not a military defeat for the U.S.

"General Westmoreland spoke at the American Club of Paris while on a promotion tour for his book, 'A Soldier Reports.'

"We won every battle," he said. "The

American record of never losing a war is intact."

GOOD NIGHT CHET,
GOOD NIGHT DAVID,
GOOD NIGHT MR. HELMS

The CIA has employed hundreds of journalists overseas in a massive program designed to influence world opinion with covert propaganda, the Senate Intelligence Committee has been told.

The journalists have given the CIA access, for the dissemination of propaganda, to about 200 newspapers, 30 news services, 20

radio and television outlets, and 25 book publishers.

The New York Times reported this week that the committee has evidence that the FBI maintained a network of confidential informers inside U.S. news organizations.

FOR DEMOCRACY,
THE CONSTITUTION,
AND GRAFT

New York Times, April 24:

"His voice breaking, tears in his eyes, Patrick J. Cunningham accepted re-election yesterday as Democratic Chairman of New York State.

"No more than 35 members of the state committee in the crowd of 300 stood to vote against Mr. Cunningham. Shouting into a microphone in the Trianon Ballroom of the New York Hilton Hotel, Joseph F. Crangle, the Erie County leader, said that to oppose Mr. Cunningham because he is under legal attack by the special state anti-corruption

prosecutor, Maurice H. Nadjari, is to oppose Democratic Party and American Constitutional principles."

JUST LIKE POTATOES

Associated Press, April 24:

"Los Angeles—Babies are being sold in a fast-growing black market that charges anywhere from \$5,000 for an illegal adoption to \$50,000 for a custom-made child.

"Healthy white infants have become such a profitable commodity in the United States that law enforcement officials fear the Mafia will soon become involved.

"Joseph Reid of the Child Welfare League of America said legitimate adoption agencies simply cannot compete with unscrupulous profiteers who offer large sums of money.

"Potatoes or babies, whenever a shortage develops a black market is going to fill the void," he said."

Goodrich profits up 145.9%!

70,000 rubber workers strike against Big 4

CLEVELAND, April 26—About 70,000 rubber workers in 47 plants of the Big Four in rubber (Goodrich, Goodyear, Firestone, and Uniroyal) hit the bricks on Wednesday morning, April 21, after these corporations refused to grant the contract demands of the union.

These demands include a \$1.65 to \$2.00 per hour immediate wage increase to catch up with the auto workers; a cost of living clause that would really keep wages up to inflationary prices; a pension plan that would come a little closer to the needs of the retirees; an end to area wage differentials; and changes in the work rule—meaning less speed-up in the plants.

The workers also want wage increases in the second and third year of the contract.

The strike had barely begun when companies attempted to immediately weaken it by getting an injunction at some plants against mass picketing. It didn't do them much good, and scabbing is nil.

WORKERS FEEL IN STRONG POSITION

The rubber workers enthusiastically went on strike because they now have a greater feeling of strength. They recently saw Teamsters win a quick victory over the trucking employers. They have seen the rubber barons making increased profits in a period of increased production because of more auto sales. They know that while their bosses may cry poverty in the negotiations (as all bosses do), they are telling a different story to their stockholders. Goodrich on April 19 reported first quarter profits for 1975 up 145.9 percent over the similar period last year! And

Goodyear on April 26 reported spectacular gains, too, of 97.7 percent over last year, for total first quarter earnings of almost \$44 million.

The striking workers are also reacting to the poor contract they agreed to back in 1973, which included an inadequate COL clause, a small wage increase, an area wage differential, a poor pension plan, and insufficient supplemental unemployment benefits. Their fighting spirit has been raised by the attempt of their bosses to speed up while unemployment in the country is high.

UNITED AGAINST THE BIG FOUR

The rubber workers are pleased that this time they shut down all plants of the four companies rather than striking only one. They know that by hitting all four at once, more pressure is built up quicker and it will help shorten the strike.

Rubber workers are striking a blow to the "mutual assistance pact" of the major companies, wherein the struck company is assisted financially by the non-struck ones. By adding a boycott to the strike, the workers are adding strength to their struggle.

The rubber workers have a militant tradition going back to the 1930s. In 1936, when there also was a huge unemployment crisis (worse than 1976), the employers were cutting wages, speeding up the workers, and harassing them. The unorganized rubber workers that year conducted the first sit-down strike in major industry in Akron, Ohio. The new CIO came to the aid of the striking workers, and their victory resulted in a 36-hour week, a wage increase, and union recognition. (This 36-hour week was given up for a 40-hour week a few years ago.) That victory gave

great impetus to the organization of workers in auto, steel, and other basic industries.

International solidarity

NEW YORK, April 27—It was reported today that at a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, between the president of the striking U.S. United Rubber Workers Union (URWU) and representatives of rubber workers in nine other

countries where the four rubber companies have plants, the trade unionists agreed to a ban on overtime for the duration of the U.S. strike.

This act of international worker solidarity will prevent the Big Four—Goodyear, Goodrich, Firestone, and Uniroyal—from making up lost production through their overseas subsidiaries.

The unions also intend to monitor shipments of rubber to see that none are diverted to markets

normally supplied from the United States.

The meeting was convened by the International Federation of Chemical and General Workers Union, which has 180 affiliates with six million members in 70 countries.

The trade unionists at the conference with Peter Bommarito of the URWU were from Britain, West Germany, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Austria, Japan, and Canada.

Millions vote in South Vietnam one year after country's liberation

By JOHN C. OTTO

NEW YORK, April 25—Today millions of Vietnamese, North and South, voted to elect a national assembly of all Vietnam.

Almost all of the 281 candidates for the 243 offices in Southern Vietnam were individuals who had performed heroic service in the revolutionary war against U.S. imperialism.

These included Nguyen Huu Tho, the leader of the National Liberation Front and President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, and Madam Nguyen Thi Binh, the Foreign Minister. Leading the slate was Pham Hung, sent from the political bureau of the Vietnam Workers Party in 1967 to be secretary of the southern branch of the party and the chief political commissar of the Liberation Army.

Also on the slate were leaders of student and women's organizations who, while not part of the NLF or PRG, had opposed the puppet Thieu regime and been sent to jail for it, as well as representatives of

Buddhist groups and of the Meo people, a national minority.

This election, and the big step toward reunification that it marks, is all the more remarkable in that a mere year and a half ago it would have seemed like the wildest dream to write of its possibility.

At that time the major cities of southern Vietnam, and some of the provinces, were still in the grip of the Thieu regime. U.S.-supplied weapons still rained death on the Vietnamese countryside. Thieu's opposition, even those not in the PRG, were in the infamous tiger cages and other miserable prisons.

VIETNAM BELONGS TO THE WORKERS

Then the spring offensive started. We learn now that it had only a limited objective. But Thieu's puppet army completely collapsed—their weapons abandoned to the victorious liberation forces, the cities they occupied left free for the rule of the poor and oppressed.

In only months the nightmare of decades of war and over a century of foreign rule came to an end for the Vietnamese people. The U.S. ambassador fled in a helicopter, with panicking puppet troops fighting to clamber aboard. Prisoners were released by the thousands.

The oppressed of the world rejoiced to see that it was possible for the Vietnamese, led by the Workers Party, to defeat the most powerful imperialist nation.

On April 30, 1975, the liberation army took Saigon and renamed it after their great revolutionary leader: Ho Chi Minh City. We at Workers World covered our front page with the headline: "Vietnam Belongs to the Workers!"

Now, only a year from that victory, the new government has gone far toward building a new Vietnam. They inherited a country ravaged by war, with one and a half million instant unemployed from the puppet army, with the population completely dislocated. Now the countryside is being restored to fertility, the population is returning to the villages, and the country of Vietnam is being reunited.

From fighting with spears and captured weapons through mastering the most complicated weaponry of socialist industry, from the Tet Offensive in 1968 to the Spring Offensive in 1975, the Vietnamese revolutionaries have been an inspiration to the workers and oppressed of all the world. We are certain they'll continue to inspire the oppressed as they construct a unified, socialist Vietnam.

War left one million without parents

Orphan care in Vietnam

By FRAN MEYERS

NEW YORK, April 26—One year ago, as the Vietnamese liberation fighters advanced on Saigon to finally drive the U.S. and its puppet dictatorship out of their country once and for all, the bourgeois press here was trying to whip up anti-communist hysteria by claiming that the victory would be followed by a bloodbath. Supposedly to "rescue" thousands of Vietnamese orphans from their own people, the U.S. government organized what was one of the cruelist and most hypocritical publicity stunts in history—"Operation Babylift." Thousands of children, not all of them orphans, were herded onto planes bound for the U.S.

Operation Babylift was never supported by the Vietnamese people. At that time, Ford was pushing for more and more millions of dollars for the collapsing Thieu regime, and U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin admitted that the government hoped the babylift would "help create a shift in American public opinion" in favor of the Saigon dictatorship.

Now, a year later, many Vietnamese, including some in the U.S. itself, are fighting for the return of children who were airlifted away from them. A report from Pacific News Service March 25 described the story of one Vietnamese

woman's attempts to get her son back:

"Hao Thi Vo searched for months through bureaucratic mazes before she learned that her three-year-old son was in the care of one of the 'Orphan Babylift' agencies. But when at last she found him, she was told she could not have him: He might be better off with his new American 'parents.'"

PRG BUILDS NATIONWIDE CHILD CARE CENTERS

Meanwhile, the "bloodbath" that the bourgeois press was predicting never happened. With the defeat of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets, the Vietnamese people have experienced their first year of peace in decades; for the children of Vietnam it has been the first year in their lives free from the horrors of U.S. warfare. Today, in revolutionary Vietnam, one of the highest priorities is providing care for the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese children who were left homeless.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government is working to provide homes for all children needing care by setting up a nationwide system of child care centers. Until this enormous project is completed, the PRG is asking "neighborhood administrations to locate, feed and clothe children still on the streets."

The directors and staff who



For the first time in their lives, the children of revolutionary Vietnam are free from the horrors of U.S. warfare. Here, children play in one of the childcare centers set up all over the country by the PRG.

worked in orphanages before liberation are being retrained to provide not just custodial care for the children but to take the personal responsibility of acting as second mothers. During the U.S. puppet dictatorships, corruption and embezzlement were rampant in the administration of orphanages. Children were used as

pawns of big business, and healthy children would often be chosen to be sent abroad. For those who stayed in the orphanages, conditions more closely resembled prisons than child care centers. Women of Vietnam, a publication of the Vietnam Women's Union, reported that the children "suffered from skin diseases, eye

ailments and hunger. All the 143 inmates of the Phu My orphanage in Thi Nghe were infirm or crippled. At another establishment 32 orphans died in one month."

The Women's Union of Vietnam and the Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, and War Invalids have organized to supply the centers

(Continued on page 8)

New hysteria in Boston whipped up against Black community

By FRANK NEISSER

BOSTON, April 24—During two years of stoning, attempted lynchings, threats to blow up tunnels, firebombings, and an assault two weeks ago on a Black man right in City Hall Plaza by racists with an American flag, Boston's Mayor Kevin White, Governor Michael Dukakis, Sen. Edward Kennedy, and Cardinal Humberto Madeiros have maintained a deafening, thunderous silence—because the victims were Black.

"Justice" against perpetrators of racist violence has been non-existent: arrests and suspensions in Boston's two-year desegregation experience have gone ten to one against the Black community. The victims have been the ones arrested. Blacks whose homes have been attacked with stones and firebombs have called the police, attorney general, and FBI, and gotten no help.

Now, suddenly, all of these gentlemen and the front pages of the newspapers and the TV screens have discovered an urgency to stop violence.

The mayor, governor, and senator have appeared at the head of a march of thousands for "peace," and a special law enforcement group headed by the state attorney general will see to it that perpetrators of racial violence

will get speedy, certain, and severe sentences.

What brought about this amazing turnaround?

The fact that, after two years of the most vicious attacks and the most extreme provocation resulting in hundreds of injuries to Blacks, some innocent whites have begun to get hurt.

CRESCENDO OF RACIST ATTACKS

The past month in Boston has seen a continuous step-up of racist attacks. The "anti-busing" cover has been dropped and a campaign has been launched to attack Black people wherever they are.

Since a report on these attacks in the last issue of *Workers World*, there have been renewed assaults on the Black families in the East Boston Housing Projects, forcing one family to move.

A Black youth beaten unconscious with baseball bats in Uphams Corner remains in the hospital.

Countless attacks have occurred on buses and on the streets without being reported.

Then, over last weekend, two Black busdrivers were beaten with car antennas while on the job in South Boston, and two white drivers who came to their defense received the same treatment,

winding up in the hospital and attracting citywide attention.

In response to this situation, Black leaders held meetings in the Black community, organizing a 24-hour "crisis information watch" with teams of five prepared to go to trouble spots, and called for a national boycott of Boston.

BLACK YOUTH REBEL

In this atmosphere, with total silence from the mayor and governor, and with the South Boston and Charlestown Marshals having publicly set up radio-coordinated vigilante squads to attack Blacks coming into those communities, some Black youths began stoning cars of whites driving through the Black community.

Then on Monday night Black youths allegedly dragged a 34-year-old white auto mechanic from his car and beat him severely with stones. He is in the hospital with skull fractures, technically clinging to life.

It is this incident that has awakened the fervor of the government and the press against violence. The Boston Globe devoted nine and a half pages and an editorial to this story on Wednesday, including half of the front page, and including a full column boxed on the front page of self-



Joseph Henry, who was assaulted by white youths while reading a newspaper in a subway station, blamed the attack on Louise Day Hicks and other leaders of the racist anti-busing forces.

criticism for not having done the same in the morning edition the day before!

From Tuesday through Friday, one other white was seriously injured, with a fractured skull, and another who was allegedly stabbed did not require hospitalization.

A Black man suffered a fractured cheekbone and two broken wrists. He was hit with a metal bar while reading a newspaper in the Haymarket subway station. He blamed it on Louise Day Hicks, not the white youths who assaulted him. A white man who attempted to come to his rescue received minor injuries.

Many Black-driven cars were stoned by whites. Another Black was assaulted in the Maverick

Square subway station.

A member of Youth Against War & Fascism and another white worker pulled away some white youths who were attacking Black youths on a bus in Cambridge and pushed the white youths off the bus.

In the midst of this, the Boston Superior Courthouse was bombed on Thursday morning, injuring more than 20 persons. The police immediately released a description of a Puerto Rican held for questioning, then released him and said they had so many conflicting stories that they had no description of a suspect. But the hysteria against the Puerto Rican community had been achieved, and the basis for Zebra-style searches of that community had been laid.

The governor has used this act as a pretext for creating a new crime unit headed by the attorney general and including the FBI that will bypass district courts and provide speedy and severe sentences. The creation of this unit at this particular moment, after two years of total inaction, is clearly directed at the oppressed communities.

HYPOCRITICAL "MARCH FOR PEACE"

The sham "March for Peace" yesterday, which drew thousands behind the formerly invisible mayor, senator, and governor, can likewise only be interpreted as directed against the Black community, and to provide a cover for the new crime unit. No such outpouring has been forthcoming against white violence.

No banners or speeches were permitted at the march, just hollow, hypocritical prayers against "violence." Blacks were sparsely represented.

Yet this wasn't good enough for the "anti-busing" forces. Louise Day Hicks and company publicly refused to oppose racist violence, said no march except a march on Judge Garrity's court would "help," and baldly stated violence would not end until "forced busing" stopped.

Undoubtedly, however, many individuals marched on Friday out of a truly progressive concern to end racist violence, particularly in the wake of the cancellation of the April 24 March Against Racism.

What impact yesterday's staged and hypocritical "march" will have remains to be seen. However, those who are wringing their hands over the innocent whites who have gotten hurt this week must understand that they, along with the hundreds of Blacks who have been injured, are the victims of the racist movement in this city. If they want to insure that no more innocent people are hurt. Black or white, let them stand up and fight back against this racist movement as they have failed to do up until now.

April 24 capitulation: a dissenting voice

(On Wednesday, April 21, Maceo Dixon, Project Director for the Coalition for the April 24th March on Boston and National Coordinator of the National Student Coalition Against Racism (NSCAR), read a statement to the press calling off the demonstration planned for the 24th.

To find out how this abdication to the racists came about, *Workers World* interviewed Frank Neisser, a member of the steering committee of the April 24th Coalition. Neisser is one of eight people who were arrested at the East Boston Public Housing Projects last summer while helping to defend Black families against racist attack. He was an organizer of the Dec. 14, 1974, March Against Racism in Boston and an early active supporter of the aborted April 24th march. He is also a member of Youth Against War & Fascism.)

WW: How did it happen that the April 24th march got called off three days before the event?

FN: That's a very good question, one I've been asking myself. As a member of the steering committee of the April 24th Coalition, I was taken completely by surprise by the announcement that the march had been called off. I didn't hear about it until after the press conference had already taken place. As a matter of fact, the leadership of the coalition didn't arrange a meeting to discuss it until the day after their press conference announcing it had been called off. I spoke up in vigorous opposition at that meeting.

What reasons for the cancellation were given at Thursday night's coalition meeting?

Maceo Dixon and prominent Socialist Workers Party members pointed to several developments to try to justify their total

capitulation. They pointed to the racist hysteria that has gripped this city and its media since the Monday attack on a white man driving through the Black community, and said they could not guarantee the safety of marchers in this atmosphere. They said many endorsers had called off their support. They also frankly expressed the fear that the demonstration might be attacked in the Black community itself by nationalist elements who had become vocal in opposition to it in recent days and by youth giving vent to their just rage against the treatment they have been receiving for the last two years by lashing out at any and all whites.

But the theme they repeated over and over was, "It would be a bloodbath."

What convinced them of this—and that they should therefore give up the fight? Let me quote their own words, from the statement read by Maceo Dixon at Wednesday's press conference: "We the organizers of this march after many discussions with the police, mayor's office and leaders of the Black community have come to the conclusion that it's not possible to protect our people—Blacks and our other supporters—who plan to have a peaceful, legal march."

Under the racist and government pressure, they were just plain afraid—they collapsed.

It seems clear that the pressure to call off the march came from the mayor. The first political figure who pressured the coalition leaders to call off the march coupled his public withdrawal with a call for "all forces in the city to come together," and immediately endorsed the mayor's so-called "March Against Violence." The mayor announced his march on Wednesday at a press conference scarcely an hour after the coalition's press conference calling off the April 24th march.

It is understandable that community political leaders would respond that way to pressure from the mayor, but for the SWP and NSCAR to hide behind them while caving in to the pressure of the mayor and police is cowardly and a betrayal.

They had never planned to defend their own demonstration—they had counted on their "democratic right" of protection from the cops, from whom they even planned to borrow their sound equipment! Now, as one of them put it, "It would be open season on us."

Was there opposition to this abdication?

Of course! In fact, I opened the discussion by explaining that while flexibility in light of the new racist offensive was necessary, and that certainly a march including whites through the heart of the Black community would be insensitive at this time, to abandon the field totally and have nothing in the face of the racist onslaught was a complete abdication, capitulation, and a betrayal of the thousands of anti-racist forces now left demoralized and in limbo. A woman from New York gave expression to this point, saying, "I was ready to put my life on the line, I've done it before, but you denied me that choice."

An NSCAR leader at the meeting even described how Louise Day Hicks had grinned from ear to ear when she heard the news while he was debating her in Atlanta. To which a Black high school student responded, "You should have slapped her face!"

Can you tell us a little about the history of the April 24th Coalition?

The Socialist Workers Party and the National Student Coalition Against Racism first floated the idea of a national march and rally last February in the Coordinated Social Services Council, a group of

Black community agency leaders which meets weekly at the Freedom House in Roxbury. I was present at those meetings, and spoke out for the need for such a march to answer the racist violence in the city.

They got a list of sponsors and on the strength of it initiated the coalition and set the April 24th date. Thousands of posters were put up and leaflets passed out by all the organizations participating, including Youth Against War & Fascism. However, no established leader from the Black community stepped forward to take responsibility for the demonstration, as State Senator Bill Owens had for the historic December 14 March Against Racism, and Tom Atkins of the NAACP had for the May 17th March.

In spite of this, NSCAR proposed a route of march that went for five miles straight through the heart of Roxbury, Boston's largest Black community. I pointed out at several early steering committee meetings that there were significant numbers of people in Boston's Black community who might justifiably resent the presence of numbers of white people marching through their community at this time in Boston, but this point was passed over.

However, building for the demonstration seemed to be going well. On April 19, Monday, a spirited meeting of 200 was held in City Hall Chambers which condemned the racist attacks and called for a massive turnout on April 24. That is why it came as a shock to me and other coalition members when we heard that the coalition leaders had capitulated to the pressure and called it off. As one woman at the final coalition meeting said, "You say something terrible may happen to the march. But I think the worst possible thing that could have happened to it happened: You called it off."

A surrender to racism

By SAM MARCY

APRIL 28—The cancellation of the April 24 demonstration in Boston is an unqualified disaster for the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), for the coalition which sponsored the demonstration, and, most importantly, has set back the struggle against racism in the Boston area.

According to the SWP it was "leaders of the Black community in Boston (who) decided to postpone the national pro-busing march scheduled for April 24." They did this because of the "rapidly escalating anti-Black terror in Boston which has sharply increased the race polarization in the city." (The Militant, April 30, 1976.)

However, in the statement read by Maceo Dixon, Project Director for the coalition, to the press on April 21, it's not just Black leaders who are named as responsible for the cancellation. He says, "Thus, we the organizers of this march, after many discussions with the police, mayor's office, and leaders of the Black community have come to the conclusion that it's not possible to protect our people—Blacks and our other supporters—who plan to have a peaceful, legal march."

COALITION WAS SIDESTEPED

It is therefore incorrect and wholly unfair to put the decision on the shoulders of leaders of the Black community. The march was supposed to be under the leadership and direction of a broad coalition. It was the coalition's prerogative to decide whether to call it off or not, after a discussion. The coalition was composed of Black and white groupings.

The coalition was not consulted. Its democratic rights were flouted. The march was called off following a press conference in which the coalition, as such, did not participate.

Before going into some of the other points concerning the demonstration, let us pose the issue of whether it was correct to cancel, or as the SWP puts it, "postpone" the march, putting the decision in the best light possible for the SWP, that is, in the way they are explaining it privately and also to a large extent publicly.

We were faced with a difficult situation, they say. It was two-and-a-half days before the march. There were threats of violence from racist groups. The police, of course, sympathize with the racists. There'd been violence against Blacks and whites and then some of the leaders of the Black community pulled out of the march.

We tried to persuade them not to (runs the SWP argument). We made a concession not to go through the Boston Black community. That didn't work. We suggested an indoor meeting. That too was rejected. We used up all our options. Our only alternatives were to cancel it or go on with the march, in which case there might have been a bloodbath.

That is the essence of their argument.

Let's assume all this for the sake of argument (without conceding that it's true, which of course it's not). Let's assume that all the options were used up and the only alternative to going ahead with the march as planned was outright canceling it. While we do not think that that was at all the situation, it is nevertheless worth examining it,

from the point of view of the historical experience of the working class in similar situations.

The history of the proletarian class struggle shows that such a situation is not at all unique, that there are many, many instances where the workers may be faced with either a physical defeat as a result of a struggle, or a surrender which leads to utter demoralization. In such cases difficult choices have to be made.

MARX ON GIVING UP WITHOUT A STRUGGLE

How have the leaders of revolutionary Marxism, Marx himself and Lenin afterwards, faced up to such a situation? There is the classic example which Marx gave in a letter to Kugelmann way back 100 years ago, which is as fresh today as when it was first written, and as cogent and relevant as when Lenin referred to it many years later.

Kugelmann thought that the Parisian workers should not have taken up arms during the Paris Commune because the rebellion was doomed to defeat. Marx had earlier thought that it would have been folly for the Parisian workers to begin an insurrection.

But once the struggle had begun, Marx, in addition to his brilliant analysis of the significance and lessons of the Paris Commune, wrote that the Parisian workers were faced "with the alternative of either taking up the fight or succumbing without a struggle. The demoralization of the working class in the latter case would have been a far greater misfortune..."

In other words, once the battle has been joined and we are faced with a choice—either to surrender without a struggle, in this case to surrender to racist threats (only threats!) of violence, and bring about a state of demoralization in the struggle, or face a possible defeat, the far greater misfortune, according to Marx, is to succumb without a struggle.

That is the quintessence of the issue in the cancellation of the Boston march. A march was planned. In the course of the escalation of the struggle, some of the leaders (we really don't know who) said they wanted to pull out. (Such things can always happen, and must be taken into account in advance.)

The right thing to have done would have been to immediately call a coalition meeting; have an up and down the line discussion. Even if the majority or the weightier section of the coalition were for cancellation, those who understood the significance of demoralization coming in the wake of a surrender had a duty to voice their opposition and to say: We disagree with the cancellation—but since the majority are for it we will go along with the majority. But we are voicing our public opposition to this surrender.

That is not what the SWP did. They went along with the surrender. And they went along with the undemocratic proceeding of first letting the capitalist press know of the cancellation and then presenting it to the rest as an accomplished fact.

Of course, there are situations where an orderly retreat is absolutely unavoidable in the face of overwhelming odds. This is understandable.

But there was no such plan for that at all, nor did the situation

warrant it. What took place was in the nature of a panicky flight from the struggle in the face of racist threats whose size and magnitude were vastly exaggerated. (Note that in last week's Washington demonstration called by the combined racist forces of Boston and Louisville, they expected something like 40,000 but got a mere 1,500.)

The Russian Social Democrat Plekhanov in 1905 took Kugelmann's position that the workers shouldn't have taken up arms. And Lenin chastised Plekhanov, quoting to him that same passage from Marx, which we feel is as relevant today as it was in 1905. When faced with two bitter choices, the demoralization that comes after a surrender without a struggle is the worse alternative and turns into a crass betrayal.

SWP FALSELY CITES SELMA

The SWP, however, says that this is all old stuff and doesn't apply.



Within an hour after the announcement that the April 24th march was cancelled, the bourgeois liberals of Boston announced plans for a different kind of demonstration. Here, Senator Kennedy, Governor Dukakis, Mayor White and others hold their silent "march against violence" which blamed equally the oppressors and the oppressed and purposely covered up the racist violence practiced against Black people.

They quote the example of the Selma to Montgomery march when Reverend King postponed the march.

What demagoguery! The Selma to Montgomery march started in the face of a government prohibition by the Alabama authorities against it. The march nevertheless began and the brutal assaults took place thereafter. Naturally, under the assault of armed state troopers, the marchers retreated. But they started it again after an aroused public opinion made it clear that support for it had grown throughout the country.

There has been no government ban against any demonstration in Boston today, yesterday, or on the date of the scheduling of the march. Nor did the government threaten the march with violence—neither the mayor, nor the governor, nor the police commissioner. Of course, they are sympathetic to and work with the racists—but that it is an entirely different matter than walking into a direct government prohibition against the march.

The press statement quoted above said that the racists are in a minority while the majority in Boston are for a peaceful march. The violence that has taken place thus far has been of an individual character. It has not been a mass, organized assault by hundreds or thousands.

It is a blatant lie to state that the march—especially a predominantly white march—was faced with the sort of mass violence

which conjures up a bloodbath. The city and state governments, under present conditions, are in no position to show that they have lost control to the ultra-right. On the contrary, they must make a sham show of neutrality. There is where the deception comes in on the part of the SWP leadership and their cohorts.

PRESSURE FROM LIBERAL ESTABLISHMENT

They did not call off the march because of a bloodbath. That is a massive cover-up for the real reason. The real reason is that they called it off at the behest, at the request of the liberal capitalist establishment in Boston with whom they have connections and who wanted a different sort of march—the kind of march that Governor Dukakis, Senator Kennedy, and Mayor White and others would be able to participate in—a show of "abhorrence" against "violence," a demonstration which would cover up the

of an alleged bloodbath, and this caused them to greatly exaggerate the spectre of casualties that might take place as a result of the march.

SWP AND FEDERAL TROOPS

But the roots go even deeper than that. They go back to the adoption of the policy of relying almost exclusively on "the federal government to provide large deployments of police, state troopers and federal troops" (from the Coalition press statement) to win the battle against racism.

This monstrous perversion of the nature of the capitalist state and the function of its terrorist apparatus is not at all extraordinary in the classic social democratic organizations in the West. But it is quite anomalous in an organization which gives lip service to Lenin, who taught that the state is an organ of force and violence to reinforce capitalist exploitation and national oppression.

The SWP first raised the question of federal troops in 1956. Now, it is not incorrect to now and then raise this in a rhetorical manner, as though to say to the government on occasions, "Why don't you send troops to defend the poor, the oppressed, against the oppressors?" But it is not correct to make an imperative slogan out of it, which leads to relying on the organs of the imperialist state to defend the workers and the oppressed people.

But, say the wisacre leadership of the SWP, did not federal troops play a progressive role in the Civil War in ending chattel slavery? Yes, indeed they did play a relatively progressive role. However, what separates the federal troop intervention in the Civil War from federal troops today is not just the passage of a century. It is not a question of chronology but two different epochs of capitalist development!

Federal intervention in the 1860s took place and was relatively progressive because it advanced capitalist development and was therefore of direct interest to the ruling class.

In the epoch of imperialism, of monopoly capitalism, things are altogether different. Federal imperialist intervention deepens national oppression, racist repression, and capitalist exploitation. In the pre-monopoly epoch, in the epoch when federal troops could intervene on a relatively progressive scale, Marx thought that America could be the one exception to the rule, and that a peaceful transition to power by the working class was possible precisely because of the absence of that monstrous, bureaucratic, military machine and state bureaucracy which today is so decisive in the struggle between the classes.

But Lenin noted in his State and Revolution that the exception Marx saw in the early, pre-monopoly period in America was no longer valid in imperialist America.

Of course, there are accidental cases here and there where the police may intervene on the side of the oppressed or in isolated cases in other ways. But the general course of development shows absolutely beyond a shadow of a doubt that the military and repressive apparatus which U.S. imperialism has sent abroad with genocidal results cannot be the protector of freedom for the oppressed at home.

Zimbabwe guerrillas step up fight

Blast Rhodesian rail link

By SHARON SHELTON
NEW YORK, April 25—Zimbabwean freedom fighters stepped up their struggle against the tiny, repressive white minority illegally ruling Rhodesia with a series of attacks last week, temporarily severing Rhodesia's vital rail link with apartheid-ruled South Africa.

On April 18, despite a lynch-mob atmosphere prevailing among the heavily armed Rhodesian white population, liberation fighters ambushed three wealthy South Africans on the main highway between Rhodesia and South Africa and blew up the tracks of the Rutenga railway, derailling a freight train. Guerrillas struck again several days later, wounding a Rhodesian rancher.

VITAL LINK

The Rutenga line is important to Rhodesia's white minority government as a vital import route for oil, ammunition, and other goods. Also, it has been used for

almost a decade to evade a UN boycott against Rhodesian products by routing exports through South Africa.

The rail line's importance has been increased by neighboring Mozambique's closure of its 800-mile-long border with Rhodesia, announced by President Samora Machel last month in a speech of revolutionary solidarity with the Zimbabwean people and their struggle.

Mozambique is a major base for the 13,000 Zimbabwe guerrillas who are operating against the racist enemy.

The attacks on the highway last week constituted the deepest penetration into Southeastern Rhodesia thus far made by Zimbabwe liberation fighters. The arch-racist Ian Smith regime responded to the attacks by sending the fascist "security police" and military into the bush country to comb the area around the town of Nuanetsi in what is being called the largest dragnet ever undertaken by Smith's gestapo

forces, according to the April 23 International Bulletin. Also, gun-toting white settlers are going on patrols of their own, terrorizing Africans indiscriminately.

REPRESSION NOTHING NEW

This repression is nothing new for the 6.1 million Africans in Rhodesia who have long suffered under the rule of the white supremacists, numbering only 278,000. In addition to the military and the 8,000-member "security police" force, the Black population has also been brutalized by highly paid mercenaries from Europe and the U.S., especially since their route from Angola.

The fascist forces, equipped with British and French fighter planes, tanks, and helicopters, are responsible for atrocities such as napalming, torture, and massacres of entire villages.

A March 29 report issued by Amnesty International documents the widespread use of torture against Africans, especially those living in the northeastern areas near Mozambique. Describing horrible beatings and the use of electric shocks with electrodes and cattle prods, the report says "torture victims have been threatened with castration or immersed head first in barrels of water until unconscious."

Amnesty International also points out that over 700 political prisoners are currently being held by the Smith regime without trial, while 500 others are sitting in jail on charges of belonging to political organizations.

The report confirms the existence of Vietnam-style

"protected villages." Between 100,000 and 300,000 villagers in border areas reportedly have been viciously uprooted from their homes and herded into these camps without their consent.

U.S. COLLABORATION

The Ford administration has made it clear that it does not want to see the Zimbabwe liberation struggle's challenge to the racist rule succeed, despite the phony claims to oppose minority rule mouthed by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger during his current trip through Africa.

In addition to the sheer hypocrisy of such statements, coming from a spokesman of the same imperialist power that armed the Portuguese colonialists during their bloody repression against the people of Africa, the U.S. has a record of collaboration with the Rhodesian racists through its blatant violation of UN sanctions.

The greater part of U.S. capital invested in Rhodesia is tied up in lucrative chrome and asbestos mining. American Metal Climax, Union Carbide, Foote Mineral Company, and other U.S.-owned multi-national corporations owe a large part of their profits to the sweat and blood of Black workers of Zimbabwe.

Other U.S. companies openly violating international sanctions are American Express, Diners' Club, Holiday Inn, Avis Rent-a-Car, and others. "Our basic policy," an American Express spokesperson told a reporter for Internews recently, "is to encourage tourism anywhere in the world and that includes Rhodesia."



Shortly after South African troops withdrew from the former Portuguese colony of Angola.

Neto pledges all out Angola

By JOHN C. OTTO

By mid-March of this year, even those few Black African governments who had supported the opposition to the MPLA and the People's Republic of Angola withdrew their support and made their peace with the new victors.

The South African Star Weekly admitted that Zambia's dropping of support for Jonas Savimbi, the leader of the UNITA grouping, leaves "the only MPLA opposition stranded as a group of lonely bandits operating from a small south east corner of (Angola), living off the few fruits of the barren area and increasingly unable to reequip its forces." Only South Africa, they said, was still sending supplies to the "pro-

At WW Branch meeting

PASOA speaker rips S. Africa-L

NEW YORK, April 26—The struggle against South African apartheid is a necessary part of the African socialist revolution.

This was the theme of a militant, anti-imperialist talk given by Brother Yemi Agbeyegbe at a recent meeting of the New York branch of Workers World Party (see article this page). Brother Agbeyegbe is a leading member of the Pan African Students Organization in the Americas (PASOA), which along with Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) has been working to build the May 1 Anti-Apartheid Day march.

Speaking of the limitations of the political independence won by the former European colonies in Africa, Brother Yemi explained that "the separation of ourselves from the Europeans meant very little if in fact we did not control our communities (and) our resources, if in fact we did not create the conditions where we can say that our children can have schools, that our women can be protected against aggression from any foreign country, in fact, conditions in which our women can actually participate in the struggles of our people."

INDEPENDENCE ONLY THE FIRST STAGE

"That is why," he continued, "the independence movement in the 1950s attempted to create the conditions where Africa would be truly independent. But I must say this, that the independence

movement, although it was the first stage of the African revolution, had certain weaknesses... the fact that the majority of the leadership were those elements during the colonial period who, through their collaboration with colonialism, had made colonialism possible. When the European countries, Britain, France, Belgium, granted independence to Africa, they made sure that those Africans who took over power from them were those elements, petty bourgeois essentially, who would perpetuate colonialism.

"That is why when Ghana got its independence in 1956, Guinea in 1958, and a host of other African countries in 1960, we waited for the real independence to come and all we saw was a flag, a national anthem, a position at the United Nations. But what about the economy of our country? It was still being controlled by foreigners. So that the independence movement, rather than leading to economic independence, led to the birth of what Kwame Nkrumah characterized as neo-colonialism.

DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-CAPITALIST STAGE

"It is this fact," asserted Agbeyegbe, "which led Africans who began to fight for their independence in the early 1960s, Guinea-Bissau for instance, where the liberation movement started in 1963, Frelimo in Mozambique in 1965, and MPLA in 1961 in Angola,

to understand that it was necessary for the African liberation movements to advance the African revolution to a higher stage, a stage where they would understand first the international nature of capitalism.

"The domination of Africans in Africa, although it had very many racial connotations, was not in essence a manifestation only of racism. The exploitation of our people was inextricably linked with the nature of European capitalist society, and that is why it was important that the African liberation movement would have to deal not only with the question of destroying European capitalism, the extension of that which we call imperialism, in their own countries. They had to link up with the workers and peasants inside of Africa who were used to create the wealth which European imperialism imported into Europe and to remove those petty bourgeois leaderships who had subverted the independence movement and had led the African countries into neo-colonialism.

"That is why PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau, MPLA in Angola, and Frelimo in Mozambique organized movements which involved the mass of the peasants in the countryside and the mass of the workers in the cities. That is why it was possible after 15 years of struggle in Angola that the Peoples Republic of Angola has been born.

"We do not for a moment believe that Angola is completely free.





Troops were forced to withdraw, victorious Angolans remove Portuguese administrative center in small southern town of
Photo: Internews

ut fight on apartheid

a rebuilding after the victory

western movement."

This victory for the People's Republic of Angola (PRA), welcomed by progressives, still left many unresolved problems. These included the occupation by South African troops of the hydroelectric dam on the Cunene river near the border with Namibia (South West Africa), the continued oppression of Namibia and Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), and the difficult and complicated task of reconstructing the Angolan economy and creating a new state.

CUNENE DAM IS ANGOLAN

Expressing the views of the PRA at an April 3 press conference in New York was Ambassador at

Large and member of the MPLA Central Committee Pascal Luvualu.

South Africa had circulated rumors that the PRA had made an agreement with them to protect the dam. Ambassador Luvualu denied this, saying: "Protect it from whom? Why protect the dam from ourselves? It belongs to us. There was no trade off with South Africa. They are distorting the facts. We guarantee the dam won't be destroyed, because it has an economic importance for agriculture and electricity—for us and the people of Namibia."

Luvualu was in New York for the UN Security Council debate on a resolution condemning South African aggression in Angola, their

Since 1965

U.S. \$\$ in South Africa triples

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU

NEW YORK, April 23—Despite the lies which Ford, Kissinger, and other representatives of U.S. big business try to tell us, U.S. imperialism has only one true interest in South Africa: PROFIT.

The super-oppression of Black people there by the racist South African regime through the apartheid system causes no real concern on the part of U.S. corporations. On the contrary, they find that apartheid facilitates their plunder of the labor and resources which rightfully belong to Black South Africans, and their collaboration with the pro-Nazi South African regime helps fill their coffers and fuel their war machine.

Over the past decade, during a period of mounting international protest against apartheid, U.S. investment in South Africa has tripled from \$500 million to \$1.5 billion.

Most recently Kennecott Copper Corporation, Caltex (an oil profiteer), and Seagrams have joined the already large number of American corporations operating in South Africa.

Kennecott Copper has announced a planned \$300 million investment in iron- and titanium-bearing beaches along the northeast coast of South Africa. A corporation which played a vile role in support of the fascist coup in Chile, Kennecott will control 40 percent of the project while the racist South African government's Industrial Development Corp. (IDC) and the Union Corp. (a South African mining company) will split 60 percent.

Although Kennecott contends that the titanium will be used as a pigment for textiles, art, and paper industries in Europe, most of the metal will undoubtedly go toward commercial and military airplanes. In 1971 the U.S. used 84 percent of domestic titanium for this purpose.

The operation will be highly automated, providing few jobs for Africans in the area. Those who do get jobs will undoubtedly suffer from horrendous working conditions, since no union and low wages go hand in hand with apartheid.

CALTEX REAPS OIL PROFITS

Caltex announced last year a \$134 million expansion of its Milnerton refinery near Capetown. Once completed in 1978, the refinery's capacity will be 100,000 barrels of crude oil daily—double the current capacity. Always in need of vast oil resources to fuel their armies, police forces, and the industries which they control, both

U.S. imperialism and South Africa will benefit from Caltex's operations.

But to Africans whose oil is being stolen Caltex offers next to nothing. The percentage of Africans in the Caltex workforce has fallen from 32 percent to 22 percent, although they are the vast majority of the population. With no unions and no job protection, they receive starvation wages far below those of whites.

As if this is not enough, Caltex blatantly rescued apartheid and flew in the face of all Africans when, in 1973, the company collaborated with the Shah of Iran to break the oil embargo against South Africa called by the Organization of African Unity.

SEAGRAM PLANNING "CLEAN" EXPLOITATION

Seagram, a Canadian liquor corporation with a U.S. subsidiary, is currently involved in behind-the-scenes investigation of a possible \$10 million investment in KwaZulu, a bantustan in South Africa. (Although referred to as "homelands" by the South African regime, the bantustans are artificially created reservations on which Africans are forced to live.)

A company geared to consumer sales, Seagram has tried to find a "clean" way of exploiting African resources and labor while not endorsing apartheid. This is clearly impossible.

The export of a distillery operation to KwaZulu will not only exploit Africans for profit but will legitimize the bantustan system and aid the racist regime by doing so.

There is a seemingly endless list of U.S. profiteers operating in South Africa, including Ford, Chrysler, American Airlines, Holiday Inns, Union Carbide, and others. But their grip is weakening as Black Africans after each heroic struggle take more and more power into their own hands.

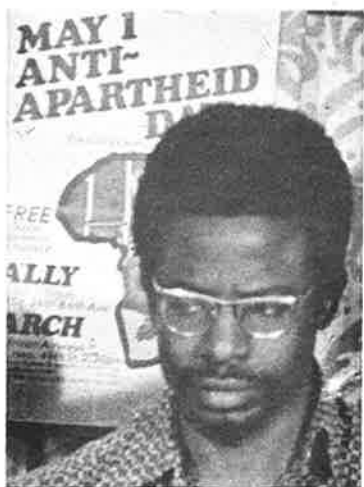
U.S. axis

Angola is not completely free. What we are suggesting is that the conditions for the third stage of the African revolution—and that is the socialist revolution—have been created by the liberation of Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau."

SOCIALISM DEPENDS ON LIBERATING S. AFRICA

At this point, Brother Agbeyegbe delivered the central point of his talk: "We do not however, believe," he said, "that this third stage can be undertaken without the liberation of South Africa. For indeed, the basis for the ultimate construction of socialism in Africa cannot be undertaken with that foreign capitalist element inside of Africa." And taking note of the suppression of news and information from South Africa by the bourgeois press in this country, he went on to say "that May First becomes for us an opportunity to break that blanket of silence which has been imposed on the American population."

Responding to a question regarding Kissinger's trip to several African countries, Brother Yemi added: "There is this assumption on the part of Kissinger and the group of monopoly capitalists whom he represents that we in Africa are so stupid that we can't, within this decade, watch the role which the U.S. government has played in Mozambique, in Angola, and in Guinea-Bissau, where the U.S. through NATO supplied arms,



Yemi Agbeyegbe.

WW photo: G. Dunkel

including napalm, to these reactionary fascist colonialists to bomb Africans.

"And when in spite of that," he continued, "the Angolans succeeded in defeating Portuguese colonialism, defeating South African fascism, defeating U.S. imperialism, Kissinger now suggests that Africa has suddenly become important." And in reference to the role that the USSR has played in Africa, Agbeyegbe affirmed that "the Soviet Union has consistently supported the liberation movements, when there was no certainty that victory was around the corner."

Once again speaking on the U.S. role in Africa, Brother Yemi told the audience that "The forces against which the South African blacks are fighting, the very center of these forces is right here in Wall Street—Chase Manhattan Bank, Polaroid, etc. The basis of South African Apartheid is the super-exploitation of workers."

continued military buildup in Namibia, and demanding reparations for the extensive damage caused in Angola by the South African invasion. This resolution passed with nine in favor, the U.S. and four of its imperialist allies, abstaining, and China not participating in the vote.

While this is a limited victory, as all diplomatic victories are, it clearly placed the blame for aggression on South Africa and not at all on the states that assisted the PRA.

MILITARY STRUGGLE NEEDED

President Neto of the PRA, whether speaking in his capital Luanda, at the meeting in Conakry, Guinea, of those who sent troops to help the MPLA, or on a state visit to Algeria, has been pointing out the limitations of diplomacy in another context. He has said that the liberation of southern Africa is basically a military question, and that the PRA would support such a struggle despite the difficulties they face reconstructing Angola.

Ambassador Luvualu, in his remarks, brought out that while the PRA seeks peaceful coexistence with the two neighboring states Zambia and Zaire, they do not recognize any of the South African claims to Namibia. "We don't have a border with South Africa, we have a border with Namibia."

The ambassador also discussed the problems of reconstruction, which he brought out as the principal task, along with reorganizing the administrative structure in the south of Angola. Their tasks were complicated by the retreating South African armies, who "destroyed bridges and looted their way back to the southern border. . . . More important, they slaughtered our people—killing old men, women, and children, as well as executive members of the MPLA Central Committee, some of whom had been in prison in the south."

Ambassador Luvualu expected that the next imperialist offensive would be on the economic front, with the possibility of blockades and boycotts started by the monopolies in collusion with the imperialist governments. He expected these economic threats to fail, and called upon progressives in the U.S. to be prepared to mobilize against an economic blockade.



Anti-Apartheid struggle focus of WW meeting

NEW YORK, April 24—The struggle against South African apartheid was the focus of tonight's meeting of the New York branch of Workers World Party. Yemi Agbeyegbe of the Pan African Students Organization in the Americas (PASOA) spoke to 200 members and friends of the party following the showing of a movie, "The End of Dialogue," which was filmed in South Africa.

Tonight's meeting, devoted to the anti-apartheid mobilization for this year's May Day, placed the struggle in South Africa in the context of the African socialist revolution and the anti-imperialist struggle in the U.S. in solidarity with the world's oppressed.

The film, "The End of Dialogue," offered a rare glimpse into the concentration camp conditions under which the Black working people of South Africa are super-exploited. Artfully filmed, it is a moving appeal for justice and world-wide solidarity in the struggle.

Brother Yemi Agbeyegbe then spoke on the political struggle in Africa, explaining the great significance which this year's anti-apartheid May Day, which is being jointly organized by PASOA and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), has for the African revolution and the struggle against U.S. imperialism. (see accompanying article).

EDITORIAL

A community's defiance

A racist, anti-Puerto Rican campaign has been launched by the imperialist ruling class, through the New York Times, to overturn a decision of the Community School Board of District 5 in Harlem renaming Public School 161 in honor of Puerto Rican patriot Don Pedro Albizu Campos.

Although PS 161 is in a mostly Black area of Harlem, its enrollment is 76 percent Latin, mostly Puerto Rican. At a Feb. 26 meeting of the community board, a resolution to rename the school after Albizu Campos had been unanimously passed. The Parent Teachers Association supported the decision.

On April 19—almost two months after the board's decision—the New York Times carried a front-page article on the decision implying that changing the name of the school from Fiorello H. LaGuardia—mayor of New York City during the F.D. Roosevelt administration—to Don Pedro Albizu Campos was an insult to the Italian-American community. A short and extremely distorted description of Albizu Campos and his role in Puerto Rican history was included in the article, claiming that he was "paranoid" and motivated by resentment over the racism he encountered during his student days at Harvard.

An editorial in the next day's issue of the Times called the board's decision "supremely idiotic" and Albizu Campos "pro-terrorist."

ALBIZU CAMPOS A SYMBOL OF PUERTO RICAN FREEDOM

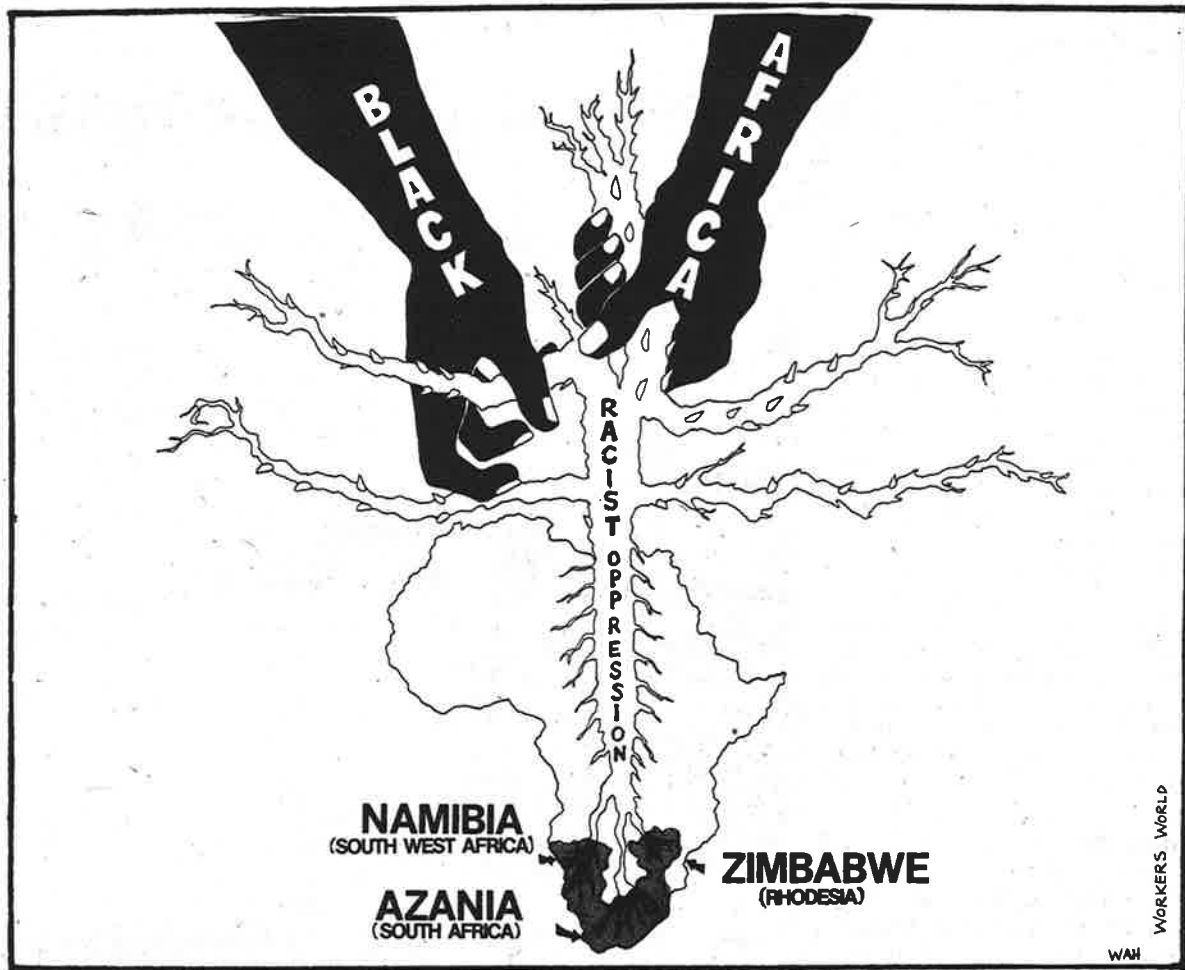
The rabid hate which makes the New York Times foam at the mouth at the mere mention of his name stems from Albizu Campos' irreconcilable struggle to liberate Puerto Rico from the yoke of U.S. imperialism. Throughout his adult life, Don Pedro fought for liberation. He became the symbol of the Puerto Rican liberation struggle in the decade of the 1930s, when he assumed the presidency of the Nationalist Party and carried out an uncompromising war against U.S. imperialism and all its manifestations on the island.

In 1950 the Nationalist Party, under his direction, staged an uprising in the town of Jayuya, which spread to other towns across the island and included an attempt on President Truman in Washington, D.C. It was bloodily crushed by the colonial government and Albizu Campos was jailed. He had already served 10 years in federal prison for his revolutionary activities in the 1930s.

He was released in 1954 because of failing health and international pressure, but rearrested after four Nationalists—led by Lolita Lebron—opened fire on Congress from the visitors' gallery to bring world attention to the farce that had been perpetrated on the Puerto Rican people when the "free associated state" or commonwealth of Puerto Rico was instituted to cover up its unchanged colonial status. He was not released again until 1965, a few months before he died from the torture and hardship he was subjected to during his incarceration.

Delia Ortiz, chairperson of District 5's Community School Board, told reporters at a press conference on April 22, "The suggestion that Mr. Albizu Campos' name is inappropriate because of the allegation that he 'could applaud and encourage assassination' is indeed ironic. . . . A society responsible for attempts on Castro's life, for subversion in Chile, for armed intervention in the Dominican Republic, and for a long train of outrages in Latin America, can hardly protest the employment of their tactics against themselves.

The attack by the New York Times—and of the other papers which soon followed—comes from the panic which has gripped the ruling class over the growing demand for independence—and socialism—among Puerto Ricans in Puerto Rico and here in the U.S. itself. For the bourgeoisie, it is unthinkable that an irreconcilable fighter against U.S. imperialism such as Don Pedro Albizu Campos be honored in such an official manner as having a school named after him right here in the belly of the beast, and that by a united community of Latin, Black, and poor white and working class people. The implications are enormous—and frightening for the ruling class. It is the rising of the flag of resistance and defiance against the capitalist system.



President of Puerto Rican Cement workers framed on bomb charges

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTY

NEW YORK, April 24—Early last Thursday morning, about 20 heavily armed FBI agents arrested the president of the Cement Industry Operators and Quarry Workers Union in Puerto Rico. He and another union leader were charged with conspiring to place and placing explosives during the year-long cement workers' strike against the Puerto Rican Cement Company. This arrest marks a further escalation of the repression against the working class movement of Puerto Rico, which began a month ago with the assassination of the son of Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) leader Mari Bras and was followed within days by the arrests of four PSP militants on weapons charges.

Efrain Fernandez Colon, president of the cement union, and Wilfredo Rosado de Jesus, another union leader, were charged with allegedly placing explosives within the Puerto Rican Cement Company grounds on July 26, 1975.

The cement workers' strike against the company owned by former governor Ferre began on Jan. 31, 1975, after months of fruitless negotiations. The company announced that pension and medical benefits the union had already won would be abolished and began a policy of speedups and harassment. The union fought tenaciously, and when several workers were denied medical benefits covered by the old contract and the company continued to refuse to negotiate the other demands, the union saw no recourse but to strike.

From the outset, the Ferre-owned company unleashed a

barrage of vicious propaganda and violence against the union. The picket lines were continually attacked and even fired on by company guards hired for that purpose from Security Associates, a U.S. goon-for-hire firm in Puerto Rico. Strikers were beaten and their families were threatened. The police made no moves against the company or any of the guards, even though many of the attacks were done under their very eyes.

These attacks failed to break the strike of the approximately 500 workers; instead, the progressive labor movement throughout the island rallied to their support. Picket lines and demonstrations by hundreds and even thousands of supporters were not uncommon in front of the plant gates in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

EARLIER FRAME-UP FAILED

The Puerto Rican Cement Company then began, in conjunction with the police and the colonial government, to initiate charges against the union members and leadership of sabotage and terrorism. Several bombings of company property in support of the strikers were attributed to the union without any evidence.

In April 1975, the company and the colonial government attempted to frame up Efrain Fernandez on bombing charges, but the case fell apart because of lack of evidence and the massive support of the labor movement.

This time, the colonial government, with the guidance of the FBI, has taken more time to prepare its case. The FBI reports it has informers who kept tabs on the union during the strike who claim to have heard Fernandez and Rosado de Jesus "congratulating themselves for placing two iremite explosive devices found on company grounds on July 26, 1975.

The charges against the two union leaders carry a maximum sentence of 15 to 20 years in prison and/or \$20,000 fine.

"ATTACK ON MAYDAY PLANS"

According to relatives, as reported in Claridad, daily newspaper of the PSP, heavily armed FBI agents forced an entry into the homes of Efrain Fernandez and Wilfredo Rosado de Jesus and

arrested them with no explanation of the charges or information as to where they were being taken. Many photos were taken of their homes and, in Fernandez's home, a relative coming to visit him was held until Fernandez was taken away.

Sixto Mercado, Jr., vice-president of the union, attacked the arrests as part "of a repressive plan to try to prevent the celebration of May Day, International Workers' Day." He went on to say that "these workers can count on the solidarity and support of our union and of the entire honest and responsible labor movement in Puerto Rico."

—Liberated Vietnam

(Continued from page 3)

with food and medicines and have set up regular medical check-ups.

The PRG is also helping the thousands of unemployed in the cities to resettle in "new economic areas" in the countryside. Many of the impoverished families gave up their children during the war as they could no longer afford to feed them. The revolutionary government hopes that by providing employment for these families, they will be able to resume caring for their children.

Vietnam was more ravaged by war than any other country in history. It is in desperate need of funds and resources. The U.S. government, which only shed crocodile tears for the Vietnamese children, is not living up to the provisions of the treaty signed at the end of the war which provided for reparations.

It is our responsibility to demand that the U.S. government, having had billions of dollars to spend on guns and bombs, now pay the billions of dollars in reparations to help the Vietnamese people rebuild their land and provide a happy future for their children. And that money should come, not from the people who in overwhelming numbers came to oppose the war, but directly from the profiteering corporations that made millions out of vast human suffering.

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April 30, 1976

Palace coup leaves Baby Doc 'president for life' as

Imperialism tightens stranglehold on Haiti

By CARL BESSON

NEW YORK, April 24—During the past several weeks, events in Haiti have tightened the choking grip that U.S. corporations have on that small Caribbean nation.

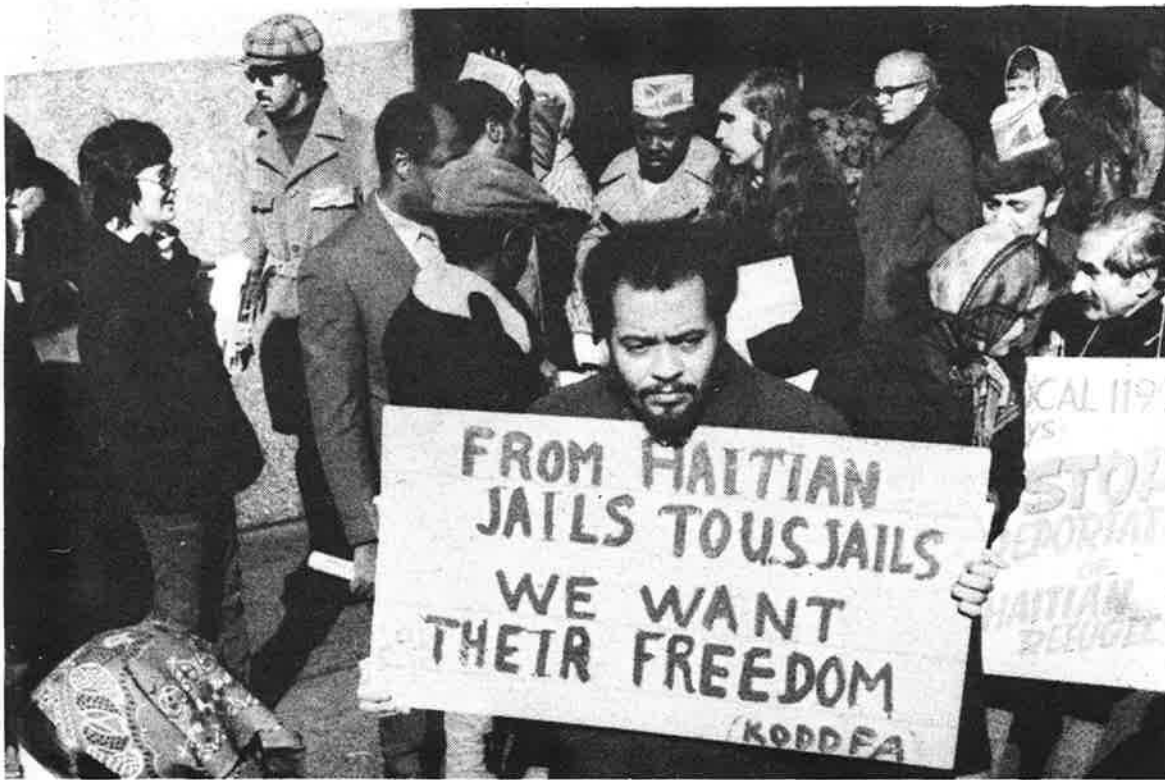
The first week in April saw a palace coup overthrow the cabinet and other critical organs of power, with the young Jean-Claude Duvalier still holding the title of "president-for-life." Apparent fear that even the slightest liberalization in the regime might open a crack in the iron gate of repression, plus millions of dollars in bribes and kickbacks to the Duvalier family and their supporters, are reported to account for the recent developments, according to the scant information available in the U.S. press and other sources.

WORST BUTCHERS REINSTATED

The coup brought back into power Pierre Biamby as minister of Interior and Defense. He is well known to Haitians at home and abroad for, among other things, the brutal massacre of 80 to 100 relatives of anti-Duvalier rebels in November 1964. It is said that the coup was led by Luc Desir, head of the secret police, and follows an assassination attempt against Duvalier this past January after which he is said to have been secretly flown to the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo, Cuba, for treatment and checkup.

Prior to the coup, several top figures in the secret police, who had been dismissed following the death of the elder Duvalier in 1971, had reappeared, including the chief of the Fort Dimanche Prison in the capital where hundreds of political prisoners have been tortured and executed. Haitian exiles released from prison in a deal following the kidnap of the U.S. ambassador in 1973 testified that the U.S. was often "directly or indirectly represented" at the torture and "questioning" sessions.

A Haitian exile publication, Haiti-Observateur, reports that the coup resulted at least in part from the refusal of the former cabinet to accept a \$9 million bid for a government contract on a hydroelectric project. The bid was reportedly \$3 million above that of other contractors but was made by Max Theophile, who happens to be a partner of Duvalier in a new Pepsi-Cola factory in Port-au-Prince. Also, Kennecott Copper is said to have paid some half million dollars



As the U.S. props up the fascist regime in Haiti, thousands of refugees who have fled to this country face deportation. Here, a demonstration in New York exposes the silence in the U.S. press about the plight of the Haitian refugees. WW photo: Fabian

for its recent concession to mine newly found rich deposits in Northern Haiti.

Paul Blanchet, who was purged as Interior and Defense Minister, according to a British journalist

"had pushed a nationalist line against foreign companies.

largely unsuccessfully." Other of the vanquished ministers "had tried to get the dozens of mainly American-owned light industries to

obey labor laws on pay and working conditions."

The changes in Haiti also include the ousting of the editor of the government-controlled newspaper who was thought to have favored

the French, as well as the paper's publisher, and their replacement by others more loyal to Duvalier and presumably to U.S. interests.

U.S. PRESS SILENT

The virtual silence in the U.S. press complements their silence on the plight of the Haitian refugees who have fled to this country, many of their number having drowned en route, only to face deportation at the hands of U.S. authorities.

The deliberate nature of the exclusion of news of the further hardening of the Duvalier tyranny was underscored by a "special report" from Port-au-Prince dated April 13 by a correspondent of AP—Dow Jones. This report stated: "President Jean-Claude Duvalier is making a concentrated effort to bring Haiti back into the international community," and adds that the world lending agencies and various imperialist powers, principally the U.S. and France, "are responding with an unprecedented outpouring of aid."

But the most remarkable, assertion that "there has been a marked political improvement since Jean-Claude took over," without even hinting in the entire dispatch at the events of the preceding week, bares Dow Jones' true desire to protect the plunder of Haiti and support the fascist regime. This is indeed the Washington-Wall Street form of "aid."

Israeli military stymied as

Zionist settler march sparks resistance

By F. GOLDSTEIN

NEW YORK, April 28—The march of 20,000 armed, government-sponsored Israeli right wingers into the West Bank last week has set off a new wave of Palestinian resistance inside Jordan which the Israeli military authorities have been unable to suppress.

The resistance has been spearheaded by Palestinian students, who, although unarmed, have carried out a campaign of harassment for six consecutive days against heavily armed occupation forces. The students and other youths have set up roadblocks to impede the movement of troops, have set fires, stoned contingents of troops and police, and demonstrated against the occupation and for Palestinian liberation.

In occupied Nablus, one of the

principal centers of struggle, Palestinian high school students two days ago set up a roadblock. When troops and police approached, they were met by hundreds of rock-throwing youth who raised the flag of the Palestinian Liberation Organization before being driven back by the troops. The students then had to be driven out of the schoolyard of Gamal Abdel Nasser High School at gunpoint.

It was in Nablus two weeks ago that Israeli troops shot a 50-year-old man to death during a protest demonstration against the settler march. Two other Arabs were also shot to death on April 20 after troops chased demonstrating students into the narrow streets of the Nablus casbah marketplace and were stoned from the windows and rooftops by the residents.

On the same day in Jerusalem young Palestinian women high school students defied occupation authorities by holding a march against the occupation and carrying anti-Israeli slogans. Troops broke up the demonstration but other students set up a roadblock of rocks and burning tires and stoned troops at the roadblock. Two police and a soldier were hurt and 15 protesters arrested. The young Palestinian women answered back the very next day by setting up another roadblock, setting a fire outside the city gates, and holding another march. Israeli troops were forced to evacuate tourists from the city.

Demonstrations in the town of Tulkarm forced the Israelis to impose a curfew on the center of the town and on a nearby Palestinian refugee camp. Extra troops were sent in and 19

Palestinians arrested for curfew violations were given summary sentences of eight to nine months in prison and \$720 fines by a military court. During this same period a West Bank shopkeepers' strike was broken up by Israeli troops who smashed their way into the locked shops and forced the owners to open.

RIGHT WING GIVEN OFFICIAL ENCOURAGEMENT . . .

This renewal of the struggle against the occupation is the Palestinian answer to the threat and provocation of the armed march on April 18 and 19 into the Jericho region, which was virtually co-sponsored by the Israeli right-wing party Gush Emunim (which wants to settle the entire West Bank) and the Zionist government. After months of sitting on the fence in a posture of "friendly ambiguity" towards the pro-settlement faction in the Israeli ruling class, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has come down squarely on the side of the right wing. That was the significance of the march (at least for Israeli internal politics) and the Arab people understood that full well and gave their answer—resistance.

... AFTER LEFT SWEEPS ELECTION

Tel Aviv had been hoping that the Israeli-sponsored elections held on April 12 would return a slate of collaborationist elements to office who would aid in the pacification of the West Bank, and that domination through massive settlement would not be required to hold the population down. But even in elections that were overseen by the Israeli military rulers, the Palestinian masses were able to

register their new mood of their oppressors and their desire for self-determination by throwing out some of the best-known collaborators and electing ten mayors sympathetic to the Communist Party, the Baath Party, or the PLO.

Two days after the collapse of this policy of trying to get the Palestinian people to ratify their own oppression at the polls, Rabin came down off the fence on the question of settlement and permitted Defense Minister Shimon Peres to organize and provide a military escort for the march of 20,000 right-wingers to Jericho. (Many of the marchers carried submachine guns, carbines, and rifles.)

The day after the march, Rabin toured the area to encourage the settlers. Officials announced plans for nine more settlements and Rabin was quoted as having said, "We don't put up villages just to tear them down later." When a settler asked whether or not to plant olive trees, which take seven years to bear fruit, he said, "Plant olives."

The inevitable has overcome the Israeli policy of settling the West Bank. There are not enough settlers to secure the area. To pull back is an admission of defeat and to expand the settlement is to insure the expansion of the Arab liberation struggle. This settler policy (like that of their racist allies in South Africa) is not a policy beneficial to the Arabs or even to the Jewish people of Israel, who only solution is to recognize the national rights of the Palestinian people and accept a democratic, secular state in Palestine.

Two MIR leaders arrested in Argentina by military

ATLANTA, Ga., April 26—Chilean resistance leader Edgardo Enriquez and a Brazilian comrade, Regina Marcondes, were arrested April 10 in Buenos Aires by the Argentine military, according to the Non-Intervention in Chile committee of the Latin American Solidarity Group here. Enriquez is a leading member of the Exterior Committee of Chile's most active resistance organization, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR).

Enriquez' brother, Miguel Enriquez, former secretary general of the MIR, was brutally assassinated by the Chilean dictatorship in October 1974.

On April 22 an urgent appeal was

issued by MIR leader Andres Pascal Allende, himself recently freed by an international solidarity campaign, to save the lives of these two liberation fighters.

Please send telegrams immediately demanding that Edgardo Enriquez and Regina Marcondes NOT be turned over to the Chilean junta, where they would meet certain torture and death, and demanding that their lives and human rights be respected. Send telegrams and letters to the Argentine Embassy, 1600 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 and to President Jorge Videla, Casa Rosada, Capital Federal, Argentina.

Rigged elections, 1876-1976

1916—'He kept us out of war'

By V. COPELAND

Another aspect of Woodrow Wilson's personality was his deadpan pacifism. Deadpan, but fervent and very convincing. He differed greatly from Theodore Roosevelt in this respect.

TR was a true-blue, die-hard, red-blooded imperialist flag-waver, ready at any moment to give his all for his country (as a major general, if Wilson would just give him an army division to command). He spent his time running up and down the then 48 states, organizing the Preparedness League and accusing Wilson of being a coward for not declaring war.

But Wilson, who was to become the most relentless prosecutor of the biggest imperialist war by far up to his time, won the 1916 election by his constant calls for peace and his apparent extreme sincerity in attempting to mediate between the rapacious and cynical imperialist powers of old Europe.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WARRIOR

Wilson's Republican, opponent was not Roosevelt, but Charles Evans Hughes, a member of John D. Rockefeller's Baptist Sunday School class (and other Rockefeller projects, too) who resigned from his Supreme Court justiceship to run.

Hughes ran a considerably more careful campaign than his Republican supporter, Roosevelt, who used all his considerable personal prestige to whip up the population to endorse an immediate declaration of war. But it seemed that Hughes was the more pro-war candidate as opposed to Wilson.

It was precisely this point—precisely the question of U.S. entry into the war—that the capitalist class was still somewhat divided on in 1916, although the economic steps had already been taken that made U.S. entry into the war inevitable.

And they were also divided on Woodrow Wilson.

MORE MONEY FOR HUGHES

The national Republican slush fund was \$2.5 million as opposed to Wilson's incumbent Democrats' \$2 million. This was the first time since before the election of Abraham Lincoln that the winner had a smaller campaign fund than the loser.

This phenomenon has occurred again several times since Wilson, notably in the cases of Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman, but for different reasons. In the more distant past, the reason for the greater slush fund for one candidate than for another was simply

that big capital was more or less united behind the candidate, although to be sure, Wall Street took the mood of the voting public into consideration on some of these occasions, as we have seen.

UNCERTAIN ABOUT THEIR MAN

But in 1916 it was not so much that they were united behind Hughes as that they were uncertain about Wilson. The Princeton conservative had hit much harder at corporate monopolies than his Morgan backers had really expected. And although he was so permissive about big arms sales and big loans to France and Britain that big business never had it so good, Wall Street really seems to have wondered whether he could or would pull the country into war.

As a matter of fact, a large part of Wilson's \$2 million fund came from 170,000 small contributions that he solicited from the "public" to prove he was "independent" and "unbossed." Thus he seemed to the more gullible to be a "man of the people" in campaign financing as well as in trust-busting and peace-keeping.

Was his election victory then a slap at U.S. big business and high finance? By no means! It was the best thing that could have happened to them!

Nobody could have maneuvered

the U.S. into war any better than Wilson—and the war was the crucial thing that capital absolutely had to have. Nobody could have welded the anti-war part of the population together with the chauvinists in a drive to win "the war to end war" or the fight "to make the world safe for democracy" (and other well-tuned Wilsonian phrases) any better than this hypocritical, intellectual, beating, bourgeois pacifist.

And it took the election process of the bourgeois democracy to turn up this golden nugget that some of big business itself might have left to shine unseen.

MASS SENTIMENT FOR PEACE

In spite of the sinking of the Lusitania and the "rape of Belgium," the majority of the people of the United States had no desire to sacrifice their lives on foreign soil. Even the delegates to the Democratic national convention of 1916, case-hardened though most of them were, undoubtedly reflected the mass sentiment for peace in the face of Roosevelt's and the Morgan war crowd's war cries.

When Martin Glynn, ex-governor of New York State, gave the keynote address, his intention was to apologize for Wilson's pacifism but lay the basis for a pro-war pro-

(Continued on page 12)

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

Seminole Indians jailed by racist court

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, April 20—Four Seminole Treaty Indians were today sentenced by Federal Judge Joseph Morris in Muskogee, Okla., to prison terms ranging from five to ten years. The four were convicted, along with a fifth defendant (see article on facing page), by an all-white jury March 11 on charges of extortion, conspiracy, and illegal possession of incendiary devices. An appeal has been filed.

The charges stem from efforts by the Ancient Seminole Treaty People to make the U.S. government and the Santa Fe Railroad live up to previously agreed upon treaties and to gain official recognition from the government as a sovereign nation.

In 1898 the railroad had signed a treaty promising to compensate the Seminoles for the use of Indian land. The railroad made payments to the Treaty Indians from 1898 to 1904, but from then on ceased to live up to its financial obligations as specified in the 1898 treaty. In November 1975, the Indians presented an ultimatum to Santa

Fe demanding that the railroad pay the Seminoles \$217,000 for the use of the land since 1904, or the company could no longer use the land. When the railroad received the ultimatum, it contacted the Seminoles to set up negotiations.

RAILROAD SETS UP INDIAN LEADERS FOR ARREST

However, the railroad never had any intentions of negotiating fairly with the Seminoles. When the Seminoles arrived at the proposed sight for negotiations, they were met by a large detachment of FBI agents and county and city police while officials from the railroad were nowhere to be found.

When yet another meeting was set up at the Seminoles' office, government forces were sent in again, this time with the intentions of jailing leaders of the Seminole Nation. Without warrants, the heavily armed police entered the office and chained and shackled the occupants of the building.

At the trial, the explosives which the Seminoles allegedly possessed were never produced. The ex-

ortion charge referred to their demand to make the railroad pay the \$217,000 back pay. If anything, it is the railroad which should be charged with robbery for the refusal to pay this money to the Seminoles.

A NATION LONG OPPRESSED

For the Seminoles, this is yet another cruel experience with the U.S. government and large companies which have for years exploited and terrorized them. Over the years, literally dozens of Seminoles in Oklahoma have been murdered by racist cops and white ranchers, and accounts of unprovoked beatings of Indians are numerous.

The Seminoles are a nation of people who originally lived in what is now Florida, but were forced to migrate to other areas of North America in the 1840s after years of bitter warfare against the U.S. government. Many of these people had gone to live in what is now known as Seminole Territory.

The Seminole Territory, over

2,000 acres in central Oklahoma, is rich in natural resources. Vast amounts of coal, gravel, natural gas, and oil have made the large corporations that have stolen these resources extremely rich while the Seminoles live in poverty.

The Ancient Seminole Treaty People are demanding the right to control the use of their land and to receive fair compensation from the corporations that have been using the land free of charge for years. They are also demanding the right to control their lives and preserve their national culture free from governmental interference. For this "crime," leaders of the Seminole people are now sitting in the jails of the rich.

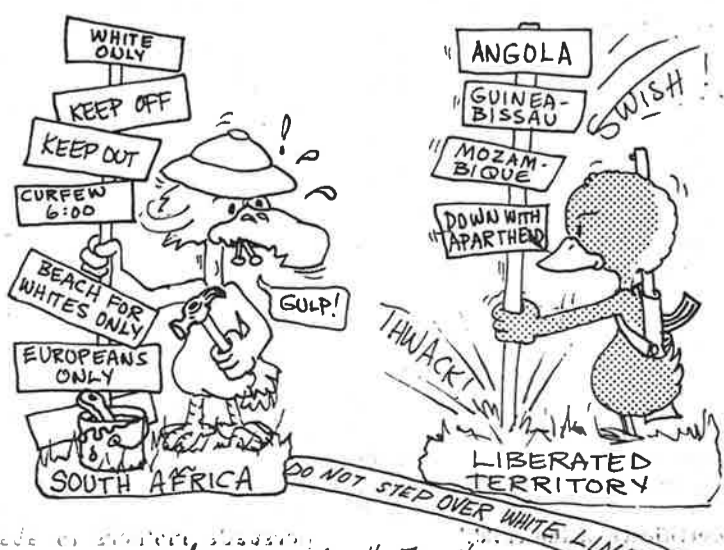
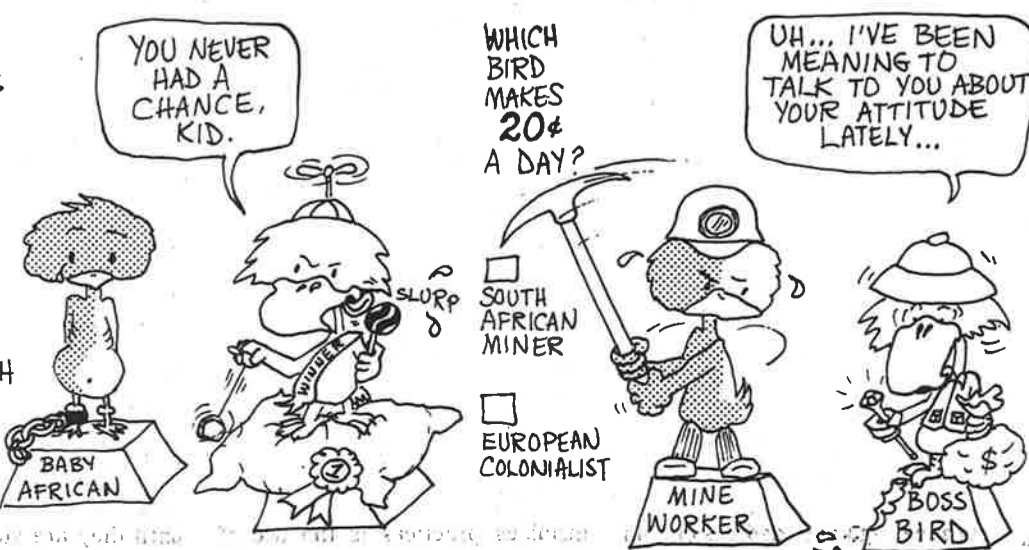
Please write to Judge Joseph Morris, U.S. District Court, Eastern District, Muskogee, Okla., and demand that he reverse the sentencing and free the Seminole defendants immediately.

Donations and messages of solidarity can be sent to: Ancient Seminole Treaty People, Box 71, Seminole, Okla.

FOR THE BIRDS...

WHICH ONE OF THESE BABY BIRDS HAS ONLY A 50% CHANCE OF LIVING PAST 5 YEARS?

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- ☐ BABY COLONIALIST (CHECK ONE ✓)



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POLITICAL PRISONERS



Meredith Quinn, Marlene Kennedy seized in Buffalo

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, April 22—Over a dozen FBI agents and Erie County sheriffs entered a west side apartment here today to apprehend two courageous Indian activists, Meredith Quinn and Marlene Kennedy.

Quinn, a Santee Sioux, had been a fugitive since April 20 when he failed to appear for sentencing in Muskogee, Okla., on charges stemming from a struggle against the Santa Fe Railroad. Quinn had been asked by the Seminoles to come to Oklahoma to give legal advice in their fight to win monetary compensation from the

Santa Fe (see article, p. 10). He was ordered extradited back to Oklahoma today by Federal Judge John Curtin, and upon arrival will be sentenced on extortion, conspiracy, and possession of illegal explosive charges.

Marlene Kennedy was arrested back in January 1975 and charged with the attempted murder of a policeman after she defended her home, land, and children from a State Police assault. Later the charges were reduced to reckless endangerment and menacing.

When the case came to trial last summer, Marlene exercised her

treaty rights by refusing to appear in the courts of the U.S. government. Marlene is a Traditional Seneca who is sovereign and as such does not recognize the U.S. courts as having jurisdiction over her people. She had also been a fugitive until she was rearrested today.

She is scheduled to appear in the Town of Brant Courthouse on April 28, when Justice John Abramo will set a trial date.

PSP member stands firm against grand jury 'fishing expedition'

NEW YORK, April 25—Lureida Torres, a member of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) in New York, faces a contempt of court hearing this week for holding firm to her decision not to cooperate with a grand jury investigating alleged Puerto Rican "terrorist" activities.

Torres told the grand jury last Wednesday that she refused to testify "because the grand jury was being used by the U.S. Attorney and the FBI to persecute supporters of Puerto Rican independence."

Forced to appear before the grand jury three times, Torres was asked to identify any individuals that "she knew" were involved in several bombings attributed to Puerto Rican groups. In addition, U.S. Attorney James E. Nesland asked Torres to identify members of the Armed Forces of Puerto Rican National Liberation (FALN) which took credit for the bombing of the Fraunces Tavern here last year.

During her second and third appearances before the grand

Third trial in nine months slated for victims of vicious racist frameup

By JERRY GOLDFARB

DETROIT, April 21—Raymond Peoples, James Henderson, and Ronald Jordan are still in jail waiting for a third trial on charges stemming from a Black rebellion last summer in Detroit's Livernois-Fenkell area.

These three, along with two others, were busted on frame-up charges of murder in the beating of a white man, Marian Pyszko, during a rebellion. Despite the fact that Peoples, Henderson, and

Jordan have already gone through two trials which ended in hung juries, Judge Joseph Gillis has still refused to set bail for them. They have now been in jail almost nine months. Their third trial is set to begin May 7.

The Livernois-Fenkell rebellion last summer was touched off by the murder of a young Black man, Obie Wynn, by racist bar owner Andrew Chinarian. Chinarian was arrested for second degree murder, but unlike the Livernois 5 was immediately freed on bond. His recent trial resulted in the murder charge being thrown out, and with Chinarian being convicted of a small misdemeanor for killing a Black youth.

In contrast, the state has vigorously pursued its frame-up of the Livernois 5. In both of their trials, the prosecution's case consisted of a patchwork of coerced testimony and lies.

Every key witness for the state admitted to having been threatened by the police. Each was offered the choice of being a witness for the prosecution or a defendant on the same murder charge. Even with these tactics, the prosecutor was unable to come up with a positive identification of the individuals responsible for Pyszko's death, and both trials ended in hung juries.

The tactics used by the state against the Livernois 5 are reminiscent of the Harlem 5, who spent years in jail before finally being acquitted. The Livernois 5 need mass support to win their freedom. Picket lines to support them have been held, and a rally called by the Livernois 5 Defense Committee is being planned. Also people are urged to attend their trial May 7 in Detroit's Recorder's Court.

Puerto Rican activists reimprisoned after bail ransom upped to \$1 million

NEW YORK, April 25—Four members of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) who had been granted a bail reduction two weeks ago permitting two of them to enjoy freedom, were reimprisoned last week when the Puerto Rican Supreme Court overruled bail set by a lower court judge and increased it to over \$1 million total.

Edwin Melendez, Carmen Adelaida Acevedo, Elias Castro, and Luis Medina, all accused of possessing explosives and firearms, were informed on April 16 of the Supreme Court ruling overriding a previous decision to lower the bail while a writ of habeas corpus requiring an inquiry to determine if the four had been lawfully imprisoned was settled.

Edwin Melendez, Secretary of Trade Union Affairs and member of the Central Committee of the

PSP, and Elias Castro had remained imprisoned despite the bail reduction due to additional charges of possession of firearms brought against them by the United States Court in Puerto Rico.

The Secretary General of the PSP, Juan Mari Bras, denounced the Supreme Court decision as a "dangerous precedent."

"This kind of action," he continued, "can be used to nullify the right of Habeas Corpus."

The jailing of the four PSP members was part of an all-out U.S. government attack on the militant movement of the Puerto Rican people for national independence and economic justice. Their arrests followed by only a few days the brutal murder of Santiago Mari Pesquera, son and comrade of Juan Mari Bras, in what was clearly a political assassination.

Bottled formulas: high profits and infant deaths

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

NEW YORK, April 26—Every day, babies in developing countries succumb to severe diarrhea and dehydration, then malnutrition, marasmus, and death. They are victims of the "bottle illness" syndrome, and physicians and nutritionists working in those countries link the deaths to the aggressive advertising and marketing campaigns of the giant multi-national corporations who produce prepared infant formula.

Bottle feeding in poor countries, the experts charge, is a serious health hazard—the mortality rate for bottle-fed babies is about double that for breast-fed babies. The reasons are clear: the economic conditions—contaminated water, lack of refrigeration, inadequate means for sterilization of bottles and nipples—make it impossible to prepare and store formula correctly. In addition, mothers frequently overdilute the expensive powder to make it last longer. Researchers in the Caribbean found that some mothers were diluting a four-day supply of formula to make it last more than three weeks, and in Barbados, 82 percent of the mothers surveyed were overdiluting the powder.

A Cornell University report, prepared by graduate student Ted Greiner and Dr. Michael Latham, charges that "in many instances, placing an infant on a bottle is tantamount to signing the death certificate of the child."



Manipulations by the giant corporations that market infant formula are responsible for rising infant deaths in poor countries.

The dangers of bottle feeding for people with no access to clean water and adequate refrigeration have long been known, but the findings are now taking on a new significance. With a declining birth rate at home, the infant food manufacturers are stepping up efforts to sell their products to under-developed countries, where there is a vast and largely untapped market. There, an advertising barrage attempts to persuade mothers to abandon

breast-feeding and to buy instead powdered formula.

Billboards and ads aimed at low-income groups "frequently show a well dressed local woman in front of a pleasant clean house, bottle feeding a content plump baby. . . . The implication is that nice people with nice houses who want nice babies, bottle feed their babies," the Cornell report says. One company, for example, ran this ad in an Indian newspaper:

"My baby! He laughs and the roses bloom! Let the evil eye not see the way in which he is blossoming. I am so glad I give him Lever's Baby Food. It has been created especially to meet the requirements of the Indian environment, and that is why it is suitable for my baby."

"The media onslaught is terrific," says the Cornell report, "the messages are powerful and the profits are high. High also is the resultant human suffering."

NESTLE EXPOSED, SUES FOR LIBEL

Perhaps one of the worst offenders is Nestle Alimentana, which sells the largest share of infant formula in the under-developed world. The businessmen's journal Barrons (May 1968) unashamedly gushes that "its involvement with the population explosion in backward countries, where it makes cheap baby food, and . . . the fact that it keeps its cash in solid Swiss francs make Nestle shares good insurance against depression, in-

flation, and revolution."

But War On Want, a British group, charged that bottle feeding in poor countries leads to malnutrition and death, and that Nestle's advertising has played a significant role in the switch to the bottle. The group's pamphlet, "The Baby Killer," was translated into German by Arbeitsgruppe Dritte Welt (ADW—Third World Workers Group), who called it "Nestle Kills Babies." Nestle is now suing ADW for libel.

International opposition to the formula makers has also come from the World Council on Churches (Geneva) and the Baby Foods Action Group (London). In the U.S., protests are being planned by such diverse groups as the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, the Infant Formula Abuse Action Group, and the National Council of Churches. The American groups are concentrating their attack on the U.S.-based multi-nationals Bristol-Myers, Abbot Laboratories, and American Home Products which control 96 percent of the U.S. market in addition to their overseas holdings.

HIGH-PRESSURE SALES TECHNIQUES

In addition to high-pressure ads, the formula makers sponsor crawling contests for babies, and use clowns, magicians, and performers to entertain parents, while advising them of the "benefits" of bottle feeding. But one of the most insidious practices is the use of

"milk nurses," professional nurses paid by the formula makers, who distribute free samples of formula in the maternity wards. In its 1975 Annual Report, Abbott Laboratories brags that "in most of Africa, midwives in government clinics specify Abbott products to expectant mothers. . . . Sales of Similac and Isomil in the Middle East and Africa more than doubled over 1973."

It is no wonder that as a result of this hard sell, many mothers who would normally breast feed their newborns are convinced that they should not.

In response to the mounting tide of criticism, the companies have grudgingly admitted that their products can be and have been misused to the harm of babies. They say, however, that they have established a "marketing code of ethics" and now promote the formulas only to physicians.

But "to market formulas through doctors is not the answer," Mr. Greiner of the Cornell report told Workers World. "The companies must be made to stop the marketing of infant formula in developing countries altogether."

The American public, he said, must become aware of the vast influence that multi-national corporations have in Third World countries. "Their manipulations are the cause of a great deal of human suffering, and the first victims have always been babies."

"The companies will continue to exploit the poor and the babies until they are stopped."

70,000 rubber workers in 47 plants have been on strike since April 21. They are fighting to win a decent wage from companies whose profits are at an all-time high. Page 3.

Plight of the cities or blight of capitalism?

Banks force Detroit to cut services

By MARTIN KLEIN

DETROIT, April 19—Detroit city officials have announced that the city faces a budget deficit of \$43 million this year and \$100 million next year. One thousand city workers have been laid off, with hundreds more to lose their jobs by July 1. Detroit's workers and poor, already beset with high unemployment, now must bear severe cuts in every vital social service.

A partial list of these cuts is staggering: elimination of two Emergency Medical Service ambulance squads; closing Gratiot Health Clinic, which served the poor; dumping school crossing guards for children; elimination of vision and hearing tests for school children; cutting by one-half the city's restaurant inspectors and all occupational safety inspectors; increasing the workload for sanitation workers while reducing their numbers (this could reduce garbage pickups from once a week to once every two weeks); cutting back park maintenance; closing

fire stations; and much more.

One bright city administrator has even drawn up plans to unscrew every other street light on Detroit's major streets to save electric costs.

What's behind Detroit's fiscal crisis? The answer is the same in Detroit as it is in New York and dozens of other cities across the country: a full-scale drive by the giant banks and huge corporations to recover their losses by extracting higher profits from working people and the public. In the factories this means speedups and layoffs. In the cities this means social service cuts, more layoffs, and increased taxes.

Detroit's Mayor Coleman Young had set up a special "task force" to suggest ways to make the people pay for the budget crisis. Along with calling for the layoffs of city workers and the cuts in services, this group of "distinguished citizens" proposed a garbage tax and a new tax on beer, wine, and cigarettes.

The task force includes three



As the banks force city governments to cut social services, raise taxes and lay off workers, they blame the workers for not being productive enough. But the workers of Detroit, world capital of the auto industry, produce billions in profit for the corporate giants who bleed them dry.

bank presidents and three top executives from the auto companies. Naturally, the group never considered taxing the banks or the corporations, like the auto giants, that thrive in Detroit.

Not satisfied with the "cost saving" service cutbacks, the bankers have resorted to open extortion. A syndicate of seven Detroit banks announced last month that it would charge a whopping 7.75 percent interest for

a six-month loan of \$27 million to the city (an annual rate of more than 15 percent). This would add up to more than \$2 million in additional interest paid to the banks, tax free.

Rather than fight this outrageous robbery by the banks, Mayor Young announced that the city will increase property taxes by more than \$50 for every Detroit homeowner, specifically to cover the cost of the higher interest rates

demanding by the banks.

This week city politicians announced they had "found" \$4 million dollars in the city treasury. They plan to use the money to reduce the layoffs of their precious cops.

Detroit is not a poor city. Its workers annually produce billions of dollars of wealth for the banks and corporations. These parasitic rich have an obligation to maintain city services and jobs.

—Rigged elections

(Continued from page 10)

gram. He had hoped to bring the audience to its feet screaming for the red, white, and blue at the end of his oration.

But as he gave historical precedents for Wilson's peaceful policy, the big audience grew more and more enthusiastic.

"When Grant was President," he intoned, "a Spanish commander in cold blood shot the captain of the Virginian, 36 of its crew and 16 of the passengers. . . . But we didn't go to war."

To Glynn's surprise, the crowd cheered and cheered again. He brought up crisis after crisis, but began to change his prepared text by calling on the audience itself—"What did we do?"

The crowd roared back each time, "We didn't go to war!!" Glynn never reached his patriotic conclusion.

SENATOR'S BLESSING

Then Senator James of Kentucky, permanent chairman of the convention, smelling out the situation with the olfactory perfection of the trained bourgeois politician, opened his speech with, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they should be called the children of God."

There was "a wild scream of excitement," reported John Dos Passos, who was a contemporary or even witness to the event.

James went on to describe the struggle of the "lonely man in the White House" who was trying so hard to keep the peace. "If that be evil and vacillating," he wound up with virtuous solemnity, "may God prosper it and teach it to the rulers of the world!"

At this, wrote a New York Times reporter, "the delegates did not

rise to their feet, they leaped."

After all the cheering and shouting was over, Woodrow Wilson was nominated unanimously on the first ballot. And the Platform Committee put all the above sentiments together for the noblest election promises imaginable, topped with the line that became the keynote of the campaign—"He kept us out of war."

"PEACE" ELECTION

On April 2, 1917, Woodrow Wilson called upon the U.S. Congress to declare war against the Central Powers of Europe. And true bourgeois pacifist that he was in peacetime, he persecuted all honest pacifists in wartime—without mercy.

Matthew Josephson says in his *President Makers*:

"He had predicted in intimate conversations, that if war came it would be pushed pitilessly and our people 'would forget there ever was such a thing as tolerance.' Pacifists, radicals, and other opponents of the war were imprisoned, mobbed, or even tortured; liberals who spoke in public in those days had agents of the Department for Justice shadowing them, or taking down their words verbatim. . . . Hourly they waited for arrest."

Revolutionary opponents of the war like Eugene Debs were treated worse. And the poor masses who actually went to the war and died for the Morgan Loan and for the coming expansion of U.S. capitalist oppression throughout the world, still worse.

If Charles Evans Hughes had been elected in 1916 instead of Wilson, the result would have been about the same. But in this case the man who knew how to do it best won.

Woodrow Wilson also understood best that imperialist elections, like imperialist wars, have to be fought in the name of "peace."

What happens when unemployed benefits end

Thousands pushed onto welfare

By JOAN MARQUARDT

BUFFALO, April 14—The state Labor Department reported today that 156,383 workers across the state ran out of unemployment benefits over the past nine months.

A spokesperson said, "We have no reliable way of knowing what people do when the weekly unemployment check runs out. Some probably find some kind of work, which probably pays less than the weekly unemployment

benefit. And a lot probably end up on the welfare rolls."

FROM UNEMPLOYMENT TO WELFARE

Locally, a total of 12,991 workers in Erie and Niagara counties have exhausted unemployment benefits since last July. For the entire Western New York area the total is close to 16,000—"officially," that is.

Many, if not most of these

workers and their families are forced on the welfare rolls. The category they are placed in is "Home Relief."

In December 1975, 237,090 jobless were on Home Relief across the state, 8,272 of them in Erie County.

Funded by the state and county, with no federal aid, this program is perpetually faced with a fund shortage because of the increasing needs of the area's jobless.

FUND FREEZE NO ANSWER

At a meeting of the state's Association of Counties, held at the plush Grossinger's resort in Liberty, N.Y., on April 7, county executives from all over the state unanimously approved a resolution urging counties to budget no additional money to welfare.

Even with this virtual freeze of funds, county executives, including Erie County's Ned Regan, are threatening to cut vital services (i.e., lay off hundreds more county workers) and raise taxes. They are also increasing the pressure on the federal government to take over more social services responsibilities.

Not one of these capitalist politicians even thought of demanding that the federal government enforce the 1946 Full Employment Act, a law which says it is the responsibility of the government to promote full employment. Instead, they act as though depression-level rates of joblessness are an act of nature and demand that the poor sacrifice everything so that the banks holding county loans will get paid their interest as usual.

Politicos on nursing home horrors

'Don't build new facilities!'

BUFFALO, Apr. 7—The Moreland Act Commission, a state commission set up to investigate nursing home abuses, has recommended in a final report a halt in nursing home construction in New York State! The commission claims that current construction plans, if not stopped now, would give Erie County (generally the Buffalo area) 917 MORE nursing home beds than needed by 1980, or 1,500 TOO MANY beds for the entire area.

This is hard for anyone to believe who has followed the press accounts of unsanitary and overcrowded conditions in the nursing homes, whose owners have been getting rich off political favors and fraudulent billing of Medicaid. It was these abuses the commission was supposedly set up to correct. Instead, the report claims:

"Once this bed capacity is available, the tendency is to use it

whether patients need skilled nursing-home care or not and the result is an increase in Medicaid costs."

But if anything, the elderly in this area and across the state need more attention, care, and adequate facilities, NOT LESS! And the rising Medicaid costs are due to the tremendous profits being made out of the "health industry" by drug firms, nursing home owners, and doctors.

This recommendation by the Moreland Commission is just one more example of how politicians and their appointees, assigned to investigate big business rip-offs of tax-paying workers, end up blaming the victims themselves.

Clearly acting in the interests of the nursing home owners, reports like this one show that investigation by politicians of their rich friends are the next thing to useless.