

Black man narrowly escaped death

Alabama police exposed in lynching attempt

—page 3

May Day rallies hit apartheid in Africa, racism in U.S.

By NAOMI COHEN

NEW YORK, May 1—May Day became Anti-Apartheid Day in this city as 1,000 people braved driving rain to demonstrate against the racist system of apartheid in southern Africa. Participating in one of the largest May Day demonstrations seen here in many years, the marchers came from all over the east coast—as far south as North Carolina and from Massachusetts to the north—to show that the people of this country are not fooled by Secretary of State Kissinger's demagoguery about "aiding" the African people.

Today's demonstration unequivocally pointed the finger of blame for the continuation of the brutal system of apartheid at the giant multi-national corporations (most of them from the U.S.) that are the backbone of the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe.

Linking up the struggles of the people of southern Africa with the fight of workers here at home, march organizers continually pointed out that the same corporations making profits from the gold and diamond mines of South Africa also profit from exploitation and racism here at home.

U.S. IMPERIALISM HIT

Today's activity was initiated by the Pan African Students' Organization in the Americas and by Youth Against War & Fascism, and was endorsed by over 50 sponsors, including many of the

(Continued on page 6)



Anti-Apartheid Day march steps off in Chicago's Loop.

WW photo: Jean

Chicago marchers: 'Wall Street out of Africa!'

By PATTI BREY

CHICAGO, May 1—Chants of "Down with racism from Boston to South Africa!" rang through the streets of Chicago today in a militant anti-apartheid march. Over 300 people first gathered at the Federal Building to hear a rally denounce U.S. imperialism and the racism it perpetrates in Africa and here at home, then march through the busy downtown area to South African Airlines.

The Anti-Apartheid Day activity, called by Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism, was sponsored by over 30 organizations and individuals. People came from Detroit, Ann Arbor, Milwaukee, and Des Moines to voice their opposition to the apartheid regimes in southern Africa.

Speakers at the rally included Dennis Brutus, a South African poet who gave a moving talk about the struggles in his homeland and their relation to the liberation struggles throughout the world. A speaker from the Eritreans for Liberation in North America talked of the fight against U.S. imperialism in Africa, which is winning new victories daily.

Solidarity statements were read from several African liberation groups, including the African National Council of Zimbabwe and the African National Congress of South Africa. Eileen Hanson of the Committee for the Liberation of Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau, told how the victory of the MPLA in Angola has helped strengthen the liberation forces in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Bill Roundtree, a major organizer of the march and a member of Workers World Party, told the audience how just organizing the demonstration and forcing the city to allow the march to take the street had taken a major struggle. In a statement to the press, Roundtree exposed the phony denunciations of racism and colonialism by U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger, pointing out that the corporations he represents prop up the Nazi-like regime of Vorster in South Africa. He expressed the solidarity of this demonstration with the armed struggles taking place in southern Africa and stressed the need to build a movement against racism both at home and overseas.

The demonstrators then marched through the crowded loop

chanting "We say no to racism!" and "Wall Street's Pentagon out of South Africa!" People on the street eagerly accepted literature which explained the aims of the march.

The action ended with a militant picket line in front of South African Airlines and right across from the Tribune Building owned by the McCormick family of International Harvester, which has millions of dollars invested in southern Africa.

A final solidarity statement, presented by the Committee to Free the Livermore Five, exposed the racist repression of the police against members of the oppressed communities in the U.S.

Today's demonstration was a major step against racism in the U.S. and abroad. Down with racism! Down with apartheid!

**Zimbabwe
guerrillas'
answer to
Kissinger**

—centerfold

INDEX

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THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

Community responds in outrage after Black woman beaten in A & P

By DONNA LAZARUS
ATLANTA, April 24—Since February, Black people have been picketing an A&P in Gainesville, Fla., because of its treatment of its Black customers. On Feb. 1, Barbara Stokes, a 19-year-old Black woman, was followed around the A&P store in Gainesville, harassed, and accused of shoplifting. Before she could defend herself against the charge an A&P butcher grabbed her and threw her against the wall, kicking and beating her to the ground in front of several witnesses.

This vicious attack continued for over 30 minutes while two witnesses and Ms. Stokes pleaded with the butcher and the manager to stop abusing her.

When the police came, the only person they arrested was Barbara Stokes, the victim of the attack, whom they threatened with further violence or heavier charges if she pressed charges against the A&P butcher.

This brutal and racist injustice immediately aroused protest from the outraged community. Since

February, the Stop Violence Against Black Women Committee, organized by the African Peoples Socialist Party, has been conducting a boycott and daily picketing of the A&P store. The continued refusal by the A&P to drop the charges against Barbara Stokes, as well as its refusal to act on numerous other grievances, has fueled the determination of the community to widen and strengthen its resistance to A&P's racist practices. The demands raised by the committee are: 1) drop the charges against Barbara Stokes; 2) a public apology to Barbara Stokes from the A&P and the A&P butcher, Bob Pickle; 3) bring an immediate end to the harassment, following, and brutalizing of Black and poor white customers inside the A&P; 4) an end to the policy of raising prices when food stamps and welfare and social security checks are issued; 5) that Black people be hired in the A&P in representative numbers and positions; and 6) that the A&P stop selling non-union scab-produce as opposed to United Farmworker produce.

1,000 in NY celebrate anniversary of triumph of Vietnamese revolution

By DAVE AXEL
NEW YORK, April 30—Tonight, in a moving tribute to the heroic Vietnamese people who after decades of struggle finally drove the last foreign invaders from their land, nearly 1,000 people here stood up and sang the national liberation anthem of South Vietnam.

This display of solidarity, led by the women's singing group Witchcraft Rebellion, was one of the political highlights of an evening of celebration of the first anniversary of the total defeat of U.S. imperialism in Vietnam. The audience in Washington Irving High School's filled auditorium also heard performances by Bernice Reagon, Suni Paz, Tom Paxton, and Muriel Rukeyser, and by the Union of Vietnamese Patriots in the U.S.

Short talks were given by Tran Xuoc Hung from the Union of Vietnamese, Jose Alvarez from the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, Joe Carnegie of Fight Back, and Gold Star mother Louise Ransom of Americans for Amnesty.

Another militant highpoint was a telegram message to the celebration from Madam Nguyen Thi Binh, Foreign Minister of the

Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam. The message conveyed greetings to American friends of Vietnam and told how the people of Vietnam are making a great effort to 'heal the war wounds and solve the consequences of neo-colonialism in the south.'

A message of solidarity from Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia) was also read.

Over \$2,000 was raised by the evening's event to go towards purchase of reconstruction supplies being sent to Vietnam by the organization Friendshipment. Other sponsors of the event, along with the previously mentioned groups, included Friends of Indochina, the Group of Khmer Residents in the U.S., the Guardian, the Iranian Students Association, Lower Eastside Mobilization for Peace Action and Youth Against War & Fascism.

City brings in scab plumbers as S.F. municipal workers continue strike

By G. SCHMIDT
NEW YORK, May 3—In an obvious attempt to break the month-long strike of San Francisco city craft workers—1,770 plumbers, electricians, carpenters, machinists, laborers, gardeners, and other blue collar workers—the Board of Supervisors has called in non-union plumbers from the San Jose area to try to keep pace with increasing breakdowns of the city's water system. The scabs, sent by the Underground Contractors Association of Northern California, are all 'owners,' according to a spokesperson for the group.

The non-union plumber-owners worked on a major water main breakdown at Golden State Park protected by a force of cops—the perennial strikebreakers—to the accompaniment of outraged epithets from about 100 craft worker pickets.

When questioned about the cause of the water main break—a bent 4-inch bolt found in a valve of the 30-inch main—a Water Department machinist picket leader said, 'Maybe it's vandalism and maybe it's not. It could be a routine breakdown. The same thing happened here seven years ago when there was no strike.'

Within 90 minutes of completion of the repair, the same water main was shut down all over again by

damage 200 feet north of the earlier break.

Claiming in March that they had a mandate from last November's elections when the voters, bending before a press barrage about the possible raising of taxes, repealed a pay parity formula that linked craft workers' wages to those prevalent in private industry, the Board of Supervisors passed a city budget for the coming fiscal year that gave pay cuts of from \$2,600 to \$7,600 to the city craft workers, while approving modest raises for other city workers in an attempt to split the solidarity of all. In response to this provocation, the craft workers went out on strike.

Among the first to honor the strikers' picket lines were the 2,000 Municipal Railway drivers of Local 250A of the Transport Workers Union. This has resulted in the total shutdown of public transportation in San Francisco as well as a 40 percent drop in school attendance.

Although there are conflicting stories about how close or how far away settlement of the strike is, it appears from the continuing militant actions by the strikers and their supporters that they fully realize that the Supervisors' provocation and intransigence would be, if successful, only the opening gun in new attacks against all workers in San Francisco.

Conference in Texas focuses on Eritrean history, liberation struggle

By JOANNE GAVIN
HOUSTON, May 2—A recent conference called here and in several other U.S. cities by Eritreans for Liberation in North America studied the historical, political, and economic development of that struggling East African nation. Eritrean students from many parts of this country led groups of interested persons in readings and discussions about their homeland.

Participants learned that the several peoples who make up Eritrea have a very long history—they are among the most ancient of civilizations—but were forged into a state only by the oppression of invaders, beginning with the Turks in the 16th century and ending with the British and Italians in the 19th and 20th. At the present time they are waging successful guerrilla

warfare against the U.S.-backed military regime of Ethiopia, a neighboring country with which Eritrea was unwillingly federated and which later illegally annexed the north coastal nation.

The entire countryside of Eritrea is now liberated and in the control of the revolutionary peoples' forces. Only in the cities do the Ethiopian armed forces maintain control by brutal force of arms.

In the liberated zone many peoples who were isolated and impoverished by centuries of foreign domination are for the first time receiving medical care and learning to read and write. Food production and other essential industries are being organized to benefit the maximum number of people. Refugees from the cities are being cared for and helped to reorganize their lives. The peoples' armed forces give political education to their members and to villagers and nomads.

Ancient peoples are joining the positive values of their cultures to the advances of modern technology and gaining strength from the knowledge of revolutionary theory.

Don't forget to subscribe!

DECLINE AND FALL

"NOTHING'S TOO GOOD FOR OUR BOYS"

The Jersey Journal, April 29:

"A veteran of Vietnam, Jimmy Lee Polk, received a general discharge rather than honorable because, he said, he accepted dismissal from the Army for getting caught twice in Vietnam smoking in no-smoking areas.

"Polk said now that he had not realized what the consequences of that action would be.

"When I go to apply for a job they always ask the same two questions. One is 'Are you a vet?' and the other is 'What is your discharge?'"

"When they learn of mine I'm finished."

"Irving Thompson came back to a job in Detroit but one day had a flashback in which 'I looked up and saw a Viet Cong coming through the door. I grabbed him . . . but he was just a paper boy. I was fired."

"My whole life fell through. I went for unemployment. They told me to go to welfare. I went to welfare. They told me to go to the Army. From there on I got deeper and deeper into Vietnam and it wouldn't go away."

THE GOSPEL OF PROGRESS ACCORDING TO SAINT HOWARD

Newsweek, April 19:

"The Martin Luther King riots of 1968 spurred him (Howard Hughes) to a long memo about blacks. . . 'I can summarize

my attitude about employing more Negroes very simply. I think it is a wonderful idea for somebody else, somewhere else. . . I feel that Negroes have already made enough progress to last the next 100 years.'"

. . . AND LIKE IT IS

Intelligence Journal, Lancaster, Pa., April 16:

"Montgomery, Ala.—A doctor accused of pulling freshly sewn stitches from the arm of a boy who wouldn't pay his bill will be investigated by the Medical Association of Alabama.

"Dr. Vernon Stabler, the organization's president, said the incident was very regrettable, but he wouldn't censure the physician, Dr. Bobby Merkle, 'until we hear his side.'

"Merkle was accused of removing fresh stitches from the arm of 13-year-old Melvin Armstrong of Uniontown when the boy couldn't pay the \$25 fee in July 1974. The

black youth's father later sued the white doctor for \$50,000 in damages, and an all-white jury awarded Armstrong \$20."

BUT NO STATUTE AGAINST WITCHHUNTS

Associated Press, April 16:

Morgantown, N.C.—A woman who allegedly made an accurate prediction of a death here has been charged with violating North Carolina's anti-witchcraft statute.

"The misdemeanor charge was lodged against Joann Denton, who was accused in a warrant obtained by the dead woman's daughter with engaging in 'practices of fortune telling and the craft of raising people from the dead.'

"The 1951 local-option law applies to 63 of the state's 100 counties.

"Mrs. Denton is to appear in court on April 27 to answer the charge, which carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a \$500 fine."

Throw victim into Alabama prison on phony charges

Terrorist cops attempt to lynch Black activist

By AKI KEITH SUNDIATA
(s.n. BILLY HANDS ROBINSON)
MOBILE, Ala., May 2—Oppression has a way of snapping back in the faces of those who practice it.

Here, in this day and time, eight police officers from the Mobile City Police Department attempted to lynch Black activist Casmarah (s.n. Glenn Diamond) and wound up exposing a deliberate plot within the Mobile City Police Department to terrorize the Black community!

On the night of March 28, Mobile City Patrolman "First Class" Roy L. Adams, Jr., jumped out of his squad car, pistol drawn, and attacked two of the leading members of the Peoples Community Hall, Casmarah and Sekou Matas Lumpen (s.n. James Jones), both of whom were walking down the street minding their own business.

RACIST COP NOTORIOUS IN COMMUNITY

Both Casmarah and Sekou knew Adams, for the Peoples Community Hall successfully circulated a petition to get him removed from the Black community in 1974. Officer Adams had been using racist and terrorist tactics to harass and brutalize Black people indiscriminately in the community.

When Brother Casmarah saw who was jumping out of the car clearly intent on attack, he ran and managed to avoid capture for a while, crawling under a house. However, soon reinforcements were on the scene and they ferreted him out, savagely beating him and Sekou in the process.

LYNCHERS IN BLUE!

By this time a horde of racist terrorists were on the scene, among them: Officers Roy L. Adams, Jr., Michael K. Patrick, Vernon L. Straum, Everett Alan Brown, Danny E. Buck, Kenneth W. Powell, Wilbur Williams, Jr., and James R. Coley—all of them participating in the beatings of Comrades Casmarah and Sekou and accusing them of attempting to rob a MacDonald's restaurant!

However, this vicious method of oppression wasn't brutal enough to satisfy this anti-Black terrorist squad of police. Officer Michael K. Patrick soon grew tired of this "mild" form of brutality and shouted out to the others, "Let's get a rope and hang this nigger."

Patrick got a rope, tied one end around Casmarah's neck, flung the other end over the limb of a tree and pulled. The limb snapped.

Patrick picked the rope end up again, flung it over another limb, and pulled again.

Brother Casmarah was on his toes, choking from the tightening of the rope, when, miraculously it seems, a detective pulled up and ordered the men, "We ain't hanging no niggers tonight. Let him down."

Next the terrorist squad took Comrades Casmarah and Sekou to the Mobile City Jail and put them in a line-up. Fortunately, Brother Sekou managed to contact their attorney, W. Clinton Brown, and have him at the station for the line-up.

A new and totally different robbery was introduced then. Instead of MacDonald's it was a Hart's Fried Chicken. There were three witnesses to the Hart's Fried Chicken robbery. Two of the witnesses swear that Casmarah is not the robber. One swears that he is. The terrorist squad booked Casmarah for the robbery and placed him under a \$100,000 bail.

There are some more facts about the line-up. Casmarah was muddled (from hiding under the house), bloody (from the vicious beating), and scared (from the attempted lynching)—that is, he looked, indeed he was, desperate. Moreover, two of the witnesses picked out one of the jail's trustees as one of the robbers.

IMMEDIATE PROTEST

Since both comrades Casmarah and Sekou are members of the Peoples Community Hall and have been struggling for the last two years to expose the existence of the Ku Klux Klan-like terrorist organization that was deliberately brutalizing the Black community from the safety of the police department, both knew the appropriate steps to take to protest the lynching outrage. They initiated a scientific, three-pronged counterattack by arousing the indignation of the left, Black community leaders, and, most importantly, the Black working class [i.e., progressive liberals to radicals, the NAACP and Interdenominational Alliance of Ministers in Mobile, the Mobile County Concerned Workers (organized workers), White

Workers Against Racism (organized workers), and the Black working class in general].

The pressure caused Mayor and Police Commissioner Robert B. Doyle, Jr. and Police Chief Donald M. Riddle to fire Officer Michael K. Patrick, the one who slipped the noose around Brother Casmarah's neck, and to "suspend" the other seven white officers for two weeks.

However this whitewash, this slap in the Black community's face, this fascist and racist subterfuge, just didn't work. Pressures kept mounting. Mobile County District Attorney Charles Graddick, playing a decadent political game to the hilt, took five of the terrorists (Adams, Patrick, Powell, Williams, and Straum) before the Mobile County Grand Jury and got them indicted on misdemeanors of assault and battery and assault (assault and battery carries a maximum sentence of six months and a \$500 fine and assault an \$800 fine)—when they all should have been indicted for attempted murder.

The grand jury, in the indictment, stated in no uncertain terms that the terrorist police officers were acting under orders from higher up supervisors. The

Mobile City Police Department was a front organization for a highly organized squad of racist police officers—"600 Squad," a special burglary and robbery detail which operated out of the Patrolmen's Division, and "police department command personnel not only accepted but encouraged such behavior" (Mobile Press, April 27, p. 1).

CASMARAH IN JAIL AND IN DANGER

But despite all this, Brother Casmarah is the one in jail—and he is in great danger. He was on parole when he was attacked, and now the Parole and Pardons Board can revoke his bail at will. When originally in prison, he was a member of Inmates for Action, and it is now well documented that Alabama prison officials have had a death list of IFA members and have actually murdered several of them.

Brother Casmarah needs help and support. His has been a struggle against the forces of racism and oppression ever since he woke up and found himself in prison. There he made the big step from part of the problem to part of the solution. He adopted a

revolutionary, scientific ideology and threw his lot in with the sure-to-overcome progressive forces of the world, those truly concerned about the great mass of struggling humanity. He struggled with the IFA and when he was released from prison he became a member of the Peoples Community Hall and continued the same people's struggle.

It was while he was a member of the Peoples Community Hall that he became aware of the racist regiment of police who were being ordered to terrorize the Black community in Mobile. He was forced to stand helplessly by and watch the terrorist police attack one of his comrades, Brother Jerome "Zak" Bowens, and to watch Zak get railroaded to prison for defending himself! As with his lynching case, the terrorist police pulled up beside Zak as he walked down the street and jumped out of their squad car and attacked him. Zak fought bravely back and got sent to prison for protecting himself.

Now Brother Casmarah has been taken from the Mobile County Jail and transferred to the Mt. Meigs prison in Montgomery. There is no telling what those beasts have in store for Casmarah now. No telling.

Casmarah has too much to offer the cause to let these fascists flush him down the drain so easily. Those of us who know him can only think of him with love. He dedicated his life to struggle and because of it has done much, much good.

Let's rally behind him now in his hour of need. Let's free Casmarah. He is, indeed, an "ox for the people."

Casmarah, now at Mt. Meigs Prison, can be written to at Box 125, Route 5, Montgomery, Ala. 36109. (His slave name, Glenn Diamond, should be used.) Contributions, made out to "The Glenn Diamond Defense Fund," should be sent to Clint Brown, 1407 Davis Avenue, Mobile, Ala. 36603.

This incredible photo from the Mobile Register shows Mayor Robert B. Doyle, Jr., meeting with KKK leaders. The Klan publicly demanded that Doyle reinstate all eight cops disciplined for the attempted lynching of Casmarah!



In NYC

Banks launch new attack on transit workers

(On April 30, the Emergency Financial Control Board ruled that the contract negotiated between the Transport Workers Union (TWU) and the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) a month earlier violated the "wage freeze" provision under which the municipal workers are being governed. Workers World here interviews two rank and file members of the TWU, one an office worker for MABSTOA, the other a trackman for the subways, on this new attack against the transit workers of New York City.)

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On March 28 of this year at the Transport Workers Union mass rally at Manhattan Center, there seemed to be an overwhelming sentiment among the rank and file for a strike on April 1. When the tentative settlement was announced by the TWU and the MTA on April 1, what was the general feeling as you saw it among the transit workers?

There was some confusion about what it meant. However, we've got a very strong feeling from most departments we have talked to that there was a lot of unhappiness over the tentative settlement, and the

workers felt that virtually nothing had been won.

Why?

Mostly because we'd been led to believe that we'd be getting what the union leadership described as a "substantial wage increase" in addition to other benefits and especially since our Cost of Living (COL) benefit from the last contract had not really kept us up with the increase in our living expenses. We felt we needed and deserved a raise at this time.

PRESSURES BEHIND THE CONTRACT VOTE

How did the vote on the contract go?

The report that we got was that 13,000 voted to ratify the contract and 3,000 voted to strike (these are approximate figures)—but that's less than half the membership of the union.

Why do you think there was such a strong vote to ratify?

Well, a mail ballot tends to bring out the most conservative aspect of the voting. When you're sitting at home, and you think, "Well, maybe I'm being unreasonable" and you can't sound out your feelings with other workers, you tend to vote more or less in the way that the union leaders are suggesting you

do, without them really saying it. And, of course, there was all this talk of the supposed "fiscal crisis" of New York—it's been all over the newspapers about how the city can't afford anything. The MTA has been trying to take away things we had won in previous contracts, and we had lost none of that, so far. Then when the contract came under attack by the newspapers within hours of the tentative agreement, a lot of the workers felt that they had to defend it by voting for it.

What has happened to the contract since then at the hands of Attorney General Lefkowitz and the Emergency Financial Control Board?

The contract which was negotiated between the MTA and the TWU was declared null and void by the EFCB last Friday. That throws union collective bargaining right out the window. The EFCB has taken upon itself the authority to modify or void any contract negotiated by municipal workers. Louis Lefkowitz said exactly how the state feels in essence, that anything that improves the situation of a worker in his relationship to his master is a wage increase. So our meager cost-of-

living is in his eyes a wage increase. The EFCB ruled the same way.

What this all adds up to is that even if we get the COL which was negotiated, we will be going backwards in real wages; but without it we are going backwards at a full tilt. It amounts to a vicious pay cut.

What has been the response of the TWU leaders to these rulings? 'The TWU leaders have been virtually silent. We feel that they are frightened to do what is necessary. The EFCB voided such a modest contract—showing they'll continue to cut wages and benefits of municipal workers until we say "No!"—and do what is necessary.

If that means closing down New York in conjunction with other municipal workers, then the TWU leadership should stand up and say so, because the workers are ready to do it.

And one other thing. The politicians promised the Democratic Party that there would be no strikes during their national convention this July. Well, if New York City and the MTA can't live up to their promise to us, we think that we should make sure that New York City won't be able to live up to its promise to the Democratic Party!

Senate report bares

1968 FBI memo: 'Destroy Dr. King'

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, May 2—On April 28 the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence released its final report on the illegal activities of the various U.S. secret police organizations.

Among other things, the report found that the FBI had kept files on 500,000 people in the U.S. just for their political views!

It also revealed that "nearly a quarter of a million first class letters were opened and photographed during one period," and that "millions of private telegrams sent from or to or through the United States were read by the National Security Agency."

In addition "an estimated 100,000 Americans were the subjects of United States Army Intelligence files," and 11,000 more had political dossiers made on them by the Internal Revenue Service.

But perhaps the most damning portion of the findings was a virtual admission that the FBI plotted to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

DESTROY DR. KING

The committee quoted a high-level FBI memo characterizing Dr. King as "the most dangerous and effective Negro leader in the country."

"The FBI decided to 'take him off his pedestal, reduce him

completely in influence' and select and promote its own candidate to 'assume the role of the leadership of the Negro people,'" according to the Senate report.

"Early in 1968, bureau headquarters explained to the field that Dr. King must be destroyed," it continued, adding that "in the words of the man in charge of the FBI's 'war' against Dr. King, 'No holds were barred.'"

Despite this confession by the FBI that it set out to "destroy" Dr. Martin Luther King in early 1968, the Senate panel makes no demand that his subsequent assassination in April of that year be investigated for FBI involvement.

Nor does it once characterize the actions of the FBI as racist, even though an out-and-out white supremacist like Hoover and the forces backing him had resolved to "select" their own stooge to "assume leadership" of the Black people once King could be got out of the way!

NO REAL REFORM

That the Senate committee brought these facts out into the open, facts that prove so-called democracy is mostly a sham in the U.S., does not, however, mean that the capitalist system is about to go through any great reform.

On the contrary, on the same day the report was published the

Senate Rules Committee voted that any Senate committee set up to oversee the political police agencies would have no legal or budgetary power. In other words, it would have no real power at all and would only serve as window dressing so people would believe something was being done to curb the crimes of the FBI and CIA.

At any rate, the CIA has little to

fear from such a committee, since its members are to be appointed by four of the agency's most notorious apologists in Congress: John McClellan, John Stennis, John Sparkman, and James Eastland—all Dixiecrat racists of the most virulent kind!

Nevertheless, the CIA and FBI scandals have had more effect

than merely these fraudulent so-called reforms would suggest. They have opened the eyes of millions of people in the U.S. to the true nature of big business rule with its pompous pretense of freedom and its bitter reality of secret police violence—all aimed at preserving a system that pampers a few super-rich while oppressing the vast majority.

Economic crisis causing sharp rise in mental disorders among workers

By JOAN MARQUARDT

BUFFALO, April 28—Workers in the Buffalo area, like working people across the country, are showing the effects of the present economic crisis of capitalism in a dramatic rise in anxiety and nervous disorders.

Nearly 13 percent of the area's workers are collecting unemployment benefits, and several thousand more have recently run out of jobless compensation and have applied for welfare. Workers remaining on the job are working under the pressures of speed-ups, cutbacks in health and safety protection, threatened and real lay-

offs, and runaway plants.

"MASSIVE NUMBERS" AFFECTED BY CRISIS

Buffalo Crisis Services director Dr. Charles Haywood said in a recent interview that "every time there is an economic setback there is a correlation with suicide, homicide, heart disease, infant death, and kidney disease." Haywood, who operates a counseling center in downtown Buffalo, added that "this is affecting massive numbers of people."

Recent findings gathered by the National Institute of Mental Health show there is a definite relationship between the financial

problems of a worker and his or her loss in self-confidence. According to psychiatrists Louis Kopolow and Frank Ochberg, writing in the Journal of the American Medical Association, "The present economic recession and concomitant inflation are taking their toll on the mental and physical health of the nation."

"For the first time in their lives," the doctors wrote, "millions of Americans are losing confidence in their ability to achieve a more prosperous future and even to maintain their present economic condition."

Similarly, Harvey Brenner of Johns Hopkins University concluded, after studying psychiatric admissions to hospitals in New York state during the past 127 years, that increases in the rate of mental illness clearly corresponds with periods of high unemployment and inflation. And speaking for the Buffalo Psychiatric Center, Constance Miller said recently that joblessness and high prices are potential contributors to stress, depression, and other factors associated with emotional difficulties.

BLAME THEMSELVES FOR GETTING LAID OFF

Dr. Haywood noted that persons troubled by the economy have revealed a typical pattern and that usually the trouble begins when a husband and father is laid off, blaming himself. "Our country," he said, "our religious heritage, seem to say you are responsible for your fate. Many people take these situations very personally. The husband thinks 'it's not the economy, it's me (at fault).'"

As a result of these feelings of self-anger and hostility that workers are experiencing, many contemplate, and others attempt and often carry out, suicide. Here in Erie County, suicides have shown a rapid increase over the past year.

These findings by professional health care personnel confirm what many have known for a long time. The inevitable crises and instability of capitalism, its chronic inability to provide the conditions in which all people may live with a reasonable amount of security and well-being, its racism and sexism, its wars and its cult of violence, all guarantee the perpetuation of mental illness on epidemic proportions. And when capitalist "boom" turns inevitably to capitalist bust, all of these conditions are aggravated.

Capitalism is an irrational system and will always impose its contradictions onto the people who must live under it. Though some may try individually to escape it, this is no answer for the majority of the people, who will win out over capitalism's injustices only through the collective act of overthrowing it.

The 13-year war at J.P. Stevens

By BRIAN BECKER

NEW YORK, May 3—Thomas Malone worked for the J.P. Stevens textile manufacturers for over 37 years. During the course of his employment at J.P. Stevens he earned a wage that was about 30 percent less than the average factory worker in this country.

He also earned a permanent and painful injury to his foot in an industrial accident many years ago. And Mr. Malone developed byssinosis, the dreaded disease caused by inhaling cotton dust popularly known as brown lung disease.

In return for his labors and his industry-related bad health, Thomas Malone receives no pension and no medical compensation to retire with. Instead, after 37 years, he received a lump sum of \$1,360 and a company plaque. The medication for brown lung disease costs close to \$700 a year not including doctor and hospital bills.

Thomas Malone is the victim of war. A war that J.P. Stevens, the second largest textile manufacturer in the U.S., has carried out against the 46,000 workers it employs in textile factories throughout the South.

J.P. Stevens is a non-union shop and for the last 13 years workers have attempted to win recognition for the Textile Workers Union of America (TWUA). The drive to unionize J.P. Stevens' 85 factories has been met by one of the most viciously racist and anti-labor campaigns ever.

J.P. STEVENS: A FEW FACTS

In 1975, J.P. Stevens had profits of \$36.5 million. Although the company was found guilty of violating the National Labor Relations Act 15 separate times for coercion, harassment, and illegal firings of its workers since 1963, J.P. Stevens still received over \$14



After a lifetime of work for J.P. Stevens, Thomas Malone has a plaque, \$1,360, and brown lung disease. Here, Malone [l.] shows TWUA representative Clyde Bush the amount he accumulated from the company's "profit sharing plan."

Photo: Textile Labor

million in Defense Department contracts.

Strangely enough, Robert Stevens, long-time chairman of the board for J.P. Stevens, was Secretary of the Army under the Eisenhower administration. Before that he helped supply the troops with uniforms in his capacity as Quartermaster General during World War II.

In 1975, J.P. Stevens illegally closed its Statesboro, Ga., plant rather than negotiate with the TWUA. In another case, 3,000 workers at the seven Stevens plants in Roanoke, N.C. are still without a contract after voting for TWUA representation nearly two years ago.

The Stevens company with its purse strings tied to the Pentagon is also notorious for its racism. As Raymond Jackson, a Black worker in Roanoke who was fired after joining the union, put it, "Here I was with six years of service and doing a good job, too. But I was union and they knew I was union.

One day an overloaded warp storer broke twenty feet in the air above me and they fired me. What they really blamed me for, though, is knowing that I'm a Black human being and not a thing to be owned."

The miserable open shop conditions that Stevens workers face are common in the textile industry throughout the South. Of the 550,000 Southern textile workers—40 percent of North Carolina's industrial workforce, one-fourth of South Carolina's and one-eighth of Georgia's—only 50,000 now belong to the textile workers union. It is widely understood by both labor and big business that the battle for unionism at Stevens will be of key significance for the organization of all Southern textile workers.

PLANS FOR BOYCOTT, MERGER

Although the company has maintained its war of intimidation against the workers and continues to be supported by Pentagon contracts which have totaled some

\$120 million since 1968, J.P. Stevens' days as a first-rate union buster may be numbered. At its winter meeting, the AFL-CIO executive council named leaders of five major unions to design an action program to assist the Stevens workers.

It is anticipated that an international boycott of Stevens products will be initiated this year. The International Federation of Textile Workers' Unions has pledged support of such a boycott. Also, it is likely that the TWUA will merge with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union in June, making it one of the top ten largest unions in the country.

All of these developments are to the good. The only answer for the unorganized workers in the South, battling to win decent wages and the right to join unions, is labor solidarity. It was this kind of solidarity that brought the Farah Company to its knees and it can be a decisive weapon for workers in their ongoing war with J.P. Stevens.

Elections set for June

Italian government collapses—again

By JOHN C. OTTO
NEW YORK, May 1—Yesterday the Christian Democratic Premier of Italy, Aldo Moro, resigned. Early elections were set for June 20 to resolve the parliamentary crisis. The Italian Communist Party is expected to get the largest vote of any single party, edging out the weakened Christian Democrats for the first time.

This resignation takes place in an atmosphere of increasing tension. The Italian lira has dropped sharply in value, while unemployment continues relatively high. The Lockheed scandal has now tarnished three leading Christian Democrat politicians, adding to the discredit of their party.

On top of this, street battles and shootings have occurred between neo-fascist thugs and progressive groups.

EARLY ELECTIONS

Moro's government is the 38th to fall since the end of World War II. This "falling" of the parliamentary government in Italy has never prevented the state machinery—that is, the federal bureaucracy, the army, the police, and the courts—from functioning and remaining firmly in the hands of the Italian bankers and bosses, and it won't now.

What is significant this time is that the early elections may well

lead to an electoral plurality for the Italian Communist Party. This would mark the first such victory for the Italian left since U.S. money and the Catholic Church built up the Christian Democrats from the splintered capitalist political groups that existed in Italy after the defeat of fascism.

This past year was the first time that the Italian CP got more than 25 percent of the votes cast. While it has lost support from some of the most militant workers, especially the youth, to the more activist groups who declare themselves openly for revolution, it has broadened its electoral support among other strata. These include Catholic workers, white collar workers, and even some more well-to-do sections of the population who have become disgusted with the corruption and mismanagement of the Christian Democrats. The struggle of women for divorce and legal abortion has weakened the

ideological grip of the Church, and also cut the votes of the Christian Democrats.

LOCKHEED SCANDAL HITS HARD

On April 22, the Lockheed bribe scandal again shook Italy when three former prime ministers were pointed out as possible bribe-takers. The three were Moro, President Giovanni Leone, and Foreign Minister Mariano Rumor, who are among the highest leaders of the Christian Democrats.

This followed a series of disclosures of bribes and continuous U.S. intervention in Italian politics. U.S. money has gone also to the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement and right-wing military officers, whom the CIA sees as a possible alternative to the faltering Christian Democrats. But in their 30 years of rule, it was the Christian Democrats who got the lion's share of bribes, along with almost all the government posts.

Now they are seen by more and more Italians as corrupt mismanagers of Italy, working on behalf of the Italian rich and of the U.S. monopolies.

CP RELUCTANT

A week before the Moro government fell, a long article in the Italian CP newspaper, L'Unita, criticized some of the press that were predicting an early election and a victory for the left, that is, that the Communist and Socialist parties would get a majority of the seats in parliament.

After years of basing themselves and orienting the Italian workers on the false strategy of "the electoral road to power," the CP appears reluctant to win the election. What their leadership is calling for now is a joint government with the Christian Democrats. To get this they've promised everything from continued membership in the anti-Soviet NATO alliance to no more

nationalizations in Italy, in an attempt to win the Christian Democrats' approval for this "historic compromise."

They fear, and rightly so, that with an electoral victory of the workers' parties, the rich will send money to Switzerland in truckloads instead of carloads, that industrialists will sabotage the economy, and that Kissinger will send the CIA to try to repeat the Chile coup.

They also are nervous that with an electoral victory for the left, the millions of Italian workers who vote for them, including most of the 1.7 million members of the Italian CP, would feel that it was their government, and in fact that it was time to start building socialism in Italy. And for that what will be needed is not an alliance with the Christian Democrats, but a political and strategic orientation toward taking the power, not merely government office.

Palestinians defy Zionist occupation

By JOYCE BETRIES

NEW YORK, May 4—For the past three months, Palestinians have waged the most prolonged and defiant mass disruption on the

West Bank since it came under Israeli military occupation in 1967.

The crumbling facade of Israeli democracy in the occupied areas swiftly collapsed on May 3 when an Arab youth was killed in a demonstration at Nablus and when brutal means were used by the Israeli military to prevent a Palestinian protest march from Ramallah to Jerusalem.

SHOOTINGS AND CURFEW

In Nablus on May 3, a 22-year-old youth, Samir Elsamhan, was killed during a demonstration and three others were wounded, according to Wafa, the Palestinian news agency. Schools in Nablus are still closed, and the town has been under curfew for the last three days. People are allowed out for only two hours every morning to buy bread.

The same situation exists in other West Bank cities. Bassam Elshakaah, Mayor of Nablus, said, "tension is high and morale (among the Palestinians) is high in the area."

Heavily armed Israeli border guards broke up several demonstrations in Ramallah using warning shots, tear gas, smoke bombs, and riot batons. Palestinian demonstrators from all over the West Bank had intended to gather in the Ramallah central square on May 3, then march eight miles to Jerusalem. The planned demonstration was an answer to the march of 20,000 armed government-sponsored Israeli right-wingers into the West Bank on April 18-19 claiming their right to settle on Palestinian land. The entire city of Ramallah has

been cordoned off and surrounded by Israeli border guards. Roadblocks have been set up to prevent busloads of demonstrators from Nablus and elsewhere on the West Bank from reaching Ramallah.

GENERAL STRIKE HAS BEGUN

A general strike called by Al Fatah for May 15 has already started in Nablus and other areas of the West Bank, according to Palestinian sources. Nablus shops, closed for the strike, were opened on May 3 by the military government, which sent troops and police to break the locks. Similar situations exist in the towns of Tulkarm, where residents staged a May 3 demonstration against the Israeli occupation, and Jenin. Many young people were arrested in both cities.

Both foreign and Israeli press have been prohibited entry into areas where the general strike is already in process and where Israeli repression is the greatest. Television crews have been roughed up by soldiers and film has been confiscated and exposed. No one from the press has been permitted to enter the city of Ramallah or the Nablus Casbah, the ancient center of the city where a maze of alleys makes military control difficult.

The cordoning of Ramallah follows a recent order by Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres authorizing local commanders to seal off an area to reporters where trouble is expected. Peres claims that the presence of reporters serves as a "catalyst" for violent demonstrations.

This week's demonstrations and

other militant actions on the West Bank are the Palestinians' answer to Israeli government encouragement of Zionist settlements on the West Bank. The Israeli government swung all its weight behind these settlements as an important way to maintain Israeli control after leftists made tremendous gains in West Bank elections held on April 12. Many of the officials who collaborated with the Zionists were thrown out and 10 mayors sympathetic to the Communist Party, the Baath Party, or the PLO were elected. Zionist officials had been counting on collaborationists to help them stem the struggle of Palestinians on the West Bank for self-determination.

ISRAELI EXPANSION

Six days later the Israeli government provided a military escort to the right-wing march of thousands of Israelis, some heavily armed, asserting their right to settle on land belonging to Palestinians. The day after this march, officials announced nine new Israeli settlements on the West Bank, and Prime Minister Rabin toured the area to encourage existing settlements.

In Galilee, under Israeli occupation since 1948, Palestinians have also voiced militant opposition to the confiscation of Palestinian land by Israelis. The mayor of Nazareth called a demonstration in that city on May 1 to protest these land seizures. Mansour Kardoush, leader of Alard, said that tension in Galilee is very high, but the May 1 demonstration took place without being attacked, according to Wafa.



B-1 bomber

Biggest swindle yet

Among the ultra-costly weapons systems Ford is planning to give the Pentagon this year is one that promises to be the most expensive in history—the B-1 bomber.

The B-1 bomber fleet will cost the average American family \$1,800 to build! (New York Times, May 3, 1976.)

Everyone knows the Pentagon brass already have enough explosives to destroy the world many times over well over 1,500 Poseidon, Polaris, Honest John, Lance Pershing, Titan, and Minuteman nuclear missiles. Is it worth it to you to give up over two months pay so the big war contractors can make a killing off this

super-profitable new project?

With hospitals, schools, and housing being cut back in the cities, could anyone honestly claim that spending such vast sums on yet another bomber is justified?

Isn't it obvious that all the politicians denouncing big government, while they vote for B-1 bomber production (which the poor and working people will be forced to pay for), are a bunch of swindlers?

Could there be a better example of how the big business government takes away our hard-earned money to line the pockets of themselves and their rich pals in the military-industrial complex?

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May 7

—Anti-Apartheid Day

(Continued from page 1)

major liberation organizations in southern Africa, as well as labor representatives in this country.

The idea of setting up a May 1 Anti-Apartheid Day Committee to make the struggle against apartheid the theme of May Day, and focus on the heightening struggle in Africa against U.S. imperialist intrigues at domination clearly caught the imagination of large numbers of people. But most significantly, the large numbers of Afro-Americans and Africans on the demonstration showed how deeply this issue is felt in the oppressed Black communities.

The spirit of the march was perhaps made even more determined by the drenching rains that fell all day. Chants such as "Kissinger, CIA, out of Africa," and "Down with Apartheid, free the SASO 9," were kept up constantly as the marchers gathered at Herald Square near 34th Street. (The SASO 9 are all political prisoners who face the death sentence for protesting against apartheid in South Africa.) Speakers also addressed the large crowds of shoppers going by to explain the meaning of the demonstration, while banners such as "Apartheid Is: Exploitation, Racism—Genocide" carried the message to the people.

Shortly before stepping off on the march, the anti-apartheid demonstration was confronted by a small group of about 150 people

organized by Workers Viewpoint. This organization seemed to be attempting to disrupt the anti-apartheid march by circling around Herald Square and opposing chants of "U.S. imperialism out of Africa," with their own slogan, "Superpowers out of Africa," thus joining Kissinger in his attacks on the Soviet Union and Cuba. When part of this group was cut off from the rest, however, they were viciously assaulted by the police.

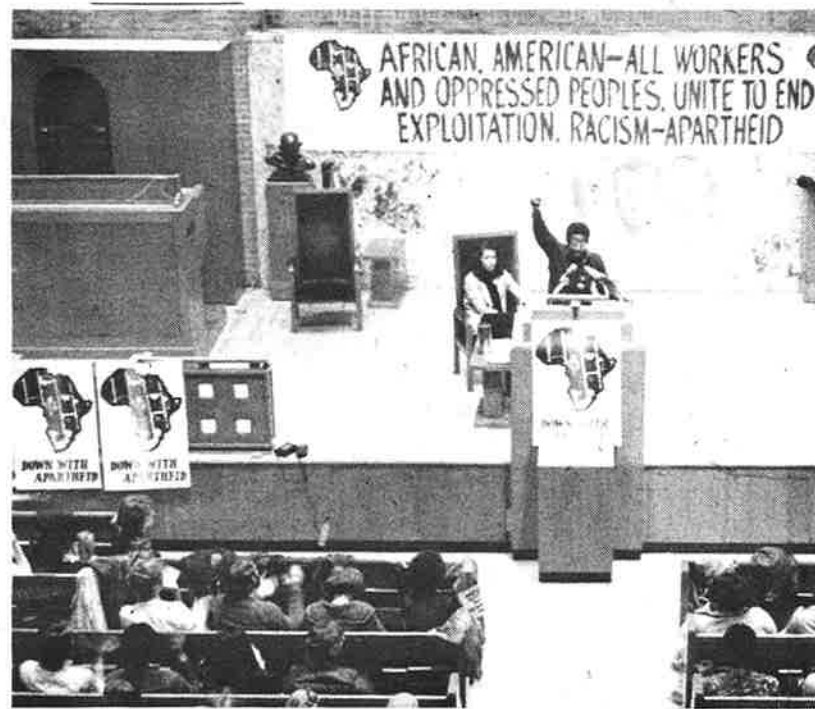
As this was happening, Anti-Apartheid organizer Tom Soto of Youth Against War & Fascism took the microphone and denounced the police attack, saying that while the May Day Committee did not agree with the other group, nevertheless, the police had no right to break up their demonstration. Soto then initiated, "Down with the police, down with the racists in South Africa."

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS CLOSED

Promptly at 2 p.m., the demonstration moved west on 34th Street and then uptown on Seventh Avenue on its way to the South African Airways office at Fifth Avenue and 49th Street. While police had threatened not to let the march have the street, they quickly backed down when the organizers insisted on their right to march in the street and not be shuttled onto the crowded sidewalks.

In a clear show of fear of the anger of the demonstration, the South African Airways office was dark and abandoned, and a curtain had been hung across the large plate glass windows. But the office of this hated symbol of apartheid was soon completely hidden by the solid sea of banners and flags that stretched from 48th to 49th Street on Fifth Avenue.

A huge picket line was maintained at the offices until 3 p.m., when the crowd moved on to a indoor rally at a nearby church. The tremendous success of the day's activity was stressed again and again at the rally by representatives of the Pan African Students' Organization, who pledged that the Anti-Apartheid Committee would be organizing many more activities in the future—until all of Africa is free.



At a New York rally in support of the African liberation movement, links the struggles of the peoples of southern Africa with the fight of

Super-oppressed So. African workers linked to May Day

NYC marchers hear African n

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, May 2—At 3:30 in the afternoon on May 1st, close to 1,000 rainsoaked but exuberant marchers from the New York City Anti-Apartheid demonstration began pouring into the Community Church on 35th Street for a windup rally in support of the African

liberation struggle.

The meeting was opened by Chairperson Sharon Chin, who told the crowd, "We did it! We showed them that May Day is anti-apartheid day, anti-oppressor, and anti-U.S. racism day!"

Ms. Chin introduced John Akpan from the Pan African Student

Organization in the Americas (PASOA), which had called the demonstration together with Youth Against War & Fascism. "This is just one of the activities planned against the South African racists," Akpan noted, announcing a goal of 100,000 signatures on petitions protesting the frame-up of the SASO defendants by the time of African Liberation Day on May 25.

"We demand freedom for all prisoners of Apartheid," Mr. Akpan said, adding, "The victory of the African people is certain."

DEFEND THE SASO 9!

Freedom for the SASO 9 was a major theme of today's demonstration. Members of the South African Student Organizations, the seven Black and two Indian students, face possible execution for the "crime" of organizing a rally in Durban after it had been banned by South African authorities.

This month another round of arrests added to the number of opponents of apartheid now being held and possibly tortured in South African jails.

AZANIAN SPEAKER

The next speaker was Elizabeth Sebeko, a representative of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (South Africa).

"This gathering marks International Workers' Day," she said. "But the South African people are denied the right to join the other workers throughout the world who are demonstrating. In fact, they are denied all human rights," she continued.

Then, speaking about Kissinger's trip to Africa, she observed that "the Vietnam War is too fresh in our memory for us to be duped into believing that the U.S. supports majority rule in Zimbabwe."

Next a message of solidarity from the Association of Vietnamese Patriots in the U.S. was read, expressing "wholehearted solidarity with the people of South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe and wishing them victory in their struggle for national liberation."

Gail McDougal from the National Conference of Black Lawyers then spoke, saying, "the struggle in Mississippi is the same as the struggle in Johannesburg." She compared the "Anti-Terrorism Act" in South Africa, a repressive piece of legislation used by the

'This demonstration is wonderful!'

By JOYCE BETRIES

NEW YORK, May 1—Rain could not stop them. They were people from Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and North America, and they were determined. Some had come from as far away as Virginia and Georgia, Boston and Buffalo, N.Y., to voice their anger against the racist apartheid system in South Africa and to support the liberation struggles of Black Africans.

Mrs. Jessie Williams, the mother of Joann Little, came all the way from Beaufort County, N.C., to demonstrate against racism in South Africa. She said, "People worked so hard for Joann. I saw so much since Joann had this trouble. I just had to come (to this demonstration). I just couldn't resist. I know now that anything

that you want you've got to fight for!"

Shirley Ruban, a Native American, came down from Buffalo, N.Y., because "The Indian problem is involved with what is going on in the Black movement here and what is going on in South Africa. Our problem is worldwide."

An auto worker born in Santo Domingo said, "People from Africa, Santo Domingo, and South America are all exploited as workers by U.S. imperialism. Now the focal point is Africa because the struggle is stronger there. In Santo Domingo the struggle was set back in 1965, but it's the same struggle for liberation. Even Che Guevara was fighting in Africa. Now Cuban troops fought in Angola. What Che started was

continued. It's one struggle."

A demonstrator from Palestine said, "Today the Palestinians are 100 percent in support of the struggle of the people in South Africa. Apartheid is not only in South Africa but in Israel. Just a few days ago Vorster was in Israel putting into practice the united ideology of racism that exists between the two countries. It is in the interests of those in South Africa and Palestinians and Jews in Israel to fight their common enemy, U.S. imperialism and its lackies. I think our unity on this demonstration where people came from Africa, South America, Asia, and the Middle East must be an example for the future."

An African student told this reporter, "The rising tide in Africa is down with imperialism there and

everywhere else. In defeat for imperialism there is a defeat for capitalism here."

The demonstration, with its loud anti-racist chants and brightly-colored banners and flags, wound its way through the busy shopping area toward the office of South African Airways. Black Americans, Latin Americans, North Americans, people from Iran and East India, all stopped in the rain or huddled in doorways to watch.

"I think very highly of this demonstration."

"It's very brave that they came out in the rain."

"Well, I'm Black, of course I agree with them. I'm in support of all oppressed people."

A young man from Haiti stopped his car and stood in the rain to watch the marchers pass along Eighth Avenue. "It's good. They want the same thing, like this," he said pointing at the banners, "in my country."

A middle-aged Black woman shopper protected by an umbrella stopped in wonder, amazed at this display of support for African people. "I think this demonstration is wonderful! I'm from Nigeria," she said with tears in her eyes, "It's the only thing that will save the world when young people get together and fight. God bless these young people."

Many joined the demonstration on its route of march. A young Black man watching the spirited picket line in front of South African Airways said, "I saw the demonstration on 34th Street and felt good about it, so I had to follow it down." Speaking of the system of apartheid, he said, "Everyone sees it, but it's up to the people to stop it. We have to end it, because if we don't we're going to be in hell ourselves. We have to start now. It's a shame how people have to live here in the U.S. too."



Chanting "Kissinger, CIA, out of Africa!" and "Down with apartheid—Free the SASO 9!" demonstrators march to the offices of South African Airways. WW photo: Ed C.



ent, Yemi Agbeyegbe of PASOA
of workers in the U.S.

militants

racist rulers, with the S-1 bill now before the U.S. Congress.

HOLMES HITS U.S.

"NO AFRICA POLICY" FRAUD

After a fund-raising speech by Tom Soto of Youth Against War & Fascism, Larry Holmes, also of YAWF, told the rally that "Kissinger's rhetoric about supporting majority rule in Rhodesia is calculated to deceive the workers and oppressed of the world. Kissinger is in Africa attempting to bribe heads of states, threaten Africa nations which receive aid from the socialist camp, wheeling and dealing to bring about neo-colonialism in Rhodesia, and laying the basis for a new imperialist war if necessary to protect U.S. investments in southern Africa."

It is not true, he asserted, that the U.S. has had no Africa policy, as the capitalist press has been claiming. "The U.S. ruling class," he said, "has always had an African policy—one of plunder and domination."

The last speaker was Yemi Agbeyegbe from PASOA, who received a standing ovation for his short but eloquent remarks that linked the socialist revolution in Africa with the socialist revolution in the U.S.

The meeting ended after a support statement from the African American Nationalist Committee was read.

The spirit of genuine internationalism, so evident in the composition and content of the rally, was carried out of the hall by each member of the audience.

Armed struggle persists in southern Africa despite

Kissinger's neo-colonial scheme

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, May 3—Southern Africa's liberation movements are answering Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's current theatrical tour through Africa with continued armed resistance and trade union struggle.

Four South African soldiers were killed last week in Namibia near the Angolan border by guerrillas from the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO). Meanwhile, in Zimbabwe, two police reservists were killed by guerrillas on April 27 near the Mozambique border, and earlier in the week, a wealthy Rhodesian farmer was wounded in Nuanetsi, located on the road which links Rhodesia to South Africa.

Nuanetsi was the scene of a stunning guerrilla attack two weeks ago which killed three South Africans, forcing the closing of the road. The road was reopened May 2 by a convoy of South African cars and trucks, accompanied by a heavily armed troop escort. The South Africa-Rhodesia rail link, which was severed in a related guerrilla attack, has not yet been reopened.

Hardly three months since the defeat of U.S.-sponsored mercenaries and South African troops in Angola, Kissinger is presently travelling through the continent to try and salvage U.S. imperialism's interests there by "diplomatic" means. Although employing deceit, maneuvers, and outright bribery to undercut the liberation movements of Southern Africa, Kissinger's statements have all carried an implicit warning that if all else fails, U.S. military might is still available.

"Apartheid in South Africa remains an issue of great concern to all those committed to racial justice and human dignity," said Kissinger on April 27 in Lusaka,

Zambia, evidently referring to someone other than himself. Only three days later, the Secretary of State showed what his real concern is when he menacingly stated, "We want to know what Angola's intentions are with respect to the presence of foreign forces on its soil."

Kissinger's carrot and stick approach is aimed at restoring U.S. influence among more moderate, conservative forces in Africa to make a neo-colonialist solution to the white minority apartheid regimes possible. Kissinger has also repeatedly pointed out his aim in this trip is to reduce Soviet influence in Africa.

In his speech in Lusaka, the master of shuttle diplomacy offered to end all visible support for the Rhodesian racists, even going so far as to offer \$12.5 million in aid to revolutionary Mozambique to compensate for the loss of revenue incurred in shutting its borders to Rhodesian trade. But in exchange for these superficial concessions, Kissinger demands a "peaceful solution" which is dependent on imperialist "mediation."

In trying to keep up appearances for the sake of Kissinger's charade, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith abruptly announced April 29 that four Black tribal leaders in the pay of the racist regime would be added to the cabinet. "During the ceremony, Smith was overheard assuring the chiefs that they would be told their duties in due course," according to the May 10 U.S. News & World Report.

While claiming to now oppose apartheid, U.S. corporations continue to rake in profits off their \$1.5 billion investment in South Africa. Investment has tripled in the past ten years, and new expansions are still being planned by the Kennecott and Caltex cor-

porations to exploit the near slave labor conditions Black people suffer under apartheid.

Rather than supporting reforms, U.S. corporate owners are among the most steadfast opponents to granting increased rights to Black people, as the recent case of Heinemann Electric Corporation in South Africa showed. Black workers at Heinemann's recently attempted to organize themselves into the Metal and Allied Workers Union. The New Jersey-based firm retaliated by firing all 600 Black workers, and called in the police to remove them when they demonstrated against their dismissal.

The workers battled the attacking police, and the heavy-handed action of the plan management brought protesters even from the white Trade Union Council of South Africa.

Kissinger's attempt to bring Mideast shuttle diplomacy to Southern Africa has already been spoiled by the refusal of Ghanaian and Nigerian leaders to let him set foot into their countries. In announcing its decision to give \$1.6 million in aid to Mozambique, the Nigerian regime stated, "It is crystal clear that there is no alternative to intensified armed struggle in Zimbabwe."

May Day in Columbus

Picket Statehouse

COLUMBUS, Ohio, May 1—People from all over Ohio came to Columbus today for a march and rally sponsored by the Ohio May Day Committee. For nearly an hour, 125 persons picketed in front of the Ohio Statehouse to call for jobs, an end to social service cutbacks, to say NO to racism and sexism, to support national liberation struggles, and to demand an end to S-1 and all repression.

A contingent from Youth Against War & Fascism focused its banners on the struggle of the African people against apartheid and imperialism. Other groups included the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, New American Movement, and the Columbus Young Socialist Alliance.

Before marching downtown, they listened to labor activist Ted Dostal. "In the last 60 years," Dostal said, "over one-third of humanity has thrown out their imperialist oppressors. We are confident that in the near future, with continued struggle, the remainder will finish the job and set up a classless society." Mr. Dostal was followed by General Chui who talked about the Republic of New Africa's fight for self-determination.

Following a long march, a lively, militant rally heard David Santiago of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. Receiving a standing

ovation, Santiago told of the tremendous government repression against the PSP and the rising political consciousness among the Puerto Rican people. He called on all progressive people who support Puerto Rican independence and who oppose all forms of oppression to come to Philadelphia on July 4.

The struggle of the African people was the topic of South African activist Cosmo Pieterse. A former member of the African National Congress who now teaches at Ohio University, he pointed out how all the issues raised in the march are connected with South African apartheid. Because Black workers in South Africa receive meager wages, plants have closed up in the U.S. and moved to super-exploit that labor, giving a 12-20 percent return of their investment.

"The passbook is a badge of slavery. Last year over 70,000 people were arrested for not carrying this book," he concluded as the audience chanted "We say NO to racism!"

Other speakers included lawyer John Quigley, who reported on a recent hunger strike of 2,000 Lucasville Penitentiary prisoners. Finally, Rachel Simon, YAWF member who chaired the rally, gave a stirring speech on the role of women in the struggle for equality, national liberation, and socialism over the past 100 years.

Picket S. African Airways, Chase Manhattan in Houston

By JOANNE GAVIN

HOUSTON, May 1—This international workers' holiday was celebrated here today by over 50 people from Asia, Africa, and the Americas who marched through downtown Houston demanding an end to apartheid and CIA intervention in southern Africa.

Delegations from the Organization of Arab Students, the Iranian Students Association (World Confederation), Eritreans for Liberation (of North America), and Youth Against War & Fascism were joined by people on the street who were attracted by the anti-racist banners and chants.

The march paused for a rally at

the building which houses both South African Airways and the Chase Manhattan Bank offices. Representatives of all the participating groups delivered messages of solidarity and support for the struggling people of South Africa and extended revolutionary greetings for May Day to all progressive people of the world. They congratulated especially the victorious people of Southeast Asia who just a year ago triumphed over imperialist invaders.

All along the line of march people accepted leaflets and newspapers with interest and many expressed solidarity with the marchers' ideas.



In one of the largest May Day demonstrations in New York in years, a thousand people braved driving rain to demonstrate their opposition to the racist system of apartheid in southern Africa.

1,000 Puerto Ricans on May Day protest Hostos closing

NEW YORK, May 3 Despite a heavy rainfall, nearly 1,000 Puerto Rican workers and students celebrated International Workers Day here by marching through the South Bronx to protest cuts in the city's social services and the imminent closing of Hostos Community College, the only bilingual college on the east coast of the United States.

The march gathered at Hostos Community College at 149th Street and Grand Concourse and wound through the Puerto Rican community of the South Bronx to rally in the Hunts Point area.

Hostos College, named after 19th century Puerto Rican educator and independence fighter Eugenio Maria de Hostos, emerged from the struggle of the 1960s by Latin students and the Latin community for access to higher education through free tuition and a bilingual curriculum.

The Emergency Financial Control Board recently approved a

plan proposed by City University of New York Chancellor Kibbee to "merge" Hostos with Bronx Community College next fall. This plan also calls for an end to open admissions and the closing of other colleges in the CUNY system.

Speakers at the rally emphasized the need for unity among workers and students and participation in a demonstration and march on May 10. The main target of that march will be the Emergency Financial Control Board, located at 55th Street and Sixth Avenue in Manhattan. The march is being called by the Committee for the Democratic Rights of Puerto Ricans (CDRPR).

Activities around the issue of Hostos will also be carried out on the same day in Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, and California, according to Ramon Jimenez, a member of the CDRPR steering committee and spokesperson for the Community Coalition to Save Hostos.

EDITORIAL

The primaries and racism

Rarely have the capitalist media put on such expressions of astonishment and amazement as in the reporting of Ronald Reagan's "stunning victories" over Ford in the Georgia, Alabama, and Indiana primaries. Putting aside for the moment that only the smallest numbers of people took part in the voting, it is wise to recall the truth of former Senator Fred Harris's statement that any candidate's standing is approximately equal to the amount of money he has spent—and, we might add, equal to the inclination of the capitalist class to come through with what is required in such key areas as favorable press coverage as well.

TURNING ON THE MONEY TAPS

This is just as true of Jimmy Carter, who has received hundreds of thousands of dollars for his campaign from companies like Lockheed and Coca-Cola plus a media blitz spearheaded by Time magazine, as it is of Ronald Reagan, who, while crying poverty, has gotten "enormous amounts of unreported money" according to the highly conservative New York Daily News (May 5).

The so-called liberal candidates have one by one collapsed, not only because they have less money but also because, in their vague mumblings on questions concerning law, the poor, and the schools, they have not differentiated themselves from the hard-core racists and reactionaries.

One can be sure that things have gone to an extreme in the ruling class when even Senators Goldwater and Tower are attacked from the right! Reagan's fanatical racism (for instance, his statement during the People In Need free food distribution in California that he hoped for an "outbreak of botulism") is no longer even brought up by the capitalist press, and his vile chauvinism over the Panama Canal is put down to "lack of information."

The role of ruling class money in the primaries was amply demonstrated by the Ford debacle in Texas. In the interest of widening his support somewhat, Ford had slightly transgressed against the Texas oil monopolists by signing an energy bill they didn't like. Oil politicians Nelson Rockefeller and John Connally had warned Ford his action on the energy bill would cost him the Texas primary because the angry gas and oil interests there would go all out to punish him and support Reagan. And sure enough, Ford's drubbing in Texas was the worst ever received in any primary by an incumbent President.

WALLACISM WITHOUT WALLACE

Surely one of the ugliest aspects of the campaign has been the way racism has been fed by the capitalist media, by the way the newspapers, magazines, radio, and TV have all focused on the Wallacism of Carter, Reagan, and Ford. Wallacism without Wallace has become a reality which even the racist Alabama candidate complains about, saying, "They all took over my program." And all have made special appeals to the Boston racist mobs, egging them on and inciting them with those code words about busing so well understood and appreciated by white supremacists.

This time more than ever the whole parliamentary system shows itself as the worst kind of deception aimed at confusing and generally fooling the masses of people. The whole phony system is glorified, the role of big business concealed, and we never, but never, hear indignant comments about forced election funding in the capitalist press the way we do about "forced busing."

And, after Lockheed and ITT, after milk price bribes and campaign slush funds, what do we get? Jimmy Carter at a \$100-a-plate dinner in Miami earnestly demanding honesty in Washington while beside him on the dais sits a mayor recently imprisoned for income tax evasion, a couple of Florida state senators who had just pleaded guilty to conflict of interest, an insurance commissioner facing trial for bribery, and three Dade County commissioners charged with fraud.

This is the new politics?

A RIGHTWARD TREND—BUT AMONG THE RULERS

It is not enough to say, as does the Daily World, newspaper of the reformist Communist Party, in an editorial on May 4, that "this does not mean there is a widespread rightwing trend among voters." Rather than this superficial approach, it is important to emphasize that this election offers no means of independent expression to the people. Rather it represents a rightward ruling class trend, forced on the poor and working people.

It should also be remembered that great social explosions occur when the rich rulers, in their compulsion to saturate the media with their opinions, their ideology, become deaf and blind to the real sentiments of the masses and make it impossible for the people to be heard. It is the impossibility of genuine progressive reform in the existing system that makes socialist revolution inevitable.



Busing in Milwaukee

Black self-determination the issue

By JIM MILLER

MILWAUKEE, May 2—Ten and a half years after a court suit was initiated by the Milwaukee United School Integration Committee (MUSIC), Federal Judge John Reynolds ruled this winter that the Milwaukee School Board was guilty of illegally and unconstitutionally maintaining a segregated school system. The school system is about 40 percent Third World, but most Black students are concentrated in districts which include some of the oldest and most rundown schools.

The reaction of the Black community has been generally one of awaiting a final court-ordered plan for desegregation, expected this month. A School Board plan announced last month primarily calls for busing Black students into the most segregated white school districts while promoting voluntary integration by whites, and has already come under sharp criticism as a one-sided solution.

Of particular importance is the proposed closing of North Division, a predominately Black high school, which was damaged by fire a month ago. A new North Division is presently being constructed and is the fruit of a long community struggle. The Parent-Teacher-Student Organization of North recently opposed any delays in completing the school (which have been hinted) and said that any busing plan should be equally divided between the Black and white communities.

LONG YEARS OF STRUGGLE

The desegregation suit was the end result of many years of struggle in the Black community. MUSIC was formed in early 1963 in a protest over the School Board's policy of "intact busing," where Black students bused out of overcrowded schools into white schools had been completely segregated by classes and even in lunchroom facilities. MUSIC called its first school boycott in May of 1963 and led innumerable demonstrations against the School Board's racist planning, which had

led to increased segregation of Black community schools.

A second boycott at the beginning of the school year in September 1965 was over 90 percent effective, and MUSIC set up Freedom Schools in Black community churches.

OPEN HOUSING MARCHES

A key part of the court suit, which Judge Reynolds ruled against, contended that segregated housing patterns were intentional in Milwaukee and were equally responsible for the segregated schools along with the School Board. In the spring and summer of 1967 the NAACP Youth Council and its adviser Father James Groppi led daily marches into the predominately white south side demanding open housing. The reaction of the white community was often violent, but eventually the City Council passed an open housing ordinance.

So far, no visible racist organization has surfaced such as the ROAR in Boston. Even the

Nazis, who ran an anti-busing candidate in the February mayoral primary, finishing fourth with over 4,000 votes, have had no clear success. In fact, in one meeting on the south side of whites opposed to busing, the Nazis were nevertheless shouted down and forced to leave by the white audience.

The tardy court decision, admitting Milwaukee's schools are segregated is not merely a concession by the federal courts of their own free will; rather it is the result of years of struggle in the Black community for better and equal educational facilities and opportunities. The construction of new schools in the poorest communities is a must.

Any challenge to the right of Blacks and other oppressed peoples to attend the school of their choice, to have new schools, or to have community control must be fought by all progressives who oppose racism. Milwaukee must not become another battlefield of racist attacks as Boston and Louisville have been.

—Canal Zone

(Continued from page 9)

negotiations which have dragged on for over 10 years.

In recent interviews, Torrijos has stated that although he has an unwritten agreement with Panamanian students and workers for "prudence" until the negotiations either finish or break down, "We are prepared for whatever solution. We have set 1977 as the goal (for U.S. withdrawal). Patience has its limits."

His statement that "there are no armed forces in the world that can occupy a country determined not to be occupied" is ample testimony to the determination of the Panamanian masses to oust U.S. imperialism from their country.

RIGHTISTS, MILITARY FUMING

U.S. big business and the

military value the canal not only for its 14 counter-revolutionary bases but as a quick route from the Atlantic to the Pacific for the U.S. fleet. But while Reagan caters to one clique on the political ultra-right, other extreme conservative elements including Ford and even Goldwater have attacked his position as unrealistic.

They are looking for some neo-colonialist solution that they hope would be more acceptable to the Panamanian government. Like the liberal imperialists, Ford feels that such blatant and open colonialism as outright U.S. ownership of a canal cutting another country in half is untenable, in light of the weakened world position of U.S. imperialism and the growing wrath of the Panamanian workers and poor.

Despite the tactical differences between Ford and Reagan, however, it will not be them but the masses of Panama who will ultimately win sovereignty over their country and the canal their grandparents built with their sweat and blood.

While Reagan rants, Panamanians vow to

Oust U.S. imperialism from Canal Zone

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU
NEW YORK, April 26—Ronald Reagan last week described the Canal Zone in Panama as "every bit as much American soil as is the land in the states that were carved out of the Gadsden and Louisiana Purchases, and as is the State of Alaska."

Playing even more directly to his

Journalist uncovers

CIA 'death squads' in Argentina

By JOYCE BETRIES
NEW YORK, April 30—According to Carlos Wilson, a journalist living in Argentina, "The CIA is widely believed in Argentina to be directing the government's campaigns, and may be directly involved in right-wing death squads." He calls the methods of the junta, presided over by Army Chief Jorge Videla since it overthrew Isabel Peron's regime on March 23, "at least as repressive as those of (Chile's) Pinochet."

U.S. ADVISED ARMY ON METHODS OF COUP

In an article appearing in the April 19 issue of *Sevendays* magazine, Wilson reports that at the 11th Conference of American Armies in Montevideo last October, U.S. representatives had sent word to General Videla that the State Department did not want another "Pinochetazo" in Argentina. An alternative method would have to be developed for a planned military coup against Isabel Peron's government, as the events in Chile had badly damaged the U.S. image abroad.

Since the military takeover, news in the world bourgeois press about Argentina has been remarkably sparse. Except for a few articles about the elation in rich Argentine circles, and a rapidly rising stock market, coupled with brief reports of bodies of leftist being found in the streets, there has been a conspicuous silence.

Wilson contrasts the approach taken by Videla with that of the ultra-conservative forces within the Argentine military who were in favor of a Pinochet-style coup, including the execution of Isabel Peron and Peronist leaders as well as "a good 20,000 suspected leftists," in the pre-coup words of one military officer. Videla evidently pushed for a less dramatic takeover with more selective terror against the left.

That General Videla's approach was given official U.S. approval can be seen by an International Monetary Fund grant of \$127 million bestowed on the junta only 48 hours after the coup. Another \$1 billion will be forthcoming in the next year. These loans had been refused to the Peronists.

Wilson characterizes the economic plan initiated by new Minister of the Economy Jose Martinez de Hoz as "born and raised in Washington." (Martinez is called "Joe" by David Rockefeller.) This plan has frozen wages while removing price controls and has proposed to end inflation through budget cuts which will mean the firing of at least 500,000 state employees.

REPRESSION MAY WIDEN

Though Videla permits the military's official repressive apparatus to function and allows unofficial ultra-right death squads

right-wing, militarist backers, Reagan went on to slander the government and people of Panama, saying, "We should tell Panama's tinhorn dictator just what he can do with his demands for sovereignty over the Canal Zone. We bought it, we paid for it, and they can't have it."

Despite what Reagan would have

us believe, there is not an ounce of fairness or justice in the U.S. presence in Panama and its operation, at a profit, of the canal.

The canal was neither bought nor paid for. The so-called Canal Zone, a 10-mile-wide strip bisecting Panama, was stolen at gunpoint from the Panamanian people in 1903. That year the U.S. railroad

a treaty through Congress before a Panamanian delegation had even arrived in Washington to negotiate terms. The U.S., at that time a rapidly expanding imperialist power with gunboats to back up its diplomacy, left Panama, a small, oppressed nation, with no choice but to ratify the bogus treaty.

Long resentful of the U.S.

military presence in their country (there are now 14 bases within the Canal Zone) and imperialist domination of their economy, Panamanians rose up in 1964 in widespread, militant anti-imperialist demonstrations which forced the U.S. into the current round of negotiations on the canal.

U.S. IMPERIALISM ON THE DEFENSIVE

Unlike 1903, U.S. imperialism is now much more on the defensive in its negotiations with Panama. Revolutionary victories by workers and oppressed peoples around the world have closed off whole sections of the globe to capitalist exploitation, thereby weakening U.S. imperialism and strengthening the forces which oppose it.

Last October students converged on the U.S. Embassy in Panama City, breaking over 100 windows and demanding "U.S. out of the Canal Zone!" Since then mass pressure has forced Brig. General Omar Torrijos, Panama's head of state, to set a 1977 deadline on

free rein, according to Wilson he still faces a possible challenge for power from ultra-right-wing generals who believe that total repression is necessary to enforce the Martinez economic plan. Wilson believes that Videla will have to give in and allow the generals to broaden the repression to avoid another coup. Right now, "ten to twenty mutilated bodies of leftists are found daily."

Although the U.S. ruling class is now supporting Videla, in the long run they are for any plan that will

contain or destroy the struggle of the workers and increase U.S. control of the Argentine economy. They want the Martinez economic plan to work, for it will bring them more profits off the backs of the Argentine workers. North American firms own the largest share of the more than 3,100 transnational corporations that total more than 75 percent of Argentine big business.

The question on everyone's mind is: What about Argentina's strong and organized working class? Can

this calculated move to an outright military dictatorship be made with resistance from the mass organizations?

While the trade union movement has yet to be heard from, the organizations of armed resistance have been able to strike blows at the junta. Calling leftist guerrillas a direct challenge to the military regime, the junta announced on April 29 that an Army base in Buenos Aires and a police station in Cordoba had been attacked by the resistance.

Former collaborator denounces Indonesian occupation of East Timor to UN

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD
NEW YORK, May 1—The resistance war of the East Timorese people against an invading force of 30,000 Indonesian troops will be entering its sixth month this week, and the prospect is for a long and continued bloody struggle.

Notwithstanding a second UN Security Council resolution on April 22 demanding that Indonesia withdraw its troops, passed by a vote of 12-0 in which the U.S. abstained, the invaders are continuing to maintain the fiction that they are there at the behest of a "provisional government" in East Timor. However, the liberation forces of Fretilin, the revolutionary independence movement, hold 80 percent of the territory, and the Indonesians are controlling the larger villages only through a continued reign of terror.

In a dramatic development on April 29, a former collaborator with the Indonesians, Jose Martins, came to New York City and addressed a letter to the Secretary-General of the UN condemning the invasion and declaring that he had earlier been forced to front for the Indonesians.

"NOT A FREE MAN"

"On the 16th of December 1975," wrote Mr. Martins, "I addressed the Security Council of the United Nations as President of the KOTA Party. I was requested to do so by the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations...."

"I came in December not as a free man. I was forced, like the others then, as a prisoner, to read what the Indonesians had written. Now I am a free man...."

"I am writing to Your Excellency as President of the KOTA Party and as an East Timorese who has witnessed and experienced Indonesian bloody intervention in East Timor which has already cost many thousands of lives."

Martins went on to describe how the leaders of the parties opposing Fretilin, who turned to Indonesia after losing any support among the



Despite naval bombardments, napalm, and other U.S.-supplied weapons being used against them, the people of East Timor are "prepared to struggle until the total and complete withdrawal of the Indonesian invaders, whatever the consequences may be." Here, Fretilin soldiers before invasion. Photo: Fretilin

Timorese masses, became nothing but "instruments of the Indonesian government." He attacked the "declaration of integration into Indonesia," made by a few Timorese rightists just days after Fretilin's declaration of independence from Portugal, as "a farce," and described how this document was drawn up in a luxury hotel in Bali owned by Colonel Sugianto, a high-ranking Indonesian security officer.

Martins also denounced the widespread murder and looting in the city of Dili after Indonesian troops were landed there.

"Leaders of the pro-Indonesian parties were deeply shocked by such behavior. Even the long-term supporters of the 'integration' were disillusioned and many are now openly opposing Indonesian presence in the territory. The so-called Provisional Government is a

one-man band," declared Martins.

BUTZ IN INDONESIA

The U.S. government chose the moment of the UN debate on Timor to send Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz to Indonesia, where he promised even more shipments of U.S. grain to shore up the crisis-ridden economy.

Since the pro-U.S. military dictatorship in Indonesia took over in 1965 through a bloody coup and massacre of hundreds of thousands, the U.S. has sent fertile Indonesia \$1 billion in food aid alone, according to Butz himself! At the same time, the Indonesian economy has become so completely taken over through imperialist financial manipulations that the state oil monopoly, Pertamina, has gone bankrupt, and Indonesia's creditors, known as the Inter-Governmental Group on

Indonesia, will be meeting this month in Europe to decide on rescheduling Pertamina's monumental \$10-billion foreign debt.

It is in the midst of this deteriorating situation at home that Indonesia has taken on the role of a sub-imperial policeman with its attempt to crush the progressive liberation struggle of the Timorese people. But the people of Timor, despite naval bombardments, napalm, and other U.S.-supplied weapons being used against them, once again made their position clear in an April 19 message to the UN from Fretilin President Xavier do Amaral, in which he concluded that the people of East Timor are "prepared to struggle until the total and complete withdrawal of the Indonesian invaders, whatever the consequences may be."

Rigged elections, 1876-1976

Let's shed a tear for Humphrey

By V. COPELAND

As is appropriate in the case of famous deaths, we interrupt this series for an appreciation of a loyal servant of the ruling class who has just been kicked in the teeth by his masters and who, with appropriate tears and farewells, has just announced (as of April 29) the end of his Presidential ambitions to an unbelieving populace.

Humphrey's "liberalism" had its roots in the old Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota, a party which he as much as anybody helped to whittle down and housebreak as the Democratic Farmer Labor Party—that is, the Minnesota branch of the capitalist Democratic Party.

He was a founder of Americans for Democratic Action (ADA), which began in 1947 in order to propagate ruling class liberalism during the Cold War—under the banner of anti-communism.

One of this organization's first accomplishments was to provide the bombastic Harry Truman with a liberal wing and a so-called "civil rights" program in order to undercut the pro-Black—and pro-Soviet—Henry Wallace in the crucial election of 1948.

Humphrey made what seemed to be a ringing call for civil rights in an oration at the Democratic National Convention of that year. And he has been living on the dwindling dividends of that calculated political investment ever since.

But bad as he is, faker and mountebank and scoundrel that he is, he does represent a more liberal capitalist political constituency than the evasive "Jimmy" Carter. He is associated with those liberals and labor leaders who, although pro-capitalism to the core, have a stake in better housing for the poor, a decent minimum wage for the workers, more or less massive aid to the cities, etc., etc.

TEARS FOR HIM—WHAT ABOUT HIS PROGRAM?

When, after surveying the results of the Pennsylvania primary and the surprising victory of Carter over the pro-Humphrey Jackson, our hero made his noble farewell, the country's newspapers and media, including the "labor" media treated him like an old marathon runner with a sudden varicose vein, or a "happy warrior," now inexplicably sad. Much was written and spoken about his previous runs for office and his political battles along with other reminiscences.

But not a word was spoken or written about the people he was supposed to represent. Not a tear was shed about the program he was supposed to have espoused!

If Humphrey was really running, however slyly and secretly, for President, it was to carry out his



alleged program, was it not? He knows very well that Carter is against any concessions to the mass of the people. He knows that Carter is just a Democratic version of Ford, the vetoer of all the last two years' "progressive" legislation. He knows that Carter is against labor unions and above all that Carter is neither a hypocrite nor a liberal on the race question, but an out-and-out racist.

Why didn't Humphrey fight Carter? Why didn't the "happy warrior" make war?

He didn't lack all power to do so. It was clear to all political observers that he had a large part of the Democratic political machine and that he had a very large number of "uncommitted" delegates on his side. And furthermore, he had the opportunity to get into the primaries and get a great deal more votes than Senator-from-

Boeing Jackson (who has also given up now).

Up to last week, he could have entered the New Jersey primary and a number of others. But he didn't.

Why? Because he was personally afraid to fight? Because he was afraid to proclaim to the people that there should be more jobs and more houses and a higher minimum wage and better conditions for the workers, generally?

Yes, he was afraid. But not from personal cowardice so much as from political opportunism.

A LITTLE MATTER OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS

That is, he would get no campaign funds to speak of for such a program. It would not be allowed.

And speaking of cowardice, why didn't he or Jackson or Udall, all of whom were strapped for funds in Pennsylvania, why didn't they demand to know who is financing Carter?

The other candidates could not get the federal "matching funds" which they were depending on because Congress was being maneuvered to hold them up.

But Carter had all the funds he needed. Furthermore, he admittedly had a hundred "volunteer" workers who "spontaneously" came up from Georgia

(Continued on page 11)

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 (404) 523-8990
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

The other Texas: discrimination, low wages

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, May 3—All Texans don't drive Cadillacs, throw lavish barbecues, or have oilwells in their backyards—despite what you might read in the papers.

Of course, there's plenty of wealth in Texas. The King Ranch, with an area the size of the state of Connecticut, is a virtual empire unto itself. Powerful families like the Murchisons, Mecoms, Hunts, Browns, and others live in splendor off profits from oil, natural gas, cattle, cotton, chemicals, and industrial goods.

But there is another Texas.

As someone who was raised in a small town on the dry, flat Texas plains near the Oklahoma border, the Texas I know is quite different from that usually reported here in the capitalist press, especially recently in the wake of Ronald Reagan's win over President Gerald Ford in the Texas Republican primary.

MORE POOR PEOPLE THAN ANY OTHER STATE

The other Texas knows poverty. In fact, there are more people in Texas living below the official poverty level (28 percent of the

population) than in any other state. In 1971, the average hourly earning for production work was only \$3.34, and these jobs have always been sought after for their high pay.

For workers in the fields, in gas stations, restaurants, hospitals, and hotels, wages are much lower. During the 24 years I lived in Texas, there was no state minimum wage; I knew dishwashers who were trying to survive on 50 cents an hour. And when a minimum wage law finally creaked through the Texas legislature in 1970, it provided for only \$1.25 an hour.

One of the chief reasons why wages are so low is the anti-labor laws which have successfully kept 88 percent of the workforce out of unions. Probably the most notorious of these laws is that which outlaws union shops, the so-called "open shop" law. Another is a law making it illegal to threaten scabs, punishable by two years in prison.

Also, mass picketing is prohibited by law. I once walked a picket line with striking workers, most of whom were Chicanos, at the Economy Furniture factory in Austin. Everyone on the line took

great care to keep our pickets 50 feet away from the plant entrance, because any closer would bring sure arrest under the mass picketing law.

Working conditions in Texas are so horrible that the Chamber of Commerce sometimes brags in its out-of-state advertising about the advantages corporations enjoy there. Texas has weak industrial safety laws—and 1,000 industrial deaths and 200,000 injuries a year, more than in any other state. Even Workmen's Compensation is a voluntary program and doesn't apply to household workers, farm or ranch workers, or to workers of a firm or individual employing fewer than three persons.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEFICIENT

Texans on welfare, Social Security assistance, and unemployment suffer from some of the lowest benefit payments in the country. For example, the 1971 average payment per family on Aid to Dependent Children was only \$116 a month, while unemployment benefits averaged \$41.11 a week and Social Security payments \$118.76 a month. In

addition, Texas ranks among the lowest of states on expenditures on health and education.

Hardest hit by the low pay, bad working conditions, and limited social services are the Black and Chicano populations who are doubly oppressed by racism. The 1,399,000 Black people in Texas live mostly in the eastern section of the state, where slaveowners once held sway and where Wallace now gets some of his support. Black people in Texas often live in dilapidated housing, have twice the unemployment rate of whites, receive lower wages, and have a much higher infant mortality rate. In 1966, on a trip through East Texas, I saw signs on restrooms in a country courthouse in Livingston that read "white men only," "white women only." They were not unusual.

Also suffering tremendous discrimination and economic deprivation are the over 2 million Chicanos who live in Texas. Most Chicanos living in South Texas, where over half the Mexican-American population is concentrated have incomes of less than \$3,000 a family annually. In

(Continued on page 11)



Wagon + New: workers world 5.7.76

POLITICAL PRISONERS



Suit against KKK guards to go to trial this Spring

NEW YORK, April 25—A law suit initiated by New York State prisoners against prison guards who belong to the Ku Klux Klan goes to trial this spring.

The suit, initiated in March of 1975 by Frank K. Abney, president of the inmate branch of the NAACP and three other members at Eastern Correctional Facility, is on behalf of the branch and "all those similarly situated," against a Pine Bush chapter of the KKK and a number of high-echelon Eastern prison administrators. It charges undue harassment of NAACP members because of their race and political beliefs.

The prison, located in the town of Napanoch, N.Y., has been the scene of alleged Klan activity since the exposure over a year ago that prison teacher Earl F. Schoonmaker Jr. was the "State KKK Grand Dragon," and that at least 20-35 Klan operatives were employed at the prison as correction officers. The branch has complained of continued harassment stemming from the suits and the NAACP members' outspoken policies on racism.

On March 17, branch Vice President Freddie DeJesus, along with several other inmates, saw an officer parading around in full Klan attire (hood and cape) in the lobby of a prison block used to conduct the inmate phone-call program. DeJesus and other witnessing inmates said C.O. Dennis Laurie ignited a piece of paper with a cross drawn on it and threw it at an inmate in a mock Klan cross-burning ceremony. Several other officers were present.

Branch members also charge that on February 28, inmate Joseph Kershaw, executive board member and sergeant-at-arms, was handcuffed and physically brutalized in his cell by six prison guards. He was then taken to segregation, beaten again and capriciously charged with being

drunk. At the same time the NAACP Executive Committee was holding a meeting on the other side of the prison. When 2 members approached Kershaw's cell that evening to find out why he missed the meeting they found his personal belongings destroyed and strewn about, and blood and broken glass scattered over the premises. Two weeks later, Kershaw was transferred to another prison. Lawyers have been notified.

On March 4, Bobby Bennett, director of the branch, found out that his family had received an anonymous phone call informing them that he was dead. Said Bobby, after making an emergency phone call home, "It shook my family up so bad my mother didn't even believe it was me she was talking to."

Branch members feel certain the Klan was responsible. "No one else here has Bobby's home number," said one NAACP member, "and we don't have access to direct outside lines anyway."

German Quinones, a member of the branch's Executive Committee was called to Albany on February 17, to testify at Department-Klan hearings. Three officers assigned to frisk Quinones threatened him and subjected him to two humiliating rectal searches. One guard grabbed him by the hair, shaking him, then bent him over while he and the other guards made sexual and racially derogatory remarks. Both guards are believed to be active Klan members.

The inmates are demanding a full investigation of these events, particularly in the Kershaw case. President Frank Abney, who himself has been keeplocked 12 times in the last 20 months, explained, "if we can't protect the legal rights of our members, then our initiation of educational and self-help programs are meaningless."

Democratic angels were behind Carter and no significant section of the capitalist ruling class was going to stay with Humphrey for the White House run. Their Democratic bandwagon had a new driver.

So farewell, Hubert Horatio Humphrey! You have done the honorable thing, as all your bosses who have kicked you say you have—about as honorable as any of the other thieving, lying, pretending, smiling, posing capitalist politicians now running for President would have done if they had been in your shoes.

—Other Texas

(Continued from page 10)

Laredo, known as the poorest city in the U.S., 80 percent of the 60,000 population is Mexican-American with a median income of less than \$2,500.

Conditions in Chicano neighborhoods bespeak the poverty that has been forced upon them. Many Mexican-Americans speak only Spanish, and Chicano children are still punished for speaking their own language in public schools. Cities provide Chicano communities with poor sanitation facilities, few paved roads, and poor health care. The two diphtheria epidemics I remember both originated among poor Chicanos living in the barrios of San Antonio.

Of course, it is never the op-

Raymond free after 14 months in Kentucky jail

NEW YORK, May 4—Jill Raymond was freed exactly at midnight last night after spending nearly 14 months in jail for refusing to testify before a Kentucky grand jury.

The judge, who had dismissed the grand jury earlier in the day after the completion of its term, held Raymond in prison until the last minute legally allowed. She had been held in the Kentucky County jail in Lexington during the entire term of a grand jury allegedly investigating the harboring of Susan Saxe and Katherine Power by the Lexington women's and gay community.

Other persons called as witnesses had testified under the threat of imprisonment, but Raymond had held firm to her refusal to be used against her sisters and comrades.

"We are overjoyed about Jill's release," commented Ellen Grusse of the Grand Jury Project and herself a victim of a similar jailing, "but we will continue the fight until Joanna is freed and the FBI and grand jury witchhunts have ended."

Joanna Le Deaux is a Native American activist who is being held on the West Coast in another grand jury investigation.

Hunger strike at Lucasville

CLEVELAND, May 3—Today is the fourth day of the hunger strike began by 2,000 prisoners at Lucasville Penitentiary located in southern Ohio. The prisoners have refused to eat since April 30 and will continue the strike until their demands are met. These demands include: an end to overpopulation, improvements in the quality of food served, better medical care, lower commissary prices, more prisoner control over programs

Bare FBI plot in Hampton murder

NEW YORK, May 3—An FBI informer received a bonus of \$300 for his role in setting up the 1969 murder of Black Panther Party leader Fred Hampton in 1969.

The FBI was forced to turn over documents revealing this fact, and other information under order by Federal Judge Sam Perry, who is presiding in a \$47.7 million lawsuit brought by the families of Hampton and Mark Clark, and the survivors of the December 4, 1969 raid on Hampton's Chicago apartment. This information and other facts demonstrate federal government complicity in the assassination plot which resulted in the death of the Panther leaders.

After repeatedly ignoring Judge Perry's orders to turn over all relevant documents, the FBI finally had to comply when Roy Mitchell, a Chicago FBI agent, inadvertently admitted that additional facts existed. Over 14,000 previously concealed documents were then brought into court and U.S. attorneys admitted that more than 7,000 are still being withheld.

An FBI memo shows that un-

dercover agent William O'Neal, who had infiltrated the Black Panther Party to become Hampton's bodyguard, had received a "special payment" of \$300 for his role in the murder plot. According to the memo, the bonus was recommended by FBI agent Mitchell's supervisor. The memo praises O'Neal for supplying the FBI with a detailed floor plan of Hampton's apartment.

Mitchell's previous testimony that information he supplied local police of illegal weapons at the apartment led to the police raid was contradicted by the memo. The FBI knew that all weapons in the apartment were legally registered, according to the memo.

The plaintiffs charge that the Chicago FBI murdered Hampton under the counterintelligence program (Cointelpro) which called for the elimination of all potential leaders who could unite the Black masses.

For further information, or to make contributions, contact: December 4th Committee, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill. 60604.

Anti-Apartheid Day solidarity

Sistas, Bruthas, Comrades,

With our clenched fists of total and complete solidarity, we unite with all Revolutionary People to destroy forever the racist regime in Rhodesia and South Africa.

Being aware of the slavery-bondage to which we have been subjected for 5,000 years, we realize the dire necessity for all oppressed-repressed people to

join forces on Anti-Apartheid Day, May 1, 1976, to destroy a universe of racism-kapitolism-imperialism. Through our combined effort-energies-strength, we can must overthrow the racist regimes which internationally prevail.

Make Anti-Apartheid Day the end of corruption-exploitation and the beginning of our independence-freedom from imperialism, the birth of a government for all people despite race-color-creed. Hit the streets in full force; let your revolutionary actions manifest your strength-determination for total liberation!

Persist to Resist to Exist!

Your Devoted Comrades in Struggle,

Anne Millett, Com. Marjorie Marsh, Pauline Caldwell, Ellen Porter, Susan Stuart, Shirley J. Herlth, Mary Jo Collins

North Carolina Korrectional Center, Raleigh, North Carolina

inside the prison, more jobs, and salaries for prisoners not able to get prison jobs, better redress procedure for prisoners against guards, the right to receive money from anyone on the outside, and that more prisoners be paroled.

Letters supporting the prisoners and protesting the inhuman conditions they live under can be sent to: Warden, Lucasville Penitentiary, U.S. Route 23, Lucasville, Ohio.

Texas—those whose sweat and toil create the state's immense wealth and who are the only ones capable of ending forever the poverty and exploitation that exist in Texas today.

—Rigged

(Continued from page 10)

to help him in Pennsylvania. Nobody knows for sure that it wasn't five hundred or a thousand.

Who paid their expenses? And who paid for all the extra TV publicity, all those pictures on the front pages of newspapers with "Jimmy" washing his socks in the hotel room sink (while \$5,000 worth of cameras recorded the humble event)?

The reason no self-respecting capitalist politician would ask such an indelicate question, of course, is that he would never get any more contributions himself—not even for dog catcher—if he did.

Thus it wasn't necessary for Nelson Rockefeller (whom Humphrey had secretly asked to be his running mate in 1968) to tell him the bad news. It wasn't necessary for Stewart Mott, Angier Biddle Duke, Thomas Fortune Ryan III, or the Goldman Sachs brokerage company, which had organized the Wall Street campaign fund for Humphrey and Johnson in 1964, to tell him the bad news.

He saw it on the front page of Time magazine, the front page of Newsweek, the same of the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, and anywhere else his tear-filled eyes could still look.

That news being that the

pressed and working people of Texas whose story is told in the capitalist press. Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, and the other politicians in the recent electoral charade hobnob

'Lie, cheat, and steal'

Games rich people play

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

If you have ever wondered what Lockheed executives, bankers, and politicians—and their children—do for fun, take a look at some of the games on the market. They overflow with greed, power, ambition, and political overtones that would put Monopoly and Easy Money to shame.

One of the games is called "The Boss," and dirty tricks are built into the rules of this no-holds-barred climb up the corporate ladder. The 13-page instruction book details the shoddy maneuvers that until now were confined to the smoke-filled rooms of Citibank and the Oval Office: how to plot with another player to get rid of a third, then how to break the deal after the foul deed has been accomplished. "The Boss" is billed as a "fun-filled game that realistically recreates the gotta-get-ahead world of today's big business. You've got to be shrewd enough to make the wildest deals you can

dream up—or break a deal that's holding you back! You can buy 'n lend stock, . . . promise future favors (and fail to deliver!)—yes, you can wheel 'n deal any outrageous way you can get away with . . . all the way to the top!"

Not to be outdone in unscrupulousness, "Lie, Cheat and Steal," subtitled "The Game of Political Power," not only introduces dishonesty into the game, but requires players to lie, cheat, and steal to end the game. The winner is the first one to accumulate 500 points, and how the players do that is their own business.

The four-page rule book outlines some of the ways to lie about bonus cards. For instance, a card saying "You must pay \$10,000 extra in taxes" can be read as "\$10,000 refund" and if the player has an innocent face, he or she will not be challenged and can keep the ten grand. Other deals are specifically written into the bonus cards:

"Your friend on the Highway Commission builds a freeway past your land: Collect \$40,000." "You are interviewed on national television: Pay \$20,000 for theatrical agent and makeup crew." "You administer a \$100,000 poverty grant: Collect \$80,000."

There are also games which don't actually involve dishonesty, only greed: in "Wall Street," the game ends when all players but one have gone bankrupt, or when one player accumulates \$100,000; players in "Petropolis" compete for nothing less than the world's existing petroleum reserves; and finally, there is "Bankruptcy," where the object is to drive all opponents to the poorhouse.

It's nice to know that after a hard day's "work" plundering Black people in South Africa, cheating on his income tax returns, and figuring out new ways to steal from workers in the U.S., a David Rockefeller can go home and relax by playing "Lie, Cheat and Steal."

May 7, 1976

Hubert Horatio Humphrey tearfully leaves the Presidential race. Did big business give the happy warrior a gentle shove? Page 10.

Polisario leader explains issues in Western Sahara liberation war

New York, May 3—The following are excerpts of an interview with Ahmad Mahjoub, a member of the Foreign Department of the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Western Sahara (Polisario). The interview was conducted in Beirut, Lebanon, by Al-Hadaf, the organ of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, on Feb. 21, 1976.

The Western Sahara, formerly a Spanish colony, has been occupied by troops of neighboring Morocco and Mauritania. The Polisario, who proclaimed the independent Saharan Arab Democratic Republic on Feb. 27 of this year, are now fighting a guerrilla war against the invading troops of Morocco's reactionary King Hassan.

Algeria has been supporting the Polisario with military supplies and training, while the U.S. has provided Morocco with jet planes, napalm, and other weapons. Several Moroccan aircraft have been downed by the Polisario fighters.

The Western Sahara is extremely rich in phosphates, a mineral used in the production of fertilizers. Algeria has charged the U.S. and France with secretly backing the Moroccan takeover. The Algerian government newspaper *El Moudjahid* noted that the deputy commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, Vice-Admiral Frederick Turner, met with King Hassan and the Moroccan governor of the Sahara exactly one week following the Polisario proclamation of independence.

Prior to the Spanish colonization, were the Saharan people ever separate from the rest of the Arabs in northwest Africa?

During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, all the tribes of the Sahara resisted the invasion attempts of the Portuguese and Spanish who wanted to establish a base for collecting slaves from Africa and shipping them to the Americas. Our people fought bravely against them, as can be seen from the ancient Portuguese cemeteries still left in our country. It was only after 1884 that Spain conquered our people, despite the determined opposition of all tribes in the area. In 1956 the Saharans were the spearhead of the Moroccan Liberation Army and fought the French and Spanish colonizers simultaneously.

How do you account for the Spanish about-face from self-determination for the Western Sahara to annexation by Morocco and Mauritania?

After the discovery of vast resources in our country, the Spanish colonizers tried to create a puppet state by forming subservient political parties and bribing tribal notables. They worked hard to control the fate of the Saharan people and the independent country we want to establish. But faced with our determination and that of our progressive leadership which is



John Hevan/Africa News

struggling to build a revolutionary society, they had to resort to contingency plans, i.e., conspiring with the bourgeois monarchy next door in order to safeguard their interests. It was in this way that the tripartite agreement to divide our country, our people and our resources came about.

FORCED TO JOIN "GREEN MARCH"

If you consider King Hassan of Morocco an "expansionist," would you say the same of the Moroccan people who favored the annexation of the Sahara?

Were all Germans Nazis? No, only the leadership. Likewise, the Moroccan people were mobilized through deception, as is often the case among people who are not yet politically aware. At the same time, I would like to point out that a number of Moroccans were forced to join the "Green March" because their jobs and interests were at stake, while others were jailed because of their refusal to participate.

What is the Front's ideology and what examples do you draw on for guidance in your armed struggle? How do geographical and demographic constraints affect guerrilla warfare in the Sahara? How do you rate your chances against the massive regular armies of Morocco and Mauritania?

Our ideology is based on the strategic orientation toward scientific socialism, taking into consideration past experiences from which we can adapt what is beneficial to us in our particular situation. You must understand, however, that our land is not a barren desert, but rather includes mountains and valleys which are ideal for guerrilla warfare. We would also like to stress that there is no land which limits its people's ability to gain freedom when there is a will. Despite the low population density, the will of my people to self-determination and victory, and our past struggle, assures us of achieving our aims.

POPULATION OF SAHARA

Population figures for the Sahara range between 60 and 750 thousand; what is your estimate of the number of people there?

There has never been an official census of the Saharan population, and the numbers presented vary only with the political trends of imperialism and local reactionaries. In 1967 Spain established the Saharan General Assembly in order to create a puppet state and submitted a report to the UN claiming that the population was somewhere between 450 and 500 thousand, plus the refugees in neighboring countries. The same year, the Moroccans claimed that the Saharan population was 650,000 plus the refugees. With the emergence of the Polisario in 1970, the figures dropped to 80,000. And when the Popular Front was created in 1973, Morocco claimed that the population did not exceed 60,000. Actually, according to the Front, the population of the Sahara lies somewhere between 750 and 800 thousand, plus about 200,000 refugees. Considering that the Moroccan invasion added about 65,000 more people to our refugee population, we tend to accept our figures as the correct ones.

How do you explain the support of Morocco's progressive and nationalist movement for the King?

Unfortunately, we cannot consider this movement a progressive and nationalist one, but merely an opposition which has been competing for its share of the power and has now found its golden opportunity. It is not concerned with the demands of the people, but with government positions. The Marxist-Leninists were the only faction that stood with us in support of the people's right to self-determination.

ALLIES OF THE THIRD WORLD

What are your relations with the governments of Algeria and Libya?

Libya has supported us since the very beginning of the Front, and Algeria soon followed. Initially we tried to present our case to all North African governments, but were only successful in getting that support from Libya and Algeria. In general, we consider the natural allies of the Third World to be the socialist countries and the proletariat throughout the Arab world.



The Moroccan Army, almost as large as the entire Saharan population, has met with stiff resistance from Polisario guerrillas. Here, women guerrillas train in a refugee camp.



The Sahara "includes mountains and valleys which are ideal for guerrilla warfare. . . There is no land which limits its peoples' ability to gain freedom where there is a will."

The division of Sahara is a reactionary imperialist plot against the Saharan people, involving Mauritania and Morocco regionally and Spain, France, and the United States internationally. In this context, how do you explain the lack of U.S. opposition to your self-determination?

You have identified the opposition correctly, and even though the U.S. did not openly oppose self-determination, it stood firmly behind the Moroccan regime and provided it with military assistance. The recent meeting between the commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet and King Hassan gives proof of U.S. backing for the regime. France also provided Morocco with food and transportation during the "Green March."

AN IMPERIALIST "EXCUSE"

When the Sahara achieves self-determination, will the Saharan people be capable of exploiting the vast resources on their own without help from the outside—i.e., imperialist exploitation—especially when local cadres are not yet available?

This is the excuse that would always be given, even if our land had no resources at all, that since the Sahara cannot stand on its own economically, the imperialist will eventually penetrate via aid and other pretenses.

What will you do if the Sahara is partitioned? Will you continue the armed struggle alone or will you join with the popular movement in Morocco for a total revolution?

What popular movement? The opposition parties in Morocco side with the king. If they were really against the reactionaries, they would have joined us. In practice, the Sahara is independent from Spain already, and Moroccan and Mauritanian reactionaries dominate. The popular movements in Morocco and Mauritania have to fight on our side because we have a common enemy. We are ready to cooperate with and help anybody

who bears arms against those two reactionary regimes. Our fighters have been able to shift the battlefield from the Sahara—90 percent of which they control—to Morocco and Mauritania proper. We have launched operations 200 km. inside Morocco, as well as in Nwalibo, the only seaport in Mauritania. A heroic struggle is presently going on among the Mauritanian people, including daily demonstrations. In general they are with us, especially their vanguard, the "Toiling Masses" (Al-Kadeheen) party.

ORGANS OF POPULAR POWER

How does the Front operate in the liberated areas?

We have dissolved the tribal advisory council and formed a national council to serve as the legislative body of our people. We have also instituted people's committees to deal with the daily life of the masses (health, education, food, etc.) in addition to the people's army and people's militia.

What is your opinion of the Arab mediation after the clashes between Morocco and Algeria?

This mediation came to nothing, because it reduced the conflict to one between Morocco and Algeria and completely ignored the rights of the masses. The conflict does not lie between Morocco and Algeria, but rather, between the Saharan people who are fighting for self-determination and the Moroccan and Mauritanian governments who want to partition our country and exterminate our people.

In light of this, do you expect a war between Algeria and Morocco?

Yes, especially if Algeria continues to support our people's cause. If this is the case, furthermore, we believe that the USA will intervene on Morocco's side via the Sixth Fleet.

SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE

We've discussed nearly everything concerning the Sahara, but there is one more issue to be clarified. Do you accept the proposed Palestinian mini-state as a just solution for the Palestinian people's cause or do you consider it a capitulationist solution in line with the attempts to liquidate the armed struggle in Oman and the Sahara?

Exactly, this is the attempt. The Rejection Front and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine have rejected the mini-state proposal as we rejected a puppet state in the Sahara from Spain. We believe that any state between Israel and King Hussein must be rejected, and therefore we support the Rejection Front.

Photos: Internews