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Zaire alert, Mideast warplane deal

Washington heats up international tensions

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

MAY 17—Even as President Carter was telling congressional leaders yesterday that he has to have more power to intervene militarily around the world, the 82nd Airborne Division was put on alert for possible deployment to Zaire and plans were going ahead to sell more U.S. warplanes to Egypt, Israel, and Saudi Arabia in the Middle East.

No matter what excuses are found for all these actions, they add up to just one thing: increasing the possibility for a serious war soon in Africa or the Middle East or both. And such a war would not only be fought with U.S. weapons but would almost certainly mean that very quickly U.S. troops would become involved.

So, despite all the promises to the contrary by the politicians, the American people are once again facing the prospect of being dragged by their "leaders" into a war or wars that, like in Vietnam, would fundamentally be fought in the interests of the big money men who have billions invested in countries where the people are striving to rebel against their unbearable poverty and against the corrupt leaders who maintain the status quo at their expense.

The struggles in Africa and the Middle East take different forms, but fundamentally they are about one undeniable thing: poverty, poverty amidst the riches of nature. Poverty for the masses while billions of dollars worth of oil and other wealth are pirated away each year.

The State Department, President, and the rest of the big business politicians in Washington try to pretend that they are intervening in Africa and the Middle East because of the Soviet Union or Cuba or other socialist countries "making trouble" there. But it doesn't take "outside agitators" (as the bosses here like to call it when poor people and workers get their friends to help them) to convince people that they're hungry and underpaid. People rise up in rebellion and revolution, as they've done in Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Rhodesia, and South Africa, and are doing today in Zaire, because they just can't take it any more.

They've had it with one meal a day, with sickness and death, with being ripped off by merchants and generals, with U.S. and European companies taking over the best

(Continued on p. 8)



WW photo: Paddy Colligan

NYC demonstrators:

'Free Imani! Stop the execution!'

BULLETIN: As we go to press, Workers World has learned that the Ala. State Supreme Court unanimously refused to set a new execution date for Imani requested by the State Attorney General. Defense lawyers had appealed to the court not to set a date while appeals are being resolved including appeals on his original five sentences. This temporary victory, like the 60-day stay of execution won in March, is directly attributable to the campaign being waged by Imani's supporters. This campaign has been gaining momentum and must be kept up, since this victory is only temporary and Imani's life is still in danger.

By DIANE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, May 13—To underscore the urgency of the plight of Imani (Johnny Harris), a young Black man who faces execution in Alabama, and to counter the ban of silence on his case imposed by the U.S. media, a mobile meeting was held on the streets of New York City today.

The rally and march, 100 people strong, drew the attention of thousands of New Yorkers with speakers emphasizing that the racist drive for the restoration of

the death penalty is a threat to all working and poor people. Flags and banners with a portrait of Imani were carried by supporters.

Imani received the death sentence in 1975 from an all-white, all-male jury in Bay Minette, Alabama, because he had participated in a prison rebellion at Atmore prison in which a guard died during the brutal suppression of the uprising by the state. Imani received the death sentence under a Confederacy-era statute that calls for execution if a person serving a life term is convicted of first degree murder.

The meeting began with a rally in Union Square, a shopping district frequented by poor and oppressed people. The marchers then moved up Fourteenth Street to Eighth Avenue where a speaker spoke in Spanish to passersby in the largely Latin community there. The group then stopped by a street fair, where leaflets on Imani's case had been passed out earlier. The demonstration ended with a strong picket line in front of the Chase Manhattan Bank, a well-known symbol of racism internationally and at home.

The speakers from the Committee to Defend Imani (Johnny

Harris) and Stop the Death Penalty spoke simply and directly to the thousands of poor and working people who paused during the course of the day to listen.

Kasseem Said, who chaired the meeting explained, "There are

342 people on death row in the United States and more on the way. Imani is on death row for his participation in a militant political protest against conditions in Atmore prison. Alabama attempts

(Continued on p. 11)

Inside:

- Sam Marcy on China's anti-Soviet course, p. 9
- State heaps more charges on Huey Newton, p. 10
- Death of Moro, p. 8

INDEX

Vol. 20, No. 20
May 19, 1978

Why George Meany had to say no to Carter's 'voluntary wage controls'

By KENNY PETERSON

MAY 15—There is no mistaking it: the pinch of inflation is getting tighter and tighter. "I've never made so much and never been so poor," is the frequently heard complaint among working people these days. The dollar is worth less with each passing day.

The worker's paycheck is being hit by a one-two punch from business and government. On the one hand, price increases are making everything more expensive, and on the other hand, government arms spending is producing a de facto dollar devaluation. What economists call "real wages," that is, actual buying power or earnings "adjusted" for inflation, have not risen more than 0.8% in 13 years, since 1965!

While working people are being made to walk this inflation treadmill, corporate profits have risen by truly astronomical amounts. The following sample of recent business news headlines tells the story: "Bank America Reports 23.8% Gain for First Quarter and Bankers Trust, 33.6%" (Wall Street Journal, April 18); "Citicorp Net Up 15% in Quarter; Chase Climbs 49.6%"

Mass. hospital workers win union contract

By JOHN IVERSON

BOSTON, May 8—Workers at Otis Hospital in Cambridge won a union contract today after a two-day strike. The victory came after three mass picket lines held last weekend, with the largest numbering over 150 people.

The new contract provides 50-cents-per-hour raises. Before the strike, many workers were paid only the minimum wage of \$2.65. A seniority system, the issue that sparked the strike, was also won.

This was the first strike in the history of Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 880, which represents hospital workers.

The union at Otis Hospital has removed all barriers between workers: nurses, LPNs, nurses' aides, and dietary housekeeping, and maintenance workers are all covered by the contract.

The victory, like last month's successful bus drivers' strike here, is a boost to all trying to organize new shops in Boston. Last year, several long, hard fought strikes in

(New York Times, April 19); "AT&T Net at a Record ... Results for First 3 Months Up 23% to \$1.24 Billion" (New York Times, April 20).

Telling the other side of the story is this headline from the AFL-CIO News (April 1): "Real Earnings (for workers) Decline for Third Month."

So there it is in a nutshell: prices up, profits up, wages down. How has President Carter responded to this deepening crisis of inflation?

New attempt to break Coors strike

By TIM MURPHY

GREELEY, Colo., May 15—After admitting that a national boycott of Coors beer has had a "material effect on beer sales," William Coors, chairman of the Coors Brewery of Golden, Colo., has filed a breach of contract suit against the striking Brewery Workers local 366.

During the first three months of 1978 there was an eighteen-and-one-half percent drop in the sale of Coors Beer. In addition, Coors

Carter, and his battery of businessmen advisors, have pursued a policy of protecting corporate profits while attacking workers' wages. Their strategy has been to blame inflation on the worker while giving unstinted approval to corporate price hikes.

This could be seen last week at a White House meeting between Carter and Robert S. Strauss, his so-called chief inflation advisor, on the one hand, and 32 major trade union leaders, including George

Meany, on the other.

Carter and Strauss were hoping, so they said, that George Meany, who is the head of the AFL-CIO, would induce the other leaders of the trade unions to go along with the government's plan for "voluntary wage controls." In exchange, Carter held out the prospect of White House support for passage of the labor law reform act, which is coming under fire in Congress. Strauss told them he hoped they had "enough guts" to go along with Carter on this proposal.

The Carter administration can sound very tough when it wants to, but it becomes positively tenderhearted when it deals with any of the billion-dollar corporations. It had nothing but kind words for General Motors when it announced a new set of price increases recently, or for the steel monopolies when they just announced another price hike, this time on stainless steel.

But when Meany refused to tell labor to "bite the bullet," Carter stormed out of the meeting and leaked stories to the press saying how annoyed he was. Since then the two have patched things up a bit, but Carter's attempt to lay the burden of inflation at labor's door almost made Meany look like a militant.

"WILLING TO COOPERATE"

Almost, but not quite. A few days after the blowup at the White House, Meany told an interviewer: "We are willing to cooperate and go right along and do anything that we possibly can do. But we can't respond to something that it is impossible for us to give him a positive answer on." What is it that is preventing this case-hardened bureaucrat from giving his assent to Carter's plan to drive working people into an ever deeper poverty? Has the man who once stood in front of the National Association of Manufacturers shamelessly declaring, "I never walked a picket line," suffered a change of heart?

Of course not: he'd much prefer "to cooperate." But Carter is asking for something that is "impossible." And why is that?

The answer is that Meany and the rest of the AFL-CIO officialdom are sitting on top of a social volcano: a mass of workers who are exploited, oppressed, angry, and ready to explode. If the misleaders of the trade unions learned anything from the mine workers' strike and the humiliating disgrace of Arnold Miller, president of the United Mine Workers of America, it was this.

The deteriorating situation facing U.S. workers: the economic crisis, the anti-labor corporate offensive, the growing hostility of government and the courts, leaves little room for Meany to maneuver. The attacks on labor have been relentless; the unions are backed up against the wall.

While Meany and the others remain committed to holding back the workers from an all-out struggle, they fear that they can lose their privileged positions altogether if they take on such an onerous task as Carter is proposing. They are dimly aware that an explosive resurgence of labor is around the corner, and that they are living on borrowed time. They know that in such an upheaval their own past transgressions will be called to account.

They know too that Carter's wage controls will only hasten that upheaval.

profits have dropped 67% during the same period.

Striking workers see the recently filed lawsuit as another attempt by Coors to destroy their union. In previous attempts to break the union, Coors has used mandatory lie detector tests, search and seizure tactics and other measures to weed out workers who stand up for their rights. The Coors Brewery also has a long history of discrimination against women and Chicanos.

The strike against Coors is now over a year long. The striking workers continue to need the support of all progressive people.

Boycott Coors!

workers have turned the tables, which will undoubtedly inspire new, militant union drives throughout the Boston area.

DECLINE AND FALL

For 'human rights' governments only

New York Times, May 8

"WASHINGTON, May 7 (UPI)—Congress has moved to prohibit the export of thumb screws, leg irons, shackles and electric shock batons to governments that engage in gross violations of human rights.

"Thumb screws are tiny torture instruments that, when twisted, apply painful pressure on fingers.

"I find it incredible that these torture instruments from the Dark Ages are still being manufactured, let alone exported abroad," Representative Donald M. Fraser, Democrat of Minnesota, said.

"An amendment, proposed by Representative Fraser and adopted last Wednesday by the House International Relations Committee, prohibits the sale of 'crime control equipment' to 'the police, domestic intelligence and other law enforcement forces of governments engaged in gross violations of human rights,'" John Salzberg, a Fraser aide, said."

Two social systems: Where Nazis are safe...

"BONN, Feb. 22 (AP)—The West German government has refused to take possession of Nazi party archives in West Berlin because the documents could embarrass prominent West Germans, a parliamentary deputy charged yesterday.

"Karl-Heinz Hansen, member of the ruling Social Democratic party, said that the Bonn government has repeatedly refused to provide him with a straight answer on why it will not take over supervision of the Berlin Documents Center, which has been under U.S. control since 1945.

"Mr. Hansen said he suspected that the Bonn government's refusal to take over archives was because it 'wants to cover up for personalities of public life who are former Nazis.'

"The center contains virtually all the Nazi documents confiscated by the Allies when they captured Berlin in World War II. The files include Nazi membership lists, party and job applications and photos.

...where they fear to tread

"MOSCOW, Feb. 22 (Reuters)—A Lithuanian who took part in the wartime killings of 100,000 persons at a Nazi concentration camp has been sentenced to death by firing squad by the Lithuanian Supreme Court, Tass news agency reported yesterday.

"Tass said that the accused, Vintas Sausaitis, who escaped punishment after the war by using an assumed name, admitted his participation in the mass shootings between 1941 and 1944 outside the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius."

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Black and White, Unite and Fight for a

WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

The CIA Was Behind the Coup in Ghana!

U.S. Bankers Staged Military Revolt to Get African Labor And Wealth Into Hands of U.S. Big Business

Now Senate Voted for Escalation
And Called It a "Motion to Table!"

Aim to Turn Africa into Subdivided U.S. Kingdom
And Dominate It as They Do Latin America

There has been a great deal of talk about the U.S. government's plan to turn Africa into a "new Latin America" since the government of Ghana on February 24. And not a single capitalist newspaper has reported the truth about the U.S. plan to turn Africa into a "new Latin America."

Workers World prints the truth when it happens. The New York Times this week finally admitted (after 12 years!) that the U.S. CIA played a "pivotal role" in the overthrow of Kwame Nkrumah. But in March 1966, Workers World exposed the CIA coup in Ghana (above), just as this year Workers World ripped the cover off similar imperialist plots against revolutionary Ethiopia. For unique and truthful reporting unavailable in any other U.S. newspaper, subscribe to Workers World.

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CIA uranium smuggling to Israel linked to Silkwood case

By FRED GOLDSTEIN

MAY 16—Justice Department obstruction of a lawsuit on behalf of a nuclear plant union organizer who died under suspicious circumstances has provoked renewed speculation that the CIA has been smuggling atom-bomb material to Israel for use against the Arab masses. Government lawyers have also blocked the testimony of FBI agents in a lawsuit on behalf of Karen Silkwood on grounds of "national security."

This raises questions concerning the connection of spy agencies with the death of Silkwood, an organizer for the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union who died in an automobile wreck in November 1974 while on her way to give documents on safety violations by the Kerr-McGee company to a New York Times reporter, David Burnham. The documents were never found.

The charge that the U.S. was covertly supplying Israel with uranium and plutonium was first broken by Howard Kohn and Barbara Newman in Rolling Stone magazine in December 1977. The authors claimed reliable sources in the Pentagon and the CIA. The article was given credence in authoritative organs of big business such as the New York Times and the Washington Post.

The gist of the article, entitled "How Israel got the nuclear bomb," was that thousands of pounds of uranium have been found to be missing from U.S. nuclear plants in the past 20 years and that a good part of it is suspected to be in Israel. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Government Accounting Office, the Congress, and the CIA have all carried out investigations confirming these facts but have covered them up. While the focus of the investigations revolved around the NUMEC plant in Appollo, Pennsylvania, Kerr-McGee in Oklahoma was also named in the investigations.

"THEFTS" OR GIVEAWAYS?

The burden of the article in Rolling Stone was to show that Israel was "stealing" nuclear material from the U.S. and that the Johnson administration and the CIA had covered up these "thefts." The authors cite how Richard Helms, Director of the CIA under Johnson, went to the President who then put out the word to keep things quiet.

"Though most of the investigators seem to accept this rendering of the Helms-Johnson meeting," said Rolling Stone, "some suspect that the CIA deliberately invited a White House cover-up to conceal the Agency's earlier complicity in supplying nuclear aid to Israel. According to former New York Times reporter Tad Szulc, an expert on CIA affairs, the Agency might have had such a motive; he says the CIA was instrumental in helping Israel get a share of U.S. nuclear material and technology in the Fifties."

Ironically, while the article draws attention to Israeli "thefts" of U.S. uranium, the authors show how the other imperialist powers, France and West Germany, supplied Israel with nuclear material and covered their tracks by arranging so-called thefts. Cited is the case of the West German freighter Scheersberg A which was left idling on the Mediterranean in November 1968 and then "pirated" away by the Israelis.

New developments in the Karen Silkwood case raise the question of whether or not the government is trying to conceal similar "thefts"

arranged or permitted by the CIA at the Kerr-McGee plant (and others) and whether her death had anything to do with this.

While her death was ruled an accident by the courts, a team of lawyers headed by Daniel Sheehan and Gerald Spence has instituted a suit charging the FBI and Kerr-McGee with conspiracy to conceal information about the harassment and intimidation of Silkwood. They are also seeking damages.

The Justice Department has submitted a brief trying to limit the questioning of Lawrence Olson, an FBI agent, and Jacque Srouji, a former FBI stool-pigeon who has written extensively trying to slander Karen Silkwood's personal character and to blame her death on the union.

"SINISTER AND SECRET"

In order to block questioning of Olson, government attorney Glenn Whitaker set up a meeting in the judge's chambers between himself, Olson, and Federal District Judge Frank Theis. The Silkwood lawyers were excluded. After the meeting, Theis told the Silkwood attorneys, according to the New York Times of May 7, "Well you can believe that it's sinister and it's secret. The information I have just seen, should never have seen the light of day."

In another instance the Justice Department acted to save stool-pigeon Srouji's cover, almost definitely as a CIA agent. "Government lawyers, citing national security, refused to let Mrs. Srouji answer a series of questions ... involving her relationship to intelligence agencies," continued the Times, "even in the judge's chambers."

The lawyers in the Silkwood case have not been allowed in on government secrets which may vitally affect their case against the FBI and Kerr-McGee but they did

refer reporters "to published speculation that some of the plutonium from Kerr-McGee may have been smuggled out of the United States by private individuals or by an intelligence agency seeking to covertly help an ally."

Supporters of Karen Silkwood

have always maintained that she was murdered to keep her from exposing the industrial negligence by Kerr-McGee which endangered the health and safety of its workers. But now there is a new sinister dimension to the case. She may have come upon information endangering the cover for CIA

smuggling operations which give U.S. puppets in Tel Aviv nuclear terror with which to threaten the Arab masses. The question is now being asked, was Karen Silkwood another victim of CIA or FBI "dirty tricks" in their ruthless war against the oppressed people of the world?



NEW YORK, May 14—Constant, torrential rain could not stop the fighting spirit of solidarity with the Palestinian people here today as nearly 200 people marched and rallied in the Arab community in Brooklyn. May 15, 1948 marks the beginning of the never-ending war against the Palestinians by U.S. imperialism and its Israeli militarist puppets. But this day has become an international day of solidarity with the struggle of the Arab people, whose struggle for self-determination against imperialism, despite great obstacles, has grown stronger, and has inspired oppressed people throughout the world.

WW photo: Paddy Colligan

Mideast 'package': \$4.8 billion for combined counterrevolution

By V. COPELAND

MAY 16—The U.S. Senate voted 54 to 44 yesterday to endorse the Carter administration's \$4.8 billion "package deal" of war planes to Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia.

The point to understand about the vote is not that it marked a historic "watershed" in which U.S. imperialism is forsaking its own creation, the settler state of Israel, but that the U.S. is attempting to broaden its base against the

Middle Eastern and African revolutions.

Those who sincerely believe that ruthless U.S. big business has "forsaken little Israel" are victims of a great misunderstanding. Imperialism never sympathized with the Israeli people in the first place and always saw them and still sees them as expendable cannon fodder in the struggle to defend the U.S. oil empire and suppress the super-exploited people of that region.

The super-exploiters in Washington are no less committed to the Israeli state than before, but as before, only committed to maintaining a garrison state, an extension of the Pentagon with a puppet administrative center called Jerusalem.

MORE PUPPETS REQUIRED!

It is now all too painfully obvious to the majority of the U.S. ruling class that Israel is not enough, the "unsinkable aircraft carrier" is not unsinkable enough, the Israeli armed forces, even with the most murderous terror machines the U.S. can equip them with, are not enough—to contain the struggle of 100 million Arab people.

For this, the "moderate"—that is, the reactionary bourgeois and feudal Arab governments, particularly those of Egypt and Saudi Arabia—are necessary, too.

Furthermore, these governments may themselves be overthrown if they are not given something. King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, in particular, with his slaves, his harem, and his air-conditioned limousines and private planes, could be removed overnight, if not as his predecessor was, by a family dagger, then by a deeper, broader, infinitely more fundamental social revolution of the suffering masses.

What then would become of Exxon, Texaco and Standard Oil of California, the now all-powerful triumvirate of the Arabian

(Continued on p. 9)

1,000 in Chicago protest award to Begin

'Jewish people yes, Zionism no'

By ALEC HORTON

CLEVELAND, May 3—Tonight Israeli Premier Menachem Begin was awarded an honorary Doctor of Law degree from Northwestern University (NU) here. But the atmosphere of sweetness and light Begin had hoped for was missing. While Begin took the award, reaffirming his policy of military aggression against the Palestinian people, a mass demonstration of 1,000 people—mostly Arab, Iranian, African, Black, and other Third World people—filled the lot outside the hall with chants of "Begin is a murderer, down with Begin," "Jewish people yes—Zionism no," and "Long live Palestine."

The announcement in early April that Begin would receive the degree was a particularly slimy public-relations gimmick by the NU administration. Donations to the university had dropped off sharply since it was revealed that Arthur Butz, a NU faculty member, is a neo-Nazi. The proposed award to Begin was intended to counteract publicity about Butz.

But it was a blow in the face to Black, Latin, and progressive students and faculty, to award a prize to Begin, a militarist fanatic whose job it is as Prime Minister of the Israeli puppet state to do U.S. imperialism's bidding in the Mideast and who is now engaged in the occupation of Southern Lebanon. Just a week before, the same University administration

had refused to sell stocks in companies with investments in South Africa because the school had to "remain apolitical." Now the school was proposing to honor a murderer. Arab, Iranian, and African students joined with Black students at NU to plan a united opposition to the award.

The anti-Begin movement scored its first success on April 12, when a majority of students voted in a referendum to oppose the award. A petition began circulating among faculty, students, and staff against the proposed degree. On April 24 it appeared as a full-page advertisement in the *Daily Northwestern* (the student paper) with more than 450 names.

The ad was followed by the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East to coordinate opposition. A series of anti-Begin ads appeared in the student paper, signed by the African Students Association, Organization of Arab Students, Black Students Association (For Members Only), and groups of Indian, Iranian, Turkish, and Chinese students. The ads showed the links between Begin and Israel and repressive and fascist regimes around the world. They traced Begin's murderous history and explained his role in the infamous Deir Yassin Massacre of 1948 (when some 250 Palestinian men, women, and children were slaughtered by Begin's thugs.)

Pro-Begin forces spared no trick

in their effort to defeat and divide the protesters. Anti-Begin forces were accused of anti-Semitism and ties to Nazis; when that failed, Zionist organizations distributed racist slanders of African and Iranian students.

These and other efforts failed. Third World students reaffirmed their opposition to anti-Semitism and every form of oppression. A counter-demonstration called for the same time was a flop with fewer than 100 participants showing up.

Opposing them was tonight's disciplined, militant protest of more than 1,000 supporters of Palestine liberation. Participants included the Organization of Arab Students, African Students Organization, Iranian Students Association, Young Muslim Organization, For Members Only, Sami Esmail Defense Committee, Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional, Chicago Gay Socialists, Socialist Workers Party, Red Rose Collective, and Workers World Party.

Organizers of the action viewed it as a positive step in the formation of a united fight against all forms of racism and oppression. In the words of the Black Students Association (For Members Only): "The only way for an oppressed minority, whether Black, Jew, or other group to overcome racist and fascist oppression is to unite with all progressive forces in a common struggle."

Protesting defeat of gay rights bill in Wichita. Kan.

750 in NYC march against anti-gay bigotry

By CONNIE HARRIS

NEW YORK, May 10—Tonight about 750 lesbians and gay men marched through Greenwich Village here to protest the defeat by referendum of a gay rights bill in Wichita, Kan. yesterday.

It was a referendum on a gay rights bill in Dade County, Fla., last year that brought lesbians and gay men into the streets by the hundreds of thousands across the country to protest the initiation of an organized anti-gay campaign led by Anita Bryant and other reactionaries. For lesbians and gay men, the year since the defeat of that bill has been one of intensified struggle against right-wing forces who have threatened not only their rights but on some occasions, even their lives.

This struggle has accelerated in recent weeks with the defeat of a four-year-old gay rights bill in St. Paul, Minn. on April 25, which was protested in cities across the country, and with the Wichita defeat.

Tonight, a large number of lesbians and gay men responded to an early evening rally called by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (CLGR) at Sheridan Square in Greenwich Village to protest the Wichita vote. Hundreds more participated in a Gay Activists Alliance (GAA)-initiated march later in the evening. Both events were called on less than 24-hours' notice.

At the rally, speakers emphasized the unity of the struggles of Third World people, women, lesbians, and gay men. A representative of the Committee of Homosexual Latin-Americans (COHLA) stressed, "Together we are the majority—our enemies are the minority."

Another major theme was the need for mass, militant action. Seth Lawrence of GAA noted that some members of the New York City Council (which is currently debating a gay rights bill for this city's one million lesbians and gay men) have urged the gay community to take a "low-profile," or non-militant approach towards work on behalf of the bill's passage. Lawrence pointed out that, on the contrary, only in the streets would lesbians and gay men win their rights and their liberation.

Marsha Johnson, former vice-president of Street Transvestites Action Revolutionaries (STAR) and a participant in the Stonewall Rebellion in 1969 in which lesbians and gay men battled police in Sheridan Square for four days, spoke to the crowd of the great need for unity between transvestites and other sexually oppressed people. "If we don't reunite now, we may never have the chance again," he said. "I fight for my gay rights every day, wherever I am."

Pointing out that the lesbian

and gay community is composed of women and men, Third World and white, and young and old, Jane Kaatz of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) stressed that the fight against racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression is an integral part of the struggle of lesbians and gay men for full liberation.

Kaatz summed up the mood of anger and militance of lesbians and gay men when she said at tonight's rally, "The New York City Council better take warning and pass the gay rights bill or those 100,000 lesbians and gay brothers who marched in last year's Stonewall march will be marching, instead, into City Hall."



"Welfare mothers and lesbians say you can't take our kids away," echoed off the walls of the Family Court in New York City during a demonstration defending lesbian mothers called by Dykes and Tykes. WW photo: Philip

Actions demand full custody rights for lesbian mothers

By JANE KAATZ

NEW YORK, May 15—In a bold and daring statement to the racist, anti-gay courts, state agencies, and the entire reactionary right wing, Dykes & Tykes, a multi-national group of lesbian mothers, their children, and their supporters, organized a two-part Mothers Day action demanding full custody rights for lesbian mothers.

Carrying a banner warning, "Hands off our children," and chanting, "Welfare mothers and lesbians say you can't take our kids away," today over 100 women and men formed a picket line in front of the Manhattan Family Court here and for almost two hours called for a defense of gay rights, affirmative action, the right to choose abortion, and jobs and resources for all.

Last night, an evening celebrating lesbian motherhood including speakers, music, poetry, and self-defense demonstrated the strength and richness lesbian mothers and their children can have together. Stevie Clostreschiu and Janine Hakim, from Dykes & Tykes, stressed that lesbian mothers, especially Black, Latin, Asian, Chicana, and poor women, have always been fighters and that now they are joining together to fight against attacks on all the poor and oppressed.

Kathi Dennis from Youth Against War & Fascism, speaking as a Black lesbian mother, congratulated Dykes & Tykes for being among the first group of lesbian women to be activists in the anti-racist as well as the lesbian struggles. She urged the 250 attending: "Now, as never

before, we need a strong fighting alliance with Third World women and men, with all working people in the city who are under attack."

The speakers also raised the fact that many Black, Latin, and Native mothers have had their children taken from their homes and placed in institutions by the same racist courts, using poverty as the excuse for this genocidal attack on these families.

The attack on lesbian mothers represents the anti-human extreme the courts will go to, despite the "human rights" claims of the Carter administration. Around 98% of lesbian custody cases end in the tragic separation of children from their mothers even if this means, as happened in New York, that the child is forced to live with a father admitting to incest and child abuse. Since custody law is not bound by precedent, judges have absolute and arbitrary power to rule in the so-called best interests of the children.

However, the struggle for custody will not be won through the courts alone, but in the streets alongside all the workers and oppressed who will win the right to keep and raise their children in a loving, rational society that only socialism can provide.

Denied job because he is gay, worker sues company

By PRESTON WOOD

NEW YORK, May 7—Charles G. Harris is a factory worker who was recently denied a job because he is gay. But Harris is fighting back. Like many lesbians and gay male workers these days, Harris refuses to conceal the fact that he is a homosexually oriented person.

In a suit filed against the Owens-Illinois Corp., Harris is demanding \$800,000 in lost wages, benefits, and damages.

Harris had worked for 15 years at the P.G. Ritter Company in Bridgeton, N.J. When the factory was permanently shut down, Harris was hired at the Owens-Illinois plastics and glass factory which is also located in Bridgeton.

When he reported to the plant at the appointed time to begin work, he was issued a company I.D. card. He filled out insurance forms, took a physical examination, and listened to a welcoming speech. He was then abruptly sent home, without a job.

When he demanded to know why, an executive at the company told him that he had been sent home because "your reputation has preceded you." In other words, "You can't work here because we know you are gay."

Harris immediately filed suit against the company, charging them with discrimination, invasion of privacy, and denial of his right to a job.

Management at Owens-Illinois has responded that Harris was let go because, as an openly gay person, he would be disruptive to production at the plant(!).

POPULAR WORKER

His former employers, however, have refuted this. The director of personnel at P.G. Ritter has cited Harris as an industrious, resourceful, and very popular worker. Another executive at Ritter described Harris as a highly dependable worker who was well liked and respected throughout

the plant. "There was just never any problem," she said.

Unable to justify their bigotry, management at Owens-Illinois has resorted to personal attacks on Harris, including right-wing anti-gay rhetoric.

The hatred of gay people by the bosses in contrast with the friendly rapport which Harris shared with his co-workers at Ritter demonstrates the real source of the recent anti-gay hysteria which right-wing forces have been attempting to spread all across the country. It is the bosses, who exploit all working people, who use anti-gay bigotry, racism, and sexism to divide and weaken the

working class.

The U.S. government, the legislators in Congress, and the judges in the courts, have always denied appeals from gay people for their rights. Therefore, Harris is focusing his case on his right as a gay person to a job. He is charging Owens-Illinois with breach of contract, improper dismissal, violation of constitutional rights, and violation of privacy.

In this case, which holds significance for all working people, Harris is saying that every worker has a right to a job, and that the bosses do not have the right to fire a worker because of his or her race, sex, or sexual orientation.

Thousands rally in Chicago for ERA

By LISA CORRIGAN

CHICAGO, May 3—On Saturday, April 29, thousands of women rallied here in support of the Equal Rights Amendment, which has been a major focus of a campaign by reactionaries.

With only one year remaining for the amendment to be ratified, the battle over the ERA is now centered in Illinois, the only northern industrial state which hasn't passed the amendment (and the home state of its most notorious opponent, Phyllis Schlafly). While this fight has been confined mostly to lobbying in the State Legislature and to a boycott of conventions in Illinois by organizations supporting the ERA, the April 29 demonstration was one of the biggest and most spirited protests in Chicago in several years.

About 3,000 people, the vast majority of whom were women, marched down State Street, demanding that the ERA be ratified. The demonstration was called by the Committee for the

ERA, a coalition of more than 100 women's groups. This coalition included a broad spectrum of women—professional women's groups, church groups, student groups, and contingents from several unions, particularly the United Auto Workers and the United Steel Workers of America. The march was strengthened by a feeder march from another demonstration held on the same day in Haymarket Square, which demanded a shorter work week. That demonstration was called by trade unionists and a number of progressive organizations, including CASA/General Brotherhood of Workers.

At first the passage of the ERA seemed certain. Now its future is in doubt. It has been a main target for the forces of racism and reaction. The attacks against it coincide with the Bakke decision against affirmative action, the right-wing campaign against the right to abortion, cutbacks in health and education, and numerous other attacks on the



In Illinois, the only northern industrial state that has not passed the Equal Rights Amendment, thousands march through Chicago to demand equal rights now. Photo: Chicago Journal

gains won by oppressed people in the 1960s. To defeat this attack, it is necessary to fight back. Women can't rely on the State Legislature

to do this; we have to use our own strength. The April 29 demonstration was a step in this direction.

1,500 NY students protest racist cutbacks

By JOYCE CHEDIAC BETRIES
NEW YORK, May 11—More than 1,500 students of the City University of New York (CUNY), mostly Black and Latin, staged a militant and determined march to City Hall here today to protest racist cutbacks in the City University system.

This demonstration started in front of New York Mayor Edward Koch's residence, and during the busy lunch hour took the entire street for a distance of more than two miles down Broadway, a main artery in this city.

The march was seen by thousands of workers on their lunch break. People came out of the many sweatshops located on Broadway to give warm support to the students, young and old, whose struggle is felt deeply in the oppressed communities.

Signs carried by those in the two-mile-long march read: "Hostos will revive the South Bronx," "No more CUNY means more welfare checks," "The Dominican Community is fighting to save Hostos."

A Black woman in her 40s who watched the demonstration explained to **Workers World**, "Getting an education is the only way these people can get a decent job. And now they want to take that away!"

STOP MASSACRE OF CITY UNIVERSITY

The march and rally, sponsored by the University Student Senate and the City University's student government and organizations, was billed as one to stop City Hall's massacre of CUNY. Demands were: full funding, construction of facilities, full funding of SEEK, which gives financial assistance to students who could not attend school otherwise. The marchers were also protesting freshmen skill tests designed to decrease student roles, a proposed state takeover of CUNY, and planned shrinkage of the city schools.

Among the larger delegations was one from Hostos Community College, the only bilingual college on the East Coast, which is fighting for more space.

Chanting "They have money, we're no fools, take it from the banks and give it to the schools," were several hundred students from York College in Queens. The CUNY administration, headed by Chancellor Robert Kibbee, is planning to scrap York's long-



"They have money, we're no fools, take it from the banks and give it to the schools," chanted CUNY students at a protest which began at Mayor Ed Koch's house.
WW photo: G. Dunkel

awaited new campus, and is threatening to reduce York from a four-year to a two-year school.

Students from Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) carried signs reading "Kibbee, Koch, (Gov.) Carey—we're going to fight you all the way." Construction for a BMCC campus was begun 10 years ago, but was stopped due to cutbacks.

Among the signs carried in the large contingent from Medgar Evers College was a picture of this assassinated civil rights leader and the words, "Don't let them assassinate Medgar Evers twice."

This school's very existence is threatened by the proposed cutbacks.

When the demonstrators reached City Hall Park, they found the entrance blocked by a well-fortified barricade of police hoping to stop the Black and Latin youth from holding a rally. Undaunted, the marchers set up a microphone on the sidewalk in front of the building housing the mayor's office.

"THEY WANT US IN THE FACTORIES"

In a bilingual talk, Daniel

McEllis from Hostos Community College explained that schools attended by oppressed people were under attack because "They don't want us to have an education. They want to put us in factories."

"There's money for all of our schools," explained Donald Nobles from York College "Koch told us 'die,' we'll have the next South Bronx if they kill us."

Titus Walker of Medgar Evers College referred to the demonstration as "One battle, and we'd better get ready for many more."

Larry Holmes, from the National Committee to Overturn

the Bakke Decision, which helped organize today's action, mentioned the march against the Bakke decision attended by thousands in Washington, D.C. last month, including over 30 buses of CUNY students. "We not only have to overturn Bakke," he said, "We have to overturn Koch, Carey, Kibbee, and a lot of these anti-minority, anti-student administrators."

Victor Vasquez greeted the demonstration. Vasquez was among a group of ten Hostos students on a hunger strike at City Hall to demand the renovation of 500 Grand Concourse, a building which has been occupied by the students for the last six weeks. When Koch sent a message to the strikers saying he might support the long-stalled expansion at Hostos, Vasquez said the hunger strikers' response was "We won't give up the building until we see the plumbers and carpenters."

Ed Roberts, chairman of the University Student Senate, said that the struggle at CUNY was not different from the struggles of Black people in Rhodesia.

Among other speakers were Raymond Jack, Student Body President at City College, Phil Thompson from Brooklyn College, and a representative of the Professional Staff Congress, a teachers' union.

'Disaster plan' hits CUNY

By HILLEL BAILIN

NEW YORK, May 11—The administration of the City University of New York has proposed large cutbacks in construction projects that were to expand or improve facilities in the city's higher education system. If the cuts go through, they will hit hard the school system which already suffers from run-down and overcrowded buildings.

Robert J. Kibbee, Chancellor of the City University, prepared the cutbacks in a document which he called the "master plan." According to the master plan, long-standing preparations for new campuses for York College and Hostos Community College will be dropped and already existing campuses, at NYC Community College and Staten Island College will be closed. Construction projects at Brooklyn, City, and

Bronx Community colleges will be "indefinitely postponed." Some renovation should continue, the proposal says, but at a sharply reduced level. For example the original plan of a \$61 million renovation of LaGuardia Community College will be cut back to only \$5 million.

Students at these colleges have already called the master plan a "disaster plan."

The proposed master plan will be reviewed by the Board of Higher Education. Board members, who are appointed by the mayor and the governor, have the power to approve any cutbacks in the university system. **They do not have the power to confirm any of the planned improvements!** Any new construction or renovation (even if scheduled long ago) must be approved at every step by Mayor Edward Koch and Gov.

Hugh Carey. Mayor Koch showed where he stands when he halted construction that was already in progress at Borough of Manhattan Community, Hunter, Lehman, and City colleges. While construction has been restarted at City and Lehman, the BMCC and Hunter projects still sit idle. City officials in the Koch administration have already called the drastic master plan overly optimistic.

PART OF ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON CUNY

The excuse that Kibbee, Koch, and Co. use for the cutbacks in construction is an expected decline in the number of City University students. But this is a self-fulfilling prophecy. In 1976 the government, at the urging of the banks, ended a 100-year tradition of free tuition at the municipal colleges, and thereby began to keep out the poorest students.

Soon after, the open admissions program was cut back. This program had been won in a tremendous struggle led by Black and Latin students in 1969 and it had guaranteed a place in the university system for all high school graduates. The open admissions program is now under siege by newly instituted "proficiency exams" which will be like an admission test to get in and which will be used to flunk out students after two years.

The tests will effectively keep out students who suffered from sub-standard education in the high schools—especially in the poorest neighborhoods. The overall impact of the Kibbee master plan is to deny the right of higher education to poor and working class students and will hit hardest students from the Black, Latin, and Asian communities.

HOSTOS STUDENTS ARRESTED

In another development, six students were arrested at Hostos Community College in a struggle for the survival of their special bilingual school. The only college in New York where classes are taught in Spanish as well as English, Hostos is terribly overcrowded. A new building at 500 Grand Concourse had been under construction, but it was abandoned just before it was completed. Students and teachers occupied the empty building and began using it for classes while at the same time demanding that it be completed for use by Hostos. The arrested students had been sitting in over night to make sure the building wasn't closed.

Racist school and government officials have never been happy with bilingual Hostos and the big-business New York Times just this week attacked the very idea of bilingual education. But the students and the large Spanish-speaking community of New York City are determined to keep it open.

\$257 million convention center: blow to poor, bonanza for rich

By RACHEL DUELL

NEW YORK May 8—While most of the people of this city must live with increasingly deteriorating conditions in public schools, apartments, and hospitals, Mayor Edward Koch and New York State's Gov. Hugh Carey had the nerve to announce here recently their plans for what they describe as "the single largest economic development project in New York City's history"—a \$257 million convention center to be situated in a downtown business district.

Most working people must be wondering how this vast sum of money suddenly became available to a city that claims to be broke.

After all, under the guise of "no available funds," Koch has flatly told New York City workers that he wants their wages to be frozen for the next seven years "until

mid-1985 at the earliest." Koch says he's telling it like it is when he urges the city workers to accept this sacrifice because the "financially broke and crisis ridden" city has been forced to map out an "austerity budget" in order to pay up bank loans at ransom interest rates.

In fact, while crying poverty, Koch has already orchestrated bone-deep cuts in this year's spending on education, budget cuts which will bring the greatest hardships upon the city's poorest children and upon City University students in the Black, Latin, and Asian communities.

On March 10, Gov. Carey had the state order the closing of the 215-bed Unity Hospital in Bedford-Stuyvesant, an oppressed community here. Apparently Carey did not find vital health care services for the poor to be the

"wise investment" that he feels the convention center will be.

HELPS THE RICH GET RICHER

According to the New York Times (April 29), city officials say the convention center will generate \$50 million in additional revenues, but they cautiously admit that the center will operate at a \$1.2 million deficit per year. What city officials don't spell out publicly is, that while the debt payment will come out of the pockets of working people, the windfall profits will fall in the laps of the already wealthy owners of downtown businesses and hotels.

Koch and Carey claim that poor neighborhoods will benefit from this fat giveaway to the rich. This "trickle-down theory," which is what Koch and Carey are really talking about, proved to be a fake

long ago. Koch, for example, has not even uttered a word about hiring unemployed Black and Latin construction workers at union wages to build the center.

Convention centers largely serve as over-sized, swanky, exclusive meeting places for organized big business groups. Little of the money trickles down and hidden expenses too often creep up. In the case of the Yankee Stadium here, \$100 million is still owed to the city by private ball clubs.

The banker-run Emergency Financial Control Board (EFCB) which has control of city finances, composed the song that Koch is singing. But this latest giveaway to the rich will be remembered by the workers when the city demands they suffer from more unpaid overtime, more cutbacks in vital services, and more sacrifice in the name of "poverty."

'Every Cuban an active backer of the Eleventh Festival'

Havana prepares for World Youth Festival

By JAIME VEVE

MAY 16—The population of Havana, Cuba, is busy at work repairing streets and sidewalks, painting buildings, planting trees, and expanding the many facilities that will be needed this summer when some 16,000 young people from over 100 countries arrive to attend the Eleventh World Festival of Youth & Students.

The resources of Havana are being made available to guarantee the success of the Festival. Thirty-seven schools built since the Revolution and located in the outskirts of the capital have been set aside to house the Festival delegates. They will include the Vladimir I. Lenin Vocational School and the President Allende Teacher Training School.

In addition, social clubs are being made available for Festival activities such as exhibits and dances. These clubs used to be reserved for the rich only, but are now used by the Cuban workers and their families. A total of 16

social clubs along the waterfront will be decked out for the Festival.

The selection of Cuba for this year's Festival represents a singular accomplishment for the Cuban people and an event of extraordinary importance for the Revolution. The thousands who will be coming from the socialist countries, national liberation

movements, and anti-imperialist progressive movements all over the world will be visiting the first socialist country in the Western Hemisphere, where they will witness the tremendous achievements of the Cuban Revolution.

They will also be paying tribute to those heroic Cubans who, 25

years ago on July 26, 1953, attacked the second largest military fortress in Cuba. The celebration of the storming of the Moncada this year will take place just two days before the official opening of the World Youth Festival, which runs from July 28 to Aug. 5, and the spirit of Moncada will certainly

(Continued on p. 8)

In Atlanta

Rally hits So. African ambassador's talk

By FRANK ALBERT

ATLANTA, May 8—Downtown Atlanta echoed the cry of "Down with apartheid" today as over 50 people picketed the Atlanta Merchandise Mart where Donald B. Sole, South African Ambassador to the United States, spoke to a group of businessmen and government officials.

The protest was organized by students, staff, and faculty

members of the Political Science Department of Atlanta University, which is predominantly Black.

As the downtown lunchtime crowd watched and listened, some joining the picket to chants of "U.S. out of South Africa" and "Avenge the death of Steven Biko," Sole told the Southern Center for International Studies of South Africa's "settlers' embarrassment" at the death of Biko. Biko had been beaten to death by his apartheid jailors and his murder added to the continued crisis of the South African regime.

Sole also claimed his government has a commitment to "improving" the lot of Blacks and "coloureds" (people of mixed nationalities) in his country.

In a statement issued by the organizers of the protest, South Africa's "commitment" to Black people (the system of apartheid, which the racists now call separate development) was described as maintaining "the Black majority in a state of serfdom and servitude....The U.S. and others try to influence South Africa to make

minor changes," which they call improving Black conditions. However, "the question is not civil rights but political and economic self-determination and Black majority rule."

"The ongoing presence of U.S. corporations in South Africa helps to continue the exploitation of the African masses; further corporate investments only serve to strengthen the white racist regime... the Black masses are already suffering under the worst conditions possible. We say to U.S. corporations—no more investments in South Africa, hands off Africa, freedom and self-determination in southern Africa."



INTER

Twenty students were beaten by the police.

The same day, nine Ewha Women's University students were critical of the U.S.-backed dictatorship, club-wielding the gathering, injuring and arresting 20 others.

Although 18 of those arrested are still in jail, the rest are still in jail.

Hungary

Jail neglig

On May 6, four managers of Hungary were sentenced to prison by the Associated Press reported guilty of carelessness in killing nine workers last week.

Sentences were three years for the manager and one-and-a-half for the others.

While care before the accident was preferable to punishing the managers in its own right, the plant accident cases are not the only ones.

Here, mine disaster victims are either buried or, if impossible, are treated to long sentences for managers.

South Africa

'Club

The "Club of Ten" backers of the South African government has placed ads praising it in newspapers around the world.

According to an issue of New African magazine, the club is in a veil of secrecy, with members including businessmen, and including an American. The Club of Ten's "club" is "people who move about in personal mini-jets."

New African implied that John McGoff, a major shareholder in Television News (UPI) of ex-President Gerald R. Ford's African newsworthy: "story, and through so do it."



Picketing the South African ambassador in Atlanta.

Anti-NATO protest in Norfolk

'There will be no peace till Africa is free!'

By B. MEREDITH

NORFOLK, VA. April 23—Yesterday, a multi-national group of 35 demonstrators chanted "NATO out of Africa, NATO out of Norfolk," and "Victory for all oppressed people!" as floats bearing a "princess" from each of the 15 imperialist countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) rode through the streets of Norfolk.

NATO was founded by the U.S. after World War II to strengthen its stranglehold on the oppressed

nations of the world and to consolidate control of its own imperialist "allies." And for the last 25 years, the business and military leaders of Norfolk have used the excuse of springtime and blooming azaleas to promote their International Azalea Festival—A Tribute to NATO, an annual event which, when the marching bands and hot dogs are gone, is nothing more than a perverted celebration of military might and bloated profits.

The aggressive role of NATO in

crushing liberation movements in Africa and throughout the world was exposed during the entire three-hour parade. The demonstration was called by the ZANU Support Committee of Tidewater and the Students for Action Party of Norfolk State College. Workers World Party participated in the march carrying banners that read "U.S., South Africa—partners in racist murder of the African people," and "U.S. out of Africa, victory to the African peoples."

The ZANU Support Committee has been active for several years in supporting the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe with shipments of food, clothing, and medicine for the freedom fighters, and by sponsoring educational meetings on the role of U.S. imperialism in Zimbabwe and all of Africa. Diana Chappell of the Support Committee and organizer for the march told demonstrators, "We are here protesting because NATO is killing our African brothers and sisters. But just as Mozambique is free, just as Guinea-Bissau is free, so shall Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Azania be free!"

Jimmy Nimmo, of the Students for Action Party of Norfolk State College, a predominantly Black school, said, "It is time that Norfolk State should return to a non-participation policy toward the Azalea Festival which honors NATO."

As the "queen" of the festival rode by surrounded by police, the demonstration surged toward her and made it clear to her, the governor, Congressman, mayor, and the military brass in attendance that there will be no peace until Africa is free.

Evening of solidarity with Thailand prisoners

NEW YORK, May 15—On Friday, May 26, the Union of Democratic Thais will be hosting a dinner and a meeting at which Tongbai Tongpao, the attorney for the Bangkok 18, will be speaking.

The Bangkok 18 are student leaders and workers who have been imprisoned for 2½ years, ever since the brutal massacre at Thammasat University in October 1976 which marked the beginning of the CIA-inspired coup in Thailand. Their trial before a military court started in October 1977. They face charges of inciting to riot, encouraging the people to favor communism, and inciting labor strikes.

The 18 could be sentenced to death by the judge, who is an Air Force general appointed by the same generals who commanded the bloody coup.

and then blamed an alleged student conspiracy as one of the justifications for the coup. There is no jury and no right to appeal, and it was only through mass pressure that they won the right to have a defense lawyer.

Tongbai Tongpao, their lawyer, spent seven years in jail himself and will discuss the political prisoner problem and many other aspects of the current situation in Thailand.

The evening will begin at 6:30 at the Washington Square Methodist Church with a Thai dinner and exhibition. The program, which includes a cultural presentation, will start at 7:00. A donation of \$3 is being asked for the dinner and program, or \$2 for just the program. Youth Against War & Fascism is among the sponsoring organizations hoping to build support for the Bangkok 18.

U.S. troops put on alert as

Mobutu appeals to imperialists for rescue

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

MAY 16—Mobutu Sese Seko, the CIA-installed dictator of Zaire (formerly the Congo), has issued a desperate appeal to his imperialist masters in the U.S., France, and Belgium to intervene militarily to save his enfeebled regime from a new rebellion.

Mobutu's appeal carries the danger of providing an opening for imperialist military aggression not only against the rebelling peoples of Zaire, but also for aggression against liberated Angola as well. Mobutu provided this pretext by labeling this latest uprising as an "invasion from Angola" in order to hide the mass hatred of his regime.

Already the Defense Department and the Carter administration have announced that they have placed the 82nd Airborne Division and the Military Airlift Command on "increased alert status," supposedly for a possible evacuation of the 73 U.S. businessmen in Kolwezi. Guerrilla spokespersons have stated that they control Kolwezi, where U.S., French, and Belgian imperialist interests hold tremendous copper investments.

The current uprising is in copper-rich Shaba province, which was the scene of a major guerrilla struggle only 14 months ago. At

that time the fighters of the Front for the Liberation of the Congo (FLNC), one of the many organizations fighting to overthrow Mobutu, almost liberated the mining center of Kolwezi.

The Zairian army was unable to stop the guerrillas, and only the intervention of 1,500 pro-imperialist Moroccan troops, armed, directed, and transported by France, forced the FLNC to retreat into the bush to carry out a more protracted guerrilla war.

In retaliation the army was purged of officers and soldiers accused of being sympathetic or for being a member of the same

ethnic group as the people of Shaba. Because of their support of the FLNC fighters the people of Shaba met bloody repression.

But the guerrilla struggle in Shaba continued and new rebellions broke out in other parts of Zaire. The people of Bandundu province and the palm-nut cutters of the Kwilu area rebelled in January, and these revolts were also brutally repressed leaving hundreds dead, according to the March 20 issue of the anti-imperialist magazine *Afrique-Asie*.

Conditions of life for the masses of Zaire have become intolerable

due to the extreme exploitation of that country by imperialism. Inflation is at 75%, one of the highest rates in the world, and even the average government workers cannot afford to buy a monthly bag of manioc flour, the staple food, in Kinshasa, the capital, according to the April 24 New York Times.

"We are plunged in despair, perhaps one-quarter of the people in Kinshasa are working. . . . It's all Mobutu's fault," a telephone worker in Kinshasa told the Times reporter.

Faced with a \$3 billion foreign (Continued on p. 10)



New Afghanistani gov't announces land reform

By ANDY STAPP

MAY 15—Addressing the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in a nationwide radio broadcast on May 10, Premier Nur Mohammed Taraki promised a sweeping land reform and the overturn of feudal social relations.

According to the French newspaper *Le Monde* (May 11), Premier Taraki "declared that 'the armed forces will be reinforced to defend the revolution,' that

agrarian reform will take place whose aim is the abolition of feudalism, that primary schooling will be made general, and that equality between the sexes will be strictly observed in all areas."

"We are not aristocrats," said Taraki, adding, "We are not from the high families, we are the people."

Taraki is the head of the new government which toppled the hated, reactionary, and pro-U.S.

imperialist regime of Mohammed Daoud last month.

"DAOUD IS GONE FOREVER"

The day after he had been overthrown, Radio Kabul announced that "Daoud is gone forever; the last remnants of imperialist tyranny and despotism have been put to an end. Now for the first time in all these years," the broadcast from the revolutionary council continued, "the people of Afghanistan are free of the tyranny of that corrupt family."

Angry at being called "imperialists," the U.S. and other imperialist media began a drumbeat of slander against the new Afghanistani government. The *Washington Post* (May 4) reported that the revolution had cost "10,000 dead, mostly executions rather than battle deaths."

The *International Herald Tribune* (May 2) stated that "Western embassies in Kabul reported that the new government was executing police and Interior Ministry officials."

Afghanistan's reactionary neighbors Pakistan and Iran gave clear expressions of their displeasure, Pakistan even closing its Afghanistan border with troops.

According to the *Far Eastern Economic Review* (May 12), "In Iran's case, the Shah's government fears that the coup in Afghanistan provides an unhealthy example to anti-Shah Iranians who have recently made their influence felt in as many as 25 cities."

Reacting angrily to these moves, Premier Taraki stated that the Western news reports were "shameless lies" and that "international reaction uses all kinds of subversive techniques against liberation movements in the world."

"Today," he said, "it is trying to deceive people in regard to our April 27 national-democratic revolution, which was carried out as a direct expression of the people's will and has the complete support of the broad masses."

"The revolution was not done by a handful of soldiers, but by the party, which has been opposing the oppressors for years," Premier Taraki concluded.

Although it is too early and the information is too scanty to give any precise evaluation of the character of the new Afghanistani government, it appears to be moving in a progressive direction.

As the British magazine *The Economist* noted nervously on May 6, "If the new regime produces a land reform policy, it will prove hugely popular."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Students were arrested and one was seriously injured by police.

On May 15, nine other students were arrested at the University for distributing leaflets against the U.S.-backed Park regime. On May 8, women gathered at Ewha for a rally for the release of the nine. Again, in an effort to suppress dissent against the U.S.-financed Park regime, club-wielding police were sent to disrupt the rally, injuring several more students and others.

Eight of those arrested were freed on May 9, but still in jail.

U.S. Army

Negligent managers

Four managers of the Gyor foundry in Hungary were sentenced to prison, according to an official press report. A court had found them guilty of carelessness in a furnace explosion that killed 10 workers last January.

The managers were three-and-a-half years for the explosion and one-and-a-half years for his assistants. The punishment in these cases is always punishment afterward, the decisive punishment Hungary took against the irresponsibility in itself contrasts favorably with how such cases are handled in the capitalist U.S. In the U.S., disasters, railway crashes, and falling bridges are either blamed on the workers, or if that's not enough, they are treated as acts of providence. Jail management are virtually unknown.

Africa

'Club of Ten'

The "Club of Ten" is a small group of wealthy members of the South African apartheid regime that is praising the racist South Africa system and its role around the capitalist world.

According to an investigative report in the May issue of the African magazine, the club is shrouded in secrecy, consists of about 20 wealthy members and includes a Greek, a West German, a Frenchman, and an American. Members were described by the magazine's "consultant" Donald Boddie as people who move about the world all the time, not in private jets but in big personal jets.

The report implied that the American member of the club is McGoff, a newspaper magnate and a member of the United Press International (UPI) who is also a close friend of Gerald Ford. McGoff told a South African weekly: "South Africa needs to tell its people something like UPIITN we can

The other members of the club named in the article were South African-based businessmen. Evidence links them to the South African regime itself, with much of the club's advertising sounding like the statements of the Gestapo-like Bureau of State Security, the South African secret police.

These statements praise South Africa's anti-communist posture and defense role. It's directed to those wealthy few in the imperialist world who, like the Club of Ten, themselves begin their commitment to "freedom" with their strong defense of the freedom to exploit the oppressed.

New threat to Angola

South African military officers in Windhoek, South West Africa (Namibia), threatened May 10 that they would repeat their attack of the week before into Angola, directed against the liberation fighters of the South-West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO).

The South African racists claimed their attack was against guerrilla bases. However, photos of mass graves of the women and children—up to 600 of them—killed in the bombing and shooting in the Angolan town of Cassinga vividly showed that civilian refugees from Namibia were the main target.

These callous attacks and threats take place at a time when the five imperialist members of the UN Security Council—the U.S., West Germany, France, Britain, and Canada—are trying to impose a peace plan on SWAPO that would leave the South African regime in a position of strength in the territory it illegally occupies.



A mass grave near Cassinga, Angola, for the victims of a South African invasion on May 4.

The U.S. government, while pretending to play the "peace broker," has tacitly supported the South African attacks on Angola by refusing to vote for UN sanctions.

Belgium

Economic future bleak

Le Monde reports that the economic situation looked more bleak and unsettled in Belgium this May 1 than at any other time since World War II, especially in the French-speaking regions.

With 10% or 300,000 workers already out of work, another 450 firms have threatened to close, threatening to throw another 75,000 workers out on the streets. On top of this, inflation has cut the living standards of those workers with jobs.

The workers haven't accepted their plight passively. On April 28, the railroad and postal workers went out on a wildcat strike. In early May, 800,000 government employees were threatening to strike for higher wages, while the Belgian Prime Minister declared that public finances were too small to meet the workers' demands.

The capitalist economic crisis which hit the weaker capitalist economies like Spain's and Italy's hardest, has begun to deeply affect even the "stronger" capitalist economies like that of Belgium.

The photo, taken by a reporter from the German Democratic Republic, has not appeared in the U.S. capitalist press. Photo: ADN

EDITORIAL

After Moro

Since the death of former Italian Premier Aldo Moro, the media here in the U.S. have been full of surprisingly detailed reporting about Italy's so-called Red Brigades (BR): its organization, financing, history, seemingly anarchist ideology, and nebulous goals. These goals, as summed up by a New York Times article on May 17, boil down to essentially two points: "provoke police repression as one of the surest means of creating a climate of armed combat in the country," and "disrupt the de facto alliance between the ruling Christian Democratic Party and the Communists."

This analysis of the BR's objectives conforms closely to the statements issued by the group itself. Needless to say, any Marxist or revolutionary communist must necessarily condemn attempts to provoke police repression as self-defeating and hopelessly reactionary, to say the least! But it is the second aim—the aim of keeping the Italian Communist Party (PCI) out of the government—that calls for the greatest scrutiny, especially since the U.S. capitalist press has hardly commented on it. And no wonder, since keeping the PCI out of the Italian government is a major goal of U.S. imperialism itself.

MORO STOOD FOR COALITION WITH PCI

Former Premier Aldo Moro, who was kidnapped by the BR on March 16, had played a leading role in persuading the ruling Christian Democratic party (DC) to agree to a governmental role for the PCI. But despite shameful capitulations by various PCI leaders designed to reassure both Italian big business and U.S. imperialism as well as NATO senior partners like West Germany, the world bourgeoisie and particularly the U.S. government had made it very clear that PCI participation in the Italian government was unacceptable. Moro's endorsement of a coalition with the PCI only served to win him powerful enemies among the ruling classes in the U.S. and Western Europe.

Ever since 1948, in fact, the U.S. and the CIA have moved heaven and earth to keep the PCI out of the government.

In September 1975 the CIA got caught secretly doling out \$6 million to rightist politicians in Italy. Then in February 1976 the House Select Committee on Intelligence of the U.S. Congress issued a report stating that in 1970 the CIA had given \$800,000 to a fascist organization operating inside the Italian security police!

Before the June 1976 elections, the Ford administration mobilized all the big shots from Nelson Rockefeller to John Connally to Henry Kissinger to publicly threaten Italy about the dire consequences of a PCI electoral victory.

On January 12 of this year, the New York Times reported that "U.S. Ambassador to Italy Richard Gardner flew in to join discussions today in Washington of what to do about the possibility of a Communist entry into the Italian government."

After Gardner met with Carter and Secretary of State Vance, the State Department issued the following arrogant statement:

"Administration leaders have repeatedly expressed our views on the issue of Communist participation in Western European governments. Our position is clear. We do not favor such participation and would like to see Communist activity in any Western European country reduced."

Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal was told to prepare severe economic sanctions against Italy should the PCI be allowed in the government.

These days the press seem to have forgotten all this in the ocean of crocodile tears being shed in their pages over Moro. They have "forgotten" that the U.S. ruling class was actually hostile to him, considering him "soft on communism."

Did the CIA have a hand in the kidnapping and murder of Moro? Writing in the May 17 New York Times, John Stockwell, the former chief of the CIA operation in Angola, writes, "Since 1974, even as evidence has mounted against the CIA, it has grown in power."

"The agency," Stockwell continues, "now has full license to run operations in any friendly country."

Like Italy?

CIA SKILLED IN POLITICIANS' ASSASSINATIONS

"The CIA's recent record," Stockwell points out, "includes the assassination of Patrice Lumumba; Ngo Dinh Diem, the South Vietnamese President; Rafael Trujillo Molina, the Dominican Republic President; General Rene Schneider, the commander in chief of the Chilean Army. . . ." Many of these people were, like Moro, "allies" of the U.S. who in one way or another had outlived their usefulness.

Obviously U.S. imperialism was "an interested party" in the Moro case. This remains the outstanding objective fact in the matter, regardless of what one may think of the political character of the Red Brigades and the subjective intent of its leaders. And considering the CIA's proven skill in the assassination of heads of state, it would be most appropriate at this time to have a full investigation of the CIA's role in the Moro affair.



LETTERS

Likes Ethiopia reports

Please send me the new pamphlet "China, the Suppression of the Left." Also let me commend you on the issue with Deirdre Griswold's report from Addis Ababa and the new color added to your paper. Keep up the good work.

In struggle,
H.C.
Stratford, Conn.

In support of USSR

Enclosed is a check for a six-month sub to a friend. Also please send me a copy (my sixth, I keep giving them away to people who need that information) of the "Class Character of the USSR."

Glad you addressed an article to the Guardian newspaper about Ethiopia. The super-power theory emanating from China is partially responsible for the great mistake and misunderstanding of the class nature of the USSR.

S.L.
Oakland, Cal.

Analytical articles

I've been reading *Workers World* for almost three years now and I still believe that it has the best analytical articles around. Keep up the good work.

J.A.
Haledon, N.J.

Best on the left

Having recently left the Boston area and ended up here in isolated (politically) Montana, I am relying on you folks to get the real news to me. I need to hear and read something other than the bourgeois press' distortions and lies. Of the many publications on the left I consider yours to be one of the best. I am a telephone worker and often show your paper to others. It is a valuable tool. Keep up the good work.

K.S.
Great Falls, Mont.

Gay coverage

As a gay person I have felt many times that we were ignored by so-

called "liberals" who have rallied behind the causes of all other oppressed people. Thank you for "The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal" and your excellent coverage of the gay struggle. We all have the same oppressors and we can overcome that oppression by standing together.

Thank you,
R.H.S.
Washington, D.C.

Request papers

We would like very much to receive *Workers World*. We are in prison and without funds but if you could see fit to send us even damaged copies, over 20 inmates would have access to the publication. Thank you.

P.S. Thanks for the copy of "The Ethiopian Revolution and the Struggle Against U.S. Imperialism." It helped clarify the situation which, due to our having limited access to the facts, was puzzling.

T.T.
J.P.
West Virginia State Prison
Moundsville, W.Va.

—Youth Festival

(Continued from p. 6)
be felt strongly in the Festival.

ALL CUBA IS MOBILIZING

The immense work of preparing for the Festival is being organized by the Cuban National Preparatory Committee, headed by Premier Fidel Castro and

representing, among others, the Federation of Cuban Women, the Committees to Defend the Revolution, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the Young Communist League, the National Association of Small Farmers, and the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

In addition, there are local preparatory committees in every province, municipality, work center, school, and peasant community, all ensuring the large-scale participation of the Cuban people.

The Cuban delegation will contain 2,000 exemplary young people representing the mass organizations, schools, work places, and the Young Communist League. In addition, 5,000 outstanding youth will be attending as guests. The delegates will be selected through people's assemblies to be held throughout the island.

In keeping with the motto, "Every Cuban an active backer of the Eleventh Festival," much effort is being made in the area of fund-raising to finance the event. For example, workers like those at

the October Revolution fertilizer complex, the 26th of July cement factory, and the more than 3,000 steel workers at the Jose Marti plant in Havana are voluntarily donating a day's pay.

Since its inception 31 years ago, the Festival has served as a vehicle to express solidarity with those fighting against imperialism. Cuba's selection as host of this Festival is an expression of recognition and support by the world's oppressed peoples and youth for the Cuban Revolution—not only for its own achievements, but also for its stand of firm proletarian internationalism in support of the oppressed peoples fighting against imperialism.

The fact that it is the U.S. which has been trying to strangle the Cuban Revolution through ruthless aggression and criminal acts and a long-term economic blockade makes the Festival that much more important for anti-imperialists in this country.

For further information on the Festival, for applications, or for the address of the local Festival committee in your area, contact: Eleventh World Festival of Youth & Students, U.S. National Preparatory Committee, Box 848, Madison Square Station, New York, N.Y. (212) 243-3224.

—Washington heats up tensions

(Continued from p. 1)
land and taking out the wealth. They're fighting back.

Carter wants to intervene to stop them, to keep things rolling along producing profits for his cronies on Wall Street. And he's willing to use the young people here as cannon fodder to accomplish this. Which is why it's time for the masses here to intervene again as was done so magnificently to stop the slaughter in Southeast Asia.

The anti-Soviet course of China's leaders

What is it leading to?

By SAM MARCY

MAY 16—It was not many years ago that a Soviet helicopter was downed on the Chinese side of the Sino-Soviet border. The crew of the helicopter was arrested. The crewmen were charged with spying and apparently an investigation was immediately launched. Spy equipment was allegedly found on the plane. The crew of the helicopter was tried, convicted of spying, and incarcerated in prison.

Nothing was heard about it from China thereafter. Then suddenly on Dec. 31, 1975, the crew was released and declared to be innocent. A farewell party was held for them and they were even feted by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This development came as a shocker in the light of their imprisonment for over two years and the alleged discovery of spy equipment and paraphernalia in the helicopter.

All this happened in the lifetime of Mao Tse-tung. Speculation was rife in the West as to the significance of this development, as to whether it indicated a possible reorientation away from a growing rapprochement with the West and reorientation and rapprochement with the Soviet Union.

The incident was never cleared up. But speculation has never stopped on the ultimate position of contemporary Chinese foreign policy in relation to the Soviet Union.

LATEST BORDER INCIDENT

On May 12, the Chinese Foreign Ministry delivered a harsh protest note to the Soviet Union for intrusion into Chinese territory, and demanded an apology. The capitalist press front-paged the news all over the imperialist world, and to some it seemed to herald a resumption of the 1969 border conflict between the USSR and China. Much to the surprise of the imperialists, the Soviet Union immediately acknowledged the intrusion as accidental and offered its regrets to the Peoples Republic of China.

From then on the imperialist press relegated the news to the back burners and inside pages of the main daily papers.

What the imperialists were hoping for was a full-scale resumption of the border conflict. It is no longer a secret anywhere that the imperialist ruling class would like nothing better than a war between the Soviet Union and China which would have the most ruinous consequences for both

socialist countries and be a boon to the sagging fortunes of world imperialism.

It is interesting to note that the latest incident occurred just a day before the resumption of negotiations between the Soviet Union and China on the border dispute. And while such an incident could easily have been utilized either by the PRC to break off the negotiations or by the USSR to take an adamant position—one saying that since the intrusion was accidental, no apologies were necessary, thereby making negotiations more difficult—nothing like that took place. The negotiations have resumed and therein lies the possibility that the hopes and maneuvers of the imperialists for a war between China and the USSR will be frustrated.

Nevertheless, it is necessary to view such incidents in the context of the larger issues that currently divide China from the USSR.

CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY

The current leadership in China is steering a line in foreign policy even more oriented to alliance with imperialism than was the case under Mao after he adopted the false thesis that the USSR was an imperialist state and only socialist in words (social-imperialism). Evidence of the pro-imperialist line of the Chinese CP piles up almost daily.

Take, for instance, the invitation to Britain's Minister of Defense Sir Neil Cameron. He was permitted to make a speech to the Chinese Sixth Tank Division in which he said, "We (meaning Britain and China) have an enemy at the door whose capital is Moscow—we must share our common experience so that we are in the best position to take on the Soviet tank force." It's no surprise that a war minister of an imperialist country should talk about the Soviet Union that way. But that China, a socialist country, should permit him to speak that way on Chinese soil, indicates an eagerness to ally the PRC with imperialism, which belies its internationalist rhetoric and working class perspective in the world arena.

Yet Cameron's talk was only the latest of many that Chinese CP leaders have cheered as though they were revolutionary pronouncements coming from vanguard parties of the working class. It is indicative of the changed character of the struggle between the Soviet and Chinese CP



"The current leadership is steadily and consistently dismantling the progressive achievements of the Cultural Revolution." Above, a wall poster in Canton during the Cultural Revolution shows the workers and oppressed of the world uniting to smash U.S. imperialism.

leaders over ideological questions.

It is impossible to take seriously any of the ideological pronouncements emanating from the Chinese CP leaders. It is their deeds that must be taken into account as primary. They speak much louder than the revolutionary rhetoric which fills the pages of the Peking Review.

CHINA'S DEEDS

Why, for instance, was it necessary for a socialist republic to show such eagerness to join the European Economic Community, which is a fraternity of imperialist robbers set up to find ways and means of plundering the working class and oppressed peoples of Africa, the Middle East, and other parts of the world?

Why are the current leaders so taken in by the talk about the so-called expansion of the USSR in the Horn of Africa when they know only too well that all that the USSR did was to help one of the profoundest revolutions in Africa and ward off the imperialist powers and their puppets?

Is all this part and parcel of preparations for its ultimate surrender to a Sino-U.S. alliance aimed against the Soviet Union? Merely taking a cursory look at the global picture today reveals that imperialism, as the Chinese CP leaders used to say, hasn't at all changed. Its fundamental objective is the destruction of the Soviet Union. The same imperialist powers, which were so violently opposed to the Soviet Union when Lenin was alive are still just as viciously opposed to it today and are aiming at the destruction of the USSR.

All this is true even though there have been substantial changes in the USSR, both of a positive as

well as of a negative character. But what stands out more than anything else is that the very existence of the USSR as a developed workers state and socialist country which can extend aid and assistance to others under the imperialist yoke makes it a peril to the existence of imperialism with its expansionist and predatory character.

IMPERIALISM'S REASONS FOR BEING ANTI-SOVIET

If one looks more closely at the world situation one can easily see that it is the tottering structure of decadent imperialism that makes it so ferociously anti-Soviet. As long as the Soviet Union is there, it is a permanent danger to imperialist appetites. This is what the Chinese CP leaders used to recognize. Today they have crossed the class lines and seem bent on an unholy alliance with imperialism against the USSR. In the end it can only mean the undoing of China's socialist achievements and its becoming a semi-colony of imperialism.

In the latest attack against the USSR on May 14, Hsinhua publicized, according to press accounts in this country, a decision by the military commission of the Central Committee of the CCP which not only stressed military training but went on to state that "The Soviet revisionists harbor wild ambitions of subjugating China. War will inevitably break out some day."

If this is an accurate reproduction of what appeared in the Chinese press, it is another long step in the direction of collusion and alliance with U.S.-NATO imperialism. One should bear in mind that President

Carter's hard-line anti-Soviet National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, is due to leave for Peking soon, and this may be Peking's new way of rolling out the red carpet to this emissary from Washington and Wall Street.

One must also note that the thesis of inevitability of war with the Soviet Union has undergone a drastic modification. The whole burden of Peking's thesis, until the arrival of this one, was that the USSR was "feinting" towards the East, towards China that is, but in reality was aimed at Western Europe. According to the new thesis, however, war is inevitable not so much between the USSR and the imperialists, but rather with China. This indicates a switch in approach.

The burden of China's Munich theory was that U.S. imperialism was "appeasing" the USSR and was afflicted with a lack of will to defend Western Europe and that the USSR would launch an attack against NATO unless an "anti-hegemonist united front" was formed against the USSR. Now, it seems, at least so far as this latest pronouncement goes, that war is inevitable with China "some day," which means soon.

Aside from anything else, this is an attempt to whip up an anti-Soviet hysteria in China and divert the attention of the Chinese workers and peasants from the deep-going political and economic problems at home.

It is an attempt also to get the Chinese public to forget that the current leadership is steadily and consistently dismantling the progressive achievements of the Cultural Revolution and is gradually returning to norms of conduct in agriculture, industry, and the schools and universities that prevailed when Liu Shao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping held sway.

Finally, it should also be noted that the pronouncements of the Central Committee come as a result of a decision made by the military commission and endorsed by the Central Committee. Insofar as military training goes, this is proper procedure. Proposals for military training should be initiated by the military commission. But the insertion of a new political thesis is an extraordinary departure. It's not for the military to formulate political policy. Whether war is inevitable with any country is a political matter to be decided by the political committee of the Central Committee.

For the military commission to assert a new political theory, a theory which amounts to the imminence of war with the USSR, would indicate that some conflict exists within the summits of the new leadership. It indicates once again a struggle between the "gun" and the party.

There is no way at the present time to adequately assess the existence of groupings within the new leadership. Some among the Western imperialist commentators, such as Victor Zorza, suggest that the struggle is between right, left, and center, with Teng on the right, Hua in the center, and Wu Teh, a left-over official from the Mao period, on the left. But this may be pure speculation.

What is not speculation is that the objective politics of the leadership has steered further and further into the camp of imperialism, notwithstanding the revolutionary rhetoric and violent polemics against both "super-powers."

—Mideast package

(Continued from p. 3)

American Oil Company (Aramco)? While for Khalid himself as an individual, either alternative would be equally unattractive, the majority of the U.S. Senate was more fearful of the second. If the vote had gone the other way, as a matter of fact, it could have triggered first a family assassination and then provided the cue for the revolution that has been waiting so long in the wings.

In Egypt, Anwar Sadat is if anything even more sensitive to the possibilities of revolution at home. The formally more democratic method of oppression in that country which is considerably poorer than Saudi Arabia, has not really alleviated the extreme oppression of the vast majority of people.

Only a year-and-a-half ago a

sudden rebellion over food prices swept that capital city. And, whereas the masses began to think the period of war was coming to an end when Sadat made his capitulatory visit to Israel last fall, now they are awakening to the bitter truth.

There is at the same time a growing rebellion in central and southern Africa, not to mention the especially strategic "Horn." The Senate vote is also a proof that the imperialists understand they must broaden their base against the Black African people too. The revolutionary events in Ethiopia, for instance, have been keenly felt in Washington.

It was not at all accidental that King Khalid wrote to President Carter last week that he must have the deadly F-15s because "communist expansion in the

area" required it and specifically mentioned Ethiopia, where the great masses have thrown out all the Khalids and the U.S. armed forces as well.

The administration released Khalid's letter on May 12, just three days before the Senate vote. Whether this letter changed any votes in the cynical and well informed "Millionaires' Club" or not, its publication prepared a larger section of the middle class and possibly some lower rungs of the ruling class to understand the urgency of the "package deal."

MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL MERCHANTS OF DEATH

Not least of the factors in the explosive equation is the role of the military-industrial complex. The \$4.8 billion in orders is of course only a fraction of the money to be made from this sort of thing. And General Dynamics, Northrop, McDonnell Douglas—and the temporarily scandal-muted Lockheed Aircraft—all in-

terlocked with the big New York banks, are also interlocked with the U.S. Senate.

Finally, it should be noted, as always in considering the sinister founding and manipulation of the State of Israel by the imperialists, that the danger of anti-Semitism at home is always just under the surface.

But this danger has absolutely nothing to do with revolutionary opposition to the reactionary Israeli state. To the contrary, a wave of anti-Semitism can be triggered by a section of the U.S. ruling class in its attempt to get "cover" for changing its exclusive dependence upon Israel in the Middle East.

Only the most serious revolutionaries will be dependable and consistent opponents of anti-Semitism, while they struggle for the Mideastern, African, and world revolution against all enemies, all puppets, and all the confusing smokescreens the imperialist ruling class can devise.

Harassment of Black Panther Party leader continues

State heaps more charges on Huey Newton

By DEE KNIGHT

MAY 11—Another round opened today in the long series of U.S. government efforts to destroy Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party (BPP). Huey was arrested with two associates, Robert Herd and William Moore, in Santa Cruz (75 miles south of San Francisco), where Huey is a doctoral candidate in the history of social consciousness at the

University of California.

According to BPP spokeswoman Jonina Abron, the three were arrested and charged with assault following an incident in a Santa Cruz nightclub. Shots were fired in the incident, and party officials believe it was an attempt to kill their leader.

Bails of \$25,000 each were set for Huey and fellow party member Herd, and \$10,000 for White, who

is director of the Oakland Community School founded by the BPP in 1970. The Oakland District Attorney has indicated he may press charges against Herd for possession of a weapon while on parole—even though it hasn't been established that he was carrying a weapon. The Oakland DA has also threatened to raise Huey's bail on the murder and assault charges he is now facing trial for in Oakland.

Huey returned to the U.S. last year after three years' exile in Cuba. He judged that the time was ripe to launch a legal and political defense against the frame-up charges against him, and to help lead the BPP in its various organizing programs. He was scheduled to appear in court today to hear a judge's decision on his lawyer's motion to dismiss charges against him. Huey and other party leaders contend that the judge has dragged his feet in responding to defense motions—even though key state witnesses have already been discredited in pre-trial testimony, and the case is publicly regarded as a frameup.

Party leaders point to the concerted war waged by the U.S. government against the BPP since it was founded. At least 30 party members have been murdered—their pictures hang in BPP headquarters in Oakland. Since Huey got out of jail in 1970 (following years of protests and

legal appeals against his bogus conviction for allegedly killing a cop), he has been the target of continued legal and political harassment, ranging from wiretaps, break-ins, and burglaries of his apartments and cars, to assaults and attempts on his life and frameups in the courts.

PANTHER PROGRAMS CONTINUE DESPITE HARASSMENT

But in spite of the huge drain of party funds and energy caused by these attacks, the BPP continues to organize effectively in Oakland's Black community. Party members make up about half the staff of the Oakland Community School, which teaches 160 children, ages 2½ to 11. Certified by the State of California, the school received a commendation last year from the state legislature, saying it had "defied the myth of the uneducable child."

The George Jackson Clinic in Oakland has provided free health care since 1970 to anyone who comes in. The volunteer staff

coordinates the free services of doctors, nurses, and lab technicians.

The party's teen program has provided a context for unemployed Black youth to use their time to learn, develop skills, and serve the community. It is related to the Senior Citizens Program, which provides free transportation to the elderly in Oakland, so they can shop or go to the doctor or the bank without fear of mugging.

The party also participates in various coalitions to support the international struggle against imperialism. It is especially involved in support efforts for the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe.

Funds are badly needed to continue the legal defense efforts, and Huey and other party speakers are available to speak about their work and the government's war against them. To help build support, contact the Committee for Justice for Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party—make checks payable to the Capp Street Foundation—at 8501 East 14th St., Oakland, CA 94621.

Meeting honors Malcolm X's birthday

By JESSE LEE

NEW YORK, May 13—In honor of the birthday of Malcolm X and the powerful struggle for Black liberation during the 1960s which he helped to inspire, the New York City branch of Workers World Party had a special showing of the film "Malcolm X Speaks" here tonight.

Malcolm X, known in the U.S. and around the world as a revolutionary leader, was born on May 19, 1925; he was assassinated 40 years later by a secret FBI-style operation to "neutralize" Black leaders.

In an introduction to the film, Nick de Freitas, tonight's chairman, said that "they may have killed Malcolm, but they couldn't kill his revolutionary

ideas. If they could do that there wouldn't have been a revolution in Russia, in China, in Korea, in Cuba, in Vietnam, or most recently, in Ethiopia."

Before the film, there was a premiere showing of a short color film of the April 15 march in Washington, D.C., to overturn the Bakke decision. The film featured a speech by Larry Holmes, one of the national organizers of the march, which was called by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD).

There were also reports on the fight to save Imani from execution, and an NCOBD conference held in New York City on May 6, which attracted some 300 activists who are organizing to combat racism in this city.

Police are not workers

Norfolk cops on ticketing spree

By JOE CELUCKA

NORFOLK, May 11—The so-called Norfolk Police Union (NPU) has been flexing its muscles again. To press demands for a 10% pay increase and a 5% "hazardous duty" pay increase, Norfolk Police Union President Carl Lee announced in April that the NPU members would begin something called "NPD 10,000," a campaign to issue 10,000 traffic tickets by July.

The following weekend the number of traffic summonses tripled. Public outcry about the police harassment forced Lee to change his definition of "NPD 10,000," saying that it really referred to a goal of \$10,000 for starting pay in the police department. But the summonses have continued.

COPS ARE NOT WORKERS

Public employee unions have no legal standing in Virginia since the State Supreme Court wiped out local collective bargaining ordinances for city workers a few years ago. Many city employees, however, have built their own organizations (such as the Norfolk Fire Union and the Norfolk

Educational Association) to raise union-type demands with city government.

But what about the cops—are they the same as other city employees? Should progressive workers support their demands to form a union? Are they workers too?

The answer to the above questions is an unqualified "no."

Teachers teach, firefighters fight fires, sanitation workers pick up the trash—all socially useful functions that benefit poor and working people. What do the cops do? They protect the property of the wealthy, they break up union picket lines, they try and terrorize the Black and other oppressed communities. They exist as a special body of armed guards to maintain the rule of the rich and powerful, and any useful work they might do is only a sideline to this main role.

KILLER COPS AND PROFESSIONAL SCABS

Nine people have been shot to death by Norfolk cops in the past two-and-a-half years. Since last December, four people have been

shot, three of them fatally. Most of those killed were Black men killed by white cops.

How do the police themselves feel about the shootings? Norfolk homicide sergeant Joe Jackson recently told one of the local daily newspapers, "We don't have any warning-shot crap or any of that other mess. When you pull that gun you should be trying to kill the man."

Just doing their job, a job that has also included harassing picketing workers trying to win unions at the Steward Sandwich plant and the A&B Uniform Company, both in Norfolk. If the firefighters and teachers and sanitation workers should go out on strike to win a union, is there any doubt about where the cops will line up? They'll be swinging their clubs, attacking the workers, because that's just part of their job.

Professional scabs and killer cops don't need a union—only the workers deserve the benefits of unionism. What the cops need is to be disarmed, to end their attacks on labor and the oppressed communities once and for all.

—Mobutu

(Continued from p. 7)

debt, the Mobutu regime has accepted some of the harshest austerity measures ever imposed on a country by the International Monetary Fund and other imperialist banks. Among these conditions was the ceding of a vast area of eastern Shaba province to the West German OTRAG company. In this area, which constitutes almost one-tenth of Zaire, the cruise missile and other anti-aircraft missile systems are being tested and developed for the U.S. and other NATO members. A sophisticated airport, radar listening installation, and a road and tunnel complex are being

built, and the territory in actuality constitutes a NATO base for potential aggression right in the heart of Africa.

With so much at stake, the imperialist powers are likely to once again intervene in some way against the people of Zaire, the way they have been doing since they overthrew and murdered the anti-imperialist leader Patrice Lumumba after the Congo won its independence from Belgium in 1960. But past intervention has shown that repression can hold back, but never defeat the struggle of the African peoples for liberation.

Southern Populism and Black Labor



BY

Vincent Copeland

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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, GA 30301. [404] 523-8990.

BALTIMORE—Workers World Party, 2402 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21218. [301] 366-3713.

BOSTON—Workers World Party, 419 Boylston St., Room 204, Boston, MA 02116. [617] 247-1778.

BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 170 Franklin St. [Crosby Bldg], Room 410, Buffalo, NY 14202. [716] 855-3055.

CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Room 310, Chicago, IL 60605. [312] 922-0326.

CLEVELAND—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 12576, East Cleveland, OH 44112. [216] 371-9293.

DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, Third Floor, Detroit, MI 48226. [313] 962-4979.

GREELEY—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 1863, Greeley, CO 80631. [303] 356-9408.

HOUSTON—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 52115, Houston, TX 77052. [713] 759-9463.

MILWAUKEE—Workers World Party, 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, WI 53202. [414] 224-0422.

NEW YORK CITY—Workers World Party, 46 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010. [212] 255-0352.

NORFOLK—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, VA 23509. [804] 627-0870.

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 9894, Philadelphia, PA 19140. [215] 227-3517.

ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State St., Rochester, NY 14614. [716] 546-6429.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, 932 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20001. [202] 347-0138.

Busing and Self-determination

By Sam Marcy

A clear and concise statement of the Marxist position on self-determination for all oppressed peoples.

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POLITICAL PRISONERS



Yusuf Abdul Alim.

WW photo: Jim Marsh

Yusuf Abdul Alim set up by guards on serious charge

NEW YORK, May 13—Yusuf Abdul Alim (Albert McQueen), a Sunni Muslim prisoner at the Green Haven Correctional Facility (prison) in New York State, now faces trumped up attempted murder charges in the stabbing of a prison guard. Alim is no stranger to harassment by New York State prison guards and these most current charges are only one example.

On July 11, 1976 in Attica prison, Alim, a spiritual leader of the Sunni Muslims there, was dragged out of his cell and beaten by six racist guards. The guards stole his Koran, maced him, beat him unconscious, breaking his jaw, tied him up, and wheeled him through the hallways of Cell Block D on a garbage wagon as an example to other prisoners.

Angry prisoners exercising in the yard watched this abuse through the prison windows and began throwing the weight-lifting equipment at the windows.

The calculated assault on Alim triggered the biggest prisoner uprising there since the Attica rebellion in September 1971. In this latest uprising, over 200 prisoners seized the yard of Cell Block D and held it for about four hours until a massive assault team of guards recaptured it shortly after midnight.

TARGET OF ABUSE

Following the Attica attack in which guards brutally beat and maced Alim the state convened a grand jury to investigate the uprising which would have uncovered the abuse which Alim had suffered. Although the grand jury was really intended to investigate the prisoners, not the guards, the guards refused to appear, obviously fearing that any testimony whatsoever would incriminate them. The grand jury, of course, took no action against the guards.

Alim, however, has been transferred from one prison to another, put in punitive

segregation for many months and had one year good time taken away from him. In addition, he has been refused access to postage stamps to send out his legal mail.

The defense committee for Alim has pointed out, "And now Alim faces years more added on to his sentence for the attempted murder charges. The state is trying to railroad Alim through a fast trial. But Alim's only 'crime' is refusing to lie down in the face of oppression. His only 'crime' is fighting back against the system that harrasses, torments, and brutalizes prisoners. His only 'crime' is trying to expose the conditions in the prisons, which the authorities want to keep secret."

Funds to hire a lawyer for Alim are badly needed. Contributions and letters protesting the railroading of Alim can be sent to: Yusuf Abdul Alim Defense Fund, P.O. Box 524, New York, NY 10036.

Help Vernon Lee Joe realize his freedom

By LOUISE COVINGTON

NORFOLK, May 13—Vernon Lee Joe is one of hundreds of young men being held unjustly in the U.S. prisons. When he was not quite seventeen years old, Joe was given a 20 year sentence for the rape of a woman whose only identification was that her rapist had a head full of hair. Vernon Lee Joe has protested this sentence of inhumane justice.

While Joe was imprisoned in South Hampton Farms, Va., a prison break was attempted and a guard was killed. Though not

directly involved, Vernon Lee Joe was given a life sentence.

Today, Vernon Lee Joe, just 21 years old, sits in maximum security in the Spring St. prison—a young man, a victim of American "Justice."

The Prisoner Solidarity Committee and the Vernon Lee Joe Defense Committee is asking the help of all concerned people—help Vernon Lee Joe realize his freedom.

Contact the Vernon Lee Joe Defense Committee, 820 Kilby Ave. Suffolk, Va. 23434.

Virgin Island 5 request political asylum in Cuba

Five prisoners from the Virgin Islands, Meral "Malik" Smith, Ismail Muslim Ali, Raphael "Kwesi" Joseph, Beaumont "Hanif" Gereau, and Warren "Aziz" Ballentine, known as the Virgin Island 5, who were convicted of frame-up charges in 1973 of killing eight American tourists at a Rockefeller-owned golf course in St. Croix, V.I., filed a formal request to the Cuban government today for political asylum.

In 1972, a 300-man invasion force of FBI agents and U.S. Army troops were sent to search for suspects and put the entire Island under a state of siege and terror. Five men were eventually arrested and while hung from trees, they were burnt with cigars, given the FBI "water treatment" (having water forced down their noses and plastic bags tied over their heads), and subjected to other brutality. Only after putting the men through a series of these inhumane tortures was the FBI able to force statements from the men that connected them to the crime.

They were later tried and convicted by a Judge who was one of Rockefeller's private attorneys before being appointed to the bench, and Rockefeller himself spent over five million dollars on the case. Immediately after the trial nine jurors testified that during deliberations they were threatened with FBI investigations on themselves and members of their families, and with threats of prosecution for perjury. Then, later on, four jurors, including the jury foreman, signed statements that they had been forced into a guilty

verdict by the Judge, police, and FBI agents.

The Five are now being held in Federal prisons throughout the United States. All of their appeals for a re-trial of the case have been denied, and constant threats and attempts have been made on their lives by racist guards and Nazi prisoners.

To put an end to their repressive ordeal and a long line of injustices, the five men are asking the Republic of Cuba to intervene on their behalf and grant them political asylum in Cuba.

The President of the United States continues to intervene in what he calls "violations of human rights" in foreign countries, however, at home, Mr. Carter chooses to play the role of "Pontius Pilate" in regards to the thousands of political prisoners inside the United States penal system. It is time the American people made Jimmy Carter live up to his promises of securing the human rights of the Black and poor working class people.

The Virgin Islands exists as a mere colony of the American Empire, and these men are imprisoned for their political activities as native freedom fighters. They must be allowed to freely emigrate to Cuba. For information please contact: Audrey A. Myers, Dir. National Committee to Support the Marion Brothers, 4556A Oakland, St. Louis, Mo. 63110, (314) 533-2234.

Yours in furious struggle,

Hanif M. Shabazz
(Beaumont Gereau)

#96544-131

P.O. Box 1000
Marion, Ill. 62959

Assata Shakur illegally transferred to W. Virginia

NEW YORK, May 15—Assata Shakur has been kidnapped by the government in an attempt to keep her from being able to work on an appeal. Although Shakur has never been convicted on federal charges, the state of New Jersey illegally handed her to the federal government and she is now being held in the recently constructed maximum security wing of Alderson Federal Prison for women in West Virginia.

In March, Shakur won the

dismissal of the last of six trumped up criminal charges against her. She was never convicted of any of the original charges, but is currently serving a life sentence plus 30 years for her conviction by an all-white jury on charges of murder. In actuality, Shakur and Sundiata Acoli, who is also serving life plus at Trenton prison in New Jersey, were the victims of a police ambush on the New Jersey State Turnpike in 1973. Troopers killed Zayd

Shakur and expert witnesses proved that Assata Shakur was seriously wounded while her hands were over her head.

The state has held Shakur for more than four years, mostly in solitary confinement in men's prisons. This current attempt to isolate her from her lawyers and base of support by whisking her away to the hills of West Virginia is viewed as an attempt to complicate her efforts to appeal her conviction.

—Demonstration for Imani

(Continued from p. 1)

to execute him have the same political motivation that were behind the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti in the 1920s. A close look at Imani's case will reveal who the intended victims are and why we must all take part to stop this execution."

Ray Ramos spoke to the crowds in Spanish and in English and compared the scapegoating by the state of both Imani and Dacajeweah, for the respective uprisings against intolerable prison conditions at Atmore prison in 1974 and Attica prison in 1971.

"If they executed Imani today, then tomorrow it would be Dacajeweah," he said.

"How about the cops in Houston who killed Jose Campos Torres, another attack against poor and working class people," Ramos asked. "What did they do? Let the cops go free. In Houston a Mexican Brother, in Brooklyn, cop Torsney shot a young Black Brother. The death penalty is just a legal lynching mob—down with the death penalty!"

IMANI'S CASE—

POLITICAL FOOTBALL

Key Martin pointed out that Imani's case was personally prosecuted by Attorney General William Baxley. "Baxley wanted this Brother's life because he wanted to personally build his political career on the reinstatement of the death penalty in the state of Alabama. He wants the Alabama governorship, and Imani is the victim of the cynical political

machinations of Baxley."

"They are trying to make an example of Imani," Martin said. "Let's make this another example, of protest. Let's raise his case just like the case of the Scottsboro Brothers 40 years ago who were framed in the same racist court system and imprisoned in the same prison in Alabama and who cried out for justice in the same way."

Tana Loy spoke on the economic problems on the minds of poor and working people, when she noted, "The concrete we are standing on is the same material used to build prisons, but it's also the same material that could be used to build houses, schools, and hospitals, not to imprison the poor."

She asked, "When Con Ed raises their rates and the poor use candles to light their houses and those houses burn down—isn't that murder? When the heat gets turned off and the elderly and poor freeze to death—isn't that murder by the banks and corporations? Yet Imani protested the inhuman conditions in the prison—and for this he is sentenced to death."

"NEVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN PRISON"

Akil Al-Jundi, a member of the Attica Committee to Free Dacajeweah and himself a participant in the historic Attica prisoner rebellion in 1971 explained, "We don't believe the Brother Imani should have been in prison in the first place."

Imani's family was the only

For more information call
(212) 989-3932.

Black family in a white neighborhood. After an intense campaign of bigotry and harassment, Imani was falsely arrested on his way to work and later charged with robberies of \$11, \$67, \$90, and \$205 and rape.

"So what does it mean to be Black and to want to live in a decent neighborhood?" Al-Jundi asked. "The Department of Police in Alabama felt it was appropriate to just take this brother off the streets."

He added, "In New York State they're trying to implement the same thing. A week-and-a-half ago there was a demonstration of 2,100 people in Albany calling for the reinstitution of the death penalty. Ninety-nine and nine-tenths of the people who attended were police. The chief advocate of the death penalty is the president of the Police Benevolent Association and this man had the audacity, the nerve, the temerity to get 2,100 to go to Albany. This same man can't get 2,100 to go to City Hall to get the cop who killed young Randolph Evans, to make sure he gets the death penalty."

"We want to make sure that Imani lives," Al-Jundi said, urging people to stay in touch with the Imani committee. "Just like a mama love her son or daughter, like a father love his son or daughter, or a grandma or an aunt—we love our Brother and comrade Imani. We the people have got to say to the state of Alabama, 'this is one Black man you are not going to kill.'"

May 19, 1978

The struggle in Ohio



WW photo

In Cleveland

Pickets confront anti-busing rally

By AL NORMAN

CLEVELAND, May 14—The forces of racism that once used Boston as its center for organizing and are now trying to mobilize here to block the long overdue desegregation of the schools, were met here today by strong anti-racist resistance determined to turn the situation around and defend the Black community's right to a decent and equal education.

Today, about 100 Black and white picketers confronted a reactionary anti-busing rally at Cleveland's Public Hall. The anti-fascists, organized by the newly formed Clevelanders United Against Racism (CUAR), chanted, "We say no to racism (a slogan originating with the historic December 14, 1974 Boston march against racism and popularized since then on numerous demon-

strations across the country). The picket line exposed a meeting being held inside by the so-called "Citizens Opposed to Rearranging Kids (CORK)", a white-supremacist hate group which has been circulating petitions and demonstrating against busing and desegregation.

Cleveland schools are heavily segregated, and in 1974 the NAACP filed an integration suit which was finally won after a long fight against state and city authorities. CORK was set up by right wing bigots to deny the Black children their rights.

This racist mobilization comes at a time when affirmative action programs are under attack with the Bakke case; when housing discrimination remains widespread; when unemployment is 60% among Black youth; when the Ku Klux Klan holds motorcades in

Tupelo, Miss., and holds a rally at the Ohio statehouse in Columbus

FASCIST CAMPAIGN

That this is a fascist campaign there can be no doubt. One of the racists attending today's rally had a Nazi swastika and the reactionary slogan, "Stop forced busing" imprinted on his t-shirt.

CORK had predicted a huge turnout for the rally, only 250 racists showed up. Complained one of the fascist organizers, Norbert Denneril, "Thousands of people would have come out if it had not been for the terrorist activities (that is, the anti-racist CUAR picket line!) out in front."

The CUAR sees today's demonstration as the first step in combatting the racist outbreak. In the coming weeks and months, it expects to broaden its membership and become a strong and significant force that can effectively defend the Black community as well as build the unity of all peoples to fight against the economic crisis that affects them all.

Cleveland schools under attack

By AL NORMAN

CLEVELAND, May 8—The education of children, one of the most important aspects of life, is in serious jeopardy in Cleveland. The schools have run out of money, teachers and other school workers have experienced many payless paydays, and it is uncertain if the school year will be completed.

The first signs of this crisis hit home one year ago during the frigid winter, when the Board of Education hardly had enough money to pay its utility bills. This past October, though, it could not meet the biweekly pay of its workers.

Finally, in March, the payroll was not met again for five weeks. School workers were somehow expected to display "sacrifice," stay on the jobs, and find some other means to pay their rent, buy food and clothing for their children, and live like human beings. A full 75% of the teachers refused to work under these conditions.

The State Legislature argued over whether or not they should bail out the system. The banks, who regularly receive interest payments from the schools, but in whose vaults lie the money of the people of Cleveland, refused to make a loan.

DEFEAT OF PROPERTY TAX PROPOSAL

The Board of Education's solution was to put before the voters a property tax increase, which supposedly would put the system on better financial footing, but would obviously be a heavier tax burden on the people of the inner-city.

The levy was turned down. Not many Black people voted, but those who did generally supported the levy. Among the whites, some voted against it for progressive economic reasons, but others voted against the tax for racist reasons, feeling the money would be used for a desegregation and busing plan.

On the heels of this tax defeat

came more payless paydays. Again, frustrations turned to action. Teachers either picketed their schools or just stayed home. Many applied for food stamps.

The Cleveland Teachers Union went to court to demand that the school system officially close, so that teachers and other workers could obtain unemployment compensation. This week they voted to strike if they faced payless paydays again.

It was only after the threat of a strike and the repercussions of a complete school shutdown that the legislature allowed the system to borrow money against next year's budget.

Whether or not the schools can stay open until June isn't clear. It's not clear if school workers will receive all of their summer paychecks, or if students can attend summer school.

What is clear is that no solution has been found to end the crisis, and students, parents and the workers are quite fearful that the next crisis will be much, much worse.

Cleveland's crisis is only one of many in Ohio. Last year, 15 school districts closed down; this year the figure could double.

The government of Ohio has never seen fit to provide sufficient social services for the people. Rather, it kowtows to big business interests. Ohio ranks 48th in the country, only better than Alabama and Arkansas, in the amount it spends per pupil. Liberally giving away the people's money with "tax abatements" to big business, and then asking the poor to pay more for basic services, has been their program for years.

There is enough money in this country to insure a decent education for all and to pay teachers adequate wages. No gains are won without struggle, however, and the first step is to unite the people affected by this crisis—the students, parents, teachers, and other workers—into a fighting force that can raise the demands to keep the schools open.

Court moves against Brunswick strikers



BRUNSWICK, Ohio, May 15—When teachers of Brunswick in northern Ohio refused to end their strike and accept an inadequate wage and benefit settlement from the school board, they were charged with contempt of court and 38 were jailed. Strikes by school workers are occurring throughout Ohio, in such cities as Toledo, Ashtabula, Richmond Heights, and Aurora. In Ohio, school salaries are low and benefits, such as job security, are being taken away. But teachers, custodial workers, bus drivers, and other school workers are determined that they not bear the brunt of this crisis.

In Columbus

Anti-racist rally set for May 20

Special to Workers World

COLUMBUS, Ohio, May 13—Today Dale Reusch, Imperial "Lizard" of the Ohio Ku Klux Klan brought his reactionary racist act here for the third time. This time there was a new twist to his drive: Reusch is campaigning for the Democratic Party nomination for governor in the June 6 primary here. Today, Reusch also expanded his racist "anti-busing" repertoire to include anti-student red-baiting and anti-abortion attacks as well.

For a third time the Columbus police mobilized to defend this racist, who was speaking at a campaign rally at the Ohio State House. Over 100 cops in riot gear

were on the sidewalk in front of the State House with additional cops in buses by the curb. This massive display of force by the police shows why Columbus is the only city in Ohio in which Reusch ever appears publicly. The cops managed to keep themselves busy by grabbing up the KKK campaign literature and bumper stickers for their own use!

Today's appearance by this notorious white supremacist did not go unopposed, however. A group of anti-racist pickets managed to drown out most of his talk with their chants.

As part of the continuing resistance to racism here, the May 20 Committee, a group of activists,

has called for a march to say no to racism on May 20. The demonstration will assemble at noon at 1000 Atcheson, and there will be a march to a 3 pm rally at Park, 18th and Brydeno. The anti-racist rally will address the issue of institutional racism and the brutal treatment that Black and other oppressed peoples receive daily at the hands of the state. The leaflet for the May 20 rally sums it up this way: "We can create a forum for challenging racism from police brutality to poor housing, the whole rotten apple, not just the worm." For further information contact: May 20 Committee, c/o CULA, P.O. Box 6837, Columbus, Ohio 43205.