

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

p. 4

**Black culture and the struggle for freedom**

**Lessons of the slave rebellions**



February 11, 1983 Vol. 25, No. 6

25¢

# workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

# Economy on the mend? Not for the jobless!

Reagan juggles unemployment figures, then announces 'recovery'



Jersey City Medical Center workers and community residents pack the Board of Managers meeting on Feb. 3 to demand that this hospital be kept open.

WW photo

**All-Peoples Congress mobilizes:**

**JERSEY CITY: 'Fightback can  
save our hospital!'**

**DETROIT: Hit courts, gov't for  
delaying food release**

**BUFFALO: Demand rollback  
in gas prices**

—centerfold

By Sharon Shelton

FEBRUARY 7—If you're one of the 11 million people officially unemployed, you might not have realized that, according to President Reagan, your situation has gotten better.

Never mind that the help wanted signs haven't reappeared. If Reagan hasn't been able to do anything about joblessness itself, at least he has done something about the jobless figure.

With much fanfare, the administration reported on Friday that the unemployment rate declined last month to 10.4% from 10.8% in December, the first decline in the official rate in the past 17 months.

Reagan immediately hailed the new statistics as proving "we are on the move now" and "America is on the mend."

What he hopes is "on the mend" is his damaged image in the eyes of the large masses of people, who are suffering from levels of unemployment rivaling those at the end of the Great Depression.

Reagan didn't mention in his news conference Friday that his own Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Dr. Janet Norwood, has admitted before Congress that the new lower jobless level may be the

Continued on page 3

**Sam Marcy:  
How the  
Pentagon  
intensifies  
world hunger**

—p. 9

# Striking truckers stand up against Reaganomics

By Gary Wilson

**FEBRUARY 7**—The strike by the independent truckers, which began on Jan. 31, has taken on the federal government in an attempt to stop an unjust tax which was instituted by the lame-duck Congress last December.

According to the Independent Truckers Association, some 70,000 out of 100,000 owner-operators in the U.S. have joined in the work stoppage. The government has responded to the strike with harsh measures, and Reagan himself has strongly denounced it.

Pickets are facing harassment and even arrests, while state troopers have put the highways under virtual martial law. The National Guard has been put on alert in Pennsylvania, and in North Carolina the Guard is flying combat helicopters equipped with infrared detection devices over the highways.

Much of the publicity has focused on truckers' attempts to stop traffic on the highway. While the big business media cries "violence," the violence being wreaked on the lives of the owner-operators and their families by this new federal tax is completely ignored.

The independent drivers have won the sympathy of all who oppose the reactionary programs currently coming out of Washington. These drivers have great

support among the ranks of the Teamsters union, many of whom have helped to stop truck traffic to show their solidarity.

Like anyone in the middle class in this country, the owner-operators are not independent from the stranglehold of the big banks and big corporations that are responsible for the economic crisis. The owner-operators are all in hock to the banks, and more than 70% actually work under lease to the big trucking companies.

## Teamsters union—best potential ally

The best potential ally of the independent truckers is the Teamsters union, which represents the working class drivers and which has tremendous power in this strategic industry. The Teamsters have every reason to support a victory in this strike. Unfortunately, Teamsters President Roy Williams, a long-time supporter of Reagan, has denounced the strike.

A progressive Teamsters leadership would make it known that they support the just goals of the independents. They could use the militant tactics perfected by the mineworkers' president John L. Lewis, in the 1930s.

The Teamsters could state simply that although there are certain legal restrictions under their contract that prohibit them from striking in solidarity, it should be

remembered that all union members have every right not to risk their lives, and if they were to refuse to drive because of that risk, well that would certainly be their right.

The ruling class is united against the truckers. Both the Democrats and Republicans joined together in putting together the 5¢ gas tax, which will hit all the people, and the user tax, which will cost the owner-operators close to \$2,000 a year when it goes into full effect.

Reagan knows that his incredible military buildup will require heavy taxes, and this tax on truckers is just the kind of tax he likes. At his Feb. 4 press conference Reagan said, "Actually I think that it is proportionately fair that those taxes be paid. And like any other business tax, they have the opportunity to pass them on to the consumer."

This is the same guy who claims he is getting big government off the peoples' backs. The fact is, the only taxes he's worried about are those on the rich.

What none of the ruling class politicians say is that these taxes to maintain the highways should be paid by the super-rich oil, auto, and other monopolies. That would be taking the taxes off the peoples' backs, and putting it on those who have taken for themselves the tremendous riches created by the vast highway and trucking system in the U.S.

## School workers picket



SOME 4,000 members of the school bus drivers, custodians, and boiler operators union in Philadelphia went on strike on Feb. 3. The union charges that school officials refused to negotiate in good faith over a raise that was approved but never granted. Above, pickets outside the Philadelphia Board of Education building.

## On The Picketline

### Strike Champion Spark-Plug.

On Feb. 1, some 3,500 United Auto Workers union members at six Champion Spark Plug Co. plants around the country went out on strike against company demands for extensive wage and benefit concessions. The company is demanding reductions in the cost-of-living allowance, holidays, the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits, dental, vision and hearing aid benefits for retirees, and disability benefits for low-seniority workers. The union charges the company deliberately provoked the strike.

### Brooklyn hospital protest.

AFSCME Local 420 has held a daily picket line outside of Woodhull Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y., since the Jan. 14

layoff of some 100 workers. On Jan. 20, over 350 workers and community members joined in a rally outside the hospital. Local 420 represents house-keeping and institutional aides. James Butler, president of the local, said in a statement, "Those workers (who were laid off) are vital to the safety of the patients at Woodhull. Anyone whose life might one day depend on care they receive at Woodhull should be out here protesting those layoffs with us. And not only them—anyone concerned about the fate of public hospitals in the city. Public hospitals are where people come if they are turned away at other hospitals. That shouldn't happen, but it does." Butler added that with the increasing economic hardships, more people are being forced to depend on public hospitals. Woodhull is New York City's largest

hospital and also its newest. Local 420 says that it was never fully staffed since it opened last November. The local also criticized the city for laying off workers who provide direct services while paying millions in fees to a consultant firm which has an office in the hospital. Besides the regular picket and demonstrations at the hospital, Local 420 is planning a march from Woodhull to City Hall.

### Quebec workers under attack.

Premier Rene Levesque of Quebec this week again threatened striking workers with passage of a harsh anti-labor law which would allow the government to stop collecting union dues and to fire striking workers, end time off for union officials to conduct union business, and

force employees to work without pay for a period equal to the number of days they were on strike. The threats are aimed at 88,000 teachers and 6,500 skilled public service workers who had been on strike since Jan. 26. The strikers are protesting a contract illegally imposed by the legislature in December which cut salaries up to 19.45%, outlawed strikes for three years, curtailed job security, and increased work loads. Teachers union President Yvon Charbonneau accused Levesque of "emulating Reagan" in his union-busting techniques. "And like Reagan," Charbonneau added, "Levesque has the support of about 25% of the population." (Montreal Gazette, Jan. 5) Some 60,000 hospital workers are voting on Feb. 8 and 9 on giving their union a mandate to join the strike.

## In This Issue...

### NO REAL RECOVERY

Over and over again, like a broken record, we hear from the President that the economy is "on the mend." But for the 11 million who are "officially" jobless and for the many millions more who are living in poverty, Reagan's claims are a cruel joke. (Page 1.)

### PENTAGON AND HUNGER

What is the source of world hunger? Natural catastrophes? Unfavorable weather conditions? The whims of nature? Or is it a social and political problem arising out of the private ownership of land and the means of agricultural production by a tiny handful of bankers and monopolists? (Analysis by Sam Marcy, page 9.)

### EL SALVADOR

The U.S. puppet regime in El Salvador is weakening day by day as the guerrilla offensive deepens. Washington is asking for more military aid to San Salvador and signs point to the beginnings of a Viet Nam-type intervention in the region. (Page 5.)

### HOSPITAL FIGHT

Community residents and hospital workers are uniting in Jersey City to save the county's only public hospital from being shut down. This week, the All-Peoples Congress is organizing a public hearing that will hear testimony about the impact a hospital closing would (Page 6.)

### ALSO...

Truckers' strike	2
On the picketline	2
Economic recovery—for whom?	3
Tax giveaway	3
Blaming the victims	3
Black History Month	
Breaking the chains	4
Lodes of Black gold	4
Did you know	4
Junta losing in El Salvador	5
Protest hits Turkish regime	5
Palestinian center attacked	5
Postpones APC food suit	6
Demand gas price rollback	7
Bethlehem closing opposed	7
Inquiry on Beirut massacre	8
Kampuchea victory	8
War games menace Korea	9
Anniversary of Stalingrad	10
NYC major war against Harlem	11
State tries moving Eddie Carthan	11
Riley Frost murdered	11
Boston racist attack	11
Texas anti-Klan protest	12
Reagan protest planned in Bay Area	12
Berkeley students oppose high fees	12

### Editorial

Preaching peace, plotting war	8
-------------------------------	---

## workers world

Vol. 25, No. 6/Feb. 11, 1983  
Closing news date: Feb. 9, 1983

Editor: Deirdre Griswold; Technical Editor: Lillian Stein; Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, Joyce Chediak, Robert Dobrow, Sharon Shelton, Gary Wilson; Contributing Editors: Bill Del Vecchio, Gin T. Loy, Carmen Roundtree, Andy Stapp, Jaime Veve; Prison Page: Diane Feinberg; Technical Staff: Phil Allen, Sharon Ayling, Janet Betries, Jean Brown, Louise Covington, Ken Franson, Marsha Goldberg, Veronica Golos, Kim Katz, Dee Knight, Donna Lazarus, Charlotte Manheimer, Emily Rose Ritholz, David Rodgers, Katy Rosen, Susan Rotgard, Joseph Rotondo, B. Sax, Beth Semmer, Steve Shultz; Darkroom Staff: G. Dunkel, Fabian, Carmen Roundtree; Cartoonists: Bernadette Cozart, Bill Haislip, Tom Shannon.

Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) published by World View Publishers, Inc. 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Editorial office: (212) 675-2555. Business office: (212) 255-0352. Published weekly except for first week in September.

Subscriptions: One year, \$10.00; 6 months, \$6.00. Please address requests for bundles to World View Publishers. Make checks payable to World View Publishers.

Second Class Postage Paid at N.Y., N.Y.

# Economic recovery—for whom?

By Lallan Stein

FEBRUARY 7—In Washington and on Wall Street there is a lot of talk about an economic recovery, "a slow," "modest," or even "short lived," recovery. Signs are pointed out which, they say, prove the crisis in the capitalist system has finished another bust cycle.

However the indications on which they base this hopeful speculation don't hold much promise for the vast majority of the population.

In the headquarters of the multi-national corporations, the big banks, and the financial houses, where profit is the name of the game, recovery is estimated in terms of productivity, the price of raw materials, interest rates, stock values, and tax cuts, etc., not how many people have jobs.

Take the latest available information in any one of these areas and consider what it means in terms of jobs and the cost of living. From this perspective, the recovery sought in the summits of capitalism looks like another episode in their attempt to save their profit system at the ex-

pense of working people and even the middle class.

When the corporate bosses talk about an increase in productivity, they are referring to the use of layoffs and pay cuts to reduce costs and increase output. The threat of unemployment is used to force workers into accepting speed-ups and other concessions.

The U.S. Department of Labor records show that last year wage increases in major collective bargaining settlements were the lowest since that data was first collected. This is seen as a beneficial trend in Business Week, where there is anticipation of greater savings in labor costs for the bosses during the coming year.

## Small increase in the GNP won't save jobs

A very small increase in the Gross National Product (GNP) is forecast for the next year. But this increase, the first in three years, is far below 4%, the figure economists estimate necessary to keep the economy from declining.

## —No recovery for jobless

Continued from page 1  
product of juggling the figures.

With retailers hiring 65,000 fewer temporary workers during the holidays this year than last, there were naturally fewer layoffs. Yet, the layoff figures were nevertheless compared to last year's layoff figures and used as a basis for adjusting the unemployment rates downward.

Norwood admitted that "evidence suggests that the seasonal adjustment process may have somewhat exaggerated the December to January change in this data."

She also conceded that the decline in the unemployment figures was not accompanied by a rise in employment. Instead, she said, there was a decline in the civilian labor force.

## More 'discouraged workers'

Also making Reagan's rosy picture look dimmer is the fact that by the Labor Department's own estimations the number of discouraged workers, jobless workers who are no longer looking for work because none is available to them, rose by 300,000 over the previous quarter.

The government's calculations of unemployment statistics conveniently omit consideration of these discouraged workers whose ranks are growing by the day.

A more honest picture of the jobless situation, according to a staff economist with the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, is to use an index that measures both the depth and the length of unemployment. This index takes the number of people unemployed and multiplies it by the average amount of time they have been unemployed.

Government figures do not show whether a person included in the unemployment figures has been without a job for a month or for a year. This new index shows that 1982 had a yearly average of 116.6 million weeks of unemployment compared with 112.6 million weeks in 1974 and 117 million weeks in 1975.

By the new measure, while official civilian unemployment may have fallen to 11.4 million people in January, the duration of unemployment rose to 19.4

weeks, making January's index of 222.1 million weeks the worst ever.

## Official statistics hide real story

The government's official jobless figures are calculated to hide the real extent of the unemployment crisis. Not only are millions of workers, such as those who despairingly have given up looking for a job, not even counted in the figures, but no attempt is made to show the misery and suffering behind the statistics.

In every strike, for instance, the government and the big business press fall all over themselves to show how much has been lost in wages due to the strike. But they never show how much in wages is being lost when there are millions unemployed.

The White House not only is juggling unemployment statistics to make the picture seem brighter, but is also resorting to artificially stimulating the economy through military means in hopes of changing unemployment rates, if only temporarily.

The costly, large-scale military maneuvers taking place in Central America and the Pacific, for example, besides being aimed at intimidating the people of the area, have an impact on the jobless figures here at home. War games such as these, not only require troops, but they use up stockpiles of ammunition, fuel, food, and other supplies, all of which will be replaced and re-purchased, leading, the administration no doubt hopes, to a slight increase in employment, especially in the military industries.

All the big business press is full of predictions that some sort of economic upturn may take place, but none predict this so-called upturn will be accompanied by lowered unemployment.

While Reagan's bag of tricks may alter the figures somewhat, nothing he—or his fellow servants of big business in the Democratic Party—is doing can change the fundamental fact that today's high unemployment is symptomatic of the rotten and decaying capitalist system, a system that long ago ceased to contribute to the advancement of humankind and brings only destruction and human suffering.

Even with an increase in industrial production, the job situation won't improve. Reagan himself admitted that the official unemployment figures will remain double-digit through 1983.

The utilization of factories and machinery, all the means of production built up by the sweat of generations of working people, remain at a record low. Because of underutilization, it is unlikely that money will be invested in maintenance and new equipment. Capital expenditures are expected to fall 6% this year.

Profits have been affected by the economic crisis. This is with the exception of areas of high technology, which employ a small work force. Rises in profits for IBM, 27.9%, and MCI Communications Corp., 63%, do not

signal an improvement in the general economy.

Activity on Wall Street is certainly not known to increase the general welfare either. During the fourth quarter of the year Merrill Lynch recorded a 159% increase over year-earlier profits. It should be noted that all of this financial activity did not create anything of new value.

## Tax breaks for whom?

Most of big business profit losses have been saved by corporate tax breaks. In an appendix to Reagan's 1983 Report to Congress, it was revealed tax breaks erased a \$23 billion profit loss last year.

A major portion of Reagan's program was based on tax cuts at

the expense of human services. It is the rich who benefit from the tax cuts. "The ones who will pay the least this year are those with more than \$215,000," says the New York Times (Feb. 7).

These kinds of tax cuts add to the enormous federal deficit which is riding skyhigh on the growth in the military budget. The deficit is sure to fuel inflation. Reagan added another inflationary factor when he increased the money supply, beginning last August. He had accused Carter of causing inflation by doing the same thing.

The boom and bust cycle is a function of a decaying system that relies on ever deeper exploitation. If people cannot buy the goods and services they produce, no real recovery is possible.

## Blaming the victims



FEBRUARY 8—Punishing the victims of the economic crisis after the accidental fire death of a Tent City resident last week, Houston authorities closed the park that was a shelter for homeless unemployed people who had migrated south in a fruitless search for jobs. Above, a Texas Highway Dept. front-loader pushes over one of the tents. For those who lived in Tent City, the much publicized "recovery" is still nowhere in sight.

## Reagan plots further tax giveaway to corporations

By Bob McCubbin

FEBRUARY 6—When President Reagan remarked to some businessmen in Boston recently that he was against taxing corporate profits, the capitalist media treated it as just another in a long series of flaky blunders that he seems to make every time he departs from his prepared text.

But class-conscious workers know it wasn't a blunder at all. In fact, the Reaganites are discussing how to free the corporations from the relatively minor tax burdens still imposed on them and Reagan's off-hand remark, dutifully disseminated by the big business press, is one way of getting the idea widely aired, part of an effort to soften up public opinion for a more concrete Reaganite proposal that is sure to follow.

While Reagan must take full responsibility for conspiring with Big Oil and the military-industrial complex against the fundamental interests of the masses of people, his efforts to free the corporate giants from all fiscal responsibility are not the radical departure from past government practice that they might seem.

## Federal government subsidizes big business

An article in the Newark Star Ledger (2/3/83) analyzing the economic report that Reagan sent to Congress last week, shows that

the steady rise in corporate profits for the last 25 years has as its basis a similarly steady reduction in corporate income tax liabilities. In other words, the federal government has been subsidizing the growing corporate profit glut of the past 25 years with its granting of greater and greater corporate tax breaks.

At the end of World War II, corporate taxes accounted for about 40% of federal government income. With Reagan's latest tax cut, the rate is now down to 7% and still dipping. Of course such a drastic continuing decline makes it all the easier for Reagan to try to abolish the corporate tax altogether.

## Workers pay more taxes

Now think for a minute. Have any of the taxes you pay gone down in the last 25 years? They couldn't very well have since you have been involuntarily making up the difference caused by the contracting corporate tax income over the same period. Even with Reagan's "across-the-board" income tax cuts of the past two years, you are actually paying more now than you were three years ago if your yearly income is below \$20,000.

Even among the corporations, it is the smaller ones that pay the bulk of that current 7% of federal income. While the majority of businesses earn enough to be tax-

ed at the top corporate taxation rate of 46%, their actual average rate, after all the special tax credits, deductions, and whatnot, is 20%. But the average rate paid by the 20 largest commercial banks in 1980 was minus 0.9%. The average for the nine largest regulated utilities was 7.9%. Mobil paid 12.1%, Conoco 9.7%, and Exxon 1.3%. Chase Manhattan, Squibb, and Monsanto paid none.

How do they get away with it? It's easy with a little help from their friends in Washington. According to Bethlehem Steel's own statements, this giant company will receive an up to \$1.5 billion tax write-off for all the "extraordinary expenses" associated with closing its Lackawanna, N.Y., enterprise.

There is an important message in all these figures for the poor and working people of the U.S.: The country isn't broke after all! There is money aplenty for Social Security, Medicare, Food Stamps, child lunch programs, and all the other social programs that Reagan and the Congress are slashing. All that's needed is a determined, fighting mass movement of working and oppressed people that won't take no for an answer. The corporations, the Pentagon, and the government have the money. They must be forced to turn it over to those who created all the wealth in the first place: the people.

# Workers World Celebrates BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Nat Turner led one of the boldest Black insurrections in the history of slavery in the U.S.

## Breaking the Chains: the Vesey, Gabriel, Turner Revolts

By Sahu Barron

CONTRARY to the "idyllic picture" of plantation life presented by bourgeois historians, the history of slavery in the U.S. was, in fact, filled with hundreds of slave conspiracies and open revolts. Three of these heroic episodes—that of Gabriel Prosser, Denmark Vesey, and Nat Turner—embody extraordinarily modern characteristics, that bear important lessons in our struggle as workers and oppressed today.

The 30-year period within which the Prosser, Vesey, and Turner revolts erupted was generally marked by world-wide revolutionary upheaval. By the time plans for the Vesey insurrection were underway in the spring of 1800, the revolutionary Jacobins of France had already stormed the Bastille, confiscated the vast estates of the French aristocracy, and insured the distribution of land to the peasants.

The storm emanating from the revolutionary fervor that swept throughout early 19th century Europe, had also cast its shadow thousands of miles away onto the island of San Domingo, now Haiti. These valiant slaves, led by Toussaint L'Overture, defeated the weakened army of the French ruling class, and became the first independent Black nation in the Western hemisphere.

The revolutions of France and Haiti had profound influence upon the insurrectionary plots of Gabriel Prosser and Denmark Vesey. It is rarely revealed that the Prosser plot to seize control of Richmond, Va., in 1800 also incorporated plans to carry a red flag bearing the slogan popularized by the French Jacobins, "Liberty or Death." Moreover, the co-leaders of this plot, elected that once they established control in Richmond, all French citizens residing there were to be spared, and that they had hoped to enlist their assistance in carrying out their plans.

The French and Haitian Revolutions had no less impact upon the conspiracy led by Denmark Vesey in the summer of 1822. Vesey, a literate freedman and master of several languages, consistently called to the attention of his co-conspirators the success of the Haitians in establishing their independence. He even wrote to Haiti, explaining his plans and soliciting help.

These two leaders were clearly conscious revolutionists. Just as today, progressive peoples understand the necessity for internationalist solidarity, these leaders of nearly two centuries ago recognized that the success of

struggles of the exploited all over the world rested, in large part, upon moral and material support.



The Haitian Revolution of 1791, led by Toussaint L'Overture, greatly influenced slave resistance in the U.S.

### The meek do not inherit the earth

There has never been a single instance where the capitalist ruling class has ever allowed itself to be confined to non-violence in the attainment of its objectives. But it is only when the plight of the exploited is involved that the bourgeoisie finds it necessary to perpetuate the myth of the inherent passivity of the millions they oppress.

The Prosser, Vesey, and Turner revolts utterly refute this contention. While all three leaders were deeply religious, none of them accepted the tranquilizing theological dogma pushed by the slavocracy. The god they saw leveled a sword against his transgressors and the earth they envisioned was one that the meek did not inherit.

With this vision, the rebels led by Prosser fashioned bayonets and bullets through the spring of 1800. It was the biblical passages referring to the equality of all men that prompted Vesey's co-conspirators to identify every store of ammunition in Charleston, N.C.; and it was with the revelation that "The first should be last and the last shall be first," that Nat Turner and 70 others set out on the long march to Jerusalem, the county seat of Southampton, Va., in 1831.

The ruling class even today, heaps the biblical slogans of "turn the other cheek," and "love thy enemy" onto the shoulders of workers and oppressed. But while the slavocracy and the heroic leaders of these three slave revolts read from the same Bible, Prosser, Vesey, and Turner clearly understood that their oppressors would only be swayed by a militant and even violent struggle.

## Lodes of Black Gold: Black Culture and the Struggle for Freedom!

By Gwendolyn Rogers

THE INSIDIOUS process of historical negation, on which the ruling class depends in order to maximize the exploitation of Black people, has had and continues to have far reaching repercussions; the most obvious of which is commonly referred to as cultural genocide.

This intricate pattern of a distorted social, political, economic and cultural order was set in motion with the advent of imperialism and colonialism.

Eager to get on with the business of slavery, the colonialists proclaimed African society uncivilized, the people heathen, devoid of culture and in need of salvation. Hence the justification of treacherous acts on the part of the oppressors who convinced themselves of their duty to impose culture and civilization on the "godless" Africans.

Of course the real purpose of this cultural invasion was an attempt to guide the evolution of the future along lines which favored subjugation.

To serve the ends of conquest, the colonialists used every means available in their attempts to demoralize and divorce the Africans from their rich cultural heritage rooted in tribal Africa. The duration and intensity of their efforts are testament to their understanding of the power of that heritage.

### Negation of history

To fully appreciate the negation of history as a means of cultural genocide, it is important to discuss culture within a broader context than that which is commonly held by the bourgeoisie.

The dominant culture is that which upholds the interests of the ruling class. It grows out of the experience of leisure-bour-

geois culture totally committed to individual and selfish values. As such it is not reflective of the daily lives, nor does it give expression to the belief and feelings of the majority of people. The culture of the ruling class which has for the most part become synonymous with culture, is not the culture of the masses!

Culture, like all social phenomena is a powerful weapon in the hands of the oppressors. For it is through its cultural institutions that roles, rules, customs, values and ideology are communicated. In fact popular culture is replete with racist and sexist images attesting to the superiority of white males and the ruling class.

The glorification and monopolization of culture by necessity requires the myth that culture develops by an elite group. It is no wonder that working class and oppressed peoples are denied ready access to the cultures they have created.

A more comprehensive view of relations between the masses and their culture allows us to understand culture as growing out of the people's experiences as they struggle towards progress. Culture encompasses not only the arts, but the behaviors, values, habits, tools, knowledge and skills needed to improve the quality of life. The arts, which give visual and graphic expression to the people's feelings and beliefs, reflect as well as shape a people's culture. Science and technology are also reflective of that culture.

A collective phenomenon, culture is dynamic and fluid with each stage of history generating a corresponding culture.

### Black culture shaped by oppression, struggle

The development of Black cul-

ture has been shaped by oppression and the on-going revolutionary struggle against that oppression. Its roots are deeply imbedded in communal African experience, and a "passion" for freedom. The continuity of that culture has not been completely destroyed contrary to bourgeois propaganda. Slave revolts in the Caribbean, South America and the "New World" were enhanced mainly by African cultural traits. Many ingenious forms of resistance were executed by African slaves; and these revolts must be viewed as the antecedents of the contemporary struggles for Black Liberation.

Despite the oppressive circumstances encountered by Black people of any age, Black culture has not been totally assimilated into that of the dominant culture. As an act of resistance as well as pride, positive views of Black traditions are fought for and expressed with increasing intensity as the struggle intensifies. Black folklore and participatory traditions prevail as means of affirming Black life.

The past 400 years have brought numerous resurgences of creativity—this in the face of a cultural and economic structure committed to deny Black people a sense of identity.

The dominant culture has also been enhanced as a result of Black cultural achievements. In fact, the influence of Black culture, while it is often minimized, can be seen in every art form and in the sciences as well.

More and more Black cultural workers confront the evils of oppression and celebrate a tradition of struggle.

In the words of Malcolm X: "Culture is an indispensable weapon in the freedom struggle. We must take hold of it and forge the future with the past."



Contrary to racist historians, Black people during slavery resisted militantly and fought to win.

### Mass character of slave revolts

Today, the First Amendment right to free speech and assembly

plays an important organizational role in the ability of workers and oppressed people to openly call upon large segments of the population to fight back against our exploitation.

But within the period which the Prosser, Vesey, and Turner revolts took place the millions of Black slaves were denied free speech and assembly by law and by brutal force. Therefore, secrecy itself was an important organizational element in the formulation of these conspiracies.

While having to operate under such repressive conditions the leaders of these conspiracies, nevertheless, exhibited remarkable organizational ability both in the numbers of people they

were able to incorporate into their plots and the thoroughness in which the insurrections were planned.

Transcripts at Gabriel Prosser's trial indicate that the slaves involved in that conspiracy ran upwards to 9,000. Even James Monroe, then governor of Virginia, conceded that while this plot embraced most of the slaves in Richmond, knowledge of it "permeated probably the entire state."

Months were taken to prepare for the April insurrection. However, a second date was chosen since the first was betrayed. And even though news of the change in plans did not reach all of the slaves in time, more than 1,000

*Continued on page 10*

## DID YOU KNOW....

There were many land seizures during the Civil War. The basic issue of reconstruction of the south was prominently projected—land. Even while the war was in progress the ex-slaves began land seizures. Once the arming of the slaves had been forced on the North, the freed slaves attempted the true path of the revolution. For example, in early 1863 in the countryside of Jackson, Miss., slaves on a plantation had been armed by soldiers from the

North. They distributed the land and farm implements equally among themselves. They were later captured by a band of confederate soldiers and brought into Jackson. This is just one example of many such land seizures.

Black militias were formed while Reconstruction was in progress. They were formed around the core of demobilized Black soldiers and can be described as a citizens' army. When KKK violence in South Carolina disrupted the original Councils of the Union Leagues

in 1870-71, it was said the Black militias had taken their place. Clearly these civilian armies played a crucial role during the epoch of Reconstruction.

Karl Marx wrote in a letter to Frederick Engels on Jan. 11, 1860. "In my opinion, the biggest things that are happening in the world today are on the one hand the movement of the slaves in America started by the death of John Brown, and on the other the movements of the serfs in Russia."

—Jelayne Miles

# U.S. puppets losing out in El Salvador

## Washington officials push for more military aid, more U.S. troops

By John Catalinotto

FEBRUARY 7—The stunning guerrilla victory in Berlin, the quick removal of three U.S. Special Forces soldiers for ordering U.S. personnel into combat, the nervous reaction from Capitol Hill, all point out the growing weakness of Washington and the puppet regime it backs in El Salvador.

In the face of this weakness, however, top officials in the Reagan administration are asking for more military aid—increasing from \$26.3 to \$86.3 million—and are also pushing for more U.S. military planners and trainers.

Last week, U.S. Special Forces soldiers, the infamous "Green Berets" of the Viet Nam war, were flying Huey helicopters on a combat mission "near the strategic Cuscatlán bridge" in Usulután province just north of Berlin. (Washington Post, Feb. 5)

On this mission, Staff Sgt. Jay T. Stanley became the first U.S. soldier wounded in El Salvador since they were sent there in 1981. His wounding exposed the illegal U.S. combat role.

As the Viet Nam war showed, the helicopter is the major combat weapon of the Pentagon's anti-guerrilla, anti-popular warfare. It was impossible to disguise such an exercise as non-combatant.

The Pentagon still tried to lie about it but then had to shamefacedly pull back. In its later statement the Defense Dept.

tried to blame the individual officers, saying, "In accordance with standing instructions, American trainers should not have participated in such an operation." Two warrant officers and a sergeant were removed from El Salvador.

### Violates War Powers Act

What was involved here, however, was not an individual officer's choice but the decision of the Reaganites to make El Salvador the testing ground for their strategy for crushing liberation movements. Administration spokesmen have spelled that out clearly since 1981.

By placing U.S. military personnel in combat roles without first getting the authorization of Congress, the Reaganites have brazenly violated the War Powers Act passed by Congress in 1973.

The Democrats in Congress, true to their performance over the past two years, have reacted to this violation not so much with a roar as with a squawk. Their opposition was not because the Reaganite policy was anti-people, vicious, or even because it was illegal; they were simply afraid it would bring about a complete political and military defeat for U.S. imperialist interests in Central America.

Rep. Michael Barnes (D-Md) moaned that "our side is not winning the war," that "the political



DETROIT, Feb. 4—One hundred demonstrators rallied outside the Federal Building here today to show support for Dan Rutt, a draft resister. Rutt was arraigned in federal court this afternoon for refusing to register for the draft. This brings the total of such indictments to 18 nationwide.

Rutt has vowed to go to prison if necessary rather than submit to the draft. Today's picketline was organized by the recently formed Draft Resisters Defense Committee, and was attended by a delegation from the All-Peoples Congress and several other organizations.

WW photo: DAVE SOLE

and economic situation is getting worse," and that "our current policy... makes a guerrilla victory almost inevitable."

### Dodd admits \$1 billion aid

Exposing Washington's financial involvement as much greater than previously admitted, Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn) had an earthier complaint: "We've spent \$748 million there in three years. We're approaching \$1 billion and what do we have to show for it? It's so sick there."

So far all this had led to is a bill introduced by Rep. Gerry E. Studds (D-Conn) and 80 co-sponsors to declare Reagan's "human rights" certification of the butchers in San Salvador as "null and void." There's no guarantee this will get anywhere.

The Reaganites, on the other hand, are not only pushing for more military assistance, but have just had 1,600 U.S. troops take part in joint military maneuvers with the Honduras military on revolutionary

Nicaragua's border. This marks the ninth such war maneuver in Honduras since 1981, both joint and separate.

With the deteriorating U.S. position driving the Pentagon to ever greater adventures, and given the impotence or unwillingness of the Democrats to stop these adventures, it becomes more and more necessary for workers and oppressed people and all anti-war forces here to mobilize independently against U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

## 'Release Turkey's unionists!'

### First protest here hits U.S.-backed regime

By Susan Franzblau

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 5—In the first action of its kind in the U.S., a militant demonstration and rally targeting the U.S.-backed Turkish military dictatorship was held today at the Embassy of Turkey in this city.

The protest, which drew about 150 participants, was initiated by the People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM), Committee for Human Rights and Democracy in Turkey, Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq-U.S. and Canada branch, and the Committee for a Democratic Palestine.

The central demand of today's demonstration was the immediate release of 62 trade union leaders in Turkey who are on trial before a martial law court and face execution if convicted. The 62 unionists are leaders of DISK, the second largest labor confederation in Turkey until it was banned after the Turkish generals' coup on Sept. 12, 1980.

The demonstrators also called for the release of the 50,000 political prisoners jailed since the coup; an end to persecution of the national minorities in Turkey; and a cutoff of U.S. military aid to the fascist regime.

### Parallel with start of anti-war movement in 1960s

Brian Becker of PAM, who chaired the rally, drew the analogy of this demonstration with the beginning of the struggle against the U.S. invasion of Viet Nam. "In 1961," Becker said, "most people in the U.S. knew as little about Viet Nam as they do today about the terrible repression in Turkey. But in 1962, in New York City, 50 people held the first demonstration against the U.S. war in Southeast Asia. Their numbers were



WW photo: SUSAN FRANZBLAU

### Demonstration in Washington demands that the Reagan administration stop aiding the fascist Turkish junta.

modest, but their action was truly historic. They took the first step in what became a powerful mass movement. Our action today marks the opening of a new movement against another U.S.-sponsored dictatorship. Let the Reagan administration know that we are in solidarity with the peoples of Turkey and we will not remain silent while the Pentagon transforms Turkey into a giant U.S./NATO military base for the purpose of launching new wars against the peoples of the Middle East."

A representative of the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq graphically described what martial law has meant for the Kurdish people in Turkey. "The Kurds are denied all cultural expression of their heritage. As an example," he said, "three Kurdish political prisoners were killed for celebrating the Kurdish New Year. Kurds can't wear their national dress or speak their language and unemployment in Turkey is highest for the Kurdish workers."

U.S. support for the military government was denounced by all the speakers. Bill Doares, a member of Newspaper Guild Local 3 in New York City, said,

"Reagan has announced today that the administration plans to sharply raise military aid to Turkey to \$850 million, making Turkey the third largest recipient of U.S. military aid. There are 5,000 U.S. military personnel at 27 U.S. bases in the country. Turkey's status is that of an occupied country."

A woman representing the Committee for a Democratic Palestine drew on the similarities between the Turkish and Israeli governments as "puppets of the U.S. to serve its interests in the Middle East."

Many participants were active trade unionists in the U.S. Sue Bailey of AFSCME Local 1072 told the demonstrators that her local had resolved to endorse the demonstration and its demands. She said, "It is high time that we in the labor movement energetically breath life into the old slogan 'An injury to one is an injury to all.' We dedicate ourselves to stand by our brothers and sisters in the labor movement in Turkey, not just today, not just at one demonstration, but by launching a new movement that will expose the vicious anti-labor policies of Reagan both here and in Turkey!"

## Deadly Beirut blast hits Palestine center

By Bill Del Vecchio

FEBRUARY 7—A powerful car bomb murdered at least 18 Palestinian and Lebanese people, wounded over 115 people, and destroyed the Palestine Research Center in Beirut on Saturday. The bombing was the latest action in the genocidal drive against the Palestinian people that was begun by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last summer.

The Palestine Research Center was the last officially tolerated presence of the Palestine Liberation Organization to be allowed in Beirut according to the agreement that brought about the August withdrawal of PLO forces from that city.

The Center had contained the most extensive library in the world on the history and culture of the Palestinian people, but the 25,000 books were stolen by Israeli troops when they seized West Beirut. The library collection was in the process of being rebuilt through microfilm copies and private family donations when Saturday's blast destroyed it all again.

Less than two weeks ago at least 30 Palestinians were killed in a similar car bombing outside a PLO office in the Bekaa valley.

These massacres are only the most dramatic examples of an ongoing campaign by the Israelis, their Lebanese KKK-type allies, the Phalange, and the U.S. "peace-keeping" force to drive all the Palestinians out of Lebanon and crush the Lebanese organizations that oppose Phalange rule over Lebanon.

While much has been made of the small confrontations that have taken place between U.S. Marines in Beirut and Israeli forces, the fact remains that although the Israelis and the U.S. may have different interests in Lebanon, their strategic objective of crushing the Palestinians

and their Lebanese allies is the same.

The U.S. Marines have done nothing to stop the Lebanese Army, which is dominated by pro-Phalange officers and directed by Phalangist politicians, from making mass arrests of Palestinians and Lebanese progressives and detaining them without charges, hearings or any semblance of legality.

The Marines are not there to stop the harassment, arrests, beatings, bombings and outright massacres of Palestinians. They are there only to make sure that Lebanon is restored to its former role of an economic neo-colony of the U.S. and to a lesser degree France and the other imperialist powers.

The Israeli militarists, although totally dependent on the Pentagon for their weapons and aid, nevertheless have their own designs on exploiting Beirut and Lebanon, and so Reagan sent in the Marines to make sure that the Israelis are "kept in their place."

But crushing the resistance of the Palestinian and Lebanese people is proving to be a much harder task than the Pentagon expected, and already there are openly expressed worries among the Marine brass about being "tied down for too long in Lebanon."

Yesterday fighters of the Lebanese National Movement attacked Israeli forces in two separate actions, one occurring south of the port city of Sidon and the other outside of Beirut. The Israelis admit that several of their soldiers were wounded in the attacks, and the resistance fighters escaped unharmed. And at the concentration camp of Ansar, outside of Nabatiyeh a hunger strike has begun among the 5,000 prisoners to protest the inhuman treatment they are receiving from the Israeli military.

# Fightback can save Jersey hospital!

By L. Volpe

JERSEY CITY, Feb. 8—This week, workers at the Jersey City Medical Center and community residents displayed militant determination to keep their hospital open.

In the continuing struggle against the hospital management and the Reaganite mayor and governor who want to cut services and ultimately close the only public hospital in the county, the All-Peoples Congress is organizing a public hearing for this coming Friday. Patients, community activists, doctors, hospital workers, union leaders, and clergy are among those expected to testify about the impact that the closing of the hospital or any more cutbacks or layoffs would have on the lives of

community residents and workers.

The APC and other community activists along with hospital workers have already gotten out over 10,000 leaflets about the hearing at housing projects, churches, laundromats, and train and bus stations calling on the public to come and testify. APC organizers have spoken at four community meetings and on a radio talk show this past week. Other meetings are planned. (See accompanying article, page 6.) Free transportation for those around the city who can't afford it is being organized for the hearing.

### Impact study

Although the closing of the hospital would be a disaster,

especially to the poor and oppressed in this city, the 17th poorest in the U.S., no government agency has conducted an impact study!

Today, the state Municipal Finance Commission granted the hospital Board of Managers permission to file for bankruptcy under Chapter 9 (for government agencies) without any impact study. This is a violation of state law, which states that only the City Council, by a two-thirds majority vote, can petition the Commission for permission to file a Chapter 9.

The state agency has denied the legal arguments of the APC and the AFSCME union.

These moves, along with previous government maneuvers, confirm the long-held argument

of the APC that a conspiracy exists between the state and city governments as well as the Board of Managers to close the hospital.

### Militant protest

Last Thursday, hospital officials announced that the workers might only get 70% of their pay the next day. A hospital spokesman added that this action might lead to enough resignations to make severe cuts or even a shutdown possible.

But the workers had other ideas. About 400 workers and community activists confronted the Board that evening. The meeting, decorated with APC placards, became so militant that the Board members had to leave under police protection.

It was the second Board meeting that was taken over by workers and community residents. Several union leaders spoke of court actions against the Board and the city.

Milt Filker, President of AFSCME District Council 52, stated that the Board was trying to provoke a walkout but that the unions and the community would run the hospital if the Board refused. He called on the Board to resign.

APC spokeswoman Monica Moorehead declared that the money is there to run the hospital and that an organized fightback movement will force the city and state to fund the hospital.

Reda Bacon, AFSCME Local 2254 president, called on everyone to pack this Thursday's City Council meeting in an effort to force the city to fund the hospital with the city's \$8 million budget surplus.

During a militant display by the workers of chanting and even pushing members of the Board for walking out for a "recess," Rachel Duell of the APC denounced the conspiracy. She urged all to dig in for the long struggle ahead and to build the public hearing.

After an hour the Board returned and was immediately berated by speaker after speaker. The second time they walked out, Board members needed a cordon of police to escort them to their cars.

The APC-sponsored public hearing will be on Feb. 11 at St. John's Baptist Church, 525 Bramhall Ave., Jersey City, at 7 p.m. If last Thursday's meeting is any barometer of the determination of the workers and community to keep their hospital open, the conspirators have a force to reckon with.



Demonstration outside federal court in Detroit over postponement of the APC's food for the people.

## Judge postpones APC food suit

By Katherine Wells

DETROIT, Jan. 31—For the second time in two weeks, U.S. District Court Judge Ralph Guy has postponed the hearing for the All-Peoples Congress lawsuit against President Reagan and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The lawsuit is demanding that the millions of tons of food stored in warehouses be released and distributed to the hundreds of thousands of hungry people in Detroit and Michigan. The next court date is set for Feb. 28.

This morning, 150 APC members and friends again gathered in front of the federal building to demand the release of the food and to denounce the government and the court's continual delays.

Old and young alike picketed and chanted, carrying the green, yellow and orange flags and banners. Some people walking with the aid of canes and a disabled person in a wheelchair attended. AFSCME president Joe King joined the picket, as did Rev. Edward Ducree.

The loud chants—"Release the food now!"—drew the attention of passers-by and many expressed their support. Even the judges inside heard the crowd, and complained that the APC members were "too loud."

"We're getting stronger, not weaker, with every postponement. We're gaining more allies and more members," Debbie Johnson told the crowd. "We're here today to tell Judge Guy, President Reagan and anyone else that tries to get in our way that we are not going to give up and go home. We have a right to that food."

From the picketline, the crowd marched to a nearby hotel where a strategy session was held. Johnson, a national board member of the APC, chaired the meeting and laid out the tasks at hand. "We have to go everywhere in this city and sign up new members for the All-Peoples Congress. Let's get the whole city of Detroit involved in the lawsuit."

She continued, "The only language they understand is the sound of marching feet!"

### Labor, community support

Speaking today were Nellie Cuellar, chairperson of the local chapter of the National Caucus of Black Aged, Joe King, president of AFSCME Local 23 and Rev. Edward Ducree of the First Heritage United Methodist Church.

Cuellar told the group, "Commitment is the key to the struggle. As long as we stay committed, nothing can beat us down."

King denounced the delays in the court proceedings, and pledged to build support for the lawsuit in his union. This very afternoon, he said, he would meet with AFSCME international president Gerald McEntee.

Rev. Ducree offered his church as one of the APC's headquarters in the city. "And to show this isn't rhetoric, I want you to get the biggest sign you can find and hang it in front," he said.

Statements of support came in from the major organization of small farmers in the state. Bruce Rutan of the



Monica Moorehead tells board hearing that peoples' fightback will keep hospital open.

WW photo

## APC fights closing



WW photo

By J. Valentin

JERSEY CITY, Feb. 7—Last week, the Jersey City All-Peoples Congress organized community meetings in various housing projects here in the ongoing struggle to save the Jersey City Medical Center, the only community hospital that serves poor and working people. The hospital is threatened with layoffs and cutbacks in medical care. The APC is also building support for a city-wide public hearing on Friday, Feb. 11. Above is the meeting at the Booker T. Washington Projects, where over 40 people participated.

Discussed at these meetings were how the Mayor, Governor, and the Board of Managers were not seriously considering the effects the closing of the hospital will have on the community, and how, on the basis of their closed-door meetings, they could not be trusted.

Also discussed were previous actions that led to victories for the communities. This included the demonstration where over 300 people came out to protest the layoffs and cuts in services; the pack-

ing of the courtroom hearings with angry workers and community residents, forcing the judge to say the hospital couldn't declare bankruptcy; and packing the city council chambers with hundreds of workers and community people. On the mind of every person was: what would be the next step in the struggle to keep the hospital open?

On Friday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m., the All-Peoples Congress will be holding a public hearing on the Medical Center at St. John's Baptist church at 525 Bramhall Ave. The hearing is viewed as part of the continuing struggle to save the Medical Center and to provide the community with an opportunity to examine the impact that the current efforts to cutback services at the hospital, and even to close it, would have on the poor and working people of Jersey City and Hudson County. At this hearing patients, hospital workers, and community activists will be among those giving testimony. The time is long past due for the people to speak up. This is going to happen in public and uncensored on Feb. 11.

## How you can help

THERE IS A WAY for those living outside the Detroit area to help in the campaign to release the food to feed the many hungry people there.

That way is to write a letter to the federal judge charged with hearing the lawsuit brought by the Detroit All-Peoples Congress. The letter can state support for the APC's suit and demand that Judge Guy, with no more delay, immediately sign the order releasing the food so that people can eat adequately again.

Letters, telegrams, or post cards should be addressed to Judge Ralph Guy, Old Federal Building, 231 W. Lafayette, Detroit, Mich., 48226.

# APC demands gas price rollback

By Mallory Merrill

**BUFFALO, Jan. 31**—The All-Peoples Congress (APC) held a news conference here today to announce plans to petition the Public Service Commission (PSC) demanding a 50% general reduction in the rates of National Fuel Gas (NFG) and a halt to utility shut-offs.

Bernadette Cozart, National Coordinator of the APC stated that "according to Section 71 and other sections of the Public Service Law, we can officially file for a roll-back in rates, just the same as NFG can file for an increase. We are filing on behalf of everyone in Western New York who can no longer pay the outrageous gas bills."

She explained that the reduction complaint is a first in the history of the PSC and could effectively block the recent request by NFG for another rate increase.

"The people of Western New York," Cozart continued, "are experiencing the most severe economic crisis since the 1930s, resulting in hundreds of plant shutdowns and tens of thousands of unemployed threatened by foreclosures, evictions and utility shut-offs. And the announced closing of Bethlehem Steel will mean the death of the city of Lackawanna and the ultimate loss of 50,000 jobs in New York State."

This is an economic disaster, she said, which is causing the ruin and destruction of tens of

thousands of families who cannot afford to pay their gas bills. Despite the fact that there is a gas and oil glut on the world market, there has been no corresponding rate reduction to customers.

Cozart went on, "We recognize the importance of a strong community response on this issue, and we look forward to the PSC holding local public hearings on the merits of a gas rate roll-back. In order for such a rate reduction to be approved, we recognize that an out-pouring of anger from the entire area will be required."

The APC is also petitioning Governor Cuomo to issue an Executive Order reducing all utility rates and halting the shutdown of Bethlehem Steel and other companies, and issuing a moratorium on foreclosures, evictions and utility shutoffs.

## 'Fight to the finish'

Speaking on behalf of herself and other senior citizens, Ms. Josephine Green, an active APC member, stated that, "I agree with the demands of the APC and I am committed to a fight to the finish! Reagan has broken all of his promises to the needy. He is taking food out of children's mouths. It is un-American and un-patriotic and a distorted sense of priorities. It allows the rich to get richer, while the poor are losing homes, food stamps, welfare, and health-care benefits. Reagan is not upholding the American Constitution as he has sworn to do. Every person has a



APC organizer Bernadette Cozart: "We are filing for a rollback of gas prices on behalf of everyone in Western New York who can no longer pay the outrageous bills."

WW photo: MALLORY MERRILL

right to be fed. But this is not allowed anymore, so we must fight."

"Reagan, enough of your tricks! Leave Social Security alone! We've worked all of our lives to make your class rich and healthy. Now let us finish our lives in peace with no harassment. We demand: The release of all surplus food, and an immediate reduction in utility rates."

Dan Bentivogli, Secretary of the United Environmental Workers Union exclaimed, "The people cannot and will not pay higher rates. NFG made more money last year than they ever

made. We invite the people of Western New York to attend a massive public hearing to speak against rising gas rates. We call on the entire community to join us in rolling back the gas rates."

Attending the press conference were high school and college students, community activists from the Black, Puerto Rican, lesbian and gay communities, seniors, APC activists and organizers, and employed and unemployed workers. Covering the news conference were two local television and radio stations and a senior citizens' newspaper.

Trois protests repeated government people suit.

WW photo: DAVE SOLE

## tpones uit

American Agricultural Movement of Michigan called for the immediate release of the food. "It's a disgrace to our country that the government bureaucracy won't release the food to the people who need it."

Another statement of support came in from Nimrod Carney, president of AFSCME Local 1642. Carney represents the workers who distribute food for the city. "We on the front lines of distributing services know how great the need is in this city," he said.

The meeting then broke down into four regional divisions, and organizers from each area discussed how to carry out the special APC membership drive and the continuing struggle to release the food.

# NYS refuses aid to stricken steel city

## What really happened at closed-door meeting

By Tom Soto

**BUFFALO, Feb. 5**—At times a seemingly small and unimportant event can turn out to have special significance if it reveals a trend affecting the working class and oppressed on a broader scale. Take, for example, the meeting held last week between New York State Lt. Governor Alfred DelBello, Mayor Thomas Radich of the City of Lackawanna, and some 30 other officials on the federal, state, county, and city level.

The City and people of Lackawanna are facing the most severe economic crisis since the great depression of the 1930s. Lackawanna, an industrial suburb of Buffalo, was literally built up around the founding and development of the steel industry, particularly Bethlehem Steel. Now, after 80 years, Bethlehem has announced the closing later this year of its Lackawanna plant.

### Steel plant crucial to Lackawanna

In the heyday of steel production, Bethlehem's Lackawanna plant employed 22,000 workers. Its closing will eliminate the jobs of 3,900 current workers and another 3,400 already on layoff.

Lackawanna is a company town. Two-thirds of the City's real tax dollar base comes from Bethlehem Steel. Every business and job in the City will be adversely affected if the shutdown takes place. But the economic catastrophe the area is facing is even bigger.

Western New York and the rest of the state will lose 50,000 jobs as a result of Bethlehem's closing. The Western New York region in the last several years of the capitalist economic crisis has experienced the shutting down of hundreds of plants. As unemployment insurance and other

benefits run out, thousands of families are facing foreclosures, evictions, and utility shutoffs due to the lack of jobs.

Lackawanna is an extreme example of what is happening to many small cities throughout New York State. So the meeting between federal, state, county, and local authorities and the personal representative of the newly elected Democratic Governor, Mario Cuomo, is of interest because it could reveal the State's attitude toward all the cities in crisis.

Cuomo was elected over his Reaganite opponent, Lew Lehrman, with the backing of the Rockefeller financial interests (who have traditionally controlled the governor of the state, whether Democrat or Republican). Also supporting Cuomo, however, was a coalition of the official labor movement and even some so-called progressives.

### Meeting presented as effort to save area

Cuomo sent Lt. Gov. DelBello to present the State's plan to salvage the situation in Lackawanna. In fact, the bourgeois media hailed the meeting as the beginning of a "coordinated state effort to save Lackawanna" from financial disaster. A source who attended the meeting, however, told this reporter that there was in fact no State plan at all.

DelBello was introduced as a man familiar with the problems of running a county and city. He had been the County Executive of Westchester when the City of Yonkers was in a similar financial crisis and was praised as playing a role in not only getting Yonkers back on its feet but saving New York City as well when it was facing a default crisis. These experiences, it was stated, made Lt. Gov. DelBello particularly

suitable in the present situation.

Then DelBello opened the meeting and made it clear right off the bat that he hadn't come with the kind of help that local officials were hoping for. New York City and Yonkers were not saved by becoming "wards of the State," he said. He told the gathering, which also included a representative from Marine Midland Bank, that Lackawanna has to "stand on its own two feet" and develop a plan of cutbacks, layoffs, increased taxes, and other austerity measures to make up for the revenue lost from Bethlehem's Lackawanna plant, which accounted for over 60% of the city's income!

The Lieutenant Governor wasn't only talking about Lackawanna, which with an annual budget of \$3 million could easily be rescued. His message to other communities was: no city in financial crisis should be bailed out by the State.

Requests for help by City officials were answered with an explanation that Gov. Cuomo had proposed a "tough" budget which would reduce many and even eliminate some programs for the cities. The State's goal, said DelBello, was a no-deficit budget.

### Not a word about help for unemployed

Perhaps the most striking thing about this meeting was that, with all the suffering being inflicted on the workers of the area, not one program of assistance to unemployed workers, residents, or local businesses was discussed. There was no hint of any attempt to keep Bethlehem Steel open, and no specific financial aid was offered.

All the discussion centered on the City's debt to the banks. City financial officers explained that

Lackawanna owed \$1.2 million in principal, due this year, to banks such as Marine Midland and Manufacturers and Traders and would default if no assistance was forthcoming. Officials raised the fear that Moody's Investor Service would give the city a bad rating, and that the proposed sale in May of \$3.5 million in bonds could be in jeopardy.

DelBello ended by cautioning everyone on how to speak to the press so as not to create a panic. Then he went downstairs and held a news conference telling the media that "a coordinated government effort" had been launched to save Lackawanna from economic disaster.

### 'Emergency task force' equally ineffective

The strategy of the public officials is very obvious: give the impression that something is being done so that the workers and community won't go outside the established channels and take independent initiatives to fight for their interests. But in fact nothing is being done and all the vague promises only amount to a hollow public relations campaign.

The next step in this campaign to deceive the workers was the announcement that Cuomo had established an emergency task force to keep Bethlehem in Lackawanna, assist the dislocated workers of the area, and diversify Western New York's industrial base.

On examination, however, the task force's plan consists of 1) getting locals of the United Steelworkers of America to offer concessions to Bethlehem so it won't close the plant, and 2) requesting \$47 million from the federal government for retraining of the unemployed.

The federal government, which

as everyone knows is itself cutting back right and left on domestic programs in order to expand the military, is offering not \$47 million but less than \$2 million to the area for job training. Even if all of it were to go just to the Bethlehem workers, it would come to less than \$200 apiece—and the next question would be: retraining for what? There are no jobs.

Any worker closely watching all this shadow-boxing by the public officials can only conclude that they will do nothing except protect the financial interests of the banks and corporations while the workers' jobs go down the tube.

### Independent fightback

Here in the Western New York area, however, there is an alternative that is growing in popularity with each day. It is the campaign of the All-Peoples Congress to organize the workers and the community in an independent struggle to stop Bethlehem from closing. Every day on the street corners and at the plant gates APC volunteers are explaining how the governor has the legal responsibility to respond to this emergency, and how he has the authority to protect the welfare of the community by issuing an executive order forbidding further layoffs and the transfer of any facility or equipment.

Faced with the most difficult situation of their lives, area residents by the thousands are signing a petition demanding that Cuomo act now to prevent another callous runaway by a multi-million dollar corporation that has drained the life blood out of so many. In community meetings coming up, they will be discussing how to back up these petitions with more direct action.

# EDITORIAL

## Preaching peace, plotting war

WHENEVER the U.S. government sends a high-ranking official abroad, the press is first given a thorough briefing on the purpose of the trip. Is it ever said that Mr. X will be instigating new armed attacks and subversion against Country A, trying to undermine the economy of Country B, and will be acting as an international arms peddler for his friends back home in the defense industry?

That would be a strangely candid press briefing, indeed. No, Mr. X is always on a mission to shore up world peace, which requires the intervention of U.S. troops all over the globe. He is always seeking to rescue the world economy by opening doors to U.S. capital. And he invariably charms his hosts with his candor, his relaxed and affable style, his down-home American pragmatism. The massive demonstrations that his trip provokes are merely a picturesque and predictable backdrop to his meetings with presidents and prime ministers.

Last week two Mr. X's were circling the globe—Secretary of State George Shultz and Vice President George Bush. Forgive us for not having received the proper briefings, but we have a somewhat different view of what their trips were all about.

Shultz went to Asia—most notably China and south Korea. He was to use all his business acumen, developed in the days when he represented the far-flung empire of the Bechtel Corporation, to sell the Chinese leaders on deepening their military relationship with the U.S. and buying U.S. weapons. Ever since the Nixon visit, Washington has cultivated the Chinese leaders as strategic allies against both the USSR and Viet Nam.

### U.S. still out to destroy Indochinese Revolution

While in China, Shultz met with Prince Sihanouk, the former Cambodian head of state who was ousted by a pro-U.S. military coup led by General Lon Nol. How ironic that Sihanouk, now nothing but a figurehead for a coalition of mercenaries and counter-revolutionaries, should be smiling and shaking hands with a representative of the government that overthrew him and plunged his nation into the horrors of war! On Shultz's part, the handshake was a public endorsement of the current well-financed military campaign against the present Kampuchean government, which is allied with Viet Nam and has been making heroic efforts to bring its people back from ruin.

Washington has never given up in its more than 30-year effort to destroy the Indochinese Revolution, nor has it forgiven the Vietnamese for delivering the U.S. Goliath such a stinging defeat. Washington's collaboration with Beijing in recruiting and financing a mercenary army against Kampuchea is just another attempt to get back into Indochina through the back door.

Economic issues were also discussed on this visit, to the apparent frustration of the Chinese leaders. Their "open door" policy toward the U.S. is bringing neither the high technology they wanted to modernize their industry nor the market in the U.S. for Chinese goods, especially textiles, that they need to pay for imports.

From China, Shultz went to south Korea to reassure the puppet regime there. In a provocative act now almost routine for visiting U.S. Secretaries of State, he went to the DMZ separating the two halves of Korea and sighted down a gun barrel at installations of the socialist north. The message was clear: Washington's alliance with China will in no way modify its use of south Korea as a military bastion in Asia and a source of superprofits.

### Bush's red herring

George Bush, meanwhile, was on a tour of Europe that evoked none of the enthusiasm with which U.S. representatives were greeted in an earlier era. Mass opposition to U.S. nuclear arms in Europe, a deepening trade war, rising working class opposition to Reagan-type austerity programs—all this threatens the political and military alliances of European and U.S. imperialism.

The best Bush could come up with was a message to the Italian government urging them to pursue their investigation of the "Bulgarian and Soviet connection" to the shooting of the Pope! If ever there was a red herring being swung around to distract attention from the real issues, this plot story is surely it. But distractions are only that. In the long run they only further undermine the credibility of the Reagan government, which has very little to begin with.

## Support Workers World

YES! I want to be a Workers World Supporter

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$50 lump sum or \$5 for first month).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send checks to Workers World 46 W. 21 St., NY, NY 10010



## Verdict on Beirut massacre covers up Reagan-Begin guilt

By Andy Stapp

FEBRUARY 9—Now that the Israeli judicial inquiry into the massacre last summer at Beirut's Sabra and Shatila refugee camps has been issued, several points stand out.

First, the report doesn't go far enough. While it recommended the resignation of Defense Minister Ariel Sharon for his "deep involvement," it left Army Chief Rafael Eytan and Prime Minister Menachem Begin go with a slap

on the wrist, claiming they only had "a certain degree of responsibility."

Any truly unbiased court would have told the truth: Begin and Sharon as well as their entire government should be forced to resign and then be indicted for mass murder. After all, even this cover-up inquiry conceded that the Israeli Defense Minister "ordered" the fascist Phalange killers into the camps.

The second glaring omission is

that the findings left out the U.S. government's complicity and the role of the CIA in the slaughter. Perhaps the very distinguished judges on the tribunal didn't notice that article in the New York Times last Sept. 30 which documented how Elias Hobeika, the Phalangist directly supervising the executions of hundreds of Palestinian women and children and unarmed men "had regular contacts with American officials

Continued on page 11

## Kampuchea wins victory in drive against counter-revolutionaries

By Paddy Colligan

FEBRUARY 6—The Peoples Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam launched a joint military offensive last week to drive counter-revolutionary forces from the Kampuchea-Thai border area.

While the Kampuchea government in Phnom Penh is now in control of the rest of the country and is carrying out numerous reconstruction programs, the attacks by these pro-imperialist forces have been a serious drain on Kampuchean and Vietnamese resources and have diverted efforts from the all-important projects to raise the standard of living and restore normal life to the people of both countries who have suffered so much.

Kampuchea and Viet Nam now appear, however, to have won a significant military victory against the counter-revolutionary forces. The joint Kampuchean-Vietnamese military drive destroyed some military bases and pushed anti-communist guerrilla forces into Thailand. The New York Times reports on the fighting have been sketchy and have focused exclusively on the unfortunate plight of refugee women and children.

This victory in Kampuchea must be seen in the context of escalating U.S.-backed aggression against Kampuchean territory coming from Thailand, a pro-U.S. regime which has funneled money and weapons to the anti-Vietnamese forces. In 1982, the Kampuchean government recorded an average of 653 incidents of bombardment of Kampuchean territory from

Thailand per month. This was a significant increase over the level of aggression in 1981 when there was an average of 430 attacks per month. These figures do not include incursions by Thai aircraft for purposes of spying, bombing, supplying counter-revolutionary bands, and sabotage.

### Popular support for Phnom Penh Government

The popular hatred felt for the counter-revolutionaries recently surprised even the Kampuchean government. Last year Phnom Penh organized a series of demonstrations to mobilize popular opposition to the rump pro-imperialist coalition. That coalition has been promoted by the U.S. and China in international forums to gain it legitimacy as the force to hold Kampuchea's United Nations seat.

According to the November issue of the French monthly *Le Monde Diplomatique*, the Kampuchean people came out in much greater numbers and were more militant than the government itself had expected.

Foreign journalists and relief workers report an almost universal hatred of what the Pol Pot years brought to the country. If anything, people are fearful that the Vietnamese troops might leave before security—defined as safety from a return of the old regime—can be guaranteed by Kampuchea's own military.

### U.S. hypocrisy on refugees

U.S. concern for refugees on the Kampuchean border is pure hypocrisy and a cover for imper-

alist maneuvers and intrigue. The U.S. wants to install a puppet in Kampuchea in order to pursue its campaign against the people of Viet Nam to reverse the historic defeat Viet Nam dealt the U.S. in 1975.

The refugee issue is closely tied to refugee aid. In a closed door meeting at the UN last January, almost \$16 million was raised to assist UN relief efforts in Kampuchea. But \$8.5 million, or more than half the funds raised, will go to the few thousand refugees along the Thai border—money which will wind up with the armed forces of the counter-revolutionary coalition along the border. The rest will go to the remaining 6 million people living in the Peoples Republic of Kampuchea.

This division of money is more understandable because the U.S. donated \$7.3 million—most of the amount slated to go to the border area. "Humanitarian relief" is once again a cover for U.S. manipulations.

A Western oil company is now also involved. In January, the Kampuchean government warned Union Oil Company not to explore for oil in the Gulf of Siam—an area internationally recognized as part of Kampuchea. Thailand had granted this company the exploration and exploitation rights in two areas which are part of Kampuchean national territory.

The Kampuchean government has promised to do whatever is necessary to defend their territory and natural resources there, as they have been doing along the Thai border.



# How the Pentagon intensifies world hunger

By Sam Marcy

FEBRUARY 8—Never in all world history has there been such a super-abundance of food and the means to produce it and make it available as there is today. Yet it is absolutely no secret at all that world hunger has been increasing rather sharply in the last decade.

Low-profile publicity on famine in the sub-Saharan region is only one aspect of a global picture which has the deepest and profoundest political and military implications.

To begin with, the U.S. and its imperialist allies, with the possible qualified exception of Japan, are almost as concerned with controlling the food supply of the world to the detriment of the dependent and oppressed peoples as they are intent on maintaining military and political domination over them.

And this is due not merely to the struggle between imperialism and the USSR, which of course is important in and of itself.

## Remarkable growth of agricultural productivity

First, some well-known facts which are rarely brought into focus, especially in the headlines:

The U.S. ever since the Second World War has been able to effectuate what the Scientific American of September 1982 calls a "second agricultural revolution." The magazine's study concludes that agriculture in the U.S. "is now considerably more mechanized than manufacturing."

While some may challenge this conclusion in its broadest terms, there is no denying that it is generally correct and is supported by the data presented in the article and other sources.

In the U.S. at the beginning of the nineteenth century some 70% of the labor force worked on the farms. Today, the study claims, 3% not only feed the population but also produce a large surplus for export.

We are most concerned with the matter of the exports here. The popular conception well-cultivated by agribusiness is that farming is one of the finest examples of traditional free enterprise and rugged individualism. The old virtues and glories of the independent farmer of yesteryear are supposedly fully alive and well in the current era of high technology and space-age innovation.

## Now a military-agricultural complex?

This is the purest bunk disseminated not merely by agribusiness but by the media and the press as well. The truth of the matter is that agriculture and food production are fused with foreign policy and military strategy in the same way as is the military-industrial complex, just not to the same degree.

This is not understood by the working class here, or even abroad, since the imperialist allies are just as much concerned with hiding the truth as is the Pentagon itself.

Everyone knows, for instance, that there is a glut of oil and that there is also a glut of world agricultural products. But the most important source of them, especially wheat, is still the U.S. and its imperialist allies, even counting the special case of Argentina.

How to export the tremendous produce of the U.S. agricultural sector is not a matter which an individual farmer can at all bother his head about. He can only think about how to get rid of it, and the

government is usually the biggest purchaser and the one that influences the price, the market in general, the customer, the form of payment, and so forth and so on.

It's the same in the European agricultural sector as well. And these questions are calculated not merely in dollars and cents but also in a matter akin to military precision with a view to geopolitical conditions.

## Food a weapon

Food is a weapon as lethal as any over a period of time. And no aspect of military strategy ever fails to take that into account.

The role of the U.S. as an exporter and also as a financier is illustrated by this fact of international relations: For the past decade, almost a hundred countries have from year to year had to file applications to obtain exports of agricultural commodities from the U.S. and/or to obtain financing through the Export-Import Bank.

A hundred countries! That's a big chunk of the global population. Just how is this done and how does it work?

If you are a representative of one of the countries on the famine list reported on by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (New York Times, Feb. 6), you first have to file an application with the Agriculture Department of the U.S. (USDA), which has its own intelligence unit and its own political contacts in the area.

So if you are representing, for instance, Chad or the Sudan or Mali, all of which are on the famine list today, you will first be examined very carefully and checked out by the intelligence unit of the Agriculture Department, which is supposed to have as one of its functions the creating of markets for U.S. agriculture.

(Would it ever occur to anybody to say that the Labor Department has as one of its functions to create a market for jobs in this country?)

After the examination by the USDA, the application is then of course processed by the State Department, which supposedly assesses it merely from a foreign policy point of view. But one of the objectives of U.S. foreign policy, as was carelessly made public by none other than former Secretary of State Haig, is to push U.S. exports within the overall framework of foreign policy. His particular interest during his tenure in office was coal.

The application then goes to the Pentagon, which usually denies that it has to approve such matters. But everyone knows that the Pentagon maintains a strong liaison with State and the USDA. It should not be forgotten, of course, that when everything is all approved, the Export-Import financing still has to be taken care of.

Usually the process is from USDA to Ex-Im to State and then to the Pentagon (and all of them have their own intelligence units).

## Situation in the Sahel

If you take the countries on the famine list, as released on Feb. 6 (really only a small portion of the population that suffers food deficiencies), you will find Chad, Mauritania, Senegal, Cape Verde, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, and Gambia. They are usually called the sub-Saharan group.

The UN report describes their desperate situation and the limited and inadequate means of storage and transportation should aid arrive. It makes the

usual appeal for further aid, saying that transportation bottlenecks make it likely that suffering will spread; that 150 trucks are needed for this while only 40 are available.

The rest of the report describes what are called the natural causes, such as rainfall problems which caused the drought, and so on. It is the kind of report, one of many, which is calculated to appeal to humanitarian instincts and to gather a little more aid from the UN. Unfortunately, even though this report is well-meaning and contains accurate information, it leaves out what is most important:

First, that this region, called the Sahel, is an area of intense imperialist contention and food is an important factor in the calculation of the imperialists.

Secondly, if you happen to be the representative of Chad, you have already earned the enmity of the U.S. if you are in any way now or have been previously sympathetic to the Libyan government.

If you represent the Sudan, you should know that previous U.S. experiments to make it a fertile valley, a virtual Saudi Arabia for agricultural production, have gone bust. The various U.S. personnel have become discredited there, even with the reactionary Nimeiri regime.

But these two are still minor matters. The important thing is that the Pentagon has a veto over State and USDA if it in any way feels that aid, on either stringent or generous terms, is likely to lay the basis for the growth or resurgence of a liberation struggle aimed at the U.S. The food and military weapons, therefore, have to be correlated in such a way as to assure that if at all pos-

sible the food and weapons package go together, even though under legal, diplomatic cover they appear to be totally separate.

In the Sahel, which is only one part of the world hunger area, the U.S. and other imperialists appear to be aloof but are in reality the principal cause of the famine. Much of the problem in the Sahel was predictable but left to linger precisely because of the motivations of the imperialist powers, particularly the U.S. and France, toward Chad. If the productive forces available to the Sahel were freed from imperialist control and domination things would be entirely different.

The productive capacities for agriculture in most of the world's oppressed countries, even if based on a bourgeois mode of agricultural output, would still be a great improvement were it not for the interference of imperialism and its efforts to cultivate a dependent comprador bourgeois class.

## Monopoly over scientific information

One of the most important weapons that the imperialists have are their highly sophisticated methods of weather forecasting, which enable them to know with a kind of precision impossible years ago the weather conditions on a global scale. They have been able to do this as a result of information gathered by satellites and organized under an umbrella—COMSAT—with many member nations but in reality controlled by the U.S. and several other imperialists. Thus they can get data early enough to be able to make significant practical decisions on either purchase or sale of crops on a world scale.

The political control this bestows is not that much different from the grip of the ancient pharaohs on Egypt. The priestly ruling class held a tight monopoly on the astronomical secrets that allowed them to predict the annual flooding of the Nile. Egyptian agriculture was dependent on this information, for the seeds had to be in the ground at just the right time before the waters rose. The theocracy prolonged their rule through their monopoly over the scientific information of the day, which was one of the fundamental contributing factors in the ultimate decline and disintegration of Egyptian agriculture.

The reader will recall how the U.S. capitalist press has always berated the USSR for keeping its agricultural and other data secret, the implication being that that was the result of so-called totalitarian control and lack of democratic methods.

The truth of the matter, of course, is that by forecasting developments, especially through satellites, they are able to predict (not always accurately, of course) the agricultural position of the USSR and thereby put themselves in a better market position.

Speculators on the world corn, wheat, and soybean markets would virtually cut each other's throats to be among the first to get the data. The USSR, as we have seen since the fiasco of the U.S. grain embargo, can take care of itself.

But when the U.S. and other imperialists learn about the agricultural position of some of the poorer countries, they use

# Pentagon 'war games' menace Korean people

By Bruce Bradshaw

FEBRUARY 7—The Pentagon's "Team Spirit" military exercises directed against north Korea have been an annual event for some years, but "Team Spirit 83" is by far the largest and most menacing of these war games ever staged.

From Feb. 1 until mid-April, 70,000 U.S. troops and 118,000 soldiers of the fascist south Korean regime—over 188,000 in all—will carry out what amounts to a "test war" against the socialist north.

Responding to this, the north Korean Supreme Command issued the following order on Feb. 1: "All units of the Korean People's Army and the entire members of the Korean People's Security Forces, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and the entire people will get ready in full combat gear.

"This is a self-defensive measure against the U.S. imperialists who are desperately seeking a way out of the serious political and economic crisis in a new war of aggression.

"Our people love peace and do not want war. But we will never allow the imperialists to invade our country.

"If the U.S. imperialists ignite a war, our people will turn out as one in the struggle to defend their People's power, socialist system and inviolable motherland."

## Shultz at DMZ

Presiding over the opening of "Team Spirit 83" as imperial-



U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz this week with U.S. troops on the border separating north Korea from the U.S.-occupied south. His presence during a massive war maneuver only underscores Washington's pro-war stance.

ism's proconsul is Secretary of State George Shultz, who today is visiting the border that separates north Korea from the U.S.-occupied south, where he will, according to this morning's New York Times, "underscore the Administration's backing for the continued presence of some 39,000 American military personnel here." Tagging along with Shultz is south Korean dictator Chon Du Hwan, a "prized and valued friend" according to the U.S. Secretary of State. Chon is not so "prized and valued" by the people of the south Korean city of Kwangju, 3,000 of whom he massacred in May 1980.

A recent report by the Senate Armed Services Committee candidly admitted that "Army com-

manders in Korea believe that Korea represents the best possible training ground in the world for U.S. ground combat troops. It provides extensive maneuvering areas, extensive free-firing ranges, as well as a real live adversary north of the DMZ (the border)."

With 20 million north Koreans on alert, armed and prepared to fight a people's war, as they were compelled to do once before in the 1950s, the Pentagon may find that it has a "real live adversary" indeed. As the north Korean mobilization order said, "If they start another war in Korea in violation of the unanimous desire of our people and the world people for peace and independence, they will be unable to escape an irretrievable, annihilating blow."

# 'Every soldier a fortress'

On June 21, 1941, Hitler attacked the USSR with the objective of "destroying communism." With the exception of the Soviet Union, almost the entire continent of Europe was then under Nazi domination.

By the late summer of 1942, the fascists had thrust all the way to Stalingrad, deep inside Soviet territory and an Axis victory seemed inevitable.

But here, at the height of its power, Nazi Germany received its greatest military defeat. The class conscious workers and peasants of the USSR, fighting a revolutionary war of defense against Hitler's invasion, turned the tide of battle both by their bravery and because they were backed up by the superior socialist organization of Soviet society.

What follows is the second of three articles commemorating the anniversary of this tremendous event.

By Andy Stapp

IN THE MIDDLE of September 1942, hundreds of thousands of German troops began their direct assault on Stalingrad. They had already advanced one thousand miles east, to the very border of Soviet Asia, and had every expectation of taking this city as they had stormed so many others.

In Stalingrad, however, resistance was literally being conjured up out of the ground before the enemy infantry could march in. In the last factory still working the last tank had been welded together, the arsenals had been emptied and all had been armed who were able to bear arms.

The river boat crews, workers in the armaments factories and half-grown youths were called up by the sounding of the air-raid alert, by the wail of the Stalingrad factory sirens, by the

placards and proclamations on the walls. Thousands of workers streamed to their assembly points, where they were issued rifles.

When the Nazis had attacked the cities of capitalist Europe, Paris, Belgrade, Oslo, Athens and the rest, nowhere had the government organized the whole population to meet them, nowhere did tanks roll straight off the assembly lines right into battle as they did at Stalingrad. Where the bourgeoisie were in power, even the anti-German elements preferred surrendering to Hitler, against the alternative of opening a popular resistance by arming the working class.

All Soviet cities, however, were defended in this manner, and especially Stalingrad, for its capture could have meant the loss of the entire war.

## The defense begins

Under the command of Alexander Rodimtsev, the 13th Guards Division arrived just in time to prevent Stalingrad from being taken on Sept. 15. Their sacrifice saved the city. Twenty-four hours later the 13th Guard's Rifle Division had been smashed, bombed to smithereens by stukas and mown down by shells and machine gun fire.

But more reinforcements arrived, even though often half of them were killed just trying to get across the Volga to reach the city. As each unit boarded the boats, three slogans were impressed upon it: "Every soldier a fortress!" "There's no ground left behind the Volga," "Fight or die."

Inside the inferno, the regulars wore the Red Army uniform, and the volunteers wore merely an armband. Schoolchildren and grandparents, men and boys, girls and women defended the

## 40th anniversary of Stalingrad, Part 2

city street by street, block by block, house by house, room by room, and then in the sewers and amidst the rubble.

Sgt. Jacob Pavlov, with but 20 soldiers—Russians, Georgians, Kazakhs, Uzbeks and Ukrainians—fought off a Nazi attack at one apartment building on Lenin Square for 58 days. Such acts of heroism became almost commonplace.

Living in foxholes and eating with a spoon she kept in her boot, 20-year-old super-sniper Tania Chernova and her companion Vassili Zaitsev killed over three hundred of the enemy during the siege.

For nearly a week, 50 Soviet marines stopped two German motorized infantry divisions and a Panzer division from storming a grain elevator, until death relieved them of their posts.

In October, having at last conquered Stalingrad's center, the fascists pushed into the northern part of the city with its workers' settlements and industrial enterprises. Because of the ferocity of the combat there, the names of these factories have gone down not only in the history of this war, but in world history generally—the "Red Barricade" ordnance factory, the "Red October" metallurgical works, the "Dzerzhinski" tractor works, the "Lazur" chemical complex.

Addressing a Nazi party rally in Munich on Nov. 7, 1942, Adolph Hitler boasted, "I wanted to take Stalingrad, and you know we are modest, we real-



Fighting in Stalingrad tractor plant in mid-October. The Nazis were made to pay a heavy price for its capture—3,000 of their best troops were killed.

ly have it. There are only a few small places left there."

And indeed, the Soviet resistance had fallen back into four pockets in the city, each isolated from the others. Their commander, General Vassili Chuikov, was altogether holding only one-tenth of Stalingrad. Eighty thousand of his soldiers had fallen in one month. But even then, the exhausted defenders would not yield. For there was still hope. A Red Army counter offensive was coming.

Stalingrad could yet be saved. (Editor's note: The author of this article is the former chairman of the American Servicemans Union, and specializes in writing on military affairs for Workers World)

## Join us in the struggle

Workers World Party (WWP) fights on all issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society. All work together in this organization—Black and white, Latin, Asian, and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian and gay, disabled, working, unemployed, and students.

If you would like to know more about WWP, or if you would like to join us in these struggles, contact the branch nearest you.

Atlanta: 1257 Glenwood Ave., SE, Atlanta, GA 30316 (404) 627-3093

Austin: P.O. Box 6504, Austin, TX 78762

Baltimore: 2112 North Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21218 (301) 659-9818

Bay Area: 470 Castro St., Suite 207-3047, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 641-8569

Boston: 295 Huntington Ave., Room 212, Boston, MA 02115 (617) 247-1778

Buffalo: 349 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY 14201 (716) 855-3055

Chicago: 542 S. Dearborn, Room 310, Chicago, IL 60605 (312) 922-0326

Cleveland: 2012 West 25 St., Room 613, Cleveland, OH 44113 (216) 861-6154

Detroit: 1947 Grand River, Room 201, Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 962-4979

Houston: P.O. Box 52115, Houston, TX 77052 (713) 861-1248

Jackson: P.O. Box 8783, Jackson, MS 39204

Milwaukee: 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 224-0422

New York City: 46 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010 (212) 255-0352

Rochester: 898 Portland Ave., Rochester, NY 14621 (716) 342-5539

San Antonio: P.O. Box 1504, San Antonio, TX 78295

Seattle: P.O. Box 2514, Seattle, WA 98111 (206) 323-3612

Tucson: P.O. Box 42642, Tucson, AZ 85733 (602) 792-0728

Washington, D.C.: 3221 Mt. Pleasant Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20010 (202) 483-8740

## WW forum on Cuba



Sahu Barron addresses forum.

WW photo: SUSAN FRANZBLAU

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 4—Over 80 people, many of whom were new friends, attended a Workers World Forum—"Eyewitness Cuba"—here tonight.

Sahu Barron, national board member of the All-Peoples Congress and a participant in the 1981 Venceremos Brigade, traced the history of the Afro-Latin nation and showed the basis for the strength of solidarity between Cubans and the African peoples' struggles today.

Sara Flounders, who recently went to Cuba as part of a Workers World Party delegation invited by ICAP (Cuban Institute for Peoples Friendship), related that health care and education in Cuba were free to everyone. "As the U.S. shuts down human services," she said, "here is a country—Cuba—where things are improving every day because of socialist planning."

Gato Bentley of Workers World Party chaired the meeting and also played flute in a musical interlude of progressive songs with guitarist, Chris Redding. Bentley told of his experiences in Cuba as a member of the Venceremos Brigade.

Nat Turner, a minister, used his ability to travel throughout Southhampton County to spread the word about the planned uprising. In the days immediately preceding the Aug. 21 revolt scores of slaves attending his sermons signified their cooperation by wearing red bandanas around their necks.

While only six started out with Turner on that fateful evening, within 24 hours more than 70 slaves had flocked to his banner, and within 36 hours they had covered some 20 miles and 57 whites lay dead.

The Battle at Parkers Field, three miles from the city limits of the rebels' goal—the county seat of Jerusalem—was a valiant but bloody one. Turner and the other insurrectionists were surrounded by the morning of Aug. 24; these courageous rebels succumbed to the combined military force of detachments from two warships and other state militia companies from adjacent counties. As many historians have recounted, what followed was wholesale massacre.

As has been already stated, the strict adherence to secrecy was an important factor in the ability of these three leaders to organize revolts. The fact that all three plots were betrayed before they were able to be brought to fruition is indication enough of its centrality. But it was this absolute secrecy, necessitated by conditions imposed by the slavocracy, that hampered the effective organizing of greater numbers of people. This need for complete secrecy made it difficult and at times impossible to elaborate more thoroughly the details of the conspiracies and hampered the development of a core of leadership who were prepared for any change in plans.

Beyond these limitations, the conspiracies led by the heroic Prosser, Vesey, and Turner fit contemporary times with striking accuracy. For they knew that individual heroism against oppression was not enough. The chains that keep millions of Black people in bondage requires the mighty force of an organized, militant, and resolute people to break them!

## —Breaking the chains

Continued from page 4

mounted and armed Blacks met at the appointed meeting place, six miles outside of Richmond. The planned attack on the munitions stockade could not be executed because of a severe thunderstorm. Within the next few days, the armed might of the slave state went into action and scores of Blacks were arrested and executed.

The conspiracy of Denmark Vesey was organized with cell-like precision. By the spring of 1822, each of the leaders, Vesey, Peter Poyas, Mingoe Harth, Rolla, Ned, Monday, and Gullah had complete lists of recruits and assignments; every store of arms was identified; weapons were made; even a barber was enlisted to make disguises for the rebels.

The second Sunday in July was selected since the Sabbath was a day when slaves were allowed to enter the city in large numbers

and because many whites would then be vacationing outside of Charleston. Some 10,000 Blacks were involved in the plan, and were to simultaneously invade the city from five points. A sixth force was to patrol the streets on horseback.

The July plans were betrayed. Vesey pushed the date ahead one month. But because he was not able to communicate the alternate plans to his confederates outside of the city, the plot fell into disarray and the leadership of the conspiracy was summarily captured.

The arrests of Vesey and 130 others did not see the immediate collapse of this organization. On the very day that he was to be executed, another attempt at insurrection was made. It was only the mass influx of federal troops that ultimately thwarted this bold plan to rescue the condemned prisoners.

# Wage cut provokes Amsterdam News strike

## NYC Mayor Koch unveils racist war on Harlem

By Larry Holmes

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—New York City's butcher boy for the banks, Mayor Ed Koch, is waging war on Harlem. Among his latest targets is the Harlem-based New York Amsterdam News, one of the oldest and largest Black newspapers in the country.

After months of financial pressure, manipulation, threats, and coercion of the type a powerful municipal government is capable of subjecting a weaker institution to, the Koch regime has forced a change in the paper's management. The new management has ties to City Hall.

The new management has forced the paper's 38 workers to strike for their survival by refus-

ing to negotiate a new contract with them. Instead they announced that the work week was being reduced to four days and that all salaries except for management were being cut 20%.

Workers at the Amsterdam News, many of whom have worked at the paper for 20 and 30 years, are already paid less than their counterparts at the larger daily papers. For the past week, the workers, members of Local 3 of the Newspaper Guild of New York, have maintained a steady and defiant picket line with community support outside of the paper's offices.

The ousted management had distinguished the paper for its

unequivocal, and passionate opposition to the mayor's racist policies, in addition to reflecting a generally progressive outlook on some critical political issues, like the invasion of Lebanon, gay rights, and anti-racist struggles across the country.

### Plan against Harlem

The attack on the Amsterdam News is symbolic of Wall Street's plan to forcibly remove the Black and Latin population of Harlem and convert this world-renowned Black community, long considered the capital of Black America, to an extension of the city's business district and "silk stocking" residential neighborhoods.

The essence of this plan was

unveiled last week when a task force of city officials made public a "strategy" for "revitalizing" Harlem.

Through property taken in tax foreclosures, the city now owns 60% of Harlem's housing stock—some of the most valuable real estate in New York. Many of the buildings in Harlem are sturdy, pre-war town houses ideal for renovation.

The government "strategy," however, does not provide for relinquishing this housing to the thousands of homeless people who live in the streets of Harlem, unsheltered from the deadly cold of winter.

The mayor's task force wants to sell the housing stock at bargain prices to real estate speculators and profiteers over the opposition of community groups and facilitate in every way possible the conversion to condominiums for the wealthy.

Koch's proposed disposition of Harlem's housing comes as no surprise to anyone. City Hall has just been afraid to spell out its further plans for the gentrification of Harlem—2 1/2 years ago, Koch's drive to padlock one of Harlem's few public hospitals, Sydenham, with police violence nearly provoked a rebellion on the order of Miami.

The multi-billion-dollar banks and slumlords that run New York City have run out of patience, compelling Koch to lay it on the line.

It remains to be seen whether the sinister plans to destroy Harlem can be realized. The shattered windows of the Amsterdam News building, and reinforced police lines in front of its offices near 125th Street and Frederick Douglass Blvd., are testimony to the will of the workers and the potential for explosive mass resistance to racist tyranny.

## —Pentagon and hunger

Continued from page 9

that advantage politically and militarily up to the hilt.

It is virtually impossible for any of these under-developed countries to get the kind of up-to-date technology which, for instance, IBM advertises in today's New York Times—a computer which can transmit so much information in so little time that only the Pentagon can afford to be the first purchaser. The military holds the lease on the market until it has drained all the military and political advantages it can. Only then is it even remotely possible that such a computer or information from it might be made available to countries with severe food and agricultural problems.

Natural disasters in these areas, the Sahel especially, are really quite solvable without any great to-do if military and political considerations are resolved. For instance, if it's necessary to immediately ship grain and the transport problem is severe, all that is involved is 150 trucks or so.

By comparison, look what the Thatcher government did with the Queen Mary during the Malvinas War. It converted it in three or four weeks from a luxury liner into a military transport which carried food, water, weapons, everything. From Europe alone, the Dutch, the French, and the British could easily convert some of their military transports so that delivery of food could be a third-rate question.

The U.S. is spending \$30 billion for the Rapid Deployment Force, which is in reality converted C-5 cargo planes. Instead of carrying 60-ton tanks, they could be made to carry food.

In Somalia in the early 1960s,

before it went over as a puppet regime for the U.S. and it still had friendly relations with the USSR, a famine arose in an entire region where there was no possibility for a recovery of the soil for a long period of time. So the USSR responded by transporting an entire population from one part of the country to another in the largest rescue airlift of modern times.

Instead of describing the situation as growing out of natural forces, the truth of the matter is that there are technological means available to remedy it on a world scale. There is a world glut of food products and the means to produce food have grown enormously.

The natural forces creating the disasters are now within the framework of fairly easy solution, especially in the Sahel. The warehouses are overloaded in the U.S. and in the European Common Market and daily new inventions with respect to arresting soil erosion, better fertilizers, larger and more effective tractors and combines, have made possible capitalist over-production of grain, corn, and other foods.

Not a natural but an artificial famine has been created amidst super-abundance. The chase for super-profits and the resulting capitalist over-production not only leave natural disasters unattended but create artificial ones which threaten the very basis of human existence.

World hunger is a social and political problem that will be solved when the capitalist mode of production is superseded by a cooperative commonwealth of socialist countries producing for human consumption and enjoyment and not for profit.

## —Beirut massacre verdict

Continued from page 8

and members of the CIA," and was in addition the liaison "between the (Phalangist) militia and the U.S. embassy in Beirut."

In contrast, PLO leader Yasir Arafat pointed out yesterday that the report practically absolved Begin and the others "who are involved with American support in the shameful massacre." Speaking on British TV, Arafat called for an international court to try both the Israeli leaders and the high-ranking U.S. officials who orchestrated the butchery.

Both here in the U.S. and in Israel, the findings are being hailed as proof that the Tel Aviv regime is "democratic." After the My Lai massacre in Viet Nam, carried out by U.S. troops, the show trial of an American junior officer who got off the hook anyway,

was also used to show how "democratic" everything is. It's an old scam.

One clique in the Reagan administration is trying to milk yet another advantage from the inquiry findings. They have said the removal of General Sharon will make it "easier" to implement "the President's peace plans." This, of course, merely reflects a squabble between Washington and its Israeli client over which will come to dominate the strategic banking center of Beirut. But whether the outcome of all this makes it "easier" for U.S. imperialism or not, no one should confuse this with life becoming easier for the heroic Palestinian people who for decades now have suffered the most monstrous oppression and genocide at the hands of all U.S. governments and their Israeli proxies.

## —Texas march against KKK

Continued from page 12

creasingly active here in Houston." She related that the KKK has recently burned crosses in front of the Gay Community Center and the home of a Black judge. "The Klan's actions have not had their intended effect, people aren't scared, they are mad and we expect a large number will travel to Austin for the anti-KKK demonstration."

Texas has been the scene of a marked increase in KKK terrorism in recent years. The Klan has formed armed vigilante "border patrols" at the U.S.-Mexican border. They have attacked and murdered undocumented Mexican workers.

In 1979, the KKK carried out armed attacks against Vietnamese fishermen who reside on the southeastern seaboard of Texas and fish in the Gulf of Mexico. And the Klan's history in Texas is filled with countless lynchings and beatings against the large Black population of this state.

While the number of incidents of organized violence by the Klan have increased recently, the level of anti-Klan resistance has grown even more dramatically. In 1979, when twenty Klansmen rallied in downtown Dallas, they were met by over 2,000 angry demonstrators.

A big turning point for anti-Klan forces in central Texas was a demonstration held in San Antonio on Jan. 19, 1980. In December 1979, when the Carter administration shipped the deposed Shah of Iran to San Antonio, the KKK sent an armed detachment into the city and threatened "to kill anyone who dared to demonstrate" against the fallen Iranian dictator. As if to back up the Klan's threat, the San Antonio city government announced a "ban on all demonstrations."

In the then existing atmosphere of hysteria created around the Iranian hostage crisis, the KKK felt that they could intimidate and silence the progressive movement. But to their surprise, a community-based Coalition Against the KKK defied the Klan's threat and the city's ban; their march of 500 mostly Mexican/Chicano people shattered the atmosphere of racist hysteria and fear.

The Feb. 19 demonstration is gathering widespread support in Austin and throughout the state. A rally will begin at 9:30 a.m. at First and Congress. At 11:15 a.m. there will be a march to the state capitol building where a rally will follow.

For more information, contact the APC: Austin (512) 385-3136; San Antonio (512) 534-6272; Houston (713) 869-1368.

## political prisoners

### Carthan's life threatened

FEBRUARY 4—In a move that could threaten his life, the state of Mississippi is transferring former Tchula Mayor Eddie Carthan to the notorious Parchman State Penitentiary.

Although he was acquitted of a series of frame-up charges brought against him by racist elements in a trial last November, Carthan is still being held on earlier, equally spurious charges.

The former mayor has been the target of the wealthy bigots who controlled the Mississippi delta town of Tchula and resented his attempts to improve the position of Black people there after his election.

Protesting his removal from the Holmes County Jail to Parchman State, where prisoners are subject to constant threats, torture and even death from the guards, Carthan's wife

Shirley sat in at the county jail along with six other supporters. All were arrested. Three of them—Tom Common, Jonny Dale, and Samuel Callahan—were co-defendants along with Eddie Carthan at his last trial and, like him, all were acquitted.

As we go to press, the former mayor's lawyers are filing a legal appeal to get him out of Parchman, citing that his life would be endangered in such a place.

Eddie Carthan's trial and acquittal made worldwide news and focused attention on the extreme racial oppression that characterizes American "justice." The fact that he is being dragged off to a virtual concentration camp like Parchman, where no human being should be held, only further underscores the brutality of the ruling authorities in this country.



## Seattle protest racist murder

By Jim McMahan

SEATTLE, Feb. 6—A multi-national coalition has been organized here in the past two weeks in response to the jail murder of Riley Frost. Frost, a Black man, was choked to death by a guard on Jan. 19 in the King County Jail. Surrounded by four to six guards, the unarmed Frost was simply resisting having his palm print taken.

Outraged members of the Black community formed the Citizens Coalition to End Racial Violence the following weekend. The coalition joined a protest demonstration in front of the jail the following Monday. The 50 protesters were Black and white, lesbian, gay and straight. They denounced the guards and demanded an end to brutal jail conditions.

The Citizens Coalition to End Racial Violence is chaired by Isaiah Edwards. Mr. Edwards aroused community-wide opposition against the city building a police precinct in the Black community in 1981—a struggle that the Black com-

munity won. Participating in the coalition are Black ministers, the National Black United Front, the All-Peoples Congress, and other concerned groups.

They are demanding a meeting with Randy Revelle, King County Executive, concerning Riley Frost's murder and the brutal conditions prisoners undergo every day in the jail.

In 1980 another Black prisoner, Shelly Johnson, was also choked to death by a guard in the county jail.

In the Los Angeles area alone in recent years 30 prisoners have had their lives taken by the cops with the notorious "choke hold." All but two of these unarmed inmates were Black. There was such a huge outcry from the Black community of Los Angeles that the choke hold was banned in that city.

This angry response from the community here has now put the neo-Nazi jail regime and the prosecutor's office on the defensive!

## Texas-wide march against KKK slated for Feb. 19

### Austin

By Brian Becker  
 AUSTIN, Feb. 7—"This is 1983, not 1883, and the Ku Klux Klan will not be allowed to march here in Austin, Tex., without a large counter-demonstration of Black, Mexicano/Chicano, and white people who are not intimidated by these hooded fascist thugs." This was the determined re-

sponse given by Julius Corpus, an organizer of the Austin All-Peoples Congress, who announced that a broad spectrum of progressive organizations were planning an anti-Klan counter-demonstration on Feb. 19 when the KKK intends to march on the state capitol building located in downtown Austin.

Organizations mobilizing for the anti-Klan demonstration include the Black Citizens Task Force, Brown Berets, All-Peo-

ples Congress, Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, CISPES, Committee for a Democratic Palestine, Workers World Party, and others.

Organizers of the All-Peoples Congress in Houston and San Antonio are busy mobilizing to send delegations to the Feb. 19 march. Teresa Gutiérrez of the Houston APC told Workers World, "The KKK has been in-

*Continued on page 11*

### Houston

HOUSTON, Feb. 7—After the Ku Klux Klan announced that they had a permit to rally at the State Capitol in Austin, and after an anti-Klan demonstration was called for that same date, it was clear that many progressives in this city would also want to show their opposition to the Klan.

The Houston All-Peoples Congress circulated a leaflet calling for a planning meeting in this city to join forces and help build for the anti-Klan demonstration in Austin. The same night the leaflet was circulated at an anti-Klan activity, the Houston APC got a threatening phone call from the Klan.

Subsequently, on Jan. 23, a cross was burned at the gay community center where the planning meeting was to be held. A second cross was burned at the precinct courthouse in the Black community where the meeting took place.

In spite of these threats and attacks, the APC was instrumental in getting together a coalition, the Houston Coalition Against the Klan. The Coalition has had several meetings and in the coming week there will be a meeting to protest the Klan activity in Houston and to build a strong delegation to go to Austin on Feb. 19.



While the number of incidents of organized violence by the Klan has increased recently, the level of anti-Klan resistance has grown even more dramatically. Above, the Jan. 19, 1980, San Antonio march against the Klan where over 500 people participated.

WW photo

### San Antonio

By David Lerma  
 SAN ANTONIO, Feb. 6—The All-Peoples Congress organized a meeting here today to begin work on the scheduled anti-KKK demonstration in Austin, on Feb. 19.

The APC brought together activists and community people, Black, white, Mexicano/Chicano, to build a united front against this terrorist organization.

All who came enthusiastically supported the rights of all workers and oppressed people to oppose the Klan and its racism. Those present realized it is Reagan and the rich that have created the economic crisis facing millions upon millions of poor and working people—not the undocumented worker, who has

been forced to leave his or her country in search of a job.

A Black minister not only pledged his support for the anti-racist action, but also promised to gather more support and offered to distribute leaflets at a food distribution center in the Black community on Tuesday. Others pledged to contact other individuals and community organizations about the planned activity. A college professor and a student offered to contact student groups and to help leaflet as well.

Everyone left the meeting ready to organize and with a clear and firm commitment to resist all forms of racism no matter if it takes the form of the Ku Klux Klan or Reagan.

## Plan S.F. protest against Reagan, Queen Elizabeth

By Dick Becker  
 SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 7—On March 3, President Reagan will host a lavish state dinner here, for Queen Elizabeth of England. The dinner, costing millions, will be held in the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park, where many of this city's homeless are forced to reside.

While tens of millions in this country are unemployed, homeless, and hungry, no expense will be spared to wine and dine the British monarch in royal style. A room in the museum will even be renovated to provide the Queen with suitable dressing quarters for the day. An army of security will be on hand, at public expense, to buffer the rulers and their elite guests from the protests of the angry.

And many are very angry. A wide range of organizations and individuals have come together in the March 3rd Coalition, to hold a mass protest to "Tell Reagan, We need Jobs, Food and

Housing, Not Racism, War and Cutbacks; U.S. Out of El Salvador," and "Tell the Queen, England Out of Ireland, Now!"

Among those involved are: All-Peoples Congress, Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES); Congressman Ron Dellums; H-Block/Armagh Committee; several chapters of the Gray Panthers; the Coalition for Human Rights (50 lesbian and gay groups); American Indian Movement; IAM 1518; Tim Toomey, Secretary-treasurer of Hospital Workers Union; the Women's Building; Casa El Salvador Farabundo Marti; Casa Chile; U.C.-Berkeley Students Against Fee Extortion; the Homeless Caucus; La Raza Unida Party; Western Addition Political Action Committee; Operating Engineers Local 3, and many more.

Mobilizing is underway in the Irish community to focus on England's continuing brutal occupation of the six northern counties of Ireland.

Organizers are expecting thousands, possibly tens of thousands, to turn out on March 3.

The city Parks Department, "at the request of the police and FBI" has denied the coalition's request for a permit to rally in sight of the museum. This is unconstitutional, and clearly an attempt to shield Reagan from the rising tide of public opposition to his anti-human, militarist, and interventionist policies. The March 3rd Coalition is mobilizing for an appeal of this decision before the Recreation and Parks Commission on Feb. 10.

Meanwhile, organizing is going ahead full-steam for a demonstration in the park. Calls from interested individuals and organizations are coming in every day. Not only in the Bay Area, but all over Northern California, organizing is underway to make March 3 a truly significant and massive rejection of the Reagan program. Volunteers and donations are urgently needed. Contact 415-821-6545, or 861-0425.

## Bay area students plan class boycott

Special to Workers World

BERKELEY, Feb. 7—At least two campuses are planning to boycott classes on Feb. 16 to stop increases in educational fees. The University of California Regents, who are not elected by students or workers, have increased the fees for University of California campuses by \$100 for spring, and fees are also being implemented in previously free state and community colleges.

In a move which threatens public higher education, 60% of Gov. Deukmejian's state budget cuts will be taken from the state colleges and universities, even though the whole budget for secondary education in California is only 10% of the total state budget!

Students Against Fee Extortion, which began among U.C.-Berkeley students, and is gaining momentum in other campuses in the Bay Area, has called on students to boycott classes Feb. 16. In a statement, released at a meeting attended by over 70 people, organizers stressed their opposition not only to fee increases, but to cuts in hiring, in affirmative action, and in ethnic studies programs. They also oppose the linking of draft registration to the receipt of federal financial aid. Many activities are planned for the 16th, including picketing campus entrances, a march, rally and alternative education.

# SUBSCRIBE WORKERS WORLD!

One year \$10

Six months \$6

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Workers World, 46 W. 21 St., NY, NY 10010