

Emergency campaign battles to save lives of South African freedom fighters

—p. 4

Photos: ANC



Simon Mogoerane



Thabo Motaung



Jerry Mosolodi



June 10, 1983

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workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

Nicaragua busts up CIA murder plot

U.S. creates diversion by expelling diplomats

**Sam Marcy on:
The U.S. government
and assassinations —p. 9**

**50 organizing centers
build for July 2
anti-war march —p. 7**

By Gary Wilson

JUNE 8—In a wild scramble to cover up and divert public attention from the CIA plot against Sandinist officials just exposed by the Nicaraguan government, the Reagan administration closed six consulates and expelled 21 Nicaraguan diplomats yesterday. The Washington Post reports that the Reagan administration is also considering "further actions."

An official of the Nicaraguan government, Daniel Ortega Saa Viedra, charged that the move by Washington "strengthens the line of confrontation and the war in Central America." There can be no doubt that the Reagan administration is continually expanding the war.

On the same day that the Nicaraguan consulates were closed and the diplomats expelled,

the Pentagon announced that 120 U.S. military "advisers," 90 per cent Green Beret officers, will leave shortly for Honduras where the U.S. already has an armed contingent of 300. The Honduran army only a few days before launched a mortar barrage to cover 1,500 troops opening a third front for the counter-revolutionaries invading Nicaragua in a CIA-backed and planned operation.

CIA operation in Managua

But it is the CIA operation in the U.S. Embassy in Managua that deserves special attention, both from the point of view of what it means about the current course of the Reagan administration and to answer the string of lies and fabrications coming from the White House

Continued on page 8

Thousands cheer Grenada Prime Minister in N.Y.C. —p. 5



WW photos: NEVILLE EDWARDS



Aug. 27 'Jobs, Peace, and Freedom' march builds

By Mary Owen
JUNE 6—Over 600 organizations and prominent individuals have endorsed the 20th Anniversary March for Jobs, Peace and Freedom to be held in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 27.

Among these are a significant list of national and local Black elected officials, civil rights organizations, churches, peace

groups and women's groups. Union endorsements include AFSCME, the AFL-CIO Executive Board, and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and many others. Organizing offices have been set up in over 70 cities to build for the event.

The demonstration gets its name from the historic nationwide March on Washington of

hundreds of thousands of people which was held in August 1963, and was addressed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This protest was the culmination of several years of civil rights struggles during which Black freedom marchers weathered brutal attacks by racists in and out of uniform. So clear was the anti-racist message sent by that giant march to the ruling class and its politicians that the very same year the Civil Rights Act of 1963 was passed.

Now, 20 years later, the Civil Rights Act and all of the basic gains of the Civil Rights Movement have come under severe attack by the Reagan administration and its racist supporters. In response, the New Coalition of Conscience, co-chaired by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Dr. Joseph Lowery of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, has issued a call for the

Aug. 27 march. This group's "Call to the Nation" cites "three critical conditions in our society—insufferable unemployment; an escalating arms race; and the denial of basic rights and programs which ensure freedom," as the reasons for the protest.

Full employment for all
"Millions of Americans are suffering from the disaster of double-digit unemployment and the groups affected most are Blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans, the Disabled, Women and Youth" the Call explains.

"The military budget which involves pouring billions of dollars into defense spending denies our people scores of absolutely essential human resources and service programs." This call demands "socially useful and dignified employment with a just wage" for all.

The Call also points to the "rising tide of extremism reflected in

the rebirth of bombings and increased brutalities of the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi groups and, in some places, by the enforcement agencies."

It states, "We oppose the militarization of internal conflicts, often abetted and even encouraged by massive U.S. arms exports, in areas of the world such as the Middle East and Central America while their basic human problems are neglected." Also strongly condemned is the U.S. partnership with the racist apartheid regime in South Africa.

Black, Latin, Native, Asian and other oppressed people as well as anti-racist whites will gravitate to the Aug. 27 march and the comprehensive demands raised in the call. And those who attend the July 2 march on Washington (see page 7) look forward to Aug. 27 as another link in the struggle against the U.S. war drive and its economic and social manifestations here at home.

Against war and hunger



JACKSON, Miss., May 29—More than 200 people held an anti-war march here today from Smith Part to the State Capitol building. Black and white demonstrators showed their opposition to nuclear weapons and to the U.S. war in El Salvador. Said Rev. Larry Mize, "Poverty and hunger is all tied up with this sabre rattling. The more we concentrate on arms, the more people go hungry."

Genocide on the airwaves

By Doug Lawson
BALTIMORE, May 24—When Donald Masters, the racist, anti-poor mayor of Charleston, West Virginia appeared on television here, he expected to have the airwaves to himself. Members of the All-Peoples Congress (APC), Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization (BWRO), Mothers on the March and others made sure he had an active opposition.

Masters advocates the forced sterilization of women on public assistance. A former veterinarian, Masters actually called for welfare mothers with two or more

children to be "spayed." Speaking on WJZ-TV's "People Are Talking" call-in show, he claimed to have widespread support for his genocidal, Hitler-like program.

Master's opponents in the studio were quick to respond. Annie Chambers, community activist, denounced Masters as racist, anti-poor and anti-human. Paulette Harris of BWRO said "It's my body and you're not God." Other fighters for the poor and oppressed were not allowed to speak, and only telephone calls

from the racist's bigoted supporters went on the air. After the show, several members of BWRO reported they had called the station but couldn't get on the air—showing the sympathies of the "objective" media lie.

Masters has been touring the country promoting his program, which many point out is unofficial government policy in many areas already. As Sharon Garner, APC activist and founding member of Mothers on the March said, "We hope this bigot gets the reception he deserves all over the country from his opponents."

In This Issue...

NICARAGUA

Nicaragua's charges about U.S. plots to murder its leaders expose that past attempts to "reform" the CIA were futile. Will the U.S. Congress now take the opportunity to call in the ousted U.S. diplomats and unravel the truth? (Analysis by Sam Marcy, page 9. For more Central America news, see centerfold.)

JULY 2

Throughout the country, hundreds of activists are meeting the war crisis in Central America by getting on the telephones and out into the streets to spread the word about the upcoming mass protest in Washington, D.C. (Pages 6, 7.)



Massive anti-imperialist rally in Managua Photo: Barricada

SOUTH AFRICA

On June 8, South Africa plans to hang three Black freedom fighters. A protest movement has been mounted to save the lives of the three and to expose the ties of the U.S. government with the apartheid regime. (Page 5.)

DIOXIN MENACE

Huge quantities of the poison in Agent Orange, the deadly pesticide used during the Viet Nam war, were just discovered in the middle of Newark, N.J. Authorities were warned of the danger three years ago but did nothing. (Page 11.)

DEFENSE LAYOFFS

Exploding the myth that military spending "creates jobs," a large aircraft producer in Hartford, Conn., just laid off 2,200 workers. The company is owned by prime defense contractor United Technologies. (Page 12.)

GRENADA SOLIDARITY

Maurice Bishop, the leader of the revolutionary island nation of Grenada, spoke to 3,000 people last weekend in New York City. Bishop hit Reagan's war threats against his country and against Cuba, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. (Page 5.)

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NO Viet Nam War in Central America and the Caribbean!

Unemployment down .1 percent—that's 'recovery'?

By Lallan Stein

JUNE 7—There is no recovery in sight for working people. Double-digit unemployment doesn't mean a recovery for the millions pounding the pavement or for millions more threatened with layoffs.

Another month has gone by with no real improvement in the May statistics released by the Department of Labor. These statistics of joblessness represent hardship, hunger, sickness and homelessness in the lives of a growing number of people.

The most appalling figure is an unemployment rate of 20.6% for Black people. This recession level hasn't changed since Reagan began to tout recovery at the beginning of the year.

Now at a time of year when school is ending the jobless rate for Black teenagers is 48.2%. For these youth, living in oppressed communities, all hope for the future rests with being able to find a job. Many of their families

are forced to depend on them for a source of income.

The overall unemployment rate is still above 10%. This doesn't even include the 1.8 million who have run out of unemployment benefits or been unemployed long enough to receive the designation of "discouraged workers."

It was a dip of one-tenth-of-one-percent in the jobless rate that the Reagan administration lauded as a positive sign. They said this confirmed evidence that, "May was another month of solid recovery." The total drop in the rate from the recession peak in December and January amounts to seven-tenths-of-one-percent. With a rate that is over 10% how can a fractional dip really change the situation?

Jobless drop based on temporary jobs

The Dept. of Labor admitted that among those who were

rehired many only got their jobs on a temporary basis. Those who spend their days scanning the help wanted sections of the newspapers know that the jobs just aren't out there. According to a report in the May 23 issue of Business Week the number of help-wanted ads appearing in newspapers across the country is declining.

Even with all of their diversionary fanfare about a recovery and with the most optimistic speculation the Reagan administration can't predict that the unemployment rate will drop more than one percent within a year of its peak last winter.

The economic recovery that Reagan is really counting on is in the profits of the large corporations. For them a cut in the workforce means a cut in their payroll expenses. Those in the corporate circles don't mince words about who the recovery is for. Just last month at a meeting of the Business Council, whose members include the chief executives of the country's biggest companies, it was agreed that there would be no large scale rehiring. This prognosis was backed up by the Dept. of Labor which showed in its May report that the national labor force is actually shrinking.

It is daily becoming more obvious that there is no solution for working people in Reagan's recovery. It will take a movement of massive resistance; employed and unemployed joining together, to win full employment.



WW photo: BILL HACKWELL

There are no answers for working people in Reagan's 'recovery.' Only a mass resistance movement can win full employment.

Auto barons interested in profits, not safety

By Katherine Wells

DETROIT, June 6—Safety for their customers is not, and never has been, a primary concern of the auto companies. And the federal government, charged with establishing and maintaining safety standards in the finished products, has ignored most violations unless public outcry forces it to take at least limited action, according to a week-long series of articles run by the Detroit Free Press.

The lack of concern in safety has resulted in numerous deaths and injuries. Millions of cars on the road today have brakes that lock and cause the cars to spin (GM's X-cars), jump out of park into reverse and run over unsuspecting owners (Ford), and "like to roll over" (AMC's jeeps).

Corporate big-wigs don't hesitate to put the blame on the drivers for the death machines they have built. AMC replies that if their jeep, advertised as able to go anywhere, is driven "properly," there's no danger of a roll-over. Lawsuits have been brought against AMC since 1970 regarding roll-over accidents ending in the death and injury of passengers.

In the case of GM's compact X-car (Buick Skylark, Chevrolet Citation, Pontiac Phoenix and Oldsmobile Omega), the company put the cars on the market in 1979 knowing that the brakes

locked. "We weren't really proud of those brakes," GM Vice President Howard Kerl says, but he justifies the corporate decision because the market was demanding smaller, fuel-efficient cars.

When reminded that two-thirds of all cars produced since 1966 have been recalled, Kerl replied, "No one's perfect."(!)

The General Accounting Office is currently investigating charges that George Anikis, director of the safety agency's Office of Defects Investigation, gave in to GM pressure and tried to stop the X-car investigation in 1982.

Government collusion with another company is clear in the Ford transmission defect case. After three years of investigations which proved repeatedly that Ford automatic transmissions had a tendency to slip out of park into reverse, the government recommended that Ford recall 23 million cars, light trucks and vans built between 1970 and 1979. Suddenly it changed its mind and instructed Ford merely to send out "warning" stickers to owners.

The bottom line for the companies is sales and profits, regardless of the risk involved for their unknowing customers. A former engineer for GM, Donald Freedman, admitted, "In American auto industry, you make changes year to year to sell cars, not for auto safety."

Lack of low-cost housing hikes homeless count

By Sara Catalinotto

JUNE 4—With summer weather on its way, aid to the homeless is being decreased. Yet the need for shelter can only increase as unemployment, evictions, and social service cuts continue.

There are about 2 million homeless people nationwide, according to the National Coalition for the Homeless. Most are on the streets as a result of economic causes, according to the Coalition.

During cold weather, many major cities provided some shelter. But now that the temperatures are beginning to rise, aid for the homeless is low on the priority list. For instance in Chicago, where the homeless population is estimated between 12,000 and

25,000, three city shelters were closed for the summer despite growing demand.

In New York City, some 60,000 homeless people sought public services in 1982, according to the June 3 New York Times. There are believed to be thousands more in the city.

Housing and welfare cuts make it worse

Robert Hayes, a lawyer for the National Coalition for the Homeless, is quoted by the June 3 New York Times as saying, "The common thread to 100% of homeless people now is the virtually unprecedented shortfall of housing available to poor people" in the U.S. The Reagan administration, however, is planning no new low

income construction. And the mere 10,000 units of low-cost housing "in the construction pipeline" now will not make much of a dent in the statistics—Boston alone has 10,000 homeless people!

In Hennepin County, Minnesota, people who were dropped from the welfare and food stamp rolls make up 61% and 36% respectively, of those in city shelters. This in itself refutes Reagan's claims that people receiving welfare benefits did not need them to survive.

While the politicians in Washington and the big business media herald an economic recovery, where is this recovery for the tens of thousands who have no place to live?

The \$21 billion rip-off

By Vince Copeland

JUNE 6—What would the newspapers say about \$21 million overcharge for food stamps? What would they say if someone, no matter how flimsy the case, was accused of stealing one-thousandth of that amount—\$21,000 worth of food stamps?

Front-page headlines. Three or four days in a row. Right? Then what should they say about a very real and substantiated \$21 billion overspending—that's a thousand times as much as \$21 million—for training and backup combat jet planes?

The U.S. General Accounting Office stated flatly on

June 2 that the Armed Forces could not justify an additional planned \$21 billion worth of training jets on any rational basis.

This news rated a small one-time short article on the bottom of a back page of last Friday's New York Times. And this in the face of the Budget crisis, the National Debt crisis, and the interest crisis. (Forget about the Social Security crisis, the Day Care crisis, the educational crisis and the unemployment crisis. They only involve the people!)

Is the \$21 billion figure a reliable one? Well, the General Accounting Office is an

investigative arm of the U.S. Congress and it is as conservative and pro-capitalist as you can get. It was not talking against imperialist war; it was just talking about a sensible price for it.

Over \$200 from every family

It's all true, all right. They are ripping us off for \$21 billion by their own pro-imperialist war yardstick. And that comes to well over \$200 for every single family in the United States.

The \$21 billion would be enough to provide 3 million pre-school children with day-care facilities at \$50 a week

per child for one year and still give the extra Medicare and Medicaid that is now being taken away from the people and have change left over to pay for student loans, school lunches and a few other things.

Put another way, \$21 billion happens to be exactly the astronomical cost of the government's 1983 program to keep many millions of acres of farmland out of production and to return previous years' "surplus food" to the giant agribusiness farmers so as to keep the price of food high.

Or to look at the matter from the point of view of the

war that the GAO and the Congress and the President are preparing, \$21 billion is considerably greater than the yearly income of all the people in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Grenada and Cuba combined.

Whether the extra planes are "necessary" or "unnecessary," wouldn't it be better for the North American people to just give the \$21 billion to help the struggling masses of these countries and create good will toward the workers and oppressed people of the United States?

Surely that beats going to war with them!

International cry: Stop hanging of ANC 3

Special to Workers World

NEW YORK, June 6—The fascist South African government plans to execute (by hanging) three Black freedom fighters this coming Wednesday, June 8.

The reactionary ruling class administration of the white minority made the announcement from Pretoria today in the face of rising anger and indignation of the Black majority of the country.

African National Congress Secretary-General Alfred Nzo declared that "the three were sentenced to death . . . for their part in the liberation struggle against the inhuman system of apartheid." Nzo called upon "the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the International Community as a whole to intervene to save the lives of these young patriots."

The three—Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi and Thabo Motaung—are members and leading fighters of the African National Congress, which represents the huge majority of the real South Africa.

As part of a growing international protest movement, scores of organizations and groups in New York City are preparing a candlelight vigil at the South African Mission to the United Nations, scheduled for from 5 p.m. to midnight Wednesday.

Massive effort to stop executions

The action is sponsored by The American Committee on Africa, TransAfrica, the Congressional Black Caucus and a number of others.

Larry Holmes, national coordinator of the All-Peoples Congress, one of the groups involved, told the press today: "We are not surprised by the decision of the blood-thirsty fascist regime in Pretoria. And we do not intend to make it easy for the United States government to collaborate in this massacre of these young revolutionary martyrs."

We have mounted a massive effort aimed at Reagan's Secretary of State and at Congress to compel them through demonstrations, telegrams, vigils and other

activities, to intervene with their junior partners in South Africa and have the death sentences commuted."

The time is very short indeed. But surely an international outcry as well as pressure from the Black majority within are the forces which can make the racist dictatorship pull back.

The African National Congress has escalated its freedom fight and the great Black masses (who are over 80 percent of South Africa's population) are becoming more and more conscious of their potential strength.

The racist settler government is well aware of this and, like all doomed dictatorships and out-lived systems of history without exception, is resorting to the most vicious and outrageous measures to perpetuate its tyranny. Its planned execution of the three freedom fighters is the latest in a series of violent repressions infinitely worse than George III ever imposed on the 13 North American colonies. The anniversary of its mass murder of schoolchildren (at Soweto), in fact, almost coincides with its intended execution of the three ANC members.



Graphic: SAHU BARRON

ANC speaks in Jersey



By Carmen Roundtree

WW photo: SUSAN ROTGARD

JERSEY CITY, N.J., June 2—A public meeting sponsored by the All-Peoples Congress here tonight had as its special guest speaker a representative of the African National Congress, (ANC) Shuping Coapoge (pictured above). Coapoge talked about the apartheid regime in South Africa, and how the ANC and SWAPO have stepped up their attacks against the racist South African government. He stated that the "ANC now stands under the banner of the Spear of the Nation," its military wing.

Joanne Lewis, a hospital worker for Jersey City Medical Center, Local 2254 and an APC volunteer chaired this evening's program. Other speakers included Helen Magget a tenant organizer and a mother of 13 who explained that the economic crisis was "created by the rich, and put on the backs of the poor." She also gave an update on the struggle to keep JCMC open.

Jacklyn Moore, a student organizer urged that the community get involved in the upcoming national mobilization on July 2, against U.S. aggression in Central America and the Caribbean.

June 16 action to hit apartheid

FRIENDS and supporters of Black African freedom will observe the seventh anniversary of the historic Soweto uprising with a demonstration in New York City on June 16. Protesters will assemble at Second Avenue and 42nd Street outside the South African Mission at 6 p.m. and march to Madison Square Garden at

Eighth Avenue and 33rd Street, where a South African boxer will represent the racist regime in a sports event.

Among the demands are freedom for Nelson Mandela, President of the African National Congress, who has been jailed in the infamous prison on Robben Island for 20 years, and freedom for the liberation

fighters who face executions. The Coalition which has called the march includes the African National Congress of South Africa, SWAPO, the All-Peoples Congress, the Caribbean People's Alliance, the Peace Council, the Black United Front, and the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Fight to go on 'until every inch of Namibia is free'

SWAPO leader Nujoma speaks in Harlem

By Sahu Barron

HARLEM, May 29—Dr. Sam Nujoma, President of the South West Africa Peoples Organization (SWAPO), was the honored guest and featured speaker before an enthusiastic audience of over 500, who assembled here for an evening of solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian people.

Speaking in solidarity with Dr. Nujoma were Johnny Makatini, UN Chief Representative of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, and Yussufo Amenu, Executive Secretary of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at the UN.

Saluting the long and heroic history of the African independence movements against European colonialism, Dr. Nujoma explained that during the early 1960s when the nascent SWAPO initially petitioned the United Nations for a halt to South African occupation of Namibia, only nine African countries were independent. But through years of struggle and sacrifice, he explained, today the entire continent is free of direct colonial rule except for South Africa and Namibia. "If 50 other parts of Africa can free itself, why not the

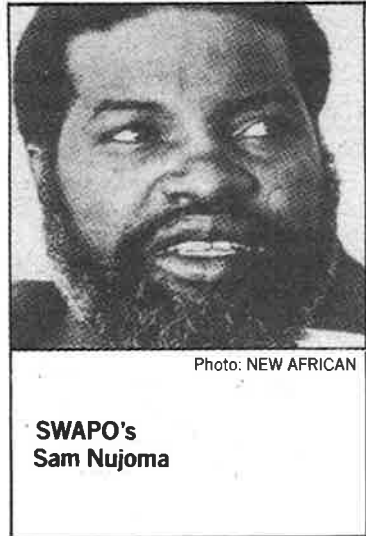


Photo: NEW AFRICAN

SWAPO's
Sam Nujoma

last two?" Alluding to the SWAPO proclamation issued in April of this year, Nujoma exclaimed that "until every inch of Namibia is free of the racists, the war of liberation will continue."

Dr. Nujoma traced the history of the Namibian struggle, first against German incursion in 1884, and then against the illegal South African occupation which followed near the turn of the century. "The occupation of Namibia is to exploit diamonds, cop-

per, and labor while the people starve," stated Dr. Nujoma. He pointed out that the 1915 League of Nations mandate that made Namibia a protectorate of South Africa has long been an issue that SWAPO has undertaken and that the mandate must be rescinded.

Imperialist collaboration with the apartheid regime was condemned by Dr. Nujoma, who gave examples of military hardware given to South Africa by France, West Germany, the U.S. and other capitalist countries. "Imperialism is giving weapons to that regime with the view to suppress the right to self-determination and total liberation. This is the aim of imperialists who say that they don't believe in violence."

Explosive situation

He added that the situation in southern Africa is extremely explosive and that it presents a major threat to peace on the continent. He stipulated, however, that "Africa is getting stronger and stronger. Attacks on other countries in the region will never bring down the popular governments of those countries or

thwart the legitimate struggle of the Namibian or southern African peoples."

Especially targeted was the political, economic and military support extended to South Africa by the U.S. government. Dr. Nujoma pointed to the Reagan administration policy of "constructive engagement," adopted in 1981, in which the U.S. declared itself an ally of South Africa. "Since then, the U.S. has exercised every veto in the Security Council against any resolution calling for sanctioning South Africa."

Struggle linked to Afro-Americans

Dr. Nujoma linked the Namibian struggle with that of Afro-Americans. Commenting that the history which binds Africa with its descendents is "exploitation, oppression and humiliation. "Those who came to South Africa in search of profits also came to the U.S. General Motors and other giant corporations are in Africa for cheap labor and enormous profits while denying employments to U.S. workers. We are one people exploited by imperialism, capitalism, and racism."

In closing, Dr. Nujoma called

for unity of purpose and action between all those fighting against exploitation. "There is one struggle and there will be one victor," he stated, and then thanked all those who have supported the struggle of the peoples of southern Africa. "The sacrifices that are being made in the national war of liberation have the objective of forcing the Botha regime to surrender. We have the will and the determination to win."

Other speakers came forward to pledge support for the Namibian struggle, including Johnny Makatini, UN Chief representative of the ANC, who outlined the integral ties between the Namibian struggle and that of South Africa, against the apartheid regime. "Fifteen years of the struggle of SWAPO has not only shattered the myth of South African military invincibility and supremacy, but has also allowed the ANC to step up its own fight against them."

Yussufo Amanu, Executive Secretary of the OAU at the UN, also pledged solidarity for the liberation process now waging in southern Africa and called on the continued support of the people of the U.S.

Grenada: A beacon of hope for oppressed

Prime Minister Bishop cheered by 3,000 in NYC

By Gwendolyn Rogers

NEW YORK, June 7—Some 3,000 people crowded into Hunter College auditorium here on Sunday to greet Maurice Bishop, Prime Minister of Grenada, who had come to address the Black community, Grenadian nationals, as well as Grenada's friends and supporters from the progressive and international community. Hundreds more waited outside, unable to get into the packed auditorium.

Speaking on a wide range of international issues from South Africa to the Caribbean, Bishop told the Reagan administration's belligerent allegations and threats against free Grenada to the deepening world capitalist crisis and the war drive against Cuba, Nicaragua, and El Salvador.

The Prime Minister's remarks were frequently underscored by cheers and applause. For the second time in a week the Black community here in New York seized upon the opportunity to express its solidarity with national liberation struggles by coming out in record numbers on relatively short notice to honor an international revolutionary Black leader (See article on Sam Nujoma, p. 4).

Prime Minister Bishop was invited here by TransAfrica, the Afro-American lobby on Caribbean and African affairs, and the Congressional Black Caucus. He is in the U.S. on a goodwill tour, the primary objective of which is to strengthen relations with the people of the U.S., particularly the Black community. To this end, he has met with and addressed members of Detroit's Black community and city officials, in addition to students at Wayne State University.

The significance of Sunday's meeting was pointed out by Caldwell Taylor, Grenada's ambassador to the UN, who told the enthusiastic audience that the Prime Minister had come to the U.S. at this particularly difficult time not only to deepen the historically good relations with the people of the U.S., but to improve relations with the government. Washington has been increasingly hostile to Grenada since the triumph of the revolution four years ago, and has refused to arrange any high-level meetings with the Grenadian head of state.

Taylor described the Prime Minister as "symbolizing and epitomizing the high revolutionary ideals of our country."

The audience was brought to its feet time and time again during the Prime Minister's address, as when he opened his talk by acknowledging the presence of Dr. Zehdi Terzi of the Palestine

Liberation Organization, and David Ndaba of the African National Congress.

Reagan destabilization program outlined

Citing the growing strength of the Black vote and the increasing influence of Afro-Americans in this country, Bishop went on to discuss the critical and burning need to not only deepen people-to-people relations but to maintain normal relations despite ideological differences.

He told the audience of the Reagan administration's "hostile, aggressive course of destabilization" through the use of propaganda, economic, and military means. He assured the enthusiastic crowd that Grenada will continue to press for normalization while consolidating its forces in the face of the U.S. threats.

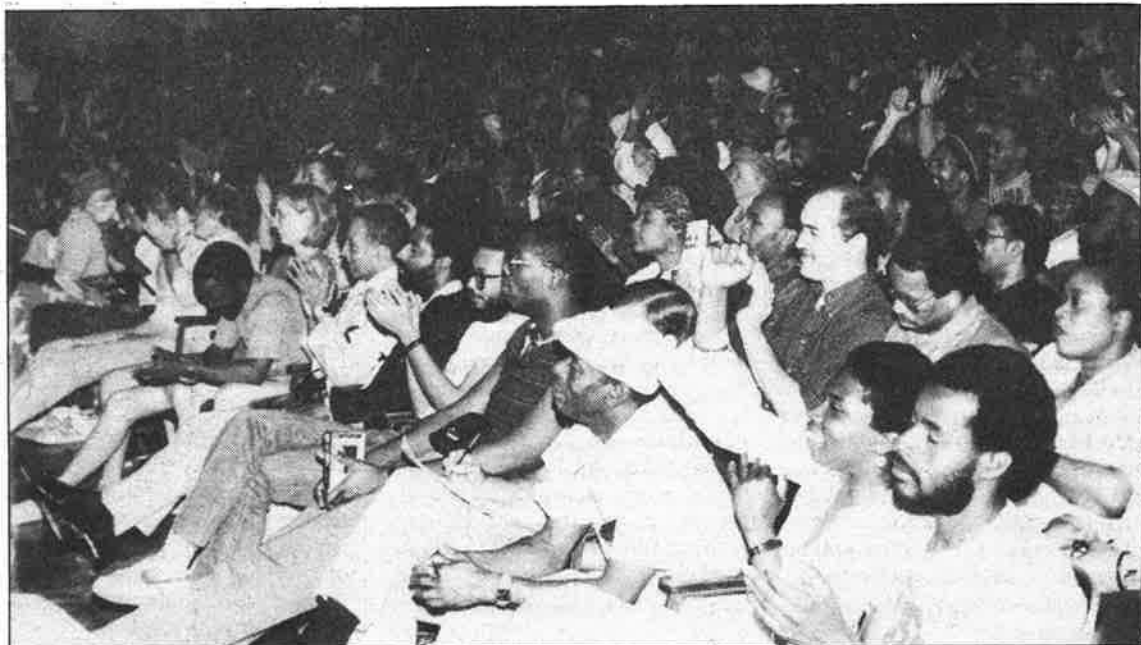
Describing the effects of the capitalist crisis on the developing Third World countries, Bishop explained that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the developing countries to go forward as their economies are tied to the capitalist world economy, with its cyclical crises that now occur every three to four years.

The crowd roared as the Prime Minister discussed the impact of the U.S. military budget, which will consume \$3 trillion over five years while vital services are being cut.

Bishop said the crisis in the capitalist world has led to the experience of negative growth in more and more capitalist countries. He explained that over 35 countries in the developing world each owe over \$1 billion in debt while the developing world as a whole is in debt to the tune of \$650 billion. High interest rates, a decrease in purchasing power, increasing difficulties engaging in trade, cuts in economic aid, and increasing tariff barriers have forced Grenada and other Third World countries to rely on the international banks with their high interest rates. The Prime Minister also described the role the U.S. has played in blocking loans to countries such as Grenada, Nicaragua, Angola, and Mozambique.

Gains made in Grenada

In the face of "the iniquities and injustice" of imperialism, the Grenadian Revolution continues to grow forward. For example, while the industrialized countries are "growing backwards," Grenada's cumulative growth over the last four years has risen by over 15%. Unemployment is down from 49% to 14.2%,



An enthusiastic crowd greets Prime Minister Maurice Bishop at New York City meeting.

production is up 34%.

Prior to the Revolution, 70 percent of the women were unemployed. The first decree of the Revolution was to outlaw the sexual exploitation of women. Today women receive equal pay for equal work. And all pregnant women receive two months paid maternity leave and the guarantee that they will be able to return to their job at the end of the leave.

Last year 73,000 pounds of free milk were distributed every month to 15,000 people. And 17,240 workers benefited from the Housing Repair Program.

Bishop attributes the growth in the Public Investment Program (up to \$100 million from \$8 million just four years ago) to the people's understanding of and commitment to the benefits of the Revolution.

With 37 cents of every dollar spent in free health and dental care for all, free secondary, university and worker education, the people of Grenada have been

gladly pulled into the economic process!

Blasting U.S. hypocrisy in its allegations against free Grenada, Prime Minister Bishop told the crowd that while the U.S. supports the reactionary, repressive regimes in South Africa, Chile, El Salvador, Haiti, and south Korea, it attacks Grenada for its "warm, fraternal relations" with Cuba.

The Grenadian people understand that while the U.S. may claim human rights violations, lack of elections, and the international airport as the basis of its hostility, the real reason lies in the benefits of the Revolution.

A 'beacon of hope' to oppressed

Citing a secret report of the State Department, Bishop told the crowd: "That secret report made this point: that the Grenadian Revolution is in one sense 'even worse' than the Cuban and Nicaraguan Revolutions, because the people of Grenada

and the leadership of Grenada speak English and can therefore communicate directly. . . . That same report also saw as very dangerous that the people of Grenada and the leadership of Grenada are predominantly Black. If we are 95 per cent of predominantly African origin in our country, then we can have a dangerous appeal to 30 million Black people."

At this point the audience cheered loudly, confirming that the Grenadian Revolution does indeed shine like a "beacon of hope" to the oppressed here in the U.S.

Commenting on other aspects of the report, which accuses Grenada of human rights violations, Bishop pointed out: "When they say to us, where are your elections, they don't turn around and say to their friends in South Africa, where are your elections?"

The Prime Minister went on to

Continued on page 6

Judge rules against FBI in Freedom Rider beatings

By Katherine Wells

DETROIT, June 5—A federal judge in Kalamazoo, Michigan ruled this week that the FBI could and should have prevented the 1961 beatings of Freedom Rider Walter Bergman and other civil rights workers by Alabama Ku Klux Klansmen.

The decision will allow a hearing to determine the amount of damages to be awarded to Bergman. He has sued the FBI for \$2 million.

During the trial it was revealed that FBI informer Gary Thomas Rowe had told the FBI beforehand that the

KKK was planning an attack on the Black and white Freedom Riders as they arrived in Alabama. Rowe also told the FBI that the Klan and the local police authorities made a deal which allowed the Klan a free hand in their vicious attack that resulted in several serious injuries.

The 83-year old Bergman, who is confined to a wheelchair as a result of a stroke brought on by the beating he suffered, hailed this week's decision as a "victory for the American people." He said any money he might win in the case will be donated to civil rights organizations.

Detroit city council greets Grenada's Prime Minister



By David Sole

WW photo: DAVID SOLE

DETROIT, June 2—At a special session of the Detroit City Council today Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada was presented with a strong Council Resolution of support. Before an audience of over 200 people Council President Erma Henderson welcomed the Prime Minister and read the Resolution which recognized the "vast improvements he has overseen in his country since taking office." The City Council also went on record against Reagan's attacks on Grenada stating: "this visit by Prime Minister Bishop is an opportunity to clear up misconceptions about Grenada and to emphasize the importance of building an airstrip in that country for tourism that will be Grenada's survival link to the outside world."

Prime Minister Bishop was also welcomed by other Black leaders including Congressmen George Crockett and John Conyers. The Wayne County Board of Commissioners also presented a testimonial resolution.

The Prime Minister then addressed the gathering giving special thanks to Black Americans for their support of the revolution in Grenada. While assuring Americans that "our tiny nation does not pose any threat to the national security of your nation" he added, "Our revolution refused to accept that we are in some backyard of the United States."

Weinberger letter asks air, sea quarantine of Cuba

By Sharon Shelton

JUNE 6 — Buried deep in an article on Central America in Friday's New York Times was the disclosure that Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger is actively pushing for air and sea quarantine of Cuba.

This startling disclosure provides a glimpse into the brazen interventionist plans of the Reagan administration with regard to Central America and the Caribbean.

Last month, the Times revealed, Weinberger wrote a letter to the chairman of the Senate and House intelligence committees vehemently opposing a House bill to end covert aid to CIA-trained counterrevolutionaries attempting to overthrow the Nicaraguan government.

The letter, which, according to administration sources, "reflected the thinking of the Joint Chiefs of Staff," went on to call for the quarantine of Cuba.

Tantamount to declaring war

A quarantine is an act of war. It is an act of genocide aimed directly at the civilian population. The purpose of a U.S. quarantine of Cuba, an island nation which depends on foreign trade for many

vital necessities including medical supplies, would be to directly inflict suffering on the population.

The Times article implies that the quarantine was one of the issues in the struggle within the administration that erupted into the open with the ousters of Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Thomas O. Enders and former U.S. envoy to El Salvador Deane R. Hinton.

Neither Enders nor Hinton are exactly soft liners when it comes to U.S. aggression against the people of Central America. But apparently they aren't bellicose enough for the warlords in the Pentagon and White House who are rushing headlong toward open intervention behind the backs of the American people.

Matter of public interest

Recent polls show that the American people are overwhelmingly opposed to a new U.S. war of aggression against the people of Central America. It is a matter of public interest when an official speaking for the Joint Chiefs of Staff openly calls for a belligerent act of war such as quarantining Cuba. The politicians in Congress who saw Weinberger's letter should have immediately made its contents public for all to see.

'They create a wilderness and call it peace...' in El Salvador

By Terry Klug

JUNE 7—"They create a wilderness and call it peace..." wrote Tacitus, an early second century Roman historian, describing the Roman army's attempt to conquer the Scottish highlands nearly two thousand years ago. But these same grim words could be used today to describe the Reagan administration's new proposal for escalating the war in El Salvador.

The program, known as the "Plan for the Restoration of Areas" is, according to a May 29 report in Philadelphia Inquirer, scheduled to go into effect in about a month. It is being financed through the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID).

To put the "Plan" into effect the players are already in motion. Last week the Pentagon announced that 110 Green Berets would be sent to Honduras to train Salvadoran military brigades and that 25 U.S. medical corpsmen are on orders to El Salvador. Along with this, a military command center has already been set up in Honduras and, according to Salvadoran military and government officials, top U.S. military officers are now actually running the war.

If all this sounds ominously familiar, it should. Despite repeated denials by the White House that "El Salvador will never be another Viet Nam," and a concerted effort by the big business press here to minimize the role of U.S. troops in that country, the "Plan" is an exact replica of the U.S. program of "rural pacification" in Viet Nam.

According to the above mentioned article, U.S. military strategists feel the program was so "successful" in Viet Nam that in view of recent serious defeats for the U.S. forces the same effort is being launched in El Salvador!

What 'pacification' did to Viet Nam

Anyone who is familiar with the period of the Viet Nam war and particularly veterans, remember with a shudder what "rural pacification" means. Under various code names like "Operation Sunrise," "Operation Sea Swallow," and the infamous "Operation Phoenix," the U.S. government initiated a program to forceably remove millions of Vietnamese peasants from their villages into so-called controlled zones.

This policy of "strategic villages" and "prosperity zones"

The same goes for the big business press, which is fully aware of the gravity of such a war move, but barely even reported Weinberger's arm twisting on behalf of the Pentagon generals.

In reality, both the media and Congress (including Republicans and Democrats) are beholden to the big business ruling class that pulls all the strings in this country, and any differences they have with the reactionaries in the Reagan administration over Latin American policy are over how best to preserve super profits there.

The Weinberger letter reflects the increasing encroachment of the military into the civilian arm of government and shows the real danger that a new war is being plotted in Washington.

Now more than ever it is urgent that the people of this country do a little arm twisting of their own and serve notice that the workers and oppressed will not tolerate a Viet Nam-type war against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean. The upcoming July 2 demonstration in Washington provides a timely opportunity to mobilize against the rapidly accelerating war plans of the Reagan administration and the Pentagon.

was developed in the early 1960s to divide Viet Nam up into concentration camps surrounded by barbed wire and isolated from each other by "white zones" in which every village and hut and every plot of food crops would be destroyed. The forests and orchards within these "white zones" were sprayed with deadly chemicals and villages were napalmed so there could be no resettlement. This policy led to the mass extermination of hundreds of thousands.

The thinking behind this program was to divide the masses of people from the forces of national liberation, but it was doomed to failure, of course, because the villagers themselves were the National Liberation Front (NLF). These Strangelove operations ultimately resulted in the first-ever defeat for U.S. military aggression.

It may therefore come as a surprise to many that the Reagan government considers the "rural pacification" policy such a success... but not so wonderful perhaps when it's recalled that President Reagan refers to Viet Nam as "that noble war."

The resurrection of this Hitlerite policy for deployment in El Salvador must be stopped before it gets off the ground.

—Bishop at NYC meeting

Continued from page 5

discuss U.S. hypocrisy in light of its role in the overthrow of Salvador Allende, the historical context in which elections were viewed after the American Revolution, and the fact that hundreds of thousands were detained after the American Revolution.

Describing Grenada's "humanitarian course" regarding the decision to detain those elements who previously propped up the dictatorship, Bishop said revolution answers the question in several ways. In Grenada, those people picked up by the masses have been detained and

treated well. There have been no tortures, no ill treatment.

Praising Cuba for its internationalism, Bishop blasted the U.S. for its aggressive role in Nicaragua. He ended his address with a salute to the peoples of the U.S., free Grenada, Palestine, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and South Africa.

This historic gathering was organized and sponsored by the Grenadian Mission, the Committee in Solidarity with Free Grenada, the Grenada Friendship Society, the Grenada Women's Organization, and a number of other solidarity groups. The meeting

was made possible by the Black and Puerto Rican Studies Department of Hunter College which obtained the use of the auditorium.

The Prime Minister was given a plaque by the student government. Donna Shalala, President of Hunter College, gave a solidarity message affirming the college's commitment to freedom and justice. Messages were given by Dr. David Hodges on behalf of the Department of Black and Puerto Rican Studies, and Professor Mathias. The meeting was chaired by Joachim Mark, a Grenadian activist and journalist.



Anti-war picket outside MIT World Affairs Council meeting. Inside, July 2 organ

Boston activists confront war-hawk Gen. Nutting

By Bob Duncan

BOSTON, June 3 — In a show of growing anti-war sentiment, 150 people, organized by the Ad Hoc Committee for July 2 and CASA (Central America Support Committee) picketed the appearance of Lieut. Gen. Wallace Nutting here today. Other anti-war activists entered the lecture hall, and unfurled a banner and confronted the astonished general with trying to turn Central America into another Viet Nam.

Nutting, the invited speaker at an MIT World Affairs Council meeting, is the U.S. Commander for Southern Forces stationed in Panama. In a Washington Post interview on May 22, Nutting advocated "an open ended military commitment to El Salvador" and the sending of additional troops to assist the Salvadoran butchers. The topic of Nutting's lecture was "The Threat to U.S. Interests in Central America."

At a press conference organized by the Ad Hoc Committee,

Butch Campbell, a Black draft registration-age student organizer, spoke against the escalating war in Central America and recounted the growing resistance across the country to registration and the U.S. war. Grayland-Ellis Hagler, a minister from the Black community, told the press that the growing U.S. war in Central America is being used to divert people's attention from the economic decay, unemployment and racism here at home. Mark F., a Viet Nam veteran, noted that as the administration is cutting education and health benefits for veterans, they are sending more soldiers to Central America to be killed and maimed in an unjust war.

As the multi-national picket line continued outside of the hotel, four members of the Ad Hoc Committee went into the lecture to confront the warmaker general. After an introduction which listed Nutting's "achievements" in Viet Nam, and just as the general began to speak, the Ad Hoc Committee

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5,000 protest nuke plant opening

SHOREHAM, L.I., June 5—Some 5,000 people demonstrated here Saturday to express their opposition to the opening of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant. Arrested were 140 people for staging a sit-in in front of the plant gates today. The protesters were organized by the Stop Shoreham Campaign, a coalition of over 40 community groups.

The Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO) has announced plans to open that nuclear plant next spring. The plant was originally scheduled to be open in 1974, but the community has waged a protracted struggle against LILCO since that time. The Suffolk county legislature has rejected the idea that this section of Long Island could be safely evacuated in the event of a nuclear accident. However, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, part of the Reagan administration, has the power to approve an evacuation plan giving the approval for the plant to open. Speakers at the rally also attacked New York Gov. Mario Cuomo for cooperating with LILCO to get the plant opened.

The rally on Saturday included a wide range of community organizers from Long Island. The Shinnecock Native people made a cultural presentation as did Roy Brown, a Puerto Rican activist who sang songs opposing U.S. intervention in Central America.

60 organizing centers build July 2

By Otto Dusek
JUNE 7—With the Reagan administration constantly raising the ante in Central America, the urgency to counter this threat grows daily. This has been reflected in the adherence of more supporters and activists to the Ad Hoc Committee for July 2 Emergency Mobilization.

The New York office overflowed with volunteers last Saturday, some of whom had to move to the hallways to work on a huge mailing on the July 2 protest. Organizers also cite the growing daily mail, many letters containing \$5 and \$10 and more in contributions, as a sign of increased interest in the demonstration protesting U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.

Again this week there was a significant expansion in organizing centers around the country, with growth from 46 to over 60. These include one in Greensboro, N.C., and now a total of five in New Jersey. Another July 2 demonstration is being planned for Seattle in solidarity with the Washington, D.C. action.

Dublin's solidarity

Though there was plenty happening in the U.S., one of the most exciting pieces of news around the office was the solidarity demonstration being organized by activists in Dublin, Ireland.

Student, labor, and political groups there had already planned a demonstration of solidarity

with Nicaragua for June 17. When they got word of the July 2 demonstration, they decided to try and picket the U.S. embassy that day. The response to this suggestion was so strong that now another demonstration involving mass organizations is planned for that day in Dublin.

Labor leaflet

In building more support for the July 2 demonstration within the labor movement, the New York Labor Committee in Support of Democracy and Human Rights in El Salvador has published a leaflet calling for support for the march and rally.

After attacking Reagan's Central America policy, the leaflet

goes on to ask: "What is labor's stake in all this?"

"Our concern is jobs and job security and the 11 million brothers and sisters who are unemployed and without a safety net. Our priorities are getting them back to work, restoring the cuts in human and social services, rebuilding our cities and reopening our plants and factories . . .

"Where will the money come from? The Pentagon budget is \$1.6 trillion for the next few years, and more than 50¢ of every federal tax dollar is spent on the military."

July 2 organizers say that 10,000 copies of this leaflet have been printed and made available to local unions all over the New York City area.

Confront Nutting

people unfurled a banner calling for an end to the U.S. war against Central America and to march on Washington D.C. on July 2.

Rachel Nasca, an organizer for July 2, stopped the stunned general by saying, "General Nutting, we know what you are about to say and we think it is criminal for you to even suggest that this country be pulled into another Viet Nam war in Central America. Our \$1.6 trillion that you and your Pentagon cohorts are spending needs to be used here on jobs, education, housing, and social services.

"Yes, we are prepared to fight a war, a war here at home against racism and all oppression, a war against you and the military industry complex that is sucking the life out of our people. We say no to your war today and in Washington, D.C. on July 2." As the protesters were escorted out of the posh \$300 a day hotel, past the swells dining in opulence in the hotel restaurant, they carried the July 2 banner and chanted "No more Viet Nams!"

Hartford launches July 2 mobilization

By Merrill Charles
HARTFORD, June 4—Over 50 activists, mainly Latino people, participated in a highly spirited community meeting at the Mitchell House Community Center here this evening, formally launching the organizing drive in Hartford to build the July 2 Washington D.C. emergency demonstration.

Despite intermittent showers, representatives from a number of important community groups attended the meeting; they pledged their support to help mobilize a large contingent from Hartford to attend the emergency demonstration. The entire meeting was conducted in Spanish.

The keynote speaker at the meeting was Jaime Veve, a delegate to Local 6 of the Restau-

rant and Hotel Workers Union, New York, and a national organizer for the July 2 mobilization. Veve addressed the important links between the attacks of the Reagan program on poor and working people in the U.S. and the Pentagon's war drive in Central America. He stressed the need for organizing a massive militant demonstration in Washington on July 2 to put a halt to the war fever spreading among U.S. generals and politicians.

Community speakers

Jose La Luz, speaking on behalf of the newly-formed Hispanic Workers Alliance, pointed to the role of U.S. corporations in the oppression of the people of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Haydee Rosario spoke on the current struggle in Hartford's Puerto Rican/Latin community following the hit-and-run death last April of Jeanette Ortiz, a ten-year-old Puerto Rican girl. Ortiz was struck down three blocks from the site of tonight's meeting.

Since Ortiz' death, there have been three sizable marches from the community to city offices to protest police mishandling of the investigation of the primary suspect, a prominent Hartford attorney with close ties to the police department.

Also speaking was Juan Hernandez of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, who voiced his organization's support for the July demonstration.



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June 17 protest set for DC Reagan-Magana meet

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 6—A demonstration protesting the expanding U.S. war in El Salvador and throughout Central America has been called here to coincide with the June 17 meeting between Ronald Reagan and Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana. The demonstration which is being co-sponsored by a broad coalition of anti-war groups including the Peoples Anti-War Mobilization and the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) will take place in front of the White House with a follow-up rally in Lafayette Square.

A spokesperson for the Peo-

ples Anti-War Mobilization (PAM) explained, "It is now crystal clear that this administration is rapidly preparing the groundwork for a full-scale U.S. intervention in Central America. Reagan has determined that the U.S. can achieve its policy objectives in El Salvador only through a military victory, a victory of which the Salvadoran military is incapable."

The June 17 demonstration will rally anti-war sentiment in this area which will culminate in a large mobilization on July 2. For more information phone the PAM office at (202) 462-1488.

Nicaraguan diplomats: 'This is not good-bye'



WW photo: DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

NEW YORK, June 7—Leonora Huper, Consul-General of the Nicaraguan Consulate here, tells crowd, "I'm not saying goodbye, only see you again soon." Supporters of the Latin American struggle against dictatorship and U.S. intervention packed Casa Nicaragua tonight to bid farewell to Nicaraguan diplomats given 24 hours to leave the U.S. on orders of the State Department. The organizers of the brief but emotional ceremony urged everyone to show their solidarity with Nicaragua by building the July 2nd mobilization in Washington, D.C., to oppose the U.S. war in Central America and the Caribbean.

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Childcare

Nicaraguan women tell of gains under Sandinists

By Jelayne Miles and Sharon Shelton

NEW YORK, June 7—Yvonne Siu and Sulema Baltodano, two representatives of AMNLAE (Association of Nicaraguan Women-Luisa Amanda Espinosa) had been scheduled to open a U.S. tour on June 4 to explain what the Nicaraguan Revolution means for women, but their visas were delayed by the Reagan administration for several days, forcing them to miss a public meeting.

At a news conference today across the street from the United Nations, the two women spoke at the delayed beginning of their U.S. tour. They explained that they are here because "we want a dialogue with the people of the U.S. on the struggle of women in Nicaragua," in the words of Yvonne Siu.

Siu declared that the struggle of women must be part of the struggle of all people to be effective. "During these years we earned the right to play a role in the struggle and today, because of it, we've advanced years ahead," she said.

"The gains we've made in almost four years since the Revolution are greater than 40 years of Somoza," she continued. Illiteracy has dropped dramatically from 57% to 12%; infant deaths have been lowered; contagious diseases are now under control. "And last year polio was eliminated. Before, polio was one of



Zulema Baltodano

the major causes of death of children."

Yvonne Siu, whose sister Arlen was killed in the struggle against Somoza, is the Director of International Relations of AMNLAE. "We struggle for peace"

Zulema Baltodano opened by saying, "We are people who want peace. We struggle for peace so that we can reconstruct our country."

But it is the active counter-revolutionary intervention of the Reagan administration working through the Honduran government that is working against this peace, she explained.

Zulema Baltodano became involved in the struggle against Somoza after the capture of her daughter Monica in 1977 by the



Yvonne Siu

National Guard. A second daughter was killed in the war against Somoza and a third had her hands blown off. Zulema has been an active participant with Nicaraguan women's organizations since before the overthrow of Somoza.

Although these two women were prevented from attending the first mass meeting organized for them by the Women's Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean in New York City on June 4, over 200 people turned out for the solidarity activity.

Leonora Huper, Consul-General of the Nicaraguan Consulate here, explained how "many Nicaraguans are being killed every day by bullets and guns provided

—CIA murder plot

Continued from page 1

to cover up the covert assassination plot. (For an analysis of the meaning behind the CIA plot, see "Government by Assassination," by Sam Marcy, page 9.)

What is unique about the Nicaraguan charges is that the whole operation was fully documented. In fact, the key CIA operative who was supposed to carry out the assassination of Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brockman turned out to be a loyal Sandinist.

Washington was outraged not only because its secret operations had been infiltrated and exposed, but because the evidence was presented for the whole world to see. It left no doubt that Washington is continuing its policy of covert assassinations, despite public laws forbidding it.

What the Sandinists revealed was a true-life spy story. A brave and dedicated member of the Nicaraguan Embassy staff in Honduras, Marlina Moncada, was approached by a man named Luis Rodriguez who identified himself as a member of the CIA. In consultation with Nicaraguan government officials, she agreed to accept the offer to work for the CIA.

When she was recalled from Honduras to begin work in Managua, she was given code books hidden in a wooden carving as well as a radio for making communications. All these items were displayed at the news conference.

Poison plot

On May 31, she received a coded radio message directing her to pick up a bottle of poisoned liquor which was hidden behind a Managua restaurant. At that spot, she found a boxed bottle of Benedictine with a note giving her instructions. Both the note and the bottle were shown to reporters at the news conference.

The contents of the bottle were examined by Nicaraguan chemists who found it contained a mixture of acids that would produce a delayed effect on anyone who drank it. The chemists' report stated that it would be particularly difficult to tell by the symptoms created by the poisons that it was not from natural causes.

Also shown at the news conference were photographs and videotapes of the activities of the three expelled CIA agents, including film footage of meetings between Moncada and her main CIA contact in Managua, one of the three U.S. Embassy officials, Ermila L. Rodriguez, a second secretary at the embassy.

Used embassy cover

According to the book *Inside the Company* by former CIA officer Philip Agee, such positions are routinely given as cover posts for CIA agents. Documentation also showed that the 1973 military coup in Chile and the assassinations of top officials of the Allende government were all run out of the U.S. Embassy in that country.

Part of the Reagan administration's loud and belligerent move to expel Nicaraguan diplomats from the U.S. included the calculated slander that they had been engaged in "intelligence operations."

Angela Saballos of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington charged that Washington offered "no proof at all." The Nicaraguans "have done nothing, no spying of any kind," she said, while the CIA agents were expelled from Managua because "there was proof, witnesses, and films and photographs."

War escalates

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration is not only concerned with covering up its illegal assassination plots in Nicaragua. On the Honduras border, the U.S.-directed counter-revolutionaries have opened up a new front. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry charged, "This is the third large-scale invasion the counter-revolutionaries have launched, but this time with the support of the Honduran army."

The Honduran army, which has its full budget provided by Washington, is directed by U.S. Ambassador to Honduras John Negroponte, according to Newsweek magazine. That means any bombing action by that army had to have the approval of the Reagan administration.

The counter-revolutionary forces, which the Pentagon claims now number 7,000, are made up primarily of thugs and killers from the ousted Somoza dictatorship—the equivalent of the Ku Klux Klan here. Reagan recently called them "freedom fighters."

Those forces have not been able to make any significant gains, but they have left a wide path of death and destruction. They have no chance of toppling the popular Sandinist government, which has fully armed the mass of the population to meet this challenge (an act no dictatorship would ever dare).

With this constant escalation, it is more necessary than ever that the anti-war and working class movement in this country stand up in all available forums, in demonstrations and rallies, to say no to the war and to stop Reagan and the Pentagon.

by the Reagan administration."

Guatalupe Gonzalez, representing the FDR-FMLN of El Salvador, who explained the conditions of Salvadoran women and stressed how women "play a leading role in organizing in the FDR-FMLN."

Yolanda Ortiz of Casa Nicaragua, praised the many gains the Nicaraguan Revolution has made for women there and strongly attacked the U.S. war going on against Nicaragua. She urged the audience to actively build and join in the July 2 mobilization against U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.

A moving statement was made by Ingrid Washinawatook from the International Treaty Council. She praised the Sandinista government for its genuine concern and interest for the indigenous peoples in Nicaragua. She told of how ten delegations of Native people have visited that country and seen the evidence of this first hand.

Speaking for the Women's Coalition which organized the meeting was Margorie Tuite, who denounced the U.S. for delaying the visas. Entertainment was provided by Argentinian singer Suni Paz and two Native groups, the Youngblood Singers and the Thunderbird Sisters. Chairing the meeting was Kitty Krupat of District 65, United Auto Workers union.

Government by assassination

By Sam Marcy

JUNE 7—The charges of the revolutionary Nicaraguan government about U.S. attempts to murder some of its leading personnel should be examined in light of the recent historical experience of successive U.S. administrations.

In the years following the Watergate episode, a wave of liberalism swept through substantial elements of the capitalist government. It seemed during the Ford and Carter administrations that a genuine effort was being made not merely to rein in the various secret services of the U.S.—the FBI, CIA, Defense Intelligence Agency, and others—but to cleanse, limit, and restructure them.

The supposed intention was to make it virtually impossible for them to carry out any covert operations without at least violating the capitalist government's own laws, the laws against murder and assassination in particular.

The very idea of having to legislate something of that nature was itself an admission of the odious past of these agencies.

It was implied in all this that both Congress and the executive agency of the government, including the White House, would have to be obedient not merely to existing legislation regarding the secret services but prospective legislation as well.

Congress opened investigations...

The year 1976-77 was full of investigations of the CIA and the FBI by a horde of Congressional committees, each scrambling to get the limelight very much the way that Congressional committees are scrambling to get the publicity for exposing Reagan's EPA today. Finally a commission was formed to not merely investigate and take testimony on the various espionage organizations but to limit and restructure them.

To give this panel the necessary prestige, then-Vice President Nelson Rockefeller was to play a leading part. Incredible as it seems, he was still regarded at that time as a liberal.

The investigations seemed so serious that it looked as though even former CIA Directors Helms and Colby might be indicted for criminal activities. Also at that time, it was freely alluded to in capitalist newspapers in the U.S. that the CIA had had a hand in the assassinations of Congolese independence leader Patrice Lumumba, President Salvador Allende and Gen. René Schneider of Chile, and others.



The CIA assassination plot just revealed by the Nicaraguan government is part of a long history of such actions by Washington despite clear laws forbidding it. The Nicaraguan people are mobilized against all forms of intervention. Above, 150,000 rally in Managua on April 28 against Reagan's war in Central America.

Photo: BARRICADA

Of course, there were also the domestic murders of Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, and of course the Kennedys. The whole year of 1976-77 seemed to be calculated to put an end to these terrorist activities of secret U.S. organizations.

... that failed to tackle illegal operations

As the investigations proceeded, however, they kept being narrowed down more and more to minor infractions rather than revealing the actual role of the secret services, especially the CIA.

The report of the House Intelligence Committee was known to be the most critical and to contain the most comprehensive details of illegal activities. After much debate, the committee voted nine-to-four to have its full findings released to the public. Had that been done, it might have laid the basis for some reforms of the elaborate and extensive U.S. spy network, as the liberals had hoped.

But like so many committee reports, when it reached the full House it was defeated 246-to-124. The decision was to keep it locked up in the safe of the House of Representatives. Some parts of it leaked out through CBS News and the Village Voice, but this was small potatoes. The main report was locked up and never saw the light of day.

But attacks on the CIA and FBI continued, with a great many newspapers featuring exposés of both organizations.

Finally, when the Carter administration took over it was assumed that the new head of the CIA, Adm. Stansfield Turner, would restructure the organization so as to plug any loopholes allowing illegal operations.

But no sooner had he taken office than Turner announced that his aim was merely "to improve the organization." As a sop to public opinion he was said to have planned to fire the "undesirables," presumably meaning those who had carried out illegal activities. But it soon turned out that, rather than fire anybody, he merely instituted some minor economy measures to streamline the organization and to satisfy other agencies that the CIA was also cutting some of the "fat" from its budget.

The whole thing was a hoax. All those laid off or discharged from the CIA were eventually rehired. However, there is one element of these complex but utterly fruitless investigations and attempts at so-called reform that merits attention.

Executive order forbids assassinations

This was an executive order signed by President Ford and renewed by Presidents Carter and Reagan. The order as it stands now was signed on Dec. 4, 1981, and entitled Executive Order 12333, Topic U.S. Intelligence Activity.

Section 2.11 states: "No person employed by or acting on behalf of the United States government shall engage in or conspire to engage in assassination." This is followed by section 2.12 which states further: "No agency of the intelligence community shall participate in or request any person to undertake activity forbidden by this Order."

This was supposed to be a real concession coming out of all those investigations and it was the Ford administration which first took credit for it. It was routinely renewed by Carter and then Reagan.

Its real purpose was not only to mollify those bourgeois liberal elements who would take all this for good coin, but also and more particularly to assure foreign governments that the U.S. would not again resort to murder and assassination in its intelligence operations.

Of course, anyone who has carefully followed the practice of the capitalist government, particularly as it pertains to the more sensitive operations like intelligence, knows that the most important executive orders and directives are of a secret and not public character. Intelligence plans, emanating from either the White House or the CIA Director's office, are regularly amended by secret directives. These agencies would not be able to function at all if their activities in the struggle against the revolutionary tide sweeping the countries oppressed by imperialism were made public.

Only the most naive person could believe that Executive Order 12333 was anything but a public relations job calculated to calm the fears of governments under the guns of the U.S.

Such a public display was necessary when Ford signed the original order, particularly in view of the fact that Sen. Frank Church, then chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was organizing a subcommittee to expose all the assassinations the U.S. government was involved in.

It seemed an incredible undertaking when one considers the really large fragments of truth which might be divulged in the course of such an investigation and how damaging it could be to the credibility of the capitalist government.

Nevertheless, Church kept accumulating data and witnesses,

until his show was suddenly halted and his panel wound up before much of anything really new was revealed.

So-called reforms a cover for continued illegal operations

So when the Nicaraguan government made public its findings that the U.S. had engaged in attempts to murder its leaders, it was proof once more (if any was needed) that the so-called reforms attempted over the years to harness, rein in, or stop illegal activities, especially murder, were exercises in futility. They have helped to cover up rather than bring to light the reality of the situation.

The public executive orders have been nothing more than cover stories.

However, the U.S. Congress does have an opportunity. In view of the serious revelations made by the Nicaraguan authorities, and in light of the fact that Congress has virtually forbidden the U.S. government from trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government, it should immediately call in the ousted "diplomats" (spies) and really begin to unravel the truth.

This is, of course, a very weak and fragile reed for the anti-war and working class movement to depend upon. But it's worth watching.

What does all this show?

Lenin on the law and the capitalist state

Lenin, who more than anyone else in this century studied the nature of the capitalist state and went through the experience of both overthrowing it and instituting a new one based on the popular support of the soviets (workers' councils), amassed more detailed information and analyzed the nature of the capitalist state more profoundly than anyone else since Marx.

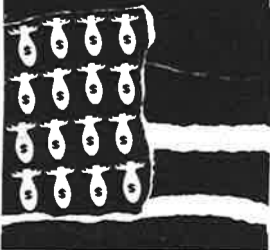
His principal study, well-known throughout the world, is "State and Revolution," and is the most popular Marxist work on the subject. It was written during the very heat of the days preceding the actual overthrow of the Kerensky regime and the successful insurrection which ushered in the October Revolution.

In a later polemic against Karl Kautsky entitled "The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky," Lenin sharpened one of his formulations on the nature of the capitalist state as it relates to bourgeois parliamentarism and bourgeois legislation in general. "The capitalist state," he said, "is a dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and is unrestricted by any laws." (Emphasis ours.)

All of these investigations of the CIA and the FBI, all this legislation to stop the government, that is the capitalist state, from violating its own laws, including the law against murder, can be neither really effective nor ever really enforced except under the pressure of the masses. The bourgeoisie through its executive organ is, as Lenin put it, unrestricted by any laws, including those against murder, rapine, dissemination of germs (a form of biological warfare), or other hostile acts which the imperialist colossus considers to be in its own interests.

The revelations of the Nicaraguan government not only illuminate the nature of the capitalist state but also expose the nature of bourgeois democracy in the U.S.: it is just a mask for predatory imperialist warfare against the masses abroad as well as at home.

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EDITORIAL

Targetting Mellon Bank

IN OPENING a campaign against the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh and hitting this financial octopus as an anti-working class institution that foments unemployment, the United Steelworkers of America could have hardly picked a better target.

Joined by the United Electrical Workers and the United Mine Workers; the steel workers' union has cited in particular the bank's ruthless foreclosure on the Mesta Machine Company, its refusal to pay the Mesta employees their last three weeks salary, and the confiscation of their medical insurance and pension funds as well.

The struggle between Mellon Bank and the unions and community organizations in western Pennsylvania's unemployment-devastated Mon Valley brings into public view something that is usually hidden: the role of the big banks in U.S. society.

BankAmerica, Citibank, Chase Manhattan, Manufacturers Hanover, Morgan Guaranty Trust, Continental Illinois, Mellon Bank and a few others sit like spiders at the center of the web in capitalist America, and through their control of corporate loans, vast trust funds, and interlocking directorships with each other and with the giant U.S. oil firms and military contractors, they have established themselves as the real rulers of America.

The banks in turn are owned by a handful of wealthy stockholders, like the billionaire Mellons and Rockefellers. Besides ownership of the Mellon Bank, for instance, the Mellon family also directly owns such monopolistic enterprises as ALCOA and Gulf Oil. When David Rockefeller or Paul Mellon makes a decision about how bank funds should be used, that decision is based on what will bring in the highest profit. The public good is irrelevant to the bosses of high finance.

Only by taking over the banks and corporate conglomerates can the poor and the workers fundamentally change this fact of life in their favor.

Peru struggle opens

A NEW FRONT of the Latin American liberation struggle is opening up in Peru. Whatever its political evolution and final political form, it must be supported and defended against U.S. imperialism and its agents.

The Peruvian government proclaimed a "nationwide state of emergency" last week and, after shooting down an unknown number of victims, mostly Indian peasants, arrested over 500 "suspects." The reason for this brutal crackdown, according to government spokespersons, was the guerrilla activity of Shining Path, the revolutionary opposition group. But the government repression now coming down in Peru can be nothing else but the instinctive reflex action of a ruling class that knows that its days are numbered. As in Central America, this repression in Peru might delay, but cannot stop, the inevitable struggle.

The Peruvian bourgeoisie has always been an unstable, comprador ruling group, half puppets of U.S. mining companies and half would-be titans trying to rule 15 million super-oppressed people, mostly Indian and Mestizo.

All the U.S. capitalist newspapers that deal with the question show the greatest understanding for the problems of President Belaunde Terry and the most calculated hostility to the guerrilla movement. They have developed a touching regard for some poor people who may have been caught in the crossfire between the military repression and the revolutionary upsurge without being even remotely moved by the suffering of hundreds of thousands of abysmally low-paid wage slaves, suffering the U.S.-owned mines and other facilities of Peru. But the papers have told some truth, nevertheless—namely that the people in Peru are rising up against their oppressors.



Question raised if French CP will stay in government

By John Catalinotto

JUNE 6—In an important policy statement last Wednesday, French Communist Party (PCF) head Georges Marchais raised his sharpest criticism of the French government's foreign and economic policy since the PCF joined the government coalition two years ago.

The following day, Socialist Premier Pierre Mauroy threatened to call for a parliamentary vote of confidence on these questions. Such a vote would force the PCF either to formally back the government's policies or to leave the government.

The confrontation of the two government parties is another indication of the brewing social turmoil in France. This turmoil has been fed by a general dissatisfaction with the economy and especially with the latest austerity program, and has been exploited by rightwing parties which have organized anti-government street demonstrations.

Marchais at Ivry

Speaking before 1,000 mostly PCF activists in the working-class Paris suburb of Ivry, Marchais attacked the Williamsburg summit statement on NATO nuclear missiles, saying that the PCF would "do everything to prevent new missiles from being deployed in Europe." He implicitly attacked French President Mitterrand for changing his prior position by signing the statement, and said that it had given "a blank check to the Americans."

The questions asked Marchais by his Ivry audience were even more critical of the government than Marchais' answers. These questions, printed in the June 3 Liberation, a left-leaning independent daily, indicated growing

rank-and-file discontent with the PCF's supportive role in the reformist government.

Trade unionists in the audience facing plant closings put pressure on Marchais, asking, for instance, if the PCF "ministers will continue to back a government that is dismantling our industry." Marchais responded by targeting the Socialist Economic Minister, Jacques Delors, for being so cheered by Reagan and Thatcher's approval of the austerity program he designed.

Lacked class clarity

Many of Marchais' statements might have been made just as well by a bourgeois nationalist defending France's independence from U.S. domination, rather than by a communist who sees French imperialism, as well as the U.S., as the enemy of the class he represents. Marchais even defended France's nuclear strike force, which is nothing but a deadly weapon against the oppressed nations and the socialist countries.

Nevertheless, in typical red-baiting fashion, the anti-Soviet leadership of the Socialist Party and the rightwing bourgeois parties attacked Marchais as "following the wish of the Kremlin" in putting forth his anti-missiles stand. His position was used to call into question the PCF participation in the government.

Not at any price . . .

And Marchais himself raised this question at Ivry, saying, "It would be better to stay in the government, but not at any price. The price is well known: it is 1981, nothing but 1981, but all 1981." Marchais here refers to

the program of reform agreed to by the SP and PCF in 1981.

Many of these reforms were passed in the first year the SP-PCF coalition was in office—raising the minimum wage, cutting the work week one hour, improving pensions, and nationalizing the banks and some industry.

These reforms were welcomed by the workers, but they were not adequate to end the crisis. Only a revolutionary overturn of the capitalist system could pull France's economy out of the worldwide capitalist crisis, and this was the furthest thing from the intentions of Mitterrand and Co.

The government, and especially its SP majority, began to show its real role as caretakers of the capitalist system. Faced with continued high unemployment and inflation, the SP ministers introduced an austerity program which hurt the living standards of the middle classes and the workers.

An indication of the growing disillusion among the workers with the government they had considered "theirs" came in last March's municipal elections. Many abstained in the first round of the voting, so that it looked like the right wing bourgeois parties would sweep.

Then, in the second round of the voting, when the two top candidates run off against each other, a few million voters opted for the left candidates instead of abstaining. Analyzing this vote at an April conference, Marchais called it a "warning" to the government; he also said the PCF was making gains relative to the SP.

Because the workers have lost much of their former enthusiasm for the Mitterrand government, it has been relatively easy for middle class sectors to be mobilized in anti-government demonstrations by the rightwing bourgeois parties. Just this week, in fact, 1,500 police staged an ominous anti-government demonstration, mobilized by the ultra-right.

The Ivry meeting gave further evidence that more and more class-conscious workers are no longer looking to the CP-PCF coalition as their government, and that a good number of PCF militants are looking to their own party to lead the opposition to the government and to the rightists.

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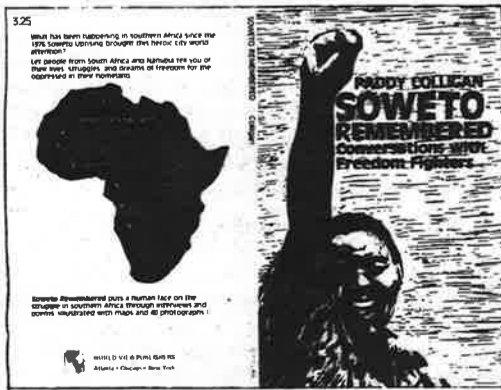
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Lebanon general strike protests Israeli rule

150,000 in Tel Aviv say 'bring the troops home'

By Jesse Lee

JUNE 6—The bold and brave resistance of the Lebanese and Palestinian people to the continued occupation of Lebanon by the U.S., France, Italy, and the U.S.-armed Israeli army was marked by a daring one-day general strike on the anniversary of the Israeli invasion last year.

"Most Lebanese towns under Israeli occupation observed a general strike on June 6," according to the Palestinian News Agency Wafa. "Merchants and public employees joined the strike in the Beqa', north Lebanon, Sidon, Tyre, Nabatiyeh, and other areas. Black flags were raised over many buildings in Beirut as a sign of mourning. The near unanimous general strike was called for yesterday by Lebanese national parties and religious organizations."

Israeli troops heavily patrolled the streets of Sidon. Soldiers painted red markings on the doors of shops and public institutions which closed for the day to single out striking shopkeepers for later acts of repression. Residents of Sidon formed a procession to the site of a mass grave on the road leading to Ain Al-Helweh camp. Wreaths were laid on the mass grave.

Major protest in Tel Aviv

The anniversary was also marked by a significant anti-war demonstration of 150,000 in Israel itself. With daily casualty reports coming back to families in Israel as the resistance continues by the progressive Lebanese and Palestinian resistance forces the voices in Israel against the war and occupation have grown louder and stronger.

Organized under the banner of the Peace Now movement, the most active opposition has been

among Israeli soldiers themselves and their parents. Last week a group called Parents Against Silence presented Defense Minister Moshe Arens with a petition signed by 7,000 Israeli mothers and fathers demanding that the troops be brought home from Lebanon. Also last week former Israeli Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan was confronted by both Arab and Jewish students at Hebrew University with chants of "Rafael murderer" and banners calling him a "war-criminal" for his role in the invasion of Lebanon.

A week-long protest march from the Lebanese border to Tel Aviv culminated in the rally of 150,000 on June 4. Their one demand was an immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

Anniversary marked by U.S. protests



WW photo: FRANK ALBERT

JUNE 6—Demonstrations were held in Atlanta and New York City on the anniversary of the U.S.-Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Close to 300 protesters gathered outside the Israeli Embassy to the United Nations in New York today. This demonstration, sponsored by Jews Against the Israeli Massacre in Lebanon and endorsed by the November 29 Coalition and other groups, focused upon the thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese illegally detained by Israel in Al Ansaar and other prison camps. In Atlanta (pictured above), a march and rally on Saturday of 75 people was led by a Palestinian youth proudly carrying the flag of his nation.

Protest to hit Turkish drive against Kurds in Iraq

By Brian Becker

Washington, June 6—A demonstration protesting the recent invasion by the Turkish army into the Kurdish area of Iraq has been set for Saturday, June 11, at 11am at 23rd and P Street in Washington, D.C. The protest was initiated by the Kurdistan Democratic party of Iraq/U.S and Canada branch, the Peoples Anti-War mobilization and the Committees for a Democratic Palestine. Over 15 other Middle Eastern and North American organizations have endorsed.

A similar demonstration will be held in New York City on June 12 at 12 noon, in front of the United Nations at 42nd St. and 1st Ave.

The Turkish invasion into Ira-

qi Kurdistan began on May 26. According to a statement released by Mr. Masoud Barzani, president of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, "The objective of these armed units is to threaten the headquarters and bases of our party which are located throughout the Badinan region. This liberated region, because of the absence of Iraqi troops, has a population of 7,000 refugee families and countless others who fled from the Iraqi government's persecution."

"The recent conspiracy against the Kurdish liberation movement has been planned and coordinated jointly by the Turkish and Iraqi governments. Iraq entered the conspiracy because it was unable to sustain an

attack by itself. Its armed forces have been desperately weakened as a result of its war with neighboring Iran and it needed assistance from Turkish armed units in order to carry out its objectives.

Victims of racist repression

The Kurdish people, numbering nearly 10 million in Turkey, have been the victims of extreme racism and repression by the Turkish military junta. The Kurdish minority in Iraq is fighting for autonomy in Iraq. The Kurdistan Democratic Party is a member organization of the Iraqi National Democratic Front, a coalition of Iraqi communities, trade unionists, other progressives and minorities which is

waging a progressive struggle against the Saddam Hasein government.

The June 11 demonstration will also demand freedom for the 35 Kurds who were sentenced to death last week by a Turkish military tribunal. There are over 50,000 political prisoners who have been arrested since the fascist Turkish generals seized power in September 1981.

The demonstrators will also call for a cutoff of U.S. arms to Turkey. The Reagan administration has dramatically increased U.S. weapons shipments to the rightist government, making it the third largest recipient of U.S. military aid.

For more information on the protests, phone (202) 462-1488.

Profit drive led to Jersey dioxin danger

By L. Volpe

NEWARK, June 7—Although the N.J. state government was warned a full three years ago, the presence of huge quantities of dioxin, the deadliest substance known, was confirmed by state health officials last Thursday in the Ironbound section of this city in the heart of cancer alley.

Quantities as high as 1,200 parts per billion (ppb) were found, higher than that found in Times Beach, Mo. One part per billion is considered hazardous to human life.

Governor Thomas Kean, in a fanfare visit to the site, justified the three-year delay in testing the site by saying New Jersey didn't have the technology to conduct the tests until now. He didn't say why labs from out of state weren't called in to the former Diamond Alkali (now Diamond Shamrock) plant where Agent Orange was produced until 1970. One Medical Doctor, who has been treating former workers at the plant, notified state and federal officials of the danger back in 1965!

One hundred mostly white working class and senior residents in a 300 yard radius of the abandoned site were allowed to evacuate their homes but not encouraged to do so by state officials. Nearby residents of mostly Black and Latin public housing projects haven't been offered any assistance at all by the state. Indeed, Kean claims there is no contamination beyond the site itself.

Chemical pollution is no stranger to northeastern New Jersey, one of the most industri-

alized and densely populated areas of the country. The state admits to 233 hazardous waste dump sites, 11 of which are Class I and all within a 20 mile radius. A Class I rating means that dangerous dioxin levels most probably exist.

Dioxin poisoned Viet Nam

Dioxin is a byproduct in the manufacture of Agent Orange, the herbicide sprayed all over Viet Nam by the U.S. government during the war. Many thousands of veterans attribute their cancer, deformed offspring and other ailments to Agent Orange poisoning. But the U.S. government, in a campaign led by the Reagan Administration, has refused to list dioxin as a dangerous substance and has refused to compensate vets for their disabilities related to the defoliant.

Large portions of the Vietnamese countryside are barren 15 years after being sprayed by the defoliant. Vietnamese people have suffered the same ailments as U.S. vets because of Agent Orange but the U.S. refuses to pay long-due reparations to Viet Nam.

Doctor warned of danger in 1965

Former workers at the Diamond Alkali plant were treated by Dr. Roger Brodtkin, now head of dermatology at the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry, since the early 1960s. Brodtkin explained that of the 50 production workers, 29 suffered

from the severe liver disease porphyria.

Brodtkin said that he treated the workers in the plant itself every week and alerted state and federal health officials since 1965 of the problem. But the officials' inspections resulted in no action. "No one worried much about the skin disease because everyone was determined to make production schedules for the Viet Nam war," said Brodtkin. He still treats

10 former workers for chloracne, 13 years after the plant shut down. Many others have died.

State health officials have backed off an order to close the Farmers Market, located just 1500 yards from the site, after protest from businessmen who said they would lose profits. The Market distributes produce throughout New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

Residents of Ironbound, led by

the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, will present a list of demands to state officials tomorrow night which include; 1) the governor must declare a state of emergency; 2) free physical exams for all 50,000 Ironbound residents and workers in the area 3) A comprehensive environmental study of the neighborhood; 5) a community-control led investigation and prosecution of those responsible.

Bees do—Soviets don't

By Carla Basilio

June 5 — Bee waste, along with the usual dose from the renowned bull, made the U.S. news this week on the issue of yellow rain, the alleged "toxic weapon" supposedly used by the Soviet Union in Laos and Thailand.

"It is possible that yellow rain is bee excrement," said Dr. Matthew W. Meselson, Harvard biochemist government consultant on chemical/biological warfare.

He advanced a "strong hypothesis" that the substance is a natural part of the Southeast Asian environment, and bears a close resemblance to samples collected in the Harvard parking lot.

Meselson's statement, a challenge to his bosses in the White House and State Department, was supported by four other prominent scientists.

Last year Reagan offered alleged yellow rain samples as

"conclusive evidence" to the United Nations that the Soviet Union supplied toxins to Southeast Asia. This comes from a president who believes that plants account for most air pollution. Even the New York Times, no friend of the people of Southeast Asia, was forced to admonish State Department officials in a June 3 editorial for drawing on "insufficient evidence." Previously, they claimed that the Soviet Union deliberately added pollen to a toxic chemical in order to release mycotoxins, poison produced naturally by fungi, into the air.

According to Meselson, bees are plentiful in Southeast Asia and feed off the pollen of plants and flowers. The undigested pollen is sprayed during the "cleansing flights" noted the Times, causing yellow spots to occur abundantly on the ground, on vegetation—or on cars, more

frequently the case at Harvard than in Laos.

Meselson suggested that spores from the fungi, containing mycotoxins, might travel through the air and land on bee droppings as well as food, explaining their presence in the bodies of villagers "whom the State Department identified as victims of chemical attack."

Here, thousands of Viet Nam veterans and U.S. residents poisoned by dioxin struggle for compensation for illness and loss of life.

The bees will no doubt continue their bombing in the same trajectory while the State Department and its stable of scientists spend months and money on "independent" studies of the bee question, scraping for some slight spray of evidence to twist to their use.

Meanwhile, it is certain, references to excrement will be as plentiful as the bees themselves.

Behind the 2,200 layoffs at Pratt and Whitney

By R. Porter

HARTFORD, Ct., June 3—The long-awaited, much-touted economic "recovery" has been buried under a mountain of pink slips here in Connecticut. Today, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft is reducing its workforce by 2,200 people—1,800 hourly workers by layoff and 400 salaried employees by forced retirement. This will bring the total number of jobs lost at P&WA's four Connecticut plants since late 1980 to 11,000.

As in the past, the company blames the poor condition of the world's commercial airline industry for the employment drop. This reason is at least suspect, says the International Association of Machinists District 91. If business does pick up, will the company continue to siphon the work to non-union subcontractors? How many jobs have been permanently lost to new technology? These questions are

being asked by those affected by this latest devastating assault by United Technologies Corporation, parent outfit of P&WA.

High-tech areas hardest hit

Hard hit by this layoff are production departments where the company introduced high technology-oriented machinery most intensively, including computer numerically controlled (CNC) equipment. By wiping out entire job codes the company was able to get around contract security language that protects union officials. At the East Hartford plant, several militant stewards, as well as the union's recording secretary, were laid off.

Skilled trades departments were dealt a heavy blow as well; the tool and die room and machine maintenance areas which normally operate out of central locations are being

broken down and scattered throughout the plant. This affects the traditional concentrated strength of their union members and places them more at the mercy of management. They suffered heavy losses from layoffs as well, but not as much as the inspection departments. They lost fully half of their 300 personnel.

No end in sight

P&WA workers are reeling from the relentless job purges which seem to have no end in sight. "I'll be out the door in the next one," is a common remark. Few people are using the grievance procedure as many await more expected layoffs.

The company is locked in to "conflict" with General Electric over future government contracts for the F-100 engine, used in F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft.

This is held over the workers' heads, and P&WA attempts to corral its worker-victims to take their side in the "battle" between the two thieving corporations. In the P&WA-GE "competition" all the workers are losers because jobs will continually be sliced away by the capitalist technology scalpel and Pentagon militarists will have still more dangerous weapons to use against the world's liberation struggles.

The union-won gains at P&WA are regarded as pace-setting for other industries in the area. Should they be rolled back, the effects will be felt by thousands of other workers. When local manufacturers no longer fear los-

ing skilled machinists to Pratt's higher wages they can freely "cut costs" at their workers' expense.

The local media is filled with stories which depict the desperation and anguish of the thousands of newly jobless. Social workers and job counsellors profess their abject helplessness in the situation.

But the thousands of laid-off P&WA workers, combined with the cast-out millions of their sisters and brothers around the country are not powerless. If supported by the yet-unused power of the labor movement and its allies, they can lead an unbeatable struggle against the inhuman restructuring attempts by U.S. capitalism.

On The Picketline

California machinists on strike!



WW photo: LIZA GREEN

By Liza Green
BERKELEY, Calif., June 3—Approximately 110 International Association of Machinist members from SKS Die Casting and Machining Company in Berkeley are making history by taking to the picketline during these devastating economic times.

They have been on strike since May 24 and, like many workers, are fighting to maintain and improve their recently-expired contract. These striking Black, Latin, Asian, East Indian, and white working men are unified in their efforts to improve working conditions and benefits.

Some important issues include: maintenance of health and dental benefits as described in the previous contract, plant-wide seniority and

posting of jobs, opposition to working foremen, and establishment of a union-elected safety committee, according to Chief Shop Steward Max Pallen.

"If the company takes so much out of the contract, by the time our kids and the kids of our kids come along, they will have lost the things the older people have fought for many years ago. We're going to stay out here if we have to, to get what we want. We want fair treatment," said Pallen.

In the months preceding the strike, the company laid off about one third of the workers in the plant in several stages. Among those to go were the only five women on the shop floor in the plant.

Although SKS is not associated with the California Metal Trades Association, their

strike coincides with those 44 shops covered by CMTA whose workers have been on strike throughout the Bay Area since May 17.

CMTA represents the companies whose IAM District 115 members have joined ranks to bargain in a larger unit. Six hundred workers affected by this strike are also fighting take-aways—wage reductions, COLA deletions, and worker-paid health insurance increases.

Many of the CMTA shops have received enthusiastic support and solidarity from members of the Teamsters Union who have refused to cross the IAM picketlines, according to one striking worker at CMTA shop, Berkeley Pump Co.

Black lung struggle intensifies. The day after Reagan's Labor Department issued a new set of rules designed to cut off Black Lung benefits to disabled miners, one of the leaders of the miners' struggle for those benefits was convicted in federal court of phony charges of mishandling funds in the Black Lung struggle. Fred Carter, a Black mineworker and leader in labor and civil rights struggles, was arrested last year to stop his bid for the presidency of the United Mine Workers union, and was continually harassed by petty arrests during the course of the trial. Carter was a key leader in the struggle that forced the federal government to provide special health benefits for the many coal miners disabled by the respiratory disease Black Lung. If there was any doubt as to the political motivation for the persecution of Fred Carter, the Reaganites dispelled them with their coordinated announcement of new rules. Now, survivors of miners who die from respiratory ailments must prove the presence of Black Lung as specific cause of death, and the government may deny Black Lung benefits to miners suffering from total respiratory disability without proving that Black Lung is not the cause. Fred Carter has announced that he will appeal his conviction and continue the struggle for miners workers' rights.

Bayonne printers strike. Thirty four members of Amalgamated Lithographers Local 1 in Bayonne, N.J., have entered the sixth month of a tough strike against the Pengad printing company. The strikers have withstood time-honored management tactics, like vicious armed guards who try to run them down with their cars, police dogs, and the hiring of scabs. The company's contract demands include allowing management to perform union work and the permanent hiring of scab replacements for the strikers. The Local 1 members have received support from many other Jersey unions, including Teamster truck drivers who refuse to cross their lines. And residents of the neighborhood have contributed furniture and other items to aid the strikers in their 24-hour picket.

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