



# workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

# Reagan Inaugural address ignores jobless millions

## Inauguration: The poor are freezing, the vultures feasting —pp. 6-7

**By Deirdre Griswold**  
JANUARY 22—Will Reagan “mellow” in his second term? Will he moderate his far-right program, relent on his massive cutbacks of social services and rein in military spending?

Not a chance.

For anyone who had the fortitude to wade through the sugary platitudes in his inaugural address, Reagan restated all his basic themes of the past four years. He reaffirmed Reaganism and Reaganomics.

Oozing trite sentimentality and invoking divine inspiration for his cruel policies, he promised no let up in measures that will deepen political reaction and the suffering of the poor in this country while raising the danger of war in the rest of the world.

With unemployment officially as high as when he first took office, Reagan brushed off the plight of jobless millions and boasted of a nation “once again vibrant, robust and alive.” Refusing to acknowledge his legal obligation as President to promote full employment, he repeated his argument that the “free market” will solve all these problems by unleashing “entrepreneurial genius.” Just give it more time. And more time.

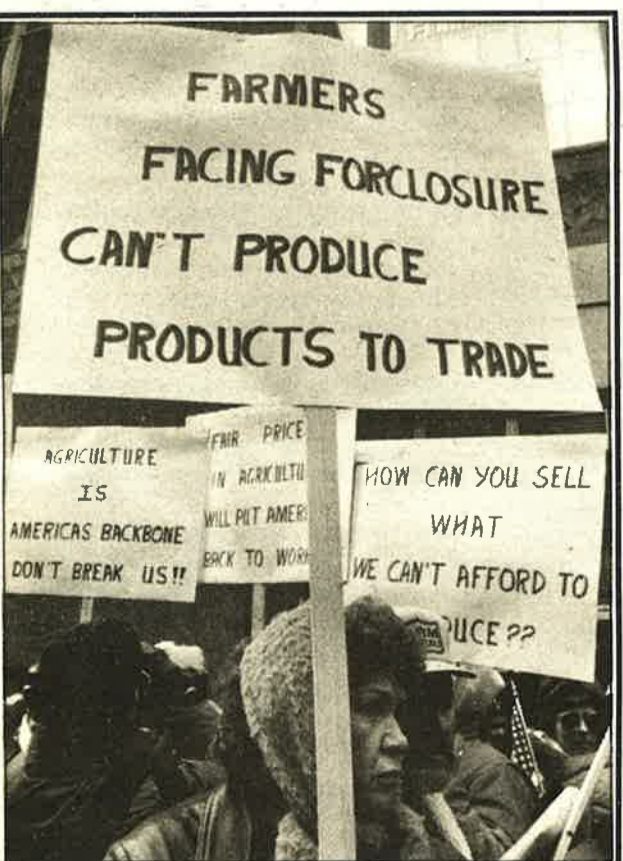
Of course, this far-right President who so loudly preaches the values of capitalism will never, ever acknowl-

*Continued on page 8*



WW PHOTO: CHRIS ANTHONY

After Reagan called off his Inaugural Parade, marchers protesting his anti-people program held their own rally in the special Inaugural bleachers.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

## Farmers protest foreclosures —p. 12

## Workers wildcat fights Chrysler racism —p. 2

## Reagan openly backs anti-abortion ultra-right —p. 3

## Sam Marcy: On the eve of the Geneva arms talks —p. 9

# On The Picketline

**UAW GM walkouts.** Some 3,300 autoworkers walked off the job at GM's Wentzville, Mo., plant Tuesday, Jan. 15. The UAW members face conditions of speedup and eventual layoffs because of GM's "innovative job assignment system" there. The company plans to force assembly line workers to learn more skills so that they can take on more tasks and move from area to area in the plant; GM says the new production system will result in higher wages, and calls it the "pay for knowledge plan." But the workers recognize the plan as part of GM's new Saturn Project mentality, with the company using fewer workers to do more high-

tech work. Another 1,600 UAW members are on strike over local contract talks at GM's Bowling Green, Ky., plant, where GM's most profitable car, the Corvette, is produced. The Kentucky walkout is over similar issues of production and job assignment.

**Yale clerical workers settle.** A tentative contract settlement was reached at Yale University on Jan. 18, just hours before clerical and technical workers were to stage a rally to recommence their strike. Hotel and Restaurant Employees Local 34, which

represents the 2,500 clerical and technical workers at Yale, has not yet made details of the tentative agreement public, but one source close to negotiations termed it favorable. After a nine-week strike that forced the ruling class, all the way to the White House, to take notice of the struggle of Third World and women workers for pay equity, a settlement at Yale is an important step forward. The Yale strike helped establish the determination of oppressed workers to take on difficult struggles to win pay equity; contract talks between the university and Local 35, the grounds, maintenance, and cafeteria workers, have been extended for one week. Local 34's leaders say their members remain prepared to support Local 35 if they don't reach a contract settlement. The clerical workers will gather Tuesday night, Jan. 22, for a contract ratification vote.

mand that the university bargain with District 65, and it is set to coincide with a Board of Trustees meeting. The clerical workers have called for a support picket line this Wednesday, Jan. 23 to press their demand for contract talks. Delegations of New York City unionists, including clerical and technical workers from area colleges, are organizing for the picket.

**FLOC vs. Campbell Soup.** The six-year-old struggle by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) against Campbell Soup Co. has moved into a new phase. FLOC, representing farmworkers in Ohio's tomato fields on strike since the summer of 1978, recently expanded its organizing drive to central Michigan's cucumber fields. There, workers picking for Vlasic Pickles—a subsidiary of Campbell's—face the same brutal conditions as the Campbell pickers in Ohio. FLOC reports signing up almost 2,000 new members in Michigan. Meanwhile, the Campbell's Soup boycott is being joined by a corporate campaign aimed at Campbell's board of directors and their ties to two huge insurance companies, Prudential and Equitable. The campaign will highlight "the powerful interests behind the plight of migrant and seasonal farmworkers who harvest tomatoes and cucumbers in the Midwest." Also targeted is the Philadelphia National Bank, "a significant shareholder and key financial link to Campbell."

—Shelley Ettinger

## Workers wildcat fights Chrysler racism

By Terri Kay

DETROIT, Jan. 20—Over 1,400 people walked off their jobs in protest of racism at Chrysler's Warren Truck Plant on Tuesday, January 15. The walkout, which caused the entire afternoon shift production to be shut down, was spurred by the racist actions of supervision.

A directive had been issued by management to find out which Black workers had been absent on Monday, January 14, in order to penalize them for commemorating Martin Luther King's birthday. Both Black and white workers walked out in protest of this racist inquisition.

Although production resumed the next day, several questions remain. It

is still unknown whether any disciplinary action will be taken against those who walked out, or whether the racist management official who caused the walkout will be punished.

Dr. Martin Luther King left a legacy of struggle and protest against racism and economic injustice. It is the ghost of this legacy that haunts management, not only at Chrysler, but board rooms across the country.

Next year, as the result of years of struggle, Martin Luther King's birthday will officially become a national holiday; however, this doesn't automatically make it a holiday for the non-federal worker. Many workers, including the autoworkers, will still have to fight for that one.

## In This Issue . . .

### GENEVA TALKS

As the Reagan administration dispatches a negotiating team to Geneva led by ultra-rightists, while simultaneously ordering a massive NASA spy mission against the USSR, doubts about the administration's reckless military adventurism are being cautiously voiced within the summits of the ruling class itself. The need for working-class struggle is more important than ever. (Analysis by Sam Marcy, page 9.)

### ABORTION

In speaking to the so-called right-to-life rally in D.C., Reagan expressed "great solidarity" with a movement harboring the most fascistic elements. (Page 3.)

### CHRYSLER WALKOUT

Black and white together, 1,400 workers walked out at Chrysler's Warren Truck plant in Detroit, angered by management's attempt to penalize Black workers who took off on Martin Luther King's birthday. (Page 2.)

### TET ANNIVERSARY

While General William Westmoreland tried to win the Viet Nam war in the courtroom, the real war was lost by the Pentagon 17 years ago this month when the Vietnamese people launched their stunning Tet offensive. (Page 4.)

### ANGRY FARMERS

Thousands of family farmers, faced with losing everything to bank foreclosures, rallied throughout the Midwest this week. In Chicago they attempted to invade the den of the speculators at the massive Board of Trade building. (Page 12.)



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Operation PUSH demands jobs at closed steel plant. See page 12.



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

**COUNTER-INAUGURAL**  
Protesters on both the West and East Coast gathered this week to demonstrate against the opulent reinauguration festivities for Reagan. In D.C., the reactionary message of Reagan's address, wrapped in the usual trite sentimentality, was boldly countered by hundreds who braved arctic cold outside, demanding food for the hungry, housing for the homeless and jobs, not war. (Pages 6-7.)

### ETHIOPIA

The people of Ethiopia have thwarted an attempt by imperialism to utilize the drought crisis there as a cover for aiding armed right-wing bands fighting against their revolution. (Page 4.)

### Also . . .

- Reagan speech ignores jobless . . . 1
- On the picketline . . . . . 2
- FBI frames Alabama activist . . . 3
- Jackson leads 1,000 in protest . . 3
- U.S. food weapon vs. Ethiopia . . 4
- U.S. walks out of World Court . . 5
- Central American refugees . . . . 5
- San Francisco INS picketed . . . . 5
- Students hit apartheid . . . . . 5
- Media praise subway gunman . . . 8
- Houston anti-bigotry rule . . . . . 10
- "The Times of Harvey Milk" . . . 10
- AIDS protest . . . . . 10
- New robbery of Native land . . . 11
- Buffalo anti-apartheid . . . . . 11
- Anti-nuke protester . . . . . 11
- Chicago demands jobs . . . . . 12

### Editorials

- Murder by degree . . . 8
- Stop student searches . . . . . 8

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# Reagan openly backs anti-abortion ultra-right

By Sharon Shelton

**JANUARY 23**—In a blatant show of support for the reactionary terrorist campaign being waged against women's abortion rights, Ronald Reagan used the occasion of the twelfth anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortions to address a so-called right-to-life rally and to meet behind closed doors with the racist, sexist bigots leading the campaign.

Speaking on Jan. 22 by telephone hookup to the virtually all-white crowd, Reagan proclaimed his "great solidarity" with the gathering and affirmed, "I am proud to stand with you."

It was the first time since abortions became legal in 1973 that a President has addressed an anti-abortion rally.

## Reagan speech designed to encourage campaign

After having been hit in recent weeks with an avalanche of public criticism for his reluctance to speak out against abortion clinic bombers, Reagan took care to include in his speech a perfunctory claim to oppose violence.

The President's very act of addressing the rally, however, delivered the opposite message. Reagan's words were designed to encourage and to lend credence to the reactionary campaign that has resulted in a record 27 clinics bombed or burned down in the last year alone.

In addition to bombings and arson, this campaign has focused on threatening abortion clinic workers and accosting patients with pictures of dead fetuses and claims that abortions can cause sterility.

## Pro-choice activists not intimidated

Abortion rights activists have not just passively accepted this campaign of harassment and terrorism against women's right to choose, however. Also marking the anniversary of the decision legalizing abortions were pro-choice demonstrations which took place around the country from New York to Alabama.

The right to safe, legal abortions on demand with no forced sterilizations was one of the key demands raised by the All-Peoples Congress protest against Reagan's inaugural on Jan. 21, which drew 750 people.

In addition, the National Organization of Women (NOW) conducted overnight vigils at 27 abortion clinics across the country to demonstrate that pro-choice activists have not been intimidated by the attacks.

## Far right behind anti-abortion campaign

Although the big business press has painted a picture of abortion terrorists as ordinary working people who are merely acting out of deep convictions, in reality this is a highly organized campaign being waged by the ultra right, which is using the abortion issue to try to rally support for their reac-

tionary ideology of racism, anti-Semitism and sexist bigotry.

Leaders of the campaign have been shown to have ties with the Ku Klux Klan and other far right groups. John Burt, an anti-abortion leader in Florida, for example, openly admits his activities in the Klan in St. Augustine. During the 1960s, Burt says, he was in the center of violent protests against Dr. Martin Luther King and the integration movement. (New York Times, Jan. 18)

Klan-affiliated papers such as the reactionary White Patriot in Tusculumbia, Ala., routinely carry headlines hailing abortion clinic protests. A recent banner headline in the Tusculumbia publication read, "Courageous minister KO's abortion clinic," referring to the attacks with a sledge hammer and with red paint on clinics in Huntsville and Birmingham.

According to the Village Voice (Jan. 15), the White American Resistance (WAR), an ultra-rightist group with Klan ties, played an anti-abortion tape on its dial-a-message last fall.

Using classical language of the most vile anti-Semitism and of bigotry against lesbians and gay men, the message made the outrageous claims that "almost all abortion doctors are Jews" for whom "abortion makes money" and that "almost all abortion nurses are lesbians" for whom "abortion gives thrills." Planned Parenthood, the tape claimed, "plots the murder of innocent white children." This display of reactionary filth ended with a call for the blanket punishment of Jewish people and lesbians.

It is these ultra-rightists who are playing a big role in the anti-abortion terrorist campaign. Today, after fail-

Continued on page 11



WW PHOTO: DAVE SOLE

Counter-inaugural made right to choose a key issue.



WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

## Jackson leads 1,000 in counter-inaugural

Special to Workers World

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 18—Leading a march of about a thousand supporters of the Rainbow Coalition, ex-Presidential candidate Jesse Jackson protested here today that "the rich have gotten richer and the poor have gotten poorer" under Ronald Reagan's presidency.

The demonstrators marched through downtown Washington, raising slogans against apartheid in South Africa, federal budget cuts and U.S. intervention in Central America.

With Jackson at the head of the march was Mayor Richard Hatcher of Gary, Ind., and Urban League President John E. Jacob.

Under Reagan, Jackson said, there are "two Americas: one rich and getting richer, one poor and getting poorer. There are more millionaires at the top and more poor people at the bottom." Jackson also attacked Reagan for his suggestion that Black leaders misled Black voters about the administration's record.

## FBI frames Alabama civil rights leader

By Taina Zagadka

ATLANTA, Jan. 21—Upholding its long-standing tradition, the FBI has launched a campaign to frame a well-known Black civil rights activist, Casmarah Mani, vice president of the Mobile, Ala., chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Mani has been one of the mainstays of a nine-month-old boycott of the businesses in Mount Vernon, a predominantly white township of about 2,000 population located 30 miles southwest of Mobile. The main issue behind the boycott is that the predominantly Black community of Shepard's Lake is included in the tax base of Mount Vernon, but is excluded from any political representation.

Despite 25 years of trying to get itself annexed to Mount Vernon to be able to have some say in how its local tax money is spent, the community of Shepard's Lake has been continually shut out. As recently as this fall, a referendum on annexation was defeated there.

The community of Shepard's Lake launched the boycott last April to pressure the Mount Vernon business peo-

ple to influence their politicians in favor of annexation. Those businesses depend heavily on Shepard's Lake customers. After this fall's defeated referendum, the people of Shepard's Lake vowed to continue the boycott until they won their demands.

### Businessmen, FBI try to subvert boycott

The business people and politicians of Mount Vernon, with the FBI, tried to subvert the boycott by framing Mani and discrediting him and the boycott activists. Mount Vernon businessman Mike Davis, who ran for mayor in the last election, and Kyle Manning were chosen by the FBI to spearhead the frameup attempt.

Davis offered Mani money to call off the boycott. When Mani refused, Davis offered Mani's brother, Ronald Diamond, a job on his election campaign in order to gain his confidence and eventually to entrap Diamond in the attempt to incriminate Mani.

The FBI alleged that Mani actually accepted Davis' bribe offer, but sent his brother Diamond to complete the transaction. The formal charges are that Mani committed extortion and violated a section of the Hobbs Act,

which prohibits interference with interstate commerce.

No other boycott leaders or SCLC officials have been charged.

"The boycott has been really hurting the businesses," said Mani. "Others are getting tired of the protracted struggle. I think that there are forces who feel that if they isolate me and get me off the scene, the boycott will come to an end."

Cleveland Flott, a leading member of Concerned Citizens of Shepard's Lake, said, "Casmarah couldn't have called off the boycott even if he wanted to. He was our adviser, but we are determined to keep up the pressure."

Flott added that racist whites believed that "Blacks always have one leader who calls the shots" and that they believed Mani "to be that leader because of SCLC." That was probably the reason the present frameup campaign has been tried against him.

Mani has been indicted and will begin trial on Feb. 4. If convicted, he faces a \$10,000 fine and up to 20 years in prison or both. He needs support. Send to: Casmarah Mani, 1755 McGill St., Mobile, Ala. 36604, or call (205) 479-0358.

## FEMINISM AND MARXISM

By DOROTHY BALLAN

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# Food as a weapon: U.S. ploy in Ethiopia

By Monica Moorehead

**JANUARY 19**—The Ethiopian government was forced last week to intercept a 6,000-ton food shipment from Australia which was bound for reactionary, anti-government forces in northern Ethiopia, primarily Eritrea and Tigre.

These two provinces are the bases of the main counter-revolutionary groupings, the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Tigre Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF), which have for the past several years targeted the anti-imperialist, pro-socialist regime of Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Both the EPLF and the TPLF receive their military aid through the Pentagon via the Sudan and other pro-U.S. reactionary regimes in Africa.

An Ethiopian Foreign Ministry official stated that in attempting to use an Ethiopian port to unload the food, the Australian government had made "an unacceptable challenge to Ethiopia's authority. The Australian action had

constituted an infringement of Ethiopia's sovereignty and was tantamount to interference in our internal affairs."

Apparently, the Liberian-registered ship, the Golden Venture, carried 9,500 tons of food donated by Australia to the Red Sea port of Assab. At that time, 3,500 tons of food were removed and delivered to a relief agency in Ethiopia.

The remaining 6,000 tons of food was to be transported, via Ethiopia's port, to the Sudan, Ethiopia's neighbor to the west, where hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians have migrated to escape famine. The \$1.2 million worth of food was earmarked for the Eritrean Relief Association and the Relief Society of Tigre, both front organizations for the EPLF and TPLF.

The EPLF and TPLF have sabotaged many efforts initiated by well-meaning relief agencies to deliver life-saving food supplies to at least two million famine victims in Ethiopia's northern provinces. Many trucks have been burned and food confiscated by

the counter-revolutionaries.

As one Ethiopian spokesperson stated, "It was stupid of the Australians to put anything for the secessionists on a ship coming to Ethiopia. What did they expect?"

## U.S. press tries to exploit incident

Trying to exploit this incident for propaganda, the big-business press in the U.S., for example the New York Times and Washington Post, has written some particularly scathing editorials against the Ethiopian government. In typical rabid, anti-communist style, the editorials have characterized the Ethiopian government as "cynical," "heartless," "corrupt," and have gone so far as to accuse Ethiopia of "starving its citizens into submission."

Where were these editorial writers when Ethiopia and other African countries were first asking for relief from the famine aggravated by several years of drought? Where were all the missionary-type ads that dominate the

airwaves today urging U.S. citizens to send contributions and donations to various relief agencies for the close to eight million facing famine in Ethiopia alone?

A recent Jack Anderson column exposes that, as far back as 1982, the U.S. government was aware of the famine in Ethiopia. At top-secret sessions, the National Security Council (NSC) was urged to intervene with shipments from the overflowing underground warehouses of billions of pounds of "surplus" foods in the U.S. It cost over \$2 billion a year or \$250,000 per hour of the taxpayers' money to store these "surpluses."

Anderson states that the NSC resisted the many appeals (mostly from the Ethiopian government—M.M.) due to "strategic concerns." Through 1982 and 1983, private relief organizations and the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa were periodically reporting to Washington on the impending famine. Washington even had refused to participate in a joint venture by some Western European countries to provide food supplies.

In June, 1983, the U.S. State Department was receiving reports that upwards of 100 children a day were dying from starvation in Ethiopia, and in July the Reagan administration still refused to provide trucks and spare parts to help distribute food to the surrounding areas hard hit by the famine, Anderson adds.

## U.S. used food as political weapon

One question Anderson failed to answer. Why did the world's leading food producer wait so long to respond to the food crisis in Ethiopia? Because any government that severs the yoke of imperialist domination, therefore seeking a path of self-determination and independence, automatically is singled out by Washington for political assassination and overthrow. This is the case with Ethiopia.

U.S. imperialism allowed the famine in Ethiopia to compound itself in order to give the counter-revolutionary forces in the north time enough to gather military strength. This strategy is aimed not only against Ethiopia but toward the entire African continent. U.S. imperialism wants to make all Africa a neo-colony, utilizing food as a weapon via the phony Food for Progress program initiated by the Reagan administration. The U.S. further wants to use food as a weapon to discredit those countries that are embarking upon a socialist path as well as countries that have normal relations with socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union.

The capitalist press forgets to mention that the most advanced Western imperialist countries control the world's production of food, not the socialist countries, many of which are struggling to provide human needs for their own population. The agribusiness corporations like Kraft, Nabisco, Kellogg, etc., control close to half of the world's food production. This astounding fact of life confirms that food is produced in the capitalist world not for need but for profit. Food is a weapon like a bomb or MX missile in the hands of the tiny clique of millionaires and billionaires, who view every country, especially the less developed ones, as potential markets for super-profits.

However, the Ethiopian government, in the midst of a vicious onslaught of lies and slander, coupled with the overwhelming problem of feeding its population and fending off the counter-revolutionaries, is heroically defending its political integrity and sovereignty. Ethiopia is a shining example for the rest of the world struggling to break the yoke of imperialist exploitation, oppression and colonialism in a very difficult period.

# The Tet offensive in Viet Nam — 1968

By Deirdre Griswold

**JANUARY 21**—Whatever the outcome of General William Westmoreland's suit against CBS, the verdict on the general's conduct of the Viet Nam War was brought in a long time ago.

The strategists in Washington may leave no stone unturned in their efforts to alter, distort and obliterate the lessons of the Viet Nam War, but they cannot undo the tremendous defeat the Vietnamese people dealt to U.S. imperialism. The full measure of that defeat was first made clear with the stunning Tet Offensive, which began just 17 years ago on Jan. 30, 1968.

Westmoreland at the time was commander of all U.S. forces in Viet Nam, and Lyndon Johnson was the U.S. President. It was the beginning of an election year in the U.S. By the time the Tet Offensive was over, the tide had turned in Southeast Asia, while in Washington Johnson would have to announce his resignation from the presidential race.

## Rising opposition at home

There was growing mass opposition to the war here, and brooding anger and anguish among U.S. troops in Nam. A few Senators and congress-people had begun to warn that the war could never be won, and that greater U.S. intervention was a quagmire which would only alienate further the people of Viet Nam—and the people here as well.

But in early January 1968 the White House and the Pentagon were issuing reassuring statements about the "light at the end of the tunnel," about the stability of the ever-changing puppet regimes in Saigon, and about how intensified air and naval bombardment of the cities of North Viet Nam would create the necessary conditions for "serious negotiations."

In his January 18 State of the Union message, Johnson told Congress how the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam was suffering defeat after defeat, losing cadres at a 10-to-1 ratio. General Westmoreland swore that "the enemy is incapable of launching a major offensive" and announced a four-stage plan for the final pacification of Viet Nam.

And then the storm hit.

It started on the night of Jan. 29-30 after the South Vietnamese regime canceled a ceasefire agreed to for the holiday of Tet, the Vietnamese New Year. Within two days, a general offensive by the People's Liberation



A surprise for the Westmorelands.

Armed Forces (PLAF) had sparked mass uprisings throughout South Viet Nam. The PLAF attacked or occupied 64 cities and towns, 35 key facilities, 24 airfields and bases, and five radio stations.

## U.S. Embassy and Saigon HQ captured

The offensive lasted six weeks. In that time, the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, one of the most heavily fortified buildings in the world, was occupied with PLAF fighters reaching the fifth of its seven floors; the headquarters of the Saigon Army Chiefs of Staff was overrun; the Saigon radio station was destroyed; the huge Tansonnhut air base was shelled and closed repeatedly.

The old royal city of Hue was liberated and held for several weeks under the administration of the Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace; many police headquarters, in Saigon and other cities, were occupied and thousands of prisoners released; in many rural areas, including the suburbs of Saigon, revolutionary self-defense units replaced the pro-U.S. administrations; tens of thousands of puppet troops deserted to the liberation forces.

Westmoreland, with half a million U.S. troops and 700,000 Saigon puppet forces at his command, seemed helpless against this nationwide uprising. All the terrible weapons employed by Washington, all the sophisticated technology, all the wealth deployed to bribe

corrupt collaborators, had been in vain.

The resistance forces seemed to have sprung out of the earth. Where one day all had been calm and under the control of the U.S. occupiers, on the next day there were "Vietcong" everywhere, their camouflaged mortars and rockets blowing away the enemy's strongholds. It was absolutely clear that hundreds of thousands of civilians had to have known about the preparations—and hadn't said a word.

## Myth of U.S. fight for 'freedom' destroyed

Viet Nam was to have been the place where U.S. capitalism drew the line and defeated the "Red menace" in the name of democracy. Every barbarity, every act of cruelty against this agrarian country was called necessary to "liberate" South Viet Nam from communism.

The Tet Offensive showed the world that the Vietnamese people would risk everything, sacrifice to the hilt to win real liberation from the arrogant imperialists who ravaged and plundered their country behind the mask of "freedom."

On Feb. 18, while the bullets were still flying, the Hanoi publication "Vietnamese Studies" summed up the political failure of the U.S. occupation:

"The main cause of this intense hatred seething in all hearts and spreading to all strata of the people was the extreme barbarity with which the Americans were waging the war. The American's bombings, shellings, use of napalm, phosphorus bombs, toxic gases and chemicals, the complete devastation of whole regions, the destruction of localities like Ben Suc with displacement of all the population, the use of the most barbarous torture—all this gave every Vietnamese, whichever side he belonged to, only one choice: to rise up and fight, lest the whole country be reduced to heaps of ruins."

On March 22, 1968, Westmoreland was dismissed from his command. Soon after, Johnson announced his intended resignation.

The war would drag on for seven more years as the Nixon-Kissinger administration tried to regain through massive air attacks and chemical warfare what had been lost. But the Vietnamese had won; they had broken the mystique about the "liberating" role of the U.S. in world affairs, and had revealed the monstrous face of capitalist imperialism gone wild.

# 'Like Al Capone refusing to recognize the judge' U.S. walks out of World Court over Nicaragua suit

**By Robert Dobrow**  
**JANUARY 19**—Unable to defend its illegal aggressions in Central America, the Reagan administration walked out of the World Court yesterday in the suit brought by Nicaragua against the United States.

"It's like Al Capone saying he refuses to recognize the jurisdiction of the criminal court. It is the most compelling admission of guilt one can imagine," said Paul Reichler, a Washington lawyer representing Nicaragua in the case.

The Nicaraguans charge that U.S. support for contra terrorism against their country and the CIA mining of Nicaragua's harbors are undeclared acts of war that are clear violations of international law. Their suit calls on the World Court, the judicial arm of the United Nations formally known as the International Court of Justice, to order Washington to stop its attacks and pay reparations for the death and destruction they have caused.

The whole world knows by now that the Nicaraguan case is just and that the U.S. government doesn't have a legal or moral leg to stand on in defending its almost six years of destabilization, sabotage, economic strangulation and outright military attacks

against Nicaragua. One revelation after another, from CIA terror manuals to secret U.S. troops being sent inside the country, to assassination attempts against the Nicaraguan leaders have exposed and isolated the U.S.

**Law-and-order hypocrisy**  
 In its statement explaining why it was withdrawing from the World Court case, the U.S. State Department concludes, "We will continue to support the International Court of Justice when it acts within its competence."

How magnanimous!  
 When the Court acts as a toady and apologist for U.S. imperialist interests, like it once did in defending U.S. aggression during the Korean war and more recently during the Carter administration's campaign against Iran, then the U.S. government gets on its high horse and preaches its "commitment" to the "rule of international law."

But when world public opinion is solidly lined up against U.S. policy because it is outraged at a nuclear colossus bullying a country 1/100th of its size, then the imperial rulers in Washington contemptuously sneer, "To hell with your laws—might makes right!"

In fact, Reagan is ripping up all the laws when it comes to Nicaragua.

The War Powers Act of 1973 forbids placing U.S. military personnel in combat roles without first obtaining the okay of Congress. During the past year, U.S. troops have suffered casualties in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

The treaty-charter of the Organization of American States prohibits interfering "directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any state." CIA money, which finances CIA operatives, who use CIA speedboats to place CIA bombs in Nicaraguan waters breaks that agreement as well as numerous laws of the sea.

The hundreds of millions of dollars that have gone to build up the contras, the largest private army ever fielded by the CIA, violates the U.S. Boland Amendment (passed by Congress with a vote of 411-to-0), which prohibits the CIA and Pentagon from furnishing "military equipment, military training or advice, or other support for military activities to any group or individual, not part of a country's armed forces, for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua."

Breaking any one of these laws could be grounds for impeaching the President, but a good chunk of the senators and representatives are just as committed as Reagan is to overthrowing

the Sandinista government and reimposing the neo-colonial rule of the U.S. plantation owners, mining operators and bankers. The rest of Congress are too afraid to stand up to the Pentagon and the demands of the military-industrial complex, even though the millions of people whom they're supposed to represent are opposed to U.S. war in Central America.

At the same time that the U.S. stormed out of the World Court, the U.S. suspended peace negotiations with Managua, a move which today's New York Times reports was "advocated by the Defense Department and the Central Intelligence Agency." The Reaganites never took these talks seriously to begin with. But ending them now is an ominous signal that the administration is only interested in a military "solution."

This week, the U.S. ordered the nuclear aircraft carrier Nimitz toward the Nicaraguan coast and announced it was resuming large-scale land exercises involving U.S. troops in Honduras on the Nicaraguan border.

On all fronts, the government is tightening its vise on Nicaragua. Now is the time for the anti-war forces to gird up for battle, mobilize, and tighten their vise around the Pentagon war-makers.

## Police state tactics used against Central American refugees

**By Lallan Stein**  
**JANUARY 22**—Last week the Reagan administration, using police state tactics, stepped up their persecution of Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees.

Acknowledging that four police informants, including two undercover immigration agents from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), had been used to infiltrate the church-based sanctuary movement, a federal grand jury in Phoenix, Ariz., issued arrest warrants for 60 political refugees and indictments for 16 members of the sanctuary movement who had provided shelter, food, medical care and clothing to the refugees.

According to activists in the sanctuary movement, this government attack has heightened support for their efforts. They say they will turn the Reaganite attack around and put the U.S. government "on trial" for its policies in Central America, which force the refugees to flee, and for its policies here of forcing the refugees to return home, often to their death.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the National Center for Immigration Rights have established that many Salvadorans who are deported are killed or "disappear" within two months of their return.

By continuing its activity, the sanctuary movement has shown that government attempts to crush it can be foiled. On Saturday, Jan. 19, only days after the arrests of refugees and indictments of supporters, a press reporter was allowed to interview newly-arrived political refugees in one of 14 sanctuary churches in Tucson, Ariz.

The interview was with a family of

seven from Guatemala. This family said that seven of their relatives had already "disappeared," including their 9-year-old and 10-year-old daughters. They said their daughters were victims of a Guatemalan government death squad.

The whole family had been under surveillance, and they fled to the U.S. only after being warned by friends who worked for the government that their lives were in danger.

This family had been met at the Mexican border by people in the sanctuary movement. They had been guided on foot across the rugged Sonoran Desert of southern Arizona to a spot where they were picked up by vehicles and transported to the church, which offered them protection.

The sanctuary movement is a network of some 180 churches and synagogues across the country. This includes three new congregations who declared their sanctuaries would be opened for refugees after the arrests and indictments were announced last week. Messages of solidarity and support for this struggle against the INS from a large number of national and international religious and civil rights organizations were presented at a press conference on Jan. 15 at Riverside Community Church in New York City.

One of the first cases to come up was that of Jack Elder, who faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison. His lawyer used the right to religious freedom in his client's defense, and a federal district judge accepted the validity of this argument.

By Jan. 21 this decision was overturned by the same judge, who ruled that the government has an overriding interest in prosecuting a member of the sanctuary movement. This interest is closely tied to the U.S. government's support for the brutally repressive governments in El Salvador and Guatemala. The new ruling not only overrides the right to religious freedom but also continues a vicious attack on the right to political asylum for those fleeing the tyranny of U.S. puppet dictatorships.



WW PHOTO: JANE CUTTER

### San Francisco INS picketed

**SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18**—Nearly 400 members and supporters of the movement for sanctuary for Central American refugees picketed the Immigration and Naturalization Service's office here today. They were protesting the recent raids and arrests of refugees and sanctuary workers by the INS. Signs and speakers emphasized that providing sanctuary was the morally correct thing to do and that the real crime was U.S. intervention in Central America.

### Berkeley students refuse to halt anti-apartheid protests

**SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20**—Thirty-eight U.C. Berkeley students have refused to accept the latest "offer" from the District Attorney of a repressive two-year probation for their arrest during a December 1984 anti-apartheid demonstration.

Instead, they plan to "put apartheid on trial" by demanding to go before a jury if charges are not dropped. The students will defend their right to demonstrate and expose the University's \$1.8 billion investment in corporations that do business in South Africa.

Last Dec. 7, over 1,000 students marched through the campus to the administration's headquarters at University hall. This militant action was initiated by Campaign Against Apartheid. It calls for an end to U.S.-U.C.

support of South Africa, support for the longshore workers' cargo boycott here, and solidarity with the liberation struggle in South Africa. They were arrested as they blockaded University Hall.

The next court hearing is scheduled for Jan. 23. Meanwhile, the Campaign Against Apartheid is gaining solid support from Berkeley students, and other chapters are now forming in the state university system.

Also this week, the Consumers Distributors Outlet announced they will discontinue the sale of Krugerrands, the South African gold coin. This move comes after pressure from the Bay Area Free South Africa Movement, Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport, and the Campaign Against Apartheid.

A book written after the 1976 uprising in which people from South Africa and Namibia talk about their lives, struggles and dreams of freedom for the oppressed in their homelands.

**\$3.25** (add 75c postage)

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# Reagan's gala: The night of the long minks

By Bruce Bradshaw

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 21—"We, the People." That's the official theme picked for President Reagan's inauguration.

With box seats at some of the grand and glorious galas going for \$2,500, perhaps it should have been called "We the People, You the Rabble."

Even Czar Alexander III would have been impressed with Reagan's daring idea of bringing fifty-thousand millionaire and billionaire friends to the country's capital for four days of revel when the majority of its inhabitants have never been so cold, so poor and so hungry.

While the grand parade, complete

with 21 military units, the Sacramento Sheriffs' Posse and the Robert E. Lee marching band had to be abandoned to prevent lips from freezing to instruments, the fun parties at the Sheraton, the Shoreham and the Hilton went full blast ahead. These people with their cashmere longjohns never feel the chill in any case. There are so many foxes, sables and chinchillas in D.C. this weekend the place looks like a breeding farm, so many that this evening's nine official balls could be dubbed "Night of the long minks."

Not everyone is sporting furs, of course. President Reagan, according to White House spokesmen, is wearing "light, bullet-proof clothing." Jerry

Falwell, NBC Chairman Grant Tinker, Roy Cohen, American Express Chairman Thornton Bradshaw (no relation), Rockwell International Chairman Robert Anderson, Rupert Murdoch and Alexander Haig are strictly in tuxedo and black ties finery. The Generals and Admirals are naturally suited up in those terrific uniforms with all the gold stuff.

This writer has been unable to determine if the Supreme Court wore their robes to the parties. Vatican Ambassador Pio Lago opted not to wear his Cardinal suit, but a tasteful basic black, nothing too showy.

There were a few unfortunate "incidents," as might be expected. The live

steer in the cage beside the podium at the Texas Ball Gown and Boot Ball scared some of the wealthy "cowboys" with its angry demeanor. James Watt was unhappy with his seat at another gathering.

**'Up against the wall!'**

The Transportation Secretary became enraged when a gridlock of limousines caused a 90-minute delay in traveling from one party to another. CIA boss William Casey had to order his grim-faced, sun-glass-wearing body guards to clear a path for him at a crowded event by yelling, "Okay, everybody up against the wall!"

Whatever else you say, these people really know how to eat! At the Ford Motor party at Decatur House, Secretary of Defense Weinberger gobbled down one chocolate elephant after another, saying "I have to have it every three minutes." The Annenberg bash in the Ritz Carlton offered crab cakes, rare filet of beef, medallions of veal with wine and tomatoes, mousse of sole, toothpick-sized asparagus and pidgeon (not the kind found on New York City rooftops).

The nine "official balls" will be serving 24,000 bottles of the "official inauguration champagne": Korbel Brut. And, of course, three million red, white and blue gourmet jelly beans to complement the 250 towering floral arrangements of the same patriotic colors. At each ball, the President was greeted with "Hail to the chief who in triumph advances." When it's all over they will all get back into those toasty fur coats and ride, snug and warm, behind their smoked-glass limousine windows to board private aircraft.

Do they really believe they can get away with this forever?



Rich is "in" in Reagan's Washington.



## 'The homeless can't cancel due to cold'

### Why they came to protest Reagan's inauguration

By Robert Dobrow

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 21—Why did they brave freezing temperatures and stinging winds, and some travel hundreds of miles, to march and chant and rally here today against Reagan?

Probably the sign that expressed it best was a home-made All-Peoples Congress placard: "The homeless can't cancel due to cold."

There were many homeless people who marched down Pennsylvania Avenue in the Counter-Inaugural. Howard Owens, 33, came with the Philadelphia-based Committee for Dignity and Fairness for the Homeless.

"Everyday I see brothers and sisters, young people on the streets, sleeping on vents and in the subways," Owens told Workers World. "They need jobs, not bombs. I don't think Reagan gives a damn for the homeless. The struggle's no longer between Black and white, but between rich and poor."

Behind him marched Anthony Norris, 28, also from Philadelphia. Norris has been without a job, living on the streets "for a while." He carried a sign that read "The homeless are freezing, the vultures are feasting."

Over 500 miles distance from Detroit, Mich., was traveled by a bus full of militant and determined people like Emma Curry, 53, a Black woman who worked in an auto parts factory "until they laid us off in 1968."

Curry believed that "we will make a difference by marching in this cold." Chanting non-stop for the two-hour-long march, Curry explained that she and her friends who came from Detroit "were determined, because for poor

people, for working people, something has to be done."

Gene Cunningham, 33, is unemployed. But he was able to make the trip from the Motor City because the All-Peoples Congress made funds available for those who couldn't afford the price of a bus ticket. Cunningham proudly clutched a sign that read "Mackenzie Motivate Against Apartheid."

He explained that the students at Mackenzie High School Motivate voter registration program "asked me to carry it because they wanted to be here but had to be in school." The students have continued to organize since the elections and have held anti-apartheid demonstrations at the GM Building and in downtown Detroit.

#### High school students present

The concerns of high school and college students were well represented today. In fact, most of the people whom this reporter spoke to were teenagers.

Michelle Tierney, 18, Todd Mood, 19, and Greg Cord, 18, go to Washington's American University. They all took the demonstration very seriously and very personally. "If Reagan's policies go through," Tierney said, "I'll be cut from American University because it's too expensive." All three are now in school as a result of government loans, scholarships and grants and are angry at how the administration's education cuts are affecting students.

How did they like the demonstration? "It was great," Tierney answered. "We didn't think anyone would come out because of the weather.

But this is really exciting!"

Michelle Finkelman, 16, and Meadow Goddard, 14, are classmates at Manhattan's School of Humanities high school. Why did they come to Washington? "To protest Reagan's racist, sexist oppression," Finkelman snapped back. "As a youth, I feel affected by Reagan because with what he's doing I won't be able to afford college. And as a woman, I'm against his anti-abortion policies."

Stephanie Jones, 18, lives in Middletown, Conn., and attends Wesleyan College. She came to the Capital with her family. "Everytime Reagan cuts, less people can get education and less people can get medical care," said Jones.

The capitalist media's coverage of the Inauguration ignored these students and highlighted the marching bands and the official student participation in the festivities to give the impression that Reagan is winning the youth. But this reporter found that whatever support for Reaganism there is among youth is very, very thin.

#### Reagan's youth support shaky

Some students from Walden High School in Anaheim, Calif., who traveled across the country to be at the President's Inauguration, were observing the rally. They all thought Reagan was "doing a good job." But they all nodded their heads when Mike Smith, 16, explained that "there's still stuff he can do in his second term, though."

Like what? "Well, he can deal with war. And start talking to the Russians. And he should have arms talks. And

he should cut down military spending and put more in Social Security and education. Our teachers hate it," Smith continued, "because they're not getting paid enough." They said the counter-inaugural demonstration was "interesting" and "something different."

Another bystander on the sidewalk watching the march go by Tenth Street, smiled and nodded her head up and down. She didn't want to give her name because, as a government worker, she's afraid of losing her job, but she was "glad to see everyone out here to oppose U.S. involvement overseas."

Among those concerned about Washington's policies abroad were Pablo, Adrian, Eduardo and Lorenzo, Latin American students from William Paterson College in Wayne, N.J. They represented the Student Mobilization Committee at their school and explained that, "We heard about the demonstration in November. We could not get money from our student government to bring a bus so we raised enough money to bring ourselves as representatives of our committee. We are protesting against U.S. aggression in Central America, especially in Argentina and Chile where we are from. We are also protesting against the budget cutbacks, apartheid in South Africa, and U.S. support for the Marcos regime in the Philippines."

"Nothing Reagan does I like," said Juanita Mendoza, 18, of Washington's Emerson High School, as a group of marchers cheered and clapped their approval.

# Inaugural protest condemns Reaganism

By Monica Moorehead

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 21—Everyone knew that it would be one of the coldest days ever, a wind chill factor of minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit, but 750 came out anyway. Many traveled from as far away as Detroit, New York City, Boston, Providence and Jersey City.

Their bodies may have been chilled to the bone but their hearts were filled with a fired-up determination to confront Reagan as he took the oath pledging his loyalty once again to the multinational corporations, the banks and the Pentagon for a second term.

They were all nationalities, bringing with them a wealth of many experiences, and all united in expressing their anger and outrage towards an administration that dished out \$15 million for three days of extravagant, gala parties and balls for the affluent, while millions go without jobs, housing, heat, food, education and any hope for the future.

This was the day that representatives of the workers and the poor came out to the demonstration initiated by the All-Peoples Congress and the People's Anti-War Mobilization to protest against Reaganism at home and abroad.

Whether it was U.S. support for the brutal, racist apartheid regime in South Africa, U.S. aggression against the peoples of Central America, the Philippines, the Middle East or the devastating budget cuts, racism, union busting, police brutality, attacks on the rights of women, gays and lesbians, every issue was raised and every issue was connected to Reagan's anti-poor, anti-worker pro-war policies.

#### Political victory

A political victory was proclaimed by the progressive, anti-war forces that braved the sub-freezing temperatures in light of the last minute decision made by the Reaganites yesterday to cancel all outdoor festivities, including the traditional parade down Pennsylvania Avenue. This is the first time since presidential inaugural parades have taken place that one has been canceled.



Braving Washington's icy streets from the Capitol to Western Plaza.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

In response to the APC-PAM march, the administration had earlier in the week threatened to fly in thousands of young Republicans, but in the end they abandoned the streets to the anti-racist, anti-war mobilization, which itself attracted a larger proportion of young high school and college students.

The demonstration gathered at the Capitol, with many participants carrying green flags demanding that South Africa be free as well as victory to the ANC and SWAPO. Hundreds more carried placards saying "Feed the Hungry, House the Homeless, Jobs, Not War!" Others carried banners on Puerto Rico, Grenada, the bombings of abortion clinics and countless others.

The main emphasis at this site was to contrast the swearing in of Reagan with the inauguration of a true people's president, Daniel Ortega Saavedra of Nicaragua, who was sworn in earlier this month. Excerpts of Ortega's speech were read at the protest.

Other speakers spoke on the heroic rebellion that occurred in Jamaica last week, the struggle against U.S. involvement in Central America, the Caribbean and South Africa. The protesters then marched down Pennsylvania Avenue.

It was an impressive, stunning sea of banners, placards, flags and militant chants that converged upon the empty reviewing stand, where the parade was to pass. The demonstrators proceeded to take over the empty bleachers, fists high and feet stomping with great enthusiasm.

A powerful sound system accommodated speaker after speaker who ex-

plained the significance of the retreat by the Reagan administration today as a sign of things to come, pointing to a greater need to unite and build a broad, multinational movement of all workers and oppressed.

The media was very visible at the demonstration. Most network television and the New York Times censored the activity. In the D.C. area, the Washington Post ran an extensive article on the protest as well as the local CBS T.V., Cable Network News, and the San Francisco Herald-Examiner, the Boston Globe, and newspapers in a number of cities ran an extensive interview with APC spokesperson Larry Holmes.

Maybe the media was reflecting what the Reagan administration unhappily already knows, and that is that today's protest is the opening shot in this new period of struggle against Reaganism.



WW PHOTO: MERRILL CHARLES

**Hartford protests.** In conjunction with other demonstrations held around the country to protest the second inauguration of Ronald Reagan, a coalition of community groups in Hartford, Conn., held a rally on Jan. 19. Pictured to the left is Jelayne Miles of the U.S. Out of South Africa Network, speaking to 150 people who came to the rally.

## 800 join West Coast counter-inaugural actions

**Special to Workers World**  
SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 21—Tonight, 800 people showed they will not take four more years of Reaganism as they marched in a militant counter-inaugural that went through the Tenderloin District. This multinational area near downtown has been hit hard by gentrification and was the concentration of much of tonight's pre-publicity.

Several thousand leaflets that demanded, "House the homeless, feed the hungry" were distributed at food kitchens during meals and at shelters.

As the UN Plaza filled, a high percentage were poor people and youth. Dozens of homeless people with sleeping bags and knapsacks also came to protest Reagan's lies of economic recovery.

The starting rally featured three speakers: Joan Emery of the California Abortion Rights Action League, Ken Jones of the KS AIDS Foundation, and Johnny Huerta, a Chicano Viet Nam war veteran.

As the march began, Puerto Rican independence, funds to fight AIDS and death to apartheid were among many

other messages or demands raised on placards and banners, reflecting the broad range of struggles against Reaganism.

The plans by the San Francisco Republican Party to celebrate the inauguration at the Press Club on Post Street did not include hundreds of people chanting outside, "Reagan says cut-back, we say fightback" and "U.S., CIA out of Nicaragua."

After the disruption of the Reaganite cocktail parties, the march continued to Union Square for the final rally. There the speakers included Barbara Arms of the Homeless Caucus, Calvin Dragswolf of the American Indian Movement; Sue Lowe of the Southern Africa Freedom Committee of the All-Peoples Congress; a representative of a national labor relations board union, Local 20; Dick Becker of the People's Anti-War Mobilization; and Pat Norman, a lesbian community activist. Gloria La Riva, who chaired the rally for the All-Peoples Congress, also announced a Feb. 7 action to defend women's right to choose and protest the abortion clinic attacks.

## Banks out of South Africa!

By Tom Seahill

BUFFALO, Jan. 15—In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, 25 demonstrators braved bitter cold winds to protest the investment of U.S. companies in South Africa. Today's demonstration in front of the local offices of Citibank was the second in a series of bi-weekly demonstrations to demand divestiture and an end to the racist apartheid system. This protest was called in solidarity with the struggle of the heroic South African masses for liberation, and also as a link with the growing international movement against this racist oppression.

## Atlanta demonstration: 'Down with apartheid!'

ATLANTA, Jan. 19—Chanting "Up with the people, down with apartheid," a multinational group of 150 marched through downtown Atlanta today in solidarity with other counter-inaugural activities around the country. Speakers from the Faribundo Marti National Liberation Front, the African National Congress and the American Indian Movement joined representatives of local groups of women, students, the homeless and anti-war activists in denouncing the Reagan program of social cutbacks and military expansion.

# EDITORIAL

## Murder by degree

THE NEWS MEDIA has dubbed it the "Arctic Assault" and the "Alberta Clipper." They also report that on the first day the cold wave rolled from North Dakota and the Great Lakes region all the way down to northern Florida, 79 people died. The whole tragedy is presented as "a natural disaster," both grim and inevitable.

But why is it "natural" for so many to perish in a winter cold snap? Large parts of the U.S. get very severe weather every January and February. And every winter lots of people perish. It's not like an earthquake that hits unexpectedly. So why are the casualties repeated year after year, and even get worse?

You don't have to look far for the answer. The cold season becomes

ever more lethal because more and more poor people are forced out to live on the streets. And for those "indoors," many fatalities listed as "exposure to cold" could be more accurately described as "murder by landlord." The bodies are pulled out of rooms where the temperature has fallen to as low as 15 degrees F. Many of these tenements have been heatless for months, sometimes years.

Those who speak up so strongly for "law and order" against the poor, never scream for homicide indictments against landlords who evict families in the dead of winter or rent out "icebox" apartments.

The only thing "natural" about so many freezing deaths is that such horrors are "natural" under capitalism, which places a priority on cash profit over human life.

## Stop student searches

THE "RIGHT of the people to be secure in their persons" against arbitrary searches and seizures, which is supposedly guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, has never been really respected by police and other governmental officials.

Nonetheless, the Supreme Court's recent decision legalizing possible body searches of students by teachers if there are "reasonable grounds" and the search will not be "excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction" represents a further erosion of personal privacy.

What does this vague wording really mean? What are "reasonable grounds"? To a racist, there are

always "reasonable grounds" to search if the student is Black or Latin.

Many school regulations have nothing to do with curbing criminal activity, for example, those banning "Michael Jackson gloves," hair curlers and sun glasses, and walkman radios. Are students now to be subjected to body searches for such items? Even for more serious offenses, are teachers to be pressed into the role of cops by carrying out searches that could land the student in jail?

How far will this go? And how long will the Reaganites continue to blabber about "getting big government off our backs," while they encourage courts and cops to undermine basic democratic rights.

## —Reagan ignores jobless

Continued from page 1

edge that in the socialist countries, the collective genius of a planned economy has successfully eliminated unemployment.

Reagan intends to further cut social services. He calls it a "freeze," but with the population growing every year and inflation eating away, that means a cut.

This attack on those who need help the most—the elderly, the jobless, the disabled, the youth—brings down the general standard of living for all workers. As blue and white collar workers have found out in this period, it's very hard to resist the bosses' demands for even the most outrageous givebacks when hungry people by the hundreds of thousands are begging for jobs and have nothing to fall back on.

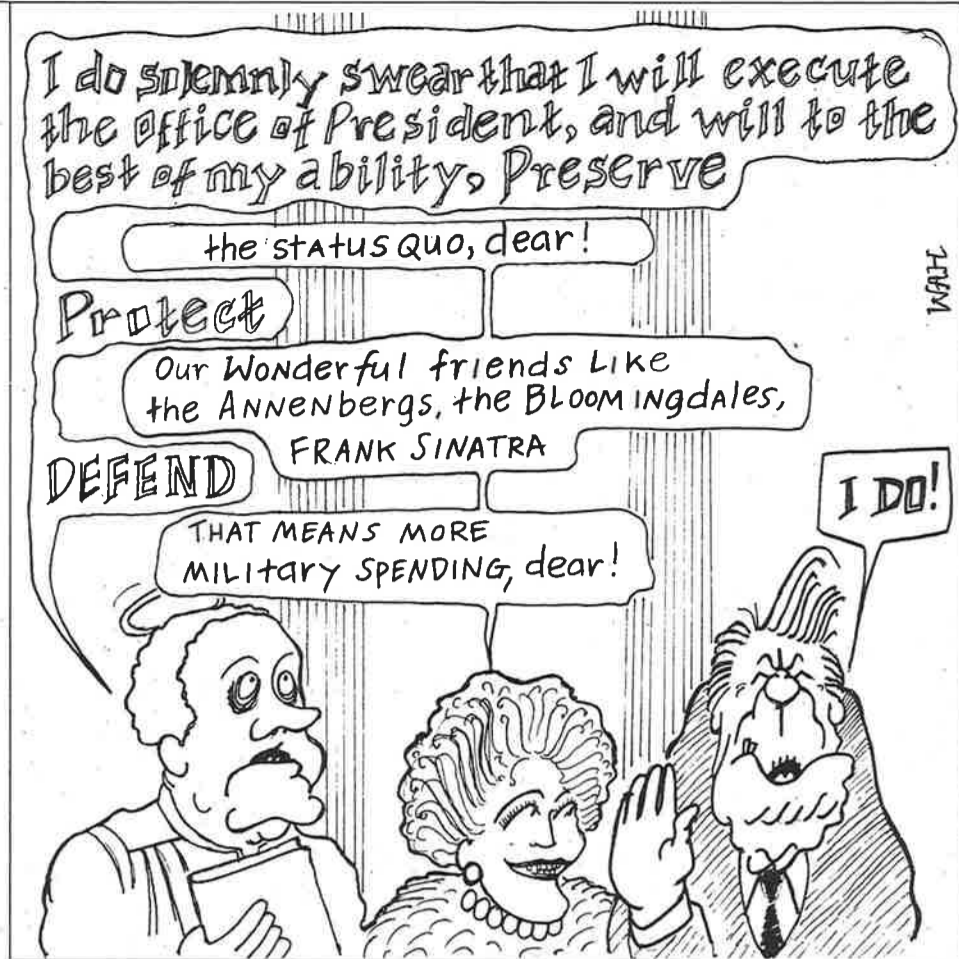
The horrendous trillion-dollar Star Wars buildup of space weapons was another theme that Reagan tried to put over with sweetness and light. This massive escalation of the arms race was presented as the key to peace and disarmament. Just as Nixon's brutal bombing of Viet Nam was supposed to bring peace. Just as U.S. aircraft carriers in the Caribbean are supposed to

defend "freedom" in Central America. Just as the placing of Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe was labeled the deployment of "peacemakers."

Reagan made sure to attack the right to abortion, of course. He's for cutting welfare—which goes mostly to women with dependent children—and daycare and school lunch programs, but he still insists women should be obligated to bear children whether they feel able to accept the responsibility or not.

In what was surely one of the lighter moments of his speech, Reagan intoned his support for a "balanced budget." There had to be more than a few smirks, even in that cynical audience, for this inane pledge from the man whose tax cuts for the rich and sky-high military budgets have created the biggest deficits in history.

But there is one message we could all take to heart. Reagan says, don't rely on government to make life better. Let's start by not relying on Ronald Reagan or any of the ruling class politicians! Let's build an independent, self-reliant fightback movement to stop the anti-woman, anti-worker, anti-gay and -lesbian, racist ruling class in its tracks!



## Media, right-wing politicians lavish praise on subway gunman

By Andy Stapp  
NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 20—"Dark world, pale hero," reads the headline in this week's issue of People Magazine. Everyone in New York City above the age of four, and almost everybody else in the country, knows what this refers to, knows how last Dec. 22 Bernard Hugo Goetz shot down four Black teenagers on the IRT subway.

Who could not be aware, when for weeks now the newspapers and TV and radio and politicians have kept up a steady drumbeat of crass racial appeals aimed at stigmatizing Black people as a criminal community.

The rich press lords in this country have always turned reality upside down, heaping abuse on the striker, the welfare mother, the small nations ravaged by Pentagon aggression. The Goetz furor is just another example of putting the aggrieved party on trial, slandering the Black residents of this city who are every day subject to intolerable oppression from cops, landlords, bosses and bureaucrats, while cheering to the heavens someone like Goetz, a character so prone to making extreme racist remarks that his white neighbors felt constrained to keep him off their tenants committee!

Goetz's bigotry, however, has not tarnished him in the eyes of his ardent and well-heeled backers. While right-wing Senator Alfonse D'Amato and others testifying before a Congressional panel hail Goetz as "the personification of the finest we can produce in America," the gunman himself is quoted as telling the cops "I know it's disgusting to say, but it was so easy," adding of his victim Troy Canty, "I should have gouged his eyes out with my car keys."

The New York Post, which Mayor Ed Koch calls "feisty" when "fascist" would better describe this rag, has elevated Goetz to the status of "Bernie" in its headlines. A typical sample of Post "journalism" quotes a cop saying of Goetz, "He can come to the academy anytime, and I'll teach him how to shoot."

Not to be outdone, a New York Daily News columnist usually known for his liberal views compares Goetz to Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and the unknown farmer who "fired the shot heard round the world" at Lexington and Concord. And the oh-so-respectable New York Times runs an excerpted letter saying, "Bernard Hugo Getz makes me proud, P-R-O-U-

D, to be white, male American!"

The little disclaimers tacked on as an afterthought to such garbage, stating that "racism isn't the issue" and that "most Black people are good decent Americans," just won't hack it, because racism is the issue. In previous times of such artificially whipped up hysteria, the same disclaimers appeared, from the anti-immigrant "red scare" of the 1920s to the Iran crisis of 1979-80.

Even as they provoked the most violent hatreds, the newspapers always piously warned people against "going too far." And as for the pretense that no racial, national or ethnic group is being singled out, but only "a few troublemakers," that's the way southern sheriffs talked against the civil rights movement of the 1960s, that's the line of the South African and Israeli governments to this day.

New York is a great multinational city with over seven million inhabitants. It boasts one of the largest ports in the world and hosts the United Nations. Its Latin population is larger than the entire city of Houston, its Asian community more numerous than the city of Seattle, its Black population is equal to the size of all of Philadelphia.

There are also large numbers of Arab and Native peoples as well as others who make up this vast cosmopolitan center, and every day they go to work together in the millions and labor together side by side, mostly dreaming the same dreams for themselves and their loved ones. It is not from this manifold working class that the current outpouring of vituperation against the Black people originates.

New York City is not only a great working class center but is also the center of world capitalism, the home base of financial, insurance, textile, real estate, advertising and media kings. It is not for nothing that Wall Street is notorious all over the world, that the big TV networks are headquartered here and that the New York Times is the preeminent voice of big money. These are the institutions which prosper in a climate of racism directed against the real victims, the Black and Latin workers and poor. While they rant about their "pale hero" Goetz, the real subway story gets no reporting, the story of fires and filth and trains that break down all the time, the story of Reagan cutting \$2.8 billion more from mass transit.



# On the eve of the Geneva arms talks

By Sam Marcy

**JANUARY 22**—As the date for the Geneva arms talks between the U.S. and the USSR set for sometime in early February draws closer, it becomes clearer every day that Reagan and the U.S. military-industrial complex are pushing a harder, more unbridled line in regard to the negotiations, while at the same time covering them with ever greater peace rhetoric.

On Jan. 22, Reagan said that he viewed the U.S. arms control negotiating commitments made with the Soviet Union in Geneva "with the utmost seriousness." He also said that he had "no more important goal in his second term than in reducing and ultimately eliminating nuclear weapons."

This will surely occasion a more widespread belief that the Reaganite regime is softening its positions in relationship to arms negotiations, whereas in reality its deeds belie its words.

Sometimes the makeup of a delegation constitutes a clue as to whether there are serious considerations to making the negotiations successful. In delicate diplomacy, particularly in those involving arms negotiations, the makeup of the delegation is considered highly significant. Hence, the delegation which Reagan picked for the Geneva arms talks is viewed everywhere with greater than ordinary interest.

Take Max M. Kampelman, who was named to head the U.S. delegation. His appointment can only be regarded as a calculated provocation to the USSR. Had he, for instance, been appointed as the U.S. ambassador to Moscow, he surely would have been turned down, precisely because of his inordinate, openly hostile and viciously anti-Soviet attitude.

Those who followed the Madrid conference of East-West talks well remember how his conduct there was one long, bitter tirade against the USSR, carefully calculated to feed domestic ultra-rightist aims, while at the same time doing everything to sabotage the East-West dialog. Kampelman has earned the reputation over the years of being on the far, far right on all international affairs. He is a co-founder, together with Paul Nitze, of the infamous Committee on the Present Danger. This committee has been notorious for its espousal of the most extreme militarist views, and is the darling of the ultra-rightist cabal.

Former Senator John Tower, another member of the delegation, was always an outright spokesman for the military-industrial complex and for years headed the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he consistently upheld the most extreme views for so-called military preparedness. His replacement of Gen. Edward Rowney is regarded as a further move to the right.

The third member of the delegation is a career foreign service aide, Maynard W. Glickman, who was Foreign Service aide in Korea and is not regarded as having any special political inclination apart from that of supporting Reagan's policies.

Barely 48 hours after the inauguration and only one day after his much-publicized peace talk, Reagan ordered launch on Jan. 23 a secret military mission by the American Space Shuttle, which is sure to arouse suspicion worldwide that the Reaganites are not serious about an arms agreement with the USSR.

## Shuttle a massive spy flight

The secret military launching of the space shuttle is regarded everywhere as a huge, massive spy mission aimed

at the USSR. It is espionage on an intercontinental basis.

By its very nature, the launching of the shuttle can only be regarded as a hostile act on the eve of negotiations. It is not only a hostile act, it is one that borders closely to an act of war.

In reality, this is the first installment of Reagan's Star Wars project—the most dangerous unbridled military adventure yet projected by any U.S. administration. It is no wonder then that it has evoked muted opposition from elements of the ruling class which normally support (with some usual qualifications) the military program of the Reagan regime.

Thus, Business Week, an organ of big business, in its Jan. 21 issue, indicates in a significant editorial that there are doubts in the summits of the ruling class regarding the recklessness of the Reagan administration in arms buildups, particularly the Star Wars project.

Quoting polls, Business Week says, "Americans believe that nuclear war with the Soviets and a nuclear race to establish U.S. strategic superiority are both unwinnable and that the U.S. should negotiate arms control agreements with Moscow. . . . What is new in the (Geneva) negotiations is Reagan's strategic defense initiative, which proposes to shield the U.S. against ballistic missiles with satellite-borne lasers, particle beams and other advanced technology.

"Developing and building such a system could take 20 years at enormous cost and there are widespread doubts about its feasibility and reliability. . . . The Soviets will try to match any U.S. advances in Star Wars defenses. And if new defenses appear to be tilting the nuclear balance, both countries will feel compelled to build more or better offensive weapons.

"The U.S.," it continues, "should be wary of trying to use its technological edge to produce a future bargaining chip. The history of weapons, including the atom bomb itself, teaches that advances in arms yield only transient gains in security."

Nevertheless, and this is the hitch, it continues to say that "there is no way to stop research by either side in this area. And right now the proposed system has not been developed and there is nothing concrete to negotiate."

## Ruling class holds on to R & D

Thus, while there are doubts and fears in the ruling class regarding the Reaganite military buildup, especially the Star Wars project, the ruling class endeavors to hold on to that which is the key obstacle to negotiations in Geneva—research and development of the Star Wars project in particular.

"There is no way to stop research by either side in this area," says Business Week. That's not true.

Not so far as the USSR is concerned. It can and would just as soon stop the research and development and convert to civilian use what has been achieved by its scientists and technicians in the military field and return the scientific and technical personnel to civilian projects. This logically follows from the nature of the socialist economy.

It's otherwise with the ruling class in the U.S. "Right now," Business Week says, "the proposed system has not been developed. Therefore there's nothing to negotiate." That is obvious nonsense. It would be harder to negotiate once the research and development has taken on momentum. Indeed if the weapon system hasn't been developed, it should be easier, simply by agreeing not to start it.

The big point of departure in the U.S. position is that there is so much extortionate profits to be made from research and development in the U.S., not only on the Star Wars project, but all other weapon systems as well.

In our report in an earlier issue (see WW, Jan. 17), we showed how research now employs hundreds and thousands of scientists. No longer is R & D confined to what it never really was in truth, a small group of lonely scientists working in small laboratories, mostly on their own initiative and daring.

What we have today is assembly-line research and development. The biggest universities are wedded to the military-industrial complex, which in turn together with the Pentagon control the funding.

Yet, like all other endeavors by the ruling class where super-profit is the motivation, they must rely increasingly upon the collective labor not only of the hundreds of thousands but ultimately of the millions.

Examine any instrument, any whatsoever, including even a paper clip or drinking cup, it's a mass-produced item

relying upon the collective, socialized labor of millions upon millions of workers who are exploited in the interests of finance capital and the military-industrial complex.

The personnel of research and development is dependent upon and is in fact itself being increasingly composed of worker-technicians. It is to them and to the broad mass of the working class and oppressed masses that we must address ourselves. It is they who make everything and in the final, ultimate analysis can control it.

What the Business Week editorial discloses is a rift in the summits of the ruling class. The rift is what the editorial really reflects. What is needed is the mass pressure of the millions upon millions of workers and oppressed people in an aroused anti-war movement, linking this movement with the anti-imperialist struggle in such areas as Central America, South Africa, as well as the Middle East. And a recognition that all this is an integral part of the revolutionary struggle of the worldwide working class against the imperialist bourgeoisie.



WW photo: DAVID SOLE

The military-industrial complex and its drive for profit sabotages serious arms negotiations.

## Arms makers get best Congress money can buy

By Sharon Shelton

**JANUARY 19**—Have you ever wondered why your so-called representative in Congress keeps voting for war even though polls show the majority of people in the U.S. oppose it?

A study published by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a private agency, shows why. According to the study, the military contractors who want to build the MX missile and the Star Wars space system contributed nearly \$1 million to senatorial candidates last fall through their political action committees (PACs).

And this is just the tip of the iceberg. The million dollars in payoffs is only what is recorded by the Federal Election Commission and doesn't include all the perks, junkets, kickbacks, and under-the-table bribes that everybody knows are part and parcel of capitalist politics.

Among those getting a piece of the million dollars in military-industrial-complex PAC money were key Senate committee members, such as all eight Senate Armed Services Committee

members up for reelection, who received \$322,241, and the five senators on the defense appropriations subcommittee running for reelection, who got \$205,000.

Senator John Warner, a Republican who sits on the Armed Services Committee, raked in the most of all with \$73,549 from the military industries' PACs. The Grumman Corp. alone, which is heavily involved in aircraft production, gave Warner \$10,000 and spent a total of \$49,500, according to the study.

While the lion's share of the million bucks went to the Republicans, the Democrats, who are fond of portraying themselves as being the "peace party" when the Republicans are in office, didn't do so badly themselves with about \$300,000 in contributions. The Democrats' share in the take should surprise no one, since Reagan's record military budget could never have passed without the acquiescence of the politicians in the Democratic Party, who are just as beholden to the war-driven capitalist ruling class as are the Republicans.

# Big money, rightists set back Houston gay rights rule

By Gloria Rubac

HOUSTON, Jan. 20—The forces of big business, racism and religious fundamentalism combined to deal an electoral setback to the lesbian and gay community and their supporters here in yesterday's 4-1 defeat of an anti-discrimination ordinance for city employees.

The referendum was on an ordinance passed on June 19, 1984 by a majority of the Houston City Council, which banned discrimination in city employment based on sexual orientation. Passing this ordinance aroused the most vile right-wing elements, like the Ku Klux Klan and right-wing fundamentalists, who joined at the following City Council meeting in the singing of "Onward Christian Soldiers" outside council chambers.

These rightwingers began a petition campaign and succeeded in getting the quota of signatures to put the ordi-

nance before Houston voters. What followed was a well-financed campaign which resorted to the most reactionary propaganda imaginable, equating homosexuality with disease and with child molestation.

Some of the propaganda was so obviously untrue that the local TV stations were refusing to accept paid advertising of them.

Joining in with their natural allies on the antediluvian right, the Houston Chamber of Commerce also came out against the anti-discrimination ordinance. The Chamber of Commerce is headed by former Houston mayor Louie Welch, who has a long established record of condoning if not encouraging the repression of national and sexual minorities.

## Chamber of Commerce funded propaganda

The Chamber of Commerce raised

hundreds of thousands of dollars to put forth propaganda saying that to keep the ordinance would be harmful to attracting new business to Houston, because it would acknowledge Houston as a "gay Mecca."

Among the vicious anti-gay rumors spread by this scum were those that AIDS might get into the water supply, and there was even talk of quarantining homosexuals.

On the other side, the Campaign for a United Houston led the struggle for the ordinance, but of course had far less financial backing than the right wing. One of this group's most successful TV ads pictured Black Congresswoman Barbara Jordan speaking in favor of the ordinance for non-discrimination.

## Gay community's reaction

As election results came in, there was a feeling of sadness in the gay

community, but also a realization that it was only because of the big money combined with the bigotry that this defeat took place.

Dennis Medina, a Chicano gay activist, and a member of the Gay Hispanic Caucus, shared these thoughts. "The election shows that extreme stereotypes of gay people are still pervasive. Members of the Gay Hispanic Caucus are disappointed in the election, but further are worried because of what this election can signify.

"I fear that this will be a mandate to the politicians of Houston," said Medina. The chair of the Republican Party here is already talking about re-criminalizing homosexuality in Texas and of national anti-gay legislation. And will it give the OK to gangs of youths to attack gay people on the streets?

"They accused us of having an agenda, but their agenda is clear: the complete oppression of sexual minorities. I believe that all gay people must come out of their closet and begin fighting the ignorance and stereotypes that this election showed that a great majority of people have. We must take this step in order to raise our political consciousness and to take our issue once again to the people of Houston," Medina concluded.

## Film review: The Times of Harvey Milk

### The Times of Harvey Milk

Directed by Robert Epstein  
Narrated by Harvey Fierstein

By Shelley Ettinger

IN THIS FILM'S most moving and inspiring moments, Harvey Milk is nowhere to be seen. In fact, the scenes of struggle—of lesbians and gay men marching or organizing or rising up in raging rebellion—are the real story. Harvey Milk was a leader, and his political life is the focus of the film; but, as

the title implies, it was the times and not the individual that moved the struggle forward.

The Times of Harvey Milk is a fine documentary that traces Milk's development as a gay activist and eventual election in 1977 to San Francisco's Board of Supervisors (city council). Milk became the city's first openly gay elected representative at a time of growth and movement in the lesbian and gay community there. In the film, Milk himself speaks of the national

significance of his election. "I am part of a movement," he says, "not an individual candidate. This is not my victory, but something far greater"—a victory in the struggle for gay liberation.

Nevertheless, the film centers on Harvey Milk and his political career. Because he was regarded, and regarded himself, as a voice for the lesbian and gay community, Milk is portrayed as having played a generally progressive role. For instance, he pushed for an alliance among the city's various oppressed communities—Black, Latin, Asian, lesbian and gay, seniors.

In the film, interviews with three people in particular demonstrate the impact that alliance had. A trade unionist and a Chinese-American community leader discuss how they came to support the lesbian and gay struggle and respect the gay community for its support of labor and anti-racist issues. And a gay school teacher recalls the battle against the reactionary anti-gay Briggs Initiative, which would have cost him his job, and how the communities united to defeat it.

1977-78 was the time of Anita Bryant, of anti-gay rights referenda across the country, of the birth of the Moral Majority. These were times of great struggles by lesbian and gay people, and Harvey Milk became one symbol of those struggles. That was why he was killed.

Milk's assassination by Dan White, racist, reactionary ex-cop, and White's subsequent slap-on-the-wrist prison term, triggered an unprecedented response of unity and fury. Tens of thousands of San Franciscans, led by the lesbian and gay community, took to the streets in a candlelight march the night of the murder.

A year-and-a-half later, when White's sentence was announced, lesbians and gay men descended on City Hall, smashing windows and burning police cars. It is irrelevant that, as the film notes, Harvey Milk would have disapproved. The "White Night Rebellion" was an expression of the lesbian and gay struggle just as Milk's election had been, but more militant and profound.

"He got away with murder" was the White Night chant, and indeed, Dan White was released from all parole restrictions this January, a year after he got out of jail, having served just five years. That's where the film ends, but it's not the whole story. The lesbian and gay movement, in San Francisco and across the country, moves forward. The times of struggle are now.

## Join us in the struggle

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

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

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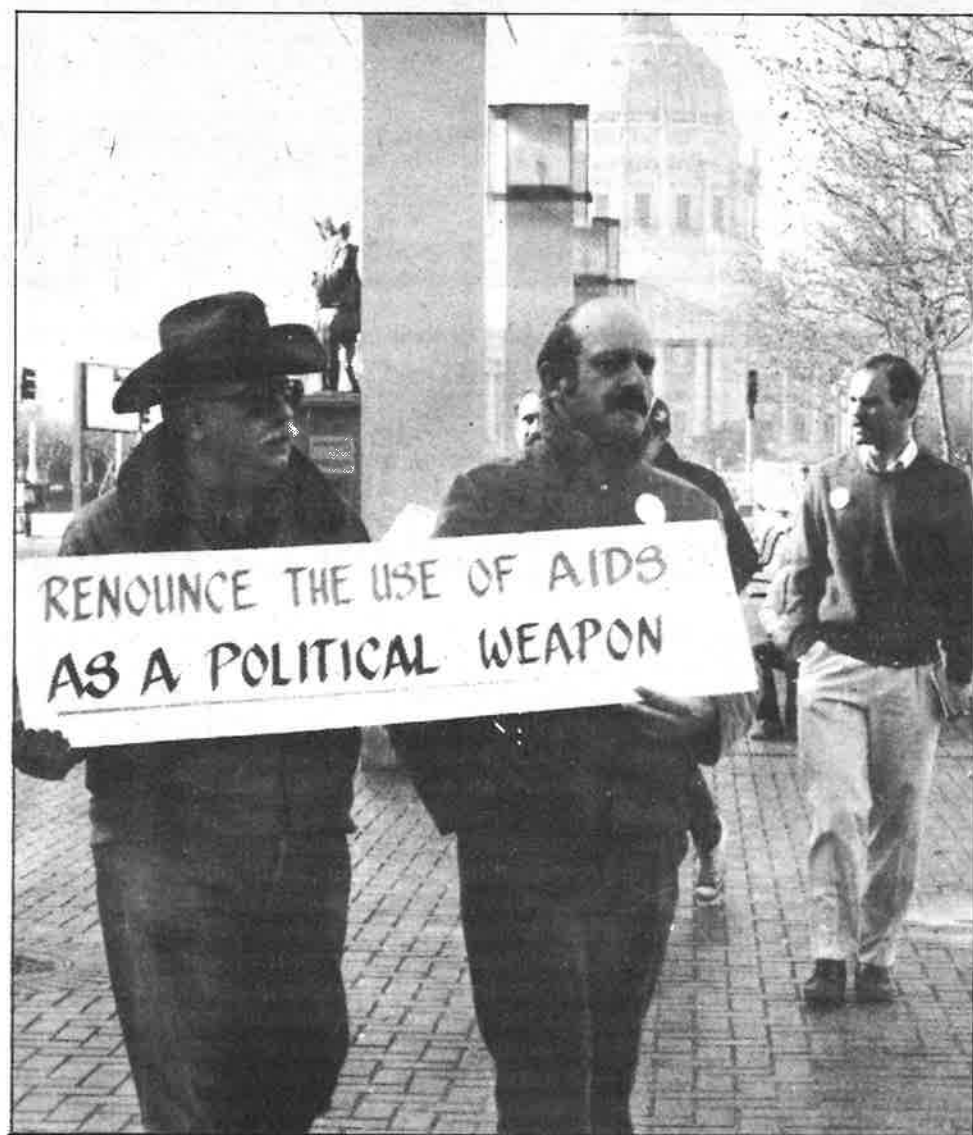
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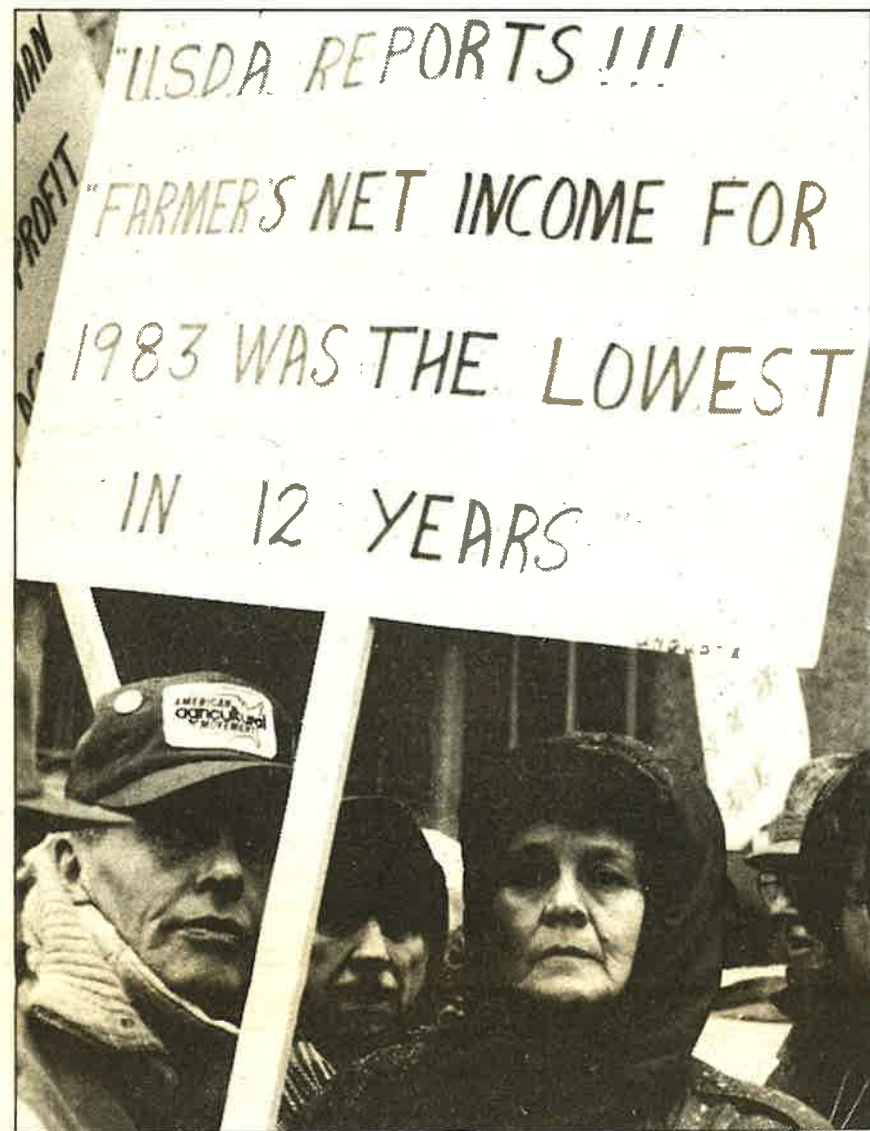
## AIDS funds demanded

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18—The Mobilization Against AIDS, a new coalition, picketed the Health and Human Services building here today to demand full federal funding for the research and treatment of AIDS. The organizers are also circulating a petition demanding a congressional investigation of why money that has been allocated for AIDS research has not been spent.

WW PHOTO: JANE CUTTER



## 10,000 denounce rise in farm foreclosures



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

**By Bill Hackwell**  
 CHICAGO, Jan. 21—Thousands of farmers, their families and their supporters, with strong representation from labor unions, demonstrated in St. Paul, Minn., and Chicago, Ill., today to oppose the farm policies of the Reagan administration that have resulted in the foreclosure of thousands of family farms.

In Chicago, over 400 small farmers of the American Agriculture Movement marched on the Chicago Board of Trade. Despite record cold temperatures in Chicago, these determined farmers came from 18 different states to illustrate the plight of the family farm, which is being squeezed out of existence by the profiteering of the banks and farm commodity speculators.

American Agriculture Movement representatives explained that the Chicago Board of Trade was targeted because it is the largest commodity exchange in the country. In anticipation of today's demonstration, Board of Trade officials closed all visitor galleries and severely restricted access to the building.

As the farmers marched down busy LaSalle Street, they were met by rows of Chicago police. Undaunted, many farmers tried to force their way inside

this den of thieves, resulting in the arrest of at least nine farmers, among them AAM leaders Carlos Welty and Wayne Cryts.

Several Chicago area organizations came out to show their support for the farmers and to demonstrate that the poor and working people of Chicago face the same enemy. While the banks and agribusinesses are reaping huge profits by keeping food prices artificially high in stores and underpaying farmers for their products, hunger and malnutrition have reached epidemic proportions in the cities. Included in those groups showing their support were Operation PUSH, the All-Peoples Congress, and National People's Action.

In Minnesota, some 10,000 people marched on the Capitol in St. Paul to denounce the rise of foreclosures. One Minnesota survey predicts that 13,000 farmers there will face foreclosure in the next 18 months.

The demonstrators arrived in caravans with as many as 150 buses and presented a list of demands, which they called the Minnesota farm emergency act of 1985.

Scores of businesses and more than three dozen school districts closed throughout Minnesota to support the march.

## Chicago community groups demand jobs for all

**By Bill Hackwell**  
 CHICAGO, Jan. 18—Over 200 people came out to the sprawling empty shell of what was once U.S. Steel's South Works Mill to dramatize unemployment both here and throughout the area. South Works, which once had 15,000 workers, is now being completely dismantled, while U.S. Steel is expanding its operations abroad. The demonstrators drew the links of unemployment here with the propping up of apartheid in South Africa. Today's action was called by the Coalition to Put America Back to Work, which includes the National Rainbow Coalition, Operation PUSH, the United Steelworkers of America, the All-Peoples Congress, and others.

At the rally held at the only remaining gate to South Works, Rev. Willie Barrows, national director of Operation PUSH, proclaimed, "We must resurrect not just the jobs and the mill but we must resurrect a workers' move-

ment to protect against runaway shops, union busting, and unemployment." Jeff Sarles, speaking for the All-Peoples Congress, told the crowd, "Every day you read in the papers about crime and gangs. Well what about the crime of the corporate gang that owns U.S. Steel and is responsible for the massive loss of livelihood for thousands of families in Chicago." Other speakers included Frank Guzzo, the President of USWA Local 1033; Florecio Ortega of the Save Our Jobs Committee; Frank Lumpkin of Jobs or Income Now; U.S. Congressman Gus Savage, and others.

After the rally, the protesters marched on the gate of the plant demanding to see the plant manager. When the protesters persisted after being told that there was no one there to talk to them, four members of the leadership of Local 1033 were arrested for trespassing on private property.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

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