



Anti-apartheid leaders defy racist repression

By Zenzile

DECEMBER 26—The fascist South African regime celebrated the holidays this week doing what it has done all year long:

- Sending its racist police and army into the oppressed communities to beat, whip and shoot the heroic unarmed resisters, many of them children
- Stepping up its repression against the chosen leaders of the people (Nelson Mandela was reportedly being held in solitary confinement after over 20 years of imprisonment while his wife Winnie was arrested twice and then released)
- Attacking neighboring Black countries like Lesotho and Angola
- Continuing to ban the international press from covering its atrocities—which the mighty capitalist media conglomerates have meekly accepted.

No Western leader has used the occasion of the holiday season to condemn the brutal apartheid system, which is openly based on the outright disenfranchisement and exploitation of the Black and "Coloured" majority. This only underscores the fact that after a year of intense struggle in which over 1,000 people have been murdered, the Pretoria fascist regime survives only because of the enormous military, political and economic support it receives from Western imperialism, particularly the U.S.

Events this week showed that there can be no peace inside South Africa until the terrorist regime of Botha, Malan and Coetzee is overthrown and ev-

ery vestige of the apartheid system destroyed.

Just this week the regime outraged progressives across the world by arresting Winnie Mandela, a brave patriot, a leader of the people with a well-known history of resistance against the apartheid regime, and wife of Nelson Mandela, South Africa's most prominent political prisoner and leader of the people's organization, the African National Congress (ANC).

On Saturday, security policemen arrived at the Mandela home in Soweto. They surrounded the house and demanded that Winnie Mandela leave Soweto.

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Winnie Mandela: Heroine of South African liberation struggle.

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Racist NY medical examiner reinstated by Koch

Still under investigation for coverup of police murders

By Neville Edwards

NEW YORK, Dec. 20—Mayor Ed Koch's reinstatement of Dr. Elliot Gross to his job as New York City's chief medical examiner further exposes the virulent racism and corruption that exist within the Koch administration.

Gross, who was on his second paid leave of absence, has been the subject of a city and state investigation.

Towards the end of January a series of four articles appeared in the New York Times which exposed the fact that Gross had been falsifying autopsy reports, tampering with evidence and altering other doctors' findings of death of people in police custody.

A gross case of Elliot Gross's falsification of autopsy reports was that of Michael Stewart, a young Black artist who was beaten to death by New York

City cops. Gross ruled in 1983 that there was no evidence that Stewart had died of physical injuries. Dr. Robert L. Wolf, a clinical professor at Mount Sinai Medical Center saw Stewart before he died and stated, "It was obvious that he incurred trauma to all major portions of his body, without exception. I determined that the most likely source of the wounds was a beating."

The fact Gross had changed an autopsy report from death due to cardiac arrest to bronchial pneumonia, and finally to spinal cord injury was instrumental in the freeing of the six cops charged with the murder of Stewart.

Mrs. Eleanor Bumpurs was shot to death by police during an eviction from her city-owned apartment. Dr. Jon S. Pearl, one of Gross's pathologists, reported to the New York Times that his report clearly stated that Mrs. Bumpurs, a 66-year-old grandmother, was shot twice by the police. He also stated that Gross repeatedly forced him to change his report. Subsequently, the police involved in the murder were set free.

Alfredo De Jesus, a 20-year-old bakery worker, was shot in the back by an off-duty policeman in 1982. Gross covered up the fact that the young man was shot at close range despite the fact that the original autopsy report showed that De Jesus was shot from a distance of no more than 18 inches. The cop was never indicted for the murder.

Though it was the New York Times that originally "broke the news" about the charges against Gross, in reality it was the Black and Latin families of people who were murdered by the cops and the oppressed communities that

called attention to Gross' cover-ups.

With anger mounting in the Black community, New York City Mayor Edward Koch appointed his own hand-picked attorneys to investigate the findings. Gross was "cleared" of charges of all wrong doings; however, the panel was forced to admit that doubt had been cast on the medical examiner's "ability to contribute credibly and effectively to the criminal justice system."

Last July, Gross went on another paid leave of absence, resulting from charges of gross negligence or incompetence filed against him by the New York State Health Department. Koch's reappointment of Gross to his post while under investigation is a clear signal that the mayor has a hand in the cover-ups. His hand-picked panel of investigators was meant to protect Gross from any conviction whatsoever.

The state charges are not meant to bring justice to the oppressed families of Stewart, Mrs. Bumpurs or De Jesus. Instead of charging Gross for the cover-ups, the state has charged him for his administrative mishandling of his office. However, it is the duty of Koch to wait for the state's finding before making any decision on Gross.

"He's been through the fires of hell," sympathized Koch, referring to Gross. The real questions are what about the families who are mourning the death of their loved ones killed by racist cops? What about the police who are free to commit more racist murders?

Gross's reinstatement will only serve to spark the anger of the oppressed community. Only a militant struggle can win the rights of the oppressed people.

Black youth shot by racists in Bronx

By Diane Feinberg

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—As part of the increase in racist violence being whipped up across the country with encouragement by the Reagan administration, a 16-year-old Black youth was viciously attacked by a gang of seven racists as he left a roller-skating rink in the Bronx.

A bullet, fired in the unprovoked attack, struck Keith Vann in the back. He has been transferred from the intensive care unit in an area hospital in stable condition. A friend accompanying Vann was not injured. No arrests have been made.

This is just the latest in a number of such incidents in New York City, including the savage beating of a Black bus driver last week.

Fanning the flames of racism are the arch-rightist politicians and media on behalf of the U.S. ruling class. Everyone knows, for example, that Ronald Reagan expressed his "understanding" for Bernhard Goetz's crime of gunning down four unarmed youth

with illegal dum dum bullets.

Everyone knows that the bosses' courts declined to send the killers-in-blue to jail for the cold-blooded murders of Eleanor Bumpurs and Michael Stewart.

And one has only to turn on the TV or pick up a newspaper to be bombarded with lavish publicity glorifying a new board game called "Subway Vigilante" in which the whole family can have "fun" winning points by shooting people.

It is especially during periods like the present when unemployment is high and when workers' gains are under attack that the ruling class desperately tries to foment racism. The capitalists use racism to keep the working class divided and their own profits coming in as usual.

The best defense of the rights of all workers is a strong anti-racist unity that has the power to stop attacks such as the one on young Keith Vann and at the same time stop the bosses' anti-worker onslaught.

In This Issue...

DR. GROSS

He falsified autopsy reports, tampered with evidence and altered cause of death certificates to cover up for murder by the cops, but Dr. Elliot Gross is back as the New York City chief medical examiner. (Page 2.)

GE-RCA

Sam Marcy writes on what the workers need to know about the recent GE-RCA merger. The biggest non-oil merger ever, it will accelerate the devastating processes that demand a new approach for working class resistance. (Page 9.)

BUS DRIVERS

Cuts in union rights, cuts in children's safety procedures and attempts to force a range of economic concessions are propelling Boston school bus drivers to prepare for a Jan. 2 strike. (Page 3.)

SOUTH AFRICA

Pretoria's new armed raid into Lesotho and its latest efforts to enforce the banning order against Winnie Mandela demonstrate once again that the fascist regime there is utterly incapable of self-reform and must be smashed. (Page 1.)



Outrage at racist violence has led to an organizing effort in Philadelphia.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

PHILADELPHIA

For weeks Philadelphia has been the focus of national notoriety brought on by mob attacks against Black people who dared to move into a "white" neighborhood. Now community groups there have met to plan an anti-racist fightback strategy. (Page 3.)

HAITI

A wave of popular protests in Haiti may be signaling the beginning of the end for that country's U.S.-sponsored police-state regime. (Page 4.)

BIG MOUNTAIN

A major confrontation is coming this July between the coal and uranium corporations and Native people in Big Mountain, Ariz., over who really owns the land. (Page 8.)

PHILIPPINES

"The Philippines are ours forever, territory belonging to the United States." That's what a U.S. Senator said in 1900 and that's what Washington still secretly believes today. (Page 12.)

Holiday notice

Workers World will not be published next week. The next issue will be dated Jan. 16.

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Boston bus drivers put brakes on concessions

By Steve Kirschbaum

Shop Steward and Negotiating Committee, USWA Local 8751

BOSTON, Dec. 20—Today, school bus companies, aided and abetted by representatives of the Boston School Department, walked out of state-mediated negotiations with the Boston school bus drivers union, United Steelworkers of America (USWA), Local 8751, refusing to even make a contract offer.

This act of callous disregard for the 600 multinational union drivers and their families and for the parents of 30,000 school children makes inevitable the Jan. 2 strike if the companies don't meet the drivers' demands for no concessions and for economic justice.

Local 8751 members have been fighting since early last spring to defend the union, job security and their living standards from a well-orchestrated union-busting assault by the School Department and the bus companies.

For over a decade, the School Department has tried to use the management company as a tactic for controlling the bus drivers and denying their just demands. Every two to four years, the City awards the transportation contract to new management firms. On the one hand, the City has used this to try to evade a continuous union-represented driver force and on the other hand to control the drivers through a buffer where they have no legal responsibility to the drivers. Meanwhile, the bus companies reap lush multi-million-dollar "cost-plus" contracts and try to evade union demands, passing the buck on to the City.

Major victory

This past June 20, the drivers won a major victory. Through a militant rank-and-file campaign, combined with the solidarity of the parents, community and labor, Local 8751 forced the School Committee to pass a union-drafted resolution that provides that no matter which management companies the city hires, they must keep the union drivers with full seniority rights.

This fall, the local again prepared to strike to defend job security in the face of a vicious union-busting campaign of massive firings on the basis of a witch-hunt style "criminal records" check. On Oct. 15, the night before the strike, the city caved in and agreed to a settlement to provide justice for the fired drivers.

Before the ink was dry on this settlement, however, the new bus companies reneged on their tentative agreement on the union contract with the full support and encouragement of the city. The companies came to the table with a full package of contract concessions which will mean drastic economic cuts, cuts to union rights and children's safety (refusing to sign language guaranteeing necessary time to complete driver runs).

The drivers' position has been no cuts from the 1983 contract and a modest increase in health benefits and a pension contribution.

'No contract, no work!'

The drivers and their union immediately responded by calling a press conference today where militant drivers gathered on the steps of National School Bus' Bayside location. Before all the major electronic and print media, the drivers chanted, "No contract! No work!"

Homemade signs and banners were supplemented by freshly printed strike signs brought by USWA Sub-Area District Director Ed Galouska, who told the press that the International Union was prepared to back this strike for as long as it takes.

The new School Superintendent Laval Wilson has wasted no time in

revealing his Reagan-style plans. In four short months, he has attacked bilingual education and the Court-ordered desegregation of the schools. He has instituted an hysterical policy against school employees with AIDS. His first formal action was to cut over \$1.5 million from the school budget.

Wilson is also a union buster. Yesterday, the union came into possession of a copy of his confidential strike-breaking contingency plans. The plans call for the use of public transit drivers and teachers to transport the children and constitutes not only an illegal and unjust city interference into

private sector collective bargaining, but a rash misuse of tax dollars for union busting.

Wilson and his Department have clearly demonstrated that they are more concerned with the safe and efficient transport of tax dollars into school bus companies' profits than with the safe transport of the children!

At today's press conference, the union gave its answers to this contingency plan. Statements were released from the presidents of both the Boston Teachers Union and the Boston Carmen's Union stating categorically that the teachers and transit

drivers will in no way cooperate with the City's strike-breaking plans.

Even though the strike is not scheduled to begin until Jan. 2, today one driver after another refused to sign for charter bus work over the holiday break, stating that "until we get a contract, let Wilson drive the bus!"

Today Boston's schools closed for the holiday break. During the break, the drivers will be preparing their strike against concessions and for a fair contract. Scheduled to return to work on Jan. 2, the drivers have vowed that unless they get justice, not a bus will roll in the City of Boston.

Phila. groups map anti-racist fightback

By Berta Joubert

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21—On Dec. 19, representatives from several community groups met at the offices of Dignity, a grassroots shelter for the homeless, to map a strategy to counter the racist violence which has surfaced in the Philadelphia area over the past month.

In attendance at the meeting were representatives from Spring Garden United Neighbors, Committee for Dignity and Fairness for the Homeless, Philadelphia Women's Peace Encampment, Committee for Social Responsibility, Temple Association of Black Journalists, Delaware Valley Union for the Homeless, the All-Peoples Congress and a student from the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network.

Organizers of the meeting felt that Philadelphia has become a national symbol for both the racists and anti-racists throughout the country, much the same that Boston had become in the early 1970s. They issued a call for a mass mobilization against racism.

Philadelphia became the focus of national attention when mobs of racist whites last month demonstrated outside the homes of two families, one Black and one interracial who had recently moved into a "white" neighborhood. The two families were subjected to threats, harassment and physical attacks. Windows were broken, furniture destroyed and in one instance a heating and hot water system punctured.

The most serious incident occurred after one of the families, fearing for their safety, moved out of the neighborhood. Their house with most of their possessions was firebombed.

These were by no means isolated incidents. In recent weeks, racist violence has been reported throughout the Philadelphia area. Just last week in the East Falls section of Philadelphia a pipe bomb was thrown at the home of a daughter of an interracial couple.

The demonstration is expected to take place in February.

Ervia Gutierrez, a Puerto Rican activist, summed up the meeting, "We



The racists who fire-bombed this house in Philadelphia have been egged-on by Reaganism.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

know that what is happening in Philadelphia is part of a national racist campaign. This campaign is orchestrated from the top—from the Reagan administration. When Attorney General Ed Meese congratulated the Philadelphia police on their murderous assault on the MOVE house, that was a

signal, a green light to the racists.

"The essence of the Reagan administration attacks on affirmative action is no different from what has happened in Southwest Philadelphia. That is why this demonstration is important and will have national significance."

On The Picketline

Negotiating vs. the Pentagon.

While union officials called management's money offer tantamount to a wage freeze, Director of Industrial Relations Tom Bouchard said that Pratt & Whitney, the Connecticut manufacturer of jet engines, insisted on it because of pressure from the Pentagon to lower Pratt's wage scale, according to the Hartford Current. While the Pentagon's anti-labor policy is well known, it rarely comes out into the open like that.

After two weeks of a strike by three out of four IAM locals, P&W production in the fourth plant in East Hartford was down, in some departments to 5% of normal, because of the shortage of parts from the struck plants. (While a majority of workers in the East Hartford plant voted to join the strike, the vote fell short of the 2/3 majority the union constitution requires.)

The wage agreement was for approximately \$1,000 bonuses in the first and

second years of the contract and a 3% raise in the third, following a pattern set in the UAW GM contract last year. This was the same offer that was on the table before the strike.

What workers felt they accomplished in the strike was job security—particularly important in an industry where the Pentagon keeps pushing for more automation and the replacement of blue-collar workers by white-jacket technicians. The company must now

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Kurds face massive Iraqi military attack

By Joyce Chediak

DECEMBER 24—Kurdish progressives here have revealed that in October the Iraqi government of Saddam Hussein began a major campaign of genocide against the oppressed Kurdish people in Iraq. Progressive people here are urged to speak out against this repression and to raise the struggle of the Kurdish people for self-determination.

There are 20 million Kurdish people living in the Middle East. However, Kurdistan, their nation, does not exist as an independent state. It is divided between Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.

On Oct. 20, 30,000 Iraqi soldiers surrounded the Kurdish city of Sulaimania for three days and arrested thousands of people in house-to-house searches. When residents organized a protest demonstration a few days later soldiers fired directly into the crowds killing 20 people and wounding 100 more. In an attempt to halt the wave of protests the Iraqi regime has closed 800 schools indefinitely.

This series of events, seen as an escalation in a war already being waged against the Kurds, prompted supporters of the Kurdish Democratic Union to hold a picketline in front of the United Nations urging that international body to stop the repression.

900 youths arrested

Just the month before, 900 youth between the ages of 10 and 14 were arrested and placed in detention

camps because the government suspected them as supporters of the Kurdish Democratic Party. Three have been killed by torture. Also in September the village of Dergala was subjected to indiscriminate artillery fire, and twice the village of Garawan was bombed by the Iraqi air force.

In a statement issued by Kurdish progressives here, "Cities, towns and villages are being occupied by the government's special commando troops . . . People are being forcibly brought out of their houses and shot to death without any reasonable cause . . .

"Thousands of people have been killed and wounded as a result of mass execution campaigns. Tens of thousands of people are detained and put under torture without any legal procedures. Arab families are being settled in the Kurdish towns and villages to replace the evacuated Kurdish population in Kurdistan."

There are 4 million Kurds in Iraq, making up more than 25% of the population of the country. Deeply embroiled in a no-win war with Iran, the Hussein regime, like the Khomeini regime in Iran, has increasingly moved to the right domestically, increasing the repression at home.

Hussein has also entered an agreement with the Turkish military to cross its borders and help in the suppression of the Kurds. The Turkish military is armed by Washington and belongs to NATO.



Recent protest by supporters of Kurdish Democratic Union in front of UN.

Israel threatens to deport West Bank Palestinians

By Michael Bar-Am

DECEMBER 23—Israeli military authorities continue to hold four Palestinian political activists in jail and threaten to deport them from Palestine in full violation of international law. They were arrested in their homes on Oct. 27 by a combined force of Israeli soldiers, border police and secret police.

The four prisoners are: Hassan Abd al-Jawad, a journalist and head of the Dheisheh refugee camp youth center; Ali Abu Hilal, a plasterer, trade unionist and leading member of the Unity Labor Faction in the West Bank region of Palestine; Dr. Azmi Shu'aibi, a dentist and elected official of the town of al-Bireh who was dismissed by the Israeli military government in 1982, and Zaki Statieh, a resident of the Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and a recently released political prisoner.

According to the Nov. 1 issue of Al Fajr, a Palestinian English language newspaper that comes out of Jerusalem, the prisoners have stated their "total opposition to the Israeli occupation and declared their unshakable belief that a unified Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They also refused all liquidationist solutions to the Palestinian problem and confirmed their belief in their people's right to self-determination and an independent state."

In the prisoners' own words, "This

is the stand of all Palestinians in the occupied territories. If this is a crime, then all the Palestinian residents are criminals and the Israeli authorities should deport all of them."

In Tel Aviv "crowds of Arabs and Jews" have demonstrated in front of the Defense Ministry to stop the deportations. Demonstrations at Bir Zeit University and Bethlehem University in the West Bank supporting the four Palestinians were broken up by Israeli troops with road blocks and tear gas. On Dec. 17, the November 29 Committee for Palestine organized a demonstration across the street from the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

The situation of Dr. Shu'aibi, who is being held inside Jnaid Prison in Nablus, requires particular attention. He is suffering from a chronic lung disease and has kidney problems. The Israeli military authorities have not allowed his doctor to visit him.

Meanwhile, inside Jnaid Prison as well as in prisons in Jenin and Ashkelon, thousands of Palestinian political prisoners have been on a hunger strike for over a week. According to the Jerusalem Post International Edition (Dec. 21), "The prisoners demanded an improvement in their living conditions, an immediate end to physical violence and verbal abuse by prison authorities, better food, greater freedom of movement between cells, and permission to receive newspapers and books."

Popular protests sweep through Haiti

By Robert Dobrow

DECEMBER 23—You would never know it from following the U.S. news media, but a tremendous wave of popular protests is sweeping Haiti and challenging like never before the brutal U.S. puppet Duvalier regime.

On Nov. 28, three high school students were shot dead and a fourth was beaten to death by government troops in the northern city of Gonaives. They were carrying placards at a demonstration calling for an end to the presidency of Jean-Claude Duvalier.

Since then, police state repression has mounted. Opposition leaders, Protestant ministers and radio broadcasters have been jailed and even killed.

The Duvalier regime is used to solving its "social problems" with the clubs and bullets and instruments of torture generously supplied by their benefactors to the north. But what happened after Nov. 28 broke the mold of Haitian politics-as-usual. The incident sparked deep seething hatreds among the masses of people. Rather than being cowed into submission, thousands came out into the streets in dozens of cities and towns. For the past several weeks the demonstrations have grown larger and more militant and determined.

"Western diplomats," according to the New York Times (Dec. 22), "said the boldness and tenor of the demonstrations in a country where mass political protests have been virtually unheard of indicated a fundamental shift in the political balance."

"Many political analysts here," reports the Washington Post (Dec. 22), quoting a Latin American politician, "have a feeling that this is the beginning of the end."

The end, of course, is long overdue. The Duvalier family has plagued this Caribbean nation for almost 30

years at the behest of U.S. multinationals which benefit from the slave-like conditions of the Haitian working class and peasantry.

In 1804, the near-legendary revolutionary, Toussaint L'Ouverture, led a successful Black slave rebellion which liberated Haiti from French colonial rule and established the country as the first free Black republic in the world.

But a century later, the country was reenslaved by the U.S. banks and giant manufacturing and agricultural interests. U.S. Marines occupied Haiti—a nation of five million about the size of Maryland—from 1915 to 1934. Later, U.S. military and economic aid established the Duvalier clique in power.

Under Reagan, the State Department periodically certifies "human rights progress" in order to continue to funnel millions in aid to the dictatorship. (Amnesty International periodically reports that the Haitian government engages in severe political repression and torture.)

What has a century of U.S. domination brought to the people of Haiti? Life expectancy is 45. Illiteracy is 80%. The 1986 World Almanac describes Haiti as "the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere." For every 1,000 babies that live, a shocking 130 die. Over three-fourths of the population lives below an "absolute poverty level" of \$150 per year.

You don't need many more facts to understand the rising of the Haitian people.

All this, of course, won't prevent the Reagan administration from discovering "Nicaraguan arms," "Cuban agitators," and even "Soviet advisers," should the protests in Haiti continue to escalate and threaten to liberate the country once and for all from foreign imperialist rule.



Sparking popular protests in Haiti are brutal police repression and unbearable poverty.

Soviets offer new moratorium on N-tests

By Robert Dobrow

DECEMBER 22—For last month's Geneva Summit, the Reagan administration exerted a lot of effort to convince the American public that it was seriously interested in weapons negotiations and nuclear arms control.

How do matters stand one month later?

For almost five months, the Soviet Union has unilaterally stopped testing nuclear weapons. Three days ago, the USSR proposed a way for both sides to continue the moratorium on testing through the new year. The Soviet government offered to permit the U.S. on-site inspection of nuclear test ranges in return for U.S. participation in the nuclear test moratorium. Supposedly the issue of on-site inspections was a sticking point for the Reagan administration in its arms negotiations.

The Soviet test moratorium was initiated by the USSR last August to mark the 40th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. (The U.S. response to the Hiroshima anniversary was to detonate a nuclear device and invite Soviet representatives to observe!)

At the time, the Reagan administration dismissed the Soviet initiative claiming it was a cynical maneuver coming after a "flurry" of Soviet tests.

Writing in the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (October 1985), Congressional aide Jerry S. Duncan reports that data available from the U.S. De-

partment of Energy and the Swedish National Defense Research Institute, which monitors nuclear explosions, "shows there was no acceleration in Soviet nuclear explosions. The Soviet Union conducted three nuclear explosions in July . . . Overall the U.S. continues to lead the Soviets [in testing] by 754 to 561."

Military wants to test for Star Wars

It took less than 24 hours for the Reaganites to reject the latest Soviet proposal. White House spokesman Larry Speakes charged that the Soviet Union "could not be trusted" to adhere to a ban.

This, of course, has nothing to do with the Reagan administration's refusal. Satellite and seismic technology have advanced to the point where both sides are fully aware when the other detonates a nuclear device.

In addition, the USSR has agreed to an offer made by India, Sweden, Argentina, Greece, Mexico and Tanzania last October for installing seismic devices on their soil for monitoring a comprehensive ban of underground tests. The Reagan administration, not surprisingly, rejected the offer.

Why is the military-industrial complex in the U.S. frantically rushing ahead with weapons tests? After all, banning tests doesn't prevent continued production of bombs. Why can't the military establishment agree to this most minimal measure toward

arms control?

The answer, of course, is Star Wars, the Pentagon's trillion-dollar quantum leap into high-tech galactic warfare. The billions of dollars in Star Wars contracts flowing into the coffers of General Dynamics, Boeing, Lockheed, etc., are just too irresistible and overwhelming to allow some minor nuisances like arms control to get in the way.

Yesterday's New York Times reveals that the Reagan administration is

using "underground test installations in Nevada to try out new technologies associated with the development of a space-based missile defense, commonly called 'Star Wars.'"

On Dec. 31, the Soviet nuclear weapons test moratorium will expire if the Reagan administration rejects the new Soviet proposal. As Soviet newspaper Izvestia commented, "Within 10 days, the people will find out the real worth of Reagan's words about stopping the arms race."



WW PHOTO: STEPHANIE HEDGECOKE

Protest war toys. The Veterans Speakers Alliance protested the sale of Rambo dolls and other war toys on Dec. 21 at Jeffrey's Toys on Sutter St. in San Francisco. The VSA, an organization of Viet Nam-era veterans who oppose U.S. intervention in Central America, are protesting against war toys during the holiday shopping season in front of many Bay Area toy stores. The veterans handed out fact sheets to shoppers on the intent of war toys and exposing television cartoon violence. The VSA leaflet states that war toy sales have increased 350% in the last three years.

—S. Hedgecoke

U.S. bombs pour down on El Salvador civilians

By Bill Del Vecchio

DECEMBER 23—The U.S.-advised Salvadoran Air Force is using its U.S.-supplied airplanes to drop U.S.-made bombs on Salvadoran civilians, despite the claim by the U.S.-sponsored President of El Salvador, Jose Napoleon Duarte, that raids against the civilian population are prohibited.

The regular practice of bombing homes and villages in areas liberated by the guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) was confirmed last week by that authoritative voice of U.S. imperialism, the New York Times. Two Times reporters were taken on a tour of FMLN-held areas for seven days, interviewing over 65 peasants and viewing the Air Force's destruction first hand.

Unable to break the strength of the guerrilla forces or weaken the support for the FMLN in the countryside, the U.S. turned to an air war against the liberation fighters to terrorize the people into submitting to the puppet

government's rule.

The Salvadoran Air Force has tripled in size in the last two years and has taken the lead in the war. Homes, crops, livestock, personal possessions have all been targeted by the bombers and ground raids by the Salvadoran Army in a deliberate attempt to depopulate the areas that the government can't control.

In touring the liberated zones the Times reporters saw the ruins of 14 houses bombed or rocketed from the air and 19 houses destroyed during an army sweep of the area in the beginning of November. Fruit trees had been cut down, stocks of grain burned and livestock killed by the government troops.

The guerrillas said that eight civilians had been killed recently by air attacks. Casualties have been kept down by the FMLN, who taught the people to dig air raid shelters near their homes and jump into them at the first sight of a diving plane.

The FMLN fighters also make it a priority to evacuate and protect the civilians during army raids.

The Salvadoran military's wanton murder of an estimated 30,000 civilians awakened widespread opposition in the U.S. to the Reagan administration's intervention there. In a heavy-handed manner the U.S. engineered the election of Duarte and tried to put a democratic face on the Death Squad regime while expanding military aid, particularly for the air war.

But for the villagers in the countryside the bombs continue to rain down and the troops continue to murder and burn.

In order to prepare for a long, people's war, such as the one the Vietnamese people fought against the U.S., the five organizations that make up the FMLN are now discussing the creation of a single party to lead their fight against U.S. imperialism, according to the reporters who visited the FMLN areas.

Devastating typhoons ravage central Viet Nam

By Vo Hanh

ONE OF THE catastrophes we didn't see on television in this year of disasters was the series of major typhoons that slammed into Viet Nam's central coast in September and October.

Designated by numbers instead of names, this season's typhoons #3, #4, and #7 had already killed 93 Vietnamese, left 1.9 million without homes, destroyed 575,000 tons of crops and wrecked schools, medical stations, power lines and roads when typhoon #8 struck on Oct. 15-16.

The worst storm to hit Viet Nam in living memory, typhoon #8 howled down on Binh Tri Thien province, an area which straddles the former DMZ on the 17th parallel, a part of Viet Nam that suffered intensely during the U.S. war and remains one of the poorest regions of the country.

Typhoon #8 killed 670 people outright, but scores of fishermen were also reported missing, lost in seas that hurled a 100-ton freighter up onto shore. Winds clocked at 120 kilometers per hour leveled Ben Hai hospital, a 200-bed facility. Floods damaged or destroyed 64,000 hectares of rice and other food crops.

Sections of Hue, the provincial capital and a former capital of pre-colonial Viet Nam, were inundated. The storms caused additional destruction within the Citadel of Hue to the artifacts and structures left from feudal Viet Nam, interrupting and undoing years of painstaking restoration that began after liberation in 1975. Waves pounding coastal dikes caused some to crumble, letting seawater invade vital cropland. Salt will remain and sterilize the soil even after the floodwaters recede.

While this unprecedented chain of natural calamities has elicited a less than overwhelming response from Western nations intent on punishing Viet Nam for its victories, friends of Viet Nam around the world are organizing relief efforts. The Mennonites in Canada have already shipped 400 tons of wheat to Viet Nam. The Union of Vietnamese in France has launched a nationwide campaign to raise funds, as has the Union of Vietnamese in Canada. Vietnamese in the United States have also contributed.

The efforts underway by the Mennonite Central Committee in the United States and by the American Friends Service Committee are severely restricted by the trade embargo imposed by the U.S. government on Viet Nam in 1975. By law, the U.S. government is supposed to make exception for humanitarian aid to "enemy" nations like Viet Nam, but the practice of the Reagan administration has been to license only shipments of "basic" medicines to Viet Nam. Licenses for some medicines and medical equipment have been denied in the past.

Even so, "basic" medicines are badly needed in Viet Nam in the wake of the 1985 typhoons. The smallest donation can purchase a life-saving dose of antibiotics or vaccine. Checks or money orders earmarked for "Viet Nam typhoon relief" may be sent to: Mennonite Central Committee, 21 South 12 St., Akron, Pa. 17501 or the American Friends Service Committee, National Office, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

All contributions are tax deductible.



Anti-imperialist slogans on wall in El Salvador.

Another form of apartheid, Part 4

U.S. aid for Pretoria and Tel Aviv

By Joyce Chediak

DECEMBER 24—The similarities in the conditions of daily life for Black South Africans and for Palestinians are truly striking. But this is not the only reason why Israeli rule is another form of apartheid.

Of particular concern to people living here is the backing that Washington gives to Tel Aviv and Pretoria. This support is critical to maintaining the separate and unequal systems in each country.

In South Africa, foreign business, which controls 40% of manufacturing and 80% of industrial production, is crucial in maintaining the stability of the apartheid system. The U.S., with a total investment of \$14.6 billion, is the biggest investor, lender and trader with apartheid.

U.S. companies control 45% of the South African oil market, 33% of the auto industry, 25% of all foreign investment in mining and 79% of the computer market. U.S. banks hold 33% of all loans to South Africa.

A constant flow of U.S. aid keeps Israeli apartheid afloat. A full one-third of all U.S. foreign aid goes to Israel, making it the largest recipient of dollars in history next to South Viet Nam. From 1974 to 1982 alone this aid amounted to \$22 billion. While the Reagan administration has claimed that there is no money for social service programs here, an astounding \$7

million has gone to Tel Aviv every day since 1980. Some \$4.5 billion is slated for Israel just in 1986.

Donations to Israel are tax exempt here. Israel is the only country in the world whose bonds may be sold without limit to U.S. federal banks. Israel alone is permitted to float bonds that are not subject to the Interest Equalization Tax.

The Israeli economy is so dependent on Washington that, according to David Ben-Gurion, the first Israeli head of state, the U.S. can easily make Israel do what it wants. "America need send no troops, she need only state that she will break off diplomatic relations, prohibit collections for the Jewish Fund and block Israeli loans."

U.S. military aid

And what about military aid? Despite a United Nations-sponsored arms embargo, the Pentagon finds ways to send arms to South Africa. This is done through clandestine sale of weapons, funneling arms produced under foreign license, or by selling military equipment to the apartheid regime under the guise that it is not for military use.

More than half of U.S. aid to Israel goes directly to the military. The Pentagon has supplied the Israeli army with the most sophisticated offensive weapons such as U.S. fighter planes, tanks and electronic spying

devices. Tel Aviv sometimes combat tests new weapons for the Pentagon. The U.S. has provided Israel with cluster and phosphorous bombs, anti-personnel weapons outlawed by the Geneva Conventions.

According to the Dec. 22 New York Times, Israel gets "military equipment right off the assembly line." The Israeli army is U.S.-equipped right down to the M-16 rifles used by Israeli soldiers from Lebanon to the West Bank. These same rifles were carried by GIs in Viet Nam.

Tel Aviv also serves as a U.S. conduit for arms to countries like South Africa, the Philippines, Chile, Argentina, Guatemala and El Salvador.

This largess from Washington has helped make Pretoria the greatest military power in Africa and has turned Israel, a tiny country of only 3.5 million people, into the dominant military power in the Middle East.

And what do these governments do with these huge armies?

They are cops.

Cops for the Pentagon

In addition to suppressing Black South Africans, Pretoria has used these weapons to regularly attack Zambia, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Angola, targeting the African liberation struggles and the civilian populations as well.

Israel, too, is a policeman. Tel Aviv has staged land, air and sea assaults against Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon (which it bombed for 10 years), Iraq and Tunisia. When Israel utilized its U.S. arsenal to invade Lebanon in 1982 it left behind 50,000 dead, 80% of them civilians.

Who gains from the genocidal assaults by these racist regimes? Washington. Tel Aviv and Pretoria help the Pentagon maintain control in two of the most strategic parts of the world, areas rich in oil and key minerals.

Bassam Shaka'a describes it this way in the Middle East: "It's American policy which supports day-by-day, step-by-step this aggressive and racist policy . . . The U.S.," he said, "wants to keep the Israelis on a racist course in the area and against the Arab people inside and outside Palestine." Why? "Because they want the Israelis to maintain American policy."

This is why African National Congress (ANC) spokesperson Fred Dube said of the Palestinian and Black South African people, "We are in the same trenches. Israel represents the imperialist outpost in the Middle East and South Africa represents the imperialist outpost in Africa."

Because of the dominant U.S. role in sponsoring apartheid, the ANC has called upon concerned people here to stop U.S. economic, political and military support for South Africa.

So too, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which represents the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, has asked serious people here to raise the demand, "Stop U.S. aid to Israel." If these demands were won, they would take a tremendous burden off both liberation movements.

As Bassam Shaka'a put it, "If America stopped the money for six months, for one month, I'd be stronger than (Israeli Prime Minister) Peres."

While some here maintain that a cessation of U.S. funds to Israel would be dangerous for Jewish people, former Israeli Black Panther Nahim Giladi has pointed out that the U.S. dollars find their way in one way or another to strengthening the military, and do not go for housing or education.

Washington and anti-Semitism

A quick look at how U.S. officials see Israel shows that it is the relationship with Washington which, in fact, provides the danger for Jewish people.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has called Israel an "unsinkable aircraft carrier." And Ronald Reagan, upon taking office in 1981, expressed delight over Israel's "combat ready and even combat experienced military" as "a force in the Middle East that actually is a benefit to us. If there was no Israel with that force we'd have to supply our own."

This is not a view of Israel as a secure place for the victims of anti-Semitism. It is a view of the Israeli state as a battering ram for the U.S. against the Arab people. In fact, this view is not really inconsistent with Reagan's trip to Bitberg, West Germany, this year, when he laid a wreath at a cemetery containing the remains of Nazi SS officers.

"U.S. imperialism is guilty of crimes not only against Arab people but against Jewish people as well," said Michael Bar-Am, a former Israeli soldier. "Thousands of Israelis have died fighting in wars where they served as shock troops for U.S. oil companies."

And, at the same time that it holds all the purse strings to the Israeli economy, the U.S. government can and does whip up anti-Semitism against Israel when it suits Washington's purposes.

Next: The U.S.-Israel-South Africa triangle, goals of the ANC and the PLO.

Swarthmore students demand divestment, Black recruitment

By Betsey Riette

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19—Students from the Swarthmore Afro-American Students Society (SASS) and the Swarthmore Anti-Apartheid Coalition (SAAC) ended their 8-day occupation of College President Fraser's office today, vowing to continue their struggle for Black student and faculty recruitment and for total divestment of Swarthmore's South African related investments.

Ann Blackburn of SAAC and Christine Scott and Damien Johnson of SASS jointly delivered a press statement outlining tentative agreements negotiated with the college administration concerning student recruitment and a promise to discuss divestment at the first faculty meeting in January.

The students, however, expressed disappointment with the administration's response regarding demands for a greater role for Black faculty in the administration and a specific goal for student recruitment.

Solidarity statements from Sen. Harding Williams and from the Temple Chapter of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of PAM-APC were read by Damien Johnson.

Student demands included the total and immediate divestment of \$38 million of stocks by companies doing business in South Africa; the recruitment of an additional 90 Black students from inner-city schools and southern states; recruitment of two additional Black faculty and placement of Black faculty on key committees and boards.

In 1969 Black students at Swarthmore took over the administration building with similar demands for recruitment of Black students and staff. At that time there was one Black teacher and fewer than 20 Black students.

Ten years later, student protests led to an agreement to increase Black student enrollment by a minimum of 10% a year and to recruit two addi-

tional full-time faculty. Since 1979, however, Swarthmore has maintained only five Black members of the faculty (out of 135 full-time members) but none have any positions on important committees or departmental chairmanships. Two additional Black professors including South African poet-in-exile Dennis Brutus are here as visiting professors but without tenure.

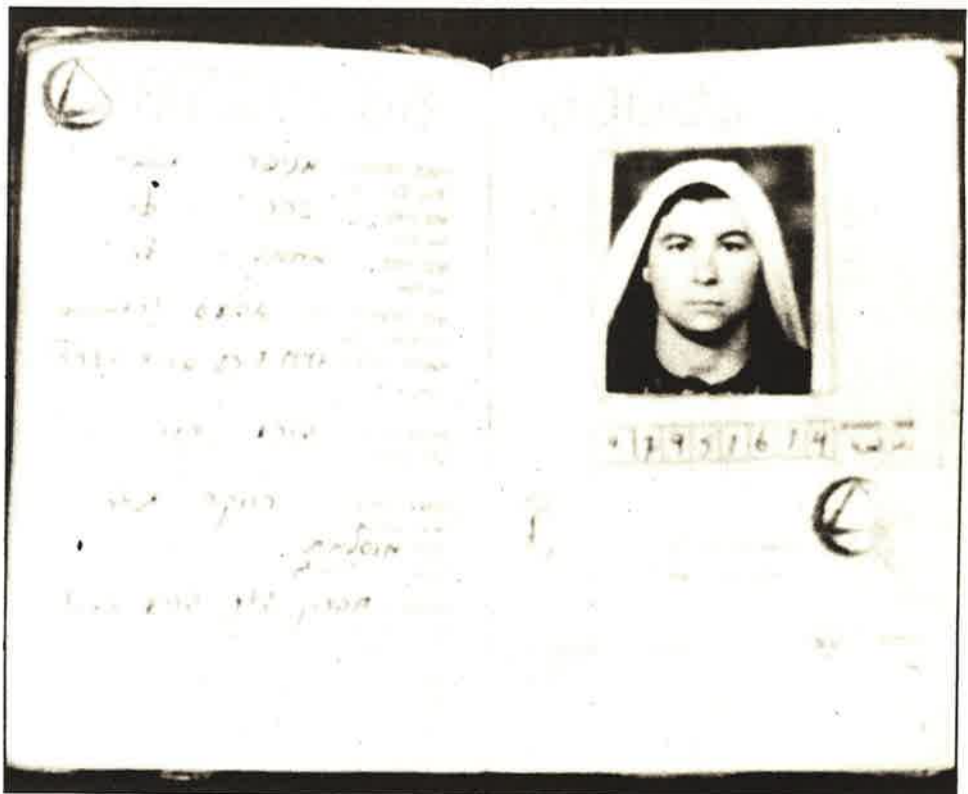
Black students under-represented

Protest organizers noted that Swarthmore Black students comprise only 7% of the student population despite the fact that 15% of all high school graduates are Black.

Students also demanded a specific timetable for complete divestment with a "truly representative body of the college community to advise the Board on all divestment policies." They also called for scholarships for non-white South African students to be selected in consultation with the African National Congress (ANC).

Black and white Swarthmore students first raised these demands in a disruption of the Dec. 7 meeting of the College Board of Managers. They refused to allow the Board to conduct more business until the issue of divestment was resolved. Kenny Scott of the SASS read a prepared statement of the students and emphasized that "as Black Americans, we realize that the freedoms of Black people around the world are our concerns, and we must work together to ensure those freedoms. Black people are not free when they are being murdered, at the rate of at least 10 a day, by the South African police. Any monies we invest there perpetuate those murders . . . We demand that you divest now—not in six months, not in a few years, but that the decision to divest be made now, in this room at this meeting."

The Board refused further discussion and adjourned the meeting in the face of the unrelenting student protest. Swarthmore students plan further activities on Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 20, to continue their protest.



Every Palestinian over 16 living in the West Bank and Gaza must carry an identity card much like the passbook for Black people in South Africa.

—South Africa

Continued from page 1

The police informed her that she was not allowed to live in the Johannesburg/Roodepoort area, her home for many years.

This was a familiar scene to Winnie, who had been forced to leave Soweto in 1977 and was subsequently exiled to Brandfort. She moved to Soweto after her house in Brandfort was fire-bombed by agents of the regime, who tried to kill her in August.

Mandela was as resistant as she has always been. She refused to leave; instead she told them, "I have no intentions of committing suicide under instructions of the South African government."

She was also quoted as saying that the police had the audacity to come to her house and instruct her to go to her death without even so much as a fake trial. After her refusal to go with these notorious thugs of the police, she was dragged out of her house, taken to the airport and told to get out of the area. According to her attorney, she spent the night in Pretoria and returned to Soweto on Sunday.

She had only been home for a few hours, however, when she was charged under the internal security act and after an intense struggle was dragged from her home again by the security police and rearrested.

Monday she appeared before the magistrates court in Johannesburg, where a trial was postponed to a later date and she was released on her own recognizance.

Despite this series of nervewracking battles with the racist authorities, Winnie Mandela found the strength to visit her husband in prison on Christmas Day, where she discovered that he has been held in solitary confinement since undergoing surgery in November. She called December 25th a "day of mourning" for the oppressed people of South Africa, and reports in



Free Nelson Mandela!



Winnie Mandela

the press here indicated a general boycott of any festivities in the Black communities.

This latest campaign against Winnie Mandela comes after she broke her banning order and spoke to a mass demonstration in Mamelodi in November in which she defiantly called on the people to resist and continue with the struggle to overthrow the regime.

Raid on Lesotho

Meanwhile, the apartheid government was carrying out a campaign of harassment and terror on another front.

South Africa invaded the sovereign nation of Lesotho and attacked two houses where South African exiles were living, massacring nine people. This was a virtual repeat of a similar attack in December of 1982, when agents of Pretoria murdered innocent refugees from South Africa as well as citizens of Lesotho.

This cowardly act of murder followed threats from the fascist State

Security Council that it would attack the front-line states.

The attack on Lesotho took place at the same time that 4,000 South African troops had illegally invaded southern Angola. According to Lieut. Col. Ngongo, deputy chief of staff of the Angolan people's armed forces, the South African troops had started this occupation on Dec. 2 and by Dec. 18 they had reached their present number.

This totally outrageous act of crossing into another country and occupying its sovereign territory is an act of provocation, and the Angolan armed forces have every right to repel this attack in accordance with their right to determine for themselves their own destiny. The Reagan administration, however, continues to insist that Angola should send home the Cuban troops that have been helping it repel South African attacks, which is really a demand that Angola surrender to South African dictates.

It should also be remembered that just a few months ago the popular armed forces of Angola, with Cuban assistance, drove the bandits of UNITA out of Jamba, which the counter-revolutionaries had been using as a base from which to launch their campaign of destabilization against the Angolan economy and the people's government.

These latest acts of aggression against the frontline states follow close on the heels of the repeal of the Clark Amendment in the U.S., leaving

the Reagan administration free to give overt support to the UNITA bandits. This must be seen for what it really is—military support for the murderous illegal fascist regime in Pretoria and its reign of terror against the people of the whole of southern Africa.

The attacks on Lesotho and Angola and the arrest of Winnie Mandela clearly show the desperation of a scared and frantic regime that has seen the handwriting on the wall. The regime cannot survive the tumultuous wave of resistance that has made every part of southern Africa a battlefield in the war against apartheid.

The oppressed have absolutely no intention of being intimidated by the regime's program of imprisonment, harassment, hangings, assassinations in the neighboring frontline states and cold-blooded mass murder on the streets of South Africa.

Winnie Mandela embodies that spirit of no surrender. Some time ago when she was interviewed for a documentary on the struggle in South Africa, this heroic woman was quoted as saying, "Inasmuch as the regime is prepared to fight to the last to defend apartheid... so we too are prepared to fight to the last drop of our blood."

These are fighting words from a fighting revolutionary in the struggle for a united, non-racial South Africa where the people shall govern, and where the oppressed and super-exploited will say what to do when the historical armed seizure of power takes place.

UDF, Native Americans speak at Baltimore meeting

By Andre Powell

BALTIMORE, Dec. 15—In a show of unity against oppression, speakers representing the South African and U.S. Native Peoples' struggles spoke before a packed audience at a Baltimore meeting of the All-Peoples Congress last evening.

Saki Makazoma, representing the United Democratic Front (UDF) of South Africa, stressed, "We are at a phase where we are resisting. We have had centuries of peaceful struggle." In a recent visit to his home in South Africa, Saki was able personally to observe the revolutionary struggle in progress.

The UDF is a national movement formed in 1983 to build resistance to apartheid. The group has called for all people to oppose any acceptance of the new South African Constitution which does nothing toward ending apartheid.

Makazoma explained that the government has stepped up its harassment of activists in an effort to quell the rising fervor of the people. He spoke of the victimization of activists by the state, especially by the security forces. He stated he is impressed by the ability of the resistance leadership to direct the struggle while under cover.

The struggle has gained great momentum in the past several years. Makazoma noted that a few years back, talk about the struggle mainly involved young people. In just two years, friends and relatives have joined the fight.

Since the apartheid government banned all news reporting, they have stepped up their campaign of terror against the people. "Since the press has been banned," said Saki, "there have been more deaths."

However, the people will not cave in to the terrorism of apartheid. In fact, Makazoma reported that they are more determined in their struggle than ever. He stressed, "The people are ready to fight by any means necessary—politically, socially, economically."

The leader of the Piscataway nation in Maryland, Chief Billy Tayac, addressed the meeting on the oppression of the Native people by the U.S. government. Just like the Black people of South Africa, Chief Tayac stressed that his people were also displaced by European colonists. His people too have endured centuries of oppression and genocide.

Chief Tayac spoke of the lands Native people have been forced out of by the U.S. government and how this process continues today as witnessed by the planned eviction of 15,000 Navahos and Hopis from their land in Big Mountain, Ariz. (See article, p. 10.)

A Mohawk leader, Dacajewea, one of the heroes of the 1971 Attica Prison rebellion, called for those at the meeting to put political pressure on the U.S. Senate to repeal the Navaho Relocation Bill, a genocidal tactic to take over the land at Big Mountain. The companies who would profit from this bill are some of the same companies with investments in South Africa.

Forum honors 24 years of So. Africa armed struggle

By G. Dunkel

NEW YORK, Dec. 21—Workers World Party held a meeting tonight to commemorate and honor 24 years of armed struggle in South Africa conducted by Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the armed wing of the African National Congress (ANC).

Umkhonto began its first sabotage campaign on Dec. 16, 1962.

Zenzile, an exiled South African, gave a stirring speech on the military and political history of Umkhonto from its difficult beginnings to its current state as a hard-hitting "people's army." In 1985, between the "anvil of mass struggle" and the "hammer of armed struggle" large parts of South Africa have been rendered ungovernable by the apartheid state.

The informational, effective and extremely moving film, "The Hammer and the Anvil," was also shown. This film, which contains some of the most recent footage available, lets one see how the South African masses carry out their struggle, how their leaders analyze the current situation, how the



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

Zenzile

Black people of South Africa confront and overcome the vicious oppression of the police and army. The film can be rented from Third World Newsreel, 335 W. 38 St., New York, N.Y.

Johnnie Stevens spoke on the racist upsurge in Philadelphia and the plans underway to combat it. Veronica Golos chaired the meeting.

EDITORIAL

Detecting a liar

RONALD REAGAN'S Orwellian plan to force thousands of government officials, including high-ranking members of his own administration, to submit to lie detector tests has evoked scorn and derision from just about every quarter imaginable.

Perhaps the most telling remarks on this subject came from Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega. Speaking on Managua television last week, President Ortega asked what would have been the response by Reagan and the U.S. news media if the Nicaraguan gov-

ernment had been the one to order massive polygraph testing as a way to determine people's loyalty.

"They would have called us a totalitarian police state," he said, adding that "the charge would have been repeated by a leader of the church, by the CIA newspaper and by politicians anxious to sell out the country."

The Nicaraguan President did see one possibility for the polygraph, however. He said he would greatly enjoy going one on one with the machine against Reagan "to see who is the liar."

Small farmers: endangered species

SPEAKING IN one of those bursts of candor which eventually cost him his job as President Ford's Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz once told a bunch of reporters, "Frankly, small farmers aren't my cup of tea."

In the aftermath of the new farm bill which Reagan just signed, it looks like Mr. Butz's problem is about to be resolved. The way things are going, there won't be any more small farmers.

Congress, writes the New York Times (Dec. 19), has decided to "reorganize the nation's farm credit system and bolster it by allowing tens of thousands of farm foreclosures." This "would favor the largest producers," the Times added.

Now just say the words "big producers" and the Reaganites become ecstatic. Whether it's big producers of oil, weapons, textiles or autos doesn't matter. As long as they're rich and big.

It also doesn't matter that the real producers work, while the Reaganites and their allies in the Democratic Party are actually talking about the big owners who hire other people to do everything for them. In their world, the important thing is favoring the wealthy, no matter what the human cost.

"The farm bill," exulted Under Secretary of Agriculture Daniel G. Amstutz, "puts farmers more in line with market realities than they've ever been before."

Ah, the magic of the market! Look how well the capitalist mar-

ket has worked its miracle so far. Because of a glut caused by over-production of farm produce, U.S. agricultural exports have fallen from \$44 billion to \$29 billion during the past four years. Gigantic trading monopolies like Cargill, Continental and Central Soya can survive this. The small farmers can't.

In the same four-year period, 300,000 farms were liquidated, and the crisis is now driving an average of 1,600 families off the land every week. Agricultural indebtedness to the banks has soared to half-a-trillion dollars, with two million farmers owing more than Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela combined!

Ruined by the glut, by the banks, by the railroads, by the feed and seed companies, by the grain shippers, by the farm equipment firms and now by Congress, many of the dispossessed are forced to join the ranks of the 15 million unemployed searching for jobs in the sagging industrial sector or in low-wage service work.

If your name happens to be James R. Cargill, and you own a food processing giant, the market is indeed a never-ending source of joy and wonder, which has given you a personal fortune of \$500 million.

If you are one of the countless anonymous thousands who have just lost it all to the local sheriff and the bank, the so-called free enterprise system isn't quite so appealing as it once seemed to be.



Dine nation resists U.S. threat at Big Mountain

By John Catalinotto

DECEMBER 23—A major confrontation is expected on July 6, 1986, when the U.S. government is planning to forcibly remove 13,000 Hopi and Dine or Navaho people from the Big Mountain, Ariz., reservation area to open the natural resources for plunder by Peabody Coal and other private energy corporations.

People from the Dine and Hopi nations, who have resisted relocation for the past 11 years, have pledged to "fight with our fists" rather than submit to government pressure. A call has gone out nationally for support to stop the relocation and to reverse the law which orders it.

Big Mountain is located in the Dine and Hopi reservation area in the part of Arizona where it meets Utah, Colorado and New Mexico, called the Four Corners. The reservation was originally imposed by the expansionist U.S. government in 1892, when the land was considered to be relatively barren and worthless.

As in many other reservation areas of North America, the land was later found to contain oil, coal and uranium, and the combined efforts of the energy monopolies and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) were turned to finding "legal" means for stealing from the Native nations the land that the government had promised to them in perpetuity.

The Dine and Hopi people also had to face from the Utah side the assault of the reactionary Mormon Church, which not only joined in the land thievery but kidnapped Hopi and Dine children and brought them up as Mormons.

Standard Oil leads the pack of thieves

Back in 1921 Standard Oil discovered oil on Dine land. The lease deal this giant monopoly proposed was unanimously turned down by 75 traditional Dine elders. Thereupon the BIA imposed "tribal councils" upon the Dine people, councils which never received more than 20% support from the population, but which nevertheless signed away leasing rights to the land.

The Native people and the corporations have a different philosophy toward the land. Neither the Hopi nor the Dine nation recognizes private property in land, and both believe in coexisting in harmony with nature without disturbing or disrupting it.

The private energy corporations on the contrary believe in digging and drilling as deeply, quickly and cheaply as possible, in order to make the maximum profit in the minimum time, with no thought to the human, social or ecological consequences.

If these corporate pirates are unable to find justification for this plunder either in natural law or in the treaties signed with Native nations, they turn to the U.S. Congress. And to open up the Big Mountain area of the Hopi and Dine reservation to coal and uranium exploitation which the Native peoples resisted, Congress in 1974 passed Public Law 93-531, also known as the Navaho-Hopi Land Settlement Act.

Pushing the act through the Senate was Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater, whose militarist stance in foreign affairs and anti-labor and racist record domestically are consistent with this attack on Native people. The law used a fabricated conflict between the Dine and Hopi peoples to justify splitting up an area formerly used jointly. It also mandated 90% reduction of the livestock herds, which is the mainstay of the people's livelihood, and a halt on all building and improvements to property.

Public Law 93-531 called genocide

Public Law 93-531 was determined to be an act of genocide by the Fourth Russell Tribunal, held in Amsterdam in 1980 on the Rights of Indians in the Americas. The law has already caused misery to the Native population. Any who sold their livestock wound up without means of support, dependent on the government. Of the families who relocated to nearby Flagstaff, Ariz., 50% have lost their homes to unscrupulous real estate and loan companies. And extensive use of water for the coal mine has caused Hopi and Dine wells to go dry.

But with the growing misery is also a growing determination of the Native peoples to resist the law that demands they leave their ancestral lands next July. And this determination is beginning to attract support from progressive and working class organizations who rightly see the struggle to resist relocation and reverse the law as deserving the broadest solidarity.

Monetary support, food and clothing can be sent to the Big Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee, at 124 North San Francisco St., Suite B, Flagstaff, Ariz. 86001.

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The GE-RCA merger

By Sam Marcy

[This article is taken from a document on the crisis facing the working class, now in preparation.]

DECEMBER 22—The merger or acquisition of RCA Corporation by General Electric Company has exceptional significance over and above what we deal with in the earlier sections of our study.

The largest non-oil merger ever, it is said to have cost in excess of \$6 billion. In such a huge industrial combination, it is impossible for the workers in general and the relevant unions in particular to appreciate its vast and far-reaching effects if they look at it from a purely local or even national viewpoint. Such an approach merely carves out a significant fraction of the world economy without taking into account all the very essential global ingredients—the vast and intricate complex of inter-relations—which are directly involved in the latest developments in the process of capitalist production, and of which this merger, formidable as it may be, is only one facet.

It is also important to consider this merger historically, from the point of view of social and economic development, in order to get at the root of the problem.

Lenin studied GE in "Imperialism"

Take General Electric itself. It is a very old company, notwithstanding its modern, up-to-date technological innovations. As long ago as 1907, when the company had only 28,000 employees on its payroll as against 300,000 workers today, it was a worldwide multinational corporation. It was involved in the struggle for world markets and entered into special agreements with giant foreign capitalist monopolies to share out these markets.

In that year GE entered into such an agreement with A.E.G. (Germany), which had 30,000 workers as against around 150,000 for its successor today. The importance of this agreement in relation to the development of monopoly capitalism and its imperialist ramifications leading to predatory wars did not escape the attention of Lenin (see his "Imperialism").

If over 70 years ago GE's international relations were that important, how much more impact do they have today, when its plants and equipment have grown so enormously and its profits have established it as a super monopoly? The connection of the GE workers to such international developments, remote as it may seem from Lynn, Massachusetts, Schenectady, New York, or Louisville, Kentucky, is more intimate, more direct and indeed more important today than at any time in the entire historical epoch since 1907.

The worst of all approaches is to examine the union's relationship with the company from what amounts in reality to a fractional view of the world economy, of which it is such an integral part.

It should be noted, too, that while monopoly capitalism is said to be in its epoch of decay, in that it has become parasitic in its social role, this refers merely to the ruling groups that own and control the means of production, to the banks, the top stockholder cliques and the variety of investment bankers and brokers who continually manipulate the ownership of the vast properties without contributing to the wealth of the workers or society as a whole.

It does not refer to the vast concentration and growth of the technological apparatus, the plants and equipment and to the greater degree of skill, efficiency and general educational lev-

el of the workers since the early days of GE.

This giant corporation, from the point of view of its physical plants, grew and developed in the early epoch of imperialist expansion. RCA, on the other hand, developed completely as a result of, and got its impetus from, the First World War. It was significantly aided when Woodrow Wilson sanctioned by law the combination from which RCA emanated. This illustrates how the capitalist state aids in the growth of a giant corporation in its initial stages. RCA has grown from several thousand workers in the early twenties to more than 100,000 at the present time.

Merger a declaration of war

The merger, as their joint press release states, is designed to help them compete "with anyone, anywhere in every market we serve." (Wall Street Journal, Dec. 12, 1985.) This is a virtual declaration of war, not only against Japan, France, and West Germany but also parts of the oppressed world, where so-called outsourcing and subsidiaries and sales outlets have been established by the rival multinationals.

The brunt of this war will, as we indicated earlier, be borne by the workers here as well as abroad because the multinationals will attempt to equalize the competitive advantages derived by the GE-RCA merger. Where it will lead, no one can foretell, but as the Pentagon is far from a disinterested party, the whole struggle can of course be channeled into military adventures. That is the undeniable lesson of this century, with its two world wars and countless military interventions.

Both RCA and GE have built parallel plants and facilities in this country. These are non-union plants that duplicate some of the existing technology and whose purpose, at least in part, is to offset the unionized plants and to blunt effective strike strategy whenever that becomes necessary.

The two companies also have had coproduction agreements with foreign governments. GE in particular had a coproduction agreement with France during the early seventies to build jet engines for U.S. military aircraft. Unions here have often complained about these coproduction plans of the multinational corporations, especially for military equipment. But the geopolitical motivation of the Pentagon overrides any and all other considerations. In addition to keeping NATO securely tied to the U.S., the aim is to get a grip on other, less developed countries in order to maintain them as dependencies.

U.S. workers deeply affected by international developments

A worker in a GE plant, whether building refrigerators, toasters or the highest military equipment for the Pentagon (GE is one of the principal prime defense contractors), needs to have a knowledge and awareness of the entire network which these corporate giants constantly spin and which is motivated solely by the interests of super profits.

The huge merger of GE and RCA will have far-reaching effects on a global scale. Such vast multinational corporations are in reality classwide organizations of the bourgeoisie; to respond to the devastating processes they set in motion, the workers and their unions must also develop a classwide perspective that is international in scope.

The contracts between the several unions and these two giant corporations, even under the best of conditions, only limit the exploitation of the workers. By virtue of the vast facilities, often in other countries and not unionized, which these corporate monsters control, they have gained broad social, political and diplomatic leverage against single unions. These concentrations of capital are classwide organizations to which the workers in the unions have to develop a classwide perspective, nationally as well as internationally, in order to be able to get a firm handle on the companies.

Thus, the unions have to not only go beyond the strictly legalistic character of union contracts, they have to go outside of the capitalist-labor property relations in order to be able to combat the corporations effectively. This is more important than it was 60 or 70 years ago, when both these giants were rapidly expanding the workforce. Now they are contracting it, a fact which is statistically undeniable.

Even during the seventies, GE reduced its U.S. employment by 25,000 and RCA cut its U.S. employment by 14,000 ("The Deindustrialization of America" by Bluestone and Harrison). It is no answer that they increased employment abroad. That merely illustrates the continual flight of capital from one area to another, depending on both economic and political conditions, for capital will go wherever the rate of profit is highest at a particular moment.

Higher technology, lower pay

It is also not true to say that the flight of capital is from the Frost Belt of the U.S. to the Sun Belt, because statistics now show a flight of capital from the South back to the Northeast and the Midwest. However, this is accompanied by higher technology and lower-paying jobs (New York Times, Dec. 22). The fact that there has been a certain capitalist upturn in the economy only emphasizes that when the downward cycle begins again, the process of dismantling these very same so-called new plants will become just as barbarous as it has been with the older ones.

One of the many important lessons that can be learned from the GE-RCA merger is the need for the workers to establish vigilance committees, that can ferret out information in advance of mergers, acquisitions, layoffs and so on, in order to prepare the workers for sudden turnabouts by these predatory giants. Even greater is the necessity, even if only in embryonic form, for the absolutely indispensable education of the workers: the development of union consciousness into class consciousness, and with it an appreciation of international cooperation between all the workers.

Mergers of great significance for socialist potential

Furthermore, a truly classwide perspective in relation to such important mergers or acquisitions shows that, notwithstanding all the suffering they impose on the workers everywhere, the

basic content of these developments is that they lay the solid and indestructible foundation for socialism. The objective economic content of the scientific technological revolution is that it socializes the labor process with virtually lightning speed, showing the ripeness and maturity for a socialist takeover of the means of production by the workers so they can be used for the benefit of humanity and not for private profit.

This GE-RCA merger in particular has an economic and technological significance which could potentially have great social value in the struggle for socialism. GE and RCA may overlap, but they could be integrated so as to have great sociological importance. Their merger lays the material foundation for genuine socialist construction.

In the old days, when a steel company bought an iron ore mine, constructed a railroad to transport its raw materials, or acquired coal mines, it became an integrated entity, and from the perspective of socialist construction was progressive. It organized production in such a way that workers' control would potentially be able to function more efficiently.

It's an altogether different matter when a steel or other company buys a gambling casino, a racetrack, a tourist resort or other entities that are wholly unrelated to the development of its original specific purpose. This kind of buying and selling is for the sole purpose of garnering huge profits, particularly in a wildly speculative period which is characterized precisely by such deals.

Many mergers are motivated solely for the purpose of manipulating the cash acquired from one of the corporations. In these cases, there is sometimes not the remotest connection between the productive processes of the companies involved. For that reason, there soon develop divestiture procedures or spinoffs, which happen when one of the corporations is either milked of its cash or puts up some of its most valuable assets to be sold for cash. In the past, both RCA and GE have spun off part of their acquisitions acquired in other mergers.

Workers' control: an initial step

Later in our document we will discuss workers' control, an early step in the direction of a socialist takeover but not a socialist measure. It is still within the framework of the capital-labor relationship. But when the workers independently take such measures, where they are practical, it tends to break them out of the capital-labor relationship, raises the struggle to a political level, and must of necessity bring out all of the truly important social, political and diplomatic threads which really and truly, though not visible on the surface, go into the making of a union contract, of a management-labor relationship.

All this brings into sharp focus the urgent need for the workers to be able to pass from rudimentary trade unionism, based on trade, plant or industry, to a classwide understanding of their key role in production.

NYC AIDS forum raises political issues

By Saul Kanowitz

NEW YORK, Dec. 17—Tonight, an enthusiastic audience heard an informative panel presentation by the People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM) on the political aspects of the AIDS epidemic.

The panel included: Diane Feinberg, a journalist and lesbian activist; Jelayne Miles, a parent and community activist; Arthur Felsen, a person with AIDS; Sybil Eresman, a student from the PAM Youth League; Johnnie Stevens, a national leader of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of PAM; Molly Charboneau, a trade unionist and editor of the United Labor Action newspaper; Bernadette Cozart, a lesbian activist and organizer of a 1982 march against hunger; and Preston Wood, national leader of the People's Anti-War Mobilization, founder of the Lesbian and Gay Focus of PAM, and contributing editor to the PAM newspaper, Fighting Back.

The meeting was chaired by Keith Pavlik of the Lesbian and Gay Focus of PAM. Pavlik opened the meeting by saying, "It is our desire that this forum be a contribution to further the discussion on AIDS and ARC . . . to develop an ongoing struggle to fight back."

The first speaker, Diane Feinberg, explained that the truth about AIDS is what is needed to defuse the climate of fear and confusion. She stated, "The facts, the medical truths about AIDS need to be taken up as a weapon to combat reaction. We need the facts at our fingertips in order to refute the campaign of lies and disinformation."

Jelayne Miles spoke on the ineffective school boycott against a child with AIDS attending school in Queens. Miles said, "It was reminiscent for me of when Wallace during the civil rights period tried to block Black children from getting into the public school system." She counterposed the Queens boycott to solidarity extended to a school-age child with AIDS in Massachusetts.

Artie Felsen described what it is like to live with the syndrome. Felsen explained, "I am not a victim. Victims

are men and women who are hopeless. I said I refuse to accept this. . . ." In closing he stated, "All I am trying to do, is do what a group of us have started as a keyword, 'I'm just fighting for my life.'"

Sybil Eresman, stated, "I feel a really strong commitment to try and counter the abusive and negative opinions in school." She said, "It's very important in the schools for every student to counter the negative flow of opinion."

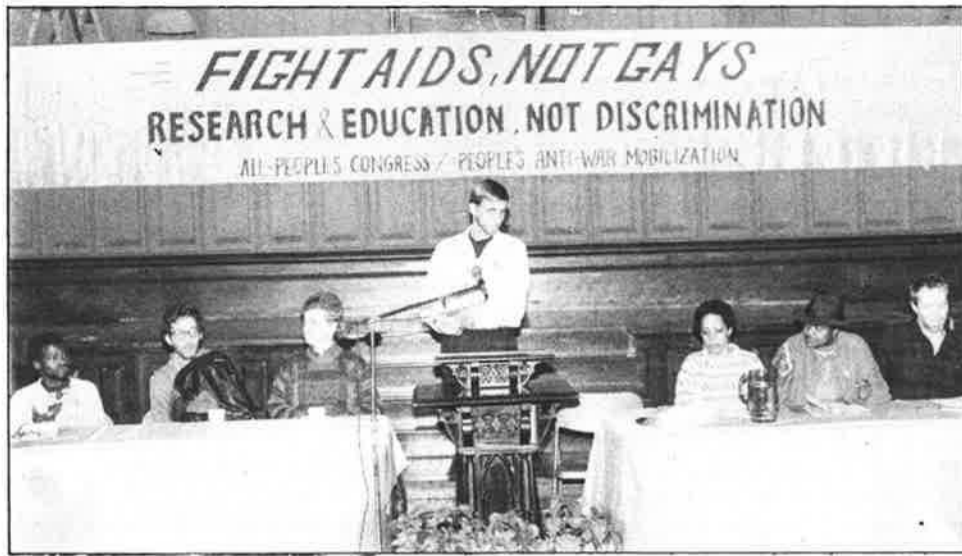
Johnnie Stevens pointed out the common enemy of the anti-apartheid movement and the AIDS movement. Stevens said, "The Reagan administration should take full responsibility for providing funds for mass education and medical care and resources for people with AIDS. The scapegoating of gay men, the people of Africa and of Haiti is racism."

Molly Charboneau declared the union movement as a natural ally of the AIDS movement and the lesbian and gay community. "These same anti-labor forces helped along by the media are responsible for trying to whip up an hysteria around AIDS, to pit worker against worker. . . ."

Bernadette Cozart exposed the divide-and-conquer tactics of the bigots. Cozart stated, "It's no accident, I think, that it's mentioned in the mass media that AIDS is always connected with the lesbian and gay community, with people of African origin and drug abusers."

Featured speaker Preston Wood denounced and exposed government inaction and the right-wing mobilization of bigotry aimed at the rights of gays and lesbians. He stated, "You would have to look pretty deeply into your encyclopedias to find any government in history which has responded to a medical emergency in a way which is worse, more brutal and more callous than the way Reagan and his cronies have responded to this crisis."

"What are we to do?" Wood asked. "It is only resistance and pressure from people everywhere which has prevented them from doing away with



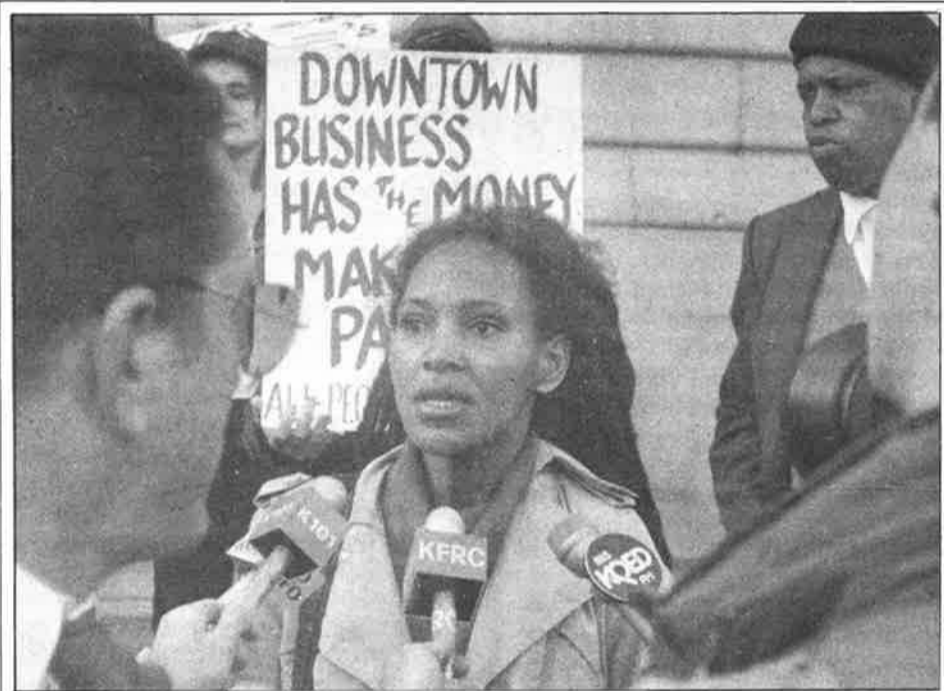
AIDS forum in New York City.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

all the social programs and funding which are so badly needed. Just like it has happened in the past, we need our own movement, a movement independent of the Democratic and Republican parties, which can force the gov-

ernment to allocate the funds and research and care to put an end to suffering caused by AIDS."

The meeting closed with a call for all to educate others on AIDS as a first step in overcoming this crisis.



WW PHOTO: STEPHANIE HEDGECOKE

THE COALITION to Stop the Fare Increase held a press conference Monday, Dec. 16 at San Francisco City Hall to protest the Board of Supervisors' undemocratic conduct in the fare hike hearings process. The supervisors voted Dec. 16 to increase the public transportation fare from 60 cents to 75 cents, increase senior, youth and disabled fares, and to cut back on the use of transfers. Spokespersons for the coalition, which included the All-Peoples Congress and the Grey Panthers, condemned the move to further burden those least able to pay while \$41.5 million owed the city by the downtown developers remains uncollected.

—S. Hedgecoke

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—Philippines

Continued from page 12
hold the Philippines”.

Taking advantage of the war between Spain and the U.S., the Filipino revolutionaries escalated their armed struggle, defeating the Spanish colonial forces throughout the archipelago. By June of 1898, Spanish colonial power had collapsed; the whole country was under the control of the Filipino revolutionaries with the exception of the Walled City (Manila), the colonial center of power.

Meanwhile, the U.S. naval forces remained in Manila Bay waiting for reinforcements of 3,500 troops. (For what purpose since the Spanish had already been defeated?) General Wesley Merritt had been appointed as “commander of the army of occupation” by President McKinley. The Filipino revolutionaries encircled the Walled City, waiting for the Spanish to surrender, knowing that food and water would soon run out.

On June 12, 1898, Aguinaldo proclaimed the independence of the Philippines at the Kawit, Cavite Conference in the presence of thousands of Filipinos and some others, establishing the first democratic republic in Asia. The new government issued decrees establishing a revolutionary Congress and Departments of War, Public Works, Police & Internal Order, Justice, Education, and Hygiene, Finance, and Agriculture and Manufacturing. The first act of the Congress which met in September of 1898 was to ratify the independence proclamation of June 12.

Meanwhile, the U.S. began to show more openly its real motives in forming the so-called “alliance” with the Filipinos in Hong Kong. They first asked the Filipinos to move from their strategic positions surrounding the city. The reason given was so that the

U.S. could use its superior artillery against the Walled City. Immediately upon the evacuation of the Filipino troops, the positions were occupied by U.S. troops.

During this period, American and Spanish negotiators were meeting through the mediation of the French ambassador in Washington, D.C. to end the Spanish-American war. The U.S. proposed that they occupy the City of Manila pending the conclusion of a permanent peace treaty. The representatives of the Philippine revolutionary government made many attempts to meet with the U.S. President, and to participate in these negotiations, but were refused since to do so would imply recognition of Philippine independence and sovereignty.

Meanwhile, in the Philippines, Admiral Dewey and the Spanish Governor-General conducted secret negotiations to stage a mock battle to justify the handing over of Manila to U.S. troops instead of to the revolutionary Filipino troops. On Aug. 13, 1898, the mock “Battle of Manila Bay” was accordingly staged: a few token shots were fired, and the Spanish surrendered to the United States. U.S. troops entered the city of Manila unopposed. Filipino troops were not allowed to enter the city “on request of the Spanish colonial government.”

On Dec. 10, 1898, the Treaty of Paris was signed by the United States and Spain. The Philippines was ceded to the U.S. for \$20 million and the “property and business rights” of Spanish citizens living in the islands were guaranteed. Representatives of the Filipino government were barred from entering the building where the treaty was being signed!

Thus, the Filipino people were denied the fruits of their struggle, the freedom and independence which they had fought for and won. The anti-colonial struggle now entered a new phase—against the U.S. occupation forces in the Philippines.

(To be continued.)

Oklahoma prison takeover fueled by lack of jobs

DECEMBER 18—Prisoners at the Oklahoma State Prison today ended their insurrection, releasing guards from their custody, after meeting with prison officials in front of reporters. Some 150 prisoners took part in the disciplined 18-hour uprising.

In a videotape of that hard-won meeting, prisoner James Clayton, one of four inmate representatives at the negotiating session, said that the main grievance is the lack of jobs. Clayton said only 151 of the 612 men imprisoned had jobs, which generate “good time” credit, early release and pocket money.

“The crux is the administration does not provide the jobs,” he stressed.

Clayton added that while the rebellion was not planned, its inevitability was clear to all the prisoners. “People were walking around saying ‘When’s it going to go? When’s it going to go?’”

Warden Gary Maynard was forced to say on the videotape that he would give serious consideration to the prisoners’ grievances, and would strive to correct them.

Warden Maynard also promised no retribution would come down on prisoners for rising up to protest. Yet quicker than you could say “soft-cop, hard-cop,” Dan Lawrence, who headed the 10-member prison officials’ negotiating team, said that prisoners might be prosecuted.

Shultz and Artukovic: a story of genocide

By Andy Stapp

DECEMBER 18—“You haven’t exactly hurried to extradite Artukovic.”

The Yugoslav official who spoke these words to a U.S. reporter in Belgrade yesterday was having some trouble controlling his anger. He had just watched visiting Secretary of State George Shultz publicly dress down and rebuke his country’s Foreign Minister over the diplomatic dispute that flared up this past October after both Italy and Yugoslavia ignored a U.S. demand for the arrest of a Palestinian guerrilla leader Ronald Reagan wanted to bring to the U.S. for trial in the Achille Lauro affair.

When Foreign Minister Dizdarevic tried to explain that his government “clearly distinguishes between the struggle against colonialism, against aggression and racism on the one hand, and terrorism on the other,” Shultz responded in a table-pounding rage.

Face turning beet-red and voice rising, the U.S. Secretary of State belted, “There is no connection with any cause. Terrorists should have no place to hide. It’s wrong!”

The Himmler of occupied Yugoslavia

That’s when Artukovic’s name came up. During World War II, Andrija Artukovic headed the Police Ministry of the puppet state of Croatia set up by Hitler. For four years, Artukovic was the Himmler, the Gestapo chief of occupied Yugoslavia, the ruler of a dozen concentration camps, including the notorious Jasenovac where Slavs, Jews, Gypsies and communists were murdered singly and by the thousands, instantly and slowly, by iron pole, by machine gun, by boots, by sledgehammer, by being set afire, by being cut to pieces. Fewer than 100 of Jasenovac’s 830,000 inmates survived.

After the defeat of the Axis Powers, Artukovic escaped the fate of Hitler and Mussolini by fleeing to the United States. The highest-ranking Nazi ever to set foot on U.S. soil, he now lives in Orange County, Calif.

In March 1951, the Yugoslav government delivered a formal diplomatic note through its embassy in Washington, asking that “immediate steps be taken by the American authorities to

hand over this notorious war criminal and thus help put him on trial in the country where he committed his abominable crimes.”

Along with the request came the affidavits, page after page describing the murders of innocent peasants, all named, the children dumped into the mines and caves, all named, the rabbis and orthodox priests killed, all named, with the places and dates of their deaths carefully noted.

Hundreds of documents signed by Artukovic himself were also presented, showing his close supervision over the concentration camps, the “racial purity laws” and the secret police.

Shielding a monster

But despite this overwhelming evidence, the U.S. government spent the next 34 years blocking every legal effort by Yugoslavia to gain Artukovic’s return, putting forth the incredible claim that his homicidal acts were “offenses of a political character” and that he “has a reasonable basis to fear physical persecution in communist Yugoslavia if deported to that country.”

The public uproar surrounding Artukovic never really subsided and in recent years grew more intense as people learned of the many wanted Nazis living openly in cities around the U.S. Finally, last March, a Federal magistrate reversed the earlier ruling that had said genocide could somehow be excused as a “political offense.” He ordered Artukovic back to Belgrade.

That’s where George Shultz enters the picture again, and what happened next explains why people all over Yugoslavia are especially bitter over his sanctimonious, Mr. Pecksniff lecture about “harboring terrorists.” Ten months after Andrija Artukovic’s extradition has been decreed, he’s still here, enjoying a comfortable existence in exclusive Surfside, Calif. Federal law stipulates that no one can be sent to another country for trial without a final okay from the State Department. But the official there whose signature is needed for this has balked and refused to sign the one remaining piece of paper which stands between Andrija Artukovic and justice.

The name of that official is George P. Shultz.

Richard Trumka, president of the UMW, said they would take the company to court if they did not abide by the terms of the agreement.

“The strike is over,” said Trumka, “and the UMW members and their families and the people of southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky have won.”

The strike took on both national and international significance as the issue of the export of both capital and jobs

to South Africa was raised by the union and the strike drew strength and solidarity from around the world. Fluor Corp. also has major investments in the South African energy industry.

It remains to be seen if the strength of the strike and the solidarity struggle will be reflected in the final agreement, but, for now, the company’s union busting has been blunted.

—Louis Napier

—On picketline

Continued from page 3

post all openings so workers can bid on them, retrain the workers whose positions are eliminated in other jobs, and sit down and talk about the effects of subcontracting and new technology with the union.

Santa for Hormel strikers.

The workers in United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local P-9 have been on strike since Aug. 17. Their strike has received widespread support from unionists in every state.

Their strike, against Hormel, is a turning point for workers in the meat-packing industry. Their plant, which opened two years ago after an old one next door was closed, is supposed to be one of the most automated in the country. So when the company asked for wage cuts the workers took a walk. They sent delegates to all the meat-packing plants in the region, to have informational picketing and to explain to other locals what their struggle against concessions meant. They were clear that the company’s demands were precedent setting and that their struggle was not just for their own plant but for an industry standard.

It’s been a hard four months. And with the holidays, it is a difficult time for many strikers’ families. “But with the support we’ve been given by locals throughout the country and the people in town, we are trying to make it as well as possible,” Ken Hagan, a member of the P-9 executive board, told Workers World. Skilled craftsmen are working in the strike headquarters, making toys for the strikers’ children and fixing and refurbishing old toys.

“I think our kids are going to have a good Christmas this year,” Hagan said.

Long hard victory by miners.

The attack on the United Mine Workers union by the A.T. Massey Coal Co. was one of the most bitter in memory. The company is owned by the St. Joe Minerals Corp., a subsidiary of Fluor Corp., and Scallop Coal Corp., a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell and the eighth largest producer of coal in the U.S.

Massey refused to sign the national agreement 15 months ago, claiming that their 100 or so subsidiaries were independent companies and free to negotiate separate contracts.

The union filed an unfair labor practice charge against Massey for trying to break up the bargaining unit and called selective strikes against the companies which refused to sign the national agreement, involving 25 mines and preparation plants. The company’s strategy was to splinter the union, isolate the membership and, through the use of imported guards, bust the union at individual mines. The strike saw some of the most violent confrontations in a generation in the coal fields.

The company was forced to issue a statement agreeing to bargain with the union as a single employer. The victory on the unfair labor practices charge means that Massey will have to take back the 1,100 strikers to their original or equivalent jobs and that the union-busting phase of this struggle has been resolved in favor of the workers. The company is contending that they won’t take back many strikers involved in militant activity but

History of U.S. intervention in the Philippines—Part 1

By Lydia Bayoneta

THE PHILIPPINES has been an important country to U.S. imperialism for nearly 100 years. Situated in the Southwest Pacific, it is strategically located to provide easy access to other parts of Asia, principally China.

In 1898, when the U.S. forcibly took over the Philippines from Spain, it was at the same period when the U.S. was strongly pushing for an "open door" policy in China. The open door policy was the U.S. attempt to compete with Britain, France and other imperialist powers for a share of the China market. The Philippines was seen then as a stepping stone for the U.S. imperialist penetration of China.

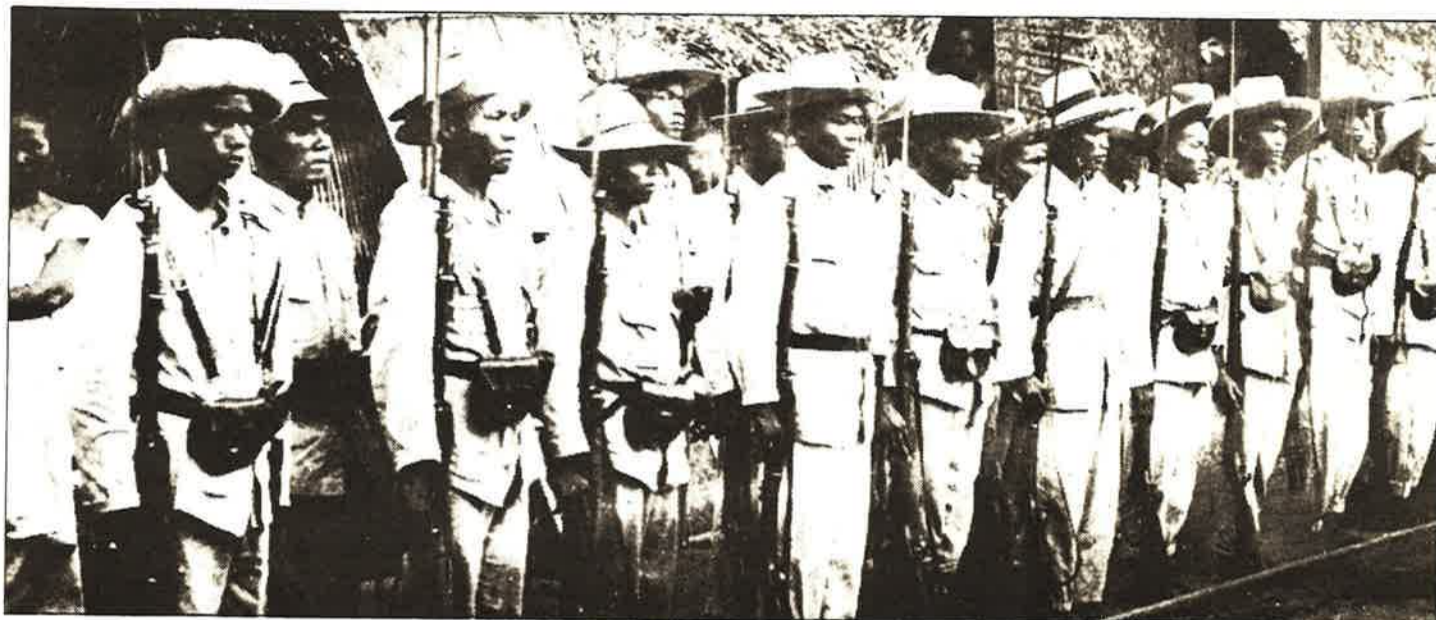
Albert J. Beveridge, a U.S. senator from Indiana, summarized the motives of the U.S. ruling class in a speech before the U.S. President and Congress in 1900:

"The Philippines are ours forever, territory belonging to the United States, as the Constitution calls them, and just beyond the Philippines are China's illimitable markets. Our largest trade henceforth must be with Asia. The Pacific is our ocean. More and more Europe will manufacture the most it needs, secure from its colonies the most it consumes. Where shall we turn for consumers of our surplus? Geography answers the question. China is our natural customer. The Philippines gives us a base at the door of all the East. Most future wars will be conflicts for commerce. The power that rules the Pacific, therefore, is the power that rules the world. And with the Philippines, that power is, and will forever be the American republic."

Thus, with great candor, the Senator from Indiana enunciated the basic driving forces of U.S. imperialism.

Two years earlier, in a widely-read influential article in the North American Review (September 1898), Charles A. Conant, an American financial expert, wrote of the irresistible tendency of great states toward expansion in which he advocated new outlets for U.S. capital and new opportunities for American enterprise. He clearly elaborated the driving forces behind U.S. imperialism: the search for new sources of raw materials, markets for surplus products and, importantly, as a market for surplus capital and source of cheap labor.

Though not as candidly stated, the U.S. interests in the Philippines today remain essentially the same as they were 100 years ago. U.S. bases in the Philippines are seen as vital for U.S. control of the entire Western Pacific region, as well as for the control of the Middle East and South Asia. In the



The Filipino people have been fighting U.S. imperialism since 1898. Above are some of the guerrillas who battled 70,000 U.S. invading troops.

name of these bases and U.S. strategic interests, millions of dollars in military aid have been sent annually for over a decade to one of the cruelest, most barbaric and corrupt dictatorships in history.

Not to be minimized either, however, are the billions of dollars in profit taken by the multinationals and foreign banks from the Philippines each year (over \$3 billion in interest payments to banks alone!).

Roots of anti-imperialist struggle

Just as the intervention of the U.S. in the Philippines today has its roots in the events of the late 19th and early 20th century, so too does the struggle of the Filipino people against imperialism and for national self-determination.

In 1892 a revolutionary movement for independence against 350 years of oppressive Spanish colonial rule began with the founding of the Kataastaasang Kagalang-galang na Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan, usually called the Katipunan (Union) for short. The Katipunan was an organization of workers and peasants led by its founder Andreas Bonifacio until his death in May, 1897, and thereafter by General Emilio Aguinaldo.

This movement for self-determination and independence broke into an armed rebellion in 1896. The "Cry of Pugad Lawin" on Aug. 23 of that year called for an armed revolt. Tens of thousands of men, women, and children old enough to carry weapons answered the call and joined the revolt, particularly in the provinces of Central and Southern Luzon. In the subsequent months, the revolutionaries set

up a republican government and drafted a provisional constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, popularly known as the Biyak-na Bato constitution (after the place where it was written).

In spite of overwhelming odds, a lack of arms and ammunition, and logistical problems, the struggle weakened the Spanish colonial government in the islands. Faced with a similar uprising in Cuba, the Spanish agreed to a truce in November of 1897. As part of this truce, Aguinaldo was forced into exile in Hong Kong. However, the truce was very short-lived; guerrilla warfare broke out and pockets of armed resistance continued throughout the country.

It is important to detail the struggle of the Philippines against Spanish rule in order to refute the lies later put out by proponents of U.S. imperialism that the Filipinos were incapable of governing themselves, that the revolution against Spain was not serious. Of course, this was nothing more than an attempt to legitimize the U.S. colonial takeover of the Philippines.

Blueprint for U.S. colonization of the Philippines

The Spanish-American War of 1898 marked the emergence of the United States as a world imperialist power. The war was for control of Spain's colonies, Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines, all of which were undergoing revolutions for national independence against Spanish rule, although the U.S. press, led by the Hearsts and Pulitzers, pretended that the war was to stop Spanish atrocities against its colonial subjects, especially

in Cuba.

Even before the onset of the war, the McKinley administration had already expressed its intentions to get and retain a foothold in the Philippines, dubbed as "the American Hong Kong."

The formulation of this policy began seven months before the beginning of hostilities with Spain. A memorandum written by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt and sent to Admiral Dewey with the U.S. fleet in Hong Kong ordered that in the event of war with Spain, the Asiatic squadron "should blockade, and if possible, take Manila."

In April of 1898, the American Consul-General of Singapore, acting on behalf of the U.S., approached Aguinaldo and convinced the revolutionary leader to return to the Philippines and fight with the U.S. in return for recognition of the Filipino government and a supply of American arms. Aguinaldo expressed misgivings about the U.S. interests, but was reassured by the Consul-General, who stated, "The American Congress and the President have just made a solemn declaration disclaiming any desire to possess Cuba, promising to leave Cuba to the Cubans after having driven away the Spaniards and pacified the country. Cuba is at our doorstep, while the Philippines is 10,000 miles away."

On May 1, 1898, the U.S. fleet entered Philippine waters under the command of Admiral George Dewey where they decisively defeated the Spanish fleet. On May 4, the San Francisco Chronicle (Hearst) headlined: "We will

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