PHILIPPINES
U.S. military aid to the Aquino regime is double what it was under Marcos. It's all part of another secret war by the Pentagon.

BORK
The senators couldn't resist the popular opposition to Judge Bork. But the appointment of a Supreme Court justice continues to be the opposite of the democratic process.

TIBET
Sam Marcy explores the history of Washington's two-sided policy regarding China's sovereignty over Tibet.

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AIDS rights bill in D.C. attacked by Senate

Capital City's budget held hostage

By Brian Becker
Washington

Following is a brief quiz on U.S. constitutional law.

Q. When is a law (i.e., a constitutionally valid law passed by duly elected legislators) not a law?

A. When it is progressive, designed as a protection against anti-gay bigotry, and adopted by the District of Columbia City Council.

Why is such a law not a law? Because the District of Columbia and its 800,000 residents (85% of whom are Black and Latino) exist in a state of neocolonial bondage to a racist, sexist, anti-gay U.S. Congress made up of millionaires and millionaires-to-be.

Case in point. The U.S. Senate voted on Oct. 1 to freeze all D.C. city funds by Dec. 12 — bringing all city services, including fire protection, public hospitals and garbage collection, to a halt — unless the D.C. Council rescinds a recently passed law prohibiting insurance companies from requiring an HIV antibody test for new insurance applicants. The presence of HIV antibodies may indicate exposure to the AIDS infection.

The D.C. law was passed after an intense organizing and lobbying effort.

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After Oct. 11
The struggle for lesbian and gay liberation

Years of struggle from the days of Stonewall and before have enabled thousands to come together in Washington Oct. 11. United as one voice, this demonstration will say to Reagan, Congress, the courts, and to the world that nothing will stop the drive to win equality and justice for lesbians and gay men.

No right-wing mobilizations, no inquisitorial Supreme Court rulings, no gay bashing fascist-style gangs, no amount of suffering and grief from AIDS can stop the drive to push ahead

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FOR OCT. 11 MARCH INFORMATION, see page 2
Oct. 11 March Information

Sunday, Oct. 11
7:15 a.m. — AIDS Memorial-Names Project
Between Constitution and Independence Avenues on the Mall between 7th and 9th Streets
All morning
For the main march, gather at the Ellipse
9 a.m. — Rally begins at Ellipse
12 noon — March starts
March north on 17th St. to Pennsylvania Ave.
Around White House
East on Pennsylvania Ave. to 7th Street
Onto 7th St. to the Mall
1 p.m. — Rally starts at Mall
4 p.m. — Rally ends

Tuesday, Oct. 13
Civil Disobedience at Supreme Court
8:00 a.m. — gather at 1st and Maryland Ave., N.E. (The East Lawn of the Capitol)

Medical Transportation and Housing Information available around the stage at 3rd St. and the Mall.
CD information hotline: (202) 353-1029

For Love and Life — a gripping play promotes gay rights

By Diane Mathewz
Atlanta

A fascinating play which documents the joys and difficulties of lesbian and gay life, and points to the upcoming Oct. 11 march in Washington, D.C., as the way to affirm and defend lesbian and gay rights has been produced in Atlanta.

"For Love and Life" by Rebecca Rand, a gripping drama with humor, music, and dance. It illustrates the strength and determination of the lesbian and gay community to overcome bigotry and oppression.

Thunderous applause
The dialogue was largely written by the cast, all of whom are activists. Some have professional theater experience but others haven't been on stage since grade school. The audience responded to the often searingly honest and familiarly humorous scenes with tears, smiles and thunderous applause.

The play draws from the life experiences of the cast to raise issues of racism, drug and alcohol abuse, the AIDS crisis and other serious questions. It's all done in the framework of giving tribute to the heroes and heroines of the lesbian and gay community — the risk takers and groundbreakers.

The original music is a highlight of the show. It opens with a song "History Is Now" which invites listeners to recognize that each person is a maker of history.

The Oct. 11 National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Washington has given direction for the play's call to take action to shape history.

The play has been performed to large and enthusiastic audiences, with proceeds going to benefit the national march. "For Love and Life" has generated a growing excitement in Atlanta to participate in this historic liberation event.

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THE WORKERS WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE WORKERS PARTY

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On Oct. 6, the Senate Judiciary Committee, after months of investigation, rejected the nomination of Judge Robert Bork for the Supreme Court. This rejection was unexpected just weeks ago and as late as Oct. 5. Reagen said it would happen "over my dead body." While perhaps a bit upsetting to the dreamers of Reaganism, this setback shows the breadth of popular resistance to the ultra-rightist judge and the growing difficulty of the Reaganites to push through their overall reaction ary program.

Reagan had asked on Oct. 2 for his "public" to resist "special interests" and show their support for Bork. By special interests, Reagen means Black people, women, gay and lesbian people, workers in and out of unions, who have all found some way of speaking out against Bork and who together make up the vast majority of the population.

Contrary to Reagan’s will, the se lection process this time has been much more representative than others in recent history. The nomination of a Supreme Court justice is the direct opposite of the democratic process.

Picked by the president, the can didate is almost always a long-time judge steeped in property rights. He get a perfunctory hearing in the Sen ate, then is confirmed for life to the court. There’s no way to remove the judge or reverse anti-poor deci sions he or she may hand down.

There’s also no way for the people to elect a candidate who is a trade union ist or a community organizer to pass on laws so vital to daily life. In the ses sions spanning three months, for ex ample, the court is scheduled to hear cases involving abortion, religion, free speech, the death penalty, executive power, job bias, and gay and lesbian rights.

Earlier in his administration, be sides appointing rightist Sandra Day O’Connor, Reagen had gotten away with his appointments of ultra-right ist Antonin Scalia to the court and William Rehnquist to chief justice. The Democratic Senate and so called moderate Republicans put up little to no resistance.

Bork arouses mass resistance
Bork has been another story. Bork has been an outspoken opponent of any legal decisions favoring civil rights for Black people and women, so vi ciously anti-environment that he is so threatened that he is so threatening to abortion rights, and so pro-boss and anti-union that his nomination aroused an immediate fight-back spirit. This came not from their compatriot in Los Angeles’ MacAr thur Park, “We don’t want to die. Our building is very tall and very old. The next one that comes, who knows?”

Leticia Dominguez, who survived the 1989 earthquakes in Mexico that killed over 6,000 people, added that many people died in Mexico City be cause they had no chance to get out of their damaged homes and then the after shocks hit.

Red Cross spokesman Ralph Wright said that the earthquake ap artment buildings in Hollywood, Whittier and East Los Angeles, where the residents are mostly poor, were the hardest hit. He said that after the immediate crisis was over and emergency shelters are closed “We’ve had no choice but to put the folks. Los Angeles is short of what you would call low-income hous ing.”

And finally there was the word from the state’s major property insurance carriers that they wouldn’t be paying for very much of the damage. Due to residential property deductibles of 20% and 25% of the total property value for earthquake claims, few homeowners will receive any benefits.

Some of the state’s major property carriers have not agreed to pay anything. The California Department of Insurance reported that insurers took $626.5 million in earthquake insurance premiums between 1978 and 1986 in the state, paying out only $28.6 million in claims. In 1986 alone they took in $180 million in earthquake premiums, paying out only $16 million. During the first half of this year, national property and casualty insurers had a net income of $7.5 billion, a 30% increase over last year’s first half figures.

THE GAY QUESTION:
A Marxist Appraisal
By Bob McCubbin
This pioneering materialist analysis of gay oppression traces the history of lesbians and gay men from ancient society to the present day.

Order from: World View Forum, 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Add 75% postage.
Labor, community join the line with NFL strikers

By Richard Becker

The owners' drive to bust the National Football League Players Association ran into heavy resistance on Oct. 4. Fans stayed away in record numbers from the two unlikely brawls (replacement) teams from Los Angeles to New York. Angry demonstrations showing labor solidarity confronted police and scabs crossing the picket lines in several cities. In Washington, 5,000 workers skirmished with police outside RFK Stadium.

In Philadelphia, a picket line of about 4,000 was set up by the Teamsters and AFL-CIO unions. Eighty Teamster-driven tractor trailers snarled traffic around Veterans Stadium for the game. Seven demonstrators out of a picket line of several hundred were arrested at the Silverdome in Pontiac, Mich.

The strong show of support for the strike put a major dent in the NFL owners' well-oiled propaganda machine. This machine, which includes the big media, has two related objectives: (1) to show the public that the players are overspent, spoiled, greedy, etc., and (2) Split in order to smash the NFLPA.

Issues of the strike

The real strength of a player to sign with the team that offers him the best deal, has been portrayed in the media as the one and only issue in the strike. It is an important question, and certainly a justified demand by the players, but only one of many. The owners, all vehement advocates of "free enterprise," have set up a system which allows the players to bargain only with the team that drafts them when they leave college or signs them first if they are not drafted. At least as crucial as free agency to the majority of NFL players are issues like pensions, guaranteed contracts, and in the aftermath of stepped—other health issues, and severance pay.

The owners make these issues so pressing is the nature of the profession. In the last 7 years, the average career duration of an NFL player has declined from 4.3 years to 3.2 years. Why, despite advances in sports medicine during the same period?

The owners and the national networks, which televise the pro games, perceive the owners as being in a bind. More than 30 players are injured at any one time. The NFLPA is getting organized. The owners and sportscasters, of course, are not the ones who suffer the torn ligaments, dislocations, concussions and other permanent disabilities that go with them. Players are encouraged to use drugs to enhance play. Steroids help build muscles and bulk fast, so fast that steroid users and their opponents are subject to increased danger of serious injury. Steroid use also has psychos

Atlanta Falcon's Ron Middleton with supporters. More than a thousand turned out at the Georgia stadium to join the picket.

Baltimore steel workers fed up with gross contract violations

By D. Kermit Leibengruber

Steelworkers from the four USWA locals at Bethlehem Steel picketed for the third time in less than a month to stop management's planned Ray- buck's cut-throat policies. After the last protest blocked the doors to the main office, Raybuck's attorneys threatened that anyone demonstrating in front of the main office would be arrested. The Steelworkers have to have a back-up soft field several blocks away.

The workers met at the halffield, then marched down North Boulevard to the main office of Bethlehem Steel, defying Raybuck's arbitrary order. Police arrested Local 2609 President Don Kellner and told the crowd to leave, but this did not deter anyone. Chants of "We want Kellner!" got all the louder. At one point the 600 militant steelworkers' picket line ringed the entire building.

Union leaders have called these picket lines due to the widespread grievances under the grievance procedure as a method to resolve even the most clear-cut contract violations by Ray- buck and his lieutenants. The most re- cent management attacks have been to stop the 169,000 vacationers in violation of signed departmental agreements, closing the electrical re- pair shop, making it impossible to work after signing an agreement not to a year ago, and suspending five milking rights for workers to over- time doing another department's work.

This year production and quality records have been set in half the mills on Sparrows Point. Rather than reward the steelworkers for their efforts, Raybuck has announced that he will lay off hundreds more by Christmas week, adding to the thousands already gone and the tens of thousands suffering as a result.

Baltimore steel workers fed up with gross contract violations

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It has been a year since Congress passed its only sanctions bill against South Africa. Though limited in its impact, this presidential bill reflected the tremendous mass anti-apartheid sentiment in the U.S. and around the world.

President Reagan has already said that these sanctions, prohibiting the importation of South African wine, agricultural products, and "harmed" South African Black workers. Therefore, he says he will not impose sanctions.

Since when did Reagan become the champion of human rights for South African workers or any other worker, especially in light of his union-busting role during the 1981 strike?

There is, however, a significant aspect of the bill that is seldom raised. The bill contains a clause permitting the African National Congress (ANC), calling for the CIA to monitor its activities, particularly in relationship to its long-time ally, the South African Communist Party.

This clause is the broader political issue of why it is important for all supporters of the liberation struggle in South Africa, especially those in the U.S., to view the struggle as revolutionary in scope and the ANC as the leading organization of the struggle.

It must be remembered that the U.S. ruling class, that is, big business and the government as well as the capitalist politicians who serve them, would like nothing better than to see the ANC destroyed in its struggle against apartheid in South Africa and around the world.

To discredit the ANC goes hand-in-hand with discrediting the South African struggle.

Capitalism at root of apartheid economy

The apartheid economy is based on the capitalist mode of production, promoting the exploitation of the labor of millions of oppressed workers for the sole purpose of extracting super-profits. There is no fundamental difference between the South African economy and its counterpart in the U.S., Western Europe or Japan.

The social and political fabric of this economy flows from the system of putting profits before people's needs. The interests of the exploiter's class are in conflict with the bosses' greed.

While the form of the capitalist state in South Africa may be different, the system is the same.

The apartheid regime and police occupy the Black townships daily with sheer, naked violence. Whether under a bourgeois democracy or fascism, however, the state apparatus stands ready to use brutal force whenever the oppressed are willing to fight back against their oppressors, such as the ANC and its mass rebellion in the U.S. during the 1970s.

ANC — symbol of resistance

The birth of the ANC on Jan. 8, 1912, flowed naturally out of the conscious white colonial rule by the British first, followed eventually by the Dutch (or Boers) and then the Thambo era, when it was able to conquer South Africa and the majority of the African continent through a combination of force and persuasion.

This domination allowed the rape and plunder of the abundant natural resources and the workers whose labor was transformed into a source of cheap labor. This colonial power was and remains the most industrialized country on the continent. It ranks 17th in the capitalist world.

The ANC was the first organized resistance movement against apartheid, a major force in unifying all nationalities from all backgrounds against a common oppressor. The early ANC struggled against the hated pass laws and for union recognition, especially for the unorganized workers.

The ANC was initially a civil rights organization taking a nonviolent approach to its struggle. It was weakened by divisions from the Pretoria government. It was not to be. Instead of softening and giving in to some moderate group the regime hardened its stance against the ANC by harassing its leaders, imprisoning them like Walter Sisulu, along with detaining, torturing and murdering thousands of other opponents of apartheid.

What was the response of the other capitalist countries like the U.S. to this campaign of terror against the just cause of the South African people? They continued to pour millions of dollars into loans and other forms of investment into an already bolstered apartheid economy.

Sharpville — turning point in struggle

In 1976, the Sharpeville massacre proved to be the turning point in the South African struggle. The Sharpeville massacre was not only a bloody massacre of wounded unarmed protestors but killed forever the notion that the South African government was willing to bargain or reason with. The ANC at that point felt compelled to change its strategy to a broader base of support in their struggle to achieve its goals for a truly free South Africa.

The Sharpeville massacre also shat- tered a myth for the imperialist bourgeois who felt that South Africa was through stabilizing and a small patch would make a dollar. They temporarily dis- invested their capital at an alarming rate. The labor movement supported the victims for the victims but because they feared a much broader mass insurrection.

The 1980s began with the return of the South African government to the Jowett Street massacre in 1976. Both events were dress rehearsals for what has and will come.

The revolutionary upsurge in South Africa has propelled the entire international community to unequivocally condemn and isolate the apartheid re- gime. Corporate giants like General Motors, IBM and Kodak have been forced to partially divest their holdings. This struggle has forced even the most rabid right-wing politicians like George Shultz to Robert Dole to break their silence on this issue.

The question is, will they take their protestations beyond condemning apartheid? Does it serve their interests to do so? The answer is no.

It is one thing to oppose apartheid as a legal form of discrimination and injustice; it is an entirely different matter to oppose apartheid as part and parcel of the worldwide capitalist system of exploitation and oppression.

This is where the capitalistbourgeoisie draws the line. The ANC does not seek to put Band-Aids on this diseased system, but to strive at the heart of the cancer, which is the capitalist state. If the movement fails, the reason why the ANC has consistently maintained its independence from any South African socialist faction, even the so-called liberal elements, is that the workers and oppressed in the U.S. should heed.

The South African struggle has reached a very critical juncture. The major revolutionary move in the US can play a strategic role in showing solidarity with their sisters and brothers times a week in front of the administration building.

The struggle for divestment and even for global sanctions, demands that the U.S. get out of South Africa and the entire regime exposes the imperialist collusion between Washington and Pretoria.

More than anything else, a decisive factor is mobilizing popular support for the ANC and the revolutionary struggle it leads for a non-racial, democ- ratic South Africa. Popularizing this view until apartheid finally falls will no doubt help to usher in a new phase of the struggle as the workers become more involved in the struggle against the bosses right here at home.

Students fight Univ. of Rochester return to investing in South Africa

By Chris Becker
Rochester, N.Y.

The University of Rochester recently announced they have reversed the course of their investment portfolio and now have over $25 million of stock in companies doing business in South Africa. This move is in line with the student pressure to divest by the student body. The President of University President Dennis O'Brien, and the entire board of trustees have been given an unequivocal message: Get the blood out of our portfolios now.

The BSU quickly organized a rally to demand immediate divestment of this money. On Sept. 25 over 300 people attended this militant event. The day before, President O'Brien, already feeling the mounting pressure, had called for a moratorium on future South African investments. This move did not succeed in quelling the outrage. Speaker after speaker denounced the moratorium and instead called for an emergency meeting of the trustees to immediately sell off the stocks in question.

The Black students, already af- fected by the racist attitude of the administration, find the BSU move a success by the student body. The U of R is one of the first colleges to try to reverse the momentum of the divestment movement that over 130 colleges and universities have adopted.

The BSU has set a month-long series of events to continue the struggle, and plans to keep fighting until the board of trustees and the huge business sponsors get out of South Africa. Picket lines have been set up two days a week in front of the adminis- tration building, a shantytown was set up Oct. 3 and other strategies are being formulated. As Shamel Clements, president of the BSU says, "We will do anything necessary" until the University of Rochester reverses its decision.

Students Boycott University of Rochester over investments in South Africa

By Monica Moorehead

In defense of the African National Congress

The connection between capitalism and apartheid

Herman's racism no sport, say Black and white trade unionists

Detroit

Hundreds of UAW members from virtually every plant in the area packed the Lakeside Mall, a suburban Detroit shopping center, on Oct. 4 in support of the strike by the UAW against Herman's.

The demonstration was a strong show of support for the UAW, who joined UAW District 65 and have been fighting for months to get a con- tract for the workers who are women and Black youth.

The key issues in this struggle are racism and discrimination. Black workers in Detroit are paid 37 cents less per hour on an average than white workers in area stores, and have virtually no supervisory opportunity for advancement.

Three hundred thirteen whites have been hired by the UAW since 1978 while only one Black person has received such a promotion. Sexual harassment on the job is also an issue in this contract.

Herman's answer to these charges is to give "economic support" to the workers who would have any Black people who have come to the posh Lakeside Mall to protest the strike arrested. The huge turnout of Black and white unionists forced them to back down, unable to have police take the entire crowded mall into custody!
Behind the U.S. secret war in the Philippines

By Lydia Bryonata

It has been barely two weeks since the massive ousting of Filipinos in the streets to pay their last respects to Leandro Alejandro, who selflessly struggled against U.S. imperialism, fascism, and for national independence. Alejandro was a true right-wing death squad worker in conjunction with the U.S. CIA and the Philippines military.

The massive turnout of over 60,000 for Alejandro was a significant political event that highlighted the struggle and struggle, all the more because the military had made threats of possible violence.

The U.S. media barely gave it coverage. This is in sharp contrast to the prime-time coverage given to Col. Gregorio Honasan, the right-wing leader of two attempted coups against the Aquino regime. In his latest attempt, Honasan and his followers killed 52 civilians and wounded many others.

Honasan’s subsequent interviews on TV and with Newsweek magazine provided a platform for his fascist views about how to run the country. The views of Honasan & Co. do not really differ in essence from those of Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramosor Defense Minister Rafael Itelo.

Both sections of the military have criticized Aquino for not moving fast enough to suppress the revolutionary movement that is growing larger daily. Any differences at this time within the military stem from the degree of loyalty given by the two factions to U.S. policy.

The U.S. would rather have the Philippines under a bourgeois "democratic" rule but, as Rep. Henry Hyde has put it, "with a professional, competent military working very closely with the American military." The U.S. prefers someone like Aquino, who is still perceived in the U.S. as a popular leader, rather than the outright fascist advocated by Col. Honasan or one like the former Marcos leader.

The recent coup attempt against Aquino may have momentarily been thwarted by coercion in the U.S. and around the world as an attack on a besieged democratic leader. This perception, however, can only be maintained if one dismisses the rest of Aquino’s policy in both the economic and political spheres, and the relationship of this policy to 50 million Filipinos.

Aquino’s repressive policies

The U.S.-backed Aquino regime has already made a clear response to the people’s demand for democratization, genuine land reform and other economic changes. The response has been repression.

President Aquino has never fully fulfilled his promise to disband the "Civilian Home Defense Force," a fascist organization which was closely tied to the Philippine Constabulary and committed hundreds of atrocities during the Marcos dictatorship.

The current government attempted to merge the CHDF with some of the newer vigilante groups. She praised one vigilante group as a "concrete manifestation of people’s power, an effective weapon against communism."

When the last, the Presidential Commission on Human Rights strongly recommended the disbanding of Aquino’s largest U.S.-equipped vigilante group, Aquino dissolved the commission! Sister Mariani Dimars, one of the members of the commission, said, "He dumped us to appease the military."

The U.S. secret war

The pals of U.S. imperialism and its military planners today are not essentially different from those who fostered the notorious CIA operative Edward Lansdale, who directed the Philippine "counter-insurgency" program in the rebellion of poor peasants in the 1950s.

Then, as now, the U.S. used assassinations, torture, state-financed political campaigns, including rigging the Philippine elections in favor of their puppets. Magawhagay. His election was financed by big businesses to the tune of $1 million — the biggest contribution to the vote in the entire Philippines.

Today, the CIA has once again increased its covert operations in the Philippines. Right-wing groups have been organized by Gen. Singlahub, an acknowledged founder of death squads in Central America. Along with the U.S. military to the Aquino regime was recently doubled to $100 million. An American military garrison is in order to, in the words of one U.S. embassy official, "enable it to aid, the opposing revolutionary movement and other threats."

Since March, the Aquino regime has promised a "normalization" of the rural population, including several Philippine minority groups. In the early 1990s, the U.S. developed military bases in provinces north of Manila, 50 villages were killed. Daily bombings continue to stifle the fighting and continue to stifle the fighting on the Ayapou people's villages and towns. The damages to animals and crops were extensive — a huge extermination of animals; 200,000 pesos in razed crops.

The role of tactics in hitting Hitlers in the Middle East

Interests of Big Oil obsessed by Washington's anti-Iran, anti-Arab tirades

By Joyce Odiac

What progressive person could deny that when it comes to whipping up bigotry, the Reagan administration works overtime?

Just look at how it has dealt with AIDS. Instead of organizing a massive effort to find a cure, the White House has created a climate of bigoted targeting people with AIDS, especially those who are gay, Black or Latino.

So too, Washington has set its biggy wheels in motion to obscure the real issues behind the tensions in the Persian/Arab Gulf, where the Pentagon is and will be deploying a huge fleet since World War II.

For years, Democrats and Republicans alike have branded Iran as "the enemy," a "terrorist" and an "outlaw nation." This government and media characterization was buttressed by the 1979 hostage crisis when 60,000 American garrisons were shown by a mass movement and Washington was suddenly on the outs. The imperialists never forgave the Iranian people for seeking the family of people they want Iran back. Why is Iran targeted?

The Reagan war moves against Iran go back to 1979 when the Carter administration froze billions of Iranian funds in U.S. banks. The Ayatollah Khomeini tried an invasion of Iran, which failed. The outburst against Iran in this country starting at that time and continuing to this day are a part of a very deliberate government and media campaign to incite racism in order to make a war against Iran acceptable here.

Anti-Arab racism also included

While Washington is aiming its guns at Iranian ships right now, this doesn’t mean that the U.S. govern- ment is not also focused on the interests of any Arab people. In fact, anti-Arab racism has also continued unabated, especially against the besieged national liberation struggles in Palestine and Lebanon and against the tens of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians.

While the daily papers alternately call the Arab people "terrorists" and "criminals," there is another side to this equation that it’s Exxon, Texaco and Gulf that grow fat from Mideast oil. The Arab people are not able to go to sleep hungry, unable to provide enough sustenance for themselves and their children.

What is the real relationship of forces in the Middle East? It’s not the "helpless giant" of the U.S. against a sea of Middle Eastern "terrorists." On the contrary, it’s the huge might of the Pentagon, the Wall Street banks and the oil companies which have opposed the interests of the people of the Middle East for decades.

Pretext for intervention

The Western powers are not interested in stopping the Iran-Iraq war. In fact, the U.S. and Britain have used the war to divide and isolate Iran from the European Community. The U.S. has sold arms to both sides, hoping to exhaust both oil-producers so they can step in and pick up the pieces. Washington and its imperialist allies want to utilize the Iran-Iraq war to tighten their grip on the Middle East and its oil wealth at the expense of the people who live there.

The American NATO powers, led by the U.S., will have 70 warships in place in the Gulf by mid-October. And now there is every danger of a coordinated attack there against Iran.

There is no end to the demagoguery utilized to bring the fear and hatred of the masses. Anti-Arab racism is part of the strategy to coordinate a campaign of war and attack against the Iranian people. There is no better way to carry out these plans than to encourage the fighting for justice at home have no reason to believe Washington’s slander.

However, workers and oppressed people here do have every reason to demand that the U.S. get out of the Gulf and that the billions of dollars spent to keep the warlords there be used instead for social services, jobs, daycare and to find a cure for AIDS.

SAVE THIS DATE!

Saturday, October 31

For a protest and march in New York City to demand:

U.S. out of the Persian Gulf!

Hands off Nicaragua!

Stop the U.S. war drive!

Noon at Herald Square (34th St. & 6th Ave.), march to Times Square recruiting station

For more information contact the People's Anti-War Mobilization at (212) 741-0633.
FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE — Lesbians and gay men fight back

These are proud and angry days for lesbian and gay people.

The pride is born of decades of struggle, of hard-won victories in civil rights battles and ongoing campaigns for justice, of deepening unity within the community and growing support from allies, and of a militancy that's emerged stronger after each test.

The pride is born of love, too, and of the profound courage of lesbians and gay men who refuse to be driven back into the closet.

The anger is available.

It's the anger of women and men whose very lives have been ruled illegal by the reactionary Supreme Court.

The rage of a community that has lost so many lovers and friends. The fury of people who have fought for the most basic health care rights, to demand a full scale assault on

AIDS from a government that couldn't care less.

The way that the lesbian and gay community has responded to the AIDS crisis — caring for those who are ill while waging a political struggle to bring about an end to that evidence — shows concretely how anger, pride, love and a spirit of struggle propel the lesbian and gay liberation movement and make eventual victory certain.

For love, life and liberation!

This Workers World special supplement addresses the key challenges facing the lesbian and gay movement today, as hundreds of thousands gather to march on Washington.

Utilizing a Marxist analysis of the history of lesbian and gay oppression, the articles show not only that oppression is unnatural but that the conditions are right to root it out entirely and for all.

The task is to build unity, fight racism, and thereby forge a strong movement to struggle against all oppression.

By doing that, the lesbian and gay community can move mountains. The war against AIDS can be won — in fact, it could have been won already with the resources of the government and corporations that have been poured into a mighty project to do so. As it is, the people will take the project to do it.

And lesbian and gay people will win liberation. Proud, angry, strong and united, we will move mountains.

— E.L.

OPPRESSION
Where it came from
LIBERATION
How to win it

By Leslie Diane Feinberg

Is loving someone of the same sex unnatural? Is prejudice against this sexual preference part of human nature?

Many people would be surprised to find out that for most of human history people were not persecuted for same-sex love.

It's also a relief to discover that bigotry has not always been with us. In the long millennia of human evolution, oppression is really quite recent — perhaps 10,000 years out of hundreds of thousands.

Before class society

History provides abundant evidence that, although hardly free from prejudice and superstition, many of our earliest ancestors considered homosexuality and transvestism natural forms of sexual and social expression, and accorded women equal status with men.

Universal scarcity welded a society of cooperation in which everyone ate or everyone starved. It was humanitarian against nature, with few tools, during the vast period of human prehistory known as primitive communism.

This changed over a long and complex period as the productivity of human labor gave rise to a new development — surplus. More could be produced than was needed for immediate consumption. The accumulation of this wealth, or surplus, created a new social division: haves and have nots. Society cleaved into slave-owners and slaves.

Under primitive communism the descent of children was recognized through the mother. But with the development of private ownership of property, inheritance passed through men. Women and children became seen as a source of wealth and property, for women's reproductive capacities and as a source of labor.

And with the onset of class society, the fact that homosexual relations did not produce children came to be viewed as a threat to the new social order and its economic unit — the patriarchal family. Thus, with the rise of repressive class rule, that which was natural was declared its opposite.

Catholic church: Weapon of feudal repression

During the Middle Ages, the center of power in the West was the Roman Catholic Church, by far the most powerful lordship, holding one-third of the soil of Europe. Christianity had been transferred, over a period of several hundred years, from a revolutionary movement of the poor into a state religious cult serving the rich.

The Church, as a force of repression on behalf of feudal kings and landlords, used the powerful weapon of "gay-baiting" to seize property, and launched a murderous program aimed at homosexuals and transvestites to crush resistance and consolidate class rule.

During the Inquisition, millions of women faced flames while tied to stakes, accused of being witches. Gay men were burned as fuel, or "faggots."

"We won't go back!"

By the time of the Industrial Revolution forged plowshares into weapons and machinery, the ferocious mass bloodlettings of the Inquisition and burnings at the stake had subsided. But sexism and anti-gay prejudice were now woven deep into the tapestry of exploitation.

When profits are the bottom line, even human love is subject to the rule of divide and conquer.

But after centuries of oppression, this outlawed love finally dared to speak its name.

In the summer of 1969, during a "routine" police raid at a Greenwich Village gay bar, transvestites, gay men and lesbians said "No more!" and fought the police in the streets in running battles for four hot summer nights.

Gay people had been fighting back in any way they could for centuries. But the Stonewall Rebellion marked a turning point in history because it ignited a mass movement that opened closed doors and sent shock waves around the world.

This young movement drew strength and inspiration from the blacks and Latino liberation movements in the U.S., as well as from the massive resistance to the Pentagon's war against Vietnam. Within months there were gay liberation groups in every major city, and lesbian and gay banners flew at demonstrations supporting the demands of the Black and Latino liberation movements, political prisoners, and against the war.

Which way to liberation?

If lesbian and gay women and opposition has not always existed, it is not an eternal feature of human society — how can it be ended?

The racism, sexism and lesbian and gay oppression that pervade this society like cancers were created not by workers, but by those who seek to maintain their rule by using bigotry to divide.

So the struggle for lesbian and gay liberation is part of the life-and-death struggle between exploiters and all the exploited. Genuine political freedom — and social and economic equality — can only be won by a united movement of all workers and oppressed peoples.

The working class today is black, Latino, Arab, Asian, Native, and white, women and men, gay and straight — and it is faced with a historic task.

By abolishing capitalism and replacing it with a planned cooperative system of production to rationally meet all human needs — socialism — it will be possible to resolve the breaches and antagonisms that keep people from living with tolerance and respect for all human variations of expression. When oppression and bigotry are no longer necessary to maintain a system of exploitation, the basis for achieving human liberation will exist.

And those who are fighting for freedom today are shaping tomorrow.
From Stonewall to Soweto

By Carmen Rondree

Seven years ago, when Ronald Reagan took over the presidency, a loud message was sent to every right wing bigot around the country, saying: Now is the time to try and reverse every gain that has been fought for and won by oppressed and working people through decades of struggles. Attempts were made to dismantle affirmative action programs. Welfare funding and Aid to Dependent Children were slashed. School lunch programs were cut, and low income housing saw a drastic rise in rents. Funds for college education were made totally inaccessible to those who needed them.

Unemployment rose to an all time high, as factories after factory closed down or ran away, and union-busting was the first point on every boss's agenda.

And every dollar cut from social ser-

The Pentagon and AIDS

By Saul Kanowitz

Eight years of the AIDS epidemic have shown that the Reagan administration is unwilling to do what is necessary to bring about the earliest possible end to this tragic disease.

Eight years of struggle by people with AIDS, the lesbian and gay community, the oppressed communities and progressives have shown that a militant, independent, grass roots movement is the only way to end the epidemic. It has taken courageous actions like the two-year-long AIDS/ARC strike in San Francisco and the protests at the International AIDS Conference in Washington, D.C. this past June to get the government to even acknowledge this epidemic.

Now, as the AIDS movement intensifies its demand that the government fight AIDS instead of people with AIDS (PWAs), the real culprits in the lengthening crisis are being clearly exposed.

Ruling class, Pentagon prolong AIDS crisis

The ruling class, made up of corporate bosses, bankers, and Pentagon generals is reluctant to allocate money to provide quality healthcare and social services for people with AIDS, or to educate the population about preventing the transmission of the HIV virus.

It took predictions that the number of PWAs would increase eightfold and AIDS medical costs would quadruple
lesbian/gay oppression

vice programs found its way directly into the military budget.

Racist, sexist, anti-gay violence

From Howard Beach, New York, to Forsyth County, Ga., to Oroville, Calif., racist violence is on the rise, as little bands of vigilantes are encouraged by the racist atmosphere created by the Reagan administration.

Rightwing groups like the "Moral Majority" and "Right-to-Lifers" have seized on this opportunity, bombing abortion clinics and in other ways violently opposing women's right to choose.

They have also stepped up bigoted attacks on lesbians and gay men, much of which comes on the heels of a hysteria created by the bourgeois media and the government.

But from Stonewall to Soweto, people are fighting back!

"An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa," is one of the major demands of the October 11 National March on Washington.

People of Color Caucus builds Oct. 11 march

It had been realized from the very beginning stages of organizing that this — or any — demonstration dealing with the issues of human and civil rights had to make the issue of racism very high on the agenda.

A People of Color Caucus of the National March on Washington came together early on, and took on the task of massive outreach to the oppressed communities. The Caucus has also been extremely instrumental in making

profits before people

by 1991 to force the Reagan administration to increase funding for research to find a cure and a vaccine. And still it's not nearly enough.

While so little is being done to save life, much is being done to invent new ways of killing.

The Pentagon budget for fiscal year 1985-1987 was about $2 trillion. That translates into $11 million spent each hour by the military on death and destruction.

The $900 million allocated by the federal government for AIDS research for fiscal year 1986-1987 equals 3.4 days of military spending.

"Manhattan Project" vs. AIDS needed

Objectively, what is needed to end the epidemic is a coordinated society-wide effort that brings community representatives, sympathetic scientists, doctors, virologists, and public health officials together to develop a strategy and share resources.

Such an effort would have to have available to it all the resources necessary to find a cure and vaccine for the HIV virus, provide quality healthcare, housing, employment and social services for PWAs, and educate the population about AIDS and how to prevent transmission of the HIV virus.

There is historical precedent for such broad coordinated action. The ruling class did it to build the atomic bomb. It was called "The Manhattan Project." They are doing it right now with the Star Wars program; over $10 billion has already been spent on Star Wars research.

It has been done for the purposes of death and destruction. It can be done for the purpose of saving life.

Not just the $2 trillion Pentagon

Preston Wood, WWP candidate for NYS Assembly in 1988, one of the "several gay activists who have represented the Party in election campaigns.

Gloria La Riva and Larry Holmes, WWP 1988 vice presidential and presidential candidates. The struggle for lesbian and gay rights, along with every other aspect of the working class struggle, is a key issue in the election campaign.
The labor contingent on Octo-
ber 11 might not be the biggest in the
March — or the loudest. Or get the
most media attention.

But it will be among the most sig-
nificant aspects of a most sig-
nificant day.

The reasons have to do with both the
labor movement and the lesbian and
gay movement, and with the closing
of old boundaries, which for the
first time would lead, under its
unified banner, a step forward toward
classwide unity — could have profound impact
on the class struggle in the country.

Lesbian and gay workers

Lesbian and gay people, of course, work
in every shop, office, mill and
mine side by side with their non-
gay coworkers. Gay workers played leading roles
in many labor struggles over the years, as well as in
strikers and on picket lines, in sit-downs and walkouts.

But, for the most part, lesbians and gay men, even unions, were
held back by the force of oppression from raising demands of
their own as gay and lesbian.

- So these demands — which included
an end to anti-gay discrimination, ha-
rassment and violence, and provision of
equal benefit coverage for lesbian and
gay workers’ lovers and families — were, with rare exception,
ignored by the labor movement.

Now, however, conditions are
changing drastically, and with the
change comes a new chance for labor
to take up the lesbian and gay struggle.

Women and Third World workers are
concentrated, the most militant la-
bor struggles break out. So, over
the last few years, there have been major
strikes by, among others, New
York City hospital workers, Yale and
Columbia University clericals, TWA flight attendants, fast food
restaurant and construction
workers in Las Vegas, San Francisco,
Atlanta, and the city and county
work.

The common denominator in these
strikes: leadership by women, Third
World, and third-world lesbians and gay workers.

Anyone who watched New York City
hotel workers take over the streets two
years ago, pound on pickets and chant,
chirping and clapping, saw it. So did anyone who walked the lines or attend-
ed a rally for TWA flight attendants.

Potential for more

For all the excitement of these recent
union struggles, there is potential for
so much more. The vast majority of
the workforce, especially oppressed
workers, is unorganized. Unions that are
more vocal organize these workers like
the Service Employees, State, Count-
y and Municipal Employees, and health and
Commercial Workers are
leading the way. They are also in
the lead of the anti-war, anti-racist and
anti-imperialist movement, along with
several other unions, and to
togther they constitute the most pro-
gressive wing of the labor movement.

So it makes sense that it’s this sec-
tion of labor that is also taking up the
challenge with the Lesbian and Gay struggles.

More SEIU and AFSCME locals en-
dorsed the October 11 march than any
previous Labor Day in recent years.
The presidents of the two unions
and the vice presidents of UCWU, UA
District 65, the Coalition of Black
Trade Unions and the Coalition of
Labor Union Women are all attending a Solidarity Reception at
the AFSCME headquarters. They promise to
fulfill the support between the gay and labor
movements the day before the march.

Cesar Chavez, president of the United
Farm Workers, is a keynote speaker at
the march.

As unions recognize that lesbian and gay men are an integral part of
the working class and an important component within the labor and
trade union movement, the walls of silence and op-
pression are breaking down.

Lesbian organizers lead the way for
women entering previously all-male jobs in the construction trades,
beauty industry and garment
sewing. Lesbian organizing and
active participation in struggles for
affirmative action for women
and Third World workers have been
mechanisms for unity among all oppressed workers.

Tens of thousands of gay workers and gay organizations, in tens of
thousands of small shops — florist shops, beauty
shops, clothes stores, and the like
— around the country. Most aren’t in
unions, have no job security, get low
wages and no benefits. Some, like hair-
dressers, are routinely exposed to toxic
chemicals without any health and
safety protection.

These workers can be brought into
the labor movement, and labor’s sup-
port for lesbian and gay movements will help. Already, the UFWC has
a hairdressers’ organizing department,
which recently led a strike at a chain
of beauty shops in the Western states.

The leadership of lesbian and gay
workers and organizations, supported
in the struggle by participants on the labor
movement, AFSCME District
Council 37 in New York City, represent-
ing the millions of women — who now demand
equal benefit coverage for lesbian and gay workers’ lovers in current contract
talks or in the union contracts of the people who
pushed for the issue to be raised.

All these developments, along with
the labor contingent that will take its
place in the march for lesbian and gay
rights on October 11, make this a prom-
ising moment in labor history and in
the history of the lesbian and gay liber-
ation movement.

*FIGHT BACK*

(Continued from page 5A)

sure that these issues and most-impact
people of color in this country are
prominent in the march.

The morning rally, which was or-
organized by the NLS, is a classic ex-
ample of the organizing taken on by
people of color in this march. The very
fact that they have been allowed to
primarily from the oppressed communi-
ties, are speaking at this very impor-
tant rally is historical indeed.

The central purpose of the October
11 March on Washington is to push
forward the struggle for lesbian and
gay rights. But it is not only necessary,
but critical to build and expand the
busy’s program concern itself with the
struggle against racism.

Indeed, most of the people who will
be marching in Washington — lesbian
and gay people of color — suffer a dou-
ble and treble oppression under rac-
ism, sexism, anti-gay, anti-worker,
anti-white-supremacist system.

But membership and potential for
change will be marching in Washing-
on — lesbian and gay people of color — suffer a dou-
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anti-white-supremacist system.
10,000 Californians go 3,000 miles to Oct. 11 march
By J. Marquett

At least 10,000 people from the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area will join the ranks of thousands in Washington, D.C., for the March for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The local March on Washington organization invited people from all communities to join in the demonstration. As a result, Albert Lucero, a march organizer, said, "Organizing for this march brought together a lot of people who had worked together before, namely women, and Third World women and men. The local organization did have 50% women in the leadership, and 25% of the leadership were people of color, people with AIDS and people in connection with ARC.

Labor and community support

The San Francisco Central Labor Council voted to support the march, as did several local unions, including the AFSCME Local 3212 and the Association of Graduate Student Employees. Many union members are planning to attend, as are members of several Third World community organizations. They include: the Law on AIDS, Lesbians of Color, Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Asians, Gay American Indians, Third World Men's Rap Group, Siouat Boom, People of Color, Red, Black Lesbians and Gays, and Black and White Men Together.

The march is a contribution to the national "Time to Shine" fundraising effort to pay for people with AIDS and ARC to get to the March on Washington. The local organization raised additional funds to send three people with AIDS and ARC, a Shain, a person, a parent of a gay person, and a low-income person — seven more people in all.

"Names Project" a community effort, too

The "Names Project" quit, some 20,000 panels in all, includes the names of people who have died of AIDS — "mostly gay men, but women and children, too," said Cleve Jones, Names Project coordinator. The effort, involving many hours of piecing together and sewing, "also included people from all areas of the community, women and men, and gay and old," Jones said. "Often a lover and a parent worked together on a panel," Jones added. "It was good to see."

The quilt of panels from all over the country — every state that has had a person dies of AIDS — will be displayed on the Capitol Mall during the national march on Oct. 11.

— Senate attacks AIDS rights bill

Continued from page 4

fort by the lesbian and gay community turned back a high-financed-pressure campaign launched by the insurance companies to defeat the measure. After the law was adopted, the major insurance companies retaliated by refusing to issue new life insurance policies for D.C. residents. This was not the first time that Congress intervened in a legis- lative adoption adopted in the District. In 1985, the House of Representatives voted to prohibit District from issuing either federal or the city's own funds to help pay for abortion costs for poor women.

Also, the Senate has voted to freeze the District's funds if the city government did not restrict a city residency requirement for D.C. police and fire fighters. This is the most blatant form of racist interference since the residency requirement was designed to insure that the District police and fire departments would not return to their former all-white composition.

Why statehood is an issue

The dictatorial authority exercised over the District by Congress has hurt the residents in almost all areas of life. D.C. residents pay more local taxes than Americans in states. Not only can Congress "veto" legislation passed by the D.C. City Council, it also controls the District's budget.

The federal government owns, controls or provides tax exemption to 55% of the used land in the District. While money-starved D.C. public schools are overcrowded and understaffed, the Congress gives tax-exempt status to right-wing organizations like the National Rifle Association, the Daugh- ters of the American Revolution, Veterans of Foreign Wars and many other racist groups that set up lavish headquarters in choice real estate areas.

It is likewise with the giant hotels and motels. Only by pleading compati- nate the city. These corporations are exempted from all but "land" taxes. The Hyatt Regency and the Hilton, for example, built luxury hotels costing $33 million and $25 million respectively. Not only do they not pay taxes, they receive federal grants.

In return for these huge tax give- aways and the federal use of city land, these corporations promise to maintain the District with a Federal Payment that pays for 1% of the city's operating budget. It is a condition which gives Congress the "right to review" the District's budget and bludgeon elected D.C. officials if they dare enact pro-people legislation.

The current system is so obviously undemocratic. D.C. Congresswoman Walter Fauntroy isn't even allowed to vote and so detrimental to the people of D.C. that majorities have consistently voted that D.C. should end its neocolonial status by becom- ing a state.

Statehood is a good idea. The District of Columbia population is larger than seven states. The city should be able to control its own budget. It would eliminate the existing taxation without representation. This Black ma- jority city would not be the subject of every arbitrary intervention by Jesse Helms, George Walling and other congressional racists. In all likelihood, statehood for the District would lead to the election of two Black people to the U.S. Senate — currently there are none.

But it is for all the reasons that make Statehood a good idea for the people that the reactionaries in Con- gress vehemently oppose it. Waiting for Congress to make D.C. a state is to wait forever. Like all genuine civil rights struggles, achieving basic democratic rights for people in Wash- ington, D.C., will require a truly mas- sive struggle conducted on a national basis.

Anti-gay official forced to resign in Michigan

By Kris Namel

The battle for gay and lesbian rights is heating up on two fronts in Michi- gan. In a victory for the lesbian and gay community and progressive forces, Traverse City Commissioner John Markl resigned on Oct. 2 after more than 2,500 people signed petition calling for his ouster. Markl made virulently bigoted, anti-gay remarks during a September commission meeting and published a Birch Morton material to back up his statement. The city commission was not in operation at the time, but Markl ordered the shipment of condoms in vending machines when Markl launched his diatribe against lesbians and gays.

There was an outraged response from Traverse City and around Michi- gan to Markl's resignation. If one thousand people dis- agreed and signed petitions for him to resign, he was summarily de- nied signatures in the small north- ern Michigan city after attorney Dean Dagenhart. Cindy Rohr took up the challenge.

Another Traverse City commis- sioner, Jasper Weese, is now being targeted for his anti-gay support of Markl at the September meeting. Or- ganizers are demanding a public apology or his resignation.

Traverse City Mayor Geraldine Greene even said she was "outraged at the comments" from Markl and Weese. Greene said the city was "trying to develop rational guidelines and policies" to deal with the AIDS health problem. At least 2,500 Tra- verse City residents seem to agree with her and have rejected Markl's anti-gay and lesbian community as a scapegoat for the AIDS crisis.

In Saginaw, a city 90 miles north of Detroit, the fight has taken a more vi- olent turn. A popular new bar for gays and lesbians, Whispers, has been un- der attack since Sept. 25 by anti-gay protesters. Vandals and property damage fromiet in front of doors and broken windows of concrete have occurred daily.

One 28-year-old man who lives two blocks from the tavern said it best, "The gays and lesbians aren't hurting anyone. They (the mobs) are the ones causing the problems.

A group of church leaders and other gay residents met on Oct. 1 and formed Citizens United Against Vi- olence to try to stop "further terrorism" from antigay protesters. Barbara Klimekoff, ski, attorney for the bar's owner, said she would seek an injunction this week to remove the picketers. An anti-gay leader admitted that petition- ers against the bar "are having doors slammed in our faces" when trying to get signatures to support their initiative.

Have you been wondering what things were really like back in 1877 when the Constitution was drafted? Was it really such a democratic docu- ment that the democracy there then, as now, mostly for the rich?

Understanding AIDS

A political perspective on the crisis

Whose Constitution is it?

U.S. class struggles in 1877

By Gary Wilton

What political lessons can be learned from the AIDS crisis? Yes, it's a terrible new disease, but what social factors are making it spread most among homosexuals and other discriminated against already? What kind of strug- gile will it take to mobilize all of our medical and scientific effort that can bring AIDS under control?

Superconductors. Scientists and venture capitalists are agog over this big breakthrough that promises to revolutionize communication, trans- portation and all other key industries. But what will all this mean for the workers? How can the unions start to prepare now to preserve jobs and wage levels against yet another high-tech assault.

These vital topics are taken up in the first three mini-pamphlets of the new Workers World Library series. 24-page pamphlets are small enough to tuck in your pocket and cost just 50 cents each (add another 50 cents postage and handling). New titles will be coming out at the rate of about six a month.

Already available are: "Whose Constitution is it? U.S. class struggles in 1877" and "Understanding AIDS: A political perspective on the crisis.

The pamphlet on superconductors will be available soon.

To order, send $1.00 per pamphlet (includes postage) to World View Po- Box W 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010.
has finally, after just two months ago trying to work out a last-ditch formula with the White House, found the words to indicate that Nica-
ragua's request for aid after all is spectrally correct and the U.S. really has no right to tell it when to hold elections, what criminals to let out of jail, etc. He has even called Reagan's scheme while to con-
continue using the contras "ridiculous."

Words, it must be remembered, are cheap. And they can always be retracted tomorrow. Not so cheap are the real elements that have brought this U.S. mercenary force to its pres-
ent fasico: the bravery, sacrifice and dedica-
tion of the Nicaraguan people despite great
casualties and hardships; the growing solidar-
ity movement in Latin America and around the
world that has sent Nicaragua material, human and political support. Indict-
nation in the U.S. as seen in militant demon-
strations, meetings and the large numbers of
Americans who have gone to Nicaragua.

Throughout the Hasenfus affair and the Contra
gate scandal, the Democrats helped fund the contras, shrank from invoking the
War Powers Act and argued that Nicaragua's
economic and political system are subject to
the approval of Washington.

Now that all the countries of Central Amer-
ica have signed an agreement calling for peace
(some for fear that the social consequences of
the war would soon engulf them), the U.S. ruling
class must find a new strategy. Wright's optimism of Reagan may be quite signifi-
cant, but it shouldn't be taken as the gentle
cooing of a born-again dove. Better the squeak
of a frightened rodent leaving the sinking ship.

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Editorials

After Oct. 11

Continued from page 1

for an end to oppression.

This demonstration will go down as a great
moment in the history of the lesbian and gay
liberation movement.

But after Oct. 11, how can these gains in
power and organization further the cause?
This is the question each has to ponder.

History shows that without struggle, no prog-
ress can be made. History shows, too, that the
greater the unity among the oppressed, the
greater the victories won from the oppressors.
Nowhere is this truer than in the battle in
civil rights and economic justice for all people.

The Black movement in the 1960s, for exam-
ple, showed that millions of people could be
mobilized to force the government to pass im-
portant civil rights legislation and win af-
firmative action programs.

In the 1980s, workers of all nationalities
fought for unemployment insurance and
social security.

Today, a new force reflecting the growth and
changes in the developing "high-tech" work-
force will be bringing more of all colors and
nationalities, more women, and more lesbians
and gay men together.

As new technology brings layoffs or low pay,
all workers are under the gun of the anti-labor
offensive. Lesbians and gays, along with ev-
everyone else, feel the pressure of this assault on
ton of their special oppression.

Together, this new force of natural allies
against oppression and exploitation can
mountains. Unite this force of workers and
oppressed people back and defeat the reac-
tionary forces of war, racism, sexism and les-
bian and gay oppression in this country.

Which path of struggle in coming period?

This great demonstration was built by inde-
pendent activists and grassroots lesbian and
gay organizations. Sacrifice is a great
praise of love and justice and has

everyone here today.

Now that the 1988 elections are approach-
ing, this movement must retain that indepen-
dence and spirit. As more and more
politicians come courting with false promises
and lesser-of-two-evil rhetoric, it must be re-
membered that in the fight against gay
movement and its allies — not do-nothing
"friends" on Capitol Hill — that got the les-
bian and gay movement this far.

The Democratic Party-controlled Congress

If the U.S.-contra war against Nicaragua
collapses, will we see a re-emergence of Demo-
cratic leaders who have sharply distanced them-

the House Speaker Jim

Right of Texas wants everyone to believe. He

Letters

LTV retiree

I cannot afford a contribution at this time. I am an LTV Steel retiree.

We lobbied our legislators for our ben-

What the mouse that squeaked

Carl Jacob

It was with great sadness and a

dichael, with no thought there the amount

What the reeds seed is for some-

We have 30-40 years in the steel

P.S. I would like to see this in Work-

I would like to see this in Work-

Connecticut Committee

Rosenbergs dishonored

The White House has announced

This award to Judge Kaufman
can only remind the public of the
most grievous mistake in the judge's ca-

tury, his reprehensible role during the
hysterical McCarthy period, the "le-
gal" murder of the martyred couple
Julius and Ethel Rosenbergs. By mak-
ing this award, President Reagan will
be repeating the mistake of the

hysteria as he passed his unprec-

Ernest N. Sellers

North Canton, Ohio

It would be with great sadness and a

deeper sense of the progressive movement's
loss that we, the Connecticut Commit-
tee Against Repression, learned of the
passing of Carl Jacob (WW, Sept. 17).

Only days before his death, Carl
brought his generators, loudspeakers
and microphones to Hartford for the
national march in support of the
Puerto Rican Hartford 16.

That march, and the rally that fol-

was a considerable success for
us: more than 2,000 people turned out
from Hartford, New York, Boston,
New Haven and Jersey City to allow
support for the Puerto Rican political
prisoners and for the Puerto Rican
insurgency for independence from U.S.
colonialism. We consider that success to be
Carl's success as well — his tech-
nical expertise was evident from the
very first speaker to the closing

He was with great sadness and a

deeper sense of the progressive move-

This award to Judge Kaufman

can only remind the public of the
most grievous mistake in the judge's ca-

tury, his reprehensible role during the
hysterical McCarthy period, the "le-
gal" murder of the martyred couple
Julius and Ethel Rosenbergs. By mak-
ing this award, President Reagan will
be repeating the mistake of the
McCarthy period, in effect, "humbling
his nose" at world leaders, Nobel laur-
egates the support of legal
scholars, who pleaded that those
tragic electrocutions be halted.

At the Rosenberg trial in 1951, no
witness claimed that the Rosenbergs
ever transmitted any classified infor-

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New York
No one should be misled by the apparent contradiction between the position of the U.S. Senate, which just voted 98 to 0 to support the Dalai Lama’s call for the independence of the Tibet, and the Reagan administration’s affirmation of China’s sovereignty over Tibet as a provincial region of the People’s Republic of China (PRC).

This is merely a continuation of the duplicitous and biased U.S. diplomacy with respect to China which goes back over 70 years. In 1913, the U.S., as well as Britain, affirmed the sovereignty of China over Tibet while at the same time they built independent political and diplomatic channels to Tibet.

China abolished serfdom in Tibet

The People’s Republic of China had done nothing more in Tibet than to abolish serfdom, it would have earned its right to reassess its centuries-old sovereignty over the area, which dates back to 2253 B.C.

The aim of this profound social revolution was to end the thousand-year-old oppression of the people by the landlord class, an institution, who owned the land and ruled over the population with an iron hand. The revolutionary struggle was nothing less than a change in the nature of a revolution from above.

The great, world-historical rebirths of the peasantry which were such a fundamental driving force in the Chinese revolution were not limited to China. The peasant revolution in the Soviet Union, the revolutions in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, China and Cuba, created a world socialist front, and the Russian revolution gave the Chinese revolution a revolutionary leadership.

The peasant revolution in the Soviet Union, the revolutions in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, China and Cuba, created a world socialist front, and the Russian revolution gave the Chinese revolution a revolutionary leadership. The peasant revolution in the Soviet Union, the revolutions in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, China and Cuba, created a world socialist front, and the Russian revolution gave the Chinese revolution a revolutionary leadership. The peasant revolution in the Soviet Union, the revolutions in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, China and Cuba, created a world socialist front, and the Russian revolution gave the Chinese revolution a revolutionary leadership.

The nearest analogy is that of the French Revolution, both in France and in Spain. In eastern Europe, Napoleon was greeted with great enthusiasm, but he failed dismally in Spain.

When the formation of the Chinese People’s Republic was announced in early 1949, Tibet was not yet considered a fully liberated area. An early history of the Chinese revolution calls it the Chinese people’s U.S. war. On July 1, 1913, the Chinese People’s Republic was announced.

It should be noted that in the years of the Long March, when the Communists had to cross the entire country, the people of the Tibetan regions were not on the march, but they were able to provide the Chinese army with food and supplies.

China wanted to go slow in Tibet

It is the view of this writer that the People’s Republic of China would have been content to leave matters alone with respect to Tibet for a considerable time as it had done in Manchuria. The staggering problems that the Chinese People’s Republic faced in its early days of bringing peace to the region and economic reconstruction made it virtually certain that the internal situation would dominate.

The real priority was for China to begin the task of socialist reconstruction. A real test of firmly establishing what Mao had called the People’s Democratic Dictatorship would not be easy. It was a task not just of an internal character, but also of a form of state.

Tibet has long been considered the “pivot of Asia” by the great powers. In developing their policy on Tibet, the People’s Republic of China has had to take note of this, especially when there was pressure on their borders, as during the Korean War.

The fact that the USSR, notwithstanding its friendship treaty with China signed in 1950, eventually backed India in the border dispute against China shows the concern of the great powers with developments in Tibet and helped lay the groundwork for the sino-Soviet split.

Thus, viewed in the perspective of the Chinese Revolution, whatever the internal situation might have been in Tibet, it had an external aspect which also posed a dangerous situation for China.

Overall U.S. strategy and the Carnegie Corp.

However, Tibet has another and far greater significance to the Western imperialists than British, India, Pakistan and the USSR. The whole region in which Tibet is situated has been referred to in some U.S. literature on the subject as a center of gravity for Asia in which all the so-called great powers have been historically concerned.

An aspect which is often overlooked these days with respect to China is the growing importance of the U.S. in the region.

The Chinese territorial question is a complex one, involving Tibet and the western Himalayas.

Tibet is considered to be the West as a very isolated country surrounded by mountains, having poor natural resources and an extremely arid social structure which for centuries was dominated by the Lamaist offshoot of Buddhism. To the general public and tourists especially, Tibet is of greatest interest for its ancient temples, remarkable architecture and so on.

Although its resources may be considered poor in relation to others, it is worth pointing to note that Tibet has large deposits of gold, copper and uranium, something the great powers could not overlook. However, mining was long prohibited by the Dalai Lamas for religious reasons, so a great deal of wealth may still be buried in the ground. China no less than any other country would be concerned about this.

Tibet’s geographical position locates it in the historic road between India and China. Tibet is bordered on the west by India, Bhutan, Sikkim and Nepal, on the west by India and Kashmir, and on the north and east by other Chinese provinces.

Tibet’s early history

It might be recalled that the Tibetans throughout their history have not been known for being submissive or docile. The first attempt at the unification of the Tibetans came as early as the 8th century A.D. under the leadership of Song-tsun Gampo, who organized and unified the Tibetan tribes, then situated himself in Lhasa and made it the capital. During the next century, Tibet grew so powerfully that it actually threatened the very existence of the Srivijaya empire in the south, and even threatened to overawe the Buddhist regions of China. Tibet then threatened armed force. The Tibetans, however, were determined and organized.

At that time, the Manchus headed the Chinese state. They were fearful and pointedly refused to support the opposition of the Tibetans, yielding to the British.

This was because of the determination and militancy of the Tibetans, this time the scheme of entering the region was foiled. It is good to contemplate the significance of this resistance a hundred years later. The g-slow methods of the People’s Republic of China in Tibet were calculated to ensure a peaceful and stable relationship and its opponents to support the revolution of the revolutionary forces in this archaic old feudal country.

Issue of self-determination

The issue of self-determination is one that has to be settled between China and Tibet and no one else. The right of self-determination has always been dependent on the character of the historical epoch in which it is raised and the nature of the international situation, which in the contemporary world is always a factor of enormous significance.

China is a state with a considerable number of nationalities. If there is one aspect of the PRC’s conduct which stands out for its progressive character, it is its policy with respect to the nationality question. Like the Soviet Union under different circumstances, China has made the greatest progress precisely along those lines.

Continued on page 10
Conference of homeless features action agenda

By Leslie Feinberg
New York

"No viviendas, no paz! No housing, no peace!" was the vehement demand of the hundreds who filled Local 1199's auditorium on Oct. 4 for an all-day international assembly on homelessness and poverty. The gathering brought together the homeless and poor of New York City as well as representatives from other countries to discuss issues and strategies for action.

The assembly was organized by the October 6 Coalition, a broad range of U.S. homeless activists, squatters, housing, peace and solidarity groups.

A caravan of Latin American activists touring the U.S. was a vital part of this Popular Assembly. Present today was CONAMUP (Coordinadora Nacional del Movimiento Urbano Popular - the Nationally Coordinated Urban Poor People's Movement), formed in Mexico in 1980 by several regional mass organizations. CONAMUP brings together neighborhood residents, homemakers, homeless, renters, earthquake victims, vendors, bus and taxi drivers and other representatives from some 300 neighborhood organizations in 18 states throughout the Republic of Mexico. According to CONAMUP, women have played the most active role in this organizing.

Despite government repression, CONAMUP has been working since 1982 towards a Latin American congress of community organizations which was held in February of this year in Managua, Nicaragua. Delegates came from Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Panama, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay, creating an organization for the nationally organized movements. This newly-formed group, Prent Con- tinental de Organizaciones Comunales (Continental Front of Neighborhood Organizations), defined themselves as an anti-imperialist, democratic organization representing the interests of poor urban dwellers throughout the Americas.

They charged that the poverty suffered by the majority of Latin Americans was the direct result of "oppression, exploitation and the chaotic expansion characteristic of capitalist urbanization," and the intolerable foreign debt stealing the money of workers labor to feed the banks, not the children.

A similar anti-imperialist resolution, "The Campinas Declaration," was signed by representatives of 56 trade union federations and trade unions.

NFL strike

Continued from page 4

The National Football League's 13.5 million dollar share of the TV revenues.

But it is the players who make the game, often at the cost of their health. At the very least they deserve wages and benefits that reflect their contribution.

Join us in the struggle

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

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

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Buffalo: 349 Niagara St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14201 (716) 855-3055
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Tibet

Continued from page 9

The exceptionally difficult situation of Tibet dates back to its ancient legacy, which over the centuries, not decades, made it an integral part of China. China did not, like the U.S. did with Alaska, purchase Tibet, nor did it go thousands of miles overseas, subjugate and conquer a Polynesian so- ciety as the U.S. did with virtually genocidal effects on the people of Ha-

waiti.

To attempt the kind of self-determi-

nation which the Dalai Lama is pro-

posing from his outpost in New Delhi and Washington can only result in the establishment of a neocon loy of impe-

rialism and a dagger pointed at the heart of China. There is, however, wide latitude for solving the national question within the framework of the Peoples Republic of China and the pursuit of a progressive, democratic and socialist policy by Tibet and the Chinese People's Republic.

There are unlimited possibilities for approaching the problem of self-de-
termination within the context of au-

tonomy and the framework of the multination state of China, or through any other relationship which is the uninhibited result of the mutual, reciprocal relations between China and Tibet. It is exclusively a problem between them, and should be brok by no in-
terference, overt or covert, from oth-

ers.

China has successfully arranged its relations with its neighbors like Burma, Bhutan and Nepal and, not withstanding its aggression against Vietnam, that too will be normalized in the spirit of socialist solidarity and is a matter between China and Viet-

nam.
Salvadoran people rally to support FMLN guerrillas

By Andy Stapp

Thousands of guerrilla supporters turned out in San Salvador on Oct. 4 when U.S. forces opened fire on the entire front-line of the left-wing, anti-U.S. National Liberation Front (FMLN) right under the noses of armed American troops. Over the past eight years, tens of thousands have been murdered for less by police and army. This outburst of pro-FMLN support is not some sort of sign that the Duarte government is becoming more demo-
cratic or tolerant of opposition. Hun-
dreds of labor leaders remain in prison. Duarte’s war on the leftist con-
tractions, 14 families continue to domi-
nate all the national wealth in this country and only the rich people.

Duarte’s grip is slipping

It is not any new liberalization on the part of the regime, but its growing isolation which emboldened the peo-
ples to pour out and demonstrate for the guerrillas. Despite more than $1 bil-
on in aid from Washington and includ-
ing a recent new grant for the notorious Salvadoran police, Duarte’s grip is slipping.

A month ago, when a leftist leader at the National University was kid-
napped it was a fact that dozens of students immediately flooded into the streets, chanting, “Workers to power, Yankee go to hell!” and setting ablaze cars operated by security agents. This defiance is something that the government believed had been buried under the avalanche of terror in the early 1980s. Scores were killed every day to silence the people with the complicity of the Reagan administration and the U.S. military “trainers,” who still di-
rect the operation of the war against the rebels.

Long before he was “elected,” Du-
arte was put in as head of the military junta. As the black press, the rating media and Congress tries to forget when they describe him as “leader of a fragile democracy” it should be remembered that the late boss of the CIA, actually de-
scribed this “democrat” as a “long term hazard,” and in conversations with journalist Bob Woodward.

Duarte’s value as an “asset,” is somewhat similar to those U.S. bank-
loans to Latin America which have now been downgraded.

FMLN has popular support

The armed forces, which U.S. gov-
ernment officials were cheerfully pre-
paring to send into the street, are still bogged down, while the rebels have gained effective control of most of the northern part of the country. It is a classic replay of earlier “peoples’ wars,” where the regular army can make to headway against a force with popular support.

For more than three years, Duarte and his “handlers” in Washington have refused to enter into any talks with the guerrillas. Before negotia-
tions could begin, Duarte always in-
structed that the rebels must lay down their arms. He has now had to aban-
don this position, which was really an ultimate that the FMLN surrender.

The leftist resistance was much smaller and ill equipped when they succeeded in forcing the onset of the regime of General Roman Hirsch. But they are not about to give up new, when the correlation of forces is more in their favor. When they came for the current negotiations, the guerrillas leaders restated their aim that the 14,000 American troops and the military despotism and the chronic interfer-
ence of Washington could have no influence on the democratic will of the res-
istence is the right of the people,” said Leonel Gonzalez, an FMLN com-
mander.

Exclusive interview: Guatemalan unionists face death threats

By David Sole

Following is an interview with two trade union leaders from Guatemal-
a who are touring the U.S. The inter-

1. Both of the unionists requested their names not be used because of the vio-
lation depression they face in their own country.

What union do you represent?

We are organizers and leaders of STINDE. This is the electrical work-
ners union, the largest in Guatemala. We have 6,000 members employed by the government, in factories, offices and even in the fields.

How long has your union been in existence?

Our union was finally recognized as legal July 20, 1987. Guatemala’s le-
largest code provides for recognition of a union after a 30-day procedure. But we fought for recognition for 1 year and 3 months!

What actions did you take to win recognition?

We had two strikes in that time. In October 1986 we struck for three days. Then on April 30, 1987, we stayed out for 15 days. We faced a lot of police re-
pression. Even death threats. But the workers know that only through our or-
ganization can we find answers to the things we are looking for. We had one demonstration in front of Federal Palace on April 29 with 2,000 people.

Are you involved in trying to organize more workers?

Yes. The economy is very bad right now. And we are winning raises for our members, sometimes the first raise in many, many years. We are also try-
ning to organize the railway workers, who are in much fear of assassination, death squades.

Your union involved with other sections of the community?

We are trying to do some work in fa-
vor of the people of Guatemala as a whole. Our union, using union funds, has a national program for literacy and health. The government isn’t do-
ing it, and we know our people need it. These projects are for the entire neighborhood.

What are the greatest problems you face?

The President of the Republic doesn’t really have power. The real power in Guatemala is in the hands of the army. The U.S. is supporting this government with army shipments. All aid to Guatemala is controlled by the army. It is very bad. The workers are very militant. At the same time we were on strike last spring, 200,000 state employees also went on strike.

Could conditions in Guatemala result in worker uprisings like we have seen in south Korea?

If the government doesn’t change its position, we foresee that this will happen. Not immediately, but in the near future. Our currency in Guatemala is suffering severe inflation, hitting the people hard. The unions are getting larger in size, but the demands are not being fulfilled, only met with repression.

What is the aim of your tour?

We are here looking for interna-
tional solidarity for the workers of the U.S. to ask their gov-
ernment to stop the aid to countries in conflict.

What is your view of the role of the United States government in the Central American region?

The U.S. is playing a bad role. They are supporting governments that are not so friendly. There it’s the Central American Peace Plan. The trouble is it has no future because of the position of the U.S. government. The U.S. must end its support of the contras in Nica-
ragua. The plan calls for amnesty. But this must be a broad amnesty. When the Guatemalan refugees from Mexico return, besides making a show about them coming back, they are never taken to their original villages. They take them into “model villages” which are really concentration camps.

What do you expect when you return to Guatemala?

We already know that retribution is to be expected. We knew when we joined the union movement we were getting into trouble. But we made it a trip to let people know around the world what is happening.

Brian Willson hit again — no charges brought against Navy

By Glória La Rivi
San Francisco

In an attempted whitewash of stun-
ning proportions, Contra Costa County District Attorney Gary Young on Sept. 22 that all charges would be filed against those responsible for a train running over and killing Brian Willson. Willson lost both legs and suffered a severe head injury while blocking trains bound for the major National Weapons Station (CNSW) near San Francisco. CNSW is a major cen-
ter for which weapons are shipped to the U.S. puppet forces in Central America.

The Nuremberg Peace Action Coalition, which Willson is part of, had been protesting arms shipments to Contra all summer. On Aug. 25, Willson wrote a letter to the Navy an-
nouncing his intention to block the trains used by armed-carrying trains on Sept. 1. On Aug. 28, a major local newspaper carried an extensive story on the group’s plans for Sept. 1. An oral

JOURNAL OF A TRANSSEXUAL
by Diane Leslie Feinberg

Written in the form of a daily journal, this is the moving account of the perse-

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Feminism and Marxism
by Corinna Lynett

A Marxist materialist analysis of the roots of women’s oppression and the possibilities for women’s liberation. The woman in history, Love, marriage and monogamy; Two lines of women’s place in Bolshevism and the sex-

volution.

retatement of the intention to block the tracks was made to the Navy on the morning of Sept. 1.

Immediately after Willson was run over, a Navy spokesman claimed that the train was traveling 5 miles per hour and implied that Willson had attempted to commit suicide. Videotapes proved that the speed of the train was at least 17 mph, and that it was speed-
ing up as it hit Willson, who was mak-

ing a desperate attempt to get out of the way of the train.

Close to 10,000 demonstrators ral-

lied in solidarity with Willson and against the U.S. government in San Fran-
sics on Sept. 5.

Holly Rauen, Wilson’s wife and fel-
dom activist, witnessed the horri-
fying attack on him, vowed to press for further state and federal investiga-
tions. Angrily dismissing the DA’s de-
cision not to press charges, she said, “At the time I saw the train bearing down on us, I felt there was a crime be-
ing committed. It was in no way an ac-
cident.”

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Mundo Obrero presente en la lucha por la igualdad de derechos de lesbianas y gays

Por Lucinda Sintierra

Desde el comienzo de la lucha por los derechos de las lesbianas y hombres gay, Mundo Obrero, partido revolucionario de la clase obrera, ha dado su mayor decisión en apoyar y participación para que un día los homosexuales sean tratados como miembros integrales de la sociedad sin prejuicio ni discriminación.

Esta lucha comenzó en 1969 cuando la comunidad homosexual en los Estados Unidos se movilizó para pedir derechos civiles y el reconocimiento legal que merecían. Desde entonces, la comunidad ha luchado y lucha en todo el mundo para obtener los mismos derechos que otros ciudadanos.

En el mundo laboral, la lucha por el reconocimiento de los derechos de las lesbianas y gays se ha realizado a través de movimientos sindicales y organizaciones que luchan por la igualdad de derechos. Se han logrado importantes avances en varios países, pero aún queda mucho por hacer.

Por último, queremos destacar el papel crucial de las organizaciones sindicales en la lucha por los derechos de las lesbianas y gays. Estas organizaciones han caracterizado la lucha por los derechos de los trabajadores en general y, por ende, son fundamentales para garantizar la igualdad de derechos para todas las personas.

Epígrama del SIDA

Desde que la epidemia del SIDA salió a la luz, el mundo ha visto cómo las personas de todo el mundo se han unido para luchar contra este terrible enemigo. Múltiples actividades han sido organizadas en todo el mundo para concienciar a la población sobre el SIDA.

Entre muchos hechos destacables, en 1996, el mundo celebró el Día Internacional del SIDA dedicado a luchar contra esta epidemia. En el año 2000, la OMS estableció el 1 de diciembre como Día Mundial del SIDA.

Analizando el estado actual de la lucha contra el SIDA, podemos ver que aún nos quedan desafíos por superar. Sin embargo, también vemos que la lucha sigue avanzando y que somos capaces de hacer cambios positivos en el mundo.

Imperialismo norteamericano busca derrocar proceso de paz en Centroamérica

Por Carl Glenn

El acuerdo de paz firmado por los cinco países centroamericanos el 7 de agosto, constituye una victoria más dentro del proceso de paz en Centroamérica y también para el Frente Sandinista, que ha trabajado incansablemente por la paz y la libertad del pueblo nicaragüense.

El acuerdo Ecuapiquías II alcanzado en Guatemala es una derrota para el imperialismo norteamericano, que ha intentado derrocar al gobierno de Nicaragua y que ha financiado y apoyado a los grupos contrarios al gobierno de Ortega.

En cuanto al contenido del acuerdo Ecuapiquías II, se puede decir que es un proceso de paz que se debe implementar con firmeza y seriedad, con el único fin de garantizar la paz y la estabilidad en Centroamérica.

Otro aspecto importante es el papel de la Unión Soviética en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica. La Unión Soviética ha sido un aliado fundamental en la lucha por la paz en la región, y ha ayudado a los países centroamericanos a alcanzar la paz.

En conclusión, el acuerdo Ecuapiquías II es un paso importante en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica. Sin embargo, aún queda mucho trabajo por hacer para garantizar la paz y la estabilidad en la región.

El acuerdo Ecuapiquías II

El acuerdo Ecuapiquías II firmado en Guatemala el 7 de agosto de 1985, es un importante paso en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica. El acuerdo tenía como objetivo el fin del conflicto que había existido en la región desde la Guerra Civil de los 70s.

El acuerdo fue firmado por los gobiernos de Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua y Costa Rica, y se basaba en el principio de la consulta previa con los pueblos indígenas.

El acuerdo establecía la creación de una Comisión de Verdad y Reconciliación, que tenía como objetivo investigar los crímenes cometidos durante la guerra y promover la reconciliación entre los pueblos de la región.

El acuerdo fue visto como un paso importante en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica, y fue celebrado por muchas personas a nivel internacional.

Sin embargo, el acuerdo también fue criticado por algunos sectores que argumentaban que no había sido suficiente para garantizar la paz y la reconciliación en la región.

En conclusión, el acuerdo Ecuapiquías II fue un paso importante en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica, aunque aún quedaba mucho por hacer para garantizar una paz duradera en la región.

El papel de la Unión Soviética

El papel de la Unión Soviética en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica fue fundamental. La Unión Soviética apoyó financieramente al gobierno de Nicaragua en su lucha contra el imperialismo norteamericano y en su lucha por la paz en la región.

La Unión Soviética también apoyó a los países centroamericanos que estaban luchando por la paz en la región, y ayudó a financiar y apoyar la lucha contra el imperialismo norteamericano.

En conclusión, el papel de la Unión Soviética en la búsqueda de la paz en Centroamérica fue fundamental. La Unión Soviética apoyó financieramente al gobierno de Nicaragua y ayudó a financiar y apoyar la lucha contra el imperialismo norteamericano.