



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

Noticias en español vea página 12

DOWN WITH APARTHEID

The African National Congress of South Africa responds to the banning of anti-apartheid groups.

9

STATUS OF WOMEN

While a new congressional report claims that incomes are rising, the truth is that women make only 52% of what men earn, and the most oppressed women are hardest hit.

4

HOMELESS

Contingents of homeless people from key U.S. cities gave militance to the first national march against homelessness, held in Atlanta.

3

Black-white unity kicks KKK out of Dallas

By Joanne Gavin Dallas

February 27 — Every time in this recent period that the Ku Klux Klan has tried to come out into the daylight and march through a Texas city's streets it has been outnumbered by hundreds of outraged people. And sometimes the people's response has gone beyond the verbal.

Today, the message of mass outrage against this murderous gang of nightriding terrorists was the loudest and the clearest yet. Between 600 and 700 people not only said "no" to the Klan, but attacked a Klan rally.

When the Klansmen appeared, the people lost no time in ripping off hoods and robes and kicking and hitting them. Some also threw horse manure at the racists. Demonstrators also burned a Confederate and a Nazi flag, showing their hatred for everything the Klan represents.

It was learned that the Klansmen had come from Connecticut.

It is no surprise that the police surrounded the Klansmen, attempting to protect them. Demonstrators responded to this by chanting, "Cops kill the people!" But there weren't many police. And a group of about 20 "skinhead" racist thugs

Continued on page 6



Dallas youth trounce Klan and other racists.

FIGHTING RACIST ATTACKS

A wave of racist assaults nationwide and attempts by the bigoted media to scapegoat Tawana Brawley have spurred organizing efforts in outraged communities.

Centerfold



Tawana Brawley

PANAMA CRISIS — THE VIEW FROM MANAGUA

5

By David Perez

The campaign of destabilization waged by the U.S. government against Panama has escalated in the past week from a propaganda war aimed at ousting Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega to an all-out attempt to cripple the Panamanian economy.

Noriega, the successor to Panama's popular nationalist leader Gen. Omar Torrijos, has been seen as an obstacle by Washington ever since Reagan's National Security Adviser Admiral William Poindexter, in a secret visit to Panama City in December 1985, failed to persuade Noriega to go along with a U.S. plan for an invasion of Nicaragua to be spearheaded by Panamanian troops.

This meeting was described by Panamanian leaders on the CBS-TV program "60 Minutes" on Feb. 7 of this year, at which time Noriega also reiterated Panama's insistence that the U.S. abide by the 1977 Carter-Torrijos treaty on the Panama Canal which requires the removal of U.S. forces from Panama by 1999.

U.S. pressure to get rid of Noriega peaked on Feb. 17, when U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Elliott Abrams, a key administration architect of the contra war against Nicaragua, met privately in Miami with Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle and laid down the law to him, saying, "What is certain is that Noriega has to go." (New York Times, Feb. 19.)

Just one week later, on Feb. 25, Delvalle tried to "dismiss" General Noriega as commander of Panama's Defense Forces, but instead found himself voted out of office the following day by the National Assembly, which by Panama's Constitution chooses the president. The U.S., however, refused to recognize the new president chosen by the Assembly, Miguel Solis Palma, and has since promoted the fiction that Delvalle is still head of state.

Not a 'strike' but a lockout

This has created a struggle in several Panamanian embassies in Western capitals, but in Panama

Continued on page 5

U.S. tries to cripple Panama economy



Autoworkers say no to plant closing.

WW PHOTO: DAVE SOLE



Thousands rally in Boston to support IP strike.

WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

Autoworkers march on Chrysler world headquarters

By Jerry Goldberg
Detroit

February 25 — Today, over 2,000 angry UAW members demonstrated at the Chrysler world headquarters in Highland Park. The picket was to protest Chrysler's proposed sale of its Acustar Parts division. Acustar employs close to 30,000 workers at 28 plants, including 5,000 workers in Michigan alone.

The protesters were absolutely furious. The workers pointed out that it was their contract concessions that saved Chrysler when it was near bankruptcy in 1979. Each Chrysler worker gave up \$26,000 in concessions between 1979-1982. Now that Chrysler is raking in record profits, the corporation has the audacity to threaten to eliminate 30,000 workers.

Lee Iacocca, the darling of Michigan's Democratic Party leaders, like Governor Blanchard who keeps pushing him to run for president, was a

particular target of the demonstration. This year, Iacocca got \$20 million in salary and bonuses as Chrysler's top executive. As UAW Vice President Marc Stepp stated, "The only thing Chrysler workers would vote for Iacocca would be for a hanging."

To protest the Acustar sale, UAW Chrysler locals have been taking strike votes throughout the country over local bargaining issues. Also, the day of the demonstration the 200-member UAW Chrysler Council voted unanimously to suspend six so-called "Modern Operating Agreements" to express opposition to the sale. The UAW leadership has touted these agreements for "cooperation between labor and management" as the wave of the future and as the only way to "save jobs." UAW Vice President Stepp received his loudest applause at the rally when he announced the union's abandoning of these agreements in protest of the proposed Acustar sale.

Boston unionists show solidarity with IP strikers

By Steve Gillis
Boston

February 26 — Solidarity with the courageous struggle of the striking paper workers at International Paper was shown here this week at local union meetings, universities and community events.

The week culminated in the largest show of solidarity by the Boston labor movement since the 1983 Greyhound strike when 2,000 unionists walked off their jobs at noontime today to demand justice for the striking International Paper (IP) workers from Jay, Maine.

Bolstered by the presence of over 200 striking members of United Paperworkers International Union Local 14 and leaders of the Mass. AFL-CIO,

hundreds of construction workers, hotel and restaurant workers, government employees and an 18-wheel Teamsters rig converged on Boston's financial district, thundering "Scabs out! Union in!" and "Shut 'em down!" as they marched.

With fists held high, they surrounded the giant Bank of Boston, a notorious ally of union busters and supporter of apartheid. The Bank of Boston owns Casco Northern Bank in Maine, an important source of capital for IP, and one of the bank's directors also sits on the board of IP.

The strikers have launched a campaign to expose the ties between IP and other powerful corporations such as the Bank of Boston and Coca Cola

Continued on page 11

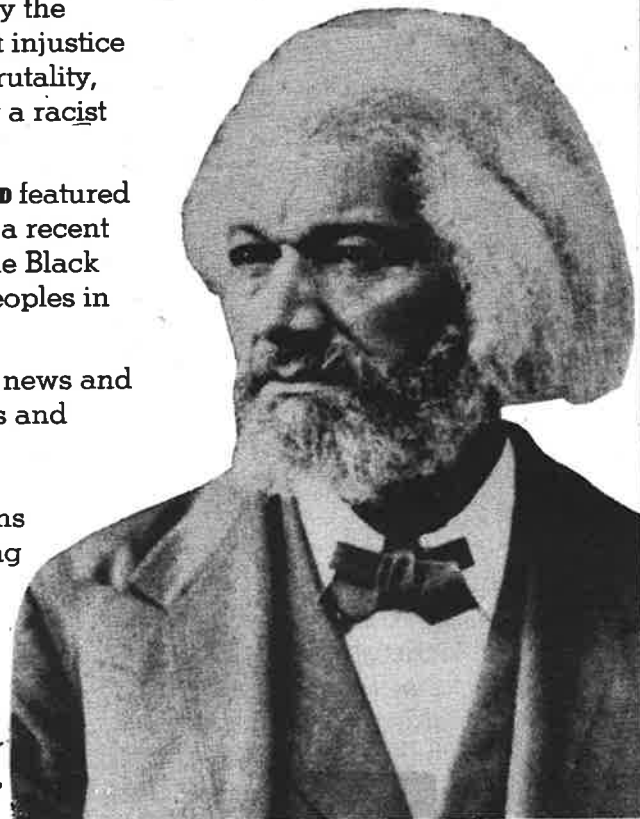
"There can be no progress without struggle"

Those words of Fredrick Douglass ring as true today as when he wrote them over a century ago. He was referring to the struggle against slavery. Today the struggle continues — to end all forms of racist injustice and inequality, against violence and police brutality, unemployment, layoffs, homeless imposed by a racist and bigoted society.

In honor of Black History Month, **WORKERS WORLD** featured the Black struggle in a special supplement in a recent issue of the paper. But **WORKERS WORLD** covers the Black struggle and the struggles of all oppressed peoples in every issue of the paper.

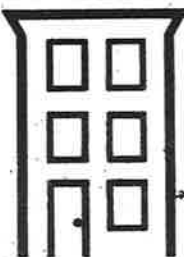
In order to provide the most up-to-the-minute news and analysis of the struggles of oppressed peoples and working people in the U.S. and around the world, the newspaper needs your help. We must try to buy a building when our lease runs out in 1989. Show us your support by sending in a contribution today.

Our future depends on the struggle. Join the struggle. Invest in **WORKERS WORLD** today.



Please mail your check today to the WW Building Fund. For more information write to WW Building Fund 46 West 21 St. New York, NY 10010. Or call us at (212) 255-0352

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City/State/Zip _____



30th ANNIVERSARY BUILDING FUND

In this issue...

<u>INTERNATIONAL</u>	
Latin American view of U.S. attacks on Panama ...	1
Washington's war on Panama	5
History of U.S. vs. Panama	5
ANC statement on new banning order	9
Shultz in Mideast	9
Palestine support rally planned in Washington	9
<u>NATIONAL</u>	
KKK kicked out of Dallas	1
Autoworkers march on Chrysler	2
IP strike backed at Boston rally	2
Homeless march in Atlanta	3
Palestinians aid U.S. homeless	3
On the picketline	3
Conditions for women worsening	4
Union fights for childcare	4
Murder by Atlanta cop	6
Tawana Brawley — role of racist media	7
N.J. racist attack	7
Juan Rodriguez coverup	7
News from Indian Country	10
Detroit schools	11
Inside the walls	11
AIDS Action pledge	11
<u>FEATURES AND EDITORIALS</u>	
Jackson in Maine	8
NATO — Bring the troops home!	8
<u>NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL</u>	
Violencia contra la mujer	12
Mujeres en la lucha hacia su liberacion	12

workers world

46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010 Editorial: (212) 206-8222
Business: (212) 255-0352 Telex: 6501176920

Vol. 30, No. 10/March 10, 1988 Closing news date: March 2, 1988

Editor: Deirdre Griswold
Technical Editor: Lallan Stein
Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, Joyce Chediak, Robert Dobrow, Gary Wilson; Contributing Editors: Monica Moorehead, Carmen Roundtree, Sharon Shelton, Andy Stapp; Prison Page: Leslie Feinberg; Special Supplement: Shelley Ettinger; Technical Staff: Sharon Ayling, Pat Chin, Mark Doran, Ken Franson, Marsha Goldberg, Gin T. Loy, Katy Rosen, Steve Schultz; Mundo Obrero: Carl Glenn, Petra Guerra, Teresa Gutierrez, Santiago Manque-Milla, Rosa Maria de la Torre, David Perez, Lucinda Sintierra, Octavio Vargas, Angela Vera; Darkroom Staff: G. Dunkel, Fabian, Susan Rotgard.

Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) is published weekly by WW Publishers, 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Business office: (212) 255-0352. Editorial office: (212) 206-8222. Subscriptions: One year: \$10.00; 6 months: \$6.00. All letters received by Workers World become the property of the newspaper. We reserve the right to print letters in condensed form. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or Xerox from University Microfilms International, 300 Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 46 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010. Bundle rates available on request.

Nat'l march on homelessness held in Atlanta

Militant delegations from homeless unions strongly represented

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Atlanta

February 27 — Thousands of people from around the country marched here today to demand an end to homelessness. The most militant demonstrators came from homeless unions. Among the most popular slogans were "Homes, not shelters," "Homeless, not helpless," and "Money for jobs, not for war!" Police and media estimated the crowd at between 5,000 and 8,000 people.

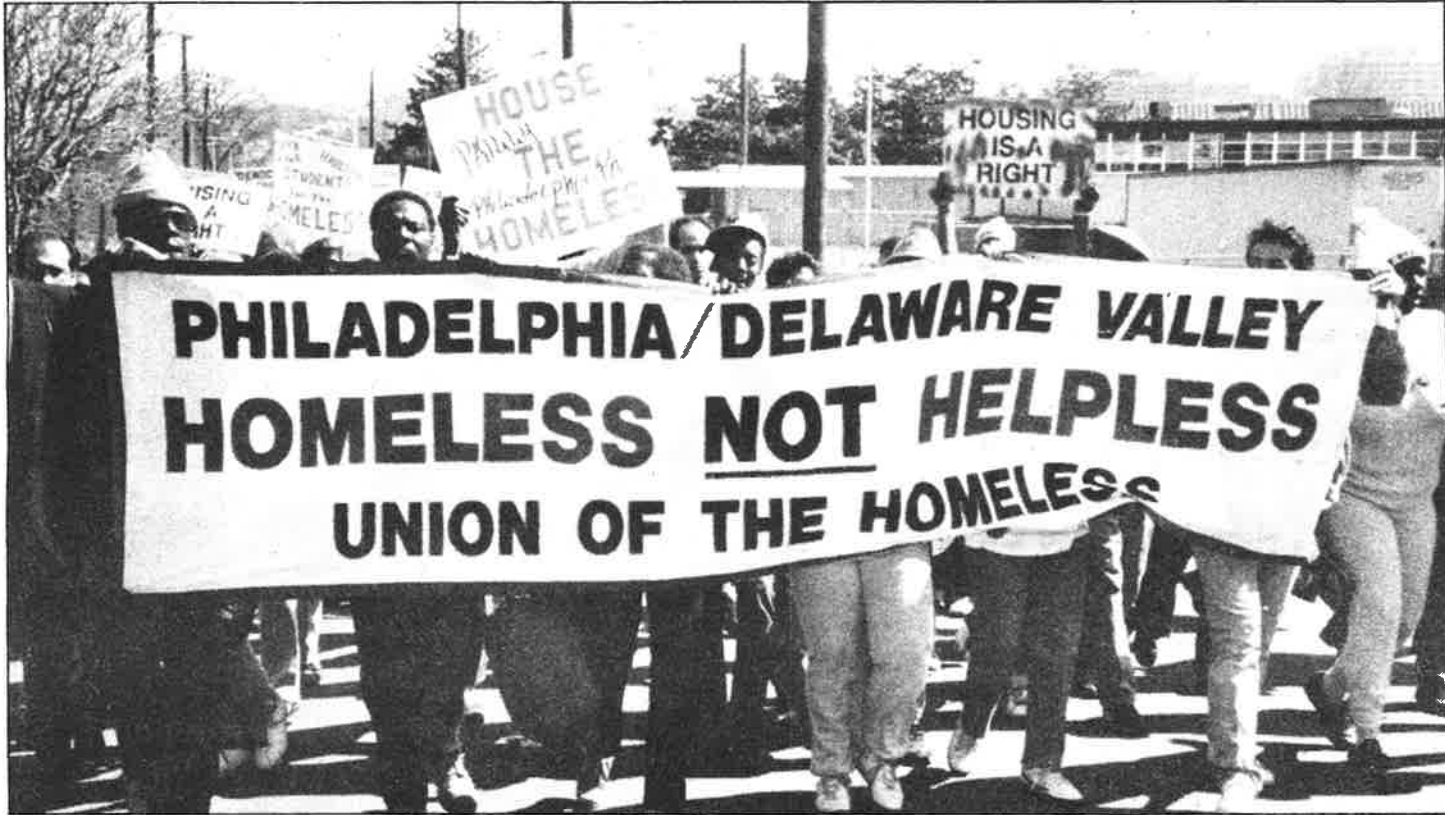
The march was led by homeless women and children, many in strollers. Loud and militant contingents of the Union of the Homeless from Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago, Boston and Washington, D.C., chanted through the entire march.

Several groups of lesbians and gay men, many of them homeless, carried signs saying "People with AIDS need housing." They chanted, "Gay, straight, Black, white! Homelessness is everyone's fight!"

Many allies and supporters of the homeless, including labor, civil rights, church and students' organizations joined this first national march on homelessness.

Also marching were representatives of battered women's shelters, daycare centers, poverty rights groups and peace activists.

The principal organizer of the march was the National Coalition of the Homeless, an advocacy group. Their stated purpose was to interject the needs of 3 million homeless people into the politics of the March 8 "Super Tuesday" primary. This strategy resulted in major portions of the pre- and post-march rallies becoming self-promotional platforms for Democratic Party politicians.



One of the militant contingents of homeless people.

WW PHOTO: JIMMY RAYNOR

All of the Democratic candidates addressed the crowd, along with Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and the leading contenders in the next mayoral race. Most received an indifferent to polite response, but vigorous boos greeted several. Republican candidates were invited, although none attended.

The reception of Illinois Senator Paul Simon was revealing. He walked on stage surrounded by five Secret Service agents. He dropped his prepared statement after a chorus of jeers. Chants of "No more talk, what are you gonna do?" interrupted him more than once. He began again, saying, "I've always supported the less fortunate."

One man in the crowd said, "He looks like a middle class guy who has just been asked for a quarter by somebody on the subway."

Mayor Young was also booed and interrupted with a chant of "Andy, Andy, stop your lies. We want jobs and housing now." His administration recently began enforcement of a "vagrant-free zone" in downtown, arresting dozens of people in nighttime sweeps.

The exception was the warm response to Jesse Jackson. A standing ovation greeted his arrival, and many responded with cheers to his statements linking homelessness to low-wage jobs and Reaganite cutbacks. He also denounced the siphoning of tax dollars to the Pentagon and the contras. (See editorial, page 8, on Jackson's campaign.)

Unfortunately, speakers representing the homeless themselves were last on the agenda. Contrasting sharply with the jacket-and-tie politicians, several called for direct action by homeless people to take over abandoned buildings and denounced the politicians' platitudes.

Two hours after the rally the Democratic candidates participated in a national televised debate. In a show of hypocrisy none of them mentioned homelessness although all had described it as a "first priority" at the rally.

Chris Sprowal, of the National Union of the Homeless, pointed out the hypocrisy of the Democrats. They de-

nounce Reagan now, he said, but have controlled the House of Representatives throughout his term, voting for his anti-people cutbacks every time.

Sprowal evoked the militant history of the trade union movement, saying, "The bosses didn't just wake up one morning and decide out of the goodness of their hearts to give workers the eight-hour day or two-week vacations. Those things were fought for and won in the streets."

"Homeless people can't look to the Democrats or Republicans," he said. "We must provide our own leadership. Our battleground is in the streets."

Billy Hands Robinson of Atlanta, who has organized a worker-controlled labor center, described the exploitation of homeless people by day labor centers. Minimum-wage jobs won't pay for a house or apartment, he said. (See letter, page 8.)

The All-Peoples Congress (APC) organized a contingent around the slogan, "Money for jobs and housing, not for war." APC banners linked opposition to racism, unemployment, apartheid and contra funding. Carrie Morris, president of Atlanta APC, told this reporter that, "This is a beginning. People have come here to fight for housing. Nobody came to listen to fat-cat politicians talk. Nobody's fooled by these Democrats, we'll keep on marching."

Rev. Joseph Lowery of the SCLC announced a march on homelessness which will begin in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4 and travel to Atlanta.

Palestinians in U.S. aid homeless 'We, too, are a homeless people'

By Jerry Goldberg
Detroit

February 18 — Today, Palestinians in over 15 major U.S. cities provided meals for the homeless people in this country. This tremendous show of international solidarity among oppressed people was organized by the Association of Palestinian Youth For Return (APYFR). The Palestinians prepared meals for the homeless in Chicago, Cleveland, Houston, Dallas, Boston, Youngstown, Detroit and other communities as well.

With their flag waving in the background, the Palestinians served a generous meal of lentils and rice, salad, bread and juice to the 170 homeless people at the Coalition for Temporary Shelter of Detroit. The homeless were appreciative. A leader

of the newly formed Detroit-Wayne County Union of the Homeless shook hands with the comrades from Palestine.

A representative of the APYFR told the crowd, "We, the Palestinians, care about the homeless in the U.S. because we too are a homeless people. We pledge an ongoing commitment to help the homeless."

Diane Goldberg, representing the All-Peoples Congress and Trade Unionists for Palestinian Rights, pointed out that \$4 billion in U.S. aid goes to Israel each year. This money pays for the Israeli war against the Arab people. This \$4 billion a year could wipe out hunger, unemployment and homelessness in the Detroit area if it were used to meet human needs here at home.

On the picket line

Wyoming coal strike. Some 300 miners at Decker Coal Co. in Sheridan, Wyoming, have been on strike for five months, facing down the company, cops and courts — and their militancy keeps growing. After a local judge enjoined the union from picketlines of more than five people, the strikers sat down in the middle of the highway that leads to the mine and blocked scabs from entering. A strike support group of mostly women has played a key role in keeping the struggle going, organizing food distributions and the union's health and welfare program. There have been several strike rallies and demonstrations, with supporters from around the region marching through the streets of this small town. At the next rally, on March 12, a featured speaker will be Nomonde, a representative of the National Union of Mineworkers of South Africa.

Northwest flight attendants.

As of Feb. 29, the 6,700 flight attendants at Northwest Airlines are on strike alert. The Teamsters extended the midnight strike deadline Feb. 28 after agreement was reached on all but the crucial wage issue, but union spokespeople said the possibility of a walkout remains very strong. In Seattle, for instance, where 502 flight attendants are based, a local leader told reporters, "Our aim is to just shut the company down." The airline, based in St. Paul, Minn., has been recruiting scab workers heavily over the past few weeks in obvious preparation for a fight against the union.

NYC nurses walk. Over 400 nurses at the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., walked out on strike Monday, Feb. 29, to protest impossible working conditions and inferior patient care. The nurses, represented by the United Federation of Teachers, emphasize that this struggle does not center on wages. According to a spokesperson, "It would not be fair to accept a contract based on okay money when conditions are affecting patient care." Nurses at Lutheran routinely work four 16-hour days per week followed by an eight-hour fifth day. On another front, nurses demonstrated at 16 city hospitals Wed., Jan. 24, "about contracts, the nursing shortage, and stress," according to one nurse on the picketline. Nurses at the city hospitals have been working without a contract since November.

HIP organizing in Fla.

With an organizing drive by the Office and Professional Employees in full gear, the HIP Network of Florida is fighting against unionization every step of the way. Office workers at the health maintenance organization have filed for a union election, but the company plans to try to block the vote, according to union officials. Since many retired workers live in Florida and have enrolled in the HIP program, the AFL-CIO is asking union retirees to support the HIP workers and notify the health insurer that they stand united with the office workers in their struggle for representation.

Shelley Ettinger

Worsening conditions for women belie congressional report

By Lallan Stein

It can't have been reassuring news for the millions and millions of working women who are increasingly worried about how to make ends meet. The Congressional Budget Office released a report on Feb. 25 claiming an overall 20% rise in the "median adjusted family income" from 1970 to 1986.

This figure is far off compared with other statistical studies which show that most real family incomes are declining. The reason for the gross distortion is obvious. The study was made in preparation for the distribution of budget cuts coming in the wake of the October stock market crash.

How the Congressional Budget Office arrived at this contradictory conclusion is less obvious. It did admit that the incomes of the rich have risen sharply and that there is a widening gap between the wealthy and the poor.

The congressional study gave the increase in the number of workers per family as the principal reason why incomes have risen. They reported on the increasing number of women in the work force and an increasing number of households headed by women. The study was based on figures from the U.S. Census.

About a year ago the United Auto

Workers (UAW) union released an economic report based on Census Bureau figures which found that "while more people in each family are working, the family is worse off than before." According to this report, between 1979 and 1984 the real income for median-income families fell from \$29,029 to \$26,433 per year.

The Council on International and Public Affairs (CIPA) also relied on Census Bureau data in a November 1987 report. It found that between 1985 and 1986 "only the top 20% of families improved their position. The remaining four-fifths lost ground."

Practically every Republican and Democrat in Congress is in the elite group with expanding incomes. They in turn serve as spokesmen for the even smaller percentile whose incomes have skyrocketed. The percentage of national income going to the top 5% is the highest it has been since 1950.

Congressional study ignores racism, sexism

The congressional income study glossed over economic hardships faced by working people. In particular, it totally ignored the racism which is driving down the living standards of Black, Latino, Asian and Native workers who are making up an ever greater percentage of the work force.

The current rise in racist attacks across the country can be directly linked to an effort by the bosses to divide and weaken unity among workers during this period of economic decline.

The study did mention an increasing number of women in the work force. But it didn't account for low wages women are getting in the service sector. Since 1979, 84% of the new jobs created have been in the lowest-paying categories of the service sector, according to CIPA.

Also, the study didn't address the inequality of pay between women and men. Working women earn 52% of what men earn. In full-time, year-round jobs their wages are only 64% of men's wages.

The AFL-CIO News (Feb. 20) says that women now make up 46% of the work force. A disproportionate 60% of minimum wage earners are women. The minimum wage hasn't increased since 1981 when it was raised to \$3.35 an hour. Higher percentages of Black and Latina women are forced to work for the minimum wage. And the undocumented work for even less.

It was reported in the study that single mothers and families headed by people under 25 "became worse off during the period." Also that elderly people not living with families had a

median income barely above the poverty level.

Although worsening conditions for single mothers were mentioned the report doesn't show how bad it really is. There was no mention of the dire effects that social service cuts have had on expectant mothers or their children. In the past seven years 4 million people lost some food stamp aid; 2 million children lost free school lunches and breakfasts; and the average number of children living in poverty was increased by 2.4 million.

U.S. Bureau of Labor unemployment statistics also disguise the real figures. According to the AFL-CIO Economic Research Department, the average annual number of workers suffering a jobless period from 1981 to 1988 was 23.5 million. The number of people living in poverty during the past seven years was 33.5 million, up 8 million over the previous seven year period.

Congress distorts the data emerging from changing social and economic conditions because it has no intention of seeking solutions. But the character of the working class is changing. The most exploited of all workers, women and Third World workers are now the majority. The very oppression of these workers will surely thrust them into major struggles.

Union drive at Harvard focuses on need for childcare

By Sharon Shelton

Lucia Alviano von Flotow is a secretary in the Economics Department at Harvard University. Like most secretaries, she must cope with endless clerical work as well as the usual job pressures. But von Flotow's workday can be especially trying: Unable to afford childcare on her meager secretarial wages, she must also care for her son, a toddler, from her desk.

The plight of Lucia Alviano von Flotow is not unusual at Harvard, where clerical workers have average annual wages of \$18,000. Although Harvard prides itself on operating four daycare centers for its employees, they're not really an option for lower-paid workers like von Flotow. Average costs for childcare services at Harvard are about \$8,200 a year — and even then there are at least as many children on a waiting list as the 338 slots now filled.

One of the first drives organized around childcare

Not surprisingly, the need for affordable childcare is of pressing importance to workers at Harvard University. So deeply felt is the issue of childcare, in fact, that it is the focus of an organizing drive that is snowballing among the university's clerks and

other support staff, a drive that if successful promises to have far-reaching effects for women workers across the country.

The union drive being conducted by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) is significant in that it is one of the first in the country to be organized primarily around the issue of childcare. Already, a majority of the 3,700 eligible members, mostly women service workers, have signed cards for the new union, which will be called Harvard Union Clerical and Technical Workers.

With only 15% or less of office workers around the country in unions and with only a shocking 2% of employers offering daycare, the issue of childcare is a potentially explosive one that could bring together vast numbers of underpaid typists, clerks and other service workers who are virtually crying out to be organized.

The daycare issue is especially crucial because of changes in the work force. More than two-thirds of entrants into the job market in the past decade have been women, most of these women with children.

What's more, women, especially Black and Latina women, are paid less than other workers. Stuck in a

growing number of lower-paid jobs like typing, working in fast food chains and other service work, today women earn only a little more than half of what men make — even though one family in six is now headed by a woman and the number of families headed by single women is rising.

Reaganomics is largely responsible for the current decline in funded childcare facilities. And even public centers that haven't been cut outright have been losing workers due to the low wages paid. Overall, according to the Feb. 16, 1987, issue of Fortune magazine, daycare wages average only about \$8,000 a year.

In New York City, where the cost of living is higher than most of the rest of the country, workers are leaving the 375 funded centers, because these centers pay much less than the \$25,000 offered by the public schools. The school system also offers longer vacations and better benefits. Currently, there are more than 250,000 children competing for only 44,000 slots in public and private centers in New York City. Other cities are caught in similar or even worse straits.

The increased demand for childcare, coming at a time when government facilities have been drastically cut back, has forced many working parents to leave their children at home

alone. The practice has become so common that these children have become known as "latchkey kids," a term coined during the Great Depression to refer to the unattended children of the poor.

Today, in cities across the country children from what librarians describe as a "broad economic spectrum" are being left in public libraries by desperate parents who either cannot afford or cannot find childcare. In Los Angeles, for example, a survey of librarians found at least 1,500 to 2,000 unattended children using the libraries in lieu of childcare programs.

While the big-business press periodically makes a big show of blaming parents for their latchkey children, the blame in reality lies with the bosses, who drag their heels at providing daycare even as they rake in fabulous profits off the labor of their workers, especially the most oppressed in the lowest-paying jobs.

The current organizing drive by AFSCME at Harvard is the real solution to the suffering of the latchkey children and their parents. Not only can this unionization campaign force the bosses to provide the childcare they should have been giving all along, but it has the potential to create a strong, new, organized fighting force in the labor movement.

C E L E B R A T E

Int'l Women's Day 1988

at Workers World Party Forum

Guest Speaker

Dorothy Ballan

author of *Feminism and Marxism*

Saturday March 12

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

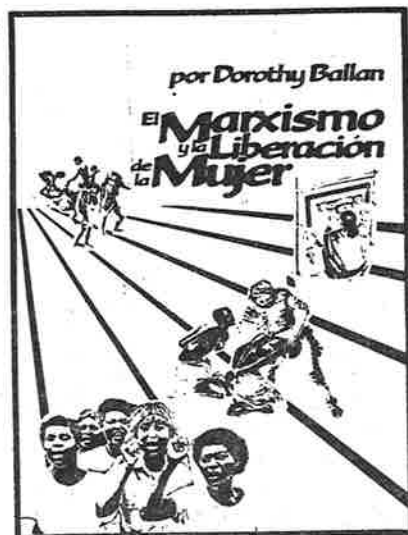
1947 Grand River in Detroit

\$2 donation (\$1 fixed income)

Includes dinner and childcare

For information call (313) 962-4979

\$4.95



Feminism and Marxism

By Dorothy Ballan

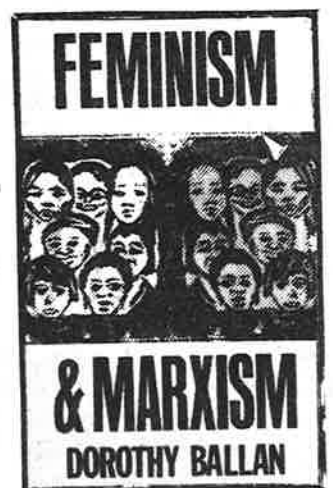
A Marxist materialist analysis of the roots of women's oppression and the key to its dissolution. Chapters include: The woman in history; Love, marriage and monogamy; Two lines of women's liberation; The Bolsheviks and the sexual revolution.

This book is available in English and in Spanish.

Please add 75¢ postage

Order from World View Forum
46 West 21 St., NY, NY 10010

\$2.00



Panama crisis — the view from Managua

By Dee Knight
Managua, Nicaragua

February 28 — "What is at stake in Panama is not General Noriega, nor the government of Panama, but the dignity of Latin America," according to the vice president of Panama's Legislative Assembly, Luis Gomez. The Assembly rejected the U.S.-backed attempt by Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle to depose Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, and instead deposed the president, replacing him with Education Minister Manuel Solis Palma.

Colonel Marcos Justines, Delvalle's nominee to replace General Noriega, said, "I refuse this offer. Our position is that there is too much North American interference in Panamanian affairs." All Panamanian military commanders announced their support for Noriega, as did the heads of the five parties that make up the governing national democratic union (UNADE).

Whatever it looks like in the North American press, the current crisis in Panama is seen clearly in Latin America as open interference by U.S. imperialism, intensified to include the danger of military invasion.

When news of the latest incidents arrived in Managua Thursday night (Feb. 25), Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega immediately telephoned Noriega. He declared the "unconditional solidarity of the people and government of Nicaragua in these moments in which the U.S. govern-

ment is trying to kill the Torrejistic spirit of safeguarding Panamanian sovereignty."

General Noriega is the successor of Gen. Omar Torrijos, whose anti-imperialist efforts forced the U.S. government to sign the Carter-Torrijos treaty in 1977, giving up control of the Panama Canal by the year 1999. The treaty was not ratified until two years later because of stubborn rightwing opposition in the U.S., led by Reagan, whose slogan was, "We bought it, we paid for it, we built it; it's ours, and it's going to stay ours." Torrijos died in an airplane crash July 31, 1981.

Cuban President Fidel Castro told NBC-TV Saturday that the Yankee campaign is against Panama's sovereignty, and that it just uses the pretext of drug traffic in order to eliminate the progressive social and foreign policies launched by General Torrijos. The Sandinista newspaper Barricada said the U.S. wants to oust Noriega because of the general's demand that the U.S. dismantle its Southern Command based in Panama, and because of his active support for the Contadora peace process and his refusal to cooperate in U.S. military intervention against Nicaragua.

On Saturday, President Ortega told thousands of demonstrators in Masaya that if the United States tried to invade Panama, it would face "the combative resistance of the Panamanian people, joined with that of the Nicaraguan people." He said Rea-

gan's acts against Panama were a response to Noriega's refusal to support a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua.

Contadora group rejects U.S. role

Foreign ministers of the group of eight Latin American nations formed by the Contadora process and its support group — including Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Peru and this time excluding Panama — were meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, at the time of the crisis. They issued a statement: "Vigilant of the principle of nonintervention and free determination of peoples, we reject whatever attempt at foreign interference, direct or indirect, in the internal affairs of Panama, including threats or the use of force to interfere in the decisions of the Panamanian people."

Barricada quoted a news dispatch from Washington saying, "The internal crisis which is shaking Panama today appears to have been forged last week in Miami, between President Eric Arturo Delvalle and the U.S. As-

sistant Secretary of State Elliot Abrams," State Department confirmation of the report appeared in Saturday's Miami Herald.

After his attempt was foiled, reports said President Delvalle was accompanied at his home by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis, and by Saturday rumors flew about his whereabouts. The only ones who seemed to know were U.S. officials. The U.S. State Department persisted in recognizing Delvalle as president, a posture that was interpreted as a hostile act and a threat of further intervention by the U.S. against Panama.

Barricada reported that last week the U.S. withdrew warships from the Persian Gulf, with no word as to where they would be redirected. The estimated 15,000 U.S. troops stationed in Panama, as part of the Southern Command, are in a "state of alert."

General Noriega himself said, "The United States has invaded Panama on 21 occasions, and could try again to intervene," adding that the Reagan

Continued on page 10

— U.S. assault on economy

Continued from page 1

itself the pro-U.S. opposition has failed to demonstrate popular support. A much-heralded "general strike" called to protest Delvalle's ouster was organized by the Chamber of Commerce and a right-wing coalition of businessmen known as the Civic Crusade. In reality an employers' lockout, the "strike" had no trade union support.

Washington's main leverage at this moment is over Panama's troubled economy. Congress in December voted to cut off virtually all economic and military aid, eliminate Panama's sugar quota and oppose any loans from international development banks. In the month from December to January, reserves in Panama's central bank plummeted from \$44 million to \$21 million.

U.S. tries to cripple economy

Delvalle, in hiding and working through channels set up by the Reagan administration, which has declared its "full support" for him, on March 1 announced a plan of "economic warfare intended to create a cash flow crisis for Panama" (New York Times, March 2). The U.S. State Department was the first to implement this, issuing a statement that opens the way for the Panama Canal Commission to withhold a \$7 million payment, part of the estimated \$80 million in canal revenues due Panama this year.

This is clearly meant to cause chaos and hardship for the masses, which the U.S. government hopes will erode the ability of Panama's nationalist and progressive forces to resist its demands. This is the same tactic that preceded the overthrow of the progressive Allende government in Chile in 1973. The so-called "democratic opposition" in Panama is even using the same symbols that the Chilean right-wing used then: banging empty pots and pans and waving white

handkerchiefs for the benefit of the U.S. press.

Cuba, Nicaragua support Panama

Both Cuba and Nicaragua have recognized the new president, Miguel Solis Palma. The U.S. also has been rebuffed in its attempts to garner significant support among countries in Latin America in its campaign. Only the repressive regimes of El Salvador, Honduras and Argentina have joined the anti-Panama chorus.

Nonetheless, lack of support and extreme unpopularity are not the kind of thing that will keep the U.S. from further attacking Panama. It seems it is always beyond the capacity of U.S. imperialism to let a Third World country determine its own affairs.

Panama Canal the issue

Washington's determination to maintain absolute control of the Panama Canal, to do away with the Torrijos-Carter treaty, and to keep the 10,000-strong U.S. military presence (the U.S. Southern Command) in Panama where it threatens all Central America are the real reasons for U.S. hostility towards Noriega.

All the accusations by Washington and the imperialist media about drug smuggling and corruption reek of hypocrisy. The U.S. government has a sordid history of secretly sponsoring drug running, from the war in Indochina to the contras in Nicaragua and Afghanistan. The biggest drug bankrolls are made right here in the U.S.

Additionally, the excuse of fighting drugs has been used as a favorite tactic to intervene in Latin America, especially through the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), whose agents have become a paramilitary wing of the U.S. state in Colombia, Bolivia, Mexico and elsewhere.

The issue of drugs is being used as a smokescreen. The real issue is imperialist arrogance and intervention. The cry of the progressive movement here should be, "U.S. out of Panama!"



1964 demonstration by Workers World Party's youth group supports the struggle of Panamanians for sovereignty over the canal.

WW PHOTO

Panama: A century of imperialist exploitation

By Carl Glenn

In order to understand why the U.S. has turned with such vehemence on Panama, and why at this particular moment, it is necessary to look at the history of the relations between the two countries.

Actually, the relationship began to take on its distinct character even before Panama had become a nation. As early as 1855, following the California gold rush, a group of New York financiers bought the exclusive rights to build a railroad across Panama from Colombia, to whom that territory then belonged. Between 1856 and 1865 the U.S. Army intervened on five separate occasions to protect this railroad from the Panama independence movement. After the Spanish-American war of 1898 and the U.S. emergence as an imperialist power of extra-continental proportions, the construction of a canal across the Central American isthmus was deemed a necessity.

When the Senate of Colombia refused, in 1903, to grant the U.S. the rights to build a canal in Panama, the U.S. staged a "revolt" and immediately recognized an "independent" government. The treaty that was signed barely two weeks later granted perpetual rights over the projected canal. It was not even signed by a Panamanian but by a French engineer who had been recognized by the Roosevelt administration as "ambassador plenipotentiary."

Thereafter, the U.S. maintained a de facto protectorate in the country, supervising elections and frequently, at the invitation of the government, suppressing protest and popular resistance. On one occasion in 1925, the U.S. Army sent in 600 troops to break a rent strike. Resentment of colonial domination grew so intense that by 1959 large-scale rebellions were breaking out over the simple right to fly the Panamanian flag.

1964 rebellion against U.S. control

In 1964 such a rebellion in Panama City was ended only after 18 Panamanians had been shot to death by U.S. troops. The main street in the city was renamed Avenue of the Martyrs in their honor.

In 1965, already fighting counter-revolutionary wars in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic, the Johnson administration agreed to renegotiate the canal treaty. These talks dragged on until 1977, conducted on the U.S. side by Ellsworth Bunker, the former U.S. ambassador to South Vietnam. The result included the immediate restitution of the Canal Zone to Panamanian sovereignty and the pledge to close the U.S. military bases by the year 2000 — with the catch that the U.S. would maintain the permanent right to "protect and defend" the canal.

In light of the administration's determination for a military victory in

Continued on page 10

'We won't allow a coverup in murder of Juan Rodriguez'



WW PHOTO: JOHN CATALINOTTO

Estela Vasquez reads statement of Latino Coalition for Racial Justice announcing a March 9 demonstration to protest the killing of Juan Rodriguez.

By John Catalinotto
Brooklyn, N.Y.

The Latino Coalition for Racial Justice (LCRJ) held a news conference outside the office of Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman on Feb. 29 to protest the "coverup of the Jose Rodriguez case" by the police and the DA's office. The LCRJ also announced a protest demonstration at the same spot for March 9 at 4:00 p.m.

Rodriguez was a 40-year-old father of three, originally from the Dominican Republic, who died on Jan. 30 after being beaten by Brooklyn police. Community activists and the lawyer for Rodriguez's family today presented the results of an independent autopsy of Rodriguez's body which showed that the police beating caused his death.

Attorney Lonnie Tishman said that while the direct cause of death was cardiac arrest, the "manner of death" was from multiple blunt-force injuries to Rodriguez's head, chest, arms and legs, caused by blows from night-

sticks, flashlights or perhaps revolvers.

Tishman added that a bloody bed spread and blanket showed that there was a "serious struggle between Rodriguez and four cops." He said he hoped that "the DA's office would treat the case as a homicide."

Tishman indicated that the person performing the private autopsy was a medical examiner for Nassau County.

Speaking for the LCRJ, Estela Vasquez said that the March 9 demonstration "will be held as District Attorney Holtzman presents evidence to a grand jury empaneled to investigate the death of Juan Rodriguez." Then "the Latino, African-American, Asian and white people of conscience of New York will demonstrate that we will not allow a high-level coverup in the murder of Juan Rodriguez.

"The criminal justice system must arrest, convict and jail the police officers involved in this murder so as to demonstrate to people of color that justice and the rule of law are not constitutional myths."

Vasquez said that the police coverup consisted "first, by refusing to release his body. Secondly, by harassing the family and finally, by attempting to portray Rodriguez as violence prone."

Also speaking at the news conference were Jose Morin of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, Roger Wareham of the December 12 Coalition and Howard Jordan of Latinos United for Political Action. All supported the call for further demonstrations.

Jose Alfaro of the LCRJ closed by vowing to "continue to organize our community" and by asking "all peace and justice loving people in the city" to come out on March 9.

The LCRJ also announced two community meetings to take place later this week, one on Friday, March 4, at 7 p.m. at the Broadway Temple Methodist Church at 4111 Broadway (at 174 St.) and the other on Saturday, March 5, at 6 p.m. at the Knickerbocker United Methodist Church at 484 Knickerbocker (between Menham and Myrtle) in Brooklyn.

Murder by Atlanta cop triggers angry response

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Atlanta

February 29 — One hundred angry Atlantans met tonight to organize a community response to the latest killing of a Black man, 24-year-old Baxter Lee Williams, at the hands of police. A protest march on City Hall has been called for Wednesday, March 2.

According to the police version, officers George Hooper and Ron Miniatus were on their way to a disturbance call on Feb. 27 when they noticed two men apparently fighting in front of a south east Atlanta bar. The two who had been arguing ran from the police. Hooper was pursuing one of the men, a 26-year-old cousin of Williams, when

Miniatus claims Williams pointed a gun at him. Williams was shot in the chest and died on the scene. Despite an intense police search of the area, no gun was found.

Eyewitness arrested

Eyewitnesses, including Williams' brother Johnny, say Williams didn't have a gun, that he was holding a beer can and had his hands raised above his head when Miniatus fired three shots. A beer can was recovered at the scene. When Johnny Williams went to the aid of his brother, he was arrested for allegedly assaulting an officer.

The Williams family angrily denounced the police account of Baxter's

killing at the City Council's Public Safety Committee meeting today. At Atlanta City Hall, Johnny Williams emphatically asked, "If my brother had a gun in his hand when the cops shot him, how come no gun was near his body?" He continued, "They shot my brother like a dog." The family is demanding that the police be suspended without pay pending a complete investigation.

"The police think they have open season on our young men," said Carrie Morris, president of the Atlanta All-People's Congress, "but if it takes turning this city upside down, we're here today to say that these police murders are going to be stopped."

— Anti-KKK in Dallas

Continued from page 1

who had charged the anti-racist demonstrators before the Klan appeared were left to the dubious mercy of the anti-racist crowd.

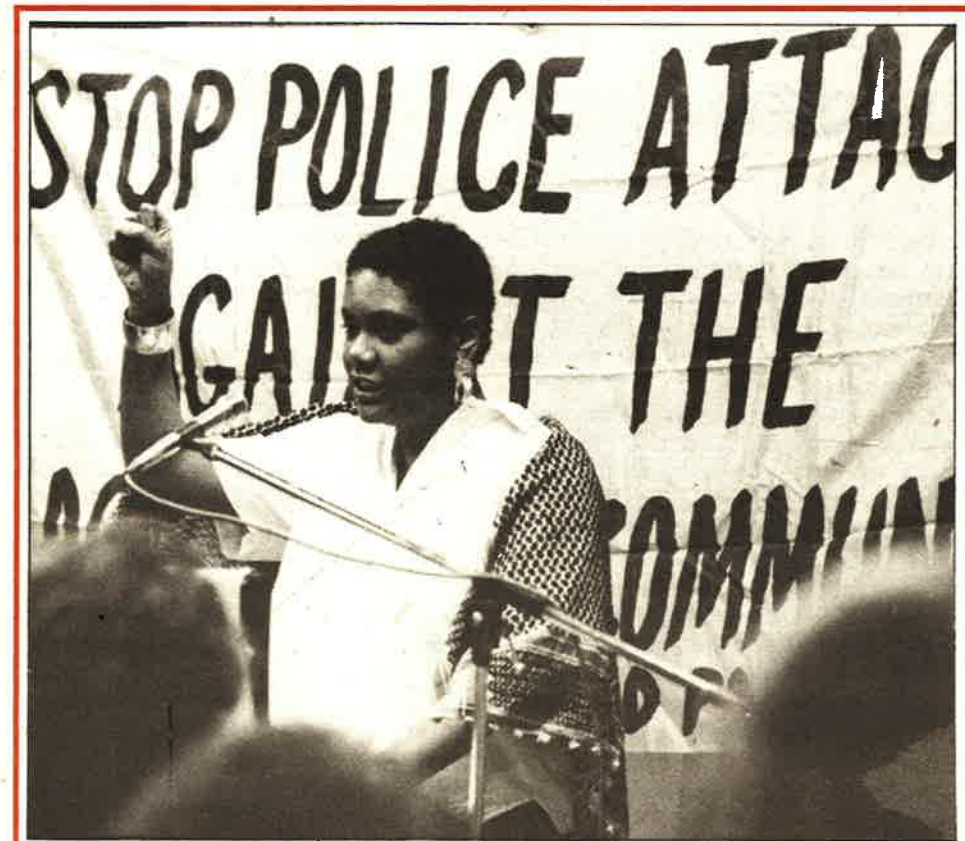
Fred Bell, a long-time Dallas civil rights activist, told this reporter, "We had only two days' notice, but we called a press conference for noon on Saturday, half-an-hour before the Klan rally. The Citizens Committee for Justice felt that we had to expose the racism in this city and the official encouragement of it." The demonstrators who responded to the call were about half Black and half white. "There were no mere curiosity seekers

among them. Everybody was there to take care of business." A few of the anti-Klan demonstrators were arrested, but not held.

Highest rate of cop murders

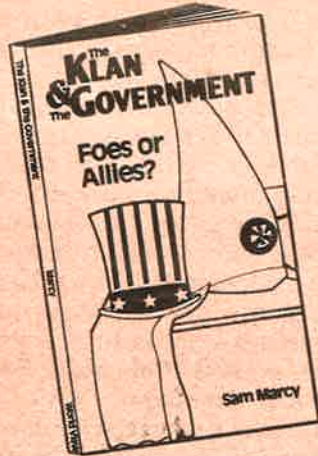
Racism is on the rise in Dallas. The police here are notorious for gunning down Black people. In the last two years, Dallas has led the country in cop killings of civilians. Three Black men have been killed in the last week alone. The community is enraged at this war against them. Three cops have also been killed, one before a large crowd of onlookers who voiced their approval.

The city administration has en-



WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

Boston meeting hits racist violence. Fifty people attended a Black history forum organized by the Boston branch of Workers World Party on Feb. 26 with the theme, "The Need for a Working Class, Fight-back National Response to the Struggle Against Racism." National Committee member Monica Moorehead from New York City spoke on the increasing racist violence and polarization plaguing New York City and the state and the growing militant movement that is building daily in response to the crisis. Developments such as the Tawana Brawley and Juan Rodriguez cases and the Days of Outrage activities were raised. Other reports included an update on Panama given by All-Peoples Congress activist Bienvenido from Providence, Rhode Island and a report on the local anti-racist struggle given by Workers World Party candidate for State Senate, Robert Traynham. A solidarity message was given by a representative from the Palestine Women's Committee.



The Klan and the Government: Foes or Allies?
By Sam Marcy

This book explores the special relationship with the state that has allowed the Klan to exist for over a century, despite its criminal history of lynchings, murders, and intimidation. The author shows how the Klan's resurgence in recent years is related to the deepening economic crisis—a crisis which is also generating a consciousness and militancy among Blacks and whites that can stop the Klan in its tracks.

Available from:
World View Forum
46 W. 21 Street
New York, NY 10010

\$2.95 (add 75¢ for postage and handling)

Racist media scapegoats Tawana Brawley

By Monica Moorehead
New York



Tawana Brawley

Double standard

The ruling class has a nasty habit of always looking out for its own.

A case in point is the response of the Koch administration in New York City to the killing of a cop — a response that would have been quite different if the victim had been from the oppressed community.

Edward Byrne, a 22-year-old rookie cop, was gunned down on Feb. 26 in a drug-related incident, which ignited front page coverage in all the bourgeois press.

Mayor Koch immediately took it upon himself to take \$13,000 from his "re-election committee war chest" to put an ad in the New York Times declaring a "war on drugs."

Drugs have existed in the oppressed communities for years, so what if the person killed was a Black or Latin youth who had overdosed? There would have been silence on the part of the racist Koch regime.

This double standard shows that the issue is not fighting drugs but that little or no value is placed on the lives of the real victims of this racist, decadent society while sympathy is encouraged for the repressive protectors of the ruling class, their wealth and property, i.e., cops, judges, prison guards and others.

Monica Moorehead

The big-business media has timed its ongoing slanderous campaign against Tawana Brawley to coincide with the selection of a grand jury, which will be deciding whether indictments will be handed down against her brutal assailants.

Brawley is a 15-year-old Black woman from Wappingers Falls, N.Y., who was abducted, raped and tortured for four days this past November by six racists, one of whom openly displayed a police badge. She was found covered with excrement and wrapped in a plastic bag with racial slurs written on her body.

For many weeks, in the aftermath of this heinous crime, the so-called objective press kept this atrocity virtually under lock and key. In fact, it was the New York City Black press, the Amsterdam News, City Sun, etc., that immediately broke the story. Due to the massive response emanating from the Black community here and in upstate New York, the establishment press was forced to break their conspiratorial silence on the case.

Brawley, as well as her Black attorneys, C. Vernon Mason and Alton Maddox, have requested a special prosecutor to handle the case. Support for this demand has been expressed by the community, which has taken to the streets throughout the state to demand justice for the teenager. Brawley and her family have explained that they will not cooperate with authorities, even at the risk of being jailed for contempt, until their demands are met.

1,000 protest in Poughkeepsie

On February 27, 1,000 people (mostly Black) participated in a demonstration and rally on the steps of the Sheriff's Office in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Protesters stood in the snow and cold for several hours while the attorneys and others attacked Governor Mario Cuomo for denying them their democratic right to choose a special prosecutor. On more than one occasion, Alton Maddox's name has been raised by community figures as a possible choice for the job.

The activity in Poughkeepsie was followed by an indoor rally in a Black church held in nearby Newburgh. The attorneys, the Brawley family and other progressive elements have vowed to take the fight to the capital of Albany. Similar mass outpourings have been key in bringing national at-

tention to the case.

Now that the case has reached the grand jury stage, the media will no doubt concentrate a great deal of attention on the legal proceedings. But deeper and more profound political aspects of this case prevail. One question is the role played by the media and the anti-Black and anti-woman manner in which they have raised the case.

A prime example is illustrated in the Feb. 29 edition of the New York Times, which printed an incredibly in-depth analysis of the Brawley case running a full page-and-a-half, on the same day the grand jury selection was completed. On the surface, the article may appear to be objective, giving a detailed account as to the events leading up to Brawley's abduction and what happened after she was found. But in reality, the article was a veiled, prejudiced attack against Brawley and her family in an attempt to defame and discredit her as well as diminish any sympathy for her in the eyes of the public.

Press attempts to discredit victim

The article raises points such as the eviction of her family for nonpayment of rent, that Brawley has on more than one occasion skipped her classes, including the day she was abducted; that her ex-boyfriend is an inmate at the Goshen County jail and more.

Whether these allegations are true or not is not the issue. Even from a legal point of view they are totally irrelevant. What do these allegations have to do with the fact that a young Black woman was viciously raped, tortured and humiliated — subjected to a nightmare that will haunt her for the rest of her life? Could it be that the press in general is consciously trying to justify what happened and is trying to create the impression that she got what she deserved? The answer is inextricably yes.

Another important question that warrants some answers is: Why has not even one suspect been brought in for questioning for this crime? If Brawley's attorneys have publicly stated that they know the parties guilty of this act, then surely the local and state authorities are also aware.

The answer given by the authorities to this question has been that without Brawley's willingness to testify, their hands are tied. But suppose Brawley had died as a result of her abduction, would they not have used the same tired argument?

The forces that make up the repres-

sive state — the police, the courts, the prisons, and media — are all willing participants in a racist cover-up to deny justice for Tawana Brawley and any member of an oppressed grouping in a similar position. The state does not exist to protect the rights of the poor and the workers, it protects the rich.

Even the process by which the "impartial" grand jury is selected is a sham. Out of 23 jurors picked, only two are Black. So how can real justice be served with this type of unequal representation?

Only the intervention of the masses conducting their own independent investigation can give this case the kind of sensitive, unbiased treatment it really deserves. A people's court that includes those who have been systematically victimized and locked out of the legal process, especially the most oppressed, would not only raise the class consciousness of the masses, it would also expose the racist and sexist nature of the capitalist state for this country and the world to see.

Newton, N.J., scene of Brawley-type outrage

Another blatant racist act similar to that perpetrated on Tawana Brawley took place on Feb. 8 in the mostly white town of Newton in northern New Jersey. It was not given widespread publicity until local residents held a news conference on Feb. 26.

The act was an attack by two white men on a 50-year-old Black woman, Hildegard Smith, in the stairwell of her apartment building in Newton. The men forcibly restrained her as they rubbed Smith's face with feces, cropped her hair with a knife or a pair of scissors and marked an X on her head.

The men also continually told Smith they wanted no Black people in Newton, using a racist epithet to say it.

Unlike in the Brawley case, this time there is no accusation of sexual assault. Still, following the attack, Smith remained in Newton Memorial Hospital for 12 days.

At the Feb. 26 news conference, Black and white residents of Newton expressed their alarm at the violent attack. They also announced the formation of two funds — one for the victim and the other for rewards leading to the arrest and conviction of her attackers.



About 1,000 people marched in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., on Feb. 27 to demand justice for Tawana Brawley.

couraged right-wing "law and order" forces to march and in other ways support a "Back Your Blue" campaign. In response to pressure from the Black community, however, the City Council implemented an affirmative action plan in police hiring and promotion. It was this affirmative action plan which brought a dozen Klansmen from Connecticut here to rally in front of City Hall.

There have been many racist attacks lately, Bell explained, but the city administration has covered them up by talking only about the attacks on the police. Black and progressive elected officials have received death threats for opposing the "Back Your Blue" campaign and for attempting to get to the real causes of the racist attacks.

Bell said that the "skinheads" backing the Klan today were recognized as the same individuals who had recently appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show. He wondered why both the Klansmen and the "skinheads" had not been charged under the "Rap Brown Act," legislation passed during the civil rights movement and popularly named after Black activist Rap Brown, which was used to arrest civil rights figures for allegedly "crossing state lines to incite riot." Clearly this law was only meant to be used against progressives.

The Citizens Committee for Justice is planning further anti-Klan organizing.

EDITORIALS

Jackson in Maine

Jesse Jackson racked up an amazing 31% of the popular vote in the Maine Democratic Party caucuses, which got him 28% of the state's delegates. Perhaps most astonishing, however, is the way the press and media quickly slid over this news.

The Jackson campaign spent \$10,000 on advertising, according to national Jackson campaign headquarters, or about one-tenth of the budgets of the other so-called frontrunners. Because of his limited funds, he didn't even have an office based in Maine; Jackson people are traveling from state to state with the primaries and caucuses.

If any other candidate, working on such a shoestring, had done ten or twenty times better than his rivals on a dollar-for-dollar basis (which, after all, is how the capitalist media seems to value everything), wouldn't that have been front-page news?

You would think the political "experts" would have something to say. After all, they can come up with endless commentary and analysis on nothing more important than how the candidates part their hair. Clearly, they just don't want to talk about this one.

But there's a lot to be said about it. Because what it showed first of all was the great potential for working class unity on an anti-racist basis. Jackson actually came in first, ahead of Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, in the towns of Portland, Bangor and Jay, Maine. These towns don't have large Black populations, but they do have a lot of union-conscious workers.

Jackson was the only candidate to have

raised the issue of unionbusting; he supported the paper workers' strike against International Paper as early as the New Hampshire primaries. He went to Jay, where the whole town has been fighting this multinational giant corporation, and helped bring national attention to the strike.

And the workers responded. Their perception of Jackson as a fighter against racism and for the underdog undoubtedly helped, not hindered, his campaign. Isn't that an eye opener in this racist country where so many have written off the ability of white workers to recognize that their class interests lie in multinational unity?

It's also an eye opener for the bosses, who may not be saying much about this new fight-back mood spreading in the masses but who are only too conscious of its significance. It's not that they are afraid Jackson can capture the nomination; their racist control of the Democratic Party is too historically solid for that. But after the election charade is over, then what?

The ruling class — and all their trusted presidential candidates — are trying to prepare the people for more belt-tightening, more suffering, so the mad profit chase can go on. But the message coming back is that more and more workers — Black, brown and white — are tired of suffering and ready to fight back.

U.S. troops out of Europe!

It's easy to lose sight sometimes of the deep involvement of Washington and Wall Street in Europe. The report slipped into the news between the attacks on Noriega and the results of the Vermont primaries, that Reagan promised during his March 1 speech in Brussels to the NATO military pact that the U.S. would keep its 326,000 troops in Western Europe "as long

as Europeans want them to stay."

Established in 1949, NATO's task was to threaten the socialist countries in Eastern Europe and the USSR with invasion. Its other use was to prevent West European workers from bringing socialist governments into power, something that seemed a real possibility in 1949. The U.S. troops, there as the victors of World War II, were meant to stop that possibility.

It's hard to believe that West German steelworkers demonstrating in the Ruhr basin to keep their jobs or Italian anti-war activists marching against nuclear bombs want the U.S. troops to stay now that it's 43 years since the war ended. But Reagan has no intention of taking unbiased opinion polls. Though the costs for the troops may increase the balance of payments deficit and break the budget, Reagan's statement told the West European ruling class that the U.S. bosses and bankers have no intention of giving up their interests in that region of the world.

And not just that region. Since the 1970s, the U.S. has expanded NATO's role, using the European bases to jump off into North Africa and the Middle East. The U.S. flew military supplies to Israel from West German bases, launched air attacks on Libya from bases in Britain and convened West European and U.S. warships in the Persian/Arabian Gulf.

Maybe Thatcher, Kohl and Mitterrand want U.S. troops to stay. But if Reagan asked the East Europeans, the oppressed nations of Africa and the Middle East, and the workers of Western Europe, he'd find them only too glad to have the U.S. troops removed. As for the workers and oppressed people here, maintaining the troops is a military expense when the funds are badly needed for jobs and social services. And a U.S. troop presence anywhere raises the danger of war.

Reagan's Brussels speech helped remind us all that there are still 326,000 U.S. troops in Western Europe. It's about time they came home!

Letters

Homeless struggle

Atlanta's homeless have initiated the Cooperatively Organized and Run Employment Service, Inc. (CORE).

CORE is the community's answer to the blatant racism, sexism and ruthless exploitation of labor by Atlanta labor pool bosses. These labor pools or temporary worker agencies have proliferated in Atlanta as "permanent" workers have been pushed into the street in the drive for higher profits.

It is a common myth that homeless people have no jobs. The truth is that we work long, hard hours for little pay. Mostly we work out of the rip-off labor pools. They just don't pay enough to rent a room, much less an apartment or a house.

They actually pay less than the minimum wage, with \$20 being the typical rate for eight or ten hours of hard labor. This isn't even enough for the necessities and keeps you coming back just to stay even. Some of them try to pay you off with cheap alcohol or drugs, especially "crack." The goal of CORE is to give workers some control over their lives. Homeless and other dirt-poor people will form the majority of the Board of Directors and will staff the employment and human potential development service. All income produced by CORE workers will go into the laborer's pockets, to CORE, or to help the poor.

CORE will become the self-help program for the poor because our bottom line is: "Help yourself by realizing that we all must help one another by actively struggling against the forces which are oppressing us all."

Billy Hands Robinson
Co-founder, CORE Organizer
Atlanta Union of the Homeless

Workers beware!

Was the October stock market crash an aberration? Was it merely jittery speculators reacting in fear of massive programmed selling? Isn't over-competition and over-production the root of the financial panic of October? If so, where are the mass layoffs one would expect? Or is it possible that the ruling class is artificially holding things together until the presidential election is over?

The year was 1972, the economy was suffering from "stagflation," Nixon's minions had been caught burglarizing the Watergate, American troops were still in Vietnam, and the presidential election was coming up.

Living in Indianapolis, I was unemployed and had been since mid-summer. In Indiana you must present yourself weekly at the unemployment office and stand in line to swear that you really are unemployed and that you really are looking for work. From summer to that fall, I would usually wait in line up to an hour to do the above.

November came, so did the election and cold weather. The week after the re-election of Nixon the bosses dumped workers by the thousands. There were so many newly unemployed people that the "Employment Security Division" could not hold them all. They were lined up from inside to outside and around the block — so many, in fact, that the press of their bodies broke down the heavy plate glass doors!

Could it be that the bosses are artificially holding things together until the election is over? Workers beware!

Karl Kampovsky
Albuquerque, N.M.

BECOME A WORKERS WORLD SUPPORTER

You can help month by month. Join the WW Supporter Program by making a regular contribution and keeping in touch.

\$50 a year at least or \$5 a month or more will bring you a monthly report on the latest developments for Workers World.

Membership in the Supporter Program means that you will also receive a copy of each new book and pamphlet as well as political button.

My donation is:

\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50

Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone

SUBSCRIBE TO \$2 for a ten week trial WORKERS WORLD \$5 for six months WEEKLY NEWSPAPER \$10 for a year

WORKERS WORLD 46 West 21 Street, New York, New York 10010

Lea un periódico Marxista revolucionario . . . ¡Suscríbese a Mundo Obrero!

Read a revolutionary Marxist newspaper . . . Subscribe to Workers World!

- \$10 for one year/\$10 por un año \$6 for six months/\$6 por 6 meses
- \$2 for a 10-week trial subscription/\$2 por 10 semanas
- Send details about supporter program/Donación especial
- I want to get a bundle of Workers Worlds/Envíame un paquete de Mundo Obrero

Name/Nombre

Address/Dirección

City/State/Zip/Ciudad/Estado/Zona

Phone/Teléfono

Return coupon to/Envíe el cupón a: Workers World/Mundo Obrero, 46 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

ANC responds to banning of anti-apartheid groups

The following statement was issued by the African National Congress of South Africa in response to the Pretoria regime's banning of 17 anti-apartheid groups. On Feb. 29, the apartheid regime arrested 150 demonstrators, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Rev. Allan Boesak, during a march protesting the banings.

The effective illegalization of seventeen democratic organizations, trade union and civic bodies by the Pretoria regime on Feb. 24, demonstrates that Botha and his henchmen are irrevocably committed to the suppression of the ideals of freedom and justice in our country.

The action that the regime has taken is a clear admission that all the draconian measures of repression it has imposed on South Africa, including the arrest and detention of scores of political activists, the judicial murder of freedom fighters and militants, the unleashing of paid assassins, murder squads and vigilantes and the institution of martial law,

have all failed to cow the spirit of defiance and determination to resist amongst the oppressed.

Without exception, the organizations and civic bodies that have thus been banned were committed to non-violent forms of struggle and have exercised impressive restraint in the face of severe provocation from the regime and its agents. The fact that they have now been proscribed demonstrates clearly that it is not advocacy of or engagement in armed struggle that the regime fears, but the very expression of democratic opposition and consistent resistance.

The illegalization of the democratic movement is an open challenge to all patriots either to submit to the juggernaut of the police state or devise new and better methods of continuing the struggle in conditions of total illegality. We are convinced that just as the resilient response of our people over the past two years has defeated the enemy's stratagems, it is the same spirit of "no surrender" that will thwart Botha's attempts to crush the

national democratic movement.

The timing of this most recent affront is not accidental. Botha and his generals are readying their machinery to set in place refurbished puppet bodies and dummy institutions. Fearful that the mass resistance

convince the world that there was a serious intent behind Pretoria's bombastic claims. The urgency for international action daily becomes more evident.

The ANC calls on the people of South Africa to rise to this new challenge as never before, by adopting a gesture of resistance and defiance to the tyrannical measures of the racist ruling circles. We must refuse to recognize the right of Pretoria to legislate for us and our organized formations. These new bans will be effective only to the extent that we respect and observe them.

The ANC, in all its formations, inside and outside South Africa, shall not be deterred by this new assault on our people. The banning orders of the 24th of February vindicate our often repeated conviction that only a mass movement, uniting in its ranks the broadest front of democratic and patriotic forces and employing a multi-pronged strategy that includes revolutionary violence, can dislodge the apartheid regime.

We must refuse to recognize the right of Pretoria to legislate for us and our organized formations.

will once again reveal the hollowness of their cooptive attempts, the regime is trying to disarm the resistance before battle can be joined.

The Botha-Malan clique have at last dropped the pretense that they are "reforming" apartheid out of existence. The events of yesterday give the lie to the apologists who have sought to

Shultz trip to Mideast — a wolf in sheep's clothing

By Andy Stapp

February 29 — Secretary of State George Shultz calls it a peace mission. But his arrival in Israel on Feb. 25 coincided with a new round of mass arrests and killings by the Israeli army, new and bolder acts of defiance from the Palestinian insurgents who are now close to the third month of their uprising.

All sides of the conflict seem to understand quite well that the U.S. secretary of state has come not to bring peace but rather to peddle the same old plans in new packaging, a rewarmed version of the Camp David scheme.

What Shultz proposes is that the Palestinian people forget about their rights to national sovereignty and instead settle for some sort of third class "political-economic autonomy" under possibly Jordanian administration and what amounts to perpetual Israeli control.

Israel, it should be remembered,

was set up in collaboration with the United States four decades ago as a military garrison to assist in policing the strategic eastern Mediterranean and the ocean of oil beneath the sands of the neighboring Arab states.

These days, however, Israel has got its hands full just trying to police the West Bank, Gaza and other occupied territories. That's a big come-down, a humiliation for the much vaunted Israeli military. This setback has brought Shultz onto the scene, to try to figure out what the Israelis are doing wrong and help them restore order. None of this, of course, has anything to do with peace.

No one should be deceived that Shultz has some "even-handed" approach to the problem. It's true that some Israeli leaders are sulking and nervous about what he will say, but they merely express the fears typical of a corporate branch office manager whose screw-ups have brought on a visit by the big boss.

Three undeniable facts point to what Shultz is really up to. The first is that since the uprising began, not one penny of all the billions of dollars in U.S. aid to Israel has been cut off to protest the massacre, beatings and torture of unarmed Palestinians.

The second is last week's statement by President Reagan that the rebellion is the work of "outsiders coming in not only with weapons but stirring up and encouraging the trouble." The Palestinian people inside and outside the areas of occupation are as one in their determination to end their op-

pression, to throw off the occupation that treats them as so many prison camp inmates. Shultz and the Israelis are the outsiders.

The third fact which exposes Shultz as a fraud is that he says he wants to talk to the Palestinians, but he will not speak with the one organization which they all see as their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). That's like a boss saying that he will be glad to talk to any individual worker during a strike, but will

Continued on page 11

Palestine support builds at SF State

By Sara Catalinotto and Jane Cutter
San Francisco

Students here at San Francisco State University as well as others throughout the Bay Area are taking a stand in support of the heroic uprising of the Palestinian people.

On Feb. 24, the General Union of Palestine Students (GUPS) sponsored a successful rally against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Scores of students participated, chanting "Long Live Palestine," between talks by representatives of GUPS, the African/Black Student Alliance, Central America Solidarity Committee, and the Peoples Anti-war Mobilization (PAM), as well as Professor Dwight Simpson of the International Relations Department. Richard Becker of PAM gave a brief report-back on the Ship of Return delegation in Athens, Greece.

A second rally is planned for March 8, in part to protest the appearance of an Israeli Consul General that day.

On Feb. 25, PAM sponsored a campus meeting on "The Crisis in Occupied Palestine." Dick Becker was the

featured speaker. He addressed the historical, economic and political relations between the United States and Israel, stressing the role of U.S. imperialism in the Mid-East region. He pointed out that the U.S. supports Israel, not out of love for Jewish people, but because it sees the garrison state as an "unsinkable aircraft carrier." Becker also showed some of his slides from the Ship of Return delegation.

Sammi from GUPS gave an update on the uprising. Also at the meeting, it was announced that SFSU students were beginning a petition drive to stop the use of a "critical thinking" textbook by Howard Kahane, which is racist, sexist and biased against Palestinians. Almost every student attending the meeting signed the petition.

Stop U.S. funding!

On Feb. 11, over 150 people gathered at the Federal Building in San Francisco to say no to U.S. funding of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. The protesters then marched through the Tenderloin district, then on to Market Street to Powell and to Union Square. Many of the hundreds who saw the march as it went by said that they agreed with the demands.



WW PHOTO: JANE CUTTER

Recent demonstration in San Francisco demands that Washington stop funding the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Nat'l protest planned in Washington

Special to Workers World
Washington, D.C.

On March 13, a national demonstration in solidarity with the uprising in occupied Palestine will take place here in the capital. Demonstrators will gather at noon at the Washington Hilton at Connecticut Ave. and T Street, where Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir is expected to address a convention of the United Jewish Appeal.

The participants in the solidarity action will then march down Connecticut Ave. to Lafayette Park,

where a rally is scheduled between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. As of March 1, buses are scheduled to arrive from Atlanta, Detroit, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, New York and Chattanooga, Tenn.

An ad-hoc coalition has called the demonstration. Among its many members are the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, the National Rainbow Coalition, the Peoples Anti-War Mobilization, the Nicaragua Network, CISPES and the Committee for a Democratic Palestine. For information call (202) 328-0990.

News from Indian Country

'We intend to stay here!' During the past month, about 100 Native people in the small northern California community of Toyan have found themselves at war with the U.S. government. Early in February, the 19 families living there woke one morning to a big surprise — scores of federal marshals and local sheriffs gathered outside of the town, and a construction crew fencing in the houses and preparing to demolish them. "The fence reminded me of South Africa or Palestine, all those people forced behind barbed wire," said Mickey Gimmel, a Toyan-Wintu spokesperson. When confronted by the angry residents, the construction crew backed down and removed the fence. But the struggle of the Toyan-Wintu people to survive continues.

The Toyan-Wintus were pushed off of most of their land in the 19th century because they stood in the way of the "manifest destiny" of U.S. mining interests. They signed 18 treaties, not one of which was ratified by the government, and lost over 9 million acres of land. Their remaining allotted lands were confiscated when the Shasta Dam was built and when the

U.S. government "terminated" the nation in the 1950s.

The community of Toyan was established in 1971. The Toyan-Wintu people, with over 700 registered members, have not yet received federal recognition of their status as a sovereign nation. The community was self-sufficient and received no federal monies. Yet the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) restricted the economic development of Toyan, made numerous efforts to divide the people among themselves and was instrumental in the cutting off of water and electricity to the town two years ago. Now the BIA is saying that the Toyan-Wintus need to leave their homes and their land because their housing is substandard due to the lack of water and electricity!

What are the ulterior motives of the BIA, the Justice Department and various California state agencies? Dennis Jennings of the American Indian Movement and Mickey Gimmel both point to the high value of Toyan to real estate developers. The town is situated on a major road leading to Shasta dam and lake, and developers have already proposed turning Toyan into an RV park and tourist center. Jen-

who built a base of support among the rural poor and the labor movement. Torrijos died in a mysterious plane crash four years after signing the Canal Treaty, which had been stridently opposed by U.S. right-wingers. He was succeeded by General Noriega as head of the military. Capitalist relations were left intact; thus despite significant reforms, the working people and the poor of Panama were still subject to the high unemployment, low wages and poor conditions common to the region.

Right of Assembly to choose presidents

In 1972 a new constitution had been introduced. One of its provisions holds that the National Assembly of 505 members is to be elected by popular vote, and that they in turn choose the president. It was by this legal constitutional process that the former president Eric Arturo Delvalle was replaced this February by Manuel Solis Palma. Even the Republican Party of which Delvalle is the head has recognized the validity of this change, according to Martha Honey reporting for National Public Radio from Panama City.

The strategy of the oligarchy, for whom Delvalle is the symbol of resistance, is to collaborate with the plans for economic sanctions even if it hurts their interests in the short run. Of course, it would be the workers who would do the real suffering. The "general strike" (really a management lockout) supported by the Chamber of Commerce and the Civil Crusade is part of this strategy.

In 1979 the International Monetary Fund released a report stating that Panama had arrived at a relationship between high indebtedness and low national income "without precedent in the Western Hemisphere." In 1986, the IMF forced Panama to accept changes in its progressive Labor Code, including lower wages and reduced job security.

However, defying pressure from the World Bank and the IMF, and responding to pressure from the masses and the trade unions, the government guaranteed the continuance of the social security system and reduced the price of basic foodstuffs. Ultimately, whether General Noriega is forced out or not, it is this struggle between the U.S. bankers and the people of Panama that will decide the contest.

nings believes that "this is all part of the Reagan policy of privatization of Indian-owned lands," adding that "you don't see the federal government trying to remove non-Indians from land whose title is in question."

The 19 families who remain in Toyan continue to endure harassment from law enforcement officials. State highway patrol helicopters fly over their homes. Many of the residents have been charged with trespassing on their own land. Major court battles lie before them. Despite this, the Toyan-Wintu people remain strong in their determination to survive as a community and as a nation. Gimmel says, "Even if they demolish our homes, what we intend to do is stay here."

• • •

Robeson men denied bond.

Eddie Hatcher and Timothy Jacobs were denied bond by Robeson County Magistrate Wallace Dixon in two bond hearings on Feb. 17 and 19. Dixon labeled the men "terrorists" and refused to set bond despite the numerous witnesses who attested to the defendants' strong family and community ties and asserted that they posed no threat to the community. The two Tuscarora-Cherokee men had taken over the office of the Robesonian newspaper on

Feb. 1 to protest local police corruption, police abuse and racial discrimination. A federal indictment was handed down on Feb. 9 on seven counts including possession of illegal firearms, hostage taking and using firearms in a crime of violence. None of the 17 hostages taken on Feb. 1 was harmed. If convicted, Hatcher and Jacobs face possible life imprisonment.

The case has attracted both local and national support. A rally held in Robeson County on Feb. 23 drew about 600 supporters of the men and featured Vernon Bellecourt of the American Indian Movement and the International Indian Treaty Council as the main speaker. Thelma Clark, a spokesperson for the Robeson County Defense Committee, noted that the men have been transferred from the Butner federal facility to the Cumberland County Jail, and that they are in good spirits despite their incarceration. The Defense Committee can be contacted at: P.O. Box 1389, Pembroke, N.C. 28372.

Mahtowin

Join us in the struggle

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

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

Atlanta: P.O. Box 424, Atlanta, Ga., 30301 (404) 662-6417.

Baltimore: 424 E. 31 St., Baltimore, Md. 21218 (301) 889-9318

Boston: 186 Lincoln St., Room 602, Boston, Mass. 02111 (617) 426-5626

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

Chicago: P.O. Box 6510, Chicago, Ill. 60680 (312) 489-3829

Cleveland: 2012 West 25 St., Room 602, Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 861-6154

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

Hartford: P.O. Box 14411, Hartford, Conn. 06114

Houston: P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052 (713) 524-4462

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

Milwaukee: P.O. Box 16223, Milwaukee, Wis. 53216

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

Philadelphia: P. O. Box 17116, Philadelphia, Pa. 19105 (215) 626-8704

Rochester: 816 Joseph Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14621 (716) 544-5409

San Antonio: P.O. Box 10510, San Antonio, Texas 78210

San Francisco: 3181 Mission, No. 29, San Francisco, Calif. 94110 (415) 826-4828

Seattle: 1017C E. Pike, Seattle, Wash. 98122 (206) 322-6478

Washington, D.C.: P. O. Box 43841, Washington, D.C. 20010 (202) 328-0990

—Managua view

Continued from page 5

administration is conducting a campaign of "calumny, injury and disinformation" against Panama.

The new acting president, Manuel Solis Palma, said his government would continue Panama's policy of non-alignment, support for the Esquipulas Peace Accords and the anti-imperialist philosophy of "Torrijismo." The acting president said the crisis that has shaken Panama for the past eight months is a consequence of U.S. economic aggression, and that the U.S. State Department's plans against Panama "have endangered peace and our territorial integrity, and our process of democratization."

Demonstrators converged in caravans from various parts of the country, according to reports, joining in front of the Armed Forces General Command in the middle of Panama city, to show their support for General Noriega. They were called out by radio broadcasts on both official and commercial stations, which interspersed anti-imperialist music, including the famous song, "American colony — no" which was used in the 1970s as a symbol of the struggle headed by General Torrijos for the canal treaty.

The Panamanian People's Party (communist) denounced ex-president Delvalle, saying he had "given in to North American interests and renounced the defense of the social conquests of General Torrijos."

The crisis continues with plans by the Chamber of Commerce, the National Council of Private Business, and unions connected with the right-wing Civil Crusade, for a general strike.

—Panama history

Continued from page 5

Central America, the U.S. bases in Panama and the 10,000 troops stationed there have taken on added importance.

Meanwhile, in 1968, the president of Panama, representing the corrupt, white racist, pro-U.S. oligarchy, was overthrown by reformist National Guard officers, led by Omar Torrijos,

CALENDAR

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Fri., March 4: Forum on International Women's Day. Film: "South Africa belongs to us" and a talk on women's role in the African liberation struggle. 8:00 p.m. At 349 Niagara St. Call (716) 855-3055.

Fri., March 11: Presentation on women's role in the struggle for social change in the U.S. and around the world. 8:00 p.m. At 349 Niagara St. Call (716) 855-3055.

DETROIT

Sat., March 12: Celebrate International Women's Day at a Workers World Party forum. Special guest speaker: Dorothy Ballan, author of "Feminism and Marxism." 5:00 p.m. \$2 donation (\$1 for fixed income). Includes dinner, childcare and meeting. At 1947 Grand River. Call (313) 962-4979.

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Sun., March 6: Demonstration at the presidential debates (both parties). Co-sponsored by the All-Peoples Congress. Gather at 12:30 at Legislative Plaza.

NEW YORK

Mon., March 7: Emergency mobilization protesting crackdown in South Africa and the banning of United Democratic Front affiliates. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mass arrest at 5:00 p.m. Called by New York Anti-Apartheid Coordinating Council of District 65 UAW. At South African Consulate, 48th Street between First and Second Avenues.

Sat., March 12: Commemorate International Women's Day. Panel presentations and featured Chilean speaker. Workers World Forum. 7:00 p.m. Donation. Refreshments. Wheelchair accessible. At Chelsea Space, 146 W. 25 St., 3rd Fl, Manhattan. Call (212) 255-0352.

SAN FRANCISCO

Fri., March 4: "Fighting racism: the key to working class unity." Hear Workers World Party presidential and vice presidential candidates Larry Holmes and Gloria La Riva. 7:30 p.m. \$3 (\$1.50 seniors or unemployed). Call to reserve childcare. At Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Call (415) 826-4828.

Sun., March 13: Celebrate International Women's Day with WWP! Video presentation: "The Women of South Lebanon." Free. At 2489 Mission St., #30. Call (415) 826-4828.

WASHINGTON

Sat., March 5: International Women's Day. Program will include cultural expressions and speakers from women representing struggles around the world and in the U.S. 7-9 p.m. (Dinner at 6 p.m.) Childcare provided. At 1470 Irving St., NW. Call (202) 332-5041.

Sun., March 13: National March in Solidarity with the Palestinian People's Uprising. 2-5 p.m. At Lafayette Park. Call (202) 328-0990.

All-Peoples Congress urges increased funding for Detroit schools

By K. Paulich
Detroit

In response to cutbacks and serious fiscal problems in the Detroit public schools, the Detroit chapter of the All-Peoples Congress (APC) has issued a call for "Quality Education for All — Equal Funding and More Funding for Schools, Not Cuts."

This APC appeal for people to intervene in defense of education for poor and working people has been warmly received at an East Side community meeting where the School Superintendent spoke, and at community coalition meetings. According to the APC leaflet distributed at these meetings, "Instead of making cuts, it is time for the school board to make some demands."

Detroit's schools are expected to run a \$60 million deficit by the end of June. The first round of cuts include teacher and support staff layoffs, school clos-

ings, elimination of special programs and a mandatory class size of 34 students. There are already shortages of books and supplies. Larger class sizes will certainly add to existing problems, like the current 41% drop-out rate.

Racist funding system

The blame for these problems must be laid squarely on the shoulders of the racist, elitist system of school funding in Michigan. Since finances are based on the monies raised through property taxes in each district, wealthy white suburbs like Birmingham can spend \$6,000 per student each year, while Detroit spends only \$3,400. In principle this is no different from "Bantu" education for Black people in South Africa. The apartheid regime spends on Black children only one-sixth of the money it spends to educate white children.

Many other cities in Michigan, in-

cluding Pontiac, Flint and Benton Harbor, are hard-pressed to fund their schools. These cities have been devastated by plant closings and also have large Black populations. Rural districts and working class suburbs also suffer under this unequal system. The discrimination is based on class as well as on race. The opportunity exists for Detroit to join forces with other communities on this crucial issue.

Detroit voters are now being asked to approve the renewal of seven mills to keep the schools afloat. However, Detroit and other poor districts already pay a higher rate of taxes than wealthier school districts. However, no amount of money raised by taxing homeowners in the city will be enough to eliminate the differences. The APC is demanding that the corporations and banks reach into their pockets, and that the money be distributed on an equal basis.

The state of Michigan has a clear constitutional responsibility to provide an equal education for every child in the state. Yet Democratic Governor Blanchard opposes equalizing educational financing and has actually cut

state aid. Since Detroit schools rely on the state for 60% of their revenues, these cuts are in a large part responsible for the current financial woes.

The state government is not the only culprit, however. Public education is such a low national priority that the Reagan administration is spending over \$303 billion this year on the military and only \$14 billion on all federal education programs, including student loans. Washington spends twenty-two times more on bombs than on books!

Quality education for Black youth and other oppressed youth, who make up the majority of school populations in urban areas like Detroit, is clearly not on the federal or state agenda.

In response, the APC has raised the idea of "An 'Education Day' in Lansing," according to this organization's leaflet, "when thousands converging on the state capitol, not only from Detroit, but from other communities, could make our voices heard in a powerful way. The community concern is there. The buses are at the school board's disposal. The time to act is now."



Political prisoners

War ship as jail. Overturning a previous decision, an appeals court ruled unanimously this week that New York City could immediately begin transferring prisoners to a refitted British troop ship moored in the East River on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Authorities are frantically seeking more space to literally warehouse the unprecedented huge numbers of people being imprisoned as the economic crisis continues. The jails in this city, and across the state, are overflowing maximum capacity as officials shuffle prisoners back and forth. Men, women and youth imprisoned on Rikers Island sleep on bunks jammed next to each other or are housed on gymnasium floors, in hallways, storage rooms and in prefab constructions. Several ferryboats have been refitted to serve as floating prisons. A spokesperson for the city's Department of "Corrections" said that transfers of prisoners to the British troop ship could begin within a week. The five-story floating barge billeted British troops in the South Atlantic during the Malvinas War in 1982

• • •

Carter charges dropped.

On Feb. 26 a superior court judge formally dismissed 22-year-old triple murder charges against Rubin "Hur-

ricane" Carter and co-defendant John Artis. Carter, a well-known boxer and anti-racist fighter, has spent 19 years behind bars in New Jersey. "I'm joyous with the result and deeply satisfied that justice has finally been done and the charges dismissed," said Myron Beldock, Carter's attorney. The convictions of Carter and Artis grew out of a racist frenzy by the cops and courts after the tremendous uprisings of Black people in city after city during the great civil rights struggles of the 1960s. Over the years, tens of thousands of people have come out to show their support for Carter and Artis. In the 1970s Bob Dylan wrote a popular song, entitled "Hurricane," protesting the injustice of the case. In 1985 a federal judge voided Carter's second conviction and ordered his release on grounds that the conviction was tainted by racism and the withholding of information from the defense. Still, Carter sat in jail while the state pursued his prosecution. Artis was released after spending almost two decades in jail. On Jan. 11, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the 1985 ruling overturning the convictions. Still Carter remained in a cell while the Passaic County prosecutor threatened a third trial. This week the prosecution finally backed down and agreed not to pursue the case.

Leslie Feinberg

New pocket-sized booklet from World View Forum!

SOUTH AFRICA: Dynamics of a Revolutionary Struggle

This booklet from the Workers World Library series explores:

- The nature of the struggle — is it a battle to reform apartheid or to dismantle the capitalist relations upon which apartheid was built.
- Why it is important to show solidarity with the African National Congress.
- U.S.-apartheid collusion throughout the region.
- The integral role played by the South African working class in building class unity.

Only 75¢ (includes postage)

24 pages

Order from:

World View Forum, 46 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010

AIDS Action Pledge demands no mandatory testing

By Joan Marquardt
San Francisco

The AIDS Action Pledge led a militant demonstration at Hastings School of Law here on Feb. 22 where Representative William Dannemeyer spoke on a panel discussing "Mandatory Testing for AIDS Antibodies."

Chanting "Mandatory testing — we say no; Dannemeyer's got to go!" the demonstrators forced Dannemeyer to flee the stage. The action was yet another example of the growing movement among lesbians, gay men and other AIDS activists to fight the AIDS epidemic and the epidemic of bigotry.

Local AIDS activists are currently fighting the mandatory testing on several fronts. The mandatory testing of both prisoners and prostitutes is under consideration in the California legislature. And a June ballot initiative sponsored by ultra-rightwinger Lyndon LaRouche, copying Prop. 64 (which was soundly defeated by voters in 1986) includes mandatory testing as well. The initiative would declare anyone with HIV antibodies or any other agent that causes AIDS to be in an infectious, contagious and communicable condition. It would require reporting of HIV antibodies, encour-

age quarantine and require the mandatory testing of teachers, restaurant workers and others.

Dannemeyer was the only elected official in California who supported Prop. 64. Whether or not he formally endorses the new LaRouche initiative, he clearly agrees with its intent. He supports mandatory testing of prostitutes and prisoners; backed the Helms amendment against safer sex education for gay people; is a spokesman for the ultraconservative Republican right wing which blames gays for AIDS and calls AIDS "God's punishment for being gay," and is the sponsor of a November ballot initiative which would eliminate HIV-antibody testing confidentiality, allow HIV-antibody testing for insurance and employment eligibility and promote contact tracing.

— Shultz trip

Continued from page 9

not talk to their union under any circumstances.

U.S. to close PLO office

The PLO is recognized by 140 countries as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. But Washington has moved to illegally expel the PLO from the UN right at the moment of the Shultz visit! No wonder the Palestinians greeted his arrival with a general strike, showing this imperialist emissary the contempt he deserves.

What the Israelis cannot gain with guns, clubs and bulldozers from the beleaguered Palestinians will not be surrendered to Israel and the U.S. in "negotiations," especially when one side has not even been invited to send their representatives to the table!

So what comes of it all? Shultz arrived and the Israelis triple the arrests and beatings to show him that they are "still in control." The Palestinian people did not back off one inch in the face of this, as anyone who owns a TV can see night after night.

When Shultz offered to meet with "Palestinian leaders" as long as they are not with the PLO, no one showed up. "We do not accept that the American, or any administration, chooses who represents us," said Yassir Arafat.

— IP strikers

Continued from page 2

in an effort to generate further grassroots pressure on IP.

Keynote speakers included Arthur Osborne, president of the Mass. AFL-CIO; Dominic Bozzotto, president HERE Local 26; and Joe Nigro, President Boston Building Trades Council.

One of the demands raised today was for the resignation of Donald McHenry, the only Black on the bank's board and a member of IP's directorate. It is clear to militants and progressives, however, that the resignation of one individual would not change the vicious course of IP, the banks, the courts, Maine Gov. McKernan, in short the whole class apparatus that is out to break this splendid strike.

The mass labor support that has been mounting around the country for this strike is the force that can bring IP to its knees.

¡A combatir la violencia contra la mujer!

Por Lucinda Sintierra

El caso de Tawana Brawley, una joven negra que fué brutalmente asaltada y violada por 6 hombres blancos que marcaron su cuerpo con efinges del Ku-Klux-Klan, nos demuestra una vez más no solo el racismo imperante en este país pero también el carácter sexista de este crimen. Tawana Brawley fué atacada por ser negra y por su condición de mujer.

El 8 de marzo se celebra el Día Internacional de la Mujer y hay muchos aspectos de la condición de opresión que vive la mujer que se podrían discutir, pero hay uno de gran importancia y que en los últimos años ha llegado a ocupar un plano inferior, este es la violencia contra la mujer.

Violencia contra la mujer

La violencia contra la mujer tiene enormes dimensiones e incluye, la pobreza, el hambre, el estar sin hogar. La mayoría de la gente desamparada son madres solteras con hijos. A ellas les cae toda la responsabilidad de criar a sus niños y sobrevivir ellas mismas bajo condiciones muy difíciles. Los hijos sufren desnutrición, frío, el no tener un hogar, falta de educación y atención médica. Esto es violencia.

La mujer indocumentada no tiene protección bajo la ley—el abuso contra estas mujeres es extenso—no tienen ningún derecho ni voz, viven continuamente aterrorizadas de la migra, por temor ha ser encarceladas o deportadas, están a la merced del patrón y son las peor pagadas.

Muchas mujeres se encuentran en la cárcel o en instituciones mentales — que son como un sistema carcelario que opera fuera del sistema de cárceles — son aisladas y sometidas a abusos que incluyen asaltos emocionales y físicos de parte de los guardias masculinos. Sus supuestos "crímenes" (como la prostitución, hurto o falsificación de una firma) se pueden considerar actos de necesidad — generalmente para darle de comer a su familia. Aparte de la agonía de estar encarceladas, muchas no saben donde están sus hijos pues son arrebatados por el estado.

La violación sexual es la peor forma de degradación de la mujer y ocurre dentro o fuera de su hogar. Hoy una mujer por cada tres es sexualmente violada. El incesto es una forma particularmente dañina, y es muy difícil de establecer las verdaderas dimensiones de este crimen, por su carácter sensitivo que lo mantiene secreto. El maltrato físico a la mujer es también una forma de abuso y ocurre en el seno familiar, causándole traumas a la mujer y los hijos.

La familia

La familia se ha desarrollado de acuerdo a las condiciones materiales de la vida, pero se ha convertido en un yugo para la mujer en el desarrollo de la sociedad de clases. Si uno examinara la familia como una institución, puede notar todas sus formas subyugativas y opresivas. (lea "Marxismo y Feminismo" por Dorothy Ballan).

Hay que reconocer el papel que muchos hombres juegan en el subyuga-

miento de la mujer, ellos deben seriamente tomar responsabilidad individual y colectiva por sus actos y solidarizarse con la mujer.

El derecho de la mujer a tener control de su propio cuerpo y de la reproducción, nunca ha sido aceptado completamente. El aborto y la contracepción — si una mujer lo desea — no es siempre accesible. La esterilización forzada contra mujeres indígenas, negras y latinas han sido sistemáticamente utilizada por el estado como forma de genocidio.

Cuando una pareja que no puede tener hijos, pero si tienen dinero y quiere niños ¿Qué hacen? Van al Tercer Mundo a comprarse uno. A esto lo llaman adopción, pero para muchos es literalmente un robo de niños. También compran mujeres como esposas y se las traen a los países más ricos. De esta manera miles de mujeres se ven obligadas a aceptar este horror por no tener como darles de comer a sus familias. Este es otra forma de violencia contra la mujer y no tiene perdón.

Las lesbianas están forzadas a vivir en clandestino, a esconder su verdadera identidad y constantemente enfrentan el desprecio, la posible pérdida de sus hijos, hogar y trabajo, y a veces hasta la violencia por su preferencia sexual.

Un problema colectivo

El abuso contra la mujer es un problema colectivo y proviene de la ideología del estado. El sistema capitalista fomenta el sexismo, al igual que el racismo, para mantener a la clase traba-

jadora dividida y así facilitar su explotación. La iglesia y los medios de comunicación usan propaganda, que refuerza la posición inferior de la mujer.

La mujer siempre ha resistido estas condiciones de vida, formando sus propias organizaciones, comités, clubes y grupos de lucha exigiendo sus derechos. La mujer es parte integral de los sindicatos, de la lucha revolucionaria y de todos los grupos que luchan por la justicia y libertad. Todas las mujeres, latinas, negras, indígenas, árabes, asiáticas y blancas, jóvenes, lesbianas y heterosexuales, con o sin documentos, con o sin deshabilitades, somos fuertes y derrocaremos los cimientos sexistas y racistas del capitalismo. ¡Que viva la liberación de la mujer! ¡Sin la mujer, la revolución no va!



Mujeres en la lucha hacia su liberación

Por Petra Guerra

La mujer ha desempeñado un rol muy importante en todas las luchas anti-colonialista y -capitalista que se han realizado a través de los años. En México, fueron conocidas como "soldaderas," que junto a sus hijos participaron con sus compañeros en la lucha durante la revolución en 1910. Ellas llevaban entre sus rebozos municiones y armas escondidas, tanto como comida. Muchas de ellas, como Dolores Jimenez y Muro, escritora y coronela, se levantaron en armas para derrocar al dictador Porfirio Diaz.

En la revolución cubana de 1959, la mujer fué parte integral del proceso revolucionario que derrocó al imperialismo estadounidense y a su lacayo Fulgencio Batista. En un país donde existía la explotación en su grado máximo, la mujer era forzada a subsistir en trabajos mal pagados y degradantes. La liberación del pueblo cubano trajo consigo el despertar de una conciencia nueva, donde la mujer ocupa el lugar de igualdad que le corresponde, dentro de una sociedad socialista.

En países en proceso de lucha, como en Sudáfrica, mujeres como Winnie Mandela están al frente del movimiento revolucionario. Winnie que bajo la dirección del Congreso Nacional Africano (CNA), lleva su lucha incansable para terminar con el apartheid.

La mujer palestina tampoco se queda en casa, sino que enfrenta heroicamente al estado zionista de Israel, que sin el apoyo de Estados Unidos no existiría. Esta desigual batalla por su auto-determinación ha tenido un costo social enorme para el pueblo palestino.

En Puerto Rico, donde se está luchando por la independencia, encontramos a mujeres como la gran Lolita Lebrón. Lolita acompañada por sus compañeros nacionalistas enfrentaron al congreso de los EE.UU. cuando estaba en sesión y demandaron la libera-

ción de Puerto Rico. Fué detenida, juzgada y encarcelada por 25 años. Hoy está en libertad y continúa su lucha por la independencia.

En los EE.UU. la mujer también tiene la tarea de luchar contra el sexismo, el racismo y por la igualdad en el trabajo y en el hogar. Nuestra historia tiene muchas mujeres que han luchado por los pocos derechos que hemos conquistados, como Lucy Gonzales Parsons, activista chicana que luchó por el derecho de tener sindicatos en los 1800; Dolores Huerta, vice presidenta de la Unión de Campesinos (UFW), que continúa luchando por los derechos de los campesinos.

Mujeres indígenas de diferentes naciones están envueltas en el movimiento pro-liberación por recuperar sus tierras y en contra del genocidio de sus pueblos, como las ancianas de Big Mountain. En algunas naciones la mujer continúa como cabeza de familia.

En Angola, Namibia, Vietnam, Zimbabue, Nicaragua, y todos los pueblos liberados, se han desarrollado organizaciones de mujeres y toman parte activa dentro de las direcciones gobernantes.

Es la mujer la que da luz a la vida, y sigue siendo la que cría sus hijos mientras que sale a ganar el pan que les da de comer. Es también la mujer la que gana 56 centavos menos la hora, por el mismo trabajo que ejecuta el hombre.

Nuestra lucha no terminará hasta que el sistema de explotación capitalista esté totalmente derrotado y sus derivados, el sexismo y racismo, y la sociedad de clases, sean eliminados. No olvidemos que esta lucha va a ser ardua y que ya muchas han dado sus vidas por la libertad y la igualdad, como las nuevas generaciones de luchadoras que están levantando las banderas de la justicia social, continuaremos el camino trazado por nuestras antecesoras. ¡Sin la participación de la mujer, no habrá liberación para nadie!



Manifestación anti-racista

29 de febrero — La Coalición Latina por Justicia Racial celebró una conferencia de prensa frente a las oficinas del Fiscal Distrital de Brooklyn Elizabeth Holtzman, para manifestar su protesta por el "encubrimiento de pruebas" por la policía y la fiscalía en la investigación del asesinato de Juan Rodríguez. La Coalición también anunció que una manifestación popular se llevará a cabo el 9 de marzo en Brooklyn a las 4:00 pm, empezando en las calles Knickerbocker y Suydan.