



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

Noticias en español vea página 12

Women defend reproductive rights from rightwing attack

Police, media aid bigots

By Kathy Durkin
New York

This city has become the national focus of a struggle between the rightwing and progressive forces over a woman's rights, specifically the right to abortion. The force of the state and much of the major media have intervened on the side of the reactionaries, defending them and giving them publicity.

The women's movement here, which on April 29 staged the largest and most militant pro-choice demonstration in this city

in ten years, is furious. This city has long been a center of pro-choice activism. In fact, New York State was the very first to legalize abortion. Polls show that the vast majority of the people of this country support a woman's right to choose abortion.

Yet, in flagrant violation of state law, on May 2 and 3 several hundred anti-abortionists who had mobilized from around the country were permitted by police to block two women's health facilities here which provide abortions.

The police blatantly refused to enforce a
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Some 1,500 people march in New York City to affirm a woman's right to choose abortion.

WW PHOTO: JOYCE CHEDIAC

NEWS FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

Native warrior Leonard Peltier remains in jail on false charges. Anishnabe people hold sit-in to protest land seizures. Update on struggle for hunting and fishing rights from Washington to Hawaii.

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FIGHT AIDS

From California to New York, activists are taking to the streets to call attention to the life-and-death issues of the AIDS crisis.

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U.S. uses food as a weapon against Ethiopia 8

These Ethiopian children hold a sign which reads, "We are some of the children orphaned by war."

WW PHOTO: DEIRDRE GRISWOLD



STUDENTS IN 1968

Everyone is talking about the '60s. What were the issues in the 1968 student strike at Columbia University? What importance do they have for the '80s?

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LABOR SOLIDARITY

They came from as far away as Wyoming and South Carolina. Some 6,000 angry workers marched in Jay, Maine, to support striking paper workers.

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Thousands in Bay Area march against U.S. war policies

By Joan Marquardt
San Francisco

Thousands marched in the San Francisco Bay Area April 30 and May 1 against U.S. intervention and military spending. On April 30 some 6,000 to 10,000 marched in the city's Mission District in the annual Mobilization for Peace, Jobs and Justice. The next day, 2,000 marched on the Concord Naval Weapons Station to demand an end to U.S. arms shipments to El Salvador.

Speakers at the April 30 Dolores Park rally following the march included Bassam Shihadeh of the Palestine Solidarity Committee, who called for an end to the U.S. support for the occupation of Palestine. Shihadeh explained that, "\$13 million per day is sent from the U.S. to Israel to finance the occupation of the West Bank and

Gaza. Workers in this country should demand that the money be used for social programs in the U.S., and to create more jobs."

Other speakers included Cesar Chavez of the United Farmworkers Union, who called for a complete boycott of all California table grapes from May to October. Kitty Cone, a disabled rights activist, lauded care given the thousands of Nicaraguans who have been disabled in the contra war.

Malombo Ntshilontshilo, African National Congress, called for more pressure on the Reagan administration to stop aiding the apartheid regime of South Africa.

Melba Maldonado, Bay Area Puerto Rican Hartford 15 Committee, stated, "There will be no peace, no justice until Puerto Rico is free"; and John Belskus, ARC/AIDS Vigil, called for national health care.

protest was the "redecorating" of the station's fences with banners and pink triangles by the AIDS Action Pledge and supporters, among other acts of civil disobedience.

Protesters also addressed the rank and file soldiers on duty inside the fences. Dick Becker of Peoples' Anti-war Mobilization urged the soldiers to join the anti-war movement, "which represents your interests more than anyone else's, for it is you who will be sent to the front lines to die for the interests of Exxon, Texaco and IBM."

The protest was called by Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) and the Pledge of Resistance. May 1 was a National Day of Protest, and demonstrations also took place around the country at other military installations.



WW PHOTO: JOAN MARQUARDT

Protest at Concord Weapons Depot.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Part of Middle East contingent at April 30 march.

March on naval station

At the Concord Naval Weapons Station the next day, the protesters marched from the main gate some three miles to the gate of the Navy wharf. There a disabled contingent blockaded the entrance.

Mercedes Delgado, of the FMLN-FDR, told the crowd that last year the Salvadoran resistance had cost the army 9,000 casualties and that the government is now drafting 13- to 15-year-olds. Delgado said, "The people of El Salvador are winning, despite the U.S. military support for the hated Duarte regime."

The demonstration was the largest at Concord this year. Protests have continued there on a daily basis since the Navy maiming of activist and Vietnam vet Brian Willson on Sept. 1 during a protest against the arms shipments.

Another highlight of yesterday's



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

April 30 march.

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, Latino, Asian, Arab and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian and gay, disabled, working, unemployed and students.

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

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CALENDAR

BOSTON

Fri., May 6: "Racism and the U.S. war drive: The need for a united working class fightback." Featuring John Jones, Vietnam veteran, chairperson Billion Dollar Housing Coalition, Jersey City, N.J. Sponsored by SAYAR and APC. Donation. Wheelchair accessible. Childcare by reservation. 7:30 p.m. At Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St. (617) 424-1176.

NEW YORK

Tues., May 10: "Nicaragua today: The real truth about what's going on and

the U.S. war strategy." Featured speaker, Josefina Ellizander, rep., Nicaraguan Union of Workers. Also, slide show on health care on Atlantic Coast by Ellen Catalinotto, recent visitor with MADRE Committee of Midwives, sponsored by AMNLAE (Nicaraguan Women's Association). 7 p.m. Wheelchair accessible. Donation. Literature. Refreshments. At 146 W. 25 St., 3rd Fl., Manhattan. Call (212) 741-0633.

Sat., June 4: Major regional demonstration to show solidarity with Palestinian people and to mark the 21st year of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and

Gaza. Gather at 12 noon at Times Square in Manhattan. Called by Palestine Solidarity Committee. Call (212) 557-5410.

SAN FRANCISCO

Fri., May 6: Peace and Freedom Party presidential forum, including Workers World Party presidential candidate Larry Holmes and four others. \$2 admission. 7:30 p.m. At Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Call (415) 826-4828.

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For Cleveland workers, 'Jesse has already won'

By Alan Roth
Cleveland

May 4 — With almost all votes counted, Jesse Jackson got 26% of those cast in Ohio's May 3 primary. Gov. Michael Dukakis got 64%. Polls showed Jackson got 17% of white votes, doing even better among younger white voters. Turnout was strongest in Black neighborhoods.

In Washington, D.C., Jackson was winning about 75% of the vote with about half the votes counted. In Indiana, Dukakis also won as expected with about 68% of the vote to Jackson's 24%.

Jesse Jackson's campaign came to Ohio at a time when the national media have emphasized that he's out of the race, even for vice president. But Jackson's visits here have generated an excitement that will last long after the primary.

Trade unionists in Cleveland have been especially awakened by this campaign in this region so hard hit by plant closings and the increase of low-wage jobs.

The core of Cleveland Labor for Jackson came from many unions that make up the service sector of the workforce, including AFSCME, APWU,

CWA, SEIU District 925, along with the UAW, IUE and more. This mostly Black committee became a beehive of activity, with people eager to work, organize and do what's necessary to get out the Jackson vote.

Jackson visited many other parts of this state, including a plant gate rally in Warren at the closing LTV plant. He also addressed a rally of Latino unionists in Toledo organized by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee.

The focus for Labor for Jackson was a labor rally featuring Jackson on April 29 which brought unionists to a downtown auditorium during rush hour. The wildly enthusiastic audience heard members of NABET, flight attendants, an IUE member speaking on GE's plans to close her plant and an anti-apartheid activist.

Jackson himself, speaking there and again at an AFL-CIO conference on jobs the next morning, stepped up his attacks on the "corporate barracudas." His attacks on Reaganomics also struck a chord among working people.

As to the so-called Massachusetts "miracle of full employment" that Dukakis relies on, Jackson explained that "it's not enough to say you have



Cleveland Labor for Jackson rally.

more jobs with less wages and benefits. Full employment is not enough. In slavery, everybody had a job."

Jackson also addressed the issue of southern Africa to this labor crowd, focusing on the South Africa-sponsored Renamo in Mozambique. He challenged Dukakis to join him in characterizing South Africa as a terrorist state.

Even after finishing second, Jackson headquarters in Cleveland remained enthusiastic. Across the board, members of the Cleveland La-

bor for Jackson are all asking "Now what do we do," and they are talking "after" the election.

There's no doubt that this campaign has forged a new alliance of trade unionists in this city to carry on the banner in the fight for jobs and justice. For that accomplishment alone, Jesse Jackson won this election.

The author is a leading organizer of Cleveland Labor for Jackson. He is also an executive board member of the American Postal Workers Union, Cleveland area local.

Reagan's trade bill veto — bosses want total control Prenotification of plant closings is vital for working people

By Bill Del Vecchio

When does the Democratic majority in Congress ever stand up to Reagan over workers' rights?

If you guessed in a presidential election year, you guessed right.

Reagan has vowed to veto a trade bill passed by both houses of Congress because it contains a provision calling for pre-notification of plant closings. The provision would make companies that plan to shut down warn the workers and affected community two months in advance of the coming layoffs.

The pre-notification measure is a weak one, limited only to plants employing 100 or more workers and allowing for all kinds of loopholes for the bosses. And the trade bill that contains the pre-notification measure is a

mishmash of harsher protectionist measures, brazen big business giveaways and job re-training and assistance programs for displaced workers.

But only the pre-notification part has brought the threat of a presidential veto. A "matter of principle" is involved, say the Reaganites.

Reagan's principles

The principle Reagan has in mind is that private property comes before people's lives, and a company can treat workers just like machinery or equipment and dispose of them at will.

But the pre-notification issue is also a matter of principle for working people, and that's why they have been fighting for it for over a decade. When the whole economic existence of a community is dependent on a plant,

the owners of that plant have no right to just cut off that life-blood without even warning the community first.

Working people who've invested long hard years of their lives in these plants should have just as much say if not more than the billionaires who sucked the plants dry and now have

throughout the country. A rank and file unionist that demanded a starting point for coming layoffs. Democratic congresspeople often voiced support for the issue during their election bids, but most conveniently forgot what they promised when it came time to doing something about it in Congress.

But the movement didn't depend on

the Democrats, and kept pressing the issue in contract talks, city councils, demonstrations, wherever they could find a forum.

Whether the Democrats will continue to press it and get Reagan's veto overridden, or whether they'll capitulate in the back rooms remains to be seen. Pre-notification isn't a matter of principle to the Democrats in Congress. These are the same politicians who sat back during the Reagan years and gave him the votes he needed to bust unions, slash social programs, and give everything to the Pentagon.

It was the strength of the movement for pre-notification, and the potential strength of an angry workers' movement, that got this measure this far, and it will be the movement that will make pre-notification a reality.

On the picket line

NYU clericals rally. A week after workers at Columbia University demonstrated against Ivy League anti-labor campaigns, their counterparts downtown at New York University did the same. On April 28, several hundred clerical and technical workers at the country's biggest private university, joined by students and faculty, marched in front of administration offices. The members of AFT Local 3882, who have worked without a contract since last November, demanded that the university address their demands for decent wages and benefits and union security. NYU imposed its supposed final offer — a small wage increase and nothing else — in December, but the workers showed what they think of that with the chant, "We got the tip, now where's the check?"

Unemployment: regional. "I was surprised when I heard the National Guard of West Virginia had gone to Honduras to build a road," says Earl Whiteley of Davy, W. Va. "Hell, we can't get a road built here." It's not that new roads aren't needed. And it's surely not that people don't

need work. In fact, McDowell County, W. Va., has an official unemployment rate of 32%. W. Va. coal country is among the hardest hit in a jobless crisis that the government denies, but there are 30 other counties with unemployment rates of more than 25%, and over 100 over 15%. In Mora County, N.M., the government admits 34% are without jobs. Hundreds of Chicano farmworkers there line up for jobs whenever the big landowners hire a few people for the backbreaking work of picking raspberries.

Unemployment: industrial. While the Reagan administration keeps crowing about how many new jobs there are, workers know what that means: flipping hamburgers or changing bedpans for dismal wages. As for the old jobs, the ones that paid halfway decent, the ones that are supposedly gone forever — according to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly three-quarters of a million workers lost them between 1982 and 1986. The government survey showed that 731,900 factory workers were laid off in manufacturing during that period.

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WW PHOTO: TOM DORAN

'Stop police murders!' Atlantans marched on April 26 against the continuing police murders there. The killings have averaged one a month for the past year. Most of those shot have been unarmed Black men. The militant demonstration included the families of victims. Angry marchers ignored police demands to keep on the sidewalks and blocked rush-hour traffic at several intersections. Family members and speakers from the New African People's Organization and the All-Peoples Congress denounced the police campaign to portray the dead men as part of the drug trade. No evidence has been produced to establish the claim. Two of the victims were homeless. Most others were well-known members of the community.

Jimmy Raynor

6,000 angry workers march on IP's Androscoggin Mill

Labor mobilization aids 11-month paper strike

By Phil Wilayto
Jay, Maine

April 30 — Over 6,000 union members and their supporters marched on International Paper's Androscoggin Mill here today in one of the largest and most militant actions of the 11-month-old strike of United Paperworkers International Union Local 14 and Fireman and Oilers Local 246.

Led by three Jay Fire Department trucks, a gesture approved by the town's Board of Selectmen, the marchers crossed the Androscoggin River Bridge and wound their way past the barbed wire fences that IP installed nearly a year ago.

Union banners from Canada to South Carolina and as far west as Wyoming fluttered in the raw wind under

cloudy skies, demonstrating the broad support the paper workers have won in this strike, the longest in Maine's postwar labor history.

Present was a large contingent from Marine Division Local 333 of the International Longshoremen's Association, representing tug, ferry and barge crews on strike against boat operators in 16 East Coast ports. Local 26 of the Hotel Employees Restaurant Employees of Boston had a militant, multi-national delegation. Also from Boston were about 20 Chinese immigrant workers, members of the Chinese Progressive Association Workers Center.

Electricians, carpenters, auto workers, laborers, meat cutters, garment workers, teamsters, postal workers, fire fighters, railroad workers, dock workers, machinists, teachers and

steelworkers from at least 15 states and Canadian provinces, women and men of all races and nationalities, workers in wheelchairs, babies in their parents' arms, all marched united in their support of the paper workers.

Visible everywhere were buttons endorsing the presidential candidacy of Jesse Jackson, an outspoken supporter of the strike.

As the head of the march approached the mill's main gate which was guarded by a small line of police from Jay, Franklin County, and Maine State Police Department, the chants of "Scabs out, union in!" changed to, "Crash the gate!" and "Let's tour the plant!" A young supporter explained that the latter was a polite way to say, "Let's crash the gate!"

The appearance of half a dozen men on top of one of the plant buildings, whether scabs or security it was hard to say, only fired up the crowd more. After about 20 minutes of the chanting and jeering, march organizers began moving the crowd back down the road away from the plant. The marchers, many of them with visible reluctance, walked back to union trucks that taxied them to the Jay Community Center for a rally. IP later complained to the press that the windshields of a number of scab cars had been smashed by rocks thrown over the company's fence.

Riding back to the rally with a group of strikers, this reporter was struck by the deep anger expressed against the company. "Sooner or later it's going to come to a confrontation with IP," said one man in a Local 246 tee shirt. "The system isn't working."

"It's working okay," called another striker from the back of the bus. "It's working for the rich, not for you and me."

Back at the community center the hall was filled to overflowing as the marchers heard greetings, speeches and solidarity messages from representatives of the striking Lockhaven and locked-out Mobile UPIU workers. State AFL-CIO President Charles O'Leary, Local 14 President Bill Meserve, and Corporate Campaign Incorporated organizer Ray Rogers, among many others. An especially warm welcome greeted John Skirtz, who came all the way from United Mine Workers Local 2055 in Wyoming, out on strike since Oct. 5.

Also well received was Meg Livasy, of Veterans for Peace, an anti-war organization founded in Portland, Maine, that is launching a convoy that will be bringing food and other material supplies directly to Nicaragua as a people-to-people solidarity gesture. This national caravan will be launched May 21 in Jay with Local 14 striker Ray Tieneau serving as the Jay coordinator.

Mich.-wide organizing gears up for June 7 March for Jobs

By Jerry Goldberg
Detroit

Organizing has begun in earnest for a Michigan March for Jobs and Justice to take place June 7 at 2 p.m. Plans are being made for the unemployed to "Stay in Lansing" until they win immediate economic relief from Governor Blanchard and the state legislature.

Michigan continues to be devastated by plant closings and layoffs. The official unemployment rate is 15-20% in Flint, Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw and other cities. Recently General Motors announced that a new round of plant closings and layoffs is on the horizon.

At a Job is a Right Campaign meeting April 16 attended by members of UAW Locals 15, 22, 599, AFSCME 257 and 542, SEIU 79, the Newspaper Guild Local 22, the All-Peoples Congress, American Friends Service Committee of Ann Arbor and other unemployed and welfare activists, the

June demonstration was decided upon. Everyone agreed that it was time to go beyond just picketing and rallying and then going home.

John McMullan, a representative of the Stop Plant Closings Committee of UAW 15, raised the proposal for a tent city on the Capitol grounds, bringing together laid-off auto workers with welfare recipients, the homeless, and disabled. He suggested that we "Stay in Lansing" until Governor Blanchard and the legislature guarantee jobs and a decent income to insure that the needs of the people are met. McMullan likened the "Poverty Village" or "Blanchardville" to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Resurrection City.

The proposal to "Stay in Lansing" was enthusiastically adopted. Nathan Head, a UAW international representative, offered a monthly financial pledge to help with the organizing expenses.

In the discussion at the meeting, Cap Wheeler, financial secretary of

UAW 599 in Flint, raised how thousands of laid-off autoworkers have exhausted all their unemployment and SUB benefits. Gloria Jackson, a welfare activist, told how welfare benefits are being further cut in Michigan. Rev. Joseph Summers, an Episcopal minister, came from Ann Arbor to attend the meeting to raise the issue of prisoner rights.

Jackson win showed time was ripe

The mood at the meeting was optimistic. Everyone felt that Jesse Jackson's Michigan sweep demonstrated that the political situation was ripe for a dramatic action that could galvanize the workers and poor and win immediate gains.

Right after the April 16 meeting, a "Call to Action to Stay in Lansing" was drafted. Over 50 community and union leaders have endorsed the call. They include UAW leaders from eight locals in Flint, Detroit, Saginaw and

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Farmworkers union outlines organizing goals

By Petra Guerra
New York

Working and living conditions for farm workers throughout the Midwest are worse than one might expect to see in Third World countries. Workers are paid by the piece. Whole families must work. Eighty percent of the children never finish school. They must drop out to contribute to the family income.

Pregnant and nursing women and children are often exposed to the dangers of pesticides. Living quarters are often old chicken coops or old leaky buildings with no electricity, plumbing, or uncontaminated running water.

It is no wonder that these workers see the Farmworker Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) as their only way out.

On April 29, a reception was held in New York for Baldimar Velasquez, president of FLOC. Velasquez gave an important update on the current priorities of the Union. Also present at the reception was Artie Rodriguez of the United Farm Workers (UFW).

Since 1967, FLOC has been organizing farmworkers in the states of Michigan and Ohio. In February 1986, after a long and hard struggle, a tri-lateral contract was signed between FLOC, the growers and Campbell's Soup Company. This contract, a historical first, included a wage increase, an insurance program and a grievance pro-

cedure. The contract covered 28 growers and around 800 workers.

This was a landmark victory. Immediately after Campbell's signed a contract, Heinz U.S.A. offered to hold talks with FLOC. In 1987, a contract was signed with the Freemont Tomato and Pickle Growers Association and endorsed by Heinz. The contract with Heinz extends benefits to over 700 workers in Ohio and Michigan.

Velasquez explained how the tri-lateral contracts are better accepted by the growers. Under this contract they don't feel totally responsible for the needs of the workers; the companies also have to provide for the needs of the workers.

The goal now is to sign up the remaining growers under Campbell's and their subsidiary, Vlasic, and bring all other tomato and pickle growers under collective bargaining. FLOC is also organizing workers in Mexico, where Campbell's has plants.

Joint effort with UFW

In addition to Ohio and Michigan, FLOC is currently organizing in Texas and Florida, the home base of the migrant farm workers. They are doing this in a combined effort with Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers (UFW). They are also doing joint fundraising.

Rodriguez of the UFW gave an update on that union's struggles. The

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WW PHOTO

Unionists march in Atlanta. More than 5,000 unionists and supporters marched in a "Jobs With Justice" rally in Atlanta on April 30. Half of the marchers were participants in the International Association of Machinists 100th annual convention, currently convened in Atlanta. Another large contingent supported the Justice for Janitors campaign which is organizing a local of the Service Employees International Union. Other marchers had just completed a month-long march across the south to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King.

Eastern workers focused on Frank Lorenzo, the principal owner of Eastern Airlines, denouncing the man who has been called the butcher of Eastern. Both union and management have said they are in a state of class war. The rally was the largest union activity in Atlanta in many years and resulted from three months of weekly meetings by a coalition of labor, peace and civil rights groups. The action was virtually ignored by local media. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution devoted exactly one sentence to the march and has not mentioned the machinists' convention.

Tom Doran



WW PHOTO: PETER KIMBALL

Chicago AIDS activists hold civil disobedience.

AIDS Action roundup

AIDS Action week began April 29 with activities set nationwide to call attention to the life-and-death issues of the AIDS epidemic. A roundup of actions in California and New York City follows.

- April 29 in San Francisco 150 people marched in a "Cut the red tape" demonstration to protest the bureaucratic tangle facing people with AIDS and ARC and other disabilities, some of whom die without ever having received benefits. After a rally at Harvey Milk Plaza, the march wound down Market St., stringing symbolic red tape the whole length of the street. Demonstrators then picketed the Social Security offices. Sympathetic Social Security employees came out to talk with demonstrators and described their offices inside as "an armed camp." Some smuggled leaflets back into their offices to show co-workers.

- A young lesbian with AIDS, a Black mother of two who does AIDS education to IV drug users, a Native AIDS activist from the Indian AIDS Project, a Latina AIDS educator, a lesbian AIDS researcher and a working prostitute all spoke at the Women Get AIDS Too Forum sponsored by the AIDS Action Pledge in San Francisco May 2. Seventy-five people took part in the enthusiastic discussion.

- ACTUP chapters in Los Angeles and San Diego and a Tijuana gay and lesbian liberation organization

are organizing a demonstration at the U.S.-Mexican border on May 5 (Cinco de Mayo). The action will protest the Immigration and Naturalization Service's (La Migra) policy of mandatory testing and subsequent expulsion of all immigrants who test positive for HIV antibodies.

- On April 30, New Jersey AIDS activists demonstrated at University Hospital in Newark to protest the lack of community outreach for the programs that already have funding. For example, there are thousands of cases of AIDS in the state, but only four people are enrolled in clinical drug tests.

- Some 500 lesbians and gay men marched in the pouring rain through Greenwich Village on April 29 to protest the virulent homophobia which has been whipped up around the AIDS crisis. Charles Barber, a person with AIDS and members of ACTUP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and Jewel Gomez, Latina lesbian activist and author, stressed the need to reassert lesbian and gay pride in the face of this political crisis. The crowd blocked traffic for a half hour at 6 Ave. and 8 St., with a same-sex "kiss-in."

- Some 300 people demonstrated on May 2 in front of New York City Hall to bring attention to the impact of the epidemic on IV drug users. The protest demanded that using IV drugs be treated as a medical problem, not a crime.

From the combined reportage of Joan Marquardt and Leslie Feinberg.

Protesting the 'Bermuda Triangle' of AIDS neglect

By P. Kimball
Chicago

To point out the failure at all levels of government to respond to the AIDS crisis, protesters targeted the state, county, and city offices that surround the intersection of Clark and Randolph Streets here April 29 in what AIDS activists call the "Bermuda Triangle" of neglect.

A crowd of 130 kicked off AIDS Action Week with pickets and speakers at each office location. Following the talks, eight people were arrested for "blocking rush hour traffic in the intersection."

The protest was organized by Chicago For AIDS Rights (C-FAR) which plans further demonstrations on May 7 at the federal building here and at the offices of AIDS profiteer Lyphomed Corporation in suburban Rosemont.

Speakers demanded a change in the direction of AIDS policy at all levels of government. "Why, eight years into the AIDS epidemic, does Chicago not yet have a permanent director of AIDS services?" asked Jennifer Villa Roblez, a journalist who has studied local AIDS policy.

"Why haven't the community groups yet seen a penny of the money appropriated by the City Council in December?" Villa Roblez called for AIDS spending to reflect the fact that 47% of People With AIDS in Chicago are people of color.

In front of the county building, Dr.

Ron Sable, pioneer of AIDS treatment at Cook County Hospital, assailed the county health care system. He pointed out that there were only four beds available for PWA's at Oak Forest Hospital, the county's only long-term care facility, and said there should be four times as many. He also called for an educational program for the estimated 15,000 IV drug users per year imprisoned in Cook County Jail.

Protesters attack state laws

At the showplace State of Illinois Building, protesters attacked state legislation designed to inflame panic against PWA's, including the law requiring HIV testing for all marriage license applicants. The medical profession has denounced this law as useless and wastefully expensive, and a repeal measure is now being considered by the state legislature.

Demonstrators also drew body outlines and wrote the names of persons who have died of AIDS in chalk on the plaza in front of the building.

Speakers also called for a gay-rights bill for Chicago. They denounced the AIDS funding package passed in the Senate the previous day for the repressive strings attached to it, such as mandatory contact tracing and a ban on positive gay sex education.

Following the pickets, eight demonstrators spread a pink triangle cloth in the center of the intersection of Clark and Randolph and sat down, to emphasize that business as usual cannot continue until a real response is made to the AIDS crisis.



WW PHOTO: JOYCE CHEDIAC

Pro-choice demonstrators outside hotel where right-to-lifers were staying.

— Women's abortion rights

Continued from page 1

temporary restraining order obtained by the Center for Constitutional Rights prohibiting the blocking of clinics. In Queens and Manhattan, the police allowed the "pro-lifers" to sit in and blockade entrances. They arrested the blockaders one-by-one and carefully carried them on stretchers to a waiting city bus. Twenty minutes later, those arrested had returned to take their places in the blockade.

In every way, the police protected the reactionaries, especially their leaders. Deputy Police Chief Ruther even told pro-choice activists in Queens, "I do not have to obey a civil injunction!" And in a meeting with women's groups, Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward totally defended the police's role and tactics.

In marked contrast, the police consistently and aggressively pushed pro-choice demonstrators away from

the clinics, penned them into small areas and denied them access to the press. Two pro-choice activists were viciously attacked, hurt and then arrested by the cops.

Pro-choice demonstrators point out that community members in both areas came out to support the pro-choice forces when they heard on the radio of the struggle going on. And women and their supporters vowed to go out to clinics to counter the rightwing for the rest of this week, focusing on a major mobilization on May 7.

Reproductive Freedom Week actions

The New York Pro-Choice Coalition called for "Reproductive Freedom Week" from April 29 to May 7, to oppose the rightwing actions and to mobilize strong support for women's rights. This week of activities began with an April 29 demonstration of more than 1,500 women and their supporters, called by the New York Pro-Choice Coalition.

Marchers chanted, "Racist, sexist, anti-gay, born-again bigots go away!" as they pointed at a small group of reactionary "pro-lifers" at St. Patrick's

Cathedral. The march began there to protest the role of the Catholic Church which funds and promotes the anti-abortion campaign.

The militant group marched down Fifth Avenue to the offices of the "right to life" reactionaries with colorful banners and signs, chanting with great spirit, "Right-to-life, your name's a lie. You don't care if women die!" An array of speakers addressed women's rights concerns, affirming the right to choose abortion and opposing racist forced sterilizations.

On April 30 and May 1, pro-choice protests took place in front of midtown hotels where the reactionaries are staying. And On May 2 and 3, the New York Pro-Choice Coalition and the National Organization for Women called an emergency news conference. They picketed City Hall to expose the police collusion with the rightwingers and to pressure the city to defend women's rights, and have continued to oppose the rightwing at clinics.

The rightwingers who had come to disrupt and try to shut down women's health and abortion clinics in New York hypocritically call themselves "Operation Rescue." While claiming much concern for the unborn, these very same forces applauded the budget cuts that have impacted so severely on poor and oppressed women and especially on children.

Sue Davis, an All-Peoples Congress representative in the New York Pro-Choice Coalition, and an organizer of these activities, stressed, "These rightwing forces must be exposed and opposed at every opportunity, as should every bigoted group, like the Moral Majority, the Nazis and the Klan. They won't stop their anti-woman crusade without a united campaign opposing them." Commenting on the actions of the police, Davis added, "This shows progressive people can never rely on the police. Women must wage their own struggle to defend their rights."

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Buffalo rally builds anti-racist movement

By V. Colangelo
Buffalo, N.Y.

April 29 — "Racism, sexism, poverty — all means of oppression are poison. Alone, we are only a pebble, but together, fighting, we are a rock!" stated Virginia McIntyre, organizer and member of the Women's Resource Center, State University College at Buffalo here tonight.

Over 100 community activists, workers and students attended a dynamic Rally Against Racism and Military Intervention at the Langston Hughes Institute in Buffalo. The rally was held as a follow-up to the Anti-Racist Conference which many in the audience had attended in New York City on March 29.

Activist speakers representing campus and community organizations highlighted their struggles against militarism, racism, sexism, and anti-lesbian and gay bigotry. The rally was co-chaired by long-time community activist Ernestine Robinson and student organizer Darcy France.

The audience responded enthusiastically to each speaker's call for unity and fightback against discrimination and militarism. "Our lives are dominated by arrogant, rich, insensitive, racist white men's decisions to squander money needed to fund necessities on Star Wars and the military," stated Vera Spruill, president of the Redwood Village Tenants Association and national board member of the All-Peoples Congress. "Public housing is a right, not a privilege."

Spruill demonstrated how Reagan's support of the contra bombings of Nicaraguan housing projects coincides with lack of public funding for U.S. housing for the poor.

Councilman David Collins spoke of the racism apparent in the city administration. Representing a predominantly Black district, Collins has tried for years to get funding for street repairs. Only the upcoming election caused arch-racist Mayor Griffin to finally allocate funds. Collins urged the audience to "keep the heat on and take to the streets to make your voices heard."

A high point of the meeting was a talk given by Sara Parsons, one of twenty University of Buffalo students who had just come from an occupation of campus administrative offices to protest university collaboration with SDI/Star Wars research. The students plan follow-up actions and invited the audience to participate.

John Michalski of Buffalo State Students for Global Peace and Justice eloquently demanded an end to racism and U.S. imperialism. "Why do allies of the U.S., like South Africa, treat their people like garbage? And why does the U.S. support this? We must

organize and unify ourselves, and go past the boundaries. We must boycott corporations that support countries which have no democracy for their people like South Africa, Chile and Guatemala."

Other speakers denounced sexism and anti-gay and anti-lesbian bigotry. The October March in Washington was highlighted as an example of what is needed to demand more funding for AIDS research.

Jesse Jackson's campaign was discussed by Dan Bentivogli, labor and community activist. Bentivogli's group, Labor for Jackson, helped build working-class unity in Buffalo. Jackson won this city in the New York primary.

Lydia Bayoneta, Workers World Party candidate for the U.S. Senate from New York, explained the goals of her campaign to achieve a "more humane, more just society." She explained the use of racism and sexism as tools to keep the bosses' profits high. She expressed her party's condemnation of Koch's slurs against



WW PHOTO: BILL COVINGTON

Speakers at Buffalo meeting against racism.

Jesse Jackson, accusing Koch of "trying to heighten racial tensions."

The rally ended with a call for a future action in the same spirit of unity and fightback. A successful network has now been established between

Buffalo's community and campus activists.

Other speakers included All-Peoples Congress campus organizer Tom Scashill and Eugene Abramson of the Gay and Lesbian Community Network.

New York's 'finest' stage week of racist terror

By Sharon Shelton
New York

Lydia Ferraro, a 33-year-old Latin woman from New Jersey, was shot to death on April 27 by a barrage of police bullets. Her crime? Running a red light.

Ferraro, who was unarmed at the time she was gunned down as she drove through the streets of Harlem in the early morning hours, was only one of several victims of an orgy of racist police violence in New York City over the past week.

In the days following the murder of Lydia Ferraro, only one cop was even temporarily suspended. There was no editorial outcry by the big business media, which focused instead on a past drug problem, trying to brand the victim the criminal.

And, not surprisingly, New York City Mayor Ed Koch, hardly the champion of the many oppressed people who have been beaten and killed by "New York's finest," refused to denounce the cops and offered belated condolences to Ferraro's distraught family only after learning they plan to sue the city for the loss of their loved one.

Some 20 cops participated in the fatal attack on Ferraro, who was shot in the head, cheek and chest. The killing was witnessed by a man standing near the Metro-North railroad overpass nearby.

"I saw the woman drive around the

block with the cops behind her," the eyewitness to the murder told the New York Daily News (April 30). "She looked terrified."

The man noted that "they pulled the car over and surrounded it. . . . One cop shot. Boom. She panicked. It looked like she tried to lay down. Then she sat up. Everybody started shooting. One cop stood on the hood of a patrol car and fired twice through her windshield."

Refusing to give his name to the press out of fear of retribution, the witness said the cops threw open the door of the car, and one yelled, "Drag that b--- out." Then they pulled a bleeding Ferraro "out of the door until her body slammed on the ground."

Trigger-happy cops shoot one of their own

The same day that cops murdered Ferraro, a narcotics team stormed the apartment of 23-year-old Mercedes Perez, broke down a door and started shooting.

Perez, who was pregnant and subsequently gave birth while being treated for gunshot wounds, was charged with the murder of a police sergeant. Although the officer later was found to have been killed by the gun of one of his fellow cops, Perez originally faced charges of murder.

Immediately the Koch administration and the establishment press raised a hue and cry that stands in stark contrast to their response to the

murder of Lydia Ferraro.

Huge front-page headlines about the killing of the cop overshadowed news of Ferraro's murder. Koch and his police commissioner used the occasion to call for Perez' immediate execution as a "cop killer."

Faces were red, however, after ballistics reports showed that the fatal bullet was not fired by Perez's gun, but was fired by another cop. At the same time, the police were forced to revise their original story that they had raided a "crack den" and admit that only a minimal amount of drugs had been found — not even enough to press felony drug charges. Perez still faces charges of attempted murder, however.

Newspaper vendor attacked

Only a day after the ballistics tests showed that the trigger-happy cops had killed one of their own, a Bronx newspaper vendor became the latest victim of racist police violence. Ivan Figueroa, 20, was selling a newspaper that reported the ballistics findings when two cops tried to stop him.

"They grabbed the paper, crumpled it up and threw it away," he said. "They said, 'Cover up that (expletive) paper.'" When he protested, Figueroa was beaten to the ground. He and his brother, Carlos Figueroa, who came to his aid during the beating, were both arrested. The two plan to file police brutality claims before the Civilian Complaint Review Board.



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

Rachel Duell and John Jones.

Jersey housing activists arrested for demanding

By G. Dunkel
Jersey City, N.J.

Four housing activists shouted, "We need jobs, not jails!" as they were arrested on May 1 at Newport Centre, a \$10 billion development on the Jersey City waterfront across the Hudson River from Wall Street and lower Manhattan.

The Jersey City cops threw them to the ground before they could finish reading a three-and-a-half minute statement condemning Newport's plan for "the new Jersey City," a city emptied of the poor people, the Black, Latino and white workers who form the vast majority of Jersey City's

present residents.

John Jones, co-chair of the Billion Dollar Housing Coalition (BDHC) and a candidate in the 14th Congressional District, AJ Thomas and John-Peter Daly, two members of that organization, were arrested on disorderly conduct charges. Rachel Duell, a long-time activist here and also a BDHC member, was slapped with a resisting arrest charge in addition to disorderly conduct. Besides being fingerprinted and mug-shot, all were subjected to a strip search and a cavity search.

Immediately after he was released on bond, Jones explained from the steps of the County Jail that "These arrests expose the true nature of the

racist developers in this city who send their pit bulls, the Jersey City cops, to arrest, harass and shove around any Black, Latino, Asian or white workers who even raise their voices against their racist plans. We want jobs, not jails!"

Local newspapers here reported that 50 cops, plus the Emergency/Swat Team and all available private security guards employed by Newport were mobilized to prevent the Billion Dollar Housing Coalition from making their statement. The Billion Dollar Housing Coalition has been struggling for years to gain housing for the 20,000 people in Jersey City who need it, jobs at good union wages

Anishnabe Indians take over Minnesota offices

Protest illegal land theft and demand treaty rights

By Bob Gustafson
and Leslie Feinberg

Ten people were arrested on trespassing charges at 3 a.m. on April 24 after 200 traditional Anishnabe had occupied the headquarters of the U.S. puppet Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) at Leech Lake, Minn., for a week. The purpose of their occupation was to prevent the wholesale, illegal theft of their land and to demand rights guaranteed by treaty.

The arrests were carried out by more than 50 county police and state troopers even though the occupation took place on sovereign Anishnabe territory. First to arrive at the scene of the arrests was Valentine Obergon of the so-called Justice Department. He had earlier appeared in the guise of a mediator, although he had not been invited by either side in the dispute.

Occupation leader Richard Bellecourt told Workers World in a phone interview that the TEC members, "are selling treaty rights — hunting and fishing, even the land — in the name of progress and greed. We have to stop them while we have the chance."

Ray Bellecourt, another leader in this struggle, explained that, "The U.S. government is with them [TEC] all the way, that's the problem. They've got the police of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, county police and state troopers. They keep this dictatorship in place and sell our rights down the tube."

Immediately following the arrests, those forcibly removed from the TEC headquarters set up the Ojibway (also known as Anishnabe) People for Justice encampment just outside the building and are continuing to press their demands.

Those arrested went to court the next day demanding to know what statutes were used to justify U.S. cops arresting Anishnabe people on their own sovereign territory. This question remains unanswered and no future court date has been set.

Before the occupation, representatives from the six Anishnabe reservations in Minnesota — White Earth, Boise Fort, Fond-du-lac, Grand Portage, Mille Lacs and Leech Lake — sought counsel from a group of 30 elders who advised a sit-in at the TEC headquarters. Anishnabe from all six reservations took part in the occupation to demand primaries, election reforms, a fair election, a constitutional convention, removal of the corrupt TEC leadership and the voiding of the illegal agreement made between TEC and the U.S. government.

Ramifications for all Native nations

Bill Means, executive director of the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), told this newspaper that, "This is a situation where Indian people are standing up for their treaty rights.

Historically, any time the state government has been involved in hunting and fishing rights, land and minerals, Indian people have always lost.

"At Leech Lake, Indian people are standing up to their own local tribal government to make them more accountable to the people. They can't continue to make deals with the state government without a referendum vote because the hunting and fishing issues that are being negotiated are issues that directly affect all Indians in the United States, and for this, Indian people across the country are supporting the efforts of the elders and community people to address their tribal government."

From the arrests of Wampanoag and Narragansett hunters and fishers in New England to the imprisonment of Yakima elder David So-Happy for catching 317 fish in his ancestral waters in the Pacific Northwest, to the recent Supreme Court go-ahead to seize the ceremonial land belonging to indigenous Hawaiians in order to pave the way for a geothermal reactor, Native people are involved in the same struggle that is in the crucible at Leech

Lake.

Ojibway People for Justice encampment is bolstering itself as Native people feel violent attacks on it are imminent. Some 200 people, including spiritual leaders, feasted together in a ceremony there on April 30. A sacred fire is burning and the sound of the

drum, the heartbeat of all Native nations, continues to be heard.

Help is urgently needed. Those who have time, energy and/or resources should contact Richard Bellecourt, Anishnabe Akeeng (People's Land), Box 356 White Earth, Minn. 56591, or call (218) 983-3741.



Free Leonard Peltier! Sentenced to two consecutive life terms in Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas, Anishnabe/Lakota warrior Leonard Peltier has been placed in solitary confinement for unexplained reasons. Peltier was convicted of killing two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in June 1975 although an FBI ballistics test showed the bullets which killed the agents were not fired from Peltier's weapon. A leader of the American Indian Movement, Peltier has attracted widespread international support. He is seen as symbolizing the Native struggle.

News from Indian Country

So-Happy to be released.

David So-Happy is scheduled to be released from prison on May 17, after serving 20 months of a 5-year sentence. So-Happy, a Yakima elder and spiritual leader from Washington State who is in his 60s, was convicted with 8 other Native people under the Black Bass-Lacey Act, a federal law which prohibits indigenous people from fishing and hunting freely on their own land.

So-Happy has spent his entire adult life in the Native fishing rights struggle. He is recognized nationally and internationally for his leadership, and is on the Board of Directors of the IITC. Originally charged with leading "a massive conspiracy to poach salmon," he was convicted of catching 317 fish, according to his attorney Tom Kieff.

The government hoped to break the iron determination of the fishing rights struggle with these stiff prison sentences. So-Happy, whose health has seriously deteriorated behind bars, was repeatedly told he would be released if he promised to stop fishing and apologize.

Myra So-Happy, who is married to David, told this newspaper, "He won. He didn't negotiate with the state or government. If he hadn't gone to court, no people would be fishing now. He

said he wasn't going to negotiate. He told them 'no way, you owe me an apology!'" The right to fish, "is reserved by our ancestors. The government didn't grant us anything. This is why David argued that our treaty rights include fishing in all the tributaries around the ocean water and the Columbia River where the fish migrate into our waterways."

• • •

Living under the boot. The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled to allow the construction of a geothermal reactor on land that's sacred to Native people in Hawaii. To give the Native point of view on this development Workers World conducted a phone interview with Kawaipuna Prejean, He Hawai-i, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Prejean said, "After 95 years of living under the boot of the American government, without our consent, we know the prejudice of the courts in maintaining the status quo to keep the oppression on the first people of this land and to deny the indigenous people's right to practice our spirituality in our natural places. Our entire islands are considered sacred by us."

The U.S. government has "over-militarized Hawaii," he added. The U.S. "continues to deny our inherent right

to govern ourselves as we choose without foreign intervention. We hope the workers of the world understand that many of our people are unemployed because of the foreign government's policy of flooding the island with cheap goods and demanding cheap labor at minimum wages.

"The freedoms in the U.S. Constitution," which are supposed to be based on the government of the Six Nations Confederacy, he said, "has been warped and subverted to suit the special interest of big business." He cited "a racist commission initiated by the Reagan administration which has attempted to whitewash history and America's irrefutable role in the coup d'etat of Jan. 16, 1893, deposing our last legitimate ruler, Queen Liliuokalani." Hawaii was fully annexed by the U.S. on July 7, 1898.

He concluded, "We're looking to see an international tribunal established which is unbiased and unafraid of the truth that will look at the historic record and assist us in rebuilding our national character, integrity and our chance of moving from survival politics to economic development outside of groups subservient to the invader nation states." For more information, contact Kawaipuna Prejean, 2004 Kalawahine Place, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822.

jobs, not jails

and an end to the racist attacks in Jersey City. They obviously have had a strong impact on the developers.

Many of the prisoners that they met in the County Jail told the members of the Billion Dollar Housing Coalition that they had been turned down for any job at Newport Centre, that they knew from hard personal experience how much racism there is in Jersey City and wished the Billion Dollar Housing Coalition well in its struggles, which they see as in their interests. John Jones urged all the prisoners who can to vote for him in November as a vote for jobs, not jails.

The next court date for the Jersey City Housing Four is June 8, the day after the New Jersey primary.



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKLE

AJ Thomas (left) and John-Peter Daly.

Native people have been fighting for justice for 500 years. From New England to the Pacific Northwest to Hawaii, that struggle continues. Read about it in Workers World.

Lea en Mundo Obrero sobre las luchas de los pueblos indígenas, que han venido luchando durante más de 500 años, por una verdadera justicia social. La lucha continúa desde Nueva Inglaterra, Hawai, hasta el noroeste del Pacífico.

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U.S. uses food as a weapon against Ethiopia

By Monica Moorehead

The Reagan administration has once again accused the government of Ethiopia of deliberately preventing tons of foodstuffs from reaching their destination in the northern part of that country, hardest hit by a devastating famine.

Does this latest attack by the Reaganites reflect the U.S. government's genuine concern for the 7 million Ethiopians most affected by the drought or is this attack a cover for a deeper political and ideological hostility against this African revolutionary government struggling to build socialism? Is there a relationship between this natural disaster and this latest round of attacks made by the U.S.? There certainly is.

Famine and drought are no strangers to the underdeveloped continent of Africa. The lack of rain for many months and sometimes years has created a tragic scenario. Millions of African people have lost their lives through starvation. Millions of malnourished people have been displaced from their barren lands in search of immediate relief from their life-and-death situation.

Ethiopia has experienced more than its share of this deadly plague. It is a country of about 47 million people, emerging from the throes of existing for over a thousand years under eco-

nomically backward feudal conditions. The economy is predominantly agricultural with very little industry. The overwhelming majority of the population consists of peasants working on a growing number of small collectivized farms as well as private ones.

Since the Ethiopian revolution triumphed in September 1974, defeating the reactionary U.S.-backed Haile Selassie monarchy, Ethiopia has requested technological assistance in agriculture from industrialized countries like the U.S. In making these requests, Ethiopia's leader, Mengistu Haile Mariam, stated that with such assistance, "Ethiopia could not only feed itself, it could feed other countries as well. Ethiopia suffered for many centuries under feudal rule. One cannot recover from the results of such domination from one day to the next.

"For too long our farmers had no possibility of becoming acquainted with modern agricultural techniques. For far too long they had to struggle against colonialism. . . Agriculture must become intensive, for example, through man-made irrigation. We must no longer remain dependent on rains." (San Francisco Chronicle, Oct. 8, 1986)

These requests for the most part have been unanswered, particularly by the U.S., which is most belligerent towards the Ethiopian revolution. The

Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and other countries have provided vital material aid and equipment, but in order to develop rapidly Ethiopia needs more help and a respite from outside attacks.

Reagan uses food as a weapon

The U.S., which has an overabundance of grain and other food stuffs, has provided most of the food donations to Ethiopia, but with extensive political strings attached. In fact, the Reagan administration has used the issue of food as a weapon against Ethiopia. In the same way, it holds technology under lock and key, denying it to developing countries like Nicaragua and Vietnam that have recently freed themselves from the grip of imperialist exploitation and oppression.

It is the main goal of U.S. imperialism to overthrow the Ethiopian revolution, using any means necessary, from a covert military war to destabilization via food. Washington has been sponsoring covert paramilitary training of mercenaries since 1986 to achieve this aim. One group, the Ethiopian People's Democratic Alliance (EPDA), has been receiving undercover CIA support to the tune of \$500,000 a year since 1981.

The U.S. has also supported a band of counter-revolutionaries since 1974 in the northern Ethiopian provinces of Eritrea, Tigre and Wolo, insisting that

any food aid sent to Ethiopia should be sent directly to those regions. The Ethiopian government has demanded that any food donations be sent through the government.

These Eritrean and Tigrean forces, who receive U.S. military aid via reactionary regimes like Saudi Arabia, are notorious for sabotaging every effort to guarantee that the food reaches the masses that need it. In order to escape the ravages of this dirty U.S. war the Ethiopian government was forced to relocate 600,000 peasants from the north to the south where there is also more constant rainfall.

The U.S. has insisted that the Ethiopian leadership refuse any more military aid from the Soviet Union. This demand violates the right of any sovereign country to receive aid from any source it wishes.

The food crisis in Ethiopia may have been brought on initially by natural causes, not by politics. The intervention by U.S. imperialism, however, has certainly transformed a social phenomenon into a political and ideological struggle. It is becoming clearer and clearer who is the victim and who is the aggressor in this conflict.

It is certainly in the interest of the worldwide progressive movement to defend the heroic Ethiopian revolution against U.S. imperialism which dreams of once again possessing Ethiopia as its private domain.

Korean parliamentary landslide exposes sham presidential vote

By Andy Stapp



Korean students confronting soldiers in one of many demonstrations last year. The Korean people are fed up with repressive regimes.

giving techniques. This made official Washington very happy, since the general is their hand-picked candidate, as were all the successive military men who ran the south Korean dictatorship in the previous four decades. None of these military rulers had ever lost control of the National Assembly.

The U.S. imperialist interests which dominate south Korea deceived themselves into believing that this situation would go on forever. They simply failed to see the hatred growing, the elemental rage of the average south Korean who has endured one right-wing regime after another.

But all the signs were there. Last summer an enormous strike wave began against both the local and foreign capitalist bosses, the latter mostly from Japan and the U.S. And the fake election in December only fueled the rage.

Only a week after General Roh announced he had "won," students attacked the U.S. Information Service in the city of Kwangju, accusing Washington of "manipulation of the traitor's victory." The crowds in Seoul and Kyonghui held huge rallies where images of Uncle Sam and General Roh were burned in effigy. In February, students in Seoul staged a sit-in at the offices of the United States Information Service, chanting "Stop U.S. aid to the dictatorship!"

All these actions met with widespread popular approval, but nobody in Washington took it seriously, such is their contempt for the desires of the Korean people. Instead, like a pyromaniac adding fuel to the fire, the

Professor attacked for opposing Israeli repression

By Michael Bar-Am

A professor at the New York University School of Law has come under attack for objecting to the appointment of an Israeli lawyer to the school's faculty.

Graham Hughes felt that the Israeli should renounce the repressive policies of his government in the West Bank prior to being hired. According to Hughes, "I feel certain that we would not invite a South African professor without being sure that he was an opponent of the regime. It is reported that Israeli lawyers have participated in the kangaroo courts that have exiled and imposed punishments on Palestinians without any form of due process." (New York Law Journal, April 11.) Among the punishments are deportations carried out at gunpoint.

This rather mild demand has

caused a furor at the NYU Law School. Hughes has been threatened. A group of pro-Israeli fascists, the so-called Jewish Defense Organization, is even planning to picket Hughes' home.

While Hughes is tenured and has job security, many of his colleagues who do not have tenure have been afraid to give him public support. Even some with tenure have held back support for fear of receiving the "abuse, obscene letters, obscene phone calls and death threats" that Hughes has received.

Attempts to intimidate anti-Israeli voices on campus is nothing new. Recently a Black South African professor of sociology, Fred Dube, lost his job at the Stony Brook campus of the State University of New York after defining Zionism, as the United Nations has, as a racist ideology.

Nevertheless, the masses of people are now in a better position to carry out the struggles which lie ahead.

"We don't see how the government party can't win," an unnamed Western diplomat told the New York Times on the eve of the south Korean legislative elections. "The only question," he said, "is the size of the government majority."

Everyone knew that the fix was in. The vote-counting computers were all rigged, with just enough "extra ballots" programmed in to give General Roh Tae Woo, the pro-U.S. dictator, a winning margin. The quasi-official Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation actually broadcast the news that General Roh's candidate was winning on Cheju Island, giving the exact percentage he was leading by. The only problem was that this broadcast was aired 14 hours before the first ballot had even been cast! Someone at the TV station had inadvertently played the "election return" film segment a day early.

In the same article cited above, the New York Times reporter Clyde Haberman predicted in a dispatch from Seoul that General Roh's ruling party could be expected "to win a majority ranging from safe to resounding."

This turned out to be wrong, totally and completely wrong. And the next day, when General Roh's candidates lost the majority in the National Assembly, Mr. Haberman was eating his words from the day before. He reported the vote tally against the regime as "stunning" and "a startling reversal of pre-election forecasts," including, he failed to mention, his own.

How did this come about? How could the Party for Peace and Democracy, headed by Kim Dae Jung, triple its seats in the National Assembly after so many "western experts" had declared Kim to be politically dead, and his party, which is based on progressive students and the most exploited workers, nearly irrelevant?

Phony December elections

It all goes back to the elections in December. General Roh "won" that time handily, mostly by the usual rig-

Poland's economic reforms and the workers' strikes

By Deirdre Griswold

May 4 — The current strikes in Poland began on April 25 when transport workers in the northern city of Bydgoszcz walked out for 12 hours demanding a pay increase. Their union, which is officially recognized by the Polish government, was able to negotiate a raise and the workers were back on the job the next day.

This should have been a warning to the Polish government that the increase in food prices carried out as part of its economic "reforms" was intolerable to the workers.

On April 22, some 5,000 steelworkers at Stalowa Wola in southeast Poland had rallied and threatened to strike unless higher prices were matched with a pay increase. And last November, when the government organized a referendum on the reforms, it failed to get the majority vote required by Polish law to carry out its economic program. The price increases were instituted anyway, but at a slower pace than originally scheduled.

Now the strikes have spread to several shipyards and large steel plants, including the Lenin works at Nowa Huta. The workers' demands in the beginning were purely economic and were a justified response to the price increases.

The response of the authorities, however, who in several areas have attacked the striking workers, has opened the door for the reemergence of the rightwing Solidarity organization. Its agenda is not merely economic reform; it is a counter-revolutionary political grouping that seeks to overthrow the socialized industry that is still the core of the Polish economy.

On Dec. 8, 1981, in a secret meeting of the leaders of Solidarity that was taped and later made public, Lech Walesa, Zbigniew Bujak and others spoke openly of the need to overthrow "the system." (See *Poland: Behind the Crisis*, by Sam Marcy, World View Publishers, 1982.)

Role of imperialist banks

What has led to the spectacle of thousands of workers in plants named after V.I. Lenin going out on strike against the policies of a government that calls itself socialist? And why do the imperialist countries appear to be sympathetic to the Polish workers?

If you are a steelworker here in the United States, you know by now that the last place to expect any help against the greedy corporations and banks is from the Reagan administration. Why, Reagan would rather veto the whole trade bill than sign into law a provision requiring a measly 60-day notice of layoffs!

Yet these same unionbusters seem to have nothing but praise for the Polish workers, and especially for the banned Solidarity movement that says it represents them.

What's going on here?

Obviously, everything is not what it seems. While the media here make it appear that socialism is the problem, in fact Poland has fallen so far under the control of the multinational capitalist banks and corporations that — they are dictating its economic policies.

First of all, there's the question of the price increases on basic items, especially food, that have sparked the current strikes. True, they have been instituted by the Polish government, which has presented them as necessary for economic "reform." They were supposed to have been offset by wage increases, but the response of the workers shows that such is not the case.

IMF dictated price increases

These price increases, however, were imposed on Poland by the International Monetary Fund, an imperialist super-bank. For years, the capitalist countries have attacked the price structures maintained in the socialist countries, where basic necessities like food, rent and transportation have been kept low while luxury items were much more expensive.

Socialist prices meant that while some consumer goods plentiful in the West may have been harder to get in a socialist country, there were no homeless or starving people there. This was attacked in the capitalist world as "inefficient" and "unproductive."

For years, the strategy of the imperialists toward Poland has been to try and draw it into dependence on the capitalist market. Poland is one of the countries, like Yugoslavia, where the economists and government officials in the 1960s began to accept loans from Western banks. By the 1980s, their external debt was up to \$30 billion and Poland was in crisis.

The Polish authorities had thought they could sell their goods in Western Europe and the U.S. and pay off the debt that way. But that market was never really opened up to them. As has been the case with so many less developed countries in the world, once Poland was drawn into the debt trap it found that the only way to keep going was to borrow more. Each year, more of its export earnings went to pay the interest on the debt, until even that became impossible.

On Nov. 4, 1984, 500 Western banks agreed to a rescheduling of the Polish debt. At the same time, Poland joined the International Monetary Fund. This is the institution that has wrecked and impoverished much of Latin America. The IMF was going to help Poland "restructure" its economy. Its first priority was to demand that Poland improve its credit rating through "belt tightening" — that is, higher prices.

That's when there should have been big headlines telling it like it is: "Capitalist banks order Polish gov't to starve workers." But instead we are told by the big business news media that their only concern is the "free-

dom" and "spirituality" of the Polish people.

The Polish workers, of course, are angry at the government and party authorities who have carried through this disastrous economic program. And well they might be. Wouldn't the Polish Communists in charge have done a thousand times better by the working class if they had said, "We refuse to carry out the dictates of the imperialist banks"? Instead, they are in the indefensible position of putting down workers striking for a living wage.

All this only strengthens the counter-revolutionary elements, like the leaders of Solidarity. It is important to note that Solidarity has been very evasive on the price increases. While pretending to side with the workers, it welcomes the intervention of the imperialist banks. It is trying to utilize the economic struggle of the workers for a political campaign against the Polish state.

It was a similar crisis brought on by price increases that led to the rise of Solidarity in 1980. Then, as now, the crisis was directly tied to the demands of Western banks, which as early as 1979 had such a grip on the economy that Poland had to agree to let them "monitor" the economy.

The Polish government had an opportunity to reverse itself after it defeated Solidarity in 1982 and the situation stabilized politically, but instead, it turned to the IMF.

Large private sector in Poland

While basic industry in Poland is socialized, there is a large capitalist sector of the economy. Agriculture is 80% in private hands and is very backward — one reason why the government has had to heavily subsidize food prices. Raising food prices in effect makes the working class pay for

the failure of the regime to collectivize and modernize agriculture.

In addition, there are 200,000 private entrepreneurs in Poland who want an end to any restrictions on the accumulation of capital, who want to be able to exploit labor freely and expand their operations.

The strategists for imperialism have cultivated this pro-capitalist sentiment. The U.S. Congress actually passed a bill last year appropriating several million dollars for aid to independent Polish farmers — to be administered by the Catholic Church. And the Polish government accepted this!

These funds are but part of the overt and covert aid going to counter-revolution in Poland. At the same time, the imperialists are trying to force the Polish government to accept a coalition with bourgeois political forces.

As an editorial in the May 4 New York Times shows so clearly, the U.S. ruling class has no real sympathy with Polish workers; it only wants to step over their backs on the road to power. The editorial doesn't support the workers' wage demands. On the contrary, it is for forcing them to "moderate their economic demands" and accept "material sacrifice" if in return the Polish government will give up its "political monopoly" — i.e., let in the bourgeois forces.

The truth is that the imperialists want to exploit the labor of workers everywhere. That's what capitalism is based on. Capitalism and socialism can't be mixed together into a viable long-term economic system. The two are antagonistic modes of production, one based on the social ownership of the means of production, the other on private ownership and the exploitation of labor. The deepening crisis in Poland shows that market-based "reforms" are not the answer.

U.S. campaign against PLO violates international law

By Lallan Stein
New York

The World Court ruled unanimously on April 26 that the U.S. must submit to international arbitration before it attempts to shut down the offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization's mission to the United Nations here. The ruling represents a condemnation of U.S. outlaw tactics against the Palestinian people and their legitimately chosen representatives, the PLO.

The World Court made its decision in response to an emergency meeting of the UN General Assembly on March 2. At that time the General Assembly passed a resolution upholding the PLO's right to have an observer mission in New York City. The resolution also asked the World Court for an advisory opinion as to whether the U.S. should accept international arbitration.

The Court cited three reasons why the U.S. was in dispute with the UN. The first was last year's passage by Congress of U.S. legislation ordering the closure of the PLO's mission to the UN. Second was the Reagan administration's refusal to assure the UN that they would not carry this out. Third was U.S. Attorney General Meese's request for a U.S. federal court to order the PLO's mission closed.

It was ruled that the U.S. government must settle the dispute in accord with arbitration procedures laid down in a 1947 treaty. The treaty known as the Headquarters Agreement was signed by the UN and the U.S. gov-

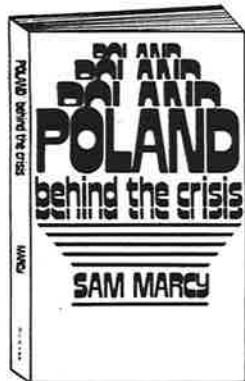
ernment when the UN established its headquarters in New York City.

Washington disregards ruling

Acting in defiance of their obligations to the UN treaty and to the World Court, the Reagan administration has said that it will persist in seeking the decision of a U.S. court to close the PLO mission. Further, they insist that they won't go into arbitration until after they have closed down the mission, even though they are obligated to under international law.

The action of the U.S. government sets a precedent which threatens the organizations of all the genuine liberation movements including the African National Congress and the South West African People's Organization which also maintain observer missions at the UN in New York. So far, the Reagan administration's reaction has been to ignore the World Court's decision. Washington reacted in the same sort of sleazy, criminal way when the World Court ruled against the U.S. for mining Nicaragua's harbors.

Here at home support for the Palestinian people and the PLO is growing. More and more people are beginning to see the U.S. as behind Israel's bloody repression of Palestinians in the occupied territories of the West Bank and in the Gaza strip. They see the U.S. behind Israel in the assassination of PLO Deputy Commander and Chief Abu Jihad. Here in New York City they see the U.S. defying world opinion in its attempt to close the PLO mission.



This book documents how the biggest Western banks used their leverage over the Polish economy to destabilize the government. Topics covered include: How Poland amassed a \$30 billion debt; Why anti-union Reagan supported "Solidarity"; Collectivization vs. private farming; The role of the party and the trade unions.

\$3.95 (add 75c for postage)

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EDITORIALS

Accutane and AZT

A number of times in this editorial space we've called for a "Manhattan Project" approach to finding a way to prevent and reverse AIDS. By this we meant an all-out mobilization of the medical and scientific community, centrally organized and with ample funding.

In response to any such demands involving more funding for AIDS treatment and research, the Reagan administration has claimed that their criminal slow motion was in fact the medical equivalent of all deliberate speed. If they mentioned AIDS at all, they said that "pouring money" into AIDS research would just be wasteful, that too much speed would mean unsafe methods.

The real story was revealed in recent testimony from the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Congress. This testimony showed that the lack of government funding was slowing down drug testing. This has caused needless loss of life.

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said his agency concluded it needed 127 additional staff members to handle the AIDS crisis for the current fiscal year. It was allotted the funds for 11 staff members. Because there was no one on the staff to push through all the bureaucratic formalities needed to get approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), testing of some AIDS drugs has been held up over a year.

Aerosol Pentamidine, used to treat and prevent the severe pneumonia that is the leading killer of people with AIDS, had testing held up

13 months after it was declared a "high priority." Dextran sulfate, a drug considered a possible defense of immune cells from the virus, also had its testing held up. This drug has been used in Japan for over 20 years as an anticoagulant. It is being used without scientific controls by over 1,000 AIDS patients in the U.S. who in desperation obtained the drug from Japan.

The only drug approved so far for treating AIDS is AZT, azidothymidine. This concentration on AZT has been criticized by activists representing people with AIDS, since AZT costs up to \$10,000 a year to use and is highly toxic, with questionable benefits except to the profits of its manufacturer.

The slowness to test other AIDS drugs has nothing to do with assuring that only safe drugs are passed by the FDA. In the same week that Dr. Fauci testified in Congress, the news broke that two drugs allowed by the FDA for treatment of severe skin ailments were almost guaranteed to cause deadly birth defects if they were used by pregnant women. In Europe, the drugs, Accutane and Tegison, which might cause birth defects more than two years after being used, were classified along with Thalidomide and prescribed under much more severe restrictions than here.

No, the government policy had nothing to do with deliberate speed. This policy is, in fact, one of criminal neglect of the AIDS crisis that has already cost so many lives and so much suffering.

Behind Israel's lawlessness

Once again on May 2 Israel invaded Lebanon. Two thousand troops, according to CBS News, swept through a self-proclaimed "security zone," spreading murder and mayhem.

Whether it is the murder and maiming of Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza, or one of the frequent forays into neighboring

countries, the Israeli settler regime has become known for its brutality and lawlessness. Few tyrannies in history have wracked up such a bloody record.

Yet how does Israel keep going? Its economy has failed. The Palestinian workers who are a key sector of its workforce have been in a near-continuous general strike for months. It is isolated regionally as well as internationally. How can Tel Aviv continue day after day without letup?

So much about Israel remains hidden in the myths and lies that fill the big business media in the capitalist countries. Like the circus magician using smoke and mirrors, the imperialist propaganda makes the Israeli state appear to be dancing all by itself. What remains hidden are the strings to the puppet as well as the puppet master.

Israel couldn't dance one step into Lebanon or the West Bank and Gaza or any other part of occupied Palestine without the U.S. No, its entire survival is dependent on the U.S., which provides not only almost all of the military equipment used by the Israeli terrorist army but additional billions of dollars to keep the failed economy from totally collapsing.

Usually the details of this are as hidden and obscured as is the existence of this intertwined relationship. However, on the same day as the invasion of Lebanon, the New York Times printed a detailed list of proposed U.S. arms sales for the next year, a report that even the Times said is rarely made public even though it is not officially a secret.

The report shows that Israel is by far the largest single recipient of U.S. arms to the tune of \$3.6 billion. This includes F-16s, F-15s, tanks, attack helicopters, sophisticated radar, night vision equipment, submarine and patrol boat electronic gear and a whole host of items that no other military in the world outside the Pentagon has access to.

This is the reality. And the brutal oppression of the oppressed Arab people in the Middle East will continue until it is stopped at the source — the U.S. government in Washington.

Letters

News from Guatemala

On March 9, Christian Democratic President Vinicio Cerezo signed a wide-ranging "social pact" with trade unions which included increases in minimum wages, price controls on basic commodities, the establishment of a Board of Inquiry to investigate human rights violations, and guarantees for previously banned political organizations and returning refugees.

The "social pact" comes on the heels of several months of intensified political activity in Guatemala, including popular front mass demonstrations in January in Guatemala City and Totonicapan of up to 50,000 people.

Smaller street rallies in nearly all of the country's departments called for land reform, economic justice and human rights. And in February and March there was a nationwide health-care workers strike.

The strike culminated in large grassroots marches that converged on the capital from all parts of the country, climaxed by a 14-day occupation of the Central Plaza in front of the National Palace.

On March 7, I witnessed the National Police violently breaking up the encampment and forcing the thousands of strikers to take refuge behind the walls of the University of San Carlos. Member groups of the national labor and popular action federation (UASP) answered this repression with plans to launch a general strike.

Under this mass pressure, the government reached a compromise solution with the health-care workers and signed the "social pact" agreement with the UASP.

The international media as well as the national Mexican press have begun to publicize what is obvious here

inside Guatemala: that beneath the veneer of Cerezo's "political opening," political assassinations and kidnappings of Indian campesinos, students, labor activists and relatives of the disappeared are reaching epidemic proportions.

In my records for Guatemala covering the last two-and-a-half months of 1987, I count over 300 victims of this wave of terror — killed, kidnapped, or wounded — and this figure only includes non-battlefield, politically related incidents reported in the three main national newspapers: Prensa Libre, El Grafico and La Hora. Since the first of the year, this grisly body count has risen even higher.

In spite of these death-squad killings and the carnage the military inflicts on the indigenous peoples, the regime here is receiving record amounts of economic aid from Western Europe and the United States. And behind the scenes, military advisers from Israel, South Korea, South Africa and the U.S. continue to coach the generals and the Special Forces in the refined techniques of Murder Incorporated.

In April, Cerezo also agreed to reopen suspended negotiations with the country's left-wing guerrilla federation, the United National Resistance of Guatemala (URNG). Since mid-October the URNG has stepped up its activities in the 28-year liberation struggle taking place in nine of Guatemala's 22 departments.

The URNG has counter-attacked effectively in response to the Army's well publicized and ongoing "End of the Year Offensive." According to the local military commander here in Nebaj, Lieut. Col. Arevalo, the goal of this offensive is "to break the back of the subversive forces and drive them out of their highlands and jungle strongholds."

Meanwhile, according to well-informed sources in several military hospitals and a military chaplain, the 3,500 combatants of the URNG are more than holding their own in their war with the 50,000 soldiers of the National Army.

According to these sources, rebel forces are causing the military to suf-

On the picket line

Continued from page 3

Unemployment: counting?

The feds say unemployment is at a happy low of 5.4% and all is well. Their counting method, coincidentally, has changed as the numbers have fallen; military personnel are included among the employed, as are temporary and part-time workers, all of which distorts the true figures. Now comes another trick. The Labor Department, ostensibly to cut costs, plans to start reporting unemployment by using the states' figures on who files unemployment claims, instead of conducting monthly household surveys. It is estimated that at least 18% of the unemployed will be left off the lists based on this method of reporting. Worse yet, according to a lawsuit against the federal government filed by the City of Los Angeles, millions of dollars in federal funds that are based on the official unemployment rate will be withheld. The Job Training Partnership Act program, for instance, will lose some \$7 million in the Los Angeles area. So the big business government kills two birds with one stone: it gets to publish fake rosy unemployment figures and further slash the few existing jobs programs for the unemployed.

Shelley Ettinger

fer on the average 10-12 casualties per day, or 4,000 per year. Guerrilla casualties are reportedly light, resulting from the rebels' superior knowledge of the terrain, their extensive combat experience and their political motivation.

According to high-level military spokespersons, including base commanders I interviewed in Santiago, Atitlan and Nebaj, the "subversives" enjoy the backing of a significant portion of the indigenous community.

Jon Reed
Guatemala City

— March for jobs

Continued from page 4

Jackson; the Michigan Housing Coalition; Joe Madison, chair of the Michigan Leadership Conference; Representative John Conyers, Jr., the Lansing Peace Education Center; Clementine Barfield, chairperson of Save our Sons and Daughters; and Mattie Roddy, Southwest Michigan area coordinator of the NAACP.

Last week, organizers of the "Stay in Lansing" got excellent responses speaking to 100 laid-off workers at a UAW 599 Unemployed Committee meeting in Flint, and meeting with leaders of Locals 581 and 668 in Flint and Saginaw, which have both been affected by plant closings.

The Job is a Right Campaign has already done several radio shows raising the tent city proposal. On one show, the spokesperson was kept on an extra hour because there were so many calls.

A Coordinating Council for the Stay in Lansing has been set up. Funds and volunteers are desperately needed to aid the effort. Contact the Council at (313)965-0074 or send checks made out to the Council to 1550 Howard St., Detroit, Mich. 48216.

Lessons of the Columbia student strike of 1968

By Hillel Cohen
New York

H. Rap Brown reading a list of demands of the Black students occupying the ivy-covered college hall . . . the dean looking sadly out the barred window of the office where the students held him hostage . . . hundreds of cops in riot gear dragging and beating students whose hands form V-signs and fists while blood drips down their shirts.

These are some of the images that were seen in the media all over the country from the Columbia Strike of 1968 — one of the most widely publicized student strikes of that period.

The student rebellion at Columbia University has become a symbol of "the Sixties." It is now the 20th anniversary of that struggle, and a reunion of many of the strikers became a focus of national media attention. But bourgeois media seem as anxious to hide the meaning and the lessons of the Columbia strike today as they were to distort the issues of the strike 20 years ago.

During the course of the strike, more than 5,000 students and supporters participated. Five buildings, including both the college and university administration buildings, were occupied for a week. More than 800 were arrested and hundreds injured in three "busts" and two police riots. For more than a month, there were daily pickets and demonstrations ranging from hundreds to thousands. They included nationally known leaders from the anti-war and Black liberation movements.

These facts were widely reported, but the reasons for the strike and the class significance of these events were mostly covered-up.

The first demonstration which sparked the strike demanded an end to the "Institute for Defense Analysis," which was the site of Columbia's research for the Pentagon, and an end to the construction of a new university gym in Morningside Park, in the Harlem community. These demands represented the larger issues of opposition to the Vietnam war and opposition to institutionalized racism in the U.S.

Columbia tied to Pentagon

Like most universities at that time and today as well, Columbia was heavily involved with the Pentagon. Like today's Star Wars funding of laser and computer research, the military then funded many research projects, often disguised as basic research.

Reserve Officer Training (ROTC) was a major college program which bribed students with tuition assistance in exchange for becoming military officers. Pentagon and CIA recruiters were welcomed guests of the university administration and unwelcome targets of student protests.

Columbia University is located very close to the Black community of Harlem and is separated from Central Harlem by Morningside Park. Columbia is also one of the largest slumlords

— Farmworkers

Continued from page 4

boycott of table grapes is continuing. It has been helped by the massive distribution of the film "Wrath of Grapes," a documentary on the effects of pesticides. Rodriguez said that the strike and the organizing efforts of the union have hurt the grape growers greatly.

Send contributions for either union to FLOC, Baldemar Velasquez, 714 1/2 S. St. Clair Street, Toledo, Ohio 43609, (419) 243-3456 and Artie Rodriguez, 75 Varick St., 14-F, New York, N.Y. 10003.

in the area. For many years before the 1968 strike, Columbia was a "leader" in the gentrification efforts, trying to force poor tenants out in order to make way for luxury housing and institutional expansion.

Building a gym in Morningside Park was an attempt to take the park away from Harlem and make it part of a gentrified complex. As a concession to community protests, Columbia offered to allow the community to use a separated 10% of the gym that would be accessed from a "back door"! This separate and unequal Jim Crow gym symbolized the institutionalized racism at Columbia and throughout the country.

These two issues, the struggle against racism and the struggle against the Vietnam war, were at the heart of the rebellion. The media tried to give the false impression that the Black students were only interested in the gym and the predominantly white members of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) were only interested in the war. But the two issues of racism and war were very much linked in the minds of all the activists. More fundamentally, these two issues were and still are linked as two outgrowths of the imperialist capitalist system.

Much of the media attention focused on the elite nature of Columbia University as an Ivy-League school, with the implication that students at Columbia were privileged and shouldn't be protesting at all, let alone carrying out a militant struggle.

In order to reinforce this image, the bourgeois media deliberately underplayed the role of the Black students and the support of the Harlem community.

Role of Black students

The Black students took the lead in the occupation of the first building and in holding the dean in his office. And when they asked the whites to leave, they established an independent force within the struggle.

The decision of the university and the city administration not to bring in the police for a week was undoubtedly due to fear of the response of the Harlem community which was in strong solidarity with the Black students.

The rebellion at Columbia was not an isolated event. At the beginning of 1968, the great Tet offensive of the Vietnamese liberation forces showed the world that U.S. imperialism could be defeated. And on April 4 of that year, Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated and rebellions broke out in the Black communities in hundreds of cities across the country.

There were other very significant, though less publicized student rebellions such as a sit-in at Howard University just two weeks before and the Orangeburg massacre where two Black students were killed several weeks later.

Within a year there were many student struggles, including pitched battles with the cops at San Francisco State and the strike at City College in New York which won an open admissions policy and changed the makeup of the entire city university system.

Yet, as strong and as militant as it was, the struggle at Columbia and the student movement as a whole could only make limited gains. Many at the 20th anniversary gathering remarked how the U.S. is still carrying out wars of aggression and intervention, and how institutionalized racism is still entrenched, but did not seem to know why, or how success could be reached in the future.

What was lacking was the revolutionary intervention of the working class — the only class which, when united with the oppressed peoples, can overthrow capitalism. And as long as

The New York Times

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1968

VELOP
VOTED
SENATE

1,000 POLICEMEN REMOVE STUDENTS HOLDING 5 BUILDINGS AT COLUMBIA; 250 ARRESTED, SOME ARE INJURED

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POLICE CLEAR CAMPUS: Handpicked members of the police force remove students from main entrance to Avery Hall at Columbia University in mass ouster this morning.

CAMPAIGN OF POOR BEGINS IN CAPITAL

Freeman, Clark and Wirtz
Hear Militant Demands in
Talks With 150 Leaders

By EARL CALDWELL

State Panel Recommends A 'Negative Income Tax'

ALBANY, April 29—A committee of national business leaders called today for a Federal "negative income tax" to lift the country's 30 million poor above the poverty threshold. The 12-man committee, which was appointed by Governor Rockefeller to recom-

TRESPASS CHARGED

Protesters Dragged
Out After Ignoring
Pleas to Leave

By SYLVAN FOX

A handpicked force of some 1,000 policemen moved into the Columbia University campus early today and began clearing demonstrators from five buildings the students had seized a week ago.

At 4 A.M., less than two hours after the police raid began, Police Commissioner Howard B. Loary reported to Mayor Lindsay that all five buildings that had been occupied by student demonstrators had been cleared.

Students were dragged and carried from the university buildings by the helmeted policemen, and there were several scuffles.

At the request of the university administration, the police arrested an estimated total of 250 students for trespassing in the buildings.

Scenes of Violence

Scenes of violence were observed by newsmen at Avery Hall. Students on the steps who were told by the police to move and did not so do were kicked and struck with handcuffs that were being used as clubs.

capitalism survives, so too will racism, sexual oppression, imperialism and exploitation.

Need to orient toward workers

Of course, understanding the key role of the working class would not of itself change the objective conditions and bring the working class into motion. But orienting towards the workers could have deepened the struggle and prepared the basis of building the revolutionary movement of the future.

The potential of this could be seen right during the Columbia strike as the newspapers reported the events in France in May of '68. There, high school as well as university students seized their school buildings all over France and soon were followed by an enormous uprising of French workers, to the point where 10 million workers were on strike and occupying factories.

Unfortunately, the meaning of the French experience was not assimilated here. Why? In part, because almost all of the U.S. parties calling themselves Marxist were out of touch with the student rebellions. Workers World was the only Marxist party to actively participate in and support the Columbia rebellion and to understand its revolutionary potential. To the militant youth, most of those who talked about the working class seemed hopelessly passive, and they saw the working class as mostly white, male and conservative.

Although many militant youth thought of themselves as Marxists, few understood the objective revolutionary potential of the workers.

Change in objective conditions

Twenty years later, many of the activists at the reunion seemed to still miss this most critical point. And yet the objective conditions have changed radically. Under the relentless development of the technological revolution, the composition of the working class has changed and is continuing to change dramatically.

Women and people of color now make up the majority of the workers. Higher skilled and higher paid jobs, which formed the basis for conservatism, are being replaced by lower skill and minimum wage jobs. The potential for a revolutionary leap in class consciousness within the working class is greater than ever.

Even the composition of the students has changed. In the large city schools, a much higher proportion of the students are from the Black, Latin and Asian communities. And a much higher proportion are from working class families and have to work themselves — many with full-time jobs — to get through school.

The popularity of the Jesse Jackson campaign among students and workers, Black, Latin, Asian and white, is a sign of the possibilities ahead.

There is a great deal of renewed interest among young people in the '60s. With student strikes such as those at Amherst and the University of Pennsylvania on the rise again, and with the rising spirit of militancy among the workers, it is more important than ever that the real meaning and lessons of the movements and struggles of the '60s be learned.

The bourgeois media would like to put forward the '60s as simply an urge for sex, drugs and rock & roll which inevitably led to disillusionment and the pursuit of yuppiedom. No, the essence of the Columbia rebellion and the movement of which it was a part was resistance to racism and imperialist war.

Today's activists can make use of that heritage. They are in a better position to understand that capitalism is the cause, and that a conscious working class organized by a revolutionary party, can win.

The author was a participant in the Columbia strike. Suspended from Columbia because of his activities, he attended City College the next year where he participated in the strike for open admissions and joined Workers World Party.

Historial del Día Internacional de los Trabajadores

Por Santiago Manque-Milla

El Día Internacional de los Trabajadores fué la respuesta proletaria al surgimiento del capitalismo y la explotación de los Trabajadores en los EE.UU.

En 1828 se constituye el Consejo Central de los Trabajadores en Filadelfia que agrupa a todas las asociaciones gremiales del lugar y que a pesar de su prematuro fracaso pone de manifiesto la necesidad de unirse estrechamente, y la de incorporar a todos los sectores laborales para lograr el propósito de reducir a 10 las horas laborales.

Con el devenir de los años el proletariado estadounidense logra conquistar la reducción de las 10 horas, pero sólo para los obreros calificados y los empleados estatales, si bien es cierto que estos combates sociales lograron arrancar a la burguesía explotadora algunos pequeños éxitos que sólo beneficiaron a un pequeño grupo calificado, no lograron llenar las aspiraciones de las grandes masas trabajadoras.

En los años 80, el movimiento obrero norteamericano, entraba en una

etapa decisiva por la reducción de la jornada laboral. El 1 de mayo de 1886 estalla una huelga general en todo el país, que su punto más álgido lo constituye la ciudad de Chicago. En esta ciudad la huelga paraliza todas las industrias, con la sola excepción de la fábrica de segadoras McCormic en la que trabajaban rompe huelgas profesionales (esquirols), que fueron contratados por la patronal después de haber despedido a los obreros que exigían las reivindicaciones sociales y que habían declarado un paro laboral.

Opuestos a esta actitud asumida por los patrones en contra de su combativa moral proletaria se acuerda celebrar una concentración el día 3 de mayo en las cercanías de la conflictiva fábrica. Esta transcurre en sus inicios en forma pácífica y organizada, sin que faltaran por cierto algunos intentos de enfrentamiento por parte de los rompohuelgas de la McCormic.

En los momentos que hablaba Spies, uno de los dirigentes obreros que pedía la reducción a 8 horas, hizo su aparición la policía disparando en forma indiscriminada en contra de los

obreros allí congregados, resultando muertos 6 de ellos y hubo un gran número de heridos. Las gloriosas jornadas de mayo dieron a la clase obrera su Día Internacional, cosa que asumirían más tarde en París dentro del contex-

to del Primer Congreso de la II internacional en donde se proponía que en todos los países y en todas las ciudades del mundo, las masas productoras exigieran de las autoridades del Estado la reducción legal a 8 horas diarias.

¡En la unión está la fuerza!

Por Petra Guerra
Nueva York

Las condiciones de trabajo y de vida para los trabajadores agrícolas en el medio-oeste de este país son tan malos como lo que se ve en países del tercer mundo.

Para sobrevivir, es necesario que todos en la familia trabajen incluyendo los niños. Mujeres que están embarazadas o que están dando pecho y niños son los que más están expuestos a los peligros de los pesticidas. Las viviendas son muchas veces viejos gallineros, sin electricidad, plomería, y agua potable.

Para los trabajadores migrantes el Comité Organizador de los Trabajadores Agrícolas (FLOC) es su única vía para mejorar sus condiciones socio-económicas. Después de 7 años de larga y ardua lucha, en febrero de 1986, por primera vez en la historia un contrato tri-lateral fué firmado de común acuerdo entre FLOC, los rancheros y la compañía Campbell Soup. El contrato incluye aumentos salariales, un programa de salud y un procedimiento para bregar con las quejas de los trabajadores. Este contrato cubre 28 rancheros y alrededor de 800 trabajadores migrantes.

Inmediatamente después de esta victoria laboral, la compañía Heinz, U.S.A. llegó a un acuerdo de negociar con FLOC. En 1987, un contrato fué firmado con la Freemont Tomatoe and Pickle Growers Association y Heinz. Este contrato, extiende beneficios a más de 700 trabajadores migrantes de Ohio y Michigan.

¿Y después de esto, qué? Nuestra meta es obligar a los demás rancheros que están con Campbell que firmen contrato. Y además tener negociaciones con Vlasic, y así traer a todos los rancheros de tomate y pepino bajo un contrato colectivo.

Se está llevando a cabo una campaña de entrenamiento en los Estados de Tejas y Florida, en donde los migrantes viven durante el invierno. Un es-



fuerzo combinado para recaudar fondos, entre la unión de trabajadores campesinos (United Farm Workers) dirigida por Cesar Chavez y FLOC.

FLOC y UFW en Nueva York

El viernes, 29 de Abril, se ofreció una recepción a Baldemar Velasquez, presidente de FLOC, quien nos dió un reporter sobre la situación laboral de la unión y explicó como los contratos tri-laterales son mejor aceptados por los rancheros, por que bajo estos contratos las compañías como Campbell's Soup y Heinz tambien son responsables ante las demandas de los trabajadores. Explicando tambien ,la campaña que se está llevando en unificar a los trabajadores mexicanos en donde quiera se encuentre plantas de Cambell's en México. La meta es lograr que las conquistas sociales que se han logrado en EE.UU sean tambien una realidad para los trabajadores mexicanos.

También se encontraba el dirigente sindical Artie Rodriguez de la UFW, se le pidió que diera un reporte sobre el boycott de la uva de mesa, explicando los resultados favorables de la distribución masiva de la película "Furia de las Uvas," documental sobre los efectos nocivos de los pesticidas. Y reportó las grandes pérdidas económicas qe han sufrido los rancheros, debido a la huelga y los esfuerzos organizativos del sindicato.

Tenemos que mantener vivas nuestros sindicatos y a los organizadores, por favor mande contribuciones a:

FLOC
Baldemar Velasquez
714-1/2 S. St. Clair Street
Toledo, Ohio 43609
Tel. (419) 243-3456

UFW-NYC
Artie Rodriguez
75 Varick 14f+
New York City, NY 10003

¡Mujeres sindicalistas en marcha!

Por Rosa Maria de la Torre

Representantes del Sindicato Nacional de Costureras 19 de Septiembre están en gira por los Estados Unidos. Visitarán varias ciudades tales como Chicago, Detroit y Nueva York.

El Sindicato fué fundado en septiembre de 1985 a raíz de la gran tragedia sísmica que sufrió el pueblo mexicano y que dejó un saldo de miles de muertos y no menos de 150 mil personas sin hogares. En el local de una maquiladora situada en la ciudad de México quedaron sepultadas 400 costureras que ahí laboraban. Sus compañeras quisieron intentar el rescate pero se los prohibió el gobierno mexicano. Sin embargo, a los propietarios si se les permitió rescatar la maquinaria antes que sacar los cuerpos de las víctimas. De ahí salió el coraje para formar un sindicato independiente que realmente representara los intereses de las trabajadoras.

Ante la presión ejercida por las costureras el gobierno se vió obligado a mandar maquinaria para el rescate, pero fué demasiado tarde y las 400 mujeres perecieron. Esto reveló el carácter real del patron y del gobierno. Con la experiencia de algunas costureras en el campo laboral, se inició la lucha para convencer a las demás que era el momento preciso para formar un sindicato que luchara por conquistas económicas y sociales y que a la vez fuera un instrumento para cambiar las condiciones de trabajo y todo bajo el liderazgo de los propios trabajadores.

El 22 de abril, Gloria Juan Diego, asistente de la vice-presidenta del Sindicato, y Alicia Cervantes Suplente de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores se presentaron en la Escuela de Relaciones Industriales y Laborales del Estado de Nueva York donde explicaron

la importancia de esta gira, ya que es una oportunidad para establecer relaciones permanentes entre las costureras de ambos lados de la frontera. Ambas explicaron que los trabajadores mexicanos ganan menos que los que laboran en los Estados Unidos, no es porque estén conformes, si no porque es una maniobra de los dueños para aumentar sus capitales.

El Sindicato 19 de Septiembre no sólo se dedica a negociar con los patrones por mejores contratos o para hacer respetar los contratos existentes, si no que además lleva a cabo una campaña de educación primaria y secundaria, medicina alternativa, acupuntura, medicina herbal, clases de corte y confección, tiempo y movimiento para control de la producción y cuidado de niños, además de adiestramiento a las costureras sin empleo.

El 4 de enero de 1986 tomaron un local en la Colonia Obrera, casi al frente de donde cayeron los edificios en 1985. El sindicato funciona y organiza desde carpas de campaña y de módulos de lámina, con la solidaridad de unos cinco maestros, unos diez médicos, y otras organizaciones populares de colonos, campesinos, enfermeras y sindicatos independientes

El Sindicato 19 de septiembre sólo cuenta con 4 mil costureras sindicalizadas y ha organizado 14 maquiladoras en la Ciudad de México. Sin embargo, en solo dos años y medio ya se han establecido como un símbolo de lucha y solidaridad para todas las organizaciones populares independientes, ya que el local sirve como centro de reunión para los campesinos y otras organizaciones proletarias que llegan de provincia.

Para contribuir o información+ escribir a: Local Sindical, Sn. Antonio Abad #151, Colonia Obrera, México, DF. CP. 06800.

