



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

Noticias en español vea página 12

RACIST INJUSTICE

While none of those identified as attackers of Tawana Brawley have been arrested, her mother, Glenda, has been sentenced to 30 days in jail. The racist crime continues. **5**

TENT CITY

The jobless in Michigan have constructed a Tent City on the state capitol grounds. Their goal is to stay until Gov. James Blanchard or the state legislature grants them emergency relief. **3**

AIDS POLICY

A top scientific group and the President's hand-picked panel have both harshly condemned the Reagan administration's AIDS policy. However, their positive suggestions won't be implemented without a mass struggle. **4**

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY

In major U.S. cities, rallies on June 4 showed support for the freedom fight of the Palestinian people. **9**

Striking workers defy racist crackdown, shut South Africa

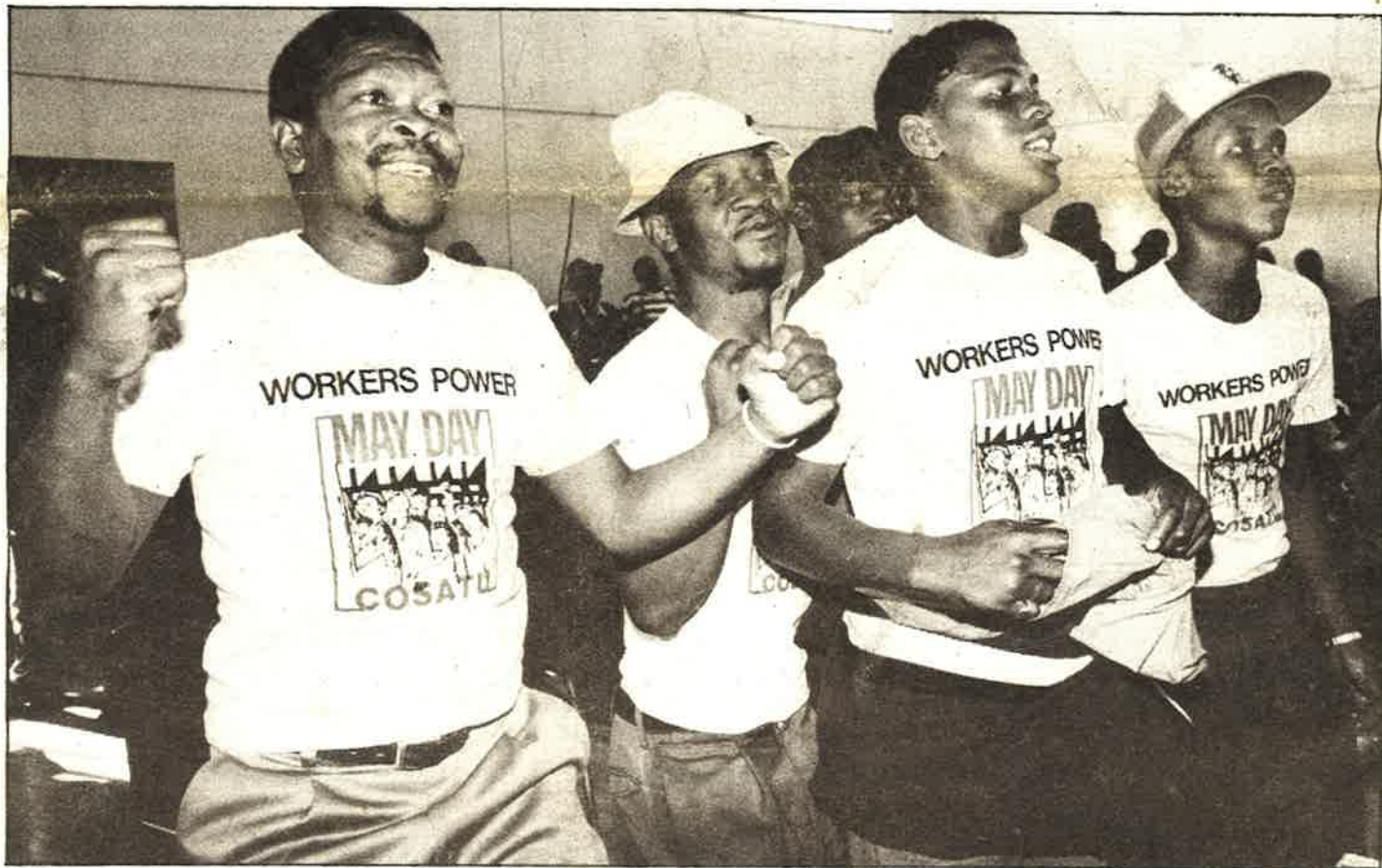
By Monica Moorehead

June 7 — An estimated two million Black workers began a three-day work stoppage in South Africa yesterday to protest the second year of the repressive state of emergency decree and the more recent restrictions imposed upon anti-apartheid organizations this past February.

The work stoppage was carried out de-

spite threats from the racist apartheid regime that dismissals and reprisals would be forthcoming against any workers participating in the stoppage. The three day stoppage will surely inflict more damage on the already ailing apartheid economy, numbering in a loss of millions of dollars in production and services.

The action was initiated by the Con-
Continued on page 6



Members of COSATU stand and cheer at an illegal meeting held at Witwatersrand University on May Day where plans were made for the historic June 6 general strike.

PHOTO: AFRAPIX/IMPACT VISUALS

Rooting out the source of war

A statement by Workers World Party candidates on disarmament and the anti-war movement

The Third UN Special Session on Disarmament (SSD-III) in New York is the focus of the June 11 mass march, which calls for abolishing nuclear weapons, stopping military intervention, and for economic development and social justice.

Workers World Party is running candidates Larry Holmes for president and Gloria La Riva for vice president. The following is a statement of the WWP candidates on disarmament and the anti-war movement in the U.S.



Larry Holmes

Gloria La Riva

The bulk of humanity is threatened by nuclear war and would like to see that threat end. Many face the reality of military intervention or the imposition of a foreign military base. Throughout the world, resources that could be used for economic development are squandered on armaments.

Any negotiations, bilateral or multi-lateral, summit meeting or special UN ses-

sion, that have even the smallest chance of improving this situation are welcome. Any mass protest of the arms race can only be considered progressive:

That protest can be strengthened if it is focused on the proper target and if it makes it clear who is the source of war. It can succeed if it mobilizes the forces in society that have the best reasons for demanding

Continued on page 7

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

First-hand accounts from our reporters:

Nicaragua	8
Cuba	11
Kanaky	10

SOVIET REFORMS

This week Sam Marcy takes up material incentives, privilege, and the slowing Soviet growth rate. **12**

The \$1 subscription bargain!

Workers World

In 1962, when Youth Against War & Fascism organized the first demonstration against the Vietnam War — Workers World was there.

Workers World has been first in coverage of the anti-war movement for over 25 years. And every other progressive struggle from the civil rights demonstrations and the fight against racism. The women's movement. The struggle against lesbian and gay oppression. The disabled movement. Seniors. Unions. And many more. Workers World is always there.

Now you too can get Workers World for only \$1! Fill out the form and send it in for an 8-week introductory trial subscription. It's a bargain that can't be beat.

To subscribe to Workers World newspaper send:

- \$1 for an 8-week trial
- \$10 for one full year
- \$6 for six months

To join the WW Supporter Program:

- I pledge ___ a month or ___ a year

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Return to: Workers World, 46 W. 21 St., NY, NY 10010

On the picket line

Hollywood writers strike. The Writers Guild strike against the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, begun March 7, continues, although a contract agreement with 70 independent producers was reached on May 26. The independents' agreement, a victory for the writers on the crucial issue of residual payments for reruns in syndication, insures fall production for such TV hits as "The Cosby Show." The "Tonight Show" signed the contract, too, but Johnny Carson hadn't waited, crossing picket lines and writing his own monologue several weeks before the settlement.

Meanwhile, the big bosses are still insisting on a 50% cut in residuals, although strikers say the agreement with independents should bring pressure on the big producers to settle. The residuals issue is important for the 9,000 striking writers because most of them can't make a living from script-writing, so when they do sell a script the deal they make is crucial.

• • •

Consumers Union boycott

Unionists joined in a picketline sponsored by the Newspaper Guild Saturday, June 4, at the annual Board of Directors meeting of Consumers Union. The publisher of Consumer Reports has stonewalled in contract talks with 190 workers for two-and-a-half years, according to Local 3 president Barry Lipton, "demanding that the Guild cave in to a devastating 'merit pool' pay scheme as well as other concessions. The demands come in the face of unprecedented prosperity for the publisher, which has hired specialist unionbusters to design concessions and run the company's end of the talks."

Shelley Ettinger

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.

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

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

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

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

Chicago: P.O. Box 6510, Chicago, Ill. 60680 (312) 283-0851

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CALENDAR

NEW YORK

Sat., June 18: "How can we put an end to racism, war, unemployment, bigotry?" Workers World Party Forum on socialism. Featuring panel presentations and discussion. 7 p.m. Wheelchair accessible. Refreshments. At 146 W. 25 St., Manhattan. Call (212) 255-0352.

Sat., June 18: Demonstration to free Irish political prisoner Joe Doherty, threatened with deportation by the Reagan administration. Held illegally for 5 years in U.S. prisons. Speakers to include representatives

of ANC, PLO and the Puerto Rican-Hartford 15 political prisoners. 3-5 p.m. At Thomas Paine Park, corner of Lafayette and Pearl Streets.

ROCHESTER, N.Y.

Sat., June 18: Outdoor rally to commemorate the Soweto uprising and to fight racism from Rochester to South Africa. Speakers will include representatives from struggles in South Africa, Palestine, and against police brutality. Also, reggae band Jahmel and the Rythmn Factory and youth rap group Crazy

Fresh Posse will perform. Initiated by the All-Peoples Congress. At Manhattan Square Park.

SAN FRANCISCO

Thur., June 16: Twelfth anniversary of Soweto rebellion. Picket to support sanctions bill S. 2378. 12 noon. At Ferry Building. Forum with ANC member Mosala Mosegami and film "Six Days in Soweto." 7:30 p.m. At Western Addition Cultural Center, 762 Fulton St. Call (415) 332-3819

In This Issue ...

NATIONAL

On the picketline	2
Tent City in Lansing, Mich.	3
Jersey City schools takeover	3
Reagan's AIDS policy slammed	4
Baltimore gay rights bill wins	4
Atlanta fare increase fought	4
SAYAR leader interviewed	5
Tawana Brawley racist injustice	5
Boston tenants struggle	5
WWP Senate candidate speaks out	7
Dukakis unmasked	7
Immigration 'reform' and Central Americans	8
Veterans Peace Convoy	8
March supports Palestine	9
Peltier on Palestine	9

INTERNATIONAL

South Africa strike	1
Puerto Rico	6
Filipinos want U.S. bases out	6
Nicaragua negotiations	8
Panama drug smuggler is the Pentagon	8
U.S., the real power over Israel	9
U.S. nuclear threat in Korea	10
Strike wave in south Korea	10
French military exposed in Kanaky	10
Cuba's internationalism	11
Soviet aviation breakthrough	11

EDITORIALS AND FEATURES

WWP candidates on disarmament	1
The Soviet reforms analysis by Sam Marcy	12
An extraordinary campaign	14
The bailout scam	14

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

Gastos militares	15
Conferencia sobre la inmigración	15
Chile	15
Sud Africa	15
Puerto Rico	16
Filipinas	16

workers world

46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010 Editorial: (212) 206-8222
 Business: (212) 255-0352 Telex: 6501176920
 Vol. 30, No. 24/June 16, 1988 Closing news date: June 8, 1988

Editor: Deirdre Griswold
 Technical Editor: Lallan Stein

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

Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) is published weekly by WW Publishers, 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Business office (212) 255-0352. Editorial office: (212) 206-8222. Subscriptions: One year: \$10; six months: \$6. All letters received by Workers World become the property of the newspaper. We reserve the right to print letters in condensed form. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or Xerox from University Microfilms International, 300 Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 46 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010. Bundle rates available on request.

Mich. jobless set up Tent City in Lansing

Demand emergency relief from state legislature

By Joyce Chediac
Lansing, Mich.

June 8 — A struggle has been born here with implications for all workers and oppressed people confronted with layoffs and cuts in pay.

Yesterday, the unemployed, the homeless, the under-paid, and the hungry from around Michigan converged here and constructed a Tent City on the state capitol grounds. Their goal is to stay until Gov. James Blanchard or the state legislature grants them emergency relief in the form of extended unemployment benefits, increased welfare payments and homes for the homeless.

From the very first minute, Tent City residents were threatened by the state. However, by remaining firm and building confidence in their collective strength, they were able to face down a state government which threatened them with eviction, and won the right to stay overnight and into today.

Attempts by the media to keep people away by broadcasting all over Lansing that the state would forcibly evict attendees backfired. Lansing workers and students responded by coming to Tent City throughout the night to stand firm alongside the tenters.

Today's 7 a.m. deadline for eviction came and went, with the laid-off and the homeless up and ready, and the major media present. Not one official or state trooper showed.

In the course of the struggle, a new unity has been forged among unemployed auto workers, welfare recipients, the homeless, the disabled, serviceworkers, minimum wage workers and religious, anti-nuclear and peace activists.

A national phenomenon

Michigan is on the cutting edge of a national phenomenon—a wide-ranging conspiracy between the giant corporations and the federal, state and local governments to reindustrialize on the backs of the workers. There is double-digit joblessness in the key cities here. Autoworkers who were formerly earning \$13 an hour and benefits are lucky if they can find service jobs at one-third that with no benefits. Emergency unemployment moneys are running out and there is nothing for the homeless or those on welfare.

While living conditions for hundreds of thousands in the state are unbearable, there is a huge budget surplus. But neither Governor Blanchard nor the state legislature has done anything for those in need.

On top of this, the state announced this week that unemployment in Michigan is down to 6.5%, the lowest in 10 years. Brenda Kirby, a member of the Coordinating Council for the

Stay in Lansing, the coalition that built Tent City, explained, "They call this the 'comeback state.' It's a lie. This crass manipulation of the unemployment figures is an attempt to make us invisible. There has been no mass increase in jobs: People have been dropped from the unemployment roles into oblivion."

Among the endorsers for Tent City are Rev. Jesse Jackson, the Detroit City Council, four union locals, an additional eight local presidents, welfare rights groups, a Palestinian organization and tenants' groups.

400 participate

More than 400 people came here yesterday from Detroit, Flint, Saginaw, Benton Harbor — where the official jobless rate is 24% — and other cities. Members of UAW Locals 15, 22, 581, 598 and 599 were there.

Participants are Black, white, Latino, Native and Arab. A woman who worked in a soup kitchen brought \$400 collected from churches in the Flint area. From Lansing, the vice president of UAW Local 6000 representing state workers who service unemployment and welfare centers brought \$300 collected from union members.

Homeless people from the COTS shelter in Detroit are here. Long-time peace and anti-nuclear activists, and activists from the women's and lesbian movement are here.

Right from the start, Tent City was marked by its serious attitude. Twenty-seven tents were put up in a spirit of cooperation. There was a childcare tent for the many children, meals donated by a church and a local union were collectively organized. Tent City members spent yesterday afternoon in a speakout where all those with grievances against the state let them be known.

Town meetings forge people's unity

The high point, however, was two town meetings held last night to decide how to proceed when the state's arbitrarily imposed deadline of 7 a.m. ran out. Through serious and deliberative discussion involving many people, it was unanimously decided to continue Tent City even in the face of possible arrests by the state police, and to hold the governor and the legislature responsible for any confrontation. Everyone there wanted to put up a fight.

The entire body met again a few hours later to strategize. Chairperson Bill Roundtree from the Coordinating Council alternated calling upon a man and then a woman to ensure unity and workers' democracy. Peace activists involved in extensive civil disobedience at Williams International shared their experiences with unemployed workers. The leadership of the tent meeting was clearly Third World.

Rep. David Hollister, the only legislator who even showed up at Tent City,

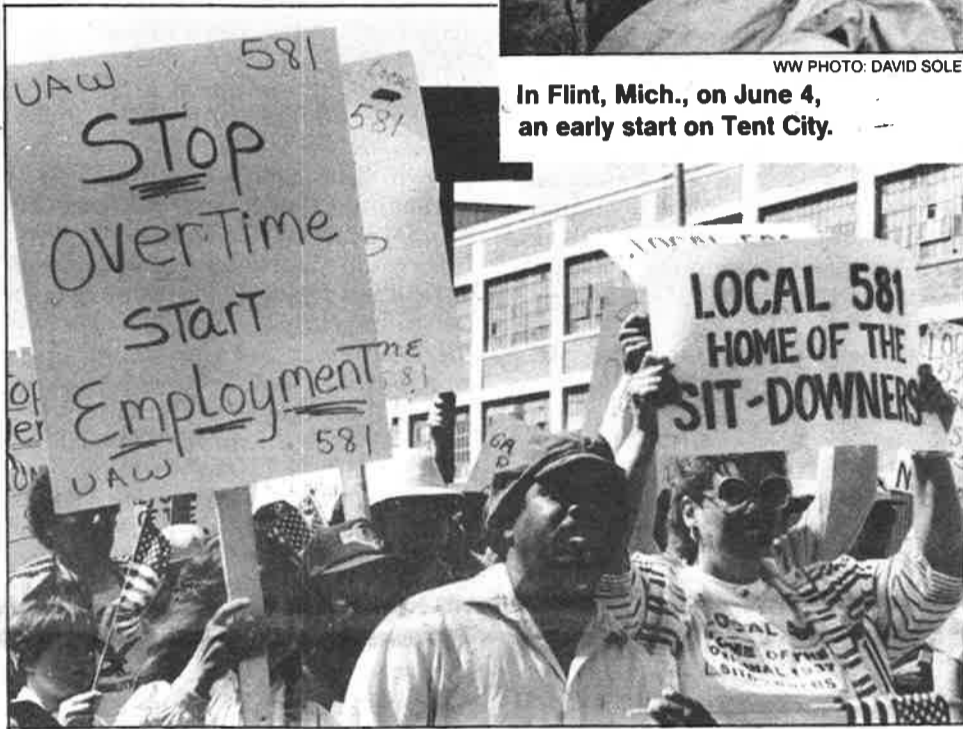
said that the legislature wasn't going to pass emergency relief, then offered to negotiate compromise demands for the tenters. However, everyone recognized that there was nothing to negotiate, and that gains would be made only through their struggle. Hollister was asked to tell the legislature that Tent City would remain. Eric Mays, chair of the UAW Region 1C Unemployed Coalition explained, "There will not be business as usual. Our demand is to stay."

Members of Tent City view their action as a leap forward in the struggle for justice and the beginning of a fightback. Joyce Crutchfield, a campaign organizer, explained, "This is our hour. This fight will grow like a snowball. The struggle is for as long as it takes."



WW PHOTO: DAVID SOLE

In Flint, Mich., on June 4, an early start on Tent City.



WW PHOTO: DAVID SOLE

Fighting for jobs in Michigan.

Racist motives behind state takeover of Jersey City schools

By Stephen Millies
Jersey City, N.J.

The state takeover of Jersey City's school system was announced on May 24 by Saul Cooperman, New Jersey's Commissioner of Education.

This is the first time that any state has attempted to throw out a local school administration.

Support for this action has come from Reagan's Secretary of Education, William Bennett, and columnist William F. Buckley, Jr.

More opportunity? Not at all!

This state takeover has nothing at all to do with providing more opportunities for the 32,000 students in the Jersey City public school system. This takeover will provide not a single dollar to hire new teachers, purchase more supplies or fix up the schools.

The first victim of this takeover will be Franklin Williams, Jersey City's first Black school superintendent. Williams, who has been in office for less than three years, will be fired if this takeover goes through.

While New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean sits on a \$1 billion state surplus, his administration is fighting against equitable school funding in the Abbot vs. Burke court case. That champion of educational "reform," Commissioner Cooperman, has hiked the tuition at the state's community colleges, where students are overwhelmingly working class, by 12%.

State takeover equals cutbacks

The people of Jersey City have already seen what a state takeover has

done for their city hospital.

Several years ago there were charges of corruption and mismanagement at the Jersey City Medical Center. The state took over this hospital with the result that the number of beds has been slashed from over 600 to around 400.

As of Jan. 1 this year the Medical Center is officially private, with one of its buildings being converted into condominiums. Will Governor Kean's school takeover have similar results?

The corruption issue

Cooperman claims that he wants to save the children of Jersey City from a corrupt school system. Yet Cooperman did nothing as his friend Gordon Ascher helped rip off \$1 million in a textbook scam at the Vocational Education Department. Ascher, who was Cooperman's roommate at Rutgers, committed suicide.

What Cooperman wants to do, after getting rid of the appointed school board in Jersey City, is to go after the elected school board in Newark, N.J.

This takeover law and the rest of the Reagan and Bennett educational "reforms" are really devices to try to roll-back the gains made by the civil rights and student movements. The real effect of these takeovers will be to get rid of Black and Latin administrators.

Cooperman's main "reform" has been instituting mandatory High School Proficiency Tests for all students, sort of a warmed-over IQ test. Cooperman is also trying to cut back bilingual education to two years.

The students in Jersey City schools don't need a state takeover — they need the state to fork over.



In **High Tech, Low Pay**, Sam Marcy uses Marxism to explain the forces of capitalism that are behind layoffs and other changes in the workplace.

Marcy shows a fighting strategy that can lead to a workers' victory against the anti-labor assaults.

\$5.95 (add 75¢ postage and handling)

Order:
World View Forum
46 West 21 St.
New York,
N.Y. 10010

Scientists slam Reagan's AIDS policies

By Saul Kanowitz

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the presidential AIDS commission have both issued harsh and stinging criticism of the Reagan administration's handling of the AIDS epidemic.

On June 1, the National Academy of Sciences issued a report blaming the federal government for failing "to take the lead in developing a comprehensive and coherent national plan for delivering and financing care" for people with AIDS and those at high risk. The report described the federal response to protecting IV drug users as "a crime, a positive crime that there are waiting lists for drug treatment programs."

The academy's report called for increasing spending on drug treatment programs 15-fold to \$1.5 billion to help stem the transmission of AIDS among IV drug users. Currently the federal government spends \$100 million. In New York City this has led to IV drug users waiting six months to enter treatment programs. The report recommended considering the distribution of sterile needles to IV drug users as a means of slowing the transmission of the HIV virus.

Commission lambastes the president

On the following day, the president's own AIDS commission echoed the academy's harsh criticism in a draft report of its final recommendations. "HIV-related discrimination is impairing the nation's ability to limit the spread of the epidemic," the report states. The report called for expanding federal anti-discrimination laws to protect people with AIDS, a presidential executive order banning discrimination in the federal government and laws to protect the identity of people who test positive for HIV antibodies.

The report also called for a national system of advocacy services to protect the civil rights of people with AIDS or those exposed to the HIV virus.

Reagan policies exposed

These reports and the harsh criticism of the government for failing to effectively and compassionately address the AIDS epidemic are long overdue. They are a significant expose

of the Reagan administration, considering the sources. The National Academy of Sciences is an official advisory body to Congress. The AIDS commission was appointed by the Reagan administration and had no medical experts on AIDS nor a gay or lesbian person on it initially.

The recommendations that are put forth in the reports are not new. The need for increased funding for research, treatment and education has been called for by the AIDS movement for years. The Anti-Violence Project, a grassroots organization in the lesbian and gay community, has documented an increase in AIDS-related anti-gay violence starting in 1986.

Documented evidence of the reduction in the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases in gay men points to the need for a broader education campaign to minimize the spread of AIDS and protect those who are uninfected. The AIDS movement has also voiced pointed criticism at the Food and Drug Administration for blocking access to over 40 drugs that have shown promise in other countries while only approving AZT at an annual price of over \$8,000.

How did the National Academy of Sciences and the AIDS commission, two ruling class bodies, come to blame discrimination and government inaction for the extent of the epidemic and echo a great number of the demands of the AIDS movement and the communities affected?

The ruling class is concerned about AIDS because of the resources the epidemic has consumed and is predicted to consume and the resulting drain on the economy. It is estimated that by 1991 AIDS-related costs will be \$66.5 billion and by 1993 there will be 450,000 people with AIDS in this country.

This has led to repressive and unscientific measures for dealing with the AIDS epidemic: mandatory testing and threats of quarantine, the closing of borders to immigrants, the criminalization of lesbians and gays and the victimization of drug users and prostitutes.

Struggle responsible for criticism

It is the struggle of people with AIDS, the lesbian and gay commu-



WW PHOTO: GARY WILSON

Giant Oct. 11, 1987, protest in D.C. demanded fight against AIDS.

nity, oppressed people, progressive healthcare workers and others that has forced an acknowledgement of their demands by the ruling class. It is the hand of the struggle — the hundreds of militant demonstrations, the sit-ins and the community-based networks that provide services, home and medical care, transportation, legal services and compassion and friendship to people with AIDS — that helped to write the National Academy of Sciences and the AIDS commission's critique of the government.

However, public criticism alone will not insure that the government institutes these recommendations. While both bodies hold considerable weight and can sway public opinion, they are advisory in nature and have no legislative or executive power. It is the strength, experience and fortitude of the AIDS movement that will force the government to implement these rec-

ommendations.

There is an analogy in recent history that shows the strength of the struggle and the power of mass pressure to institute changes. In the summer of 1967 rebellions in the Black community brought to the fore the extent of racism in U.S. society. The rebellions were so powerful that the government answered with the formation of the Kerner Commission. The commission very boldly acknowledged the causes of racism and put forth genuine solutions to bring about equality.

While the Kerner Commission documented the causes and affects of racism, that wasn't enough; its solutions were never fully implemented. Only the continued militant struggle by the Black community and anti-racist activists to oppose racism led to the implementation of any of the commission's recommendations.

Continued struggle will bring earliest end to AIDS

From the excerpts reported in the media, the criticisms by the NAS and the AIDS commission have limitations. The reports focus on discrimination as the "major constraint" to fighting the epidemic, but there is no direct mention of lesbian, gay or oppressed people and the need to combat anti-gay bigotry and racism.

While the criticism focused on the need for education and finding a cure and recognized the crisis for IV drug users, it was limited in addressing the crisis in healthcare and housing.

The reports' criticisms and the wide play given them in the news media reflect the power of the AIDS movement. The reports' exposure of the failure of the government to meet this crisis is an opportunity for the AIDS movement and its supporters to turn their recommendations into concrete action.

Transit activists fight Atlanta's fifth fare increase

By Tom Doran
Atlanta

Fares for public transit in Atlanta will go up for the fifth time in nine years on July 1. Officials have also promised a fare hike for next year and possibly another the year after that.

Each year administrators of MARTA, the Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, hold a series of public hearings which are becoming more and more perfunctory. This year, however, much testimony had a sharper edge. Questions of class and worker solidarity were raised by several speakers.

Speakers from the All-Peoples Congress (APC), among others, denounced MARTA's annual attack on the transit workers' union. "Every year you claim union wages are the reason for fare hikes, but the contract is always still in court," said one. "There hasn't been a pay increase in years!"

Jimmy Raynor, also of the APC, asked, "Why aren't there any workers on the board? We could run this thing and cut the fares."

Make King's birthday a paid holiday

"Why isn't King's birthday a paid holiday for MARTA workers?" asked Paul Jones. "It's outrageous here in Dr. King's home town, especially with the importance of the bus struggle to the civil rights movement."

Jones also challenged the fees paid to board members. "You make as much for attending two meetings a

month as a minimum-wage person does by working all month."

Many seniors attended the hearing and several complained about the \$10,000 raise given to MARTA's general manager. "That's more than most riders make in a year," said one woman. MARTA statistics have shown that the majority of riders are Black and female.

Angela Bradford spoke against the increase in the monthly fare card to \$32. "I've got three kids and we're on AFDC. How am I supposed to come up with \$128?" Maximum AFDC in Georgia is only \$300.

Seniors demanded that reduced-fare hours be expanded. Currently riders over 65 get a reduced fare from nine to five. "How can I get to Grady Hospital by 8:00?" asked an elderly man who walks with canes.

More actions planned

The APC and others plan continued action against the fare increase. "You're gonna reap just what you sow," Monica Jones, of the Concerned Women of Atlanta, told the board. "Hard ball should have started long ago."

"We'll be at the legislature next," promised Carrie Morris, president of the APC. State law requires a fare hike to insure that half the operating expenses come from the fare box. Banks and insurance companies have first claim on every dollar to pay off construction loans. "MARTA is supposed to be a public service," she said, "not a money machine."

Lesbian and gay rights bill wins in Baltimore

By Doug Lawson
Baltimore

On May 23 the Baltimore City Council passed Bill 187 adding the term "sexual orientation" to the city's existing anti-discrimination law. It was a hard-won victory for lesbians and gay men in Baltimore. When the final vote of 12 to 7 was announced, the packed City Council chambers broke into enthusiastic cheering.

The organizing drive for the Lesbian-Gay Rights Bill began after the massive and historic Oct. 11 March on Washington. Activists from all segments of the lesbian and gay movement spent the following months mobilizing, rallying and marshaling support for the bill from all over the city.

Particularly impressive was the support from the Black community, gay and straight. Endorsement came from the NAACP, several churches, anti-apartheid activists, the Jesse Jackson campaign and many others. Black activists played key roles in the leadership of the Baltimore Justice Campaign, the principal organization

of the bill's supporters. The Justice Campaign was able to reach supporters in the Black community that had not been touched by previous efforts.

The Justice Campaign produced a well-researched, 70-page booklet documenting discrimination against lesbians and gays. It was able to garner editorial support from the city's major newspapers.

As might be expected, the bill was opposed by well-funded right-wing bigots, whose first line of attack was to raise the fear of AIDS. As Andre Powell, media coordinator of the Justice Campaign and veteran activist with the All-Peoples Congress, explained, "We were able to show that the fight against AIDS makes a bill like this necessary. Gay people must be able to seek out information about preventing AIDS without fear of reprisals, and the bill will help do that."

The handful of bigots who came to oppose the bill on the night of its final vote were sent home by the jubilant crowd with a raucous chant of "Bigots go home!" The lesbians and gay men of Baltimore have won a victory and it feels good.

Youth and students build militant organization

SAYAR coordinator explains group's strategy for fighting racism

By Scott Scheffer

A group of students and community youth activists, mainly from the New York area, joined together in February of this year and formed Students And Youth Against Racism (SAYAR). The aim was to build an organization that could be a vehicle for students and youth all over the country to say "no" to racism, war and poverty.

On March 26, shortly after its founding, SAYAR held an anti-racist conference at Hunter College in New York City that was attended by over 600 people. Since then it has been holding regular organizing meetings and playing an active role in the fight against racism and in the progressive movement as a whole. Jelayne Miles, the national coordinator of the organization, spoke with Workers World about SAYAR's approach to fighting racism, the conditions that led to its formation and plans for future activities. The following are excerpts from that interview.

WW: Why do you think so many young people, students and non-students, are getting involved at this particular time?

JM: When we formed our group, we did it because we knew that there were a lot of people who were sick and tired of the racist acts that were being carried out on our campuses. We thought that people would be looking for a way to fight back in an organized way, because the cops, the courts and campus administrations weren't really doing anything about it.

As it turns out we were right. Six hundred came to our conference. Since then we've had a number of public meetings, weekly organizing meetings, and we've participated in many progressive activities. Right now we are organizing the student contingent for the June 11 disarmament march. To commemorate the Soweto student uprisings we will be participating in a march and rally on June 16, and we're planning a public meeting on June 17. A representative from the ANC will speak at the meeting and we're showing the film, "Bound to Strike Back." We're also planning on participating

in the lesbian and gay pride events on June 25 and 26.

WW: You formed your group in direct response to the rise of racist violence on our campuses and in our cities. What is your analysis of why this is happening, and how do we stop it?

JM: Racism can't be explained without looking at the economic violence that has been perpetrated on the people of this country, like homelessness, rising unemployment, and drastic cuts in social services. All of these are a direct result of enormous military spending. People lose jobs and live in the streets so that the Pentagon can terrorize the world with nuclear weapons. Racist violence has always increased when the economy was bad. There were more lynchings during the Depression than any other time in history. Racism doesn't just happen by itself, it is a tool that is used to keep people down. It's encouraged by the "powers that be."

As far as what can be done about it, I think that the Howard Beach trial in New York City has shown that even though the courts are racist, a strong

anti-racist movement can force them to act.

WW: SAYAR sees the connection between the anti-war struggle and the anti-racist struggle as important. Can you explain this a little more?

JM: First of all, soldiers from the oppressed community are nothing but cannon fodder to the Pentagon. During the U.S. war against Vietnam, a disproportionate number of Black and Latin GIs died on the front lines. During the Korean war, Puerto Rican soldiers were so badly mistreated that they mutinied. It has to be pointed out that it is really on the backs of the oppressed communities that the military machine is built. When social services are cut in favor of military spending, and when student loans are cut, when summer jobs are eliminated, oppressed communities are hit the hardest.

If you want to fight against nuclear war, and if you want to fight against U.S. intervention, you have to challenge and fight racism as part of the same struggle. We in SAYAR want to take that message wherever we go.



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

Jelayne Miles of SAYAR.

SAYAR can be contacted at: P.O. Box 1819, Madison Square Station, New York, N.Y. 10159; phone (212) 741-0633.

Racist injustice: Mrs. Brawley sentenced to 30 days

By Carmen Roundtree
New York

A Poughkeepsie judge has ordered Glenda Brawley jailed for refusing to testify before a grand jury which is supposed to be investigating the kidnapping and rape of her daughter, Tawana.

Mrs. Brawley, in turn, announced that she would be taking asylum in a New York Black church.

In ordering the maximum penalty, 30 days in jail and a \$250 fine, Judge Angelo J. Ingrassia of the state supreme court claimed that he "had no other alternative" after Brawley's lawyers, Alton Maddox and C. Vernon Mason offered "only political reasons," and no legal reasons for Mrs. Brawley's refusal to testify before the grand jury.

It is more than clear from these statements, that the justice system doesn't think that four hundred years of oppression is sufficient enough reason for not cooperating with this investigation along with the lopsided handling of this case so far.

Brawley's lawyers issue subpoenas

After a subpoena was issued to Mrs. Brawley to show cause why she should not testify before the grand jury, her lawyers Maddox and Mason issued subpoenas to a number of people for their defense.

Among those issued subpoenas were special prosecutor and State Attorney General Robert Abrams, Gov. Mario Cuomo, the New York Times, as well as Dutchess County District Attorney William Grady and Assistant District Attorney Steven Pagones along with others. Grady had withdrawn from the case last January, citing an unknown conflict of interest, and Pagones had been identified by Tawana Brawley as one of her attackers.

Judge Ingrassia saw fit to sentence Mrs. Brawley to the maximum penalty for refusing to testify. He also saw fit to throw out the subpoenas that were issued to witnesses by her lawyers in order to tell their story.

After the hearing, which took over two hours, special prosecutor Abrams, in a statement to the press, "graciously" said that he had informed the sheriff not to arrest Mrs. Brawley. At the time, Mrs. Brawley had three hundred supporters with her. Later, Abrams reversed this decision and ordered her arrest.

It should be recalled that members of this sheriff's office have been implicated in the assault on Tawana Brawley.

Coverup by state continues

Abrams also charged the lawyers with failing to offer Mrs. Brawley a proper defense. Glenda Brawley, Abrams seems to forget, is not a defendant. And there is no law that requires the victim of a crime to cooperate with the government.

Abrams' statement that the case is as good as over if Glenda Brawley refused to testify exposes even more that they never had any intentions on bringing to justice those who were involved in this atrocity and its coverup.



Glenda Brawley

Did the courts need an eyewitness, which Mrs. Brawley is not, to bring to so-called justice those who were accused of killing a rookie cop in New York City in a drug-related shooting?

Has anyone, including the police officer that Tawana Brawley pointed out as one of her attackers in the emergency room where she was being questioned by the police, been arrested?

If anyone's handling of this case is irresponsible and reprehensible, it is that of the prosecution, for not bringing to justice those who have so little regard for another human being that they would commit such an atrocity.

The media in its coverage of this case from the very beginning has sought to blame the victim, Tawana Brawley, for the controversy surrounding the case. They have done everything in their power to attempt to discredit Tawana Brawley and paint her as an irresponsible youth. They have even gone as far as to insinuate that possibly her family is covering up what actually happened, or maybe even had something to do with her abduction.

Discussing her experience with the authorities, Mrs. Brawley said, "I had no idea they would do the things they have done to us. But I am not a person to stand back and let them attack my child and do nothing about it.

"There are a lot of people out there who believe there is a coverup. A lot of people are telling us to hold strong, but the system is not working for us. We want justice. That's all we ever asked for."

Boston-area tenants answer developer's gentrification plans

By Steven Gillis
Boston

Columbia Point Tenants United (CPTU) have angrily answered multi-millionaire developer Joseph Corcoran's attempts to turn their neighborhood into luxury housing for the rich.

At a press conference and public speak-out held May 29 under the watchful eyes of a dozen gun-toting security thugs, Rose Jolley, spokesperson for CPTU, let it be known that "we are not going to debate whether [management] has a right to make the decision that they have. We are saying that this community is tired of the abuse and we have had enough!"

Gregory Rowell, former vice president of the Columbia Point Task Force, told of his arrest and beating by security guards two years ago for advocating tenants' rights, the job he was elected to do. He was charged with harassment and subsequently issued a "no trespassing" ban which prohibits even visits to his ailing mother.

Apartheid in Boston

"What's going down here is apartheid in Boston," charged Rowell. Where once over 1,600 low-income families, mostly Black, Latin and el-

derly, lived in the public housing project, now roughly 300 families remain, occupying the few older, unrenovated buildings. The new 800 units are being advertised on Boston billboards as luxury, beach front dwellings.

CPTU has announced a list of demands to address these abuses, including an immediate end to all evictions, bannings, armed guards, racial harassment and beatings by security. They also demand all original families be given new apartments, including new mothers, and Project Care and Concern receive permanent space.

CPTU is also planning a mass rally for housing rights at Columbia Point later this summer.

Bob Traynham, Workers World Party candidate for State Senate in Columbia Point's district, also spoke in support of the tenants. "Racism, oppression, and neglect have always been the biggest problems at Columbia Point and in all of Boston's public housing. But I've never seen such harassment and destruction as this millionaire developer has brought. I support every demand of the tenants, and I will use my candidacy to help unite the community around its fight for justice!"

Puerto Rico — 90 years fighting U.S. colonialism

By David Perez

Since 1898, when the U.S. invaded and occupied its land, Puerto Rico continues to be held as an outright colony of the U.S.

It is no secret that the United States government controls all the vital arteries of Puerto Rico such as immigration, transportation, the courts (in reality the whole justice system), environmental laws, labor relations and much more. In fact, in order for Puerto Rico to have any relations, such as trade, with other countries it first must be approved by the U.S. government.

There really is no Puerto Rican economy as such, as it is controlled from top to bottom by the U.S. Due to a U.S. tax law, all corporate investments by the U.S. in the island are exempt from paying one cent in income tax. Of the 500 largest U.S. corporations, 200 of them do business in Puerto Rico. The island is dotted all over with the offices of General Motors, Ford, RCA, Union Carbide, Phelps Dodge, Citibank, IBM and so many others.

U.S. corporations don't bring prosperity

One third of all U.S. investments in Latin America are in Puerto Rico. To date, over \$20 billion have been poured

into the island; little, if any, of that has actually been used to bring prosperity to Puerto Rico. No, it's been quite the opposite.

Officially, unemployment is about 20%, but the real figure is closer to 40%. Three-fourths of the population have to rely on food stamps in order to eat. The air and water have been polluted due in large part to the petrochemical industry. Indeed, colonization has had the dual effect of dependency and poverty in Puerto Rico.

Occupied by U.S. military

As always, the U.S. military follows the dollar. At least 14% of Puerto Rico's land — roughly 60,000 acres — is occupied by the military. The neighboring island of Vieques has been occupied since 1941 by the U.S. Navy, which uses it for bombing and military exercises. This has caused great displacement for the island's people and the slow destruction of its vital fishing industry.

Both Puerto Rico and Vieques have been used as launching grounds for U.S. intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean like Cuba in 1961, the Dominican Republic in 1965 and Grenada in 1983.

Because of the importance of Puerto Rico both economically and militarily,

the U.S. has always used repression and racism to attack the people's attempts at freedom and justice. There have been countless attacks throughout its history against the labor movement, squatter's movements, students, etc., with the severest repression coming against the independence struggle, from the Ponce Massacre in 1937, to the murders of two independentistas in Cerro Maravilla in 1978, to the recent exposure of a "subversive" list of 60,000 people (this fact alone shows the depth of the sentiment and desire of the Puerto Rican nation for self-determination and independence).

The Puerto Rico-Hartford 15

The case of the Puerto Rico-Hartford 15 is the most recent example of U.S.-sponsored terrorism against the Puerto Rican people. This case began on Aug. 30, 1985, when 300 FBI agents invaded the island — without even informing the governor! — and arrested 11 pro-independence activists.

During that weekend two more were arrested in Dallas, Texas, and in Cuernavaca, Mexico. On March 21, 1986, an additional two were arrested. This case has highlighted the use of preventive detention, the term they

now use for jailing without right to bail, as well as countless violations of fundamental political and democratic rights. Only a long, hard struggle has forced the release of these fighters and now, almost three years later, a trial date has yet to be set.

It should be noted that there are many other Puerto Rican political prisoners and prisoners of war who are languishing in U.S. jails such as Alejandrina Torres, Dylcia Pagan, Alberto Rodriguez, Maria Haydee Torres and others. All need our vigorous support for unconditional release.

After 90 years of yankee domination, the Puerto Rican people have shown a never-ending commitment to continue to fight for one of the most basic of all liberties — the right to sovereignty. The two colonial political parties on the island have shown an utter inability to solve the crisis on the island, which has worsened due to the Reaganite cutbacks. First and foremost must be the demand that the U.S. get out completely and let the Puerto Rican nation determine its own destiny.

In this spirit it is necessary for all to support the struggle for independence in all its forms. U.S. out of Puerto Rico! Que viva Puerto Rico libre!

Filipinos demand ouster of U.S. military bases

By Lydia Bayoneta

Washington is involved in negotiations with the Philippine government over the U.S. bases there. The talks began in April and are scheduled to continue until July.

Mass organized opposition to the bases has remained strong despite repression by the Philippines government of Corazon Aquino and strong-handed tactics by the Philippine military.

The big business-controlled media in this country has given little or no coverage to these talks, limiting the few reports made to the technical part of the negotiations. The Philippine government is demanding an increase in compensation paid by the U.S. for the use of the bases from the current \$180 million annually, to \$1.2 billion. They are also calling for restriction, if not an outright ban, on the storage and transport of nuclear weapons in the airspace and territorial waters of the Philippines.

Carrot and stick approach by U.S. imperialism

A two-thirds majority vote is required in the Philippine senate in order to pass a new bases treaty with the U.S., and 11 out of 24 senators have already openly opposed any extension of the base leases.

Still, U.S. sources have stated that they are "confident" that they can "persuade" these senators (with the exception of Senator Wigberto Tanager who authored two bills which would give real teeth to the anti-nuclear provisions of the new Philippine constitution) to accept their terms.

Many Filipinos, including those in the government, believe that the so-called "mini Marshall Plan" of U.S. aid to the Philippines proposed by U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz with bipartisan support is in reality a means of applying pressure to the Filipino government in the base negotiations.

Philippine anti-bases movement strong

The anti-base and anti-nuclear sentiment in the Philippines is strong and

growing. Many bold actions and organizing efforts have been ignored by the U.S. media in an attempt to isolate this movement from the overwhelming numbers of people throughout the world who oppose the presence of the U.S. military and nuclear weapons on their soil.

Several organizations in the Philippines have spearheaded this movement. The Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition (NFPC) to which many workers belong including the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), the largest labor federation in the Philippines, has called for the removal of the bases before 1991 and for no negotiations which would extend the presence of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

They call for the present negotiators

to implement a systematic removal of these bases, as well as the withdrawal of all U.S. military forces in the country, including the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG). It is through this command that the U.S. extends its spying and other operations against the Filipino people, in coordination with the puppet Philippine military.

The newly-formed Anti-Imperialist Movement (AIM) seeks the overall end of imperialist domination in the Philippines; the issue of the bases is important to this group as well. These and other progressive groups have called for the conversion of the bases for economically viable alternative uses in order to provide jobs for the people presently working at the bases.

Subic Bay, for example, employs thousands of highly skilled Filipino workers who could re-fit the ships of many nations. The anti-bases movement is also demanding a compensation package for the social damages which have already been caused by the bases: drug addiction, drug trafficking and prostitution have been either caused or aggravated by the presence of the U.S. military installations.

In addition to mass demonstrations, protests and rallies, an educational campaign is being conducted to inform people both in the Philippines and in the U.S. that the U.S. bases are a menacing threat to all humankind. It is a message which should be heeded and spread in the U.S.

— South Africa

Continued from page 1

gress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the largest trade union federation in South Africa, along with the National Congress of Trade Unions last month at an "illegal" conference held at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.



Soweto

Remembered, Conversations

with Freedom Fighters, a book commemorating the 1976 uprising. Let people from South Africa and Namibia tell you of their lives, struggles and dreams of freedom for the oppressed in their homeland. \$3.25 and 75¢ postage

Order from: World View Forum
46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010

COSATU is one of the 17 anti-apartheid groups along with the United Democratic Front whose political activities have been severely curtailed by the February crackdown. These restrictions are of such a repressive nature that COSATU could not publicly call the stoppage as a strike. This fact makes the success of the massive stayover that much more magnificent since much of the organizing had to take place underground.

One only had to look at the electronic media in the U.S. to see the deserted streets of Johannesburg, home to the largest concentration of Black workers, to know that a strike of unprecedented proportions was in effect. The strike was 80% to 90% effective in areas like Soweto and east of Johannesburg as buses, usually overflowing with workers, ran virtually empty. White management was forced to fill in at cash registers in retail stores.

One Johannesburg resident commented, "It's like a ghost town." The strike confirmed who the real backbone of the economy is — the workers who produce the wealth of any society.

Another area hard hit by the strike is Port Elizabeth, the heart of the auto industry, where production at all

seven plants was shut down. At several coal pits owned by the notorious Anglo-American Corporation, 85% of the workers did not report to work. Anglo-American was so terrified of the strike affecting the abundantly rich gold mines that they obtained an additional court injunction against the National Union of Mineworkers, which had carried out a successful ten-day strike against these bosses last September. Fifty percent of the workers in the administrative capital of Pretoria adhered to the strike.

The work stoppage comes at a time when the military wing of the African National Congress, Umkhonto we Sizwe, has increased its attacks on symbols of apartheid oppression. At least a dozen bombs have shaken Pretoria and Johannesburg during the past five weeks.

The heroic show of economic and political strength by the workers, led by COSATU, coupled with the stepped up armed struggle carried out by the ANC, once again illustrates that the quest for national liberation is not a dream, but a reality. The desire for a truly free and democratic society that burns with the hearts and minds of millions of South Africans will not be denied.

Candidate hits 'lynch-law justice' in NY

At rally for WWP Senatorial candidate Bayoneta

By Gene Clancy
Rochester, N.Y.

Lydia Bayoneta, the Workers World Party candidate for U.S. Senate from New York state in the 1988 elections, blasted the entire criminal justice system as being rotten with racism as she opened up her campaign.

Speaking at a campaign rally and community speakout here, she scored the increase in racist attacks across New York state and around the country, and the routine exoneration of police officers involved in the killings of Black and Latino people. Bayoneta's remarks came only a few days after the brutal police shooting of Calvin Green, an unarmed Black man.

Bayoneta was the only candidate for any office who attended the funeral of the slain man, and representatives of the United Church Ministries, the organization of Black clergy which is spearheading the effort to get justice for Calvin Green, were in attendance at the Bayoneta campaign meeting.

'This is lynch-law justice!'

Green is the fifth person killed by the police in Rochester in recent years. All were Black except for one who was Latino. In all the cases, including

Calvin Green, the District Attorney exonerated the police officers involved.

"This is not law and order! This is lynch-law justice and it menaces our entire community," said Bayoneta. "It must be exposed as such! No justice, no peace!"

The Senatorial candidate went on to explain that the root causes of racism lie in the capitalist system. "What do racism, bigotry, sexism, poverty, unemployment, homelessness and hunger all have in common?" she asked. "They are all a part of capitalism" she said, and went on to describe how racism works for the benefit of a few wealthy capitalists, and against the welfare of all workers, white as well as Black and Latino.

Bayoneta stated that Workers World supports the candidacy of Jesse Jackson because his campaign "has become a vehicle for the expression of working class discontent . . . and his candidacy has become a pole for working class solidarity." However, she said that Workers World Party is maintaining its own campaign because it is "necessary to have an independent working class voice which is not confined by the limitations of the capitalist class and state." The Democratic Party, she said "is led by, and

its essential character is shaped by, those same capitalist interests which were so despicably articulated by Mayor Koch during the New York primary. There is a desperate need for a party which does not compromise with racism, sexism or anti-gay bigotry within its ranks or in its actions and public statements.

"The workers of this country need a party which is truly independent of the bosses, which fearlessly articulates both the long-range and short-term interests of the working class and of them alone! Workers World is the party which tells workers that they have more in common with their brother and sister workers of Korea, Iran, Ireland, the Philippines, Central America, and yes, with workers of the Soviet Union and China, than with the Rockefellers, Mellons, Duponts, Reagans, Bushes and Kochs!"

Bayoneta says that Workers World is fighting to "make socialism a reality. We want a society which is in every respect more humane, more just, and more caring, one in which there is no place for racism, sexism, bigotry of any form . . . in which war, and poverty, hunger and preventable disease are things of the past."

Unmasking the 'miracle man' from Mass.

Michael Dukakis' phony liberalism

By Phebe Eckfeldt
Boston

In comparison to the reactionary Reagan-Bush gang, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis might look like a great liberal. He'd like to be considered a champion of poor and working people whose record making the "Massachusetts Miracle" shows he's an "effective manager."

But a look at the facts here in Massachusetts show how weak the "miracle" is, especially for the poor and working people of this state. And a look at the record of the likely Democrat nominee also shows how restricted his liberalism is.

High-tech industry in Massachusetts, as nationwide, has brought with it a major decline in manufacturing jobs and a glut of low-paid, low-skilled service jobs. The state lost 91,000 industrial jobs between June 1984 and March 1988, according to the Associated Industries of Massachusetts. Union membership declined by 25% since 1982.

The recent closings of Quincy Shipyard, GE in Lowell, and massive layoffs at GE in Lynn and Pittsfield, and GM in Framingham, contributed to this job loss.

Much of Dukakis' financial backing

race, to oppose nuclear weapons and military intervention, the system of capitalism itself must be opposed.

And to build a movement that can carry out this task, a movement of the millions of workers and oppressed peoples of this country, much more than a moral appeal against war is needed. The fight for jobs, the fight against racism and sexism and to combat all forms of bigotry is needed to unite the working class in the struggle against war.

The Jesse Jackson campaign has shown that there are millions from the multinational working class who are already moving in a progressive direction. It is these millions who must be reached out to and mobilized against war and against the capitalist system that spawns war.

comes from the Massachusetts High Tech Council. He has made the business climate inviting for them. But high tech employment rose by less than 1% last year, as opposed to overall employment in the state, which rose by 2%.

The "Massachusetts Miracle" has bypassed the Third World population of the state. An example is Massachusetts' Latino community, which is the 12th largest in the country. Figures provided by state agencies show Latin people ranking at the bottom in every indicator of poverty, with Black people not far behind.

"If you look at the hard numbers, the 'Massachusetts Miracle' has not touched us that much. It has broadened the gap between the haves and the have-nots, between the people who have benefited from the 'miracle' and those who haven't," states Miren Uriarte, an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Latin community leaders are also critical of Dukakis' much bragged about "Employment and Training Choices" (ET) program, which forces welfare recipients to accept training and jobs. They state that the training is not good enough for people to secure decent paying jobs.

"When you look at the ET program, it has not met the real needs of Latinos," says Orlando Isaza, Director of Community Development at the Crossroads Community Health Center in Holyoke. "Here in Holyoke . . . we have very high unemployment in the Latino community, yet it seems we have a lot of vacant jobs in high tech."

Dukakis claims that ET has placed thousands of welfare recipients in good-paying jobs. Welfare Rights activists declare that workfare and ET programs force welfare recipients to work at slave wages (often below minimum wage), at jobs that no one else wants, and are often used for union busting, with no practical training provided to better their job skills.

Tens of thousands of women and children in Massachusetts continue to

live below the poverty level. Massachusetts welfare recipients have been forced to go to court to force the state to raise welfare benefits, and are conducting a campaign to raise welfare benefits to the poverty level (opposed by Dukakis).

Dukakis on May 20 proposed \$238 million in budget cuts for Massachusetts. Some of the areas he wants to cut are: \$1 million from teenage pregnancy program, \$2.2 million from funding for AIDS research, \$3.3 million from elderly home care, \$1.3 million from care for the mentally ill, and the entire \$1.8 million from job training for high school drop-outs. Most of these areas are ones he claims are priorities while he is campaigning.

Dukakis has been under direct fire from the Massachusetts lesbian and gay community for his anti-gay policies over the past several years, since the Department of Social Services took a child away from two gay foster parents and established a policy that discriminates against lesbian and gay foster parents.

Dukakis has stated that he is opposed to gay foster parents. In response to his reactionary position, the lesbian and gay community has set up a "Duke watch," and protested outside every public appearance and even at his home.

Regarding the AIDS crisis, Dukakis has supported life insurance companies who impose a test for presence of antibodies to the HIV virus on those who want to buy life insurance. He also actively opposed a proposal by the City of Boston to conduct a sterilized needle exchange program to combat AIDS in intravenous drug users.

The lesbian and gay community was further outraged when on May 26 it was revealed that Dukakis' Capitol Police had infiltrated meetings of groups planning demonstrations in support of the gay rights bill. These groups included Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance and Mass Act-Out. The police used advance information to thwart a demonstration planned for the governor's "State of the State" address.



Lydia Bayoneta

WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

—War

Continued from page 1
disarmament: those who make no profit from weapons production.

Not only an analysis of current-day society but a review of recent history shows what the proper target should be for the anti-war movement. The drive for the strategic arms race, the push to maintain and expand foreign military bases, the impulse to intervene with force comes from Washington, Wall Street and the military-industrial complex.

This U.S. drive for weapons supremacy has been a fact of political life since the first atomic bombs incinerated Hiroshima and Nagasaki almost 43 years ago. Since then, the Pentagon has taken virtually every first step in weapons development, from the hydrogen bomb to the neutron bomb and now the threat of "Star Wars."

The current administration has only accelerated the weapons buildup and made Washington's aggressiveness more obvious by the rapid expansion of the military budget and the Rambo rantings of the early Reagan.

Even now, faced with a \$3 trillion debt and an uncertain economy, Washington keeps up the pressure. The new Pentagon budget again topped \$300 billion. Some say "Star Wars" can't work, but it makes billions in profits, so the research goes on.

The record on foreign bases is similar. In south Korea, in the Philippines, in Honduras, Panama and Puerto Rico, the Pentagon imposes its forces on oppressed peoples and threatens further intervention to keep its forces there. Even in so-called allied countries like Spain, Japan and Greece, the U.S. military bases are the focus of popular protests, while the popular movements are the targets of CIA plotting.

U.S. intervention worldwide

And in the same 43 years, it's hard to find a place on earth where the Pentagon and CIA have not intervened. In Korea and Vietnam with its full force, by invasion in the Dominican Republic and Grenada, through advisers in El Salvador and Honduras; through weapons and proxy troops in Nicaragua, in Afghanistan, in Ethiopia and in Angola, where Washington even allies with the hated apartheid forces of South Africa against a newly liberated African nation; through the completely dependent settler state, Israel, Washington wields a club over the Middle East.

This history of nuclear threats and interventions has occurred through Democratic and Republic administrations, with "conservative" and "liberal" presidents. It stems neither from an individual, nor a party nor even an ideology. It grows instead out of a system that is driven by profit motive and which must constantly expand or crumble in crisis.

This system, capitalism, is organically linked to the cancer of war and of arms production, just as it is tied to exploitation and super-exploitation at home and abroad.

To oppose war, to oppose the arms

Sandinistas 'waging peace' on the battlefield

By Dee Knight
Managua, Nicaragua

June 5 — The "Yanqui Colonel," Somoza's National Guard chief Enrique Bermudez, may have succeeded in sabotaging the current round of Nicaraguan peace negotiations, but the Sandinistas have used the two-month cease-fire to literally wage peace on the battlefield.

In April and May, hundreds of students and health workers went into the areas most affected by the war to carry out a popular health campaign. They were able to vaccinate 98% of the children in the municipality of Jalapa, in northern Nueva Segovia, near the Honduran border.

The health team even offered vaccinations and other health treatment to rank-and-file contras. The health campaign had an effect not only on the local population but on the contras themselves.

"We have tried to win the war by opening people's eyes," said Roger Solis, organizing secretary of the Sandinista zonal committee in Quilali, in southern Nueva Segovia.

Contra commander surrenders

The eyes of at least one contra commander were opened enough that he dramatically announced his surren-

der in Managua on May 27, the second day of the peace talks. Felix Hernandez Garcia — known as "Alfa Lima" — had led some 475 contra troops in the strategic central section of the country, Chontales, before turning himself in.

"I'm tired of the war," Hernandez Garcia said. "It's clear that a great majority of the contras are tired of a war that leaves them no other possibility but death." He added, "For leaders like Bermudez the only thing that interests them is managing money — the dollars the CIA gives them which they rob."

Bermudez came to the talks "with the deliberate purpose of preventing an accord that would end the war," said Sandinista Defense Minister Humberto Ortega on May 28, after four days of grueling efforts to negotiate a cease-fire.

Bermudez and Alfredo Cesar showed up in Managua without Adolfo Calero, reportedly because Calero was too interested in accepting a cease-fire. They announced that the Sapoa accord was dead — blaming it on the Sandinistas, of course — and presented a completely new proposal including demands that all contra prisoners be freed within five days, the Sandinista draft ended, and a consti-

tutional conference be organized to roll back the revolution.

This dreamland proposal was timed to coincide with an initiative in the U.S. Congress for more military aid "if the cease-fire talks do not bear fruit." Meanwhile, in violation of the Sapoa accords and the Feb. 3 Congress vote, 16 U.S. supply planes dropped "humanitarian" aid for the contras in Honduras.

When the House of Representatives rejected the new conservative aid proposal, the contras agreed to continue where the negotiations left off in early May. But General Ortega reported that "the Yanqui Colonel" rejected everything.

"The contra plan," Ortega said, "is to present an unacceptable proposal so no agreement can be reached, and then pressure the U.S. Congress for more military aid. But the aid won't work because the contras are a defeated force."

Cease-fire extended

The Sandinistas extended the 60-day halt in offensive operations for another 30 days despite the contra negotiators' refusal. Even with a limited cease-fire, the Sandinistas have continued to win the support of people in the war zones and to neutralize the

contra foot soldiers.

Nevertheless, the contras can still kidnap civilians and cause the Sandinista government to divert its scarce resources to defense. Peace is still only a possibility.

"The divisions within the contra leadership have caused uncertainty among the troops," commented Comandante Javier Pichardo, northern region representative for the Ministry of the Interior. "But they are ready to fight... they're well-clothed and have enough arms and ammunition to last three months."

During the two-month cease-fire, according to the Sandinista ministry of defense, the contras kidnapped over 300 people, killed 42 and wounded 72. The army and militias retaliated, capturing 26 contras and killing 77. Also, there were at least 79 U.S. spy flights over Nicaragua and another 91 supply flights to the contras.

The Sandinistas are ready for peace no matter how they have to get it.

"The danger," Comandante Ortega said, "is that the Reagan administration will throw the Honduran army or U.S. troops into the front line of battle." Even for this the leaders and people of revolutionary Nicaragua are ready. But what they really need and deserve is peace.

Immigration 'reform' and Central American refugees

By Teresa Gutiérrez

One particular aspect of the Immigration and Reform Control Act passed by Congress in 1986 blatantly exposes the myth that the law is pro-immigrant. While the government and press have very much played up the amnesty provision, which purportedly gives the undocumented the opportunity to apply for legalization, the so-called amnesty falls far short of genuinely addressing the problems of exploitation and oppression the undocumented endure.

The requirement, for example, that you had to enter the United States before Jan. 1, 1982, to be eligible to apply for amnesty is an outright attack against the thousands and thousands of workers who have come here from Central America over the last few years, fleeing U.S.-created wars.

This major aspect of the amnesty provision deliberately excludes those who have come particularly from war-torn El Salvador. The war in El Salvador is completely financed by Washington and run by the Pentagon. The people of El Salvador are fighting against a U.S.-imposed dictatorship and it is the devastating conditions resulting from the genocidal war directed by the Pentagon that has forced thousands and thousands of workers to flee their country just to survive.

The amnesty program carried out by the Immigration & Naturalization Service (INS) and the question of Central American refugees cannot be separated. They are inextricably linked. Both issues are fundamentally tied to the foreign policy of the U.S. government.

For the past several years, the revolutionary forces in El Salvador, the

FDR-FMLN, have waged a fierce struggle to overcome decades and decades of colonial and imperialist domination. In order to address the severe problems of high unemployment, infant mortality, shortages in food, housing and so forth the people of El Salvador are participating in a fight for their very lives.

In retaliation, the U.S. openly imposed the current regime there through a well-financed and widely reported CIA operation. After putting Napoleon Duarte in the top office, a wholesale campaign to brutally repress the liberation movement was launched. Over 70,000 have been killed in the war. Thousands have been killed by death squads, people are beaten daily, and the disappearance of leaders and activists is commonplace.

Since the liberation war began in

earnest in 1980, the U.S. has provided the government of El Salvador with more than \$3 billion in military and economic aid, about \$1.5 million a day! In 1987 alone, the U.S. government gave \$618 million to the Salvadoran regime in order to carry out its death squad repression of the Salvadoran people.

In an attempt to deny Central Amer-

Continued on page 11

Look who's running drugs out of Panama!

The U.S. government has been demanding the removal of General Manuel Noriega from Panama for alleged drug smuggling. But it now appears that the cocaine coming into the U.S. from that nation is being smuggled by U.S. military personnel!

According to a May 31 NBC News report, the two chief staging areas in Panama for contraband drugs are Howard Air Force Base and the Pentagon post office.

One narcotics ring making regular use of the armed forces postal and air cargo services has shipped more than 1,000 pounds of cocaine from Panama to the U.S. over the past three years alone, the report stated. At least three separate gangs of military smugglers are involved, often using Air Force flights from Panama to Puerto Rico and Georgia.

In recent months there have been five different cases of U.S. servicemen linked to drug running from Pentagon bases in Panama, according to NBC. One GI-courier was busted with 39 pounds of cocaine in his duffel bag! This does not bode well for the Congressional mandate to "involve the military in the war on drugs."

In light of these revelations, it would seem that the best way to cut off the supply of cocaine from Panama is to close down the U.S. bases there.

Washington tries to stop Vets Peace Convoy for Nicaragua

By Joann Gavin
Laredo, Texas

Veterans Peace Convoy,
Austin, Texas.

WW PHOTO: CHRIS CHRISTIANSEN



dimes and dollars sent in by thousands of working people from all over the country who sacrificed to make it happen."

Attorneys for the convoy are seeking an injunction to prevent the government agencies from stopping the convoy. The 55 veterans and 39 non-veterans on the convoy say that they are in Laredo to stay until the embargo is lifted or the convoy is allowed to proceed without the payment of "ransom" on the vehicles.

On June 8 they honored a commitment to a rally in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, by walking across the border to attend.

The Veterans Peace Convoy to Nicaragua is asking supporters to join in a national mobilization of support on Saturday, June 11, by staging local actions wherever they are.

Messages may be sent to the Veterans Peace Convoy to Nicaragua, 4914 San Bernardo Ave., Laredo, Texas 78041. Phone (512) 724-1234.

Solidarity with Palestine shown in June 4 actions

By G. Dunkel
New York

ian people — the intifadah — to honor its heroes and to commemorate its martyrs.

It was a colorful, well-received and militant march. Favorable comments could be heard from many on the street. Two Black hospital workers watching it pass said, "They should spend that \$13 million a day on housing," referring to the amount of money the U.S. gives Israel each day — or about \$4 billion per year. Three Latino

messengers agreed, "That money should be spent on jobs and housing here, not occupation over there." There was very little negative reaction from onlookers. Many who saw the 18-foot banner listing the Palestinians killed in the uprising were visibly moved.

While there was a very sizable contingent from the Palestinian community, the demonstrators were drawn predominantly from the North American progressive movement, and members of liberation movements living in the United States. Lebanese, Koreans, Haitians, Pacific Islanders, Puerto Ricans, Colombians, Native people, supporters of the Irish Republican Army and others marched with signs

that demanded the U.S. stop supporting the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and use the money for jobs and housing; free the prisoners; recognize Palestine's right to self-determination and recognize the PLO.

There was a labor contingent, a first for a demonstration in support of Palestinian self-determination. Other groups represented included: Young Koreans United, NYC CISPES, Students and Youth Against Racism, Israelis Against the Occupation, the All-Peoples Congress and Workers World Party.

The common thread that ran through all the speeches was support
Continued on page 14

Rally in San Francisco supports Palestinians

By Gloria La Riva
San Francisco



San Francisco

WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

Two San Francisco events were held to mark the 21st anniversary of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

On Friday evening, 400 people heard Professor Ibrahim Abu Lughod, member of the Palestine National Council, speak of the determination of Palestinian people to struggle until victory.

Barbara Lubin, former president of the Berkeley school board and recent delegate on a visit to the occupied territories, gave an eyewitness account of the repression against Palestinians there. Victor Carpenter, minister of the First Unitarian Church where the forum was held, chaired the program.

The next morning 500 people marched through downtown San Francisco as part of the national protests across the U.S. called by Palestine Solidarity Committee. It was an impressive and militant show of support for the Palestinian uprising as hundreds of bystanders saw the large banners and heard protesters chanting, "West Bank, Gaza, Self-Determination; U.S., Israel, End the Occupation."

Abu Lughod received numerous cheers when he spoke at the Union Square rally.

Mosala Mosegami of the African National Congress gave a moving statement of solidarity with the Palestinian masses led by the Palestine Liberation Organization. Representatives of FDR-FMLN of El Salvador



New York City, June 4.

WW PHOTO: CHRIS ANTHONY

and the FSLN of Nicaragua, Nicaragua Information Center and CISPES also gave solidarity messages. Gail Wylie, vice president of AFSCME Local 3218 spoke, and a message of support from the president of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, Nancy Walker, was read.

Leonard Peltier on Palestine solidarity

Following is a statement of solidarity with the Palestinian struggle given by Leonard Peltier for the June 4 demonstration in New York City. Peltier is a leader of the American Indian Movement and a political prisoner who has been locked up by the U.S. for more than 12 years.

I support the Palestinian struggle and I know many Indian people are in solidarity with the people of Palestine. Our struggles are parallel. Indian people have fought and died for our lands just as the Palestinian people are now. The Israeli system of occupied territories was modeled after the U.S. Indian reservation system as well as after the township system in South Africa.

It's an outrage what is happening in Palestine now — the beatings and imprisonment and murders of men, women, elders and children. I understand a 3-year-old baby was killed the other day. What Israel is attempting is genocide.

We the warriors and activists around the world must protest the criminal actions of the Israeli government. We must put pressure on Israel and the U.S., because the U.S. is financing Israel in its war on the Palestinian people.

Among my own people, when we look at our proud young warriors fighting to defend Native sovereignty, we say: "Behold, a new nation is coming."

Now we see, and are inspired by, the children of Palestine fighting and dying for the survival of their people. Israel and the U.S. think that by killing and imprisoning individuals, they can kill the spirit of the people. They are wrong.

So I say to my Palestinian sisters and brothers: Behold, a new nation is coming, for Palestine and for all of us.

Who's responsible for atrocities in West Bank, Gaza?

By Andy Stapp

The sun had gone down over the Bureij refugee camp in occupied Gaza when the soldiers came. It was not yet quite time for the curfew to begin, but Saadi Sharhy, a 52-year-old Palestinian man, had withdrawn inside his home just to be on the safe side.

It didn't matter. The Israeli soldiers killed him anyway, shot him to death right inside his own house. They said he had resisted a search. Saadi Sharhy was unarmed. He died on May 24.

Who is responsible for these unending atrocities occurring on a daily basis on the West Bank and in Gaza? Obviously the Israel troops, who do the actual killing. And the Israeli regime, which tells its military to crush the Palestinian people "like insects." But what about Washington, the United States government, which has been posing as "an honest broker," struggling against all odds to bring peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians?

Behind Washington's peace talk

Let's take a look at the reality behind this claim. The uprising of the Palestinian people was already in full swing last December when Congress voted by a huge margin to provide the Israeli state with \$3 billion in economic and military assistance. When this spending bill was passed, not one speaker on the floor of the House said a single word about what was happening to the Palestinians! It was as if they didn't exist.

Since the end of the Vietnam war, Israel has been far ahead of all other governments in the amount of all U.S. dollars it gets. Ask the Palestinians how much aid Washington gives them.

The Honest Broker has provided Israel with \$5.6 billion in weaponry over the past decade. This includes, according to the April issue of *Multinational Monitor*, \$4.5 billion worth of F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft from the McDonnell Douglas and General Dynamics corporations, nearly half-a-billion dollars in M-60 tanks provided by Chrysler, armored personnel carriers from Ford, Cobra helicopters from Bell, and hundreds of millions of dollars worth of armaments and munitions from Hughes, Raytheon, Westinghouse, Rockwell and other giant U.S. death merchants.

As a further means of assisting the Israeli military, the Pentagon has purchased large stocks of weaponry made in Israel, most importantly awarding Tel Aviv a Star Wars contract to develop the ATBM Hertz missile.

Killer tear gas made in U.S.

And then there are the "smaller" items, like CS and CN gas, which Israeli soldiers have been hurling into Palestinian houses, stores, mosques and hospitals. That comes from the land of the Honest Broker, too. Since the start of the Palestinian uprising six months ago, the State Department's Office of Munitions Control has authorized the shipment of 120,000 CS and CN canisters from the

producer, TransTechnology of Sherman Oaks, Calif., to the Israeli armed forces. More than 30 Palestinians have died, mostly of pulmonary edema, from the effects of being dosed with this stuff in confined areas, often their own residences. The latest victim was 3-year-old Dina Sawafiri, gassed to death in Gaza on May 27.

Barely a month ago, on April 15, the United States voted alone, against 14 other members of the UN Security Council, to veto a resolution condemning Israel's shooting and deportation of Palestinians and calling on Israel to uphold the Geneva Convention governing occupied territories. The U.S. delegate, Herbert Okun, said the resolution was "inappropriate."

It was the third time this year that the Honest Broker had vetoed a UN resolution critical of Israel.

A week later, the Honest Broker signed a five-year agreement with Israel tightening cooperation between the two governments in intelligence, economic, political and military matters. This pact described Israel as "a major non-NATO ally of the United States." The treaty is, of course, directed against the Palestinians.

The truth is that Israel could not even exist as it does, a racist settler state, without the help of the Honest Broker. The deal is simple: the U.S. government supplies Israel with all the money and weapons it desires, and Israel acts as a forward base of U.S. imperialist power in the greatest oil-producing region of the world.

The Honest Broker turns out to be J.R. Ewing.

U.S. military escalates nuclear threats in Korea

By Sue Bailey
Washington, D.C.



Near U.S. Embassy in Seoul, Korea.

Pacific command, which now includes over 320,000 military personnel, has increased dramatically.

U.S. forces increase in Pacific

Pacific fleet ships capable of launching a nuclear attack will increase from five in 1984 to about 50 by 1990. The U.S. has also added to its nuclear arsenal Trident 1 missiles carried on Ohio-class submarines (24 missiles on each) which have a range of over 4,500 miles and rain 192 warheads to within 500 yards of their targets.

South Korea plays a critical role in the event that a nuclear war scenario were to be implemented in the Pacific. For a whopping \$2 billion per year (this U.S. figure excludes the cost of weapons, planes, ships or equipment), the U.S. maintains over 40,000 troops at 40 military installations there.

The U.S. stockpiles tactical nuclear weapons in south Korea, including 21 atomic demolition munitions (ADMs), each of which is as destructive as the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

U.S. forces armed with nuclear shells and lance missiles (designed to carry nuclear warheads such as the secretive neutron bomb) are stationed in south Korea. In addition, the U.S. approached south Korea for assistance with Star Wars.

Against the will of the Koreans

The Korean people never agreed to the stationing of these weapons or U.S. troops on their soil. And the demand for reunification of the Korean peninsula and the removal of U.S. troops intensifies among the people's movement in south Korea, so much that the New York Times reports in a June 7 headline that "anger at U.S. spreads" in south Korea.

In the aftermath of the attack on the U.S. embassy in south Korea, the picture is becoming clearer that the strategy of engineering elections to diffuse

the people's movement failed.

Hyundai workers have taken eight executives hostage, scores of other factories at the biggest textile, shipbuilding and high-tech corporations have been taken over or shut down. (See related article on this page.)

On June 10, students from north and south Korea plan to meet where their country has been artificially divided to discuss reunification and to ease tensions. According to the June 8 New York Times, 120 south Korean students have been arrested as they began travelling to the meeting and others are now part of a government wanted list.

If events in south Korea of the past month are any indication, the period ahead holds anything but the economic and political stability that the U.S. and south Korean government and military had hoped for.

French military exposed for massacres in Kanaky

By T. Jordan
Sydney, Australia

The brutality of French colonialism in Kanaky (New Caledonia) was exposed on a radio show here in early May. It involved the French military attack on a cave in one of the smaller Kanaky islands, Ouvea.

In the cave, French occupation forces, gendarmes, were being held by Kanak militants who were demanding steps toward self-determination for their people. A few days before the second round of the French national election, the French military assaulted the cave.

Nineteen Kanaks and two French soldiers died. It was widely believed that the rightist French prime minister, Jacques Chirac, had ordered the attack in an attempt to build his electoral standing with right-wing voters.

The official French story is that the French army stormed the caves because they feared for the hostages' lives. The French claim that two pistols were smuggled in to the hostages, along with a key for handcuffs, and they were able to free themselves and escape through a vertical tunnel.

This rather shaky story was contested sharply by Jacques Boengkih, the representative of the Association for Kanak Economic and Cultural Development, speaking May 10 on 2-SER radio here. Boengkih's story was far more plausible.

Another French lie

"The French version is another French lie," said Boengkih. "We have witnesses now that have said that the hostages were freed after Alphonse Dijanou [leader of the Kanak unit] and two of his comrades were the last ones to leave the cave and surrender. They did surrender.

"They left the cave alive, and then they were found injured. They were dragged on the ground by the French military, put on a helicopter to take them to the Ouvea airport. There they were dropped from the helicopter from about 10 feet above the ground.

"Another guy was seen after the attack in handcuffs and held by the French forces. He was given back to his family dead, in his coffin.

"There are many questions that need answers. Like the story of the pistols is absolutely untrue. They were not able to bring anything in. The hostages were still in, held by the Kanaks, and the Kanaks were killed. Those who surrendered were executed, while the hostages were still in the cave."

Asked about the French election,

Boengkih commented that, "The French showed that Chirac was in error to murder, to execute Kanaks, just for electoral reasons. Mitterrand was elected president, but, in my opinion, this will change little. In 1981 Mitterrand the candidate made promises to the Kanak people, but after 1981 he failed to keep these promises.

"All in all Mitterrand defends the interests of the right."

Kanaky's liberation struggle

Kanaky is a long, narrow island in the South Pacific that has been in French colonial possession over 100 years. It contains the third-richest nickel deposits in the world and is the site of a large French naval base.

Its population is 140,000, which includes about 65,000 of the original Kanak people, about 50,000 European French settlers and other immigrants from the Indochinese peninsula and from other South Sea islands.

Fearing that the population changes would make them a small minority in their own land, the Kanaks in 1984 began the latest phase of a national liberation struggle with the successful boycott of an election.

In early 1985, one of most prestigious Kanak leaders and fighters, Eloi Machoro, was assassinated by a special unit of French gendarmes.

Strike wave sweeps south Korea, Hyundai shut down

By Robert Dobrow

A resurgent strike wave is sweeping south Korea.

In the first week of June, many tens of thousands of low-paid workers struck at over 91 companies throughout the country. The biggest labor dispute is the shutdown of Hyundai Motor Company, makers of the Excel car and the largest industrial conglomerate in south Korea.

On June 1, the auto giant locked out thousands of strikers in an attempt to force them to back down. About 20,000 Hyundai autoworkers are on strike demanding higher wages.

Occupied by U.S. military

South Korea is a violently repressive and anti-labor regime. Workers labor, on the average, 57 hours a week, the longest workweek in the world. The regime's enormous police and military forces are bought and paid for by the U.S., which has occupied the country for over 35 years with 40,000 nuclear-equipped troops.

Despite highly publicized "elections," which were supposed to return the country to "democracy," south Korea today is saddled by the exact military regime it had before the election. General Roh, who now calls himself "president," is despised throughout the country as a U.S. puppet and a fascist dictator.

At the time of the south Korean "elections," numerous independent observers described the process as a farce. But U.S. news reporters continue to maintain the fiction that things have really changed in the country.

The current strike wave belies all that. Since January there have been 860 labor disputes. Strikes and slowdowns have hit the Daewoo, Kia Motors and Hyundai auto plants, shipyards, machine tool makers, parts suppliers, research establishments and banks.

860 labor struggles

The most dramatic action took place at Hyundai Precision, a Hyundai subsidiary which makes tanks and other military equipment. For six days strikers held the chairman and 10 other executives hostage in the company compound, refusing to let them go until they gave in to their demands for higher wages. Workers in south Korea are among the lowest paid industrial workers in the world.

The Hyundai workers feel exceptionally bitter because of revelations that management hired local gangsters to kidnap a labor organizer last month to prevent a union organizing drive. Two senior executives at Hyundai Engineering and Construction Company had arranged the kidnapping of Soh Chong Ui who was trying to form a union among low-level supervisors in addition to the existing union of production workers. Mr. Soh was ambushed at a bar, where he had gone to meet Hyundai officials, and held for five days.

The Hyundai strike is costing the company about 2,700 cars, or \$18.9 million, a day in lost sales. Most of those cars would have been exported to the U.S. Latest reports indicate that the Korean workers are holding strong and determined to win.

— Cuba

Continued from page 11

to build a socialist society and, especially, guarantee free health care for all, almost 3,000 doctors (half the doctors in Cuba) left for the U.S. where medicine for profit and social position is the rule. By 1965 the majority of "professionals" had left revolutionary Cuba.

Cuba trained a whole new generation of doctors and other specialists who put human needs first. Today in Cuba almost 3,000 medical personnel a year volunteer to serve not the rich in Miami but the struggling peoples of Africa and Latin America. By the year 2000, only 12 years from now, Cuba's goal is to be able to send 10,000 volunteer doctors a year to countries seeking to rebuild economies that have been devastated by imperialist underdevelopment. What a powerful combination of socialist education and revolutionary class consciousness!

Cuba — where internationalism is alive and well

By Sara Flounders
Havana, Cuba

May Day in Havana is an opportunity to see revolutionary internationalism as a living reality. It is reflected in the faces of thousands of chanting students from oppressed and struggling nations who come to Cuba to study.

May Day is a sea of flags and banners of the liberation struggles of Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. These enthusiastic students represent just one aspect of Cuba's internationalist spirit.

The deep support for the struggles of oppressed peoples is expressed by the many thousands of skilled Cuban workers, technicians, engineers and doctors who volunteer each year for service in countries attempting to

— Immigration

Continued from page 8

ican refugees political asylum, the Reagan administration from day one has categorized the refugees as economic immigrants. Under current U.S. immigration laws, any immigrant who is fleeing a war qualifies for political asylum and is entitled to basic legal rights that other immigrants are boldly denied.

It is the way Washington has applied this side of the law that clearly exposes the political manipulation of the immigration issue by the government, as it warmly gives political asylum to the most contemptuous, anti-working class elements, such as the hated Somocista National Guardsmen from Nicaragua who are now the contras, and the fascist Shah of Iran.

Those who come here escaping the righteous anger of the masses have consistently received easy asylum and immediate legalization, as did those criminal elements who fled from liberated nations such as Vietnam, Nicaragua and earlier Cuba. For example, only 3% of Salvadorans have been granted political asylum while 85% of Nicaraguans have received asylum.

Many people have fought to defend the rights of not only Central American refugees, but all the undocumented as well. Throughout the country, thousands have stood up to the U.S. government and assisted the immigrants. Early in the Reagan administration, a wholesale campaign was launched to discredit and criminalize well-meaning individuals for their assistance to the undocumented.

The Sanctuary Movement, as it has come to be called, has been harassed by the government for what the government terms "harboring illegal aliens." Many activists, especially from places in the Southwest like Texas and Arizona, have been arrested and sent to prison.

Nonetheless the undocumented from Central America and their supporters have managed to win some gains. Late in April of this year, a federal judge in Los Angeles was forced to recognize the special status of Central American refugees. Judge David Kenyon issued a ruling that gave Salvadorans the right to claim political asylum and legal representation. The suit brought out the inhumane treatment of the undocumented under the migra (the INS) who had forced many to sign voluntary deportation statements (in English), had threatened and isolated them in detention centers and prisons, and singled refugees out for harassment.

What remains to be won is immediate amnesty for all the undocumented; and the right to a job and full social, economic and political rights.

break free of a legacy of underdevelopment as well as U.S. imperialism's economic stranglehold.

It is this dual approach of Cuba — opening the resources of their own country and sending skilled technical assistance — that is becoming a material force in the class struggle.

Isle of Youth

Approximately 20,000 youth from Nicaragua, South Africa, Namibia, Palestine, South Yemen, Ethiopia, Angola and several other revolutionary countries attend unique schools on Cuba's Isle of Youth. The students of each country have their own schools where they are taught history, literature and social studies in their own language.

Every attempt is made to maintain and develop their own national culture and a political consciousness of their own struggle. Students train to become doctors, engineers, agricultural specialists, veterinarians and teachers.

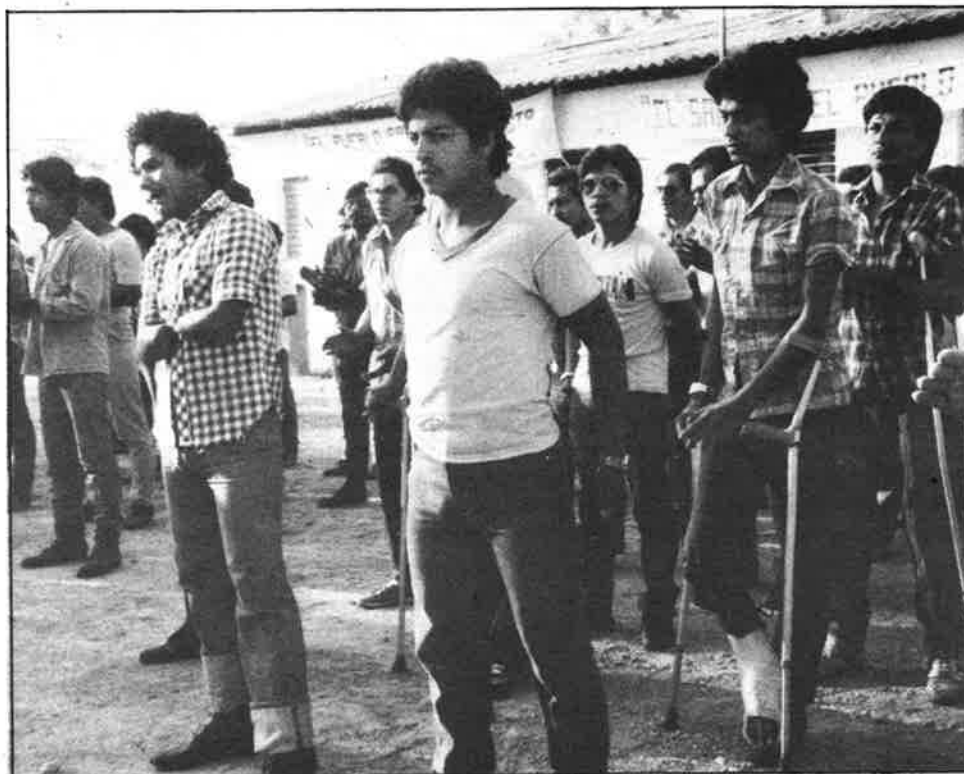
As in all Cuban schools, students combine a program of a half day of classes and study and a half day of manual work. This is a conscious effort to incorporate a respect for labor and to guard against students developing elitist attitudes.

Cuba has made a conscious attempt to guard against the experience of the thousands of Third World students who are sent to schools in Western Europe and the U.S. These students often become alienated from their own culture and are inculcated with capitalist values. Many never return home, the U.S. schools serving as a "brain drain" on already impoverished countries. Those students who return home become a privileged elite.

In addition to the Isle of Youth there are thousands of older Third World students who study at the University of Havana, other universities, and medical and technical schools.

Aid in the struggle against apartheid

The Cuban assistance that comes under unrelenting attack in the U.S.-controlled media are the 50,000



WW PHOTO: SARA FLOUNDERS

Rehabilitation school in Cuba for disabled Salvadoran combatants.

Cuban volunteers in Angola who have helped to defend against U.S.-financed South African invasion of Angola.

Never mentioned in the U.S. press are the many thousands of trained medical personnel, agricultural specialists and engineers who have also served in Angola, Ethiopia, the Congo and other African countries. Nor are the many teachers who aided the literacy program in Nicaragua ever mentioned.

How is a small country still struggling to develop her own economy able to provide so many thousands of trained specialists? Isn't it surprising that so many "professionals" and "specialists" would be so self-sacrificing with their time?

This was not always the Cuban reality. At the time of the Cuban Revolution in 1959, the majority of Cubans were illiterate and health care and education were only for the small middle class and the wealthy. As Cuba began

Continued on page 10

Reagan's kind of 'dissident'

Following his lecture on "human rights" at Moscow State University, Ronald Reagan was questioned by one of the Soviet students in the audience about Nikolai Roshko, one of the "dissidents" the President had met with two days before in the residence of the U.S. ambassador.

Roshko, it turns out, was a Nazi collaborator who worked as a cop for the Gestapo in the German-occupied part of the Soviet Union during World War II.

As usual, Reagan simply pled ignorance of the facts in this case, but it is generally assumed that both the State Department and White House staff carefully check the background of all individuals invited to meet the President.

The USSR lost over 20 million killed in the war against the Nazis.

Soviet aviation breakthrough 'another Sputnik'

By Robert Dobrow

You would never know it from reading the newspaper or watching television, but last month the Soviet Union made an unprecedented scientific and technological breakthrough. Some scientists are even comparing it to the 1957 launching of Sputnik, when the USSR ushered in the Space Age by sending the first satellite into outer space.

The achievement is even more remarkable because it comes in a field that has long been dominated by the U.S. and the military-industrial complex — aviation.

What the Soviet Union did was to send up a commercial airliner from a Moscow-area airport that was powered by hydrogen rather than by petroleum-based jet fuel. Aerospace engineers throughout the world recognize it as a milestone development.

More advanced fuel system

Such an aircraft has numerous advantages. Hydrogen exists throughout the universe in practically unlimited quantities. On the other hand, petroleum-based products, called fossil fuels, are nonrenewable resources. Hydrogen is also more energy-efficient. It can power an engine for three

times as long as the same quantity of fossil fuels.

When fossil fuels burn they emit toxic pollutants as well as carbon dioxide, a gas that traps solar energy in the atmosphere and whose increase is believed to be causing a steady warming of the planet. This is known as the global "greenhouse effect."

'Ecologically pure'

The hydrogen-based engine of the Soviet aircraft is, according to its designer, "an absolutely ecologically pure engine." When hydrogen burns, the combustion product is steam, not pollutants. Thus the conversion of the world's fleet of aircraft to hydrogen-based fuel would make a significant dent in the fight against pollution.

At the moment, hydrogen-based engines are still not economically viable. And this is the biggest reason that the U.S., based on a capitalist economy where profits come first, decided to scrap its earlier plans for hydrogen-engine research.

There was some movement in this direction among the U.S., Canada, Britain and West Germany in the early 1970s when oil prices skyrocketed after the 1973 October war in the Middle East. But after oil prices stabilized, the capitalist powers dropped the idea. As the former president of

Lockheed Corporation said, "Democracy [he means capitalism — RD] is the greatest system in the world, but it can certainly make long-range planning difficult."

Only possible under socialist planning

The Soviet Union is based on a totally different mode of production, one in which conscious planning of economic resources based on what is needed by society is the motor force of economic development — not the blind forces of the capitalist market where profit is the only guide.

The Soviet Union is not the weak, inefficient, technologically backward society that the capitalist press makes it out to be. Many people in this country would be surprised to learn that the Soviet Union is actually far ahead of the U.S. in such sophisticated and diverse fields as space travel, cybernetics, theoretical mathematics, high resolution photography and fusion power, to name a few.

Now the USSR has taken another great leap forward, and in an area that the U.S. has dominated for years. Despite the attempt by the capitalist media to bury it with silence, it's one more testimonial to the strength and dynamism of the socialist mode of production.

On the Soviet reforms:

By Sam Marcy

June 7 — In Moscow last week, even as the summit meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev was proceeding, it was partially eclipsed by a public discussion of the implementation of the Soviet economic reforms.

This gives an idea of the intensity of the discussion and preparations being made in anticipation of the June 27 Communist Party conference, where all this will be brought up.

With such political ferment on the eve of the conference, one is eager for any direct information about the reforms, especially the economic restructuring, coming from authoritative Soviet sources. We therefore read with great interest a piece by V. L. Makarov, director of the Central Economic and Mathematical Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, that appeared in the Book Review section of the May 29 Sunday New York Times. Makarov's commentary concerns a recent book by Ed A. Hewett of the Brookings Institution in Washington entitled *Reforming the Soviet Economy*.

Unfortunately, Makarov's piece is disappointing, especially coming from somebody who holds such a prestigious office and who, needless to say, has direct information regarding the Soviet economy.

Hewett belongs to one of the many think tanks in the U.S. that studies the Soviet Union. However, he takes a more moderate bourgeois imperialist view of the Soviet economy than most and is one of the proponents of live and let live, with his own variety of peaceful coexistence. Of course, to him peaceful coexistence is based on the Soviet economy moving "forward" to a modified form of capitalism.

At any rate, Hewett sounds friendly and thus Makarov's handling of the book is also in the same spirit.

Misses the point on agricultural statistics

Makarov lets Hewett off rather easy on some matters which are of more than passing interest. He doesn't mention, for instance, that on page 8 of the book, after saying there is little evidence that the Soviet Union uses statistics to mislead the outside world, Hewett adds that there is ample evidence that when the regime does not like a number, it stops publishing it.

Then Hewett says in a footnote, "When, for example, the Soviet grain harvest fell dramatically in 1981, the Central Statistical Administration simply discontinued publication of those data, a policy continued through the 1985 data." Considering that Makarov is the director of the Central Economic and Mathematical Institute of the Academy of Sciences, it seems rather odd he should let this go unanswered.

Of course, the Soviet Union has at various times stopped publishing certain data, and there is no denying that a great deal of information which the public is entitled to is now becoming more available. But the point that Hewett makes here is wholly misleading and aids the imperialist position on the USSR.

Grain is a weapon

Grain is a strategic weapon, as important as any save the nuclear ones. The USSR may even do well without some of its nuclear weapons, as the recent INF treaty shows, but it is extremely vulnerable to such catastrophic droughts as occurred in the

sixties. (Some credit the fall of Khrushchev to crop failures; Brezhnev, it is said, survived the early seventies when a good harvest came to his rescue.)

The USSR is a deficit country when it comes to agriculture. Its rainfall is very meager by comparison to the U.S. It is therefore obliged to buy hundreds of millions of dollars worth of grain abroad, much of it from the U.S. So significant is the strategic aspect of grain that harvest figures are guarded almost as a military secret.

The U.S. regularly monitors weather conditions in the USSR by satellite. It is said that when President Jimmy Carter decided to decree a vicious embargo on selling grain to the USSR, his decision was guided by the forecasts of the U.S. meteorological apparatus, which projected that the Soviet Union would be driven to desperation because of the agricultural situation. Carter was confident that it would quickly succumb to starvation. However, it was able to buy the needed grain from other producing countries and the embargo was felt most by U.S. farmers.

U.S. secrecy and the market

Long-term weather forecasts prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture are highly guarded and kept under lock and key until their disclosure. This is all done with an eye to world market conditions. The predictions affect the futures prices of agriculture products, which are traded in the hundreds of millions of dollars hourly. As a result of the ability to forecast the weather with monitoring devices, especially satellites, U.S. agribusiness has gained a tremendous advantage in the world market.

So when the USSR in 1981 stopped publishing grain statistics, it wasn't because it was a closed society as such. It was for important strategic reasons, because food is a weapon. When the harvests are good and abundant, there is no need for such secrecy. The grain statistics began to be published again in 1986, but not only as a measure of openness and democratization. The situation in the USSR with respect to agriculture has eased in the last several years, both because of economic and weather conditions.

Also to be taken into account here was the Challenger disaster. It was a very important spy satellite and had the newest meteorological and technological equipment for forecasting the weather. Its destruction has made it incumbent on the U.S. to employ foreign satellites for such purposes.

Makarov, however, alludes to the Soviet Union as a closed society, while saying nothing to dispute the so-called openness of U.S. imperialism.

Soviet rate of economic growth

One of the most important questions facing the Party conference relates to the rate of growth of the Soviet economy. It is admitted by all the groupings that it has slowed down. The question is why?

Makarov addresses the question of the growth rate of the Soviet Union. "From 1928 to 1955 the rate of growth of the Soviet economy was relatively high (between 5 and 10 percent a year) and during that time the Soviet Union became the second greatest power in the world from an economic point of view. At the same time there were marked advances in the social and economic lives of people; they could be assured of economic security, full employment, certainty about income levels. It seemed to us that we had

achieved everything we could desire.

"But," the author goes on, "there was a weakening of the factors that contribute to long-run economic growth. During the last 15 or 20 years the rate of growth slowed down steadily; the quality and variety of consumer goods deteriorated; people became increasingly indifferent to political and economic life and there were fewer incentives for them to work hard or become involved in difficult initiatives. That was also a period when information was becoming rapidly available through the growth of modern communications. People in the Soviet Union became much more aware of conditions in the rest of the world and it was no longer possible to maintain the closed position of Soviet society. As Mr. Gorbachev has said, this was a precrisis and prerevolutionary situation."

With all due respect to the high post Professor Makarov holds, this answer is an amalgam of complete rubbish. It will not withstand the light of history and will be challenged.

It's an echo of what the imperialist press is saying, that the Soviet people are finally learning of the glories of capitalist exploitation and imperialist oppression. The era of telecommunications is finally enlightening the Soviet people and opening up the closed society. Incredible as it seems, this comes from a professor at the prestigious Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Indeed, this confirms what the so-called conservatives in the USSR are saying about a good many of the leading exponents of the reforms: that they are influenced by "the preaching of the 'democratic' charms of present-day capitalism and fawning over its achievements, real and imagined." (From the letter to Sovetskaya Rossia known as the Andreyeva manifesto, analyzed in our last article.)

Moscow News of April 10 referred to another document of the so-called conservatives, a typewritten piece called "Information for Reflection" that is circulating hand to hand. It argues that perestroika will first lead to "economic disaster and social upheaval, and then to the country's enslavement by imperialist states." The views put forward by Professor Makarov can hardly reassure this current.

But to get back to the slowing in the rate of growth. Makarov neglects to note, especially when he is addressing a foreign audience, that it is only the *rate* of growth that has declined. There has not been an overall decline in the economy. The gross national product has continued to increase.

In other words, the Soviet Union ever since the first five-year plan has not once experienced one of those declines or wholesale collapses of the economy, with its consequent unemployment, that is so characteristic of capitalist production. Now with the high-tech revolution, unemployment continues to grow in capitalist society even in the best of times.

Another point to be borne in mind when discussing the rate of growth is that it takes longer to expedite the growth rate in a developed economy, especially one that has received so many jolts from war, intervention and deliberate economic isolation by the imperialists. Just as it takes much longer to turn around an ocean liner than a small tugboat.

Bourgeoisie equates equality with inefficiency

Makarov does not directly respond to the basic thesis raised in Hewett's book, summarized by its subtitle:

"Equality Versus Efficiency." The socialist system is inefficient, he says, because its objective is communist equality. Hewett's thesis is that the slow growth in the last period, the so-called stagnation, arises from systemic factors, factors inherent in a planned, socialist economy.

Soviet technological achievements

Makarov does not explain why some aspects of the Soviet economy have performed so splendidly while others have not. For instance, Hewett admits that the Soviet economy "produces a titanium-hulled alpha-class submarine that goes faster and deeper than any submarine in the world. It has managed to build," he further concedes, "one of the world's largest natural gas distribution systems by relying primarily on domestically produced compressors and turbines and all of this realized ahead of schedule despite the U.S. administration's best efforts to delay construction."

Hewett is of course referring here to the Reagan administration's desperate attempt to intimidate Western European countries from either buying gas from the USSR or supplying materials to construct the pipeline, which was successfully built anyhow and is now in full operation.

"With its own technology," he goes on, "the Soviet Union has sent remote-operated machinery to the moon, established and maintained a working space station, drilled the deepest oil wells in the world, and developed a technology for producing continuous-cast aluminum that the U.S. defense contractors have purchased." Isn't that interesting!

"More importantly," he says, "over the last quarter of a century it has moved from a position of distinct strategic inferiority vis-a-vis the U.S. to one of at least parity, if not superiority."

The fact that the Reagan administration, for all its bombast, threats and trillion-dollar defense expenditures, has been obligated to sign an INF treaty with the USSR, whatever else it may or may not mean, denotes a significant moderation at least in posture.

It is clear that the USSR has been able to make spectacular advances in space science, military technology and other significant scientific and technological fields. So the question remains, why is there a slowing down of the growth rate?

Growth of material incentives

One reason advanced by Makarov is that people became increasingly indifferent to political and economic life. But why would that be so? Why become indifferent to an economic system that was providing them with economic security, well-being, opportunities for education, as he himself admits? Has there in fact been a development of indifference? What are its political and social roots?

Is it the working class that has become indifferent, or is it the upper stratum of the bourgeois intelligentsia?

Suddenly, according to the professor, there are fewer incentives for people to work hard or become involved in difficult initiatives. Is that really so? The building of the gas pipeline, at such a rapid pace and under conditions of U.S. imperialist hostility and obstruction — wasn't that a difficult initiative? And didn't it succeed?

Is he saying, like some of the neo-bourgeois economists in the USSR, the Shmelyovs and their ilk, that the

the Makarov thesis

working class has become lazy, indolent, etc., and therefore economic mechanisms should be employed that bring about unemployment to intimidate the workers?

What is actually at stake in all of this is the alleged problem of the erosion of socialist initiative and socialist cooperation as against bourgeois individual acquisitiveness. Yet no one in the Soviet Union has yet demonstrated that this really is the problem, that the working class has lost interest in socialist cooperation and socialist initiative and that it is their craving for greater material incentives in an individualistic, competitive way that has to be encouraged.

In fact, material incentives have been vigorously pushed, not just in recent times but beginning as far back as the Stalin period and the Stakhanovite campaign, particularly in the early thirties.

There have been several significant reforms during the period of slowest growth Makarov alludes to since 1955 which steadily increased material incentives. The first was during the Khrushchev administration in 1957, and lasted until 1964. There were further reforms under Alexei N. Kosygin and under Brezhnev in 1973 and 1979. All of this restructuring also included material incentives for the purpose of raising the efficiency of the Soviet economy.

There is no evidence whatever that Gorbachev at any time disapproved of them or indicated their inadequacy or insufficiency.

Attempts to trim state apparatus

These reforms can be divided into several categories. Some are more important than others. Of course, any kind of reform which reduces the heavy weight of the state apparatus and facilitates the growth of the economy is progressive.

For instance, one of the first attempts at reform of the state apparatus was under the Khrushchev administration. He attempted to cut down the various government ministries. Instead of having them all centralized in Moscow, he tried to break them up into regional groupings in an effort to bring them, as was thought at the time, closer to the people. Unfortunately, this failed of its objective. He divided them into agricultural and industrial groupings, which later proved to be unworkable and had to be abolished.

There have been subsequent efforts to cut down the administrative staffs of the government, but they have nonetheless grown.

Do material incentives work in a socialist society?

The real issue is whether material incentives are an effective means in a socialist economy for raising the level of productivity and the general living standards. Or do they aid the growth of social inequality, create a deterrent to socialist cooperation in the working class and restrain and limit socialist solidarity? Are they a return back toward bourgeois norms of production?

Of course, under the first stage of socialism, work is from each according to one's ability and wages are to each according to one's work, and not according to one's needs, as is the goal of communism. This is precisely the question raised by Hewett. His thesis, and that of almost all other bourgeois economists, is that the various economic reforms which have had a decentralizing effect on the Soviet econ-

Article in Novy Mir attacks Lenin, socialist property

As we go to press, both the Washington Post (June 7) and the New York Times (June 8) report that an article has appeared in the well-known Soviet magazine Novy Mir attacking Lenin and collective property. Written by a "retired academic," Vasily Selyunin, the piece refers favorably to the writings of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the mystical and nationalistic novelist now living in Vermont who was once described by Henry Kissinger as "to the right of the czar."

This article by Selyunin appears to have aggressively broadened the anti-socialist offensive of the rightwing in the USSR by identifying Lenin and state-owned property with indiscriminate repression, repeating the old bourgeois theme that Leninism was responsible for Stalinism.

According to the Washington Post, "Without some form of private property, Selyunin writes, individuals have no private rights and tend to be treated as 'slaves.'"

However, Soviet workers know about the wage slavery and near-serfdom that existed for the majority in old Russia before Lenin and the Bolshevik Party led the masses in a tide of revolutionary expropriations of the private property of the bosses and landlords.

It is the validity of socialist collectivism vs. capitalist competition, individual greed and exploitation

that is increasingly becoming the issue in the Soviet debate.

The French paper Le Monde (June 5-6) reports that on June 3, a number of the most extreme exponents of economic restructuring, including the economists Gavrill Popov, Tatyana Zaslavskaya and Nikolai Shmelyov (whose views were analyzed in Workers World of June 2), failed to be elected as delegates to the upcoming Party conference. General Secretary Gorbachev himself had personally attended the meeting of the Moscow Party organization and argued for a second ballot expressly to add these supporters of the reforms to the conference delegation.

The next day, Politburo member Yegor Ligachev, speaking before a large crowd of auto workers in the city of Togliatti, denied a split in the Party leadership but added, "If we consider the 'advice' that our country's economy be placed on the footing of western market economies, little remains of socialism. All that [advice] is aimed at weakening the political stability in the country, upsetting social justice and stimulating a far-reaching stratification in the society." (Washington Post, June 5.) Ligachev is identified in the imperialist press as the leader of the "conservatives," meaning those who are resisting many of the changes proposed under perestroika.

omy are welcome but they don't go far enough.

What they want is a wholesale rejection of socialist planning and the abandonment of the ownership of the means of production by the working class.

Is more socialism the goal?

A certain amount of social inequality is absolutely unavoidable in the first stages of socialist construction, as in the period immediately after a socialist revolution. But the real issue here is what is the perspective, how is it revealed in the various plans constructed for the building up of the economy?

Are these plans drawn up with a view to overcome social inequality and move onward to the higher stage of communism?

If the economy gets bogged down in a multitude of ill-considered schemes, adventures, poor planning and bureaucracy and a mire of so-called short-term strategies, these actually have the tendency to disqualify socialist planning and the perspective of socialist equality, as has happened over a period of several decades — not counting the rigid, over-centralized and repressive system of the earlier days. This is basically the problem.

Is the solution to go backward to a market-oriented economy? The Soviet Union deliberately took a big step back with the New Economic Policy of the 1920s, but that was before there had been any socialist planning. It was necessary in order to get the economy going again after the civil war and intervention, but by 1928 the first five-year plan superseded the NEP.

Not too much socialism but too little

It is not that the Soviet Union suffers from excessive socialism. It is that the Soviet Union in many respects is barely a semi-socialist state. The collective farms are not socialist, they are only semi-socialist, as is a vast sector of the so-called service or secondary economy.

A good part of the Soviet economy is still based on commodity relationships. It needs to advance from that toward socialism, not go back to bourgeois market relations. Unfortunately, that is what is being proposed by the neobourgeois economists and also by some in the government.

The principal contradiction in the Soviet economy up until now was not that the productive forces had outgrown the socialized property forms, but that the productive forces were too low for socialist organization, so low they could scarcely accommodate the livelihood of the masses.

But now the productive forces have become formidable. The contradiction that has arisen out of their dynamic growth is not to the socialist forms of property but to the semi-socialist character of social relations. Social relations have not advanced commensurate with the tremendous scientific and technological capabilities of the productive forces.

This is what has to be brought home. The character of social relations in the USSR is still far from being socialist. In order for the productive forces to advance further, it is necessary to promote greater socialization of the USSR. But what has really happened, which may account for the slowdown in the growth rate, is that a

reservoir of bourgeois social norms in income and in social relations generally has developed.

Instead of attacking bourgeois norms, the leadership is attacking egalitarianism, "to each according to one's need," even though that is still in the future. Many workers feel they're not even getting "to each according to one's work," under present circumstances. Hence, this last formula still has a certain appeal.

The level of equality must be raised, not just as far as wages go, but in so many fields: abolish the inequality that exists between town and country, between one city or region and another, between the entire hierarchy, intelligentsia and bureaucracy, on the one hand, and the least paid among the workers.

If one is to talk in terms of economic stagnation, a certain amount of it certainly comes from bureaucratic inertia and high-handedness, which shouldn't be underestimated. But much more significant are the social privileges which create such a wide chasm between the governing stratum of the USSR and the masses.

Relations with the West

Suffice it to say that Makarov's thesis is completely in line with not only some of the neobourgeois economists in the Soviet Union but with Hewett's thesis as well. Makarov says, in concluding his article, "As Mr. Hewett says, 'The consequences of economic reform for the Soviet Union are also consequences for the rest of the world. A successful reform and a revitalization of the Soviet economy could drastically change the economic relationship between the Soviet Union and the West, with benefits to both sides.'"

This totally disregards the world situation as it has existed ever since the great October socialist revolution, and is a product of the euphoria created by the so-called detente with the Reagan administration and the signing of the INF treaty June 1. Peaceful coexistence, even in its best times, has meant nothing more than a change in the form of the class war between two social systems that are based on diametrically opposed classes.

If Makarov and some others captured by the present euphoric moment forget this, by no means has the Pentagon. Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci was quick to remind the NATO allies of this, as reported in a Washington Post article of June 7 headlined "Carlucci Warns the West Not to Relax with Moscow; Secretary Wary of Aiding Soviet Economy."

Rather than the picture drawn by Hewett that the economic changes could benefit both the U.S. and the Soviet Union, Carlucci is said to warn that the USSR's social and economic restructuring could ultimately make it a greater threat to the imperialists. "If the end result is that the Soviet Union modernizes its industrial and technological base and if some time in the 1990s it ends up as a society that can produce enormous quantities of weapons even more effectively than it does today, then we will have made an enormous miscalculation."

What Carlucci is saying is that regardless of these reforms, they don't go far enough. Not even an overturn of the social relations in the USSR would suffice to quench the imperialist appetites, which hunger for super-profits and military adventures.

After reading Makarov's review, one has to think hard about whether he is a friend or a foe of the socialist Soviet Union.

(Part of a series.)

EDITORIALS

The bailout scam

Tens of millions of people in this country are unable to afford medical insurance. When they get sick, they're on their own. One third of all the homeless men on the streets of the great cities of the U.S. are Vietnam veterans. The military used them up and now they're on their own. Countless young people cannot afford the skyrocketing cost of higher education. When they try to get a loan to help, they too find they're on their own.

Elderly people who need money for nursing care, people who go to bed hungry every night, people laid off by the high-tech tidal wave, all have heard the same answer when they turn to the government for assistance: "It's not Washington's problem."

But when bankers want a handout, that's different! Look what has happened in California. The federal government, which likes to preach "rugged individualism" to working people and the poor, is rushing \$1.3 billion to two failed California banks, American Diversified Savings and North American Savings and Loan.

Those two are not the only financial institutions looking for a bailout from Washington these days. The Federal Home Loan Bank Board estimates that it needs \$20 billion to cover 200 "hopelessly insolvent" banks. And that figure, according to some experts, could rise soon to \$50 billion!

Where will this money come from?

It will be taken from the people in taxes, of

course. The government says it cannot come up with the \$3 billion its own AIDS commission says is needed to fight that terrible disease. Why then should the banks be able to easily grab \$50 billion from the Federal Treasury?

This latest bank "rescue" campaign does at least have one virtue. It reveals a lot about the fragile state of the economy, while at the same time exposing the true priorities of a government dominated by big money.

An extraordinary campaign

An extraordinary primary campaign in U.S. politics ended June 7. This campaign established what would have been considered impossible less than a year ago. A Black activist known mostly as a fighter for civil rights and equality for Black people drew broad enough working-class support to finish a strong second in a battle for the nomination of the Democratic Party. Jesse Jackson has gotten more than 7 million votes in the face of concerted resistance not only from the established leadership of the Democratic Party but from the powerful big-business media.

Workers World supported the Jesse Jackson campaign both in 1984 and in 1988. First, because it represented a continuation of the civil rights struggle in electoral form, a fight for the equality of Black people. Second, and this was a new phenomenon in the primaries this year, because it became the political expression of deep changes that have occurred within the working class, changes which impel the workers in a progressive, militant direction.

These changes have resulted in a working class which is no longer dominated by higher-paid sectors which have historically been more politically backward. Instead, more

Black, Latino, Asian, Native and Arab workers are in the work force. More women are in it. More lesbians and gay men are openly part of the class. As are more disabled people. At the same time, the higher-paid, unionized sectors have themselves been under the harshest attacks from the bosses and the government and have been hit with layoffs, plant closings and a cut in their standard of living.

The class as a whole is more angry at the bosses and discontented with how the capitalist system is working, and the Jackson campaign became the first vehicle to express this discontent in a mass, organized way.

The program that Jackson has put forth, especially on domestic issues, has been far more progressive, far more in tune with workers and poor people than that of the other Democratic and Republican candidates. In foreign affairs Jackson has attacked the outrageously high military spending that both Bush and Dukakis seem content with and he has been strong against the apartheid state of South Africa.

That Jackson's positions can win about one-third of the California, New Jersey, New Mexico and Montana voters in the last primary vote after seven years of Reaganism is a cause for optimism. Still, the Jackson program falls within the confines of the capitalist system on domestic questions, and it is not consistently anti-imperialist on international questions.

It is not Jackson's program, however, which has been the basis for Workers World's support. It's that his candidacy has given expression to a changing working class. This class will have to find its vehicle for struggle outside of the Democratic and Republican parties, and will in the long run have to challenge the very foundations of the capitalist system.

What Jackson's success has shown is the likelihood of such a struggle and the potential for such a challenge.

Letters

From El Salvador

On behalf of the University I would like to thank Workers World for the wonderful donation of a subscription. We have been receiving your newspaper for more than a month now and our students are enthusiastically using it to prepare presentations for their classes and as a bibliographical source for the papers they have to write.

We would like to invite members of your staff to contact us if they are in El Salvador, so we can show them Santa Ana and perhaps arrange for a seminar or a month or semester of classes. It's important for us to have visiting teachers and for North Americans to be here to see the reality directly and to have the time to know and speak directly to Salvadorans living the war.

Also, if you desire information from us, or if we could participate in some kind of program of information exchange, please do contact us.

Your collaboration is invaluable and your newspaper is a very important work enjoyed by many here.

Lic. Linda Hemby
Centro Universitario
de Occidente

Universidad de El Salvador

Divestment at Wesleyan

After 15 days of sitting in at the president's office, Wesleyan University anti-apartheid activists escalated their struggle on Monday, May 2, with a complete blockade of the administration building. Divest Now, an organization of Black and white students, blocked the three entrances to the building at 6:30 a.m., while a crowd of over 100 students cheered their support.

The issue here, as at dozens of colleges across the country, is university investments in companies that do business with South Africa. Although

Wesleyan University President Colin Campbell had earlier agreed to call for divestment "if conditions do not improve" in South Africa, Campbell and the Board of Trustees are now doing everything possible to maintain the flow of profits from their "blood money" portfolio. Divest Now called the sit-in and blockade to demand that a trustee meeting scheduled May 28 be moved up so that students could influence its decision on divestment.

The blockade, which shut down a number of university offices, continued through the morning, despite threats. Finally, around 12:30 p.m., empty buses rolled onto the grass outside the building as Wesleyan University and Middletown, Conn., cops began to arrest and remove the students. Angry shouts and chants rang out across the usually peaceful lawns of the school sometimes called "the most liberal in New England."

As students emerged from the building, clenched fists held high, or dragged hand and foot by the cops, supporters took up the chant that has characterized anti-racist action from coast to coast: "No justice, no peace!" The final toll in the arrests was 108 students and two non-student demonstrators.

Elizabeth Toledo, Peter Goselin
Middletown, Conn.

Wants real news

Workers World is a great newspaper! It is directly connected to organizing activity and yet at the same time it argues for the necessity of a democratically centralized party. I received the newspaper for three years, before I lived in Cyprus for two years. Now that I am back I want to get in touch with the real news. Also the paper is great for giving the time and location of demonstrations in New York City.

Gary Geiser
Smithtown, N.Y.

Striker likes WW

I appreciate the fact that I have been receiving Workers World since March 26 free of charge. I find it to be a very interesting paper. It's refreshing to read the truth. Most papers write only one side of an issue, without giving any thought to the other. The people need to see what's real. And Workers World gives them that opportunity. Hope you continue the good work.

Unfortunately, being on strike makes it difficult for me to subscribe to your paper. After we win, I'll be happy to subscribe.

Larry Shade
Flemington, Pa.

— Palestine

Continued from page 9

for the Palestinians' right to self-determination and a demand to end U.S. support for the Israeli occupation. The planned program was cut short by rain.

Sahar Ahmad, representing the Union of Palestinian Women's committees in the West Bank and Gaza, spoke with her face covered and under an assumed name because she is returning to the West Bank next week. She confirmed that the Israeli government is now using administrative detention against women, which allows Tel Aviv to keep Palestinians in detention for as long as they want without giving any reason.

She said, "The uprising will never, never stop until we reach our main goal — freedom and independence." She went on to point out, "They [the Israelis] think by breaking our bones, they are going to break our will for freedom. Our nation's will to freedom is not at all easy to break." According to Ahmad, people in the U.S. can play

an important role by forcing their government to stop supporting Israel.

The representative of the Lebanese National Resistance Front, who did not use her name out of concern for her family, described how the Lebanese resistance was able to drive the Israelis out of much of southern Lebanon after the 1982 invasion, which was supposed to break the back of the PLO and the Palestinian resistance. "The suffering and the courage of the Palestinian and Lebanese people have opened doors that must not be closed again — the door of people's resistance and victory in Palestine and Lebanon." She went on to say that "the door of protest is being opened in the U.S."

Neo Mnumzana, chief representative of the African National Congress (ANC) to the UN, said, "Both the ANC and the PLO are branches of one liberation movement, the human liberation movement." Comparing the South African and the Palestinian peoples, who are "both colonized and made foreigners in their own lands," he said, "They are both victims of regional proxies of U.S. imperialism."

Zehdi Terzi, the PLO's representative to the United Nations, said the demonstration was a "message of condemnation to the government of Israel for locking thousands of people in the new Auschwitz in the Negev." He also emphasized that the uprising was going to continue until an independent Palestinian state was established on "Palestinian soil." Felicia Langer, speaking as a lawyer, an Israeli and a Jew, said that the proper word to describe Ansar III in the Negev is not "prison" but "concentration camp."

Tawfiq Zayyad, who is the mayor of Nazareth on the West Bank, made three points. Palestinians will not continue to live under occupation; they will not accept anything less than self-determination and an independent Palestine; they will not accept an alternative leadership to the PLO.

Presupuesto armamentista de EEUU, supera los dos billones de dólares.

Por Santiago Manque-Milla.

Los gastos militares del año pasado superaron los dos billones de dólares (dos millones de millones), dentro de un contexto que se caracteriza por un déficit presupuestario, agravando la crisis social, política y económica que sacude al capitalismo a nivel mundial. Sumado a esto, la deuda pública y la caída de la bolsa de valores de Nueva York.

Los sectores más aventureros y guerrilleros del imperialismo se han visto obligado a retroceder ante la movilización y presión de la opinión pública mundial, obligando con esto; que la administración de turno saque a relucir toda una retórica pacifista y humanitaria, que se contradice con su política de agresión hacia centroamérica y en especial al gobierno revolucionario y popular de Nicaragua.

En los países en vías de desarrollo e incluyendo en esta encuesta a EEUU, casi 1,3 mil millones de personas viven en la miseria, cerca de 800 millones están desnutrida y 850 millones carecen de educación y mil millones carecen de viviendas dignas de un ser humano. En EEUU cada día se producen 5 bombas nucleares, en establecimientos que carecen de la más mínima seguridad, tanto para el personal que en ellas laboran, como para el medio ambiente, dejando bien en claro que desde el término de la

segunda guerra mundial EEUU ha dado cobertura a la producción de 60.000 bombas nucleares de 71 tipos distintos y para 116 armas diferentes.

En agosto de 1985 la Unión Soviética suspendió unilateralmente todas las explosiones nucleares expresando su disposición de entablar negociaciones en este aspecto. Produciéndose el primer encuentro cumbre en Reykjavic sin llegarse a firmar ningún acuerdo por la negativa de EEUU a hacerlo.

Mientras las negociaciones continúan entre Washington y Moscú, la Cámara ya ha aprobado hasta el momento la suma de 305.700 millones para el año 1988. Según las últimas informaciones dentro de los puntos en discusión, están la posible reducción del 50% de las armas nucleares, pero lo que no se dice que estas corresponden a un material totalmente obsoleto y dado de baja.

La lista de los gastos militares es larga y las sumas de dinero invertidos en ellos enorme, claros ejemplos son Corea del Sur, el Golfo Pérsico en donde se encuentra la flota naval más poderosa que haya surcado los mares, además del mantenimiento de todas las bases que existen en ultramar, más los gastos que implica el proyecto de "Guerra de las Galaxias" en donde se han invertido la suma de 800 billones de dólares.

La CIA y el Pentágono tienen sus presupuestos especiales y secretos, que

no se dan a conocer ya que constituyen secretos militares. Nuestros pueblos a nivel mundial han tomado conciencia sobre esta política de dominación que ejerce EEUU, y en nuestra América morena ya se han sacudido de esta opresión por vía de las armas, Cuba hace 29 años, Nicaragua en estos momentos que sigue luchando para consolidar la revolución triunfante en el año 1978, El Salvador que en aras de la libertad ya lleva controlado por intermedio del FMLN gran parte del territorio.

Es por eso hoy más que nunca debemos de estar movilizados en apoyo de todos los pueblos que luchan por su liberación, como el heroico pueblo palestino. Y crear las más amplias bases de organización y de lucha para llevar a cabo esta magna tarea que es el deber de todo revolucionario. Como así también el de luchar por nuestros justos derechos sociales, como: vivienda, salud y educación, combatir el racismo en todos sus frentes, luchar y apoyar la liberación de la mujer, impulsar y denunciar el atropello y usurpación de las tierras que pertenecen a las naciones indígenas, exigir la liberación de Leonard Peltier, aumentar el caudal combativo y volcarlo en pos de la liberación de Puerto Rico y de los heroicos independentistas que hoy se encuentran recluidos como prisioneros de guerra en las cárceles del imperio. ¡Sólo la lucha nos hará libres! ¡Venceremos!



BREVES



Sud Africa

Más de 2 millón de trabajadores se declararon en huelga y se plegaron a una protesta nacional en contra del gobierno racista de sudafrica. Este llamado a la huelga fué convocado por el Sindicato del Congreso Sud Africano la protesta es en desafío en contra del estado de emergencia.

Chile.

La dictadura chilena con un claro propósito de amedrentar a la oposición, ha culpado al partido Comunista y las organizaciones populares de la muerte de dos miembros de las fuerzas represivas al servicio del régimen pinochetista.

Hasta el momento han sido cinco las bajas que han sufrido estos grupos represivos, pero no debemos olvidar que dentro de la política de contrainsurgencia generada por los EEUU se contemplan los auto atentados, para crear un clima de inseguridad y que justifique la represión en contra del pueblo.

Más aún en estos momentos en que el régimen pinochetista está embarcado en su proyecto de perpetuación, ya que como toda dictadura busca darle visos legales a esta aspiraciones pseudo democráticas, es que han montado el plesbicitto (que con este ya suman tres y en donde los dos primeros fueron un abierto fraude por parte del régimen dictatorial) para así poder detener la presión internacional y la movilización popular interna, que lucha por un gobierno Democrático, Popular y Revolucionario.

El pueblo filipino exige el inmediato desalojo de las bases militares estadounidenses

Por Lydia Bayoneta

Washington y el gobierno de las Filipinas están enfrascados en negociaciones por el mantenimiento de las bases navales de E.U., en ese país asiático. Las discusiones empezaron en abril y se espera que continúen hasta julio.

Una masiva y organizada oposición a las bases se ha mantenido aún bajo una aguda represión por parte del gobierno filipino de Corazón Aquino y las tácticas de mano dura por los militares.

La prensa de este país -controlada por los grandes industriales- ha dado poco o nada de cobertura a estas negociaciones, limitándose a reportajes sobre las partes técnicas de los tratados. El gobierno filipino ha solicitado un aumento en los pagos de Estados Unidos como compensación por el uso de las bases militares de \$180 millones a 1,2 mil millones de dólares anualmente. Las negociaciones incluyen también restricciones o prohibiciones en el almacenamiento y transportación de armamentos nucleares en el espacio aéreo y en las aguas territoriales filipinas.

El uso de la longaniza y el garrote por el imperialismo estadounidense

Una mayoría en votos de dos terceras partes es requerido por el senado filipino para la ratificación de un nuevo tratado sobre las bases, y 11 de los 24 senadores abiertamente se oponen a cualquier extensión en el contrato de arrendamiento de las bases.

Sin embargo, fuentes en los Estados Unidos han manifestado "seguridad" en su poder de "persuadir" a los senadores que se oponen a sus terminos, con la excepción del senador Wigberto Tana-da quien introdujo un proyecto de ley que daría una real legitimidad a las

provisiones anti-nucleares de la nueva Constitución filipina.

La mayoría de los filipinos, incluyendo miembros del gobierno, están convencidos que el llamado "Plan mini Marshall" de los E.U., para ayuda a las Filipinas, propuesto por el congresista Stephen Solarz y con aprobación bipartidista, no es sino un método más para presionar al gobierno filipino en las negociaciones sobre las bases.

Movimiento en contra de las bases crece

El sentimiento anti-nuclear y contra las bases está sólido y en crecimiento. Muchas de las acciones masivas y de los esfuerzos para organizar el pueblo han sido totalmente ignoradas por los medios de prensa en E.U., en un premeditado afán para aislar este movimiento y del gran número de personas alrededor del mundo, quienes están opuestos a la presencia militar y nuclear de Estados Unidos en su suelo.

Muchas organizaciones en las Filipinas han tomado la vanguardia de este movimiento. La Coalición para una Filipinas Libre de Armamentos Nucleares (NFPC), a la que pertenecen miles de trabajadores, incluyendo los afiliados a Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) la más grande federación sindical en las Filipinas, han hecho un llamamiento para el desmantelamiento de las bases antes de 1991 y para no seguir las negociaciones que extenderían la presencia militar estadounidenses en su país.

Ellos convocan a los negociadores a implementar un sistemático plan para remover estas bases, lo mismo que el retiro de todas las fuerzas militares de E.U. del país, especialmente el Grupo de Asesoría Militar Conjunto de E.U., (JUSMAG).

El recién formado Movimiento Anti-Imperialista (AIM), que procura la abolición total de la dominación imperialista en las Filipinas -la eliminación de las bases es también una de sus demandas-, junto con otros grupos progresistas han hecho un llamado para la conversión de las bases en una viable y económica alternativa de fuente de trabajo para los filipinos que laboran en ellas.

Subic Bay, por ejemplo, emplea miles de trabajadores filipinos altamente calificados en reparación o apertrechamiento de barcos de diferentes clasificaciones. El movimiento en contra de las bases también está exigiendo pago como indemnización por el deterioro social que las bases han causado o han agravado con su presencia, como la drogadicción, el narcotráfico y la prostitución.

Sumándose a las manifestaciones populares, protestas y mítines, una campaña educativa se está gestionando con el propósito de advertir al pueblo filipino lo mismo que al estadounidense del peligro que las bases representan para toda la humanidad.

— Puerto Rico

(viene pag. 16).

unos 300 agentes del FBI en un abuso de poder literalmente invadieron a Puerto Rico y arrestaron a 11 activistas pro-independentistas. Ese mismo fin de semana, fueron también arrestados otros dos en Dallas, Texas y en Cuernavaca, México. El 21 de marzo en 1986 otros dos independentistas fueron arrestados. En estos momentos despues de casi tres años todavía no hay fecha para un juicio.

Lo que está en juego en este caso de

los "15", es la negación de dos derechos políticos y democráticos fundamentales: el derecho a la soberanía y el derecho a la justicia social. Es importante recordar que hay muchos otros presos políticos puertorriqueños y prisioneros de guerra encarcelados en los EE.UU., como Alejandrina Torres, Dylcia Pagan, Dora Garcia, y otros más. Todos necesitan nuestro apoyo.

¡Mientras la represión contra Puerto Rico continúa el pueblo puertorriqueño no se deja vencer, y sigue luchando firme y feroz!

¡Que viva Puerto Rico libre!

¡Viva Puerto Rico libre!

Por David Perez

Puerto Rico desde el año 1898 es colonia completamente dominada por los EE.UU. Estados Unidos mantiene un control absoluto sobre todos los estamentos gubernamentales de Puerto Rico, desde el control migratorio, la comunicación, el poder judicial, las leyes laborales, en fin todas las fases que hacen a una nación soberana de sus propios designios.

Como resultado del estatus colonial de Puerto Rico, el 14% de las tierras fértiles son utilizadas por el gobierno norteamericano para bases militares y en la isla de Vieques el 80% de su extensión es utilizada por la fuerza naval para entrenamiento bélico desde 1941. Los EE.UU. mantienen a 12,000 soldados de la Guardia Nacional encantonados en la isla. El total de las fuerzas armadas coloniales en Puerto Rico suman alrededor de 30.000 soldados.

Puerto Rico es geográficamente estratégico para Estados Unidos y ha sido usado como punto de partida para invadir y desestabilizar los países de centroamérica y el Caribe. De ahí se lanzó la invasión a la República Dominicana en 1965 y Granada en 1983.

La economía de la isla está totalmente dominada por los Estados Unidos, impidiendo que Puerto Rico mantenga relaciones económicas y políticas con otros países. De las 500 corporaciones más grandes de este país (Fortune 500), 200 están establecidas en Puerto Rico. Entre estas corporaciones se encuentran General Motors, Ford, Chase Manhattan, RCA y Union Carbide. Más de 20 mil millones de dólares han sido invertidos en Puerto Rico, pero todas las ganancias que esto deparan son extraídas del país e integradas a los fondos financieros de la banca y la industria en Estados Unidos dejando la economía de la isla en un caótico estado y llena de deudas. Mientras que mantiene al pueblo en una total dependencia de Estados Unidos para todos los servicios sociales y sus necesidades cotidianas.

El desempleo que oficialmente es el 20% -pero en realidad esta cifra se acer-

ca más al 40%- aunado al alto porcentaje de trabajadores super explotados, hacen que el 75% del pueblo puertorriqueño dependa de subvenciones para comprar alimentos en forma de las llamadas "estampillas de comida" o "food Stamps" para poder sobrevivir. Otra forma inhumana de mantener el dominio imperialista es la esterilización forzada de más del 30% de las mujeres para controlar la natalidad de la isla.

El alto nivel de desempleo y estado económico ha forzado a más de 3 millones de puertorriqueños a emigrar para los Estados Unidos buscando una mejor vida. Pero lo que encuentran es racismo, falta de beneficios públicos y sociales y continuos ataques contra su cultura y su idioma. Los trabajos que realizan son de los más duros y mal pagados como los trabajos de servicio, los de fábricas, la transportación, restaurantes, operadores de máquinas de costura, trabajadores agrícolas y otros trabajos manuales.

La independencia de Puerto Rico, justa lucha de su pueblo

Mano a mano con la lucha por la independencia y la dignidad, está la lucha contra la represión. La represión tiene una larga historia empezando en 1898 cuando los EE.UU. invadieron la isla, seguido por la masacre de Ponce en 1938, los asesinatos de dos independentistas en Cerro Maravilla en 1978, la publicación de la reciente lista de "subversivos" compuesta de 60,000 nombres, y los cientos de atropellos que se han cometido y que se siguen cometiendo contra el pueblo puertorriqueño.

El caso de los "15 de Hartford/Puerto Rico", es el más reciente ejemplo de la represión contra el movimiento patriótico. El caso empezó el 30 de agosto, día que se ha convertido en una fecha histórica para el pueblo de Puerto Rico y que también será una fecha muy significativa en la historia de la represión que el gobierno del EE.UU., ha desatado en contra de todos aquellos que luchan por la igualdad y en contra la discriminación y explotación, este día

(continúa pag. 15)



Manifestación en contra de la ocupación israelí en Gaza y la Rivera Occidental, Nueva York 4 de junio.

Conferencia sobre la inmigración

Por Carlos Vargas

El sábado 4 de junio, en las oficinas del distrito 65-del sindicato de UAW, se llevó a cabo una conferencia de inmigración, donde acudieron más de 150 personas representando a sindicatos y organizaciones progresistas.

La conferencia fue basada en la ley de inmigración que entró en vigor el 1ro de junio del corriente año. Esta ley es parte de la Reforma y Control de Inmigración (IRCA), conocida como "amnistía" y que empezó a regir el 6 de noviembre de 1986.

Entre los principales oradores se encontraban David Livingston-presidente del Distrito 65 UAW; Eddie de Jesús, secretario-Headwear Joint Board -ACTWU; Cathy Waelder, Consejera General Asociada -ILGWU; Stan Mark, Fondo Educativo y Defensa Legal para Asiáticos-Americanos; Mini Liu De la Coalición en contra de la violencia Anti-Asiática; Zoilo Torres presidente del Congreso Nacional Para los Derechos Puertorriqueños y miembro del Distrito 65-UAW. También estaban presentes miembros de otras organizaciones como United Labor Action (ULA); Local 1202 del Greyhound, Local 3882- AFT, Partido Mundo Obrero, Centro Salvadoreño de NY, All Peoples Congress, Casa Honduras y Centro Filipino Para los Derechos de los Inmigrantes y muchos más.

Esta ley que es supuestamente para el beneficio de los indocumentados, es lo contrario, tanto para los indocumentados, como para todos los trabajadores en general. Hubieron reportes sobre la verdadera razón de la ley, que perjudica más al trabajador; pues esto le suelta las riendas al patrón para que siga explotando al obrero y al indocumentado, haciéndoles firmar contratos falsos por largos períodos de tiempo a pago mínimo, sin beneficio alguno y bajo amenaza de llamar la "migra".

Se hicieron declaraciones sobre atropellos injustos cometidos por los patrones y también por las fuerzas policiales, que por cualquier falta piden papeles de residencia y al no tenerlos son de-

nunciados a inmigración y después deportados

También hubieron sugerencias de como contrarrestar esta ley, la agenda contenía propuestas como el plan de una coalición de labor y comunidad para los derechos de los inmigrantes. Esta coalición tendría las siguientes responsabilidades: 1ro establecer una campaña de información pública e informativa 2ndo observación de los abusos patronales, 3ro promover la organización de trabajadores indocumentados, 4to organización de eventos públicos, 5to crear una movilización constante traducidas estas en peticiones y envíos de cartas a los representantes de las legislaturas federales y estatales. Una delegada del local 1199 hizo la propuesta de que se establezcan leyes fundamentales para todos los trabajadores, sean indocumentados o no.

Esta conferencia deja ver las inquietudes y las desiciones del pueblo, en contra de esta ley que ya ha cometido grandes violaciones de los derechos humanos, en contra de hermanos trabajadores que vienen en busca de una vida mejor a causa del imperialismo económico estadounidense.

Esta ley no ha hecho nada bueno, al contrario ha venido a dificultar la organización de los trabajadores, ellos se encuentran con temor de firmar las tarjetas sindicales, como lo dijo Eddie de Jesús del ACTWU. El hizo el esfuerzo de organizar los trabajadores de una fábrica en Brooklyn por más de un año, y aunque los trabajadores estaban de acuerdo, no se atrevían a firmar. Otro ejemplo de explotación es el de las enfermeras filipinas que fueron contratadas como mercancía laboral y hoy están siendo explotadas y a la vez deportadas.

Es por eso que nosotros como hermanas y hermanos de trabajo, nos debemos unir para abolir esta ley que se ha dado el lujo de pisotear la dignidad y la soberanía de los trabajadores, separando familias enteras y creando desarmonía entre el obrero y aniquilando toda esperanza de paz. Recordemos

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

- \$10 por un año \$6 por 6 meses
 \$2 por 10 semanas
 Donación especial
 Envíame un paquete de Mundo Obrero

Nombre _____

Dirección _____

Ciudad/Estado/Zona _____

Teléfono _____

Envíe el cupón a: **Mundo Obrero**, 46 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010